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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 2, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Haytime. EVERY farmer in the country is busy just now, because we are in the midst of the hay harvest, and no matter which way you look, harvesting operations are going forward. Any bits of recreation at this season have to be literally snatched, and we venture to say that more than one farmer who could not resist the temptation of attending the Royal at Derby had one-half of his mind fixed on the show and the other half on the haymaking at home. As was naturally expected after the cold, late spring, crops generally are not heavy, and there is a lack of bottom grass, which helps so much to fill waggons. We have heard some complaints about the scarcity of labour, or perhaps we ought to say labour of the right sort, for the individuals who shamble along the main roads or slumber under the hedges have little taste for labour in the hayfield. It seems odd that while farmers are in need of additional labour, hundreds of men are tramping about living on charity. But, unfortunately, the latter belong mostly to the useless and undesirable class, and how to deal with them becomes a greater problem every year. The day may come when we shall have to sink a good deal of the sentiment which exists now, and make a law that every able bodied man shall earn his living.

Machinery in the Hayfield. AGRICULTURISTS are said to be a conservative set of men, and they may be in some respects, but show a farmer a device by which he can save labour and reduce his expenses, and you may feel sure that if he has the necessary means he will not be slow in acquiring it. On the labour farms many years ago there were men who prided themselves on their pitching, and were proud when evening came, if by loading one more waggon of hay than usual they had created a record. The idea of a machine to take the place of these brawny-armed fellows would have been laughed to scorn, but now it is an everyday sight to see a pitching machine being drawn quickly along the rows loading the waggons at a pace that would have knocked the sturdiest pitchers out of time altogether. It is surprising how quickly hay can be loaded by means of one of these appliances if the ground be fairly level and even, but on hilly and banky fields they are a great strain on the horses, and it is under these circumstances that the human pitcher still rules triumphant. Doubtless it is the man who has a lot of hay to get in who benefits most by machinery, and by the use of mechanical appliances he is able to dispense with a good deal of hand labour. Two or three hundred acres of hay takes a lot of harvesting, particularly if it has all to be done by hand, but as things are, the commodity most eagerly desired is suitable weather. We may get all sorts of mechanical appliances for haymaking, but sunshine and breeze are still indispensable for the making of good hay, and unless we are favoured in this respect machines are useless, and we are as helpless as in the days prior to their introduction.

Cherry-land. KENT holds the monopoly for cherry culture in England, and in some parts of the county, notably round Sittingbourne, the culture of this delicious fruit in grass orchards is a highly important branch of agriculture. The first red cherries in the market come from France, but the quality is inferior to that of the Kentish fruit, which quickly monopolises the market when it comes in. On the whole, cherry orchards are profitable institutions, and it must be admitted that Kentish farmers do them well, but there are many expenses to put against the returns. Sharp frosts at blossoming time, and heavy storms later, often upset prospects, and when the berries assume their first tinges of colour a watch has to be kept from early dawn to late evening, or the birds would have most of the fruit. Cherry picking is a big business in Kent, and some experience is required to move and fix the long ladders without breaking the trees. The orchards hold out two sources of profit—first the fruit above, and secondly the sweet grass beneath, that is closely cropped by the Kentish sheep, which are the favourite breed in the county.

Strawberry Time. AT first sight this might not appear to be a suitable topic for a journal devoted to agriculture, but it is only a thin line nowadays which divides the two cults—agri and horti—and in certain parts of Kent, Hampshire, and Somerset, the growing of strawberries is closely connected with general farming. The first consignments of ripe fruits are already in the market, and for the next few weeks strawberry growers will be at it ding-dong. Fortunately prospects are good, the recent rains were highly beneficial to the plants, and strawberries are expected to make up for the shortcomings of some other fruit crops. To fully realise what strawberry farming is one should visit one of the great centres of the industry, such as Swanley in Kent, see the hundreds of pickers in the fields, and watch the train loads of fruit that are dispatched while the season lasts. When watching the picking and the packing one might wonder where all the fruit goes to, but when you see strawberries offered in every street in every town in the country you might ask with equally good reason where they all come from.

Work amongst the Roots. NOW that the hay harvest is in full swing there is less time available for work on the arable land, and those people acted wisely who got their potatoes hoed and their turnips and mangolds cleaned and singled before mowing commenced. In spite of the ravages of the fly we have seen some good pieces of turnip, and the dry weather about the middle of June was favourable for keeping down weeds. Mangolds also are a fairly good plant in most cases, and hot weather is much to the liking of this crop. A little nitrate of soda is a good stimulant for mangolds, and after a dressing has been applied the crop should be well skerried and cleaned. It is early yet to talk much about the prospects of potatoes, but when ridging up some varieties it is easy to detect a good many misses in the rows. In many cases this may be traced to that peculiar disease in the tubes through which the latter either remains quite dormant in the ground or only sends up a growth of a weak and spindling character. It is interesting to observe how many of the potatoes which sold for sensational prices at the time of the boom have dropped out, or appear to have done so, while varieties of the Up-to-date and British Queen order easily hold their own.

Female Labour. IN travelling through the country at this season of the year comparatively few women are seen at work in the hayfields, and matters in this respect are very different to what they used to be when the average labourer's wife was a wage earner almost as much as her husband. Old women in villages grow eloquent in their descriptions of the way they toiled in the palmy days of agriculture for very little, and all we can say is that the farmers must have got a good picking, for the share of the labouring folk was little enough. Still, hard work and rough fare agreed with the women folk, judging from the healthy appearance of many of the veterans, and one can only attribute this to the fact that in spite of everything they lived a natural life. Perhaps the Kentish hop grower to-day is more dependent on female labour than any other class of farmer, for such work as tying and training the young bine and the picking later on is best done by the deft fingers of women. Except it be in the early morning or late eve it is almost useless calling at a Kentish labourer's cottage during the spring and summer months with the expectation of finding anyone at home. The elder children are, of course, at school, and the mothers take the babies to the hop-garden, where they sleep, play, and cry in turn, but grow up strong and healthy amid the pleasant surroundings of the hop-garden.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW

An Excellent Display of Stock—Rainy Weather but Splendid Attendances.

On Wednesday the sixty-seventh annual exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society opened at Derby. This was the first meeting held after three years under the permanent system at Park Royal, consequently a greater interest than usual attached to the event. The day began dull and cheerless, and eventually rain set in persistently, but in spite of this the attendance reached 2,752, a figure which is in all respects satisfactory, and compares favourably with previous years. The judging was got through expeditiously, and the finishing touches were put to a showyard, which for arrangement and compactness achieved almost the ideal The admission on the first day was 5s. per head, which will have a substantial effect on the financial total, whereas at Park Royal last year there was no day at this figure.

The King's Visit.

Thursday may be described as *the* day of the show, for H.M. the King paid his promised visit, and it was certainly unfortunate that on this occasion royal weather was not forthcoming. Instead we had rain practically the whole of the time the King was at Derby. This, however, did not dampen the enthusiasm of the visitors, for thousands lined the route taken by His Majesty, and he received a most enthusiastic reception.

The Midland Royal special steamed in punctually at twelve o'clock and His Majesty was greeted by the Duke of Devonshire who then presented in turn the gentlemen who had awaited the Royal arrival. His Majesty, who appeared in the very best of health and spirits, was in light grey morning costume. A procession was formed, and went at a slow trot to the Market Place, the people cheering whole-heartedly, and waving hats, flags, and handkerchiefs.

The Royal carriage drew up underneath a gorgeous canopy, and the Recorder, in gown and full-bottomed wig, read an address from the Corporation. It was in scroll form, and the casket was a choice piece of work prepared by the Royal Crown Derby Porcelain Company.

The King, in the course of his reply, said that agriculture had ever been a subject in which he has taken the warmest personal interest, and he felt that exhibitions of stock and machinery, such as the annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society, were of the greatest utility to the country, serving to stimulate agricultural progress, and to impart information of the greatest service to those engaged in the industry.

Some time before the King was due at the showyard the Royal pavilion was surrounded by visitors, whilst outside the showyard there was quite a forest of umbrellas, while within the rail sat 170 Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans, whom the King had promised to inspect. They were all members of the Veterans' Association, which exists in the district, and there was a great display of medals by these heroes of many fights. The banner of the association was hoisted on the right flank so that it might strike the King's gaze as he came down the avenue. Despite the downpour all uncovered as his Majesty alighted and gained the portico of the pavilion. Here the president (Mr. Cornwall) and others were presented. When this formality had been got through, the Duke of Devonshire read an address from the Derbyshire Agricultural Society.

His Majesty on Agriculture.

His Majesty replied as follows:—I heartily thank you for the address with which you have honoured me on behalf of the Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and for the good wishes which you have expressed. I commenced very early in life to take a warm interest in all matters connected with agriculture, and I have long appreciated the difficulties with which farmers are forced to contend in order to carry on their industry. The cultivation of the land is a factor of the highest importance to the prosperity of the country, and much credit is due to the agricultural societies for their strenuous efforts to promote the welfare of the cause they have at heart, by encouraging new processes of cultivation, and by disseminating information of utility to farmers. I have watched with pleasure during many years the improvements which have been introduced in the methods of raising stock. The application of scientific principles to the breeding of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and poultry has produced wonderful results, and the extent of the exportation of the best classes of animals to foreign countries shows the high appreciation in which our breeds are held. I cannot peruse without a feeling of pride the sale lists, in which I see so many names of purchasers coming to this country from all parts of the world, and I feel confident that the perseverance and skill of our breeders will enable us to produce as good stock in the future as in the past. I anticipate great pleasure from my visit to your show, and I trust it will be thoroughly successful.

His Majesty, after inspecting the veterans, inspected the prize sheep at the rear of the pavilion, after which he re-entered his carriage and drove through the implement department. Luncheon with the president and council of the society followed, and then, as the rain continued to fall rather heavily, the King drove in a closed carriage to inspect the stock. As he passed across the great horse ring the enthusiastic spectators cheered him heartily, and his progress through the different departments was equally as cordial. Shortly after three o'clock his Majesty drove from the showyard, and at half-past left Derby for London by the Midland Railway.

As to the attendance on this day, it was, considering the wretched weather, an extraordinarily good one. At eleven o'clock 7,367 persons paid the half-crown entrance fee, compared with the insignificant number of 1,307 at Park Royal last year. Two hours later there were 18,041 visitors on the ground, an excess of 14,207 above those at the corresponding hour of the 1905 exhibition, and at five o'clock 25,437 had been admitted, as against 7,462 at Park Royal. When the show closed for the day, about seven o'clock, the figures had increased to 25,666—a crowd about three and a-half times greater in size than at Park Royal, the exact numbers at the latter place being 7,684. The nearest approach to Thursday's figures for the second day of any one of the last nine shows was registered in 1901 at Cardiff, where at the close of the day 23,745 persons had been admitted to the enclosure.

Third Day.

Friday opened none too well as regards the weather, for it was dull and threatening, but happily improved later, and the afternoon proved fine and enjoyable. It had been feared that the previous day's experience would have a serious effect, but fortunately this did not prove to be the case. In many places the ground was in a very muddy condition, and even though straw had been freely distributed about the bad portions, a tour of the yard was only made with great discomfort. Little heed was, however, paid to this state of things, and the ground recovered wonderfully as the day wore on. The attendance on this the first shilling day was a highly satisfactory one. The first returns, issued at eleven o'clock, showed that they were again highly satisfactory, 11,472 people having passed through the turnstiles. At the three Park Royal shows the figures at the same time were 984, 863, and 1,591 respectively, whilst at Carlisle in 1902 they were 6,788, and at Cardiff the year before 6,628. It should, however, be mentioned that in all these cases the charge for admission was half a crown, compared with one shilling yesterday. By one o'clock 28,986 people had entered the ground, thus exceeding the previous day's final total of 25,666. All previous records of recent years were thus surpassed, but the 88,000 of Nottingham in 1888 on the first shilling day, and the 100,000 of Manchester in 1897 were still a long way off. The corresponding figures for the Park Royal exhibitions were insignificant, for they only read 2,814, 3,826, and 5,302, whilst those at Carlisle (12,773) and Cardiff (16,148) were left a long way behind. At three o'clock the return showed that 41,946 people were on the ground. This number has not been reached since 1897, when the show was held at Manchester, whilst the closing return showed that 46,055 persons had passed through the turnstiles.

The Concluding Day.

The best weather of the week favoured the concluding day of the show, brilliant sunshine being experienced throughout the day. Naturally the fine weather induced a large attendance of visitors, and so great was the influx at one time, that there was every indication of a record attendance, but though the number of admissions was quite maintained, the final statistics fell far short of those for the closing days of the exhibition at Cardiff in 1901, and York in 1900. At eleven o'clock on Saturday 13,874 persons had passed through the turnstiles, compared with 739 at the corresponding hour of the 1905 show. Two hours later the attendance had almost doubled, the figure being 26,773, against 2,297 at Park Royal. By three o'clock in the afternoon 39,412 visitors had been admitted during the day, as compared with 4,308 at the last London show. By five o'clock the high-water mark had been reached. At that hour the visitors for the day numbered 44,263, and when the exhibition concluded, the numbers had inappreciably increased to 44,670, a number vastly ahead of the 5,706 persons who paid a visit to the last of the Park Royal displays.

During the four days 119,143 persons were admitted to the enclosure, and though this number is a splendid one—almost as many as received for the three shows at Park Royal—it falls short of the totals of Cardiff in 1901 and Manchester in 1897, as the table given below will show. Nevertheless, the Royal Agricultural Society has every reason to be gratified with the success of the show, and as Sir Gilbert Greenall, hon. director of the showyard, stated in a Press interview, most of the members of the Royal Agricultural Society who were adverse to the abandonment of the Park Royal scheme now agree that the return to the migratory system has been abundantly justified.

Comparative Attendances.

The table below shows the various attendances since Manchester in the Jubilee year. The table, which is compiled from the official figures of the Society does not give an accurate financial idea, as where the implement yard only has been open the total paying for admission has been included in the 5s. day.

	Derby. 1906.	Park Royal. 1905.	Park Royal. 1904.	Park Royal. 1903.	Carlisle. 1902.	Cardiff. 1901.	York. 1900.	Middlestone. 1899.	Birmingham. 1898.	Manchester. 1897.
5s. days	2,752	—	2,011	2,685	4,693	3,155	2,390	1,233	2,718	4,547
2s. 6d. days	25,666	10,543	20,287	23,460	22,948	48,808	23,665	17,500	32,809	43,891
1st 1s. day	46,055	7,754	14,175	20,569	46,242	69.133	52,488	35,249	49,011	73,119
2nd 1s. day	44,670	5,706	16,457	18,299	19,304	46,327	8,968	14,594	13,739	*96,423
Total	119,143	23,913	52,930	65,013	93,187	167,423	87,511	68,576	98,277	217,980

* There was a third shilling day and the total (22,621) is added here.

HORSES.

It is not often that a better collection of our equine friends has been seen in a Royal show than are to be found at Derby this year. The chief feature, however, was the excellent display of the Shire breed, which, after all, it is only reasonable to expect, as Derby is one of the best centres, and is the main county whence this breed may almost be said to have originated. The other heavy horses were not as strongly represented. Hunters, harness horses, Hackneys and ponies, however, combined made up a sufficiency to give quite a good colouring to the picture.

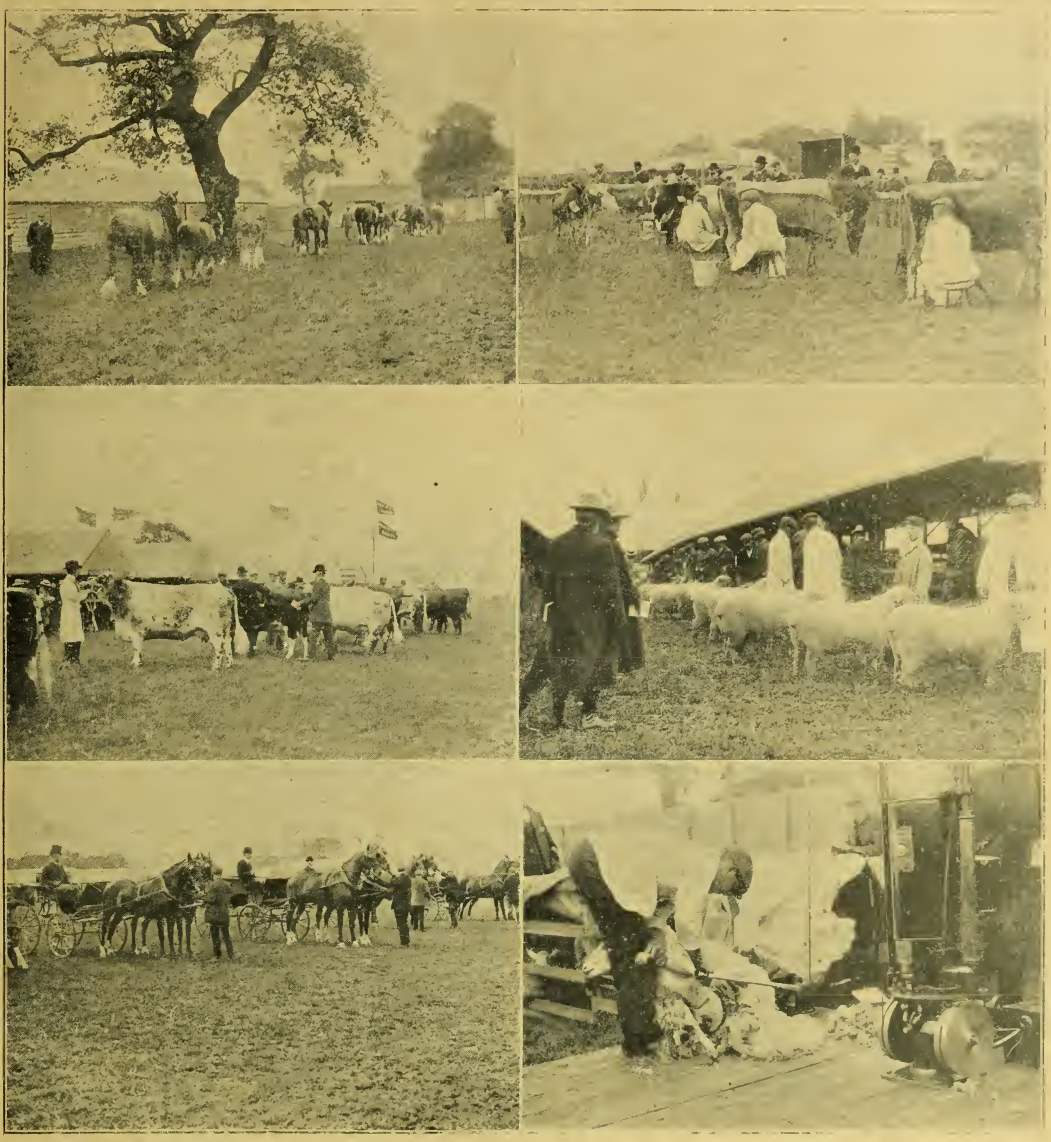
HUNTERS.

The catalogue commenced with the hunter section, the heavy-weight class of brood mares coming first. In these the chief interest centred in Mr. Ernest Robinson's Golden Leaf, who has been winning well at shows recently, including Richmond, Nottingham, and others, a well-bred mare with quality; another of the same class is Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Glasspore by Glasshampton; both these mares are good breeders. Mr. Mullens's Secret Sign is also another good mare, and these were all in the money as named.

Colt or filly foals were mostly well grown, and from appearance were all by good thoroughbred sires. Mr. Dixon, Mr. Mullens and Mr. Ratcliff had the best of these, the sires being Fowling Piece, Revenue, and Friary. Three-year-old fillies were not numerous, but there were one or two of great merit, including Mr. Mullens's Paleface by Ringoal, a filly with beautiful bone, and a good lot of it. Mr. J. H. Stokes had also a fine filly up to weight and with good shape and style, Black Pearl by Knight of Ruby. Two-year-olds were a larger class, and Mr. Hodgson's beautiful filly by the famous Irish sire, Red Prince II., only needs to be seen to be admired, and is practically good also; she was first in the class. Mr. George Jinks showed a very good filly, too, full of quality, got by Barsac, and Lord Middleton's Symphony by Red Eagle was another of the good ones. Yearling fillies were rather numerous, Lord Middleton having the best in the class in a bay by Wales, the leading sire at Islington this year; a filly this with good back and quarters as well as bone.

Geldings again favoured Lord Middleton's stud, as Scrambler by Red Eagle was the best in the three-year-old class Two or three other grand colts up to weight, and with style and quality, were included in this class, shown by Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, the Hon. Alexander Parker, and Mr. Hodgson. Mr. Harold

SCENES at the ROYAL SHOW, DERBY.



1. Shire Mares with Foals at foot (class 63) going back to their stalls. 2. Milking the Jersey Cows before judging. 3. Judging the Shorthorns. 4. Judging the Shropshire Shearling Rams; the first animal won the first prize for Sir R. Cooper, Bart. 5. Judging the Double-harness Class. 6. Sheep Shearing by machinery.

Watson's Juggler and Mr. Swallow's Red Morn and Vigo were capital representatives in the two-year-old class, and Mr. Nickisson's Ensign, a fine colt by Yard Arm, with the best of style and proportions, made a very good leader in yearling class.

POLO AND RIDING PONIES.

There were a number of very small ponies in these classes, and as practically useful as they were attractive to look at. Miss L. Standish's Silver Star, a bay of the sort of pocket edition of a weight-carrying hunter, was first in the brood mare class, and also champion. Mr. John Barker had also several splendid ponies in the leading places, including Heir, a chesnut gelding by Eheu. The Radnorshire Polo and Riding Pony Company were also successful in carrying off several prizes, including first for the London champion stallion Gownboy, who was looking very fit. Another very good pony of Mr. Barker's was Grecian, a very nice pony with strength by Sandiway.

CLEVELAND BAYS.

These classes did not strike one as showing quite as much quality as usual, but the wet weather affects the bloom considerably, and the bloom affects the appearance of the animal very much. Most of these horses, however, had plenty of bone apparently, and also, for the most part, very good feet, and their shoulders were right for moving well, Mr. Frank Bateman and Mr. F. H. Stericker had very good stallions in Beadlam Fred and Radium. Mr. George Grandage and Mr. George Elders, as well as Mr. John Lett, were well represented in the brood mare class with such well-known animals as Woodland Briar, Aislaby Beauty, and Madam II. Mr. H. C. Stephens, from his successful stud in the south, contributed a capital filly in Cholderton Blossom, first in the two-year-old class, and also her stable companion, Cholderton Welcome, placed second. Mr. Stericker, Mr. F. Wilson Horsfall, Mr. George Grandage, and Mr. Scoby were amongst the chief in the three classes scheduled for coachers, and these were good animals, with the right kind of feet for the roads.

HACKNEYS.

There was a big and good entry of Hackneys, including the harness section, but the breeding classes were better filled than usual at the Royal. Stallions foaled in 1903 had eight entries, included in which were Mr. Richard Ford's Brigham Radiant, who was first in the class and reserved for champion. Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Lad and Mr. A. A. Haley's Yorkshire Squire were also amongst the winners and best movers. Two-year-old stallions were also a very good class. Mr. Arthur Hall's Copmanthorpe Performer was the best of these; Mr Evans' Gartonius, who also moves capitally, was second. Yearlings of this section were a weak class of three entries, all of which, however, were in their places, and Mr. Thomas Hall's Copmanthorpe was the best of them. Mr. Burnell Tubbs's Rosadora, so well known, carried off the leading honour in the brood mare class over 15 hands 2 in. high. Sir Walter Gilbey's Mitre, and Mr. R. A. de Mancha's Bashful Kate, well-known mares, were also in the money,

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and give an impression of the general quality of the section. Mares and foals between 14 and 15 hands 2 in. were a very nice class, Mr. Lysaght's Maudora was best of these; some five of them, however, were honoured by the judges. The best of the foals were sired by Copper King, Royal Danegelt, and Evanthius, and look like moving. Three-year-old fillies and two-year-olds were well represented, Mr. Buttle's Boquhan Sunrise, Mr. Evans' Terrington Ruth in the former class, and Mr. C. E. Cooke's Lilladora and Mr. Lysaght's Halcyon in the latter. Yearlings also mustered half-a-dozen or more very smart ones. Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Beeswing and Mrs. Fletcher's Angram Queen were the best of them. Hackney geldings shown in hand had a good entry in each of these classes, and made a great show, attracting the public very strongly. Mr. T. C. McKibbin and Mr. Makeague, with Sir Lees Knowles, were the most successful in carrying off prize money.

PONIES.

Under this heading there was a very miscellaneous collection, for Hackneys were largely represented, and several of the Mountain breeds, as well as Moorland and Shetlands, were also well represented. The Sir Horace blood came out well in Mr Ravenhill's Son o' Horace, and Mr. Whitworth had a good stallion in Jack Spratt by His Majesty. These were placed first and reserved as named. Other well-known entries in the pony classes were Mr. Tatem's Mel Valley Princess, Mr. O. T. Price's Gold Fleece, Mr. Humphrey's Morton Swell, and Mr. Wainwright's Talke Fire King.

In Shetlands, Mrs. A. J. Beale, Mr. G. A. Miller, and the Rev. R. S. Mitchinson were successful with beautiful stallions foaled in or previous to 1903, and for mares Mrs. Beale was also first and Mr. Mackenzie second.

The chief star in the Mountain and Moorland ponies was the Duchess of Newcastle's Linnel Don by Little Wonder II. and Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale's Llwyn Snowdrop and Llwyn Nell. Mr. Jones's splendid pony Greylight, and Sir Walter Gilbey's Shooting Star were both beaten by Linnel Don, and occupied relatively the same positions as at Islington in March.

RIDING AND DRIVING CLASSES.

These classes form a very important feature in the entertaining department of the show, for there is little that attracts the outside public so much as a good riding and driving class. In four-year old hunters Mr. J. B. Wilkinson's Splasher, Sir Merrick Burrell's Surprise, and Mr. J. H. Stokes's Dervische were the winners. In the novice class Mr. Drage and Mr. Stokes again came in for the money. Other good hunters than those named were Mr. J. H. Stokes's Whiskey, said by many to be the best hunter in England to-day; he was champion at Richmond the other day, and is certainly a class by himself. Mr. Stokes' Madrid is another notable, and so also is Mr. Drage's Curate; he was very conspicuous in the fine class at Richmond, and is of very good quality and hunter style with manners. Riding pony geldings had three classes. Mr. John Barker's Marquis, Mr. Robinson's Mimic, Mr. Price's Moortown, and Mr. Martin's Standard were the chief winners; very smart ponies.

Harness ponies not exceeding 15 hands gave a very good account of themselves, quite a long team of them obtaining honours. Mr. T. B. Sykes' Fylde Forester, Mr. Howard Franks' Burlington Sir Horace, and Mr. Franklin's Little Prudence carried off the money in this class, and better sprinters and movers it would be hard to find. Other winners in these classes were Mr. Burnell Tubbs's Gongelt, one of the finest show horses at Richmond; Mrs. Hartley Batts's Prince Edward, another of these fine goers; Mr. M'Kibbin's Langton Gelding, first prize; Mr. J. C. Waud's Fernichurst Fortuna, Mr. Foster's Mel-Valley, and Catch of the Season. Mrs. Hartley Batts's fine pair, Hopwood Spark and Hopwood Horace, secured first as a pair; very even goers and with style. Mr. Tennant's Authority and Astonishment were second in the same class, and Mr. Makeague's pair, Luminator and Pink Blossom, were third. Such horses as these go to prove what excellent quality was exhibited, and with so many foreign buyers at the ring side, it is good that such animals were shown.

SHIRES.

As intimated in the introduction to this notice, the Shire classes, on account of their number and excellence, were quite a feature of the show. One hundred and fifty-two were catalogued, and though there were a good number of absentees, yet the classes appeared very strong, and many of the pick of the breed were included in the competitions. The whole of those that the judges selected for competition were passed through the vetting ordeal, which naturally took a good deal of time, and thereby the whole of the first day was taken up with the awarding of the prizes in these classes.

The first class was for stallions foaled in 1903, of which five animals came before the judges. The Right Hon. Victor C. W. Cavendish's fine colt, Holker Menestrel II. by Bridsall Menestrel, bred by his owner, was practically an easy winner in the class; he has developed into one of the best three-year-olds of the year; his size, quality, and build are most satisfying, and in addition to his first prize he was also given the reserve in the male championship. Mr. John Whitehurst's big colt, Markeaton Special Brand, which was second at Peterborough in the spring, has also improved in a wonderful manner since that time; he is weighty in bone, and both that and his feather are of very good quality, and he is well put together; he was bred by Mr. Hodson in Derbyshire, and sired by Brandmark. Other good colts worthy of notice and honoured by the judges were Sir P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Franklin and Dunsmore Regent, both very satisfactory sons by Dunsmore Jameson.

Two-year-old colts followed on, and this class was very strong with Lord Egerton's London winner and junior champion, Tatton Dray King, who has developed into a wide, well-built massive colt, full of quality, and has the best of legs and feet, later on he also carried off the male championship. This colt, we may remind our readers, was bred in Lancashire, and sired by Drayman XXIII. Following him was Mr. Farnsworth's well-known colt Ratcliffe Forest King, who also was first in London as a yearling, but latterly he has had to succumb to the order of things, though he is a capital colt with excellent quality and Shire character, good at the yard, too, and an altogether promising colt; he was sired by Lockinge Forest King. The third colt and the reserve were also quite outstanding specimens. These were Mr. Leopold Salomon's Norbury Menestrel and Dunsmore Commander, shown by the Exors. of the late Mr. J. H. Bryars, of Sheffield.

The yearling stallion class was little, if anything, behind the other classes, and it is not often that three better colts by one sire stand at the top of a class than the three by Lockinge Forest King that carried off the prizes here. The first and second colts to-day, Mr. F. E. Muntz's (purchased from his breeder, Mr. Craig) and Mr. F. Farnsworth's were in the same position relatively last September at the great Ashbourne Foal Show. Then in London matters were reversed, but have again adjusted themselves as at the beginning. Both are first-class colts in every way; latterly, however, the first prize one has moved ahead wonderfully; both are weighty, well built, and full of the real characteristics of the Shire. The third colt, Mr. Max Michaelis' King of Tandridge was also a very close competitor, and is daily gaining ground upon his opponents. Other very fine colts were shown by Mr. Lewis Dodd and Lord Rothschild, as well as Sir P. A. Muntz.

Mares with foal at foot were one of the strongest classes in this section, and the three prize winners have seldom if ever been equalled, or at least beaten. Lord Rothschild's very sweet quality and beautifully moulded mare Blythwood Guelder Rose, which was once a London champion, stood at the top; then came the great, big, weighty, and good mare Childwick Young, bred by the late Sir J. B. Maple; and third, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Blythwood Laurel, who has hitherto had an unbeaten career this season; but fates told against her, and it is probable were due to having had a little too much of the showyard and the railway. She is big and very correct in every way, so that it was rather hard lines upon her. Other famous mares were Mr. John Bradley's Halstead Duchess 3rd, Mr. T. Green's Childwick Moss Rose, and Mr. Peter Coat's Duchess of York. The foal classes were very good ones, both fillies and colts. In the latter several very big grown colts were shown, and very correct in their shape and joints. Lord Egerton's colt by Lockinge Colonist was accounted best; he is very pleasing in his limbs, joints, and feet. Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish's by Holker Menestrel II. followed, also a very promising youngster, and Messrs. Fletcher and Andrews were third with a very perfectly moulded and fine jointed colt by Dunsmore Jameson. The best filly foals were shown by Mr. Thos. Green, Sir P. A. Muntz, and Mr. T. H. Tomlinson, and were the get of Bank Nil Desperandum, Dunsmore Jameson, and Conquering Duke.

Barren mares were the next class in the catalogue, and these made up a very fine lot. Earl Beauchamp obtained first and an h.c. for the well-known London champion in Sussex Bluegown and Monk's Polly, an extraordinary good pair of grey brood mares. Sir Berkeley Sheffield's Yatesbury Flower, also a London topper in her younger days, and a fine mare of the Duke of Sutherland's, Lilleshall Moss Rose, were the winners in the class, and were a very fine lot, and shown in the best of condition.

Three-year-old fillies have been very strong this year, with such an animal as Dunsmore Fuchsia, the London champion, at their head, and this most perfect of Shires added another first to her list as well as another champion (that for best filly), she is moulded to a turn, excessively weighty and good in quality, and moves with the greatest activity. Mr. Max Michaelis followed up not very far away with Pailton Sorais, the well-known daughter of Lockinge Forest King, and a London winner; and H.M. the King also came in for a share of the money with Facsonia, well shaped and good in her pasterns and feet, as well as showing quality all round. The two-year-old class was perhaps even stronger than the three-year-old section, as there were more of them, and they were of the highest standard of quality. Mr. Robert Whitehead was given the post of honour for Peak Dolly, a well-shaped and rare limbed filly by Dunsmore Jameson; then came Earl Egerton with Tatton May Queen, which never knew defeat last season, and a topping filly all round, as well as being a daughter of Lockinge Forest King. Sir P. A. Muntz followed with Aldeby Lady Jameson, and other very choice fillies were shown by Mr. John Whitehurst, H.M. the King, Mr. John Bradley, Mr. Joseph Grimes, Sir E. D. Stern, and Mr. Egerton Orme.

Just upon a score of yearling fillies were catalogued, and these, too, were very keen competitors with one another, a lot of big fillies full of Shire sort and brought out in the pink of condition. Mr. Egerton Orme had a very enviable filly in Combermere Abbess by Tatton Friar, which came fairly easily into the top place; she is well moulded, and with quality and substance. H.M. the King's Buscot Vain Maid, another very level and capital quality filly by Buscot Forester, was awarded the second place, and Mr. W. T. Everard's Ashleigh Royal Duchess, a very early filly by Lockinge Forest King, followed; other first-class fillies being shown by Earl Egerton (2), Mr. Joseph Grimes, Mr. J. J. Lees, Sir P. A. Muntz, Lord Rothschild (reserve) with a very fine quality filly and well put together, got by Birdsall Menestrel, and Mr. John Whitehurst. All of these fillies received cards of honour from the judges.

CLYDESDALES.

This breed was certainly a rather weak section of the heavy horses, both in numbers and quality, or, rather, we may say quantity, for quality was very conspicuous, but the young stock looked a little light in bone. The Seaham Harbour Company secured first, and Major Spencer F. Chichester second for three-year-old stallions with Gamecock by Airies Prince and Rich and Rare by Hiawatha, both animals full of the best blood. In two-year-old stallions Mr. James Kilpatrick was first and also was champion with Blyth Thomas by Prince Thomas, and Mr. John Townson second with a son of First Life Guard called Baron Thomas. Mr. Kilpatrick was also first in the yearling class for stallions, Mr. Peacock being second, and the Seaham Harbour Company third. Only three entries of mare and foal of this breed were catalogued, but they were very nice at the yard and in their quality. Mr. W. M. Woods' Cedric Princess headed them, and also carried off the medal; the Seaham Harbour Company came second, and Mr. George Gunter third with Rusk and Primrose of Glamis respectively. Some half a dozen fillies appeared in the two classes open to them, and the chief winners were the Seaham Harbour Company's Silver Princess, Sir John S. Maxwell's Wenonah, a filly of Mr. Matthews, and the Seaham Harbour Company's Silver Fern.

SUFFOLKS.

This breed was not at all liberally exhibited, but the general tone of the animals was good, and they were shown in capital condition. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark was first for three-year-old colts with Sudbourne Conqueror, Major A. C. Quilter second with Bentley Cornet, and Mr. A. J. Smith's Redwald third. Two-year-old colts came out in stronger muster; the winners, very good ones in character and build, were shown by Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, Mr. A. T. Pratt, and Major Quilter. There were only two yearlings and fillies shown, belonging to Mr. A. J. Smith and Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, and these were placed as named. Mr. R. Eaton White and Sir Cuthbert Quilter exhibited the best of the mares, and Sir Cuthbert Quilter and Mr. Clark had matters pretty well to themselves in the younger fillies, dividing the honours. Altogether only some twenty-nine entries of this breed were catalogued.

ASSES.

These were a new feature for the Royal show, and though they proved interesting they did not receive the support expected, for there were only three stallions entered and two mares, Mr. Harold Sessions showing four of these, and he won first and second prize for stallions and first and second for mares, the other exhibits belonging to Mr. H. W. Wingfield, and he got the second prize for stallions.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

The Shorthorn classes were altogether quite of an outstanding description. The total entry of Coates' Shorthorns numbered 319, and there were not many absentees. The general quality must be spoken very highly of, for all the best specimens were quite altogether of the best, and there were very few of a moderate stamp. It is quite surprising after the drain upon our breeders' herds that so many high-class bulls are still left in the country; yet the number of first-rate heifers is very large, and when these are mated with such bulls as we have left to us at present they cannot very well produce indifferent specimens. Then, again, new herds are

being started almost every day, and all this tends to an increase in numbers.

able, or, at least, was so to the writer of these notes—that Shorthorn breeders are not losing size, and this is a great matter. We cannot afford to lose that, so long as our cattle are good enough in quality they will not be found too big. Some of the bulls were of very gigantic dimensions, yet as even as possible in their flesh; indeed, it was commonly remarked that in this respect the Shorthorns as a breed are becoming smoother every day.

The first class of these was for bulls calved in 1902 or 1903. Some twenty five of these were catalogued, and the first place was filled by a Scotch bred bull of Colonel C. J. Johnston's breeding near Elgin, sired by Scottish Prince, his dam by John Peel. This bull was exhibited by Mr. F. Miller, the well-known Argentine buyer, and will, there is little doubt, be leaving this country shortly for his home beyond the seas. He is called Linksfield Champion, and is a very level, symmetrical, well-fleshed bull with style and size, full of quality, too. In the spring he was first and champion of the Dublin Spring Show, and later on of the Belfast Show also, and now had a rather narrow escape of being champion a third time, being reserved for that honour. The next best bull was Sir Richard Cooper's white bull Meteor, bred by Mr. Morgan Richardson, and a bull of sweet character, but with plenty of substance; he has developed great weight since last year, and is now very symmetrical and altogether in beautiful form. H.M. the King's Royal Carlisle, also very even in flesh and shape, came third. He is by Carlyle and with some Waterloo blood on the dam's side, and altogether good in quality. Several other very good bulls were honoured with cards. The two-year-old class was also a very powerful one, a great number of the very best stamp being included in this. Mr. A. T. Gordon's Scotch-bred one, Fascination, very good in symmetry and breeding, and with good flesh, was placed first; then came Mr. George Harrison's Charming Victor 2nd, bred by Mr. Ecroyd, and a very well put together bull with the best of quality; and third was another bull from the same herd, Royal Ensign, a white of Mr. Duthie's breeding, got by Royal Edward. Bulls from Lord Polwarth's herd, Mr. Henry Dudding's, and some others were in the minor honour list.

There were something like seventy yearling bulls, a grand class for this age, and it is a great credit to them that this class should have produced the champion in the shape of Mr. J. Deane Willis's Bapton Viceroy, which was also champion at the Bath and West and other shows; he has grown immensely since the autumn or early winter, when he was champion of Lord Tredegar's show, and is a good red in colour, with good coat and shape, as well as breeding and quality; he was bred by Mr. Willis and sired by Violet's Fame out of a dam by the famous bull Count Lavender. Linksfield Champion was next to this bull for the champion honour. H.M. the King, Earl Manvers, Mr. John Handley, and other well-known breeders were also in the substantial honours in this class. Of course, H.M. the King's Sylph was given the leading position for cows; she is a good fleshed daughter of Royal Duke, and was reserved for the female champion prize which was given to Mr. J. Deane Willis' first prize yearling heifer, Golden Garland, a very perfect model of a Shorthorn all round, she is out of a Count Lavender dam, and and sired by Violet's Fame, is nearly full sister to the champion bull. Other winners in this class were Mr. Taylor's Pillivie Rosebud 2nd, Mr. A. F. Bassett's Tehidy Queen of Brilliants 2nd, and one or two others. Heifers calved in 1903 and 1904 were not so numerous, but the classes contained several very fine heifers, amongst the winners being Lord Calthorpe's Ruby 4th, Sir Oswald Mosley's Proud Duchess, Mr. Robert Taylor's Silver May. Mr. Atkinson's Takeley Jinny, and three other heifers from Sir Oswald Mosley's herd.

Some very heavy milking Shorthorns were shown in their classes, but the number was not by any means legion. Lord Rothschild carried off a first and second, Mr. Wodehouse a third, and in another class Mr. G. W. Tyser was first and second and Mr. C. R. W. Adeane third; and in heifers Mr. Britten, Lord Rothschild, and Mr. J. T. Hobbs were the only entries.

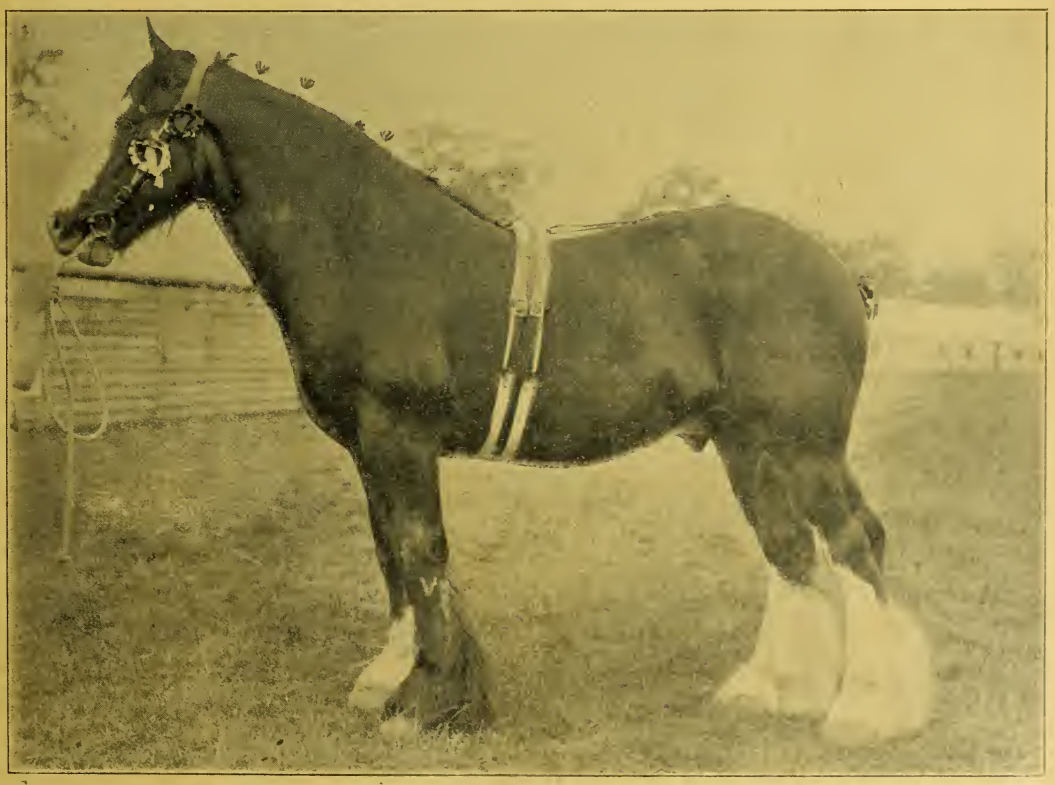
HEREFORDS.

Considering that Derby is far distant from their chief territory of occupation, the entry of fifty-eight made by this breed was highly creditable. The ruling in the old bull class was similar to that of the Bath and West in the King's grand bull Admiral being first, and Lord Coventry's Lama second; a third prize was won by Mr. Thompson's Fairlad. The three two-year bulls—Cameronian Rameses and Coronet also held their several positions, as they had previously done, and Mr. Stephen Robinson's premier yearling Major secured another first.

But it was curious to note how very differently the other yearling bulls were placed at the different shows. At Swindon, after Major came Polestar and Park Royal for the other prizes, and Paragon for reserve. At Bromsgrove the second, third, and fourth bulls were Eaton Wilton, Paragon, Park Royal, and Silver King. At Shrewsbury the second and third were Eaton Wilton and Silver King. The running now was Eaton Wilton, Park Royal, Resister and Paragon. The cow class included three-year heifers, and Irvington-Plum and Western Star, of that age, were first and third, Mr. P. C. Coats' older Pearl 15th dividing them. The heifers calved in 1904 had at their head Mr. Lawton Moore's champion female at Bromsgrove, Brampton Agnes 33rd, but Mr. Coats' Pearl, which at the former shows had been second, was now displaced by Mr. Thompson's Beauty 3rd. In the class for yearling heifers Mr. J. Smith's Bellona repeated her Bromsgrove success, and Mr. W. B. Tudge's Princess Beatrice was second to her as at the former show, but the latter won a first at Shrewsbury, and Bellona obtained only a second at Swindon. Mr. Pulley's Daisy 6th was third winner, as she had previously been at Swindon and Bromsgrove.

DEVONS.

The Ruby classes were short-numbered, the entries of this breed numbering only twenty seven altogether. The three senior bulls had Mr. S. Kidner's Bickley Quaker at their head, which was a reversal of Swindon decision, Mr. Huxtable's Duke of Overton the first winner, there being now only reserve Mr. J. C. Williams's Dianthus dividing them The two-year bulls had at their head Mr. Portman's Pound-Pink-un; but there was another reversal of Swindon in Mr. Morgan's Lord Daws 8th being placed before Mr. Skinner's Pound Royal 2nd. Mr. Skinner won another first with Bellringer in the yearling class, this being at least the fourth chief win this promising Paragon has carried off this season. The ruling otherwise was the same as at Swindon, Overton Ringleader being second, and the King's Larry reserve. The King's grand cow Ruby was first as at the Royal Counties, to which Mr. Morgan's Whimple Beauty 2nd made a creditable second with Mr. Portman's Telltale to take reserve. Heifers calved in 1904 formed a remarkably nice class. Mr. Morgan's Whimple Beauty 5th was at their head as she had been previously at Swindon



TATTON DRAY KING, THE CHAMPION SHIRE STALLION AT THE ROYAL SHOW, DERBY.

The property of EARL EGERTON OF TATTON. Tatton Park, Knutsford.

and Dulverton. The King's Lucy, the first winner of the Royal Counties, made an admirable second; Mr. Skinner's Pound Ruby 14th, the second winner at Portsmouth being reserve. The King's Nosegay had also barren honours. The yearling heifers were equally good, and Mr. Morgan secured another first with Whimple Broadhorn 1st, to which Mr. Skiuner's nice heifer Pound Ruby 17th came second, which had been preferred to Broadhorn at Tavistock. The King's Carolina, which got reserve was first at the Royal Counties. Mr. J. C. Williams was h.c. for a nice-quality heifer called Lovely Maiden 2nd.

SOUTH DEVONS.

The entries for this breed, so far from native pastures, were not less than might naturally have been expected. Three bulls appeared, two of them belonging to Mr. J. S. Wroth. These were the Coombe two-year winner of last year, now at three years old a very fine, well-shaped animal. The judge gave preference to him over his herd companion, Star's Duke, which is a year older, and probably a great many would endorse his opinion, while others would deem the affluent rich flesh property of Star's Duke to weigh down the scale in his favour. The other bull was Mr. Vosper's Bickam in the class for females. Mr. Butland's Handsome received first prize, which, judging from the point of good shape, would be right, but as pail-fillers and the possessors of perfect capacious udders, Mr. Vosper's Laura and Mr. Wroth's Lorna Doone 2nd would be preferred.

SUSSEX.

These wealthy cattle of the southern counties made an admirable display though three of the six classes were short-numbered. The total entries were 39, but there were several absentees. In the old bull class the Earl of Derby's Mayor and Mr. Lucas' Lord Eric, the Royal Counties' winners had the prizes. In that for two-year-old bulls the two brothers, Lord of Drungewick 5th, and Prince of Drungewick 5th, both bred by Mr. E. E. Braby, but the latter now owned by Mr. A. J. Hickman, were the winners. Six good yearling bulls appeared, and the class was commended entire. Earl Winterton was first and reserve with Shillinglee Gold 2nd and 3rd, the former a Royal Counties' first winner. The second and third premiums were won by Mr. P. Saillard's Bewbush Duke and Mr. Braby's Alfred, the latter was the second winner at Portsmouth. The four cows were distinguished for fine forms and substance, Earl Winterton's Sunlight 5th came first, and Earl Derby's Fancy second, a reversal of the Royal Counties' decision. Mr Winch's Warden Lady and the Hon. R. P. Nevill's Old Mayflower 8th made a good following for third prize and reserve. Heifers calved in 1904 formed a superior class of eight, commended entire. Earl Winterton won another first with Sunlight 7th, Mr. Nevill's Birling Eleanor being second, Mr. Aungier's Gwendolen of Lyuwick third, and Mr. Cornwallis' Linton Hepatica reserve. Mr. Saillard, who had two that were highly commended in the class was to the front with his yearling, Bewbush Evelyn, to which Earl Derby's Display came second, and Mr. Aungier's Bewbush Rosalind 4th third, Mr. Winch's Tilsden Jessie getting reserve. The two champion prizes for best bull and best cow or heifer were awarded to Lord Derby's Mayor and to Earl Winterton's Sunlight 5th.

WELSH.

The black cattle of the Principality formed a highly-select collection in merit, although few in number. In the senior bull class there were five animals, and the two that got no money were h.c. Messrs. Davies won the first prize with Duke of Connaught, bred by Mr. J. C. Yorke, The Czar, belonging to Mr. Greaves, and Lord Harlech's Rhodes winning the other premiums. Only two yearling bulls appeared, Wern Emperor, belonging to Mr. Greaves, and Mr. J. Williams's Derw Lad; but they were worthy prize winners. Mr. Greaves won first and second prizes with two good cows, Glasfryn Cadie and Pyrites 2nd, Madryn Sally, of the University College, being third. Mr. R. Roberts was first and reserve with his two heifers, Laura and Jenny, Messrs. Davies being second with Derw Lass, and Madryn Sally 2nd, from the College, third.

RED POLLS.

The entries of the Red Polled breed were forty-nine, and not only were the classes tolerably well filled, but most of the animals which won at the Eastern Counties' shows were amongst them. Davyson 224th, Mr. Hammond's old winner, has brought a succession of first prizes to his new owner, Mr. Harcourt Daplyn, this season at the Suffolk and Norfolk shows, and again at this Royal one. Second to him came Sir R. Cooper's Ashlyns Major, the first winner at Swindon, which also was second to Mr. Daplyn's bull at the Suffolk. Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Knockin made a good third winner. Sir W. Corbet's Acton Rufus, the first two-year-old bull, also held the premier positions at the Suffolk and Norfolk shows, Lord Amherst's Darius being second to him at the Norfolk as here, but at the Suffolk Sir R. Cooper's Ashlyn's Ben, the third winner here and at the Norfolk, was the second winner. Lord Amherst's Dax, which was put first in the yearling class, had the like position at the Norfolk, but was only third at the Suffolk, where Sir W. Corbet's Acton Czar and Sir R. Cooper's Ashlyn's Duke which were second and reserve at Derby, were placed above him. This only proves what was apparent to the eye at Derby, that there is remarkably close running amongst three or four of the best yearling bulls of the season. The one which received the third premium was Mr. R. H. Mason's Davyson 289th.

In the class for cows or heifers in milk, Sir W. Corbet was first again with his deep, full-shaped Tiff 4th which also was made champion female. At Swindon she was placed second to Lord Amherst's Waxlight 2nd, the second winner here, and in competition with Risky B., she was the same at the Essex. Mr. G. D. Lollypop was the third-prize cow, and Biddy 2nd, another exhibit from Acton, had reserve. Sir W. Corbet repeated his previous triumphs with the two-year Davy 280th, his purchase at Mr. Hammond's sale, the heifers placed next her being Lord Amherst's Satanita 6th and Sir R. Cooper's Ashlyn's Flirt. Sharstou Mystery and Acton Primrose, which only had barren honours, had both been prize-takers at former shows. Sir W. Corbet had entered as many as four in the yearling heifers, two of which, Acton Beryl and Acton Cranberry won first and second prizes. Lord Amherst's Popscy 8th, the third winner, was preferred to both at the Suffolk Show, but at the Norfolk the heifers were placed as at this show.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

There were no fewer than seventy-five entries of this breed, the spot being convenient for the Scotch breeders to send some of their animals to. In the senior bull class the first and second prizes went to Mr. G. S. Grant's Prince Forest and to Mr. J. Macpherson's Kartoum, both Scotch bulls, while the third was won by Mr. Bainbridge, of Northumberland, with Delamere, so that Mr. Cridlan could only obtain reserve with his celebrated Wizard of Maismore. In the class for two-year bulls only, the first prize went into Scotland, which was won by Mr. E. Cocy with Tam of Ardargie. Mr. W. B. Greenfield was second with Royal Rover of Haynes 2nd, which was first at the Essex and Northampton shows, the Duke of Portland being third with Evason. Again, in the junior bull class only, the first was won by a Scotch breeder, the second and third premiums going to Mr. Cridlan for Everwise and Bengal. In the cow class Mr. Greenfield had premier place with Darling of Haynes 2nd, the first winner at Swindon and at the Essex Show, Barbarina 2nd, Mr. Bridges' grand cow, came next, and Mr. Hudson's Water Lily 5th third, which two had their respective positions reversed at Portsmouth. The best of the two-year heifers was held to be Mr. Grant's Pride of Spey 4th, from Scotland, Mr. J. H. Bridges obtaining the second prize with Laurel, which was also second at Swindon. Mr. Bainbridge's Elvena, which had third place, seemed of great promise, and Mr. Greenfield's reserve heifer, Evidence of Haynes, was first winner at the Essex. Three of the yearling heifers were h.c. after the prizes had been awarded, which were to Mr. J. R. Findlay for Prize—likely to prove well named; Sir G. A. Cooper's Evera of Hursley, the first winner at Portsmouth, and Mr. Cridlan's Edaline, which was preferred to Evera at Swindon but came next her at Portsmouth.

The champion prizes were awarded to Mr. Grant's Prince Forest and to Mr. Greenfield's Darling of Haynes 2nd.

GALLOWAY.

There were twenty-nine entries for this breed in the four classes. The first old bull was Mr. J. Cunningham's Chancellor, the Countess of Carlisle being second with Bruce of Naworth. The junior bulls were considered a prime lot, the judge gave three barren honours after awarding the prizes to Mr. J. Wilson's Warcry, Messrs. Bigger's Javelin, and Mr. T. Graham's Banker. Mr. Cunningham won another first with his cow Doris, to which the Countess of Carlisle's Janet came third, Mr. Cunningham's other cow Netty 32nd being second. Messrs. Bigger came to the front in the heifer class with Bonnie Jean 6th, but Mr. Cunningham won both the other premiums with Louisa 5th and and Miss Sally 7th.

HIGHLAND.

Only two cows represented this breed, both of which belonged to Mr. H. C. Stephens. These were Learaig 3rd, to which first prize was awarded, and Annag Riabach, which was reserve.

AYRSHIRE.

This Scotch breed was also short-numbered, the bull class having five entries and the female one only three; nevertheless, the three prizes in either class were awarded, Mr. James Howie getting first and third prizes with his bulls Wynflette, Nether Craig and Spicy Sam. These were divided by Mr. Thomas Barr's Monkland Zomo-Sal. In the female class Mr. Alexander Cross was first with his young cow Bright Mary, and second with his heifer Lady Diana, Mr. Thomas Barr being third with Monkland Kate.

JERSEY.

The entries for this breed numbered 125, but as may naturally be supposed, there were some absentees owing to Derby being so far distant from the pastures of many of the breeders. In the class for bulls calved in 1902 and 1903, Capt. Gisborne was first with his well-known Glorious Lad, to which Lady de Rothschild's Gallant made a good second and Mrs McIntosh's Black Pearl a worthy third; Earl Cadogan was reserve with Topper. Bulls calved in 1904 had at their head Mr. W. B. Roderick's Aurifer, which had previously come out well at several of the other shows this season, Mr. G. M. Smith being second with Smiler, and Sir E. D. Stern third with Silken Fop: the reserve went to Mr. L Currie's Twylish King. Lord Rothschild's Royal Ensign came to the front as the first yearling bull, followed closely by Mr. A. Miller-Hallett's Alfriston's Pride; Mr. W. A. H. Bass won third prize with Blackthorn, and Lady de Rothschild's Crusader had the reserve ticket. Mr. Miller Hallett came to the front in the cow class with his Island bred Lady Viola of unmistakable dairy property, Mr. Smith-Barry's Lady May coming second, which was also bred in the Island. Lady de Rothschild's Whitewood 5th, which received the third prize, is tolerably well known. Mr. Bruce Ward was reserve with Mrs. Viola, another imported deep-milker, and as many as seven of the other cows were h.c. Heifers calved in 1904 did not form quite so large a class as the preceding one. Mrs. McIntosh was first with a heifer of excellent promise called Frolicsome 5th, Lady de Rothschild's Watercress, Mr. Thomas Butt Miller's My Fancy, and Earl Cadogan's Bee Line coming next in the order named, all apparently very deserving. The yearling heifers were also a very superior collection, as the judge evidently considered as he bestowed seven h.c.'s after the money prizes and the reserve had been awarded. Mr. James Joicey was first with Electress, Captain Gisborne second with Lady Madcap, Mr. L. Currie third with Marjory, and Mrs. McIntosh reserve with Glorissa 6th.

GUERNSEY.

The old bull class for this breed had only two entries, and the first prize could only be awarded, which was, however, to an animal of great merit, Mr. H. Fitzwalter Plumtre's Rolaud of Seaview 10th, bred by the late Mr. Glynn. In the class for bulls calved in 1904, two prizes could be awarded, the first to Mr. Frank Hargreaves for Merton Signet, who also received reserve for Merton Dairyman, the second winner being Mr. H. M. Ozanne's St. Amant from the Island. The yearling bulls did not form a class large enough for the three prizes to be awarded, but Mr. Hambro won the first and second premiums with Prince Mino and Itchen Oil, two young bulls of great promise, as also is the reserve bull of Mr. F. Hargreaves. The females were more numerous. In the cow class Mr. Hargreaves was first with Beauty of the Village, second to which was Mr. Ozanne's Lady Roberts, Mr. Hambro coming third and reserve with Mrs. Dreyfus and Express. Heifers calved in 1904 had at their head Mr. Ozanne's Lady Roberts 3rd, Mr. P. T. Fowler being second with the Island-bred Lois of Les Pelleys. Mr. Fitzwalter Plumtre won the third prize with Muriel 15th, and Mr. Cornwallis reserve with Rosemary. In the class for yearling heifers Mr. Hambro won both first and second prizes with Montrose 2nd and Olive 4th, Mr. Hargreaves being third with Rosette of the Gron 3rd, and Mr. Ozanne reserve with Lucassienne 4th. The champion cup for best cow or heifer was won by Mr. Hargreaves with Beauty of the Village, Mr. Ozanne's Lady Roberts 3rd being reserve.

LONGHORNS.

There was a creditable muster of this breed, consisting of ten bulls and nine females. In the senior class for bulls, Mr. W. L. Riley's Wychnor Prince was first, and Lord Gerard's Malcolm Emperor second, Mr. W. H. Sale's Nobleman getting reserve after Mr. W. Shaw had taken the third premium with Fradley Monarch. In the class for bulls calved in 1905, Mr. Sale came to the front with Arden Conqueror, Lord Gerard being second with Eastwell Elegant, and Mrs. Cheape reserve with Bentley Watchman. In the cow class Mr. Sale won another first with Fradley Queen, Mrs. Cheape getting second prize therein with Phoebe, while Lord Gerard was third and reserve with Malcolm Damsel and Black-Eyed Susan 2nd, these cows being fine handsome matrons, and Mr. W. Shaw being the with another called Dolly Grey. There were only three heifers, two of which, belonging to Lord Gerard styled Bentley Dido and Ethel of Eastwell, obtained the prizes, Mr. W. H. Sale's Arden Dairymaid being reserve.

KERRY.

There were four Kerry bulls and a dozen cows and heifers. Lady Greenall was first in the bull class with Walton Rajah, to which Llantarnam Lackey, belonging to Mr. C. J. Corrie, M.P., was second, Mr. Palmer's Count third, Sir P. Walker's Osmaston Briton being reserve. The Duchess of Newcastle's Hardwick Flora was the first cow, with Lady Greenall's Walton Joyous second, and

Mr. Corrie's Patricia third, the reserve going to Mr. Palmer's Pretoria. In the heifer class Lady Greenall was first with Walton Marsupial, Mr. Tait Robinson's La Mancha Cloe being second, Mr. Palmer's Paddy third, and Sir P. Walker's Young Burst reserve. The champion prize was won by the Duchess of Newcastle's Flora.

DEXTER.

There were just forty entries of the Dextor breed and there was no difficulty in getting three winners in each of the classes. The first prize bull was Mr. H. M. Gibb's Brockhampton Count, which also obtained the champion prize. Mr. Chetwynd showed two good bulls, and his Don Gentian was second and Don Geodoram highly commended. Compton Dante and Compton Dash, belonging to the Duchess of Devonshire, received third prize. The Duchess, in the cow class, was first with her well-known Compton Daphne, to which Mr. de Bertodano's Cowbridge Lorna came second, and Mr. Tait Robertson's Sprucefield Edna third, Mr. H. N. Gibbs furnishing the reserve, which was Barrow Gunga. The last-mentioned exhibitor came to the front in the heifer class with Barrow Duchess 2nd. The Countess of Sefton showed two nice heifers, which were second and reserve, called Altcar Sultana and Altcar Cistus. These were divided by Mr. Chetwynd's Donna Gentiana.

SHEEP.

This section of the show was thoroughly representative. It is true the entry was not a record one, but what is most satisfactory, its merit was very choice all through.

The Oxford Downs were a much smaller entry, but one in which the winners were of high merit. There was not much room to question the awards that placed those grand rams owned by Messrs. A. Brassey, J. T. Hobbs, H. W. Stilgoe, and J. Horlick in the order named in the yearling class, nor was there any room to question the correctness of Mr. J. T. Hobbs taking first and third honours for yearling ewes, with Mr. J. Horlick's choice pen as second. As at former shows this year, Mr. G. Adams was easily to the fore in the ram and ewe lamb class with thoroughly typical sheep, Messrs. Hobbs, Horlick, and Stilgoe taking the lower awards.

SHROPSHIRES.

The classification of this breed include a class that no other breed has, namely, a class of yearling rams entered for sale by auction at a certain reserve. Last year the class was very successful, and the entry this year was again eminently satisfactory. The prizes offered are large, £50 in four prizes ranging from £20, which is, of course, an inducement. In this class were found many of the best rams of the year and the competition was one that had a great deal of value because it brought out competitors which were entered in the single ram class and also those entered in the pens of five. Sir Richard Cooper was first, r.n., and three h.c.'s, Mr. Victor Cavendish second and c. with two sheep, the Duke of Sutherland was third and h.c., Mr. T. A. Buttar came fourth and c., Mr. H. B. Mander h.c., and Sir W. Corbet c. for two. We have given full award list in this class because it will be of particular utility to the reader for comparison with the sale list, as showing how near to or how far off the judges were to the general opinion of breeders in their awards.

Harking back to the first class, we are pleased to find that the two-shear ram class was one that was appreciated by the breeders, for its entry was very good indeed. Sir Richard Cooper's deep-fleshed and choice ram was a worthy first prize. Mr. A. S. Berry's disappointment at Shrewsbury was fully atoned for by his fine ram taking second place there. These were the two leading rams of this age. In a particularly good class of yearling rams, Sir R. Cooper's second prize ram at Shrewsbury was put to the top, a suitable acknowledgement of the incorrectness of the former award. The closer contest that took place between this ram and that owned by Sir P. A. Muntz for leading honours was a surprise to many, but when it came to be looked over the merit and type of this ram soon showed how much it had improved. The Hon. Victor Cavendish won a third with a very choicely-bred ram, quite one of the best male entries we have seen from this flock; and in that very typical r.n. sheep owned by Mr. M. Williams was found a real good ram, but somewhat beyond its best. Many other capital sheep were included in the award list. No greater test of the merit of any flock could well be applied than that given by the competition in this class, in which no less than fifteen flocks were represented. A grand lot these were, but probably to the onlooker one of the strongest recommendations such a class gave to the breeder, both at home and abroad, was its fine uniformity of type, its notable excellence and merit. Of course, there were degrees of this general excellence, but taken as a whole no breed save the Lincoln could at the present time produce so good a class. Mr. M. Williams was first with a very grand pen of rams—a pen that is neat, uniform, and choice in quality, and yet having grand masculine powers and type. Mr. T. A. Buttars' Scotch-bred pen was a worthy second, and the third pen, owned by Sir R. Cooper, had specially good flesh, probably the best in the class. Mr. E. Nock's pen had the rn, a fine well-grown quintette. The yearling ewe class was one of high merit. Sir Richard Cooper's pen won, and the point upon which the final place was won was, we believe, that great one—namely, quality of flesh—a merit that this pen had to the full. The Hon. Victor Cavendish came in second; here evenness of type and flock likeness were most apparent. The third winners were greatly admired, robustness of character, combined with choice quality, was their great characteristic, and had these sheep been as evenly drawn as the winners, even higher honours would probably have been their lot. The Exors. of P. L. Mills took rn with a pen of specially choice ewes. The ram lamb and two ewe lamb classes were both very good indeed. Sir Richard Cooper won in each of these classes with very choicely bred and good fleshed lambs. Mr. E. Nock's pen came in second in the ram lamb class, with Mr. M. Williams' very typical pen as third, and Mr. T. S. Minton's as rn. In the ewe lamb class Sir W. Corbet's pen won second honours; a very choice pen this is—good in fleece and flesh—it ran the winners very close indeed, Mr. E. Nock was third, and a most typical pen of Mr. T. S. Minton's came in for rn.

SOUTHDOWNS.

A first-class entry of somewhat smaller number than last year represented this grand breed of mutton sheep. The general merit of the exhibits was very good indeed, and there was less of the variation in type than has been seen of late. The old ram class, a valuable one for any breed, had a very capital lot of rams in it. The winner came from Mr. C. Adeane's flock, and though it did not reach champion honours, which it might have done, the rn for this award was also given. A deep-fleshed and most typical ram of its breed describes this capital ram. Next came a choice stud ram, owned by the Duke of Northumberland, whose flesh and fleece were of high merit. His Majesty the King's entry took third honours, and Mr. J. Colman's nice ram was rn. In the strong class of yearlings his Majesty the King took first and championship honours with a ram that showed to great advantage out of his pen, but whose position at the top of the class was very closely pressed by that excellent ram owned by Mr. Adeane, whose choice flesh and touch gained for him many supporters. The executors of Colonel H. McCalmont won third honours with the Swindon ram, a grand ram with special merit, but the high merit and typical character of the Goodwood ram was hardly recognised by the rn it received. The class for three yearling rams secured very good support, and amongst the competing rams there were many of high merit. The six yearling rams that were first and rn for Mr. C. Adeane were of excellent uniformity, very true to type, and good flesh; and in that beautiful pen of typical rams

BAPTON VICEROY, THE CHAMPION SHORTHORN BULL AT THE ROYAL SHOW, DERBY.
Bred by and the property of Mr. J. DEANE WILLIS, Bapton Manor, Codford, Wilts.

from Goodwood that won second honours for the Duke of Richmond was found three first class rams. The third pen, very uniform, came from Mr. Colman's. The ram lamb class was of great merit. The size, development and quality of that fine pen from Sandringham was well deserving of the first place; and in the second pen, owned by the executors of Col. McCalmont, was found merit and nice type; Mr. C. Adeane's third winner had not quite the scale of this pen, but were choicely bred, handled well. The contest in the yearling ewe class was a thoroughly close one. The Duke of Devonshire won correctly, with a very choice pen indeed, first and champion honours. These moved well, and had the Duke of Richmond's pen followed instead of taking third place to that pen owned by the Earl of Cadogan, which could not do themselves full justice outside the pen, a more correct decision would have been registered. Mr. J. Colman's well-matched pen had again to take the rn. H.M. the King won first honours in the ewe lamb class with a very typical and good pen, that gave good result when critically examined. The executors of Colonel McCalmont were, as in the ram lamb class, correctly placed as second, but in that choice pen of Mr. C. Adeane's that were rn special good merit and quality was found, but third honours went to Mr. J. Colman's pen that were of a somewhat different type, particularly in respect to the fleece, although they came well to the hand.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

An excellent and thoroughly typical entry represented this grand breed of sheep, and the record made by Mr. J. Flower's flock was a remarkable one, namely, he won first in each class and also the champion prize for best pen of lambs. This is one of the best records any breeder can secure, and in all save one class no valid exception could be urged against the winners.

The two-shear ram class has been at Mr. Flower's mercy all the season, because in the first and second rams, both of which came from this flock, two of the best rams we have seen for a very long time were found. Typical and masculine, and yet not in the slightest degree coarse, these rams were easily first. Mr. T. F. Buxton came rn and hc for another good pair.

The yearling ram class was a grand one, large in numbers and of very special merit. Here not only was Mr. Flower first, but he also won second, having been first all through the season in this class. Mr. H. C. Stephens had a very excellent and typical ram (forward) that won third honours—a very choice one indeed—Mr. T. F. Buxton again taking the rn. Several other thoroughly typical rams were honoured by hc and c.

The class for ram lambs was one wherein great quality was found. Mr. Flower's, which excelled in all good qualities, were first; Mr. Carey Coles's pen, which were of a very superior type and well brought out, made an excellent second pen, some thought more highly of him than this; Mr. T. F. Buxton's third prize pen was of a very meritorious description, thoroughly good in the flesh, and Sir W. G. Pearce's capital pen were rn.

The ewe lamb awards followed in the same order so far as regards first and second places, but here Mr. Flower was very fortunate, for those in his pen was of quality, we consider, taken all in all. Second pen was the better pen. Sir W. G. Pearce had a choice trio of lambs in his third prize pen, and so also had Mr. H. C. Stephens in that pen of his, whose merit the judges so little appreciated that he had to be content with r.n.

SUFFOLKS.

There was not a large entry of this breed, but it was one of very excellent character. Mr. R. Barclay won for two-shear rams, but the second winner, Mr. S. R. Sherwood, was pretty nearly equal, some thought this ram to handle better. Mr. H. E. Smith had here to be content with rn, a position he improved upon in the next class, for first and second honours were won there with a pair of very capital yearlings, leaving third honours for Mr. R. Barclay's ram that had merit qualities. The single ram lamb class, which is one, we think, ought to be found in each section, had hardly so large an entry as ought to have been the case However, we have to deal only with that which is before us, and Mr. Smith's first prize lamb was worthy to head a very much larger class. Excellent merit and very good quality was found in this beautiful ram lamb; the second winner in the class came from the same flock also, with one of Mr. S. R. Sherwood's in very close attendance. In the next class for pens of three ram lambs, Mr. H. E. Smith's place at the top was closely challenged by Mr. Sherwood, but without avail, the order was as stated above, both pens having very fine merit and type. Mr. Goodchild's pen were third with Mr. Barclay's as rn in close attendance. The yearling ewe class had but three entries, all of very special merit, and the winners of the two leading prizes came from the same flock. Mr. R. Barclay's ewes were brought out in excellent form.

The ewe lamb class was a capital one, very true in type and specially good in touch and skin. Mr. H. E. Smith's fine pen went correctly to the fore, with Mr. Barclay's next; but this was one of those awards others would have altered, and preference could well have been given to that very level pen from Mr. S. R. Sherwood's flock which showed very good merit.

LINCOLNS.

Probably in no section of the sheep show was greater keenness witnessed than in these classes, certainly in none did the awards in the yearling ram classes carry so much value; in fact, there is no question but that it made fully 500 guineas difference in the sale value to the owner of the winner in this class. Unfortunately there was a marked difference of opinion between the judges; so much so that several of the more important awards, including the champion honours, had to be decided by the referee, in other words, the class in which the awards made probably more difference than in any other, the single judge system had perforce to be adopted.

The two-shear ram class was not a remarkably strong one. Mr. C. E. Howard won first and rn with a very fine ram indeed, which did itself full justice when out of the pen; two level and very uniform sheep from Mr. T. Casswell were second and rn.

The yearling ram class was one in which the contest was most keen, and here, correctly we believe, Mr. H. Dudding secured not only first, a ram that ultimately won champion honours, but third also with a ram that was almost equally good. Messrs. Wright were second with a very capital and well grown ram, not perhaps quite so even in the fleece as the winner, but for all that a real good ram. Mr. Tom Casswell came in for the rn and c.

The class for five yearling rams secured an entry of sterling merit and quality, herein Mr. Dudding was again first with a specially well wooled pen; but the second pen, from Messrs. Wright, were better when out, and moved with greater freedom, but as they were not quite so good under hand, we think the award justified. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons were third, a win these breeders fully deserved, for they had none the best of luck this year. Mr. Tom Casswell was rn. The ram lamb class was about one of the best of this age and breed we have seen for several years. Messrs. Wright were easy winners here with a trio of beautiful matched lambs of high quality, Mr. C. E. Howard was second. Lambs with a great wealth of flesh but lacking somewhat in respect to the quality of the fleece, Mr. Dudding's pen excelled in this respect, but lacked the touch and handle of this pen.

The Riby flock's unbeaten record in the yearling ewe class was continued, and, as at the other shows, a real good pen of this flock won first honours. Messrs. Wright were winners of the second prize with a pen that has greatly improved, and which may, if all goes well, be difficult to beat at future shows. Third honours went to Mr. Tom Casswell, whose pen, like all the Pointon sheep, were well matched and most uniform in type and character. The rn. went to Messrs. Dean and Sons for a very first-class pen of high merit. The ewe lamb class, so far as descriptions and awards are concerned, was an exact repeat of the ram lamb class with fully as good merit and quality.

LEICESTERS.

This well-known breed was represented this year by an entry of grand merit, the uniformity of the whole of the entry was most noticeable, and the type and merit excellent. Mr. E. F. Jordan was well ahead in the classes for both yearling rams and ewes. In these classes his entries had the better touch, and gave a more satisfactory response when the same were critically examined, though beaten. Mr. G. Harrison's entries in both these classes were of very choice merit—they were, in fact, just a bit over done. The latter exhibitor, however, more than held his own in the lamb classes, and both the ram lambs and ewe lambs sent forward by this exhibitor were of a very superior merit. Mr. E. F. Jordan took the other awards with typical sheep, but not quite so fully developed.

COTSWOLDS.

This breed's entry was a typical one, but small in number, with excellent merit. Mr. W. T. Garne, who won all through the classes, had a notably fine yearling ram as first in this class, quite one of the best of its breed we have seen for some considerable time; a second entry from this flock was divided from the winner by a well-balanced and typical ram owned by Mr. W. Houlton. The yearling ewes were a choice lot of high merit, and the same remark is equally applicable to those grand pens of lambs that were first and second for Mr. Garne in these two classes.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

A small but thoroughly typical entry represented this popular North Country breed. Mr. A. J. Balfour was owner of most of the winners, and his yearling ram that won had very fine merit; the same remarks are fully applicable to Mr. T. Winter's pen of yearling ewes that secured the first prize; these were of very special merit.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP.

Never before, except at Maidstone, has this breed made so large an entry at the Royal Show, and it is more than probable that the average of merit, type, and quality has never been exceeded at any previous Royal Show. No other breed has shown so notably an improvement in so short a time as this has done.

Mr. Charles File won first honours in the two-shear ram class with a real good ram. When out of the pen the width of this fine ram, together with its fine type and character, fully entitled it to precedence. Mr. W. Millen's second winner was also of fine merit, and handled well; the third and hc went two specially good rams from Mr. H. Rigden. The awards in the yearling ram class were not so generally approved of, particularly Mr. C. File's first-prize ram, many giving preference to one that came from the same flock that had to be content with hc.

A notably fine ram, with the best possible flesh and even fleece, won second honours for Mr. J. E. Quested, being followed by a grandly-fleshed ram from Mr. H. Rigden, to which the third honour went. The ram lamb class was of special merit. In this age, probably more than any other, one sees the immense strides towards early maturity that have been made in this breed in recent years. Mr. W. Millen's trio won without question. It is true the pen was not quite so well matched as some, but this unevenness was occasioned by the marked superiority of one of these lambs, an exceptionally fine and well-grown lamb. Mr. J. B. Palmer, whose first venture at the Royal Show has been successful, won second honours in this class with a pen of very excellent lambs, good in their flesh and very even in size. Mr. J. E. Quested's pen came well to hand, and were rightly put third. In the ewe lamb class Mr. Millen again won with a beautifully drawn pen; next him came a nice and typical pen owned by Mr. F. Neame, whose closest competitor, Mr. H. Rigden, might have taken the second instead of third place, because this pen, when out, displayed better conformation and heads. The ewe class was one in which the competition was particularly close. Mr. W. Millen won with a real good pen first honours, taking also third honours with his second entry. Mr. F. Neame came in third with a very choice pen of special merit, and Mr. C. File was made rn.

WENSLEYDALE.

The executors of Mr. F. Willis were first all through these classes with a notably fine collection of sheep, the three yearling rams from this flock taking all three honours in their class; Messrs. E. Horseman and R. Stuart were the other successful competitors

DORSET HORNS.

These classes were better filled than we have seen them for some long while, and the merit all through was very good indeed; first, second, and third prizes were won by Mr. W. R. Flower in the yearling ram class with three very good rams, the first sheep being particularly good. Mr. Flower was also leading winner for pens of three yearling ewes; these were of excellent merit and true type. But when the contest for the special prize came up for decision we were pleased to find the award went in favour of that particularly fine and well-grown pen of ram lambs that won deservedly first honours for Mr. James Attrill, who occupied a similar position in the ewe lamb class. Mr. Flower had to be content with second honours in both lamb classes for lambs of good type, but not so well developed as the winners in both classes. Mr. E. A. Hambro was likewise a successful winner.

DEVON LONG WOOL.

Messrs. F. White and A. C. Skinner were the only contestants in these classes, but the whole of the entries were of a very superior merit and real good type.

SOUTH DEVON.

Out of the 218 stock owners two only were found to send out to the largest and most important live stock show in the world entries of their breed to show to the thousands who visit the Royal what a grand breed of mutton sheep this is. Messrs. J. Stooke and J. S. Hallett were the two progressive exhibitors, and they, with thoroughly typical rams and ewes, equally divided the awards offered for their competition.

BLACK-FACED MOUNTAIN.

A full and very typical entry was secured of this breed. The winning sheep in each of the classes were of very fine merit and true type, Messrs. John Dargue, John Robson, and John Robson, jun., taking most of the awards in the two classes.

WELSH MOUNTAIN.

A better or more typical entry of this breed has not been seen at the Royal Show for several years. The two classes were large for the breed, and the average of merit so good that in both all the entries appeared in the award list. Mr. Owen Price and the University College of North Wales, with Messrs. J. M. Dugdale and H. O. Ellis, owned the principal winners in each class.

RYELAND.

The entry made by this breed was a good one, and the high quality of the flesh and general excellence of the fleece gain for this breed many admirers from beyond the seas.

Mr. W. T. Barneby was to the front in each of the classes with several excellent sheep, all of which were particularly good in respect to both

CHAMPION ANIMALS at the ROYAL SHOW, DERBY.

1. Capt. E. L. A. Heygate's Hereford Bull, Cameronian. 2. H.M. the King's Devon Cow, Ruby. 3. Mr. H. Duddings's Lincoln Shearling Ram. 4. Mr. K. M. Clark's Suffolk Stallion, Sudbourne Conqueror. 5. Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Sons Middle White Sow, Holywell Victoria Duchess. 6. Lord Rothschild's Jersey Bull, Royal Ensign.

fleece and flesh. Mr. W. H. Davies and Mr. F. E. Gough were the other successful competitors.

THE MINOR BREEDS.

The Dartmoor, the Exmoor, and the lonks were represented by small but typical entries, whilst the Cheviots only came under this heading by reason of the fact that there was not, and has not been for many years any real competition in them, the Messrs. Robson generally sharing the honours. This year, however, Mr Jacob Robson is first in both classes, and Mr. John Robson rn. The Herdwicks, a very picturesque breed, was represented by a capital entry of high merit but small in number.

PIGS.

This year the pig section was undoubtedly one of the most attractive that has been seen in a Royal showyard for many years. Not only were the entries numerous, but they were more even and the awards gave less cause for acrimonious complaints. It was not a triumph for one section at the expense of the other. There is evidently a very growing rivalry between the Berkshires and the Large Blacks, whereas it is unquestionable that the Large Whites have seen the Small Whites out, and have anticipation of attaining the same end with the Middle Whites, but that end is not yet. Anyway, place of precedence is given in the catalogue to the Large Whites, and a grand lot they were.

LARGE WHITES.

The old boar class contained over a dozen entries, and neither of these should have been left at home. Here it was a virtual triumph for Sir Gilbert Greenall. He was first with that lengthy yet compact pig, Walton Tartar, bred by Mr William Hall in Derbyshire, a boar that should leave an impress on any herd. Sir Gilbert was reserved with Walton King 4th, a heavily fleshed, nice quality boar, which made it first favourite at Swindon; the he was also from Walton Hall, it being Walton King 5th. Sir Gilbert Greenall would not have much anxiety unlesss Mr. Sanders Spencer happened to be hanging around, and this time he was placed second with Holywell Happy, a very smart pig that has known what it is to be premier favourite, as it slept beneath the champion rosette at Nottingham last year. Mr. C. J. Tong's Shard Roger, which was third, would be a rare addition to any farmer's herd.

If the old boars displayed maturity the young boars excelled them in smartness; these were shown in pens of three and made a total of thirty three. Once again Mr. R. Daybell was to the lead; he has a marvellous manner, all his own, in bringing forward his youngsters, and he

keeps them. Even the second-prize pen had evidently had just a touch of those accideuts that will happeu even in the best regulated families, and so two had to do duty instead of three, but these two reflected credit on Mr. T. Henson's herd. Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son's good pigs, well grown as they were, could have done with a little more of Nature's covering; they own parentage to Holywell Genius. Mr. R. Rothwell had a useful pen as reserve that will mean profit to someone later on. A commended card was given to Sir Gilbert Greenall.

If the old boars were good, the sows, which equalled them in numbers, were excellent. Here Sir Gilbert Greenall evidently exhibited to win; he was first with that lovely sow, as graceful as a porcine specimen can be, Lindsey A. She has a wealth of flesh, and such excellent understandings to carry it, that she was an easy match for the championship; third prize went to Walton Ivy, a decidedly smaller sow, but very evenly built; there was still a barren honour of highly commended awaiting Walton Patience 3rd, which scarcely had the necessary amount of it to quietly submit after having been second both at the Bath and West and the Royal Counties. The second prize taker and reserve champion of the breed was Mr. R. M. Knowles's Colston Lass 14th; she was even, and displayed her maternal capabilities by means of her litter, some of which were quite even enough to visit a Royal showyard on a subsequent occasion. Mr. Knowles was also commended with Colston Lass 13th, the reserve ticket went to Mr. Sanders Spencer's Holywell Empress E, which evidently did not err on the points of length, however deep she was.

The young sow class filled well, and Mr. Sanders Spencer had an excellent pair, Holywell A1, which was first, shows alike for length and depth and walked well; she was a heavier, but scarcely more even pig than Holywell Empress Derby, which was second. Sir Gilbert Greenall had a look in for third position with Walton Nell 16th, that scarcely carried either the coat or the scale so characteristic of her herd, two other members of which were hc and c respectively. Mr. M. Knowles was reserved with Colston Lassie 13th, whose fine coat and manners attracted such attention at the Henley meeting.

Mr. Daybell did well with his young boars; he fairly scooped with his gilts. His first prize pen by Bottesford Merit 3rd were just in the pink of show condition—deep-sided, with those fine hams just turning and showing their muscular capabilities; but in the pen they did not appear to match quite so well as the second prize pen from the same herd, which also had the reserve. To get placed amidst such testified to the excellence of Mr. Thomas Henson's exhibits. These are growing, and when they have grown more should put in the necessary amount of substance by maturing.

MIDDLE WHITES.

Here the entries were decidedly smaller, but there were many fine pigs, particularly on the boar class, where the first prize went to Mr. Sanders Spencer's Holywell Royal Viscount, which thus maintained its Bath and West position, though it was closely pushed for place by Sir Gilbert Greenall's team of three, Walton John 6th being second, and Walton John 5th third, both rare good boars. The young boar class was strong in quality, but not in numbers, Sir Gilbert Greenall being first and third with matchy even pigs, and it was an open question as to whether Mr. Sanders Spencer's pair should have been sandwiched between them, but though none too large they were very taking to the eye.

The feature of the Middle Whites undoubtedly was the sow class, here the contest was keen indeed. Mr. Sanders Spencer was to the fore with Holywell Victoria Duchess, which was in the honours list at Portsmouth and Swindon; she retains her coat, and is full of quality, and also secured the championship. Sir Gilbert Greenall came in second with Walton Rose 22nd, nearly as level now as when she came out first. Mr. L. Paget was third and reserve with Holywell Barbara, not quite so even as the others. However, Mr. Paget did better in the next class, where he was placed first with Warren Royal Countess—a level, useful sow, not brought out so well as Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Rose 47th, which was second; third prize went to Holywell Judy, a nice quality sow.

The young sow class consisted of six pens of three each. Here Sir Gilbert Greenall decidedly scored with three very wealthy ones; they were well ahead of their next competitors, Mr. Sanders Spencer's rather small but very neat pigs of Holywell Visconnt's get. Mr. L. Paget was third and reserve with two pens of Mr. T. Simpson Dy's breeding.

BERKSHIRES.

Diversity of opinion characterised these classes, and it is evident that mere numbers is not strength. A strong feature of the Berkshire is its markings; if the pigs are wrongly marked there has been a departure from type somewhere, and the other merits become suppressed. Markings must be uniform, and this is made all the better if the breed is uniform also, but on carefully going over these classes we could not fail to observe the uncurling and lengthening out of the tail. At one time it was scarcely possible to distinguish the head from the tail, it is very possible to do so now. There was a big entry of Berkshire boars, and here many of the best came forward, Mr. Colin Campbell's excellent judgment was confirmed, as the boar which he purchased at the Hon. Claud B. Portman's sale, Okeford Emperor, was brought to the fore as it was at Swindon, though it had been previously set back at the Oxford County. Mr. Hudson was also highly commended with Danesfield Donavan. The second prize went to the Duchess of Devonshire with Polegate Dictator, he is a big, weighty pig. Mr. E. J. Morant's pig was very correctly marked; then Mr. Inman's much-debated pig, Highmoor Belzac, had another twist to its winnings; he has had ups and downs to be again reserve, though it might have been higher. The class for young boars was a very full one, there being seventeen entries. Mr. R. W. Hudson was first with a pen of Danesfield McKinley's get; they are rather showy pigs, very shapely. The second went to Mr. Godfrey Chetwynd with some rare rent payers. Mr. Fricker was third and commended, and though he had two good ones, he sent a still better one, with the result of an uneven pen. Lord Calthorpe's pen were more level than big.

The sow class was a fairly good one, especially around the top; here merit was shown, nearly the whole of the class received mention. The leader was Wandsworth Gem, shown by the Visiting Committee, Middlesex County Asylum. She is a very even, wealthy show pig with good markings; Sir Alexander Henderson was second with Buscot Ethel, which has improved much recently, and as a result goes higher up; third was given to the Duchess of Devonshire's Polegate Dovecote, which is a big type sow, not quite so true on the top as some of the others. Mr. Inman's Highmoor Dowager made a very good reserve; she possesses a lot of merit, especially when seen in the open. A notable set-back here was that of Mr. Jefferson's Peel Melon, which was second at Swindon and now was only highly commended.

There was a big contest in the young sow class. The Duchess of Devonshire was first with Polegate Daylight, a real typical Bershire, with nice straight sides and very deep, even hams. Mr. Fricker's sow looked much better in the pen than in the open, as when out she has not that perfection of outline as she displays between the boards. Mr. E. J. Morant was third with a straight, useful sow, the Hon. Holland Hibbert being reserved, this latter was a very nice pig, but a trifle harsh in the coat. Mr. Jefferson appeared to have got into the hard lines, as Peel Majorie, which was third in the class at the Bath and West, could now not mount higher than a mere commended card. The gelt class was an excellent one; the first prize here went to the Duchess of Devonshire for three very wealthy ones, deep in their sides and matching; second went to some rent payers, sent by Mr. Godfrey Chetwynd, hardly excelling in this respect Mr. Kimber's nice trio by Syntax. Lord Calthorpe was reserved with three not quite even in their marking, though they had excellent backs. In this class amongst some of the lesser lights might be seen a growing disregard of white tip etiquette.

TAMWORTHS.

There were thirty-six entries of Tamworths, and they made a fine show, but the feature of the section was the remarkable success of that well-known breeder, Mr. Robert Ibbotson, of Knowle, Warwick, for he wcu the first and second prize for boars farrowed in 1904 or 1905, first for three boars farrowed in 1906, first for breeding sow farrowed in 1902-3-4, and a similar award for 1905 sows; whilst he secured tho championship and also the reserve for the best Tamworth pig—truly a performance worthy to be promd of. The only other first prize—for three gilts—was taken by Mr. H. C. Stephens, who took several of the remaining awards.

LARGE BLACKS.

The display of the Large Black breed was one of the most creditable ever seen at the Royal Shows. The numbers were considerably in excess of what was anticipated, and only fell a few short of the Berkshires. Mr. C. F. Marriner, of Hasketon, may fairly claim to have held his own, for not only was he the recipient of a first in every class, but he also took the champion and silver challenge cup. In the old boar class, in which there were nine eutrics, Mr. Marriner, with Hasketon Black King, already the winner of two first, this year took the leading place from a Cornish exhibitor, Mr. Thomas Warne. Both first and second were of splendid quality, while the third, owned by the Earl of Ancaster, was a very heavy pig. Young boars totalled nineteen in all, and in a class of excellent quality Mr. Marriner again came to the front, as he did at the Suffolk Show. Once more Mr. Warner was second, and Mr. Kenneth Clark, of Sudbourne Hall, third and reserve.

The breeding sow class was, perhaps, the strongest class of the lot. The leading specimen—splendid, very deep, and full of quality—was an easy winner, and as in the previous class, was again furnished by Mr. Marrine. Most of the others were favourably mentioned. The last-named gentleman had another close run with Mr. Warne, who, in turn, was only just ahead of Mr. Rothwell, of Fulwood Hall Farm. The best of thirteen pens of gilts were shown by Mr. Marriner, and here again Mr. Warne, with his Cornish pigs, had to be content with second place.

The following is a list of

Judges.

HORSES.

Hunters and Polo Ponies: W. A. Harford, Petty France, Badminton, S.O., Glos.; T. Wickham Boynton, Burton Agnes Hall, Driffield. Cleveland Bay: Joseph Shepherd, Prospect House, Sadberge, Darlington. Coach Horse: George Burton, Thorpe Willoughby, Selby. Hackney Ponies and Harness Horses: A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham; J. D. Robinson, Warren Farm, Sledmere, York. Shetland Ponies Mountain and Moorland Ponies: Capt. Wentworth Hope Johnstone, Polebrook, Eden Bridge. Shire: James Gould, Model Farm, Lymm, Cheshire; F. W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, Peterborough. Clydesdale: William Taylor, Park Mains, Renfrew. Suffolk: J. J. Hornby, Knowsley, Prescot; S. R. Livingstone Learmonth, Stakes, Waterloo-ville Hants. Agricultural Horses: F. W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, Peterborough; William Taylor, Park Mains, Renfrew. Asses: John Ripley, Barston House, South Cerney, Cirencester.

CATTLE.

Shorthorn: James Peter, Berkeley Castle Estate Office, Berkeley, Glos.; C. W. Brierley, The Firs, Brimfield, R.S.O., Herefordshire. Dairy Shorthorn Cows and Heifers: J. C. Robinson, Iford, Lewes. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn: Fred Scorer, Whitehall, Bracebridge Heath Lincoln. Hereford: W. Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Barry; J. W. Millyard, Littlebridge, Bromyard. Devon: C. L. Hancock, Cothelstone, Bishops Lydeard. South Devon: William Merry, Woodford, Plympton, Devon. Sussex: Daniel Swaffer, Mumford, Kingsnorth, near Ashford. Welsh: Richard W. Pritchard, Coedmarion Carnarvon. Red Polled: A. D. Bruce, Winchfield, Hants; Herbert Blofield, Morley Manor, Wymondham, Norfolk. Aberdeen-Angus: W. S. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, Perth; C. Stephenson, Sandyford Villa, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Galloway: Robert Shennan, Balig, Kirkcudbright. Highland: R. Macdiarmid, Lochawe, Argyll. Ayrshire: Matthew Hunter, Adamhill, Craigie, Kilmarnock. Jersey: John Keddie, Royalcot, Stansted, Essex; Herbert Padwick, West Thorney, Emsworth. Guernsey: G. Titus Barham, Sudbury Park, Wembley, Middlesex; John Le Page, Le Briquet, St. Saviour's, Jersey. Longhorn: Nigel J. C. Neville, Rhyl Manor, Dulverton. Kerry and Dexter: G. F. Roumieu, Bethune House, Farnham, Surrey; F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge.

SHEEP.

Oxford Down: John Bryan, Southleigh, Witney, Oxon. Shropshire: W. Barrs, Temple, Mancetter, Atherstone; S. F. M. Nevett, Yorton, Shrewsbury. Southdown: Hugo Penfold, Marston, Ampthill; F. H. Jennings, Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds. Hampshire Down: T. A. Edney Hayter, The Mount, Whitchurch, Hants; J. B. Stevens, The Manor, Ogbourne St. George, Wilts. Suffolk: J. W. Eagle, Walton-on-Naze, Essex. Lincoln: Henry Goodyear, Aunsby, Bourne; James Cartwright, Pillar Farm, Nocton, Lincoln. Leicester: William Marshall, Cottam House, Driffield. Cotswold: T. S. Tayler, Idstone, Shrivenham, Berks. Border Leicester: J. R. C. Smith, Mowhaugh, Yetholm. Kent or Romney Marsh: F. Austen Bensted, The Lawn, Sittingbourne. Wensleydale: Aaron Ewan, Gowlu, Westhouse, Kirkby Lonsdale. Dorset Horn: Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset. Devon Long-Wool: C. L. Hancock, Cothelstone, Bishops Lydeard. South Devon, Dartmoor, and Exmoor: William Merry, Woodford, Plympton, Devon. Cheviot: J. R. C. Smith, Mowhaugh, Yetholm. Black-faced Mountain: R. Macdiarmid, Lochawe, Argyll. Lonk and Herdwick: George Barcroft, Scout Moor, Shuttleworth, near Manchester. Welsh Mountain: Richard W. Pritchard, Coedmarion, Carnarvon. Ryeland: J. H. Yeomans, Withington, Hereford.

PIGS.

Large White: H. H. Owtram, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster. Middle White: Joseph Ashforth, Dronfield, Sheffield. Berkshire: A. S. Gibson, The Elms, Ruddington, Nottingham. Tamworth: Lt.-Col. F. A. Walker-Jones, Burton, Westmorland. Large Black: S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich.

PRODUCE.

Butter: Thomas Latham, Dorchester, Oxon. Cream and Cheese: Professor H. J. Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock. Cider and Perry: John Ettlo, Stanley Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare. Wool: Fred C. Collins, Bradford; Thomas Musgrave, Manby House, Otley. Hives and Honey: W. F. Reid, Fieldside, Addlestone Surrey; P. Scattergood, Gladwin House, Stapleford, Notts.; T. I. Weston, Dorchester Road, Hook, Hants.

Champion Awards.

HORSES.

Gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old.—Lord Middleton, Birdsall House, York; r, E. Hodgson, Bridlington, Daisy.

Silver medal of the Shetland Pony Stud Book Society for the best Shetland pony.—Mrs Amy J. Beale, Cacketts, Cudham, Kent (Temerity); r, R. W. R. Mackenzie, Earlshall, Leuchars, N.B. (Gold Flower).

Gold medal of the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire stallion.—Earl Egerton of Tatton, Knutsford (Tatton Dray King); r, the Hon. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Cark-in-Cartmel (Holker Menestrel II).

Gold medal of the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire mare or filly.—Sir P. Albert Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Dunsmore Fuchsia); r, Lord Rothschild, Tring, Herts (Blythwood Guelder Rose).

Champion prize of the Clydesdale Horse Society for the best Clydesdale stallion.—J. Kilpatrick, Craigie Mains, Kilmarnock, N.B. (Blyth Thomas); Mr. J. Kilpatrick (Rienzi).

Champion prize of the Clydesdale Horse Society for the best Clydesdale mare or filly.—W. M. Wood, Drawdykes Castle, Carlisle (Cedric Princess); r, Seaham Harbour Stud, The Dene, Seaham Harbour (Silver Princess).

Challenge cup of the Suffolk Horse Society for the best Suffolk stallion.—K. M. Clark, Sudbourne Hall, Orford, Suffolk (Sudbourne Conqueror); r, K. M. Clark, (Sudbourne Arabi).

CATTLE.

Champion prize of the Shorthorn Society for the best Shorthorn bull.—J. Deane Willis, Bapton Manor, Codford, Wilts (Bapton Viceroy); r, F. Miller, Birkenhead (Linksfield Champion).

Champion prize of the Shorthorn Society for the best Shorthorn cow or heifer.—J. Deane Willis (Golden Garland); r, His Majesty, Windsor Royal Farms, Windsor (Sylph).

Champion prize of the Hereford Herd Book Society for the

Judges at the Royal Show.

Mr. T. WICKHAM BOYNTON,
Burton Agnes Hall, Driffield.
HUNTERS AND FOLD PONIES.

Mr. R SHENNAN,
Balig, Kirkcudbright.
GALLOWAY CATTLE.

Mr. H. BLOFIELD,
Morley Manor, Wymondham. Norfolk
RED POLLED CATTLE.

Mr. T. LATHOM,
Bishopscourt, Dorchester, Oxon
BUTTER.

Professor R. J. DRUMMOND,
Dairy School, Kilmarnock.
CREAM AND CHEESE.

Mr. E. W. GRIFFITH,
Plasnewydd, Trefnant. R.S.O., North Wales.
HORSE JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

[*Numerous photos of other judges appeared in our last issue*].

best Hereford bull.—Captain E. L. A. Boygate, Buckland, Leominster (Cameronian); r, S. Robinson, Lynhales, Kington (Herefordshire Mojo).

Champion prize of the Hereford Herd Book Society.—L. Moore, Brampton Brian, Herefordshire (Brampton Agnes 33rd); r, A. E. Hughes, Winterott, Leominster (Irvington Plum).

Champion prize of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society for the best Devon bull.—The Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Hestercombe, Taunton (Pound Pink Cup); r, S. Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset (Bickley Quaker).

Champion prize of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society for the best Devon cow or heifer.—His Majesty, Windsor Royal Farms (Ruby); r, T. S. Morgan, Whimple, Exeter (Whimple Beauty).

Silver medal of the Sussex Herd Book Society for the best Sussex bull. The Earl of Derby, Orchardmains, Tonbridge (Major); r, E. E. Braby, Rudgwick, Sussex (Lord of Drungewick 5th).

Silver medal of the Sussex Herd Book Society for the best Sussex cow or heifer.—Earl Winterton, Shillingle Park, Petworth, Sussex (Sunlight 5th); r, P. Saillard, Crawley, Sussex (Bewbush Evelyn).

Champion prize of the Welsh Black Cattle Society for the best Welsh bull.—R. M. Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc (Wern Emperor); r, Davies, Thomas, and Howells, St. Clears, Carmarthenshire (Duke of Connaught).

Champion prize for the best Red Polled bull.—H. Daplyn, Hindringham, Walsingham (Davyson 224th); r, Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Ashlyns, Berkhampsted (Ashlyns Major).

Champion prize for the best Red Polled cow or heifer.—Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury (Tiff 4th); r, Lord Ambherst of Hackney, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (Waxlight 2nd).

Gold medal of the Polled Cattle Society for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal.—G. S. Grant, Auchorachan, Glenlivet (Prince Forest); r, E. Coey, Drough, Larne (Tam of Ardargie).

Gold medal of the English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association for the best animal of the opposite sex to that of the animal awarded the medal of the Polled Cattle Society.—W. B. Greenfield, Haynes Park, Bedford (Darling of Haynes 2nd); r, G. S. Grant (Pride of Spey 4th).

Champion prize of the Galloway Cattle Society for the best Galloway bull.—J. Cunningham, Tarbreoch, Dalbeattie (Chancellor of Ballyholey); r, J. Wilson, Tundergarth Mains, Lockerbie (Warcry of Whitehill).

Champion prize of the Galloway Cattle Society for the best Galloway cow or heifer.—J. Cunningham (Doris of Kilquhanity); r, J. Cunningham (Netty 32nd of Tarbreoch).

Champion Cup of the English Guernsey Cattle Society for the best Guernsey cow or heifer.—F. Hargreaves, Gamlingay, Cambridge (Merton Beauty of the Village); r, H. M. Ozanne, Castel, Guernsey (Lady Robert 3rd).

Challenge Cup of the English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society for the best Kerry animal.—The Duchess of Newcastle, Clumber, Worksop (Hardwick Flora); r, Lady Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington (Walton Rajah).

Challenge Cup of the English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society for the best Dexter animal.—E. M. Gibbs, Barrow Court, near Bristol (Brockhampton Count); r, the Duchess of Devonshire, Compton Place, Eastbourne (Compton Daphne).

SHEEP.

Gold medal of the Southdown Sheep Society for the best Southdown ram.—His Majesty; r, C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge.

Silver medal of the Southdown Sheep Society for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs.—The Duke of Devonshire, K.G.; r, His Majesty.

Champion prize of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association for the best pen of Hampshire Down ram lambs or ewe lambs.—James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury; r, Gary Coles, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.

Champion medal of the Lincoln Long wool Sheep Breeders' Association for the best Lincoln ram. Henry Dudding, Ruby Grove, Great Grimsby; r, Charles E. Howard, Nocton Rise, Lincoln.

Champion prize of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association for the best pen of ram lambs, shearling ewes, or ewe lambs.—James Attrill, Waytes Coast, Brighstone, Isle of Wight; r, Wm. Reginald Flower, West Stafford, Dorchester.

PIGS.

Champion gold medal of the National Pig Breeders' Association for the best Large White Boar or Sow.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington (Lindsey A); r, R. M. Knowles, Colston Bassett Hall, Bingham, Notts (Colston Lass 13 b).

Champion gold medal of the National Pig Breeders' Association for the best Middle White Boar or Sow. S. Spencer and Son, Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts (Holywell Victoria Duchess); r, S. Spencer and Son (Holywell Royal Court).

Champion gold medal of the National Pig Breeders' Association for the best Tamworth boar or sow.—R. Ibbotson, Knowle, Warwickshire (Cholderton Buzzer); r, R. Ibbotson (Gun Hill Mater).

Champion prize of the Large Black Pig Society for the best Large Black Boar. G. F. Marriner, Thorpe Hall, Hasketon, Woodbridge (Hasketon Black King 4 b); r, T. Warne, St. Mabyn, Cornwall.

Silver Challenge Cup of the Large Black Pig Society for the best sow.—G. F. Marriner (Hasketon Long Lady); r, J. Warne, St. Mabyn (Treveglos Hopeful).

Suction Gas Plant Trials.

In the section devoted to the trials of suction gas plants the judges awarded two medals, one gold and one silver. Details are not yet published as to the efficiency of the engines, but it is believed they are quite satisfactory. Taking the entire show, there are no less than twenty suction gas plants on the ground, fourteen in the competitions and six not competing. Those competing range from 15 to 20 b.h.p., and are priced at from £180 to £280. Those not for competition range from 6 to 65 b.h.p., and in cost from £98 10s. up to £359.

The gold medal goes to the 20-brake h.p. National Suction Gas Plant, catalogued at £233, shown by the National Gas Engine Company, Limited, of Ashton-under-Lyne. One important feature of this plant is that it has been designed on the heat regenerative principle. All the air used for making the gas is heated by the waste heat from the body of the gas generator; the super-heated steam required for heating the gas is produced entirely by waste heat; while the fuel which is to be converted into gas is heated in a similar manner before it reaches the combustion zone. The engine governs the rate of producing the gas to suit the varying consumption and load. No surplus gas can therefore be made, and as there is a partial vacuum in all parts of the plant and in the piping while the engine is working, there cannot be any escape or waste of gas either, as in all the plants the making of the gas is through the suction caused by the outstroke of the piston, which draws in air through the fire in the gas generator, but before starting the engine this air through the fire in the generator is supplied by a fan or blower. The other points of construction of this plant are fairly common to all gas-suction plants, but for the special excellence of the various parts in these trials we must wait until the judges' report is available.

The silver medal was awarded to the smaller of the two plants (15-brake-h.p.) shown by Messrs. Crossley Brothers, Openshaw, Manchester. This is the plant having a combined coke and sawdust scrubber as its special feature. This is rather a new departure in suction gas plant practice, the general practice having been hitherto to put in only coke scrubbers, but we understand that the firm has proved the new method to be very successful in practical work, the gas distributed to the engine being very clean. When coke scrubbers only have been used it was found in some cases that trouble was caused by dust finding its way in the gas into the cylinder of the engine, this causing rapid deterioration in the working parts. The special feature of the silver medal plant is to prevent this.

The General Meeting.

The general meeting of governors and members of the society was held in a large tent near the members' pavilion at eleven on Thursday, and was well attended. Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, president of the society, who was in the chair, first referred to the inestimable value of the King's support of the society. The council, he said, also acknowledged with great gratitude the efforts of the Mayor and the citizens to give the society a handsome reception. That welcome had been given whole-heartedly, and although the time at their disposal, after the society accepted the invitation, was none too long, yet, thanks to the energy displayed on the one hand by the local committee, and on the other hand by Sir Gilbert Greenall and the staff, they had in the showyard a collection of exhibits well staged and in every way worthy of the society.

Votes of thanks to the Mayor and Corporation

for their cordial reception were moved by the Earl of Coventry, and seconded by Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, and to the Local Committee by Lord Middleton, and unanimously adopted.

The various railway companies were also thanked for the facilities they have afforded. But on this subject Mr. James Watt urged that the companies should extend to the public all round the same privileges as they afforded to the members of the society. He thought they should do as in Scotland, and let the public travel at a fare and a quarter.

Mr. W. P. J. Allsabrook suggested that the council should revive the custom of giving prizes for the best cultivated farm. Mr. Tinniswood (Carlisle) thought the society missed its most important mission in not giving such prizes, as it was largely organised with that object. They gave a lot of money to the professional breeders of stock, but nothing to those who remained at home and made the farms profitable for the landlords and for themselves.

The president said these matters would be carefully considered by the council.

A vote of thanks to the president was also adopted, and in reply Mr. Cornwallis said he hoped the remainder of his term of office might be free from a great deal of that anxiety which hung over the earlier part. Changes of considerable importance had been effected. Those changes necessarily entailed an amount of work on all connected with the society, and especially upon the staff, necessarily reduced as it was, owing to their financial position. But, whatever economies they might effect, they would never consider that the society was established on a firm and lasting basis until it had reached a considerably larger membership.

An Invitation from Lincoln for 1907.

A meeting, convened by the Mayor of Lincoln, in support of the proposed invitation of the Corporation to the Royal Agricultural Society to hold their 1907 show in the city, was held at Lincoln on June 22. The Mayor (Councillor A. C. Newsum) presided, and there was a large and representative attendance. The Mayor said the Corporation received privately an intimation through the medium of Mr. C. W. Tindall, who was unable to be present that day, that the Royal Agricultural Society wished to hold their show next year in the Eastern Counties, and that they would be willing to favourably consider an invitation from Lincoln. That being so, he (the Mayor) called the Council together on Tuesday night. After the Deputy Town Clerk (Mr. Page) had read the resolution of the Corporation, the Mayor said the financial question was, of course, of almost paramount importance, but, as far as they had been able to go, the responses had been so extremely favourable that they felt they need anticipate no difficulty.

Mr. A. S. Leslie-Melville moved a resolution cordially approving the action of the Corporation in inviting the Royal Agricultural Society to hold their 1907 show in Lincoln, and pledging the meeting, if the invitation was accepted, to do all in its power to make the show successful. He said he well remembered the Royal Society holding its show in Lincoln over fifty years ago, and what a cordial reception the society then had, not only from the city but from the county. Since then the county and the city had had very trying times, and perhaps he might add that the Royal Society had also had a very trying time. He hoped that in spite of that they would come to Lincoln, and that if they came they would have as hearty a reception as they had fifty years ago.

Mr. C. Scorer, in seconding the proposition, said he was satisfied it would tend to promote the agricultural prosperity of that the premier agricultural county, and the commercial prosperity of the city. Nothing but good could come of the visit of the Royal Society to Lincoln. He did not think there would be any difficulty in raising the sum required.

Sir John Thorold said that not only would he give the project his own individual support, but as one very largely connected with the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, he had no doubt the society would be most happy to join the Royal Society in their show at Lincoln. They were in a measure pledged to Sleaford to hold the Lincolnshire show in that town next year, but if Sleaford would allow them to postpone their visit for a year, he had no doubt the society would be glad to join the Royal on the same basis as Derby was doing this year. He was under the impression that Ipswich had been suggested for next year's Royal Show, but if it came to Lincoln he was sure that everybody in the county would give it most hearty support.

The mayor said they understood that an invitation had been sent from Ipswich for the Royal Show to be held there next year, but that preference would be given to Lincoln if an invitation was forthcoming from that city.

Colonel Mason said he had heard that morning that Ipswich was quite satisfied that the Royal Show was going there, and had raised the money and obtained a site.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the mayor said in the event of the invitation being accepted he would call a further meeting.

Exhibitors' Stands at the Royal Show.

SEEDS.

Messrs. Webb and Sons, Wordsley, Stourbridge (Stand No. 2), had an exhibit which was in every way worthy of their position amongst seed growers. All descriptions of seeds, roots, grasses, cereals, &c, were represented, as well as chemical fertilisers—the latter being an important branch of this firm's business. The great services rendered to agriculture by this firm are exemplified in the new wheats, barleys, and oats which they have raised and introduced, whereby it is possible to grow much heavier crops of superior quality than hitherto. Webbs' grasses, clovers, and other forage plants for permanent pasture, alternate husbandry, &c., were illustrated by dried specimens, together with their seeds showing the proportions of each for the respective purposes and soils. It is not too much to say that there is scarcely an open root competition in the country where Webbs' mangolds and swedes have not been to the front in carrying off the leading honours, and the grand specimens on this stand were from the same crops as those that won premier awards at the principal shows in 1905. Webbs' vegetable and flower seeds were also represented by a magnificent exhibit.

Messrs. Dickson's, Ltd., Chester (Stands No. 3), had on view a fine collection of grass and clover seeds for permanent and temporary pasture and rotation cropping; dried mounted specimens of the best grasses for agricultural purposes; seeds of weeds and injurious plants found in uncleaned samples of grasses, clovers, &c.; and a case of specimens practically illustrating the effectiveness of the firm's special cleaning machinery and selective process as applied to their guaranteed seeds; whilst there was also a collection of herbaceous flowers and plants from their nurseries.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons, 33, Market Place, Leicester (Stand No. 4), had a choice selection of their vegetables, including early market carrots, John Harrison beans, Victoria cabbage, &c., also specimens of their Normanton globe mangel crop, 1905, Nailstone swede crop, 1905, choice new potatoes, natural grasses, dried, and selected clovers.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading (Stand No. 158), were to be found immediately on the right of the main entrance to the show ground, and, as usual, they had on view a valuable collection of grasses, roots, potatoes, flowers, vegetables, and other subjects interesting to the agriculturist and horticulturist, as well as to the casual sightseer. Sutton's pedigree stocks of agricultural seeds were represented by some capital roots, as sound as when drawn from the fields last autumn, and they afforded convincing evidence of the robust constitution of the stocks Messrs. Sutton have selected and introduced. For the introduction of many of the best potatoes now grown we are indebted to Messrs. Sutton, and some of the leading sorts were shown, including the famous Sutton's Discovery. A very fine display of flowers from Messrs. Sutton's seed houses illustrated another department of this great seed business, and formed a brilliant centre pieceto an altogether interesting stand.

Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, Cathedral Street, Manchester (Stand No. 323). Specimens of natural grasses, growing and dried, adapted for permanent and temporary pastures, &c.; mangolds and swedes; collection of agricultural seeds for present sowing, and specimens of specially selected vegetables and flowers, and potatoes of approved varieties; also specimens of conifers and shrubs. An interesting stand both to agriculturists and horticulturists.

Messrs. Gartons, Ltd., the well-known Warrington firm of seed-growers and experts (Stand No. 324), had a very interesting and artistic display, which included samples of all their new breeds of oats, barleys, and wheats, amongst them being a distinct new white oat named Universal, which they purpose introducing for 1907. The parents of this are the well-known breeds of Abundance and Goldfinder, the combination of which has resulted in a most valuable breed, which may be sown as early as February, and whilst it possesses the high-class qualities of the Guinea and Abundance, it also inherits the valuable quality of the Goldfinder straw. To show the great amount of trouble which Messrs. Gartons go to in the way of cleaning and purifying all the seeds they send out, a case composed of weed seeds as well as weathered and immature seeds which have been extracted from bulks of clovers, grasses, &c., was also exhibited.

Messrs. Dickson, Brown, and Tait, 43 and 45, Corporation Street, Manchester (Stand No. 325). Here we came again to the pasture side of the farm, for this firm's exhibits consisted of a collection of dried specimens of natural grasses and clovers; samples of pure natural grasses and clovers, seed corn, &c.; and specimens of growing grasses used for laying down land to permanent pasture. Also a variety of mangolds, swedes, potatoes, &c.

Messrs. W. Barron and Son, of Elvaston Nurseries, Borrowash, had two stands, Nos. 348 and 421. At the former the exhibits consisted chiefly of plans, sketches, &c., of work they have carried out, and in this connection we may state that they were responsible for the decoration of the Royal Pavilion. Departing from the ordinary stereotyped style of planting summer bedding stuff they showed what effect in colour can be obtained from hardy evergreens and hardwood foliage plants (most notably the golden cypress, variegated privet, golden tree ivies, and Japanese maples). The common hop as a decorative plant proved its efficiency on the verandah pillars. The same firm also converted the pond opposite the horse ring, which was full of the coarsest and rankest weeds, to a charming water garden, which won general admiration from all who saw it.

VETERINARY FOODS, MEDICINES, &c.

Messrs. W. Cooper and Nephew, Chemical Works, Berkhampstead, Herts, divided their exhibits into two stands (Nos. 331 and 381). At the former they showed their sheep dipping baths and swim baths, and hand baths with drainer, whilst at No. 381 were displayed for exhibition purposes only, models of their well-known dipping baths and a research laboratory exhibit. Here, too, were to be seen samples of their sheep dipping powder, fluid sheep dip, fluid disinfectant, sheep marking liquid, and weedicide, a weed killer.

Messrs. Thomas Pettifer and Co., Eydon, Banbury (Stand No. 334).—Here were shown numerous samples of herbal tonic mixture, white liniment, green oils, drenches, embrocation, colic or gripe mixture, condition powders, halt, ringworm, and mange or scab dressings, physic balls, cough balls, &c., as well as stock-keepers' and horse-keepers' medicine chests—in fact, a veritable veterinary medicine shop.

Messrs. F. Cupiss, Ltd., The Wilderness, Diss, Norfolk, had at Stand 335 a comprehensive display of the well-known Cupiss' Constitution Balls for horses, neat cattle, sheep; cough balls for horses, physic balls, diuretic balls, and balling guns.

Waterloo Mills Cake and Warehousing Company, Ltd., Hull, had Stand No. 346, which was occupied with specimens of the popular Waterloo feeding cakes, linseed cakes with a guaranteed purity of over 97 per cent., and under ¾ per cent. of sand; and Waterloo pure cottonseed cakes made from Egyptian seed only. Their linseed and cotton cakes are sold on the warranty required by the R.H.S.E.

Messrs. Ayre Brothers, The Avenue, Hull (Stand No. 347), also showed the celebrated Waterloo feeding cakes, and, in addition, samples of locust meals, lamb food, calf meal, concentrated fenagreek; feeding linseed, whole or crushed; Loker meal, a special preparation for feeding calves, pigs, and young stock; Fatanox, feeding meal, specially prepared for rapid feeding, and bringing stock to early maturity at a minimum cost; and Maxilac, dairy meal, for producing and increasing the quantity and quality of milk, butter, and cheese, and keeping the cows in good condition at the same time.

Bovine, Ltd., 14, Devonshire Square, London, E.C., were represented at Stand No. 349 by a large assortment of Bovine horse and cattle food, Saccharum Lactis food for calves, Sucrox, the flesh-forming food for horses and cattle, and an assortment of pig and poultry foods, dog and puppy biscuits, horse drinks, embrocation, and harness composition.

Messrs. Day, Son, and Hewitt, 22, Dorset Street, Baker Street, W. (Stand No. 351) had their usual large display of medicines for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, together with specimens of the Original medicine-chests for stock-keepers and horse-keepers, and the Original calving and lambing chests, all valuable aids at times when stock are ailing.

Spratts' Patent, Ltd., 24 and 25, Fenchurch Street, E.C. (Stand No. 354). Spratts' and dog biscuits have become practically synonymous terms, but the firm do not deal only in their celebrated biscuits, but also in poultry and game meals. They also manufacture incubators of tested worth, with egg capacities up to 240, and even provide one for ostriches. Then, again, they have the champion foster mother's individual brooder for chickens for use in rearing house, and a patent crumbing machine for poultry breeders. All these appliances and food, as well as a collection of sundry small appliances used in the rearing of poultry, chickens, game, &c., were shown at their stand.

Messrs. R. Silcock and Sons, Stanley Hall, Union Street, Liverpool (Stand No. 360).—A display of first-class fattening cake, containing over 11 per cent. of oil; rearing cake for young animals; dairy cakes to cause a large flow of milk; Universal cake for grass-feeding; calf meals, and decorticated and undecorticated cotton cakes.

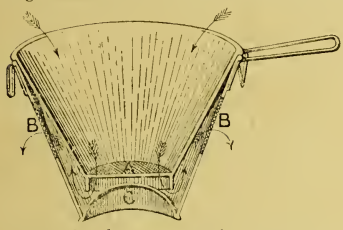
DAIRY APPLIANCES.

Messrs. Burmeister and Wain, Ltd., 105, Middle Abbey Street, Dublin (Stand No. 203).—Dania and Perfect cream separators, Perfect churns, milk-testers, conical coolers, and butter workers. Also a new implement, consisting of a combined cooler, strainer, and milking pail for obtaining practically new milk.

Messrs. Watson, Laidlaw, and Company, 98, Dundas Street, Glasgow (Stand 205), showed nothing but cream separators, but there were no fewer than twenty-four on view ranging in capacity from ten to 150 gallons, and for both hand and steam, &c., power. The varieties shown are known as the Princess and Princess Victoria.

Messrs. Thomas Bradford and Co., Crescent Iron Works, Salford, and 140 to 142, High Holborn, London, W.C. (Stand No. 256), showed churns of various sizes and varieties, butter workers and boxes, assortment of milk pans; in fact, dairy utensils and appliances of every description. Also a large display of washing and wringing machines, either separate or combined, and other utensils required in the laundry.

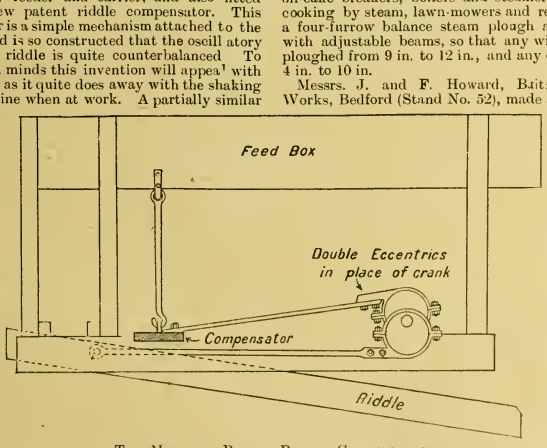
Mr. T. Grayson, 16 and 17, Queen Street, Derby (Stand No. 264) had a large assortment of milk refrigerators, milk pails, and other dairy appliances, and also a new implement, namely, the Eclipse milk filter, to fit railway churns, of which we give an illustration. It costs only from 2s. 6d.



to 6s., and as there are no costly replacements it is cheap, whilst another important point is that it is most easy to clean. The milk passes from the inner bowl through the brass gauze A, and then rising passes out through the finer gauze B, the sediment settling in the recess provided by the inverted bottom C. By this process every particle of sediment is taken out of the milk.

CHAFF CUTTERS, CORN CRUSHERS, &c.

Mr. Robert Maynard, Whittlesford Works, near Cambridge (Stand No. 51), showed amongst other things a chaff cutter, a patent portable riddling and bagging machine with five knives, patent drum safety feeder and carrier, and also fitted with the new patent riddle compensator. This compensator is a simple mechanism attached to the machine, and is so constructed that the oscillatory force of the riddle is quite counterbalanced. To all practical minds this invention will appeal with great force, as it quite does away with the shaking of the machine when at work. A partially similar



The Maynard Patent Riddle Compensator.

result has been obtained before with double riddles, the objection to which being the wear and tear of two riddles, instead of one—complication and expense. The working parts of this new compensator are so simple that it can be easily attached to a Maynard chaff cutter at the small cost of £2 10s. By its use one has a machine standing quite steady when at work, and a smooth-running riddle, consequently less wear.

The Maldon Iron Works Company, Ltd., Maldon, Essex (Stand No. 68), had three chaff cutters on show, two of them being the Long Look'd For, one being for hand power and the other for steam, &c. The latter was fitted with patent folding cover to flywheel safety feeding apparatus and patented forward, stop and reverse motions. Other exhibits on the stand included oil-cake mills, graters and pulpers, and the Maldon horse rakes.

Messrs. Richmond and Chandler, Ltd., Globe Works, Manchester (Stand No. 124), had a very large display of chaff cutters, including the Climax, which has a patent safety feeder and lift off fly wheel cover. Corn crushers, oat, malt, and seed bruising mills, as well as grinding mills of known sizes, were also shown, whilst amongst other features of this interesting stand were numerous elevators, and what attracted a good deal of attention, the Lawrance-Kennedy milking machine.

Messrs. Bamford and Sons, Leighton Ironworks, Uttoxeter (Stand No. 163), last year won in the new implement classes with their improved chaff-cutter, and naturally these machines formed a feature of their stand again this year. They did not, however, secure all the attention, for the well-known and popular Royal mowers and the Lion horse-rakes proved very attractive, as did also the fine collection of grinding-mills, cake-mills, and root cleaners and graters.

Messrs. Samuel Corbett and Son, Park Street Works, Wellington, Shropshire, occupied Stand No. 245, and here displayed a large assortment of patent grinding-mills, these including the X. L. 3 which won a first prize at the Plymouth Royal Show. It is for grinding all kinds of grain to any sample, also chemical, vegetable, and mineral substances. A patent crusher for crushing, knibbling, and bruising by hand, and some horse hoes also figured on the stand.

HARVESTING MACHINES, PLOUGHS HARROWS, &c.

Mr. E. A. Foley, Bourne, Lincolnshire, was represented at Stand No. 22 A with a straw elevator and stacker and sack lifters, all of up-to-date patterns.

Messrs. Stanford and Company, Colchester (Stand No. 38), had also only two exhibits, but both attracted considerable attention. They were (1) a patent seed thrasher and huller for all kinds of seeds on a large scale, with sieves for removing plantain, docks, &c., fitted with chaff sifting and bagging apparatus, and (2) a patent millet machine for thrashing, dressing, and sifting up millet, linseed, &c., without bruising the straw.

Messrs. Barford and Perkins, Queen Street Iron Works, Peterborough (Stand No. 50), entered as a new implement a motor-roller, with new patent water ballast, for use on grass and for estate work, driven by paraffin motor; and also another new implement in the form of a rake and swather, being a new pattern Tedrake for 1906, and fitted with patented attachments for converting the machine into a swath turner so as to turn single rows when required. The remainder of their comprehensive stand was taken up with hay-rakes and presses, mills of various descriptions and purposes, oil-cake breakers, boilers and steamers for rapid cooking by steam, lawn-mowers and reapers, and a four-furrow balance steam plough and digger, with adjustable beams, so that any width can be ploughed from 9 in. to 12 in., and any depth from 4 in. to 10 in.

Messrs. J. and F. Howard, Britannia Iron Works, Bedford (Stand No. 52), made a feature of ploughs, over a dozen of these indispensable machines being shown, so that practically all requirements were catered for. A variety of other harvesting machinery, also oil engines, and a tipping waggon completed an attractive stand.

Messrs. G. C. Ogle and Son, Perseverance Works, Ripley, Derby (Stands No. 64 and 93), being so near the showyard were naturally very strongly represented. Stand 64 was taken up with two patent horse pitchforks and an oil engine, fitted with friction hoist, to work in connection with elevator; but at their other stand there was a very large display, which included various sizes of the Ripley patent tubular axle horse rakes, a large number of harrows and horse hoes and land rollers, and a fine collection of carts for farm purposes, drays or lorreys for market gardeners, and floats for milk and general purposes.

Messrs. Robert Boby, Ltd., St. Andrews Works, Bury St. Edmunds, are well known, and many of their friends seized the opportunity of paying them a visit at Stand No. 76. Here they showed specimens of their double-action hay makers fitted with either wood or iron wheels, also a dressing machine, a barley dresser, malt polishers and screens, oat screen and clipper, and a collection of hand hoists, line screens, water pots, &c.

The Martin's Cultivator Company, Lincolnshire Iron Works, Stamford, had Stand No. 89, and when it is said that they had a very fine representation of their manufactures, farmers will know well enough the nature of their exhibits. Mention may, however, be made of their fine show of cultivators of the pattern that won a first prize at the last Royal Show at York, and also of their new implement—a side delivery rake, very light in draught, and stated to be most effective in work.

The Osborne Plano Co., Ltd., 115, Southwark Street, London, S.E. (Stand No. 86), had naturally a good show of the Osborne machines, manufactured in the U.S.A. These consisted of binders, mowers, tedders, rakes, harrows, cultivators, horse hoes, &c. They also showed the Plano harvesters and binders, mowers, horse-rakes, and grinder for the knives. All the machines were of the latest type, and made a most attractive display.

The Frost and Wood Co., Ltd., 2a, Southwark Bridge Road, London, S.E. (Stand 88).—Here, too, mowers and binders from abroad were *the* feature, for all the implements on this stand came from Smith's factories at Ontario, Canada. The Tiger horse-rake, Ideal cultivator, and Simplex horse-hoes were also on view.

Messrs. Samuelson and Co., Ltd., Britannia Works, Banbury (Stand No. 108), exhibited specimens of the Omnium, Europa and Handy reapers, and grass mowers of various sizes to suit different requirements. The Europa reaper, it may be mentioned, has four controllable and two sickles, and is a light but strong machine, being mainly built of malleable iron and steel.

Messrs. F. C. Southwell and Co., 75, Southwark Street, S.E., at Stand No. 146, showed a new implement, this being a harrow manufactured for them in the U.S.A. They also had about half-a-dozen Canadian-manufactured ploughs, these including the Kid Kangaroo, Maple Leaf, and Shamrock double-furrow ploughs, also some single-furrows, and the Kid Kangaroo three-furrow riding plough suitable for three or more horses or for motor. Other exhibits on this stand were a new boiler for motor lorries, vans, &c., and oil and petrol engines; also a collection of the stock of poultry food, feeding stuffs, and veterinary medicines manufactured by the International Stock Food Company, Toronto Canada. This firm's stock food is rapidly making a name for itself in this country, and has become known as the "Six feeds for a penny" food.

Messrs. Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies, Ltd., Orwell Works, Ipswich, had two stands, Nos. 160 and 336. At the former they showed an 8-horse-power nominal compound road locomotive, mounted on springs, and specially designed for hauling heavy loads on all kinds of roads. Also a 6-N.H.P. compound traction engine, simple in design and construction, very compact, easily handled, and specially adapted for thrashing, sawing, and general farm work. Two finishing thrashing machines, both 54 inches wide, but differing in strength of construction; horse rakes, including their Star rake, which has all the latest improvements; Through Axle rakes; a new pattern self-acting and manual rake; Jarmain's Patent Swath Turner; and a small holdings cultivator, with seven spring tines fixed in two rows on one solid adjustable frame were also included on the stand, whilst at Stand No. 336 they had a large selection of their well-known lawn mowers, in various patterns to suit every requirement.

Messrs. James Coultas, Perseverance Ironworks, Grantham (Stand No. 161), had a large assortment of drills suitable for corn, turnip, mangold, and artificial manures, horse-hoes, and manure distributors, including the Doncaster Royal prize-winner, but the attraction of the stand was undoubtedly the New implement—namely, a broadcast manure distributor with improved clutch device. This was entered for one of the society's prizes.

Messrs. E. and H. Roberts, Ltd., Deanshanger Iron Works, Stony Stratford, Bucks (Stand No. 164), had a good selection of ploughs and horse hoes, and amongst the latter was the James Patent, which has a mechanical back action. It was entered as a new implement. The Premier elevator or stacker and a Hercules wind-pumping engine were also shown here.

Messrs. J. Rickerby, of the Crown Implement Works, 37, Botchergate, Carlisle, exhibited at Stand No. 226 no fewer than four new implements as follows:—(1) A seed sower, brush harrow, and land roller combined. It does three operations in the time occupied by one, and is fitted with levers to sower and harrow for "in-and-out" action, at

the will of the operator, and the roller answers as the markers preventing overlapping or missing with seeds. (2) Root-cutting attachment for cutting and spreading roots for live stock in grass fields. It is suspended from any ordinary farm cart end, and is driven automatically off a sprocket fixed by self-centring device to cart wheel nave by chain band. (3) An improved turnip cutter (Gardner's Patent). Fitted with flanges on ends of barrel to prevent choking or bridging over, and reduces risk of accidents to operator's fingers to a minimum, not having occasion to release the turnips in hopper by hand. (4) The Crown rear cut mower, which is fitted with patent double finger, enabling it to cut 1½ in. lower, having two fingers to the usual 3 in. knife section, and the double fingers are fixed to the finger-bar as usual, with only one bolt.

Messrs. P. J. Parmiter and Co., Station Works, Tisbury, Wilts, at Stand No. 237, showed patent two-row turnip thinners for regulating two rows of roots, from 7 in. to 15 in. It gives a thin even cut and has a spring lift over thin places, for ridge or flat work. It is also suitable for maize. Harrows and rakes a patent telescopic rake, and hay and corn rick ventilators complete the stand.

Messrs. J. Shores and Co., Trent Iron Works, Owston Ferry, Doncaster, were represented at Stand No. 279 by an assortment of potato diggers and sorters, cultivators, ploughs, and grubbers. They also showed a No. 1 Clipper horse hoe, fitted with reversible points, steel shares, sliding blocks for holding tines, lever wheel, and expanding arrangements, and Gosse's patent shares for early hoeing.

Messrs. L. R. Knapp and Co, Thames Valley Iron Works, Farringdon, Berks (Stand No. 287), showed an interesting collection of corn and seed drills; a Monarch drill, cultivator, and broadcast seeding machine combined; and horse hoes of various descriptions.

Mr. T. Hunter and Sons, Alloway Road, Maybole, Ayrshire (Stand No. 298). Improved double mould or drill ploughs, harrows, Hunter patent hoes, drill cultivators, land roller, and improved disc delivery double row drills for turnip and mangold.

Mr. Oliver Rix, Eagle Iron Works, Sculthorpe, Fakenham (Stand No. 392), had only two exhibits, but they were interesting. They consisted of the well-known King elevator or stacker, combined with horse works for hay and corn, and an improved iron hurdle, with all-round ends, for folding sheep.

ENGINES.

Messrs. Davey, Paxman and Co., Ltd., Standard Iron Works, Colchester, had two stands, Nos. 8 and 126. At the former they showed a 15½ b.h.p. gas engine with electric ignition and Paxman's patent timing apparatus; also suction gas plant for same. and three cooling tanks, £210. This was entered for competition in the trials of suction gas plants; whilst at Stand 126they exhibited six and seven horse-power traction engines, some portable engines and horizontal gas engines.

The Campbell Gas Engine Co., Ltd., Halifax, Yorks (Stands Nos. 10 and 49). The feature of this stand was the two gas engines which took part in the trials of suction gas plants. They were the Campbell 18 b.h.p. gas engine with hit and miss governor with constant compression and suction gas plant; and the Campbell 20 b.h.p., with variable cut off. The governor and gear of these reduce the volume of gas and air to suit the load, the engine working with variable compression and suction gas plant. Other kinds of their famous Campbell and Samson oil engines completed their exhibits.

Messrs. E. S. Hindley and Sons, Bourton, Dorset, had Stand No. 13, where they showed the Hindley gas engine, 20 b.h.p. (two-cylinder vertical), with magneto ignition and variable timing gear, and 20-b.h.p. suction gas plant. This was entered for competition in the trials of gas suction plant. This firm also had Stand No. 48, and here were to be seen steam engines of various sizes, pumps, hoisting engine, steam lorry, saw benches, &c.

Messrs. Fielding and Platt, Ltd., Atlas Iron Works, Gloucester, were also competitors in the trials of gas suction plant, and at Stand No. 16 they exhibited the gas engine they entered in the competition. This was a Fielding 20 b.h.p., with electric ignition, and 20 b.h.p. suction gas plant. Alongside of this was shown a 12½ b.h.p stationary oil engine.

Messrs. Cundall, Sons, and Co., Ltd., Airedale Ironworks, Shipley, Yorks, occupied Stand No. 18, and here showed a 27 b.h.p. gas engine and suction gas plant and two of their patent oil engines, one being of eight and the other four b.h.p.

Messrs. W. H. Willcox and Co., Ltd, 23, 32, 34, and 36, Southwark Street, London, S.E. (Stand No. 95) showed practically everything required by engineers in the way of repairs; there were lubricating oils, leather belting, packings, and jointings of every description, asbestos, engine and boiler fittings, and mountings, lathes, vices, spanners, &c.

[*Other Stands are unavoidably held over*].

POULTRY.

(*Concluded from page 677*).

The Wyandottes.

Partridge Wyandottes.

Then there are those who go in for good class birds to breed a few for sale at good prices and to exhibit at small shows, as well as those who are true fanciers and who do not spare any expense to get the best that are obtainable so that they can compete at the large shows and take their share of the chances of selling birds at high prices.

During the present season quite a number of good Partridge Wyandottes have changed hands at high prices. One breeder sold a pullet for 15 guineas, and another for £30, so that it will be seen that it pays to get good birds of a breed for which there is a demand. We know several successful poultry keepers and exhibitors who have obtained their birds which have been a source of profit to them by purchasing a sitting of good eggs from a reliable breeder.

This is undoubtedly the cheapest way to procure good stock, as breeders can afford to sell eggs from birds worth many pounds each for a reasonable price, and in this way those who wish to purchase good birds but are not prepared to expend the money necessary to secure really typical specimens can secure very good birds for the expenditure of a litt'e money, and they have the pleasure of seeing their young birds grow and develop into the fowls they have been looking forward to possessing.

The Partridge Wyandottes have come to stay, and we consider they well deserve their popularity, as they combine with a very handsome appearance such excellent laying qualities.

The White and Partridge varieties produce larger eggs than any of the other Wyandottes, the complaint having often been made that the drawback of Wyandottes was the smaller size of the eggs produced by them as compared with the size of the birds, but in these two popular varieties this is not as noticeable as in the others.

General Points.

The Wyandottes are the least broody of all the brown-egg-laying breeds, and they have longer periods between wanting to sit, while some of them do not come broody at all. Their eggs are not so large as those of several other breeds, but they lay *well* in the winter months, when an egg, whether large or small, commands a good price. Eggs which have white shells always look smaller than they really are, while, on the other hand, brown-shelled and tinted eggs look larger, so that Wyandottes are classed as profitable egg producers.

They are many fanciers and poultry keepers who keep Silver and Golden Wyandottes, and would not change their breed on any account, but, as the great army of poultry keepers is always on the increase, there are many who are looking out for breeds suitable for their requirements, and, as *pure* breeds are in great request on account of their symmetry or form being pleasing to the eye, there is plenty of room for new varieties, which combine beautiful appearance with useful qualities.

There are numbers of people who want to keep fowls in semi-confinement, and are not able to give them a free range on account of the limited space at their command. These generally require birds to lay tinted eggs, and plenty of them. The Partridge Wyandottes are well suited to these on account of the colour of their plumage, which, although beautiful in colouring, does not become soiled by the smoke and dirt frequently found under the conditions mentioned. Wyandottes are active birds, and do not become so fat internally as fowls of heavier breeds generally do

RATS

EXTERMINATED BY DANYSZ VIRUS

DISCOVERED AND PREPARED BY
DR. DANYSZ, OF THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE, PARIS.

When affected by the Virus the Vermin leave their usual haunts and die in the open. The remedy is harmless to other animals and human beings and may be used everywhere with absolute safety.

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SPECIAL TERMS FOR LARGE AREAS.

Midland Notes.

THE thunderstorms of Saturday and Sunday brought, I hear, quite disastrously heavy rains to various Midland districts, oats, for instance, having been badly laid in Northants, and Nottingham, while young fruit suffered severely in orchard and garden. The steady, refreshing downpours of yesterday and to day, however, will do good service to everybody but the haymakers, for the central counties were beginning to look very parched and dry, and the turnips sadly needed a little assistance to help them to grow away from insect enemies. Much or most of the corn is in ear, and it is a subject for congratulation that calm and sunny weather prevailed generally during the critical period of fertilisation.

HAYMAKING is general to-day all over the Midlands, but a recent journey from Warwickshire into Norfolk shows that it is generally a little less forward in the heart of England than one finds it as one travels east One sees, too, many meadows in the Midland area which have surely stood too long to make the primest hay, and would have been better cut a week ago, before so many of the valuable constituents of the herbage had begun to be deposited in the seed, leaving the green parts stringy and innutritious. What a change, by the way, has taken place in modern haymaking, and how much less picturesque it is become! A few years ago the fields would have been full at this season of workers with the scythe, rake, and fork; to-day, a rattling mowing machine does all the cutting in an ordinary field, a rotary swath turner on up-to-date farms, or a tedding machine of less modern design on others, turns the grass when cut and collects it for the waggon; and even at the stack hand labour is often displaced by the stack elevator. It is well for the farmer that he has been able to adopt mechanical aids in place of the hand power, which might not be available now even if needed. But the fields look very solitary and deserted now compared with what they used to be at this season.

DAIRY farmers in the milk-producing districts of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire may be congratulated on the latest enterprise of the L. and N.W Railway Co., which is putting on two trains, specially constructed for the milk trade for their benefit. A few more of such corridor milk trains with dust-proof, well cooled and ventilated vans are things that other districts could very well do with, and the announcement that these two are shortly to be put into service in the district mentioned reminds one that in this matter of milk, at any rate, the railways have made us some very useful concessions. The big trade in milk which North Stafford does with London is made possible, for instance, by virtue of a special rate, three-farthings per gallon being the price paid for carriage to Birmingham, and only a farthing per gallon more for transit to the metropolis, over a hundred miles further on As against farmers nearer to London, milk producers in Staffordshire enjoy the advantages of a preferential rate, and by them, at least, it should be counted to the railways for righteousness.

SOME of our cautious and canny friends are already taking steps to protect themselves under the new Land Tenure Bill if it should pass in the form in which it left Committee. Where slag and other lasting manures have been laid down one has seen in several cases small strips left untreated; and on inquiry one finds that has been done not for the purpose of demonstrating the effect of the manure upon the growing crop, but to prove its residual value, if the farm should subsequently change hands. However long a time may have elapsed since the application, the Bill provides that the value of the improvement to the incoming tenant shall be paid for; and it is only by leaving a strip untreated that the actual value to a newcomer will be possible to be judged.

June 28, 1906.

A Northern Wool Buying Custom.

The question of giving 14½ lb. of wool to the stone came before a special meeting of the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association, held at Darlington the other day, and although the opinion was not altogether unanimous, it was resolved:—"That this meeting strongly approves of all wool being sold at 14 lb. to the stone, and no quarter of a pound "draft" being given; and that this meeting pledges itself to adopt the principle, and individually to support it."

The chairman (Mr. G. Smurthwaite) said that the old custom of giving buyers an extra quarter of a pound was really very unjust, and farmers and sheepbreeders felt that the time had come when they should stop the practice.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Money Instead of Beer.

SIR,—I see in your last week's issue that you mention about giving the men money instead of beer. I have for the last ten years done this, and I can say for a fact that the men to whom I give the money drink a great deal less than those living in the house, and to whom I have to give drink to. I also consider that I get the work done as well, if not better, and with a great deal less grumbling than if I found them with beer.

June 26, 1906. J. D. W. F.

Nature Study and Other Things.

SIR,—My thanks are due to "Ploughtail" for his courteous reply to my criticisms; but so far as from landing him into lumber street, I am glad the Editor printed what was apparently not intended for publication, and doubly glad that I ventured to criticise, if only for the reason that my letter has drawn, not the badger, but a second of "Ploughtail's" pleasantly-worded contributions.

The Service of the Children.—"Ploughtail" has partly proved his case, but I need hardly remind him that all the children do not live three and a-half miles from school, because perhaps the larger portion are within a quarter of an hour's walk and can run home to dinner. Let us strike a fair average, "Ploughtail," please, and you know in some districts the much-abused education authorities arrange for children living a long distance from school to be taken backwards and forwards by conveyance. We have to pay for it in the rates, I know; but there, it helps the youngsters.

Geese and Buttercups.—This is good, and apparently those good people whose modern views of things have led them to condemn the golden buttercup as being useless, and indeed obnoxious, many evidently rid themselves of the trouble by going in for geese. For my own part, I do not see any strong reasons for signing the death-warrant of the buttercup, which has been with us a fairly long time, and we do not appear to have suffered very much through its presence. Fields infested with buttercups are another matter, and to "Ploughtail" we are indebted for the tip—go in for geese.

The Abuse of the Air.—I don't quite see through that paragraph, so I'll let it alone, or I may be the one to get into lumber street.

I had no intention of inflicting injury on "Ploughtail" when I styled him a farmer. I beg his pardon, and can assure him that when he can find time to describe the process of shearing, killing, and blood drawing which he and his fellow small holders undergo at the hands of officials, no one will read it with greater interest than

June 28, 1906. COUNTRY BUMPKIN.

Cheap Food and the Tinned Meat Scandals.

SIR,—"British Beef," at the close of the interesting and straight-to-the-point article, page 696, says that in the national craze for cheap food we have become as much scavengers as the dogs in an Eastern city. I think "British Beef" has missed the point here, because in reality a good deal of the tinned meat which is consumed in such quantity in this country is by no means cheap. On the other hand, it is dear, and the reason why so much of this unwholesome food is consumed is because many people are too idle to cook, and others either have not the time or the ability to do it.

In scores of working and artisan homes not only in towns, but in villages as well, mid-day dinner time comes with nothing prepared. Out goes one of the children for a tin of salmon, meat, or some other prepared concoction, and a so-called meal is made. How such food can be called cheap I cannot think, when for half the money a piece of fresh meat suitable for a stew could be obtained, and this with vegetables would make a wholesome and economical meal. In spite of the so-called cheap food, working people spend more on food than ever they did and look all the worse for it, because it is not food of the right character.

In the old days people earned less and had less to spend on food, but what they had was wholesome and good, and the sturdy countryman now who was reared on bread, milk, bacon and vegetables, with a little fresh meat on rare occasions, can show a different face and frame to his town cousin, who in childhood and youth knew the delights (?) of fried fish and chips, sausage and mash, tinned meats and other messes which are sold at cookshops and relieve housewives of the responsibilities of cooking.

If people will buy all sorts of prepared foods to save the trouble of a little home cooking, they will be provided, but to call them cheap is making use of a wrong term. Tinned meat, particularly the kind of stuff that finds a sale amongst the labouring and working population is dear, and would be dear at any price, because, apart from what it may or may not contain, there is nothing in it to build up bone and muscle and make sturdy manhood.

June 29, 1906. RUSTIC.

The English Agricultural Machinery Trade.

SIR,—I am surprised to hear from "Manufacturer," page 696, that the trade for English manufactured agricultural machinery is practically dead, because when I see the elaborate stands belonging to British firms at the leading agricultural shows, the trade strikes me as being very much alive. If it is a waste of money to even try to resuscitate it under present conditions, as your correspondent contends, it is rather surprising that the firms whose names are household words in British agriculture do not close their doors; but they still go on, and presumably make profits. It is easy enough to talk about the dumping of foreign machines into this country to the detriment of British manufacturers, but there is the farmer's side of the question to be considered. He is none too prosperous, and is the victim of a certain amount of dumping, but he must have the machines all the same, and supposing the trade was entirely monopolised by British manufacturers it is not unlikely that the farmer would have to pay more for his implements than he does at present.

It seems to me that the foreigner struck a line by providing light and at the same time strong machines which answer the purpose of the farmer, or he would not use them. British manufacturers can, and some of them do, produce machines equally as good, perhaps better, quite as strong and equally light, as any that are made abroad, and when farmers can get what they want at a reasonable price, as a rule, they prefer home-made implements to imported goods. Doubtless, the home manufacturer has suffered through dumping, but in fairness to the foreigner, it is not unreasonable to ask whether he is not ahead of the Britisher as an agricultural implement maker.

June 28, 1906. FARMER JOHN.

The Clashing of Shows.

SIR,—I think there ought to be something done to prevent county shows clashing. All societies of the present day seem to be too much on their own for my liking, and a little more good feeling and working together I am sure would be beneficial. Do not you think that an association of agricultural show secretaries could be formed with the idea of fixing dates and a general exchange of ideas on show management?

Why not an association like this be formed, to meet in London, say in December, to fix dates for all societies for the coming year? I feel sure that something of this kind must be done, as when you get five large shows within reasonable distance of each other, how can exhibitors support them all? Take Nottingham and Kettering, both same days, and quite close together.

June 23, 1906. A SHOW SECRETARY.

Half-Holidays for Farm Labourers.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "Red Rose," hits the right nail on the head when he writes of the everlasting grind of work on the farm driving men from the land. It is especially so with us whose holdings lie near to the great cities; we find it hard to keep men of a good type at all; they leave us to become carters, vanmen, railway workers and what not, probably getting a good deal more money and more leisure than at home, and not discovering until too late that they are worse off upon the higher wages. It is hard to manage, and farm work sometimes suffers from it, but some of us are already discovering that the half holiday for labourers is rapidly becoming an absolutely necessary thing. One must consider it from the man's point of view also. Apart from the monotony of his work, and of his craving to see something of the town and its amusements, there is the fact that a half-holiday gives him his one chance of doing more than a very brief spell of useful work on his own cottage garden or allotment. A little ground of his own is very helpful in keeping a man to the village, but if it is to have any influence at all the owner must enjoy a little opportunity now and then for cultivating it. Too often in this district the farm worker must stand apart and watch the allotments taken up and worked by artisan cultivators, who have more leisure than he can ever hope for.—Yours truly,

MIDLANDER.

SELF-CLEANING FOWL HOUSE, No. 2.
(Improved Patent.)
Roof well tarred, ridged, painted white, sides and ends varnished, portable and stationary.

CORONATION CHICKEN HOUSE, No. 5.
(Patent.)
The most up-to-date Chicken-House and Run on the Market.

Write for further particulars and prices to
ARTHUR NEAVERSON,
MODEL POULTRY APPLIANCE WORKS,
PEAKIRK, Nr. PETERBORO'.

CHEAP PORTABLE WOOD BUILDINGS
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Any Size Made to Order.
Tenant's Own Fixture.
THE BEST AND CHEAPEST IN THE MARKET.
Suitable for Workshops, Store Rooms, Tool or Potting Sheds, Offices, Wash-houses, and many other purposes.

These superior Buildings are constructed in complete sections on strong framework, morticed, tenoned, and pinned; sides and ends covered with best match boards, tongued, grooved, and planed, made from ¾-in. boards. Roof covered with match boards and patent asphaltic felt (which requires no tarring). Door with strong lock. Two windows in any position, one to slide open and the other fixed. Fitted with strong floor, necessary bolts and nuts, barge boards and finials. All our houses are erected before leaving our works; every part is marked, so that any handy man can easily erect them in a few minutes.

Stock Sizes.	Prices.
7 ft. long, 5 ft. wide, 8 ft. 3 in. high ...	£3 15 0
8 ft. ,, 6 ft. ,, 8 ft. 6 in. ,, ...	4 10 0
9 ft. ,, 7 ft. ,, 8 ft. 9 in. ,, ...	5 7 6
10 ft. ,, 8 ft. ,, 8 ft. 9 in. ,, ...	6 7 6
12 ft. ,, 8 ft. ,, 9 ft. 6 in. ,, ...	7 5 0

Painted or black varnished to order, extra. CASH WITH ORDER. **All Carriage Paid** to any station in England and Wales (mainland). Send 1d stamp for Catalogue of Poultry Houses and over 2,000 Testimonials. Dept. M.

J. T. HOBSON & CO., TIMBER IMPORTERS,
Estab. 60 Years. **BEDFORD.**
Works and Stock of Timber

SHOW GOSSIP.

The site of next year's Royal Show still remains to be settled, and although the Mayor of Ipswich is confident that his town will be chosen, the Mayor of Lincoln understands that preference will be given to Lincoln if an invitation was forthcoming from that city, and as this invitation has now been sent, it remains to be seen who will win—Ipswich or Lincoln?

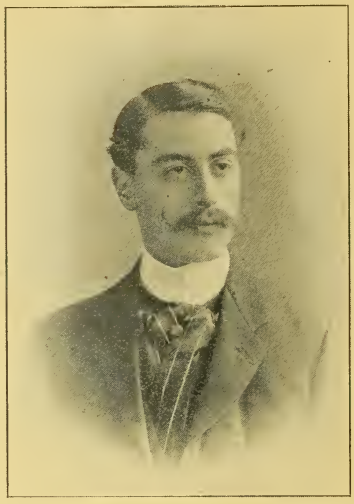
The entries for the Doncaster Show on Wednesday and Thursday of this week, have totalled up very satisfactorily. Cattle are twenty above 1905, and the best since 1899. Shires, Hacknevs, and Hunters are all an advance from last year, and number 285. Sheep are exactly the same, but the other departments all show an increase, the total number of entries being over 1,100. An attractive programme has been arranged for both days, and the show should be a complete success.

The entries recorded for the Highland and Agricultural Society's schedule at Peebles on Tuesday, July 17, and three following days, are up to the average, but are not so numerous as at Glasgow last year, which is not at all surprising seeing the difference in the two towns. Cattle number 254 as against 311 last year; horses 260 as compared with 470; sheep 290, a decrease of one only, pigs 40 or 21 less; poultry 435, against 531, and dairy produce 71, which shows an increase of one on last year's total. It will be seen that there is a very good entry, and a successful and interesting show is anticipated.

The prize schedule issued for the fifth annual show of the Wem and District Agricultural Association, to be held at Pankymoor, Wem, on Friday, July 27, is interesting for the variety of classes it contains. In addition to the classes found at most shows, such as those for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, dogs, dairy produce, and poultry, we find in the schedule under notice details of shoeing competitions, premiums for old servants, ploughing, hedging, and ditching competitions, &c., and as in each section more prizes are offered, the entries are usually—and should again this year—be good, whilst such a variety of attraction makes the show a most interesting one. The society is to be congratulated on its enterprise in issuing such a schedule, but their enterprise does not end here, for they run a Shire horse for the benefit of their members at a cost of between £250 and £300 a year. The secretary is Mr. Philip Lee, Wem, Shropshire.

The secretary of the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society (Mr. A. H. Edwardson, 6, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead) informs us that copies of the prize schedule for their forthcoming show have been posted to all past exhibitors, but anyone desirous of obtaining a copy can have one on application to him. He also points out the following corrections in the prize list, viz, exhibits in classes 20 to 29 must be entered or be eligible for the Herd Book, and class 70 is for riding hacks *not* exceeding 15·2 hands. The exhibits will be stalled, as usual, in the permanently built buildings, which are both light and lofty and well ventilated, without being draughty. In addition to the usual handsome class prizes, which amount to upwards of £2,800, there are a number of valuable challenge bowls for competition varying in value from 10 to 100 guineas. The showyard is situate in close proximity to the Bebington Station, which is on the London and North-Western and Great Western Joint Main Line between Crewe, Chester and Birkenhead.

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. H. C. ARDRON,
Leicestershire Agricultural Society.

We beg to remind intending exhibitors that entries for the show of the Tring Agricultural Society close on Friday next, July 6, the show day being on August 9. Amongst the sums of money given to various breeds, £230 is assigned to Shires, £270 to Hunters, harness horses, and jumpers, £590 to cattle, and £225 to sheep, pigs, and sheep dog trials. It is possible for a single Shorthorn cow to win as much as £65, and for a single Jersey £80. Mr. F. J. Brown, 41, High Street, Tring, is the secretary.

The Welsh National Agricultural Society are offering the handsome sum of £1,000 for prizes at their show at Aberystwith on August 8 and 9, and such a comprehensive prize schedule should draw a very large entry. Although only established such a short time the society and its show have made wonderful progress, each year marking an improvement, and the show has now become one worthy of the national show of Wales. Entries for this year's event close on the 11th inst., so that those who intend to be represented at this representative show need to hurry up if they have not already sent in their forms. Prize schedules, entry forms, &c., can be had of the secretary, Cambrian Chambers, Aberystwith.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

An Interesting Question.

SIR,—Suppose I rent a farm of a landlord who has had it in hand for several years, then lets it to a tenant farmer, and he in his first year of tenancy looses some store beast by a complaint called "black-leg" or "blood poisoning," and upon his inquiring into the matter finds that the landlord lost some young beast precisely in the same way while he worked the farm himself, have I any fair and reasonable claim upon the landlord to ask him to assist me in my loss? Will you kindly answer me this question in your next issue, and keep my name out, but give "Inquirer" instead. H. E.

June 23, 1906.

[You do not state any facts which would lead me to think that the landlord is in any way responsible for the complaint that your beasts suffered from, and subsequently died from. If the landlord allows you anything it will be purely out of good nature.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INSTITUTED 1869

Patron: H.M. THE KING.
President: HERBERT L. STOREY, Esq., D.L.

By the joint invitation of the Mayors and Corporations of Lancaster and Morecambe, the Society's next EXHIBITION will be held at LANCASTER AUGUST 2, 3, 4, and 5, 1906.

£4,141 IN PRIZES.

LIVE STOCK ENTRIES FINALLY CLOSE JULY 9.

Applications for Prize Lists should state the section, and be made to

EDWARD BOHANE, Secretary, Miller Arcade, Preston,
and Show Yard, Scale Hall, Lancaster
Telegrams: "Bohane, Preston."

WIRRAL and BIRKENHEAD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT SHOW, BEBINGTON, BIRKENHEAD, JULY 18 and 19.

Prizes exceed £2,800.

Exhibits in Classes 20 to 29 must be entered or eligible for the Herd Book.

Class 70 should read "not over 15.2 hands."

Entries close July 2, post.

ARTHUR H. EDWARDSON, Secretary, 6, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

WELSH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President: Sir POWLETT MILBANK, Bart.

Will hold its SHOW AT ABERYSTWITH ON AUGUST 8 AND 9, 1906.

Over £1,000 in Prizes. Entries close July 11. Schedules and particulars from—

THE SECRETARY, Cambrian Chambers, Aberystwith.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW will be held at HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE (between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks), on THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1906.

Entries close July 31, or with double fees, August 7.

Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

WORTHING AND WEST SUSSEX HORSE SHOW and Jumping and Driving Competition on WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15, 1906.

Entries close August 1.

Schedules and Entry Forms on application to WALTER PAINE, Sec., Sumner House, Montague St., Worthing.

RUBBER EXHIBITION, to be held at the ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, PERADENYIA, Ceylon, under the authority of the Ceylon Government, from 13th to 27th SEPTEMBER, 1906.

EXHIBITS of RUBBER in all forms, Rubber Machinery, Tapping, Collecting, Treating, and Storing Apparatus.

GOLD MEDALS, Diplomas, and Prizes will be awarded.

Power for Machinery to be erected in the Exhibition Grounds will be provided.

Free Railway Transport in Ceylon, and exemption from Import Duties for all Machinery to be exhibited.

Entries of Machinery close on July 31st.

All entries to be sent to E. B. DENHAM, C.C.S., Secretary to the Rubber Exhibition Committee, THE SECRETARIAT, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

Telegraphic Address, "EXHIBITION, COLOMBO," to whom application should be made for Catalogues and any further information.

RYEDALE and PICKERING AGRICULTURAL SHOW, at KIRBYMOORSIDE, AUGUST 14.

Open classes for Leaping, Cleveland Bays, and Implements.

Entries close August 1.

GEORGE FRANK, Secretary, Kirbymoorside.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Patron: His Majesty the King.
President: The Right Hon. Lord Rothschild.

SHOW DAY, AUGUST 9, 1906.

£230.—SHIRES. 1 Cup and 1 Medal.
£270.—HUNTERS, HARNESS, Jumping, &c. 2 Cups and 6 Medals.
£590.—SHORTHORNS (one cow can win £65), JERSEYS (one cow can win £80), and MILK & BUTTER TESTS. 3 Medals.
£225.—SHEEP, PIGS, and SHEEP DOG TRIALS, &c. 2 Cups and 2 Medals.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 6.

For Schedules apply to—F. J. BROWN, Secretary, 41, High Street, Tring.

LUTTERWORTH AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL SHOW, BANK HOLIDAY, MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 1906.

OPEN CLASSES for Shire Foal. Heavy and Light Weight Hunters. Jumping. Driving.

Shire Horse and Hunter Improvement Society's Silver Medals.

Entries close Monday, July 23, with Double Fees to Saturday, July 28.

For Schedules and particulars apply to TITO. C. BODYCOTE, Secretary.

Lutterworth, June 7, 1906.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, Wednesday, July 25, 1906. President—Capt. Clive Behrens. Entries Close July 7. Schedules and Entry Forms on application to the Secretary.—THOS. MITCHELL, The Mount, Malton.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ..	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Fertilisers at the Royal Agricultural Show.

It was the admirable intention of the Royal Agricultural Society to make their show at Derby fully representative of all the different branches of the great agricultural industry, and their efforts have certainly been successful with perhaps one exception. The entries of stock were in excess of those of previous seasons; the entries of implements formed a record; seeds and feeding stuffs were well represented, but we are sorry to record that there were only one or two exhibits of the important fertiliser trade. Now, it will not be denied that no show from which fertilisers are omitted can fully and worthily represent general agricultural interests. The basis of agriculture is the products of the soil in the shape of crops, and the crops in this country under the present system of intensive cultivation cannot be successfully grown without the assistance of artificial manures. Of what use would be the splendid array of reapers, binders, mowers, and threshing machines if the crops were not properly nourished? How could the splendid stock be supported without abundant forage crops? The fertiliser industry being the principal factor in the growth of crops, is one of the foundations of modern agriculture, and as such, should be worthily represented at the show.

We have heard complaints in the past that the society was apt to treat fertiliser exhibitors with a certain amount of superciliousness, and allocate them inferior positions, but we are sure the society would have welcomed them at Derby and done everything possible to satisfy them. As regards the manufacturers, we cannot help thinking that it would have been worth their while to take an active interest in the show. It would have given thousands of farmers an opportunity of examining samples of the different fertilisers in general use, and of making inquiries on any doubtful points from the manufacturers. We hope that next year the leading fertiliser manufacturers will help to increase the usefulness and success of the show by exhibiting their wares in a manner worthy of the important industry in which they are engaged.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume* in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Signs of Impoverishment of Grass Lands.

In gathering their hay crops farmers should carefully observe the character of the grasses, as they afford a guide for the proper treatment of the field with fertilisers.

The impoverishment of the land is more to be seen in the character of the herbage than in the weight of the crop. Weeds of all descriptions increase, and the good grasses and clovers decrease in similar proportions. Mr. Hall, in describing grass land impoverished by continuous cropping without the application of fertilisers at Rothamsted, points out that the weeds constitute nearly one-half of the herbage, the most prominent species among the grasses being quaking grass, so generally taken as a sign of poor land, and sheep's fescue; among leguminous plants, the bird's foot trefoil, and burnet, hawkbit, and black knapweed among the weeds. Such is the appearance of much of the pasture and meadow-land of the country wherever milch-cows and flocks are habitually grazed, and the land sometimes hayed without anything being restored in the shape of artificial food or manure. Such land requires occasional dressings of farmyard manure, and applications of phosphoric acid either as superphosphate or basic slag and potash. When the farmyard manure is omitted, it should also have a dressing of nitrate of soda.

The "Aftermath."

The first cut of hay is this year, in consequence of the prolonged low temperature, a poor crop, so that an effort should be made to make up for the deficiency by stimulating the rapid growth of the grass for the second cutting. It is not usual to apply a fertiliser to the field after the first cutting has been gathered, but on an occasion such as the present it would be judicious to give the field the benefit of a little superphosphate. The plant is naturally weakened by the first growth, and weeds often get the upper hand, so that the good grasses do not get a fair chance, and the hay is consequently poor in quality.

A dressing of 2 to 3 cwt. per acre of superphosphate, applied directly after the first crop has been gathered, is a great help to the best part of the herbage, and will amply repay its cost in most cases.

Somerset County Council.

According to the report of the Agricultural Instruction Committee, fourteen samples of feedingstuffs and five samples of manures were taken during the quarter for analysis. The former consisted of one ordinary linseed cake and one ordinary cotton cake, both of which were genuine; one special linseed cake and one special cotton cake, both of which were deficient in oil; nine compound cakes and one meal. Of these no less than six were found by Mr. Lloyd to be either deficient in oil or albuminoids, or both where a guarantee was given, or to be of inferior quality where no such guarantee was supplied. The manures, which consisted of one sample of nitrate of soda, two of superphosphate, and two of compound manure, were in each case up to the guarantee, though both the last cost probably more than they were worth.

The committee recommended the Diseases of Animals Committee to take legal proceedings in one case.

A demonstration of spraying with copper sulphate for the destruction of charlock, on the farm of Mr. R. A. Taylor, at Triscombe, Dunster, is being conducted.

Handling Manure.

All manure, it makes no difference whether it is hauled in the autumn, winter or spring, should be spread at once, and should never be left in piles, even for a short time, if one is to secure the greatest benefit from its application, says the *Farmer's Guide*. This principle in the use of farm manure is one not to be overlooked by the progressive and up-to-date farmer, and on all farms where the best results from manurial fertiliser are obtained the product of the stables is distributed upon the land as fast as it is made. The old-time piling method is an expensive one, not only from the standpoint of the real value of the manure, but in the matter of handling as well. When left in piles the manure is leached by rains and the soil enriched by it is only of limited area, whereas, if it is finely and evenly spread over the entire surface the benefit derived is general and of far greater importance. In spreading manure, the finer it can be made and the more evenly it can be distributed over and through the soil, where it may be of use to the roots of all plants, the better results can be expected from it. Because of this fact the spreading becomes an essential element of the successful use of barnyard manure. In the past, spreading by hand has been the most common, and, in fact, about the only manner of distributing the material over the soil, but now the machine spreader worked by horse power is largely used and with most excellent and profitable results. Where mechanically distributed the manure is made very fine and reaches every foot of the soil, just where it is of the most use and value. Wherever it is possible, we believe, the farmer should use a manure spreader, as it will be found one of the best paying investments ever made upon the farm. It will pay not only because it prepares and distributes the manure in the best possible manner, but because it will save much time and labour in handling. The saving of labour alone, where one has a large quantity of manure to apply annually, will soon go a good way in paying for the machine, to say nothing about the great additional gain secured from the use of the manure itself.

Farmyard Manure.

Farmyard manure constitutes the basis of successful farming and should be cared for as much as any crop on the farm. The main thing is to maintain its quality, as bulk may add nothing to its value. In many respects farmyard manure is the most important factor, because to a considerable extent the yield of the other crops is more or less dependent on it, so that in securing a large quantity of good manure, the farmer is aiding very materially in increasing the yield of the others. Profitable farming must have a foundation, and the best foundation is manure, for it not only influences the yield, but improves the quality of the products of the farm, and as the better quality realises an enhanced price, the aim should be to excel in this respect. The fault of many who accumulate a large manure heap is that they rely too much on the quantity. The more concentrated the plant food in the heap, the lower the cost of spreading; hence quality should be maintained by not allowing of loss from rains or by overheating of the heap.

Adulterated Butter—Stiff Fine.

A Somerset butter merchant has been fined £40 and 50 guineas costs for selling adulterated butter, but as his alleged profits from the use of substitutes amounted to £5,000 a year, he will have to be still kept under observation.

Life History of Bacteria.

Bacteria may be defined as minute vegetable organisms varying in length from one five-thousandth to one twenty-five-thousandth of an inch, some of which are ever present in various forms in or on every substance known. Their shape, says the *Scotsman*, is very different in the different species; some are spherical, others ovoid, others rod shaped, while in some the rod is twisted into a spiral. Some bacteria are always motionless, others are more or less mobile. Under conditions favourable to their growth and development, bacteria multiply with incredible rapidity. Reproduction, which is entirely non-sexual, usually takes place by simple division or fission, a process in which the bacterial cell becomes constricted at its middle, finally separating into two parts, so that two young cells take the place of the parent one. When the conditions are favourable, reproduction may be very rapid, and the number of individuals which might theoretically arise from a single bacterium in three or four days is almost inconceivable and would weigh thousands of tons. Fortunately, however, there are many checks to such a rapid multiplication, so that the development is normally confined within very much smaller limits.

The Economy of Nature.

In what may be termed the economy of Nature, micro-organisms are of great importance. Without them there would be no putrefaction, no decay, and the dead remains of animal and vegetable life would so accumulate as to encumber the earth, which would become sterile for the want of the organic matter derived from it and of which there was no return. The higher plants, and indirectly, therefore, animals also, are in fact dependent for their existence on the presence of bacteria in the soil, which split up and render assimilable complex substances presented to them as manure. When organic compounds, such as albuminoids, are applied to the land they are attacked by various groups of organisms, which by successive stages convert the nitrogenous matter into nitrates, the form necessary to allow of the plants obtaining their requisite nitrogen. Thus albuminoid and other nitrogenous matters and ammonium salts which under ordinary conditions are valuable manures for plant life, cease to be so unless bacteria are present.

Making Cultures.

In order to investigate and identify the various organisms, it is necessary to make what are known as cultures. Bacteria, being living organisms, must be supplied with suitable nutritive substances so that their life-processes may be carried on in a normal manner. The carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen which enter into their composition are derived for the most part from proteids and carbo-hydrates, which nutrient substances must be presented to the bacteria in association with water, without which bacterial activity ceases. The substances used for investigating the growth of micro-organisms are termed culture media. The basis of the more important culture media is an infusion of meat usually prepared from beef; such an infusion is known as a liquid medium. Solid media are prepared by heating some such infusion together with a substance like gelatine, so that the whole on cooling yields a more or less solid jelly. If the surface of a solid medium prepared in this way be inoculated with a trace of a bacterial growth and the whole kept at a suitable temperature, the organism will rapidly develop and spread over the surface of the gelatine. Numerous organisms during their growth produce various coloured pigments, especially the bacteria of air and water, and these colours may be used as a means of identifying the organism in question. In most cases, however, a microscopical examination is necessary before any definite conclusion can be arrived at.

Artificial Nitrate Beds.

It is claimed by a couple of French scientists that they have solved the problem of fresh and cheap supplies of nitrogen. They do not propose to extract it from the atmosphere, but they have a system of manufacturing it from peat. This material, it is known, contains a small percentage of organic nitrogenous compounds, and this is extracted by a process of distillation. It is said that the peat bogs in France are extensive enough to supply quantities of nitrogen equal to the nitrate beds of Chili. Thus the peat bogs will become immense sources of wealth.

This seems to be a somewhat similar arrangement for the recovery of nitrogen or ammonia from peat to that which is in course of being tried in Ireland, and which, we understand, has passed successfully through the experimental stage and is about to be worked on an extended basis.

Importance of Nitrogen.

In a paper read before the German Society of Electrochemists on the fixation of atmospheric nitrogen, Professor Foerster quoted figures showing the importance of nitrogen to agriculture. In 1900, 1,300,000 tons of Chili saltpetre were used; in 1905, 1,500,000 tons. Of this enormous total, Germany consumed about one-third. In 1900 the total world production of sulphate of ammonia was 500,000 tons, to which total Germany contributed 150,000 tons. Of this total world production of artificial nitrogen compounds, either in the form of nitrates or of ammonia, agriculture absorbs 75 per cent., and the total value of these artificial manures in 1900 amounted to 270,000,000 marks, or £27,000,000.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Bill.

The Standing Committee on Law of the House of Commons began on last Thursday the consideration of the Bill, presented by Sir Edward Strachey, supported by the Solicitor-General, the object of the Bill being to carry into effect the recommendations of the Departmental Committee appointed in 1903 by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to inquire into the working of the Act of 1893. The Bill proposes to repeal said Act and re-enact it with the alterations recommended by the Departmental Committee.

It will be remembered that the proposed new Bill was read a second time without debate before Easter.

On clause 1, subsection 1, there was long discussion, in which Mr. Alexandra Cross, Mr. Channing, and Sir E. Strachey took an active part. The subsection was finally agreed to as proposed in the Bill as follows:—

"Every person who sells for use as a fertiliser of the soil any article which has been subjected to any artificial process in the United Kingdom, or which has been imported from abroad, shall give to the purchaser an invoice stating the name of the article and what is the percentage (if any) of nitrogen, soluble phosphates, insoluble phosphates, and potash contained in the article, and the invoice shall have effect as a warranty by the seller that the actual percentages do not differ from those stated in the invoice beyond the prescribed limits of error."

This is practically the same as the wording of the old Bill, excepting the final words "beyond the prescribed limits of error," which seem intended to accord to the seller a fair margin of latitude in the analysis.

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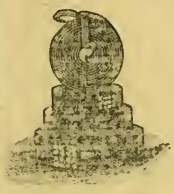

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IT will be generally admitted that unless the findings of science are carefully tested by the experience of actual practice, that science is more likely to hinder than to help the farmer. This is particularly true in relation to the question of the analysis of Feeding Cakes and Meals, although the Proposed amendments in the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act of 1893 will tend to give greater protection to the farmer and improve the position of the honest manufacturer. We do not under-rate the value of the chemist's certificate, for we have always insisted on the importance of a good analysis, and have had **our guarantee printed on every bag**, as well as on the invoice, which, so far as we are aware, has not been done by any other manufacturer. Moreover, we have always asked our customers to have the goods analysed regularly, and in the event of any deficiency being found, we bind ourselves to pay the analyst's fee and **three times the value of the deficiency**—this is our testimony to the value we place on analysis, and to the confidence we have in the quality of our goods. After all, however, the analysis is only the finding of science, and if it were conclusive, then the work of both the manufacturer and feeder would be much simplified; but, as we have often pointed out, it is possible to show a high analysis and yet leave the cake or meal at very low feeding value, and it is here that science must be confirmed by practice. It is no secret that unsound materials (unless absolutely perished) will in most cases analyse as well as sound ingredients, although the former may be of very little value for feeding; while in the case of oil, it may also show a high analysis, and yet prove to be of a kind altogether unsuited for fattening purposes. You must test the analysis at the feeding trough, you must combine

The following letter from an esteemed customer, who is a very extensive feeder of stock, is typical of many others received.

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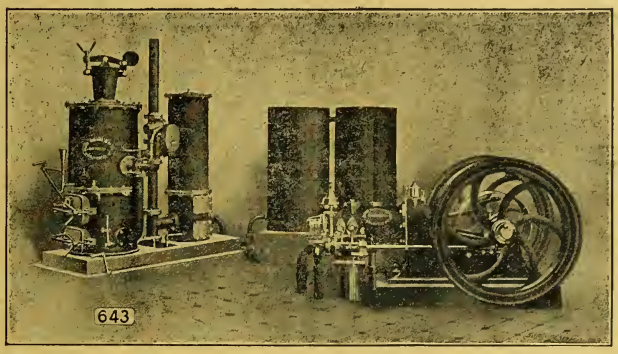

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Subscription rates (including postage)—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

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THE SHOW AT DERBY.

The provinces have welcomed back the repentant "Royal," and nothing is to be said concerning what the prodigal expended on his little jaunt to London. The success of the Derby meeting will go far to make future provincial meetings a success. The venture started with good auspices, for a guarantee by some "sportsman" as was obtained for the Derby Show is held by the superstitious to be a sort of mascot; the money, it is thought, will not be actually called for. So it has proved; for with a gate of 119,100, including a large attendance on the half-crown day, the expenses have been largely surpassed by the receipts. The hearty co-operation of the Derby County Society had a good deal to do with this very satisfactory issue; for its special tenant farmer and other county prizes led to an extremely large attendance of county agriculturists. It should be made a rule in the future not to go to any county except upon the invitation of the county society. Hearty local co-operation indeed may be regarded as the footstep to success. The Royal visit also counts for much in parts of England where the Sovereign is an infrequent guest. London is the most loyal of His Majesty's cities precisely because it sees so much of the King, but the R.A.S.E. in making London their headquarters lost this asset. Why should the most loyal of citizens go even as far as Paddington (let alone Ealing) to see what could be seen in Piccadilly or Pall Mall? His Majesty, it is well known, made a special effort in visiting Derby, and the "Royal" executive are doubtless specially grateful. The third feature making for the success at Derby was the emphasis laid on the horse. The London shows were not attended by the horseloving section of the community, who, in the metropolitan district, are sufficiently catered for by the three great horse shows in the spring. But at Derby the entries of horses were very fine, and the great horsebreeding counties of York and Lincoln poured in their thousands by special trains on both Friday and Saturday. The implement section of the show was very good, and attracted a great many expert mechanics from the great industrial towns, while the machinery in motion pleased a more general crowd. At future shows space might profitably be found for some of the machines as "running concerns." The weather was mostly fine, but Park Royal experiences demonstrated that fine weather alone will not suffice to make a successful show. The beauty of the showground was much enhanced by the splendid display of flowers made by leading seedsmen, whose hearty co-operation must not be forgotten when summing up the chief reasons for a very gratifying success.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 23, 1906:—

Period.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended June 23, 1906	17	19	...	...	28	46	...	...	2	32	198
Corresponding week 1905	16	21	...	...	29	36	...	...	...	13	99
Corresponding week 1904	12	18	...	...	30	43	...	...	3	34	88
Corresponding week 1903	17	26	...	...	31	54	...	...	8	57	353
Total for 25 weeks in 1906	505	750	...	...	548	1,019	...	...	286	608	3,125
Corresponding period 1905	518	733	...	...	603	1,054	...	...	643	390	1,879
Corresponding period 1904	516	807	...	...	722	1,322	...	...	1,055	722	3,635
Corresponding period 1903	416	649	...	...	655	1,078	...	...	1,154	840	3,956

NOTE. The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Notes of the Week.

Derby was *en fête* all last week for the dual event of the King's visit and the Royal Show.

It was quite like old times. Plenty of local enthusiasm and decorations.

The latter were exceptionally tasteful and better than any we have seen for a long time.

What a pity the rain came down in such a relentless manner!

Wednesday broke dull and cloudy, and "the oldest inhabitant" said that it had been dull for several days, and that the sun would come through about mid-day.

"The oldest inhabitant" was mistaken, and mackintoshes and umbrellas were in strong request.

In spite of the weather, the attendance was more than satisfactory.

The first day's gate was £688 10s. in hard cash.

On Thursday over a couple of hundred were waiting for the turnstiles to be opened.

How many were at Park Royal before 9 a.m.?

The showyard was a good one, and its beauty lay in its convenience.

There were none of those huge spaces which made Park Royal so bare and desert like.

Will not other societies take a lesson and consolidate their showyards?

The ground wore well considering the wet, although there were a few nasty patches.

The townspeople of Derby gave a hearty welcome to visitors, as also did the corporation.

A cynic was heard to remark that the hearty welcome consisted of charging 2d. for a 1d. tram ride.

A little unkind, perhaps, but prices certainly did go up in the district.

How many visitors knew that there were two public entrances to the showyard?

There were two, really—one at either end.

The King's visit was unfortunately not favoured with King's weather.

The rain came down relentlessly, and it was really pitiful to see ladies and children waiting patiently.

Do readers recollect the Carlisle Show in 1902, the second days were remarkably similar.

The ground, too, bid fair to equal that occasion, when parts of it were a swamp.

Battle in the Channel; heavy fighting at Plymouth; two British liners captured; shipping disorganised. Such are the reported results of the opening of the naval manœuvres.

It would be instructive if the manœuvres could be extended so as to illustrate the effect on the corn markets of a sudden outbreak of war with a great naval Power.

Only a few weeks' supply of wheat in the country; the corn markets intensely excited; the price of wheat rushed up to 80s. per quarter, and, if a naval reverse occurred, according to authorities, it would go to 100s. or 150s. per quarter.

We import five-sixths of our supplies of wheat and flour. Try to realise what the position would be, and the folly of being so dependent on imported grain.

And the remedy! Protection, national granaries, or a bounty in wheat growing. Have any of our readers suggestions?

We spend as much on a single battleship as would serve to encourage the growth of wheat on about a million acres!

Mutton on the table at dinner time is in its right place, but the same cannot be said of the dozen sheep which, while being driven along a road at Accrington, entered a garden and jumped through a dining-room window and caused the frightened occupants to escape by the front door.

The German National Agricultural Society's show was held at a suburb of Berlin about a week before the date of our Royal Show, and was fortunate in being favoured by magnificent weather.

It was opened with much ceremony and amid great festivities by the German Crown Prince, who in the course of his opening speech said that: "While his beloved Fatherland was yearly becoming more extensive and powerful, it was more important than ever that it should be founded on a prosperous agricultural development."

This is the right spirit in which to regard agriculture. It is the basis of all permanent prosperity, and when the cultivation of the soil languishes in a country, that country cannot be considered in a healthy state of development.

Our King—God bless him!—has agricultural instincts and feelings strongly developed; but in many of our legislators the bump of manufacturing interests is too prominently marked.

The German show lasted six days, and was visited by 325,906 people. The inhabitants of Berlin flocked to it in thousands.

It was kept open on Sunday, and on that day more than 118,000 people paid for admission.

The entries to it were:—

Horses	709
Cattle	1,147
Sheep	962
Pigs	690
Goats	84
Fish	253
Poultry	461
Implements	10,500

Butter and cheese, dairying utensils, bees, feeding stuffs, and fertilisers were largely represented.

On the opening day of the show the Minister of Agriculture gave a garden-party, to which he invited the chief officials of the society.

Everyone sympathises with the unfortunate position of Mr. Agar-Robartes, who has been obliged to quit Parliament through no fault of his own.

The Land Tenure Bill, of which he is the author would probably have made better progress had he been present.

As matters stand, there is small chance of its getting through the House during this session.

The Farmers' Club had a tent in the ground for the convenience of their members; this is an innovation.

The sums given away in prizes at the different agricultural shows would total up to a large amount, probably between thirty and forty thousand pounds.

It may be questioned whether the farmers get a corresponding benefit. If the shows could be somewhat limited by concentration and concerted action, the result might be equally satisfactory with a smaller expenditure.

The wishes of the hop growers for a small crop will apparently be gratified. The bine is very backward, and the attacks of the fly vigorous all through the districts.

We hope the crop may be equally moderate in other hop-producing countries.

The Government grant in aid of agricultural research is, I believe, considerably smaller in this country than in any other first class country.

Yet progress in agriculture is now dependent on scientific investigation in connection with soil, fertilisers, feeding stuffs, and plant diseases.

Agricultural research for the guidance of practical farmers is of more importance than teaching music to children in provided schools.

Lord Carrington is aware of the importance of the subject, and we hope will be able to put pressure on the Treasury to obtain a larger grant for agricultural investigations.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 3.—Selby Agricultural Show—Peterborough Horse Sale—Birkenhead Cattle Sale—Beverley Live Stock Sale—Penrith Cattle Sale—La Hague Horse Show Continued—Buckton Hall Farm Sale, Station Hotel, Hull, 4 p.m.—Second day of the Bakers' Conference at Nottingham—Bedford Wool Fair—Leek Hiring Fair—Entries close for the Cambridgeshire Fens Show, at March.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4.—North Devon Show at Barnstaple—Chatteris Horse Show—Cheadle Cattle Fair—Oswestry Cheese Fair—Scunthorpe Agricultural Show—Haslingden Agricultural Fair—Hereford Agricultural Fair—Doncaster Agricultural Show, first day—East Kent Agricultural Show at Ashford, first day.

THURSDAY, JULY 5.—Ashford Agricultural Show, second day—Ashford Horse Show—Chesterford Colt and Foal Show—National Sweet Pea Society's Show, Horticultural Hall—Horse and Cattle Fairs at Beverley and Chesterfield—Hertford Agricultural Fair—Pontypool Cheese Fair—Entries close for Launaston (East Cornwall) Agricultural Show.

FRIDAY, JULY 6.—Thornton's Special Sale of Kerry and Dexter Cattle, Park Hotel, Beltchley—Entries close for Bishop Auckland Agricultural Show—Entries close for Tring Show—Salisbury Wool Sale—Lichfield Horse Sale—Dorchester Sheep Fair—Bicester Wool Fair—Lincoln Foal Fair.

SATURDAY, JULY 7.—Blandford Wool Sale—Alnwick Wool Fair—Blandford Agricultural Fair—Gloucester Agricultural Fair—Malton Cheese Fair—Penrhyn Cattle Fair—Brough Horse, Colt and Foal Show—Ashton-Under-Lyne Agricultural Show—Entries close for the Glendale Agricultural Society's Show—Entries close for Cumberland Agricultural Show and for Malton Agricultural Show.

MONDAY, JULY 9.—Oakham Cattle, Sheep and Pig Fair—Alnwick Sheep Fair—Bodmin, Glastonbury, Stockport, and Oldham Agricultural Fairs—Warwick Wool Fair—Dorchester Wool Sale—Elmet (Yorkshire) Agricultural Show, at Sherburn—Entries close for Wainfleet Foal Show, for the Birkenhead Agricultural Show, and for Escrick Agricultural Show.

TUESDAY, JULY 10.—Peterborough Great Show, first day—Bishop Auckland Agricultural Show—Yeovil Great Wool Sale—Marsden Cattle Fair—Ringwood Agricultural Fair—Carmarthen Horse Fair—Birmingham Annual Wool Sale (80,000 fleeces entered—Leeds Horse Fair—Millers Conference at Windsor, first day—Special Sales at Highbridge: Caerphilly Cheese, 10.0 a.m., Calves, 3.0 p.m.—Entries close for Border Show and (with double fees) for the Cambridgeshire Fens Show at March—Entries to be sent in for the Welsh Principality Show at Aberystwith, Cardigan.

Proposed Memorial to the late Dr. Fream.

The first day of the Royal Show witnessed a meeting which is probably unique in its character. As briefly announced in our last issue, an influentially signed circular stated that it had been felt that some suitable memorial of Dr. Fream as an eminent agricultural writer and scientific expert should be provided by the very large number of his personal friends and readers of his brilliant books, articles, essays, and agricultural reports.

In pursuance of this a number of personal friends of the late Dr. Fream met in the large tent in the Derby showyard on Wednesday, and it was resolved:—"That the gentlemen present form themselves into a committee (with power to add to their numbers) for the purpose of raising a fund to provide a suitable memorial to the late Dr. Fream, and to report to a subsequent meeting to be held during the Dairy Show, as to the best form such memorial should take, it being understood that such decision will largely depend upon the amount of money subscribed, and that the money subscribed will be entrusted to some public body having the full confidence of the agriculturists of the United Kingdom."

The resolution was proposed by Dr. Wallace, seconded by Professor Sheldon, and supported by Mr. Martin, J. Sutton (chairman), Professors Malden, Sheldon, Wallace, and Messrs. Arthur Barham, W. Gaymer, Charles Macdonald, A. H. H. Matthews, W. A. May, E. Thomas, A. W. Stanton, G. F. Strawson, James Watt, and E. G. F. Walker, as well as a large number who had written approving of the project, but regretting their inability to be present.

Subsequently Mr. G. F. Strawson undertook the duties of hon. secretary, and Sir George Barham was appointed treasurer.

Various projects were broached as to what form the memorial should take, but a definite decision was left over to a subsequent meeting. Any readers who would like to identify themselves with the memorial should communicate with Mr. G. F. Strawson, 71A, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., or send direct to the offices of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

Notes and Jottings.

The supply of milk, though having received a good deal of attention for several years past, still occupies the most prominent place in practically all discussions referring to cattle, and the most profitable way of farming them. It is said by many farmers, and there is no doubt with a considerable degree of truth, that milk has been their salvation. There is no doubt, all things taken into account, that milk production pays more than any other branch of live-stock farming, where farming pure and simple is concerned; but where pedigree cattle breeding is consulted, then there comes a very decided difference. The breeder of pedigree Shorthorns, to wit, is making several times over the amount of money of his beef-bred bulls than is realised by the milking bred ones.

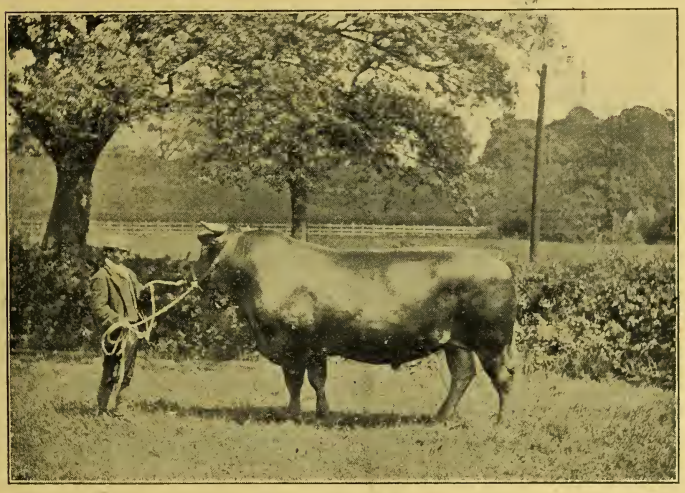
As referring to this, a well-known Shorthorn breeder of the beef only type of Shorthorns was heard to say the other day that if his cows failed to give a sufficiency of milk to raise their calves and wet nurses had to be provided, what did that matter when the young stock of these strains can be sold at figures all along the line from £500 up to £2,000 or close upon it? Of course there is sense and reason in all this, and the breeder situated as indicated would be very foolish to abandon his breed of beef-producing Shorthorns in favour of a milking strain, the draft or sale portion of which, whether males or females, he would be considered lucky if he was able to sell at £100, and for which £150 would be considered an out of the way price.

It is more than probable that we shall shortly see the prices of milking Shorthorns and also of other milking breeds of cattle very considerably higher than at present. The great scarcity of milking cattle, even non-pedigree ones, points to such a thing as being quite highly probable, whilst the very few good-milking pedigree cattle of any breed that can be purchased or that find their way to market is so limited that it is well nigh impossible to procure them. There is much uncertainty in the breeding of milk cattle. We are often reading the advice and the theories laid down by breeders of milk cattle, in which the same ends are always obtainable, the theory of these breeders being that a good milking dam mated with a bull out of a good milking breed is certain to produce a milking heifer.

Though I have seen this to be correct in many instances, I also know of instances innumerable in which the offspring of such parents have proved practically worthless, and this I have noticed to be especially the case with excessive milking cows. There may possibly have been a reason for this, in the fact that such a cow was the first of her line that had proved an excessive milker, and that the back breeding, so far as milk concerns it, would not bear investigation, and so the calf of such a cow as it grows up throws back to some of the indifferent milking ancestry, and so proves a great disappointment at the pail. Or it may be that the excessive milking of the dam has so weakened the system that the heifer from her inherits a weaker constitution.

So far as impressing any special points in cattle, milk included, I have always noticed that after the third generation, and not previously, do these especial points aimed at become so impressed upon the cattle breeder as to have a lasting effect. I have also thought that in nineteen cases out of twenty the bull has much greater effect upon the offspring than has the dam, and that the best dam that can be procured, even if of several generations of like breeding, will frequently bring a most indifferent calf if mated with a moderately indifferent bull. This latter, I believe, is equally applicable to both milk and half-bred animals, and proves how very necessary it is to look well to the bull, both as respects his personal merit as well as back breeding.

In one of these notes a week or two since it was mentioned that our beef breeds of cattle might with considerable advantage be bred more for milk than they are. How many puny half-starved calves have we seen trying in vain to get a satisfactory feed from the udders or apologies for udders with which so many of our half-bred cattle are afflicted? How much more valuable these same calves would be at the end of their first year if their dams had given them a good fill of milk for the first seven or eight months, and what an amount of expense it would save in artificial food! Then, too, there is the fact as milk becomes more needed, as it is doing every day, these beef breeds might, and would, become by suitable management quite profitable at the pail.



SOUTH DEVON BULL, MERRY BOY.
Winner of First and Challenge Cup at both Devon and Bath and West Shows, 1905, and First Prize at the Royal Cornwall. The property of Mr. F. W. ROWE, Trevego, Lostwithiel.

The Hereford is perhaps best known of any as a milker amongst our beef breeds, many of these cattle, even of the very beefiest, will yield a very fair quantity of milk, and it is almost invariably of excellent quality. With a very little care in the breeding of the Hereford, such as in the selection and mating of the parents, the feeding of the young stock for the first two years, the time and method of getting the heifers into the dairy, and the use of concentrated foods likely to produce milk instead of flesh, a Hereford might in a very brief space of time become very profitable, as their abilities to make beef at the end of their dairying career would be but little affected, whether this career was cut short by abortion or sterility, or whether they had lived on the usual draft age in the herd.

The bulk of the rain that has fallen about the country appears to have been through thunderstorms, and has been very partial in its falling, nevertheless has done much to preserve the pastures green and with this to keep up the milk supply a little longer than usual. In spite of this the quarter that is supposed always to be abated at Midsummer is pretty certain to be lost within a fortnight of the time. Most dairies, however, have been blessed with more than has been required to keep up their contracts and to fill the churns, so that even if drier weather and shorter pastures should be forced upon them, it is quite possible they may get through July without feeling the pressure to such an extent as to need to reinforce the members of the dairy or to fall back on stimulating feed.

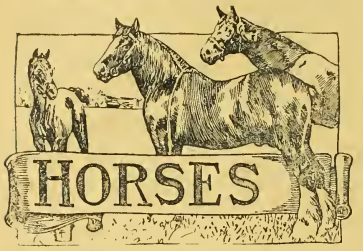
In these days there are numbers of farmers and cattle breeders who have gone into the business without experience—some from a love of country life, having, perhaps, made a little money in trade in the city; others are recommended, and find it necessary to accept such recommendations for health's sake. From this class of people very frequently comes the question: Which is the best breed of cattle? There are several best breeds of cattle; indeed, it is gratifying to be able to say that amongst the something like seventeen breeds represented in the Royal showyard there is not a single one that is a bad breed under all conditions, and it is equally true to say that there is no breed that is always good under all and varying conditions.

Each breed has its own especial points and properties, both as to the produce it yields to the greatest advantage and profit, as well as to its adaptability to the environment it is called to encounter or to live amongst. If we are to judge by numbers of any breed and countries where a breed thrives, of course the Shorthorn would be altogether the outstanding representative. These are found to breed, thrive, and pay in we may say every county in Great Britain and Ireland, whilst in every country of Europe they are giving equal satisfaction. America—north and south—is full of immense herds of the breed, and herds of the finest breeding and high value. All our colonies and many of the small islands of the sea can also boast of their Shorthorns, which are thriving in tropical heat as well as in zero cold.

In spite, however, of the dual purpose and cosmopolitan character of the Shorthorn as here set forth, there are many purposes and places where one or other of our breeds will pay as well or better. The Hereford comes next, perhaps, as a cosmopolitan breed and capable of making a heavy weight of beef in a little time as well as giving good milk, and they will do their work on inexpensive feeding. For the fold yard and root and corn feeding, the Angus takes a great deal of beating; whilst on medium rich pastures the North Devon is a great favourite and makes the most saleable beef very quickly. The Galloway and West Highlander, as well as the Welsh breed, are each altogether excellent where an outdoor life all the year round is obligatory, and the latter breed can milk as well as yield a profitable return in beef.

The old Longhorn, too, is very valuable for an outdoor life all the year, and to grow into a heavy weight of high-quality beef, as well as a great yielder of cheese in the dairy. The two Channel Island breeds stand out as producers of butter, or where extra thick cream is needed, and they will do on moderate land where sheltered. Then the Red Poll is a fine dual purpose breed, preferring, perhaps, rather light and dry soils; and the Sussex is a capital all-round beef breed on pasture. Kerries and their sister breed, the Dexter Kerry, both dual purpose, it is certain have no equal for hillside grazing and for small holdings; and the Ayrshire as a milker on moderate pasture and to withstand a good amount of cold is also doing well in other countries as well as her native land.

Butter Adulteration: Heavy Fine.—At Bristol, on Tuesday, Albert Henry Williams, of London, trading as the Bridgwater Creamery Company, Somerset, was fined £40, with 50 guineas costs, for selling as genuine butter a mixture of butter and lardine. The latter was described as a London concoction skilfully prepared to hoodwink analysis, and impudently offered by the maker as impossible of detection in butter when used up to 17 per cent. On two occasions butter was purchased under guarantees that it was pure butter, but analysis revealed the fact that there was 20 per cent. of lardine, pig's fat, and water. The prosecution, which was conducted at the instance of the Board of Agriculture, alleged that defendant's figures proved that by the adulteration a profit of over £4,000 had been made in fifteen months. The magistrates thought that imprisonment would have been the way to deal with the case, and only withheld their hand on the application of Mr. Wansbrough, on behalf of the Board of Agriculture.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

One thing which must have struck the careful observer at our agricultural shows this year is the great improvement that has been made in our harness horses of late years. The writer does not remember when there was such a good lot of young harness horses coming on as there are at present, and there can be no doubt that harness classes are becoming increasingly popular at agricultural shows. Perhaps one reason of this popularity is that the *tout ensemble* of a horse and a suitable conveyance is such that the general observer thinks himself competent to give an opinion upon. Really there is no class more difficult to judge than a class of good harness horses; but for some reason or other people think they can follow the judging in these classes better than in any other light horse class, and this doubtless accounts for some of their popularity.

It is of the harness horses themselves, however, and not of the popularity of the harness classes that I wish to write at present. Time was when Norbury Squire carried everything before him, and men said we shall not see another like him. But when he dropped out Heathfield Squire took his place and won all over the country. Then when Heathfield Squire was sold, the question was naturally asked: Where shall we find his successor? In one sense of the word he has as yet no successor, for there is no one horse standing out so conspicuously as Norbury Squire and he did in their day.

But there are several very promising young horses coming on. Menella, who was the Islington champion, has not at the time of writing come against any of the notabilities since then, but Radiant has known defeat, and it is fair to say that he was beaten on his merits. Several four-year-olds can be mentioned who are fast working their way to the front if they have not already got there, and at least one three-year-old would appear to have a bright future before her. It is not necessary to particularise all these rising aspirants to fame, but it is very interesting to note that there is one thing in common amongst them, and that is their stylish and blood-like appearance. And though there is still plenty of room for improvement in all but the very best, the shoulder action is much better than it was in the harness classes a few years ago. And that shoulder action is of the greatest importance in a harness horse, as no one needs telling who has driven down a steep hill with plenty of loose stones about, on a dark night.

The training of harness horses, by which I mean the teaching them manners, might be carried out much more artistically than it is. Several times during the season I have seen horses "play up" in the show ring in a way which was decidedly unpleasant, and twice at least I have seen horses actually run away. A runaway horse in a show ring is manifestly a danger to his driver and to everyone else in the class, and even, perhaps, to the outside public as well, and as soon as he can be stopped he should be turned out of the ring. It is no excuse that the excitement of the show ring upsets him. A show horse should not be upset by excitement of this sort, for, after all, it is the everyday life of the show horse, and no animal is so much the creature of habit as the horse. It is a common thing to see horses in harness rear; it is very dangerous, though I must say that, though I have seen many very narrow escapes, I have never seen a serious accident. But all these tricks are contrary to good manners, and I am bound to say that in many cases they are due to want of proper training.

Or shall I say handling? That there is considerable skill required in handling a harness horse we see at every show we visit. And how many horses do we not see whose chances of victory are entirely put out by bad handling? I believe there is scarcely a man who has ever ridden a dozen miles in a dogcart that does not think he can drive. But sitting on the driving-box, the reins and whip in hand, is one thing, and driving is another. If anyone doubts me, let him compare the style of Mr. Butcher, of Bristol, Mr. F. Vivian Gooch, or other fine drivers with the rank and file of those who drive at shows. It is not going too far to say that the difference between a good driver and a bad one is as marked as between a good rider and a bad one, and that many a horse that is put back would, with a showman like Mr. Butcher or Mr. Gooch handling the ribbons, make a very different show and occupy a very different place. One very notable instance of this occurred not so long ago.

Light handling is essential to enable a horse to show himself to advantage in harness. Yet how many take hold of the reins as if they were holding on to a rope and pull with might and main. And it is a curious thing that ladies who have proverbially light hands in the saddle frequently transgress in this respect as much as the sterner sex when driving. Perhaps the show harness horse being a little above himself and so inclined to "take hold" has something to do with this. But, again, if show horses are watched carefully it will be seen that those whose mouths are least interfered with make the best show. Certainly there is room for considerable improvement in driving, especially in driving the single harness horse. Pairs, tandems, and four-in-hand teams must be well handled, and, generally speaking, there is no fault to be found when these classes are in the ring.

It would be an improvement in the harness classes if the skeleton road wagon, which is so beloved of our American friends, were kept out of the ring except when pace and action classes are shown. The show harness horse is the gentleman's horse, and should be shown in such vehicles as a gentleman would drive in. This I take it is decidedly not a skeleton road wagon or racing buggy. Speed is not the only, or, indeed, the chief, quality of a gentleman's harness horse. It is immaterial whether he goes eight miles an hour or ten. What is of importance is how he goes. Of course he should step out, that goes without saying. His action is faulty if he does not. But few people care to drive a high-class harness horse fast, for the very reason that if they do, he loses his action, and that before long.

On Friday, the day after the Doncaster Show, the whole of the hunting stock of the late Mr. James S. Darrell will be sold by auction at West Ayton. For more than half-a-century this has been one of the most famous hunting establishments in the Kingdom. In the long ago, when Paddy Shiel and his brother used to bring such great strings of hunters to Howden Fair, Mr. Darrell was one of the best customers. Many is the good horse he has bought of them—the best, perhaps, being Snapdragon, a winner at the Royal and most of the leading shows in the country. Snapdragon was not a very big priced one and did remarkably well, but the next lot Mr. Darrell got were dear and also unlucky. So when September came round and brought Paddy Shiel to Howden again with a large string of young hunters, Mr. Darrell tried hard to cheapen the lot he had selected, pleading that the last purchases had done very badly. "Ah, Misther Dar'll, it's ashamed o' yez that I am," said Paddy, "You're afther wanting all o' them Snapdragons."

Of late years Mr. Darrell has bred largely, and he had some very good brood mares. At the sale there will be sold some excellent young stock as well as a lot of hunters that know their work thoroughly, and I have no doubt that there will be a representative lot of hunting men gathered round the ringside when Messrs. T. Walker and Sons and Messrs. Boulton and Cooper disperse the stud on Friday next.

As yet not many Hackney sales have been announced, but there is already an important one fixed in Yorkshire for the day before the Yorkshire Show. This is Mr. Robert Whitworth's stud at the Londesborough Stud Farm, Market Weighton. It is some years now since there was a sale at the Londesborough Stud Farm, the last occasion being when the late Lord Londesborough retired from Hackney breeding. At the sale which will take place on August 7, there will be a lot of the old Londesborough Stud blood on offer, many of the lots being by Polonius and Ganymede, who though he was not bred at the Londesborough Stud, was bred next door. Other sires that will be represented are His Majesty, Edemynag, Aristocrat II., and Rosador. Mr. Whitworth is offering a big lot—no fewer than sixty—and as he is well known as a successful breeder and exhibitor, his sale will be one of the events of the season.

THE LOOKER ON.

The Right Hon. Earl Carrington (president of the Board of Agriculture) will open the new buildings at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, and distribute the diplomas and prizes on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at 3.15 p.m.

Preparation of Wool for the Market.

Sheep Breeders in Conference.

At Derby, on Tuesday, the day before the opening of the Royal Show, the National Sheep Breeders' Association held their seventh annual conference in the Guildhall, Derby.

The conference was presided over by Mr. James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, and the principal business was a paper by Mr. S. B. Hollings, of Bradford, on "The Preparation of Wool for Market." There was a good representative attendance of home breeders, while other countries represented were New Zealand, United States of America, Uruguay, Queensland, Victoria, and South Africa.

Mr. Hollings spoke of the change in the conditions obtaining in the wool world during the last four or five years. A marvellous transformation in price had taken place. On every hand there was an incentive for all sheep breeders to look at their growing fleeces with feelings of pride, and manufacturers could urge, with some degree of reason, the necessity of preparing wool for market in a real, practical, and up-to-date manner. In order to obtain good prices, it must be borne in mind that buyers looked out for the cleanest and the best. Preparing wool for market as their grandfathers did, would not do in these days. Hence the need there was to look at the question in a plain, practical, and commonsense way. The sheep farmers of the Colonies set their English brethren a good example of how to prepare wool for market. Uniformity of quality was a very valuable feature in any parcel of wool. It was a great mistake to bale together fine and coarse fleeces, and even when handling fleeces of the mutton breed, it paid to bale separately fine, medium, and coarse fleeces. The evils of false packing could not be over-estimated, and wherever practised it was bound to reflect discredit on the wool-grower who did it. The worst element in connection with our home-grown fleeces was the bad way they were prepared for market, while Cape wools were notorious for the excessive wastiness and falseness in which they were sent to market.

He strongly advocated cleanliness in baling wool. Let shearing be done on a clean swept floor, and by no means let the operation be conducted on a bed of straw. The floor swept clean would prevent vegetable matter from becoming entangled with the wool. He urged them to see that everything was clean, and the whole fleece carefully gathered up before the shearer commenced to shear the next sheep. False packing could not be justified at all, but was decidedly injurious to the sheep-farmer who practised the habit.

In conclusion, Mr. Hollings said the outlook was still highly encouraging from the wool-grower's standpoint, but in every sheep-breeding country great efforts were being made to increase the number of sheep. The larger the production, the more would wools of each country compete with each other in consuming markets. Those growers' clips in the future would command the most ready support which were the best grown, and which were prepared for market in a real business-like way.

Mr. W. J. Birch (New Zealand Sheep Breeders' Association) remarked that wool was the most important product that the large New Zealand sheep farmers had to rely upon, and naturally they took very great care with the clips. With the division of land and the increase of small flocks, however, they were getting into the same position as England, and the same difficulty had arisen. The small sheep owner found it difficult to do his classing—he did not know what to do with his bellies and locks, and so they all went together. Whereas in England a great deal of sheep washing was done, in New Zealand they did not wash the sheep, but sheared in the grease or else scoured the wools before sending them to this country.

Several speakers disagreed with Mr. Hollings' strong criticisms of the methods of English breeders.

Mr. Sam Kidner (Somerset) said he was careful not to put any tags or extraneous matter in his wool, but he found that the careless man who did everything otherwise made just the same price as himself. (Applause.)

Mr. S. P. Fraser suggested that the manufacturers should be asked to singe the bales. He felt sure this would do a lot of good.

Mr. T. Casswell (Pointon, Lincolnshire) said there was no advantage to sellers in being at all

the extra pains recommended by the lecturer. They delivered their wool in the best way they could, but never got paid any more for it. As for sorting, he would rather leave that to the wool sorters of Bradford.

Mr. G. McKerrow, taking the side of Mr. Hollings against his critics, said such papers did not hit the men who were progressive enough to attend those meetings, but the average wool producer of Great Britain, who did not attend.

The Chairman did not think that honest English breeders would "fake" their wool.

Mr. Hollings, in reply, contended that there were thousands of English farmers preparing their fleeces for market in a way far different from what they ought to do.

SHEEP SCAB.

Mr. Birch introduced a brief discussion on the question of sheep scab, and brought forward the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of the New Zealand Sheep Breeders' Association it is of the utmost importance that the disease known as sheep scab should be eradicated from the flocks of Great Britain, and that the Council of the National Sheep Breeders' Association should urge the Government to take such effectual steps, through a proper system of inspection and compulsory dipping, as will lead to its extinction."

The Chairman undertook to bring the resolution before the council.

Sudbury Lamb Sale.

The first of this year's lamb sales in East Anglia took place at Sudbury on Monday and was numerously attended, whils trade, as a whole, was somewhat more animated than a year ago. There was about an average entry, totalling close on 2,000 lambs and sheep, and the consignment of 98 Suffolk lambs by the Hon. E. G. Strutt, from the Hill Farm, Ridgwell, brought the highest price, 30 ewe (the pick of 53) going at 37s. 6d., and 25 out of 45 wether at 35s. Mr. Stebbing and Mr. James Hines were the respective purchasers. The other lot of ewe made 27s., and of wether 26s. 6d. Another consignor whose best lambs, 30 first cross (Lincoln and Suffolk) ewe, made 35s., was Col. W. St. George Burke, The Auberries, and his best 40 wether tied at 34s., with 30 Suffolk mixed from Mr. M. M. Blacker, Goldingham Hall, and 35 first cross mixed from Mr. E. H. Sikes Great Henny. Messrs. Boardman and Oliver conducted the sale.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The fair at Newtownstewart, co. Tyrone, on Monday was an average sized one; and the demand was brisk for cattle in fair condition, a good clearance being effected. Prices:—Yearlings, 2nd class, £6 3s. 4d. to £7 5s., 3rd class, £3 15s. to £5 7s. 6d; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 5s. to £12 15s., 2nd class, £7 17s. 2d. to £10, 3rd class, £6 5s. to £7 2s. 6d. Springers, 1st class, £16 to £16 15s., 2nd class, £12 to £14, 3rd class, £9 to £10 10s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, 24s. to 28s. 6d. each.

There was an average sized fair at Killeagh, co. Cork, on Monday, and a good demand. Prices: Yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £8. 15s.; 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7 12s. 6d.; 3rd class, £5 to £6. Two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 15s. to £12 15s.; 2nd class, £3 7s. 6d. to £10 5s.; 3rd class, £7 to £8 2s. 6d. Springers, 1st class, £15 to £15 10s.; 2nd class, £11 15s. to £14 10s; 3rd class, £9 10s to £10 5s. Lambs, 1st class, £1 5s. to £1 10s.; 2nd class, £1 0s. 6d. to £1 3s. 6d. Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, 1st class, £1 18s to £2 5s.; 2nd class, £1 10s. to £1 15s.

Tipperary Town Fair was held on Monday, when there was a small supply and a very good demand, nearly all the cattle being sold. Springers were in fair demand. Prices: Yearlings, first class, £8 to £8 15s; second class, £6 to £7 10s.; third class, £3 10s. to £5. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £12 10s.; second class, £8 to £10 10s; third class, £6 to £7 15s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £14 15s; second class, £12 to £13 13s. 4d. Springers, second class, £10 to £14; third class, £7 15s. to £10 5s. Lambs met a good demand, and all were sold. First class realised from £10 to £1 15s. 6d.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 8s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, were scarce, and sold well at from 22s. to 27s. each.

Royal Cornwall Show.—Our attention has been called to an error which appeared in our report of the South Devon classes at the Royal Cornwall Show. Our reporter stated that Mr. F. W. Rowe's Merry Boy had to give place to Mr. Sparrow Wroth's Stars Duke, but such was not the case. These two bulls have met three times this year, before three different judges, and Merry Boy has won *first prize* each time, whereas Stars Duke has had second, third, and fourth prizes respectively.

WENSLEYDALE BLUE FACED TWO SHEAR RAM.
Winner of numerous prizes, including the Breed Society's Challenge Bowl (twice). The property of the Executors of the late Mr. T. WILLIS, Carperby, S.O. Yorkshire.

PEN OF WENSLEYDALE BLUE FACED SHEARLING EWES.
Winners of several prizes, and never defeated. The property of the Executors of the late Mr. T. WILLIS, Carperby, S.O. Yorks.

CHAMPION WENSLEYDALE BLUE FACED SHEARLING EWE.
This ewe's fleece won a first prize at the Royal Show last year, whilst the ewe has never been beaten in the showyard. The property of the Executors of the late Mr. T. WILLIS, Carperby, S.O. Yorks.

The Live Stock Sales at Derby.

The institution of these sales at the Royal Show has been a success in respect to the Shorthorn cattle, the Shropshire and Hampshire Down sheep, and the various breeds of pigs, but with the other breeds its success has yet to be made.

Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck sold the horses, and out of the eighteen offered only three sold. Two of these were two-year-old hunter geldings sent by Mrs. Kindrick and C. Murlin, which made 43 and 27 guineas respectively, to Messrs. Parr and Wilson, and a Shire colt from Mr. Camp's at 48 guineas.

Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. sold the cattle, Mr. J. Webb taking the breeds other than the Shorthorns, out of which but a very few were sold, there being practically no demand. With the Shorthorns which Mr. J. Thornton offered, the result was just the contrary, for the demand was a grand one, and few were left unsold, these in nearly every case being animals upon which high reserves had been placed.

The top price for bulls was 610 guineas, as against 1,000 guineas last year, and for females 270 guineas, as against 200 in 1905. The average for the seventy bulls sold was £101 14s. 1d., and for the thirty-nine females £96 5s, making a general average of £99 15s. for 109 animals sold as against £101 8s. 3d. for sixty head last year. The following is a detailed list of the sale :—

Bulls.

Gs.

Mr G Cooke's Chester Master Butterfly — Mr Hughes 100
Mr J T Hobbs' Near Gone — Mr Casares 130
Messrs Dyke's Royal Marquis — Mr Casares 45
Mr H C Lewis's Bapton Sceptre — Mr Potter 170
Mr R Shelton's Maragon — Mr F Cash 35

Average £101 17s.

Two-Year-Old Bulls.

Mr F Appleyard's Duke of Buckingham 2nd — Mr Sidney 50
Mr C Bathurst's Lydney Masterpiece 2nd — Mr FitzHerbert 250
Lord Calthorpe's Elvetham Favourite — Senor Perra 110
Mr R Chatterton's Satisfaction — Mr FitzHerbert 95
Captain Duncombe's Waresley Crown Prince — Mr J Holland 24
Mr A T Gordon's Sir Simon — Mr R M Knowles 180
Mr A T Gordon's Stoneytown Squire — Mr Ward 105
Mr C O Hall's Fair Play's Star — Mr George 32
Mr J Handley's St George — Mr Clarke 80
Mr A Hiscock's Manor Beau — Mr Sidney 150
Col Sir N Kingscote's Duke of Hazlecote 123rd — Mr Sidney 60
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Hero — Mr Clarke 50
Mr F W Monckton's Warren Squire — Senor Perra 65
Mr J T Nickel's Nobold Beau — Mr FitzHerbert 75
Mr T F Roskruge's Red Rambler — Mr Clarke 25
Messrs Spencer and Sons Holywell Silver Cup — F Cash 25
Sir A C Stepney's FitzAugustus — Mr Negree 115
Mr J M Strickland's Silver Augustus — Mr Casares 120
Lieut-Col W W Turner's Gallant Hero — F Cash 25
Mr T Winter's Fair Beau — Mr Clarke 30
Mr T Winter's Scotchman — Mr Wilkinson 26

Twenty-four averaged £80 7s 4d

Yearling Bulls.

Mr T Atkinson's British Lad — C Jewell 160
Mr A F Basset's Tehidy Scotch Gaurd — Mr FitzHerbert 67
Mr A F Basset's Tehidy Togo — Mr Morrison 38
Mr A F Basset's Tehidy Undecided — Mr Fowler 33
Lord Calthorpe's Elvetham Sweet Meat — George Harrison 300
Mr J Cresswell's Red Conqueror — Mr Sidney 76
Capt Duncombe's Waresley Crown Kohinoor — Lord Barrymore 63
Mr J A K Faleoner's Nonpareil Chieftain — Mr G Mills 45
Mr J A K Faleoner's Wandering Minstrel — Mr Casares 85
Mr A T Gordon's Scottish Fashion — C Jewell 150
Mr A A Haley's Whitewall Lifeguard — Mr FitzHerbert 145
Mr A W Hickling's Adbolton Millionaire — Mr Casares 65
Mr C A Hirst's Abbot — Lord Ducie 45
Mr A Hiscock's Manor Nelson — Mr Ackland 380
Mr J C Holford's Oxford Duke of Dorset 4th — Mr Clarke 52
Rev. Le G G Horton's Baron Silvermead — Mr Negree 140
Mr W J Hosken's Hayle Imperialist — Bought for Australia 240
Colonel Sir N Kingscote's Kingscote Waterloo Duke 2nd — Senor Perra 80
Mr R M Knowles's Colston Cardinal — Mr FitzHerbert 47
Earl Manvers' Crown Prince — Mr FitzHerbert 73
Earl Manvers' Illustrious Count — Lord Middleton 500
Lord Middleton's Bridsall Arminger — Mr McLean 53
Lord Middleton's Bridsall Hector — Mr Hipwell 41
Mr A F Nicol's Rock Salt — Mr Hipwell 90
Mr E Potter's Duke of Westmorland 3rd — Mr Bell 110
Earl of Powis's Powysland Augustus — Mr Sidey 100
Lord George Pratt's Pert — Mr Sidey 43
Mr J A Preece's Diamond Duke — Senor Perra 50
Mr J A Preece's Royal Baron — Mr Pearson 610
Captain J S Reeves' John Bull — Mr FitzHerbert 120
Mr T F Roskruge's Red Roy — Mr Clarke 35
Mr G M Smith's Walton Crown Prince — Mr FitzHerbert 43
Messrs S Spencer and Sons' Holywell Constellation — Mr Cash 18
Mr H J S Tory's Damory Pearl — Mr Clarke 41
Mr H Williams' Bendigo — Earl of Northbrook 87
Mr T Winter's Eastern Star — Mr McLean 48
Mr T Winter's Lotherton Guinea — Mr FitzHerbert 60

Average for forty-one, £114 3s 7d.

Mr A F Basset's Tehidy Royal Gertrude — Senor Perra 75
Mr L Broadbent's Cedars Mary — Mr R J Balston 58
Lord Calthorpe's Fanny B.A. — A Hiscock 27
Mr J Cresswell's Red Coral — C Jewell 67
Capt. Duncombe's Waresley Lady Peggy — Mr Brennan 36
Capt Duncombe's Waresley Pearl — Mr Brennan 40
Mr A A Haley's Whiteside Bridesmaid 6th — Mr Wilson 31
Mr W J Hosken's Are Gwynne 21st — Mr Thompson 86
Mr H S Leon's Lady Esther — Mr Wilson 52
Lord George Pratt's Crystal Queen — Mr Brennan 31
Lord George Pratt's Holly — Mr Brennan 37
Mr J A Preece's Waterloo Princess 39th — Mr Pearson 275
Mr R R Rothwell's Craven Rosemary — R J Balston 76
Mr R R Rothwell's Stanley Rose — Mr FitzHerbert 100
Mr R Sheldon's Lady Rosebud — Mr R J Balston 42
Mr R Sheldon's Lucy Gazelle — Mr R J Balston 42
Mr F J Steward's Brigstock Butterfly Duchess — Mr Hall 230
Mr F J Steward's Dowager Princess — Mr FitzHerbert 80
Mr F J Steward's May Queen — Mr A Hiscock 125
Mrs M E Thornton's Lily Farewell — Mr A Thompson 61

GENTLEMEN, THE SANDS ARE RUNNING!
A Characteristic Attitude of Mr. JOHN THORNTON, the famous Auctioneer.

Cows.

Mr F W Monckton's Woodfold Daisy — Mr Broadbent 19
Mr R H Norman's Rosemary — Lord Winchester 100
Mr J Britton's Lee Side Princess — Mr F J Balston 40
Mr W R Flowers' County Butterfly and co — Mr Hart 29
Mr J Harris' Duchess 138th — Mr R J Balston 250
Mr C W Kellock's Fern Frond — Mr H Bass 80

Six averaged £90 13s

Two-Year-Old Heifers.

Capt Duncombe's Kussie 19th — Mr Thompson 40
Dyke Bros' Bank Note 26th — Mr Candy 130
Mr J A K Faleoner's Nonpariel Bud — Mr A T Gordon 105
Mr C A Hirst's Allerston Mary 2nd — Mr R M Knowles 93
Mr W J Hosken's Lilac 2nd — Mr Savage 125
Mr J L Stockburn's Pearl Rosette — Mr Thompson 47
Mrs Walsh's Thorndale Duchess 7th — Mr Candy 190

Seven averaged £109 19s.

Yearling Heifers.

Mr A F Basset's Tehidy Lady Valentine 2nd — C Jewell 57
Mr A F Basset's Tehidy Queen of Brilliants — S Dennis 270
Mrs M E Thornton's Sweet Lavendar Farewell — Mr R J Alston 80
Mr H S S Tory's Weston Gerty — Mr Wilson 68
Mrs Walsh's Augusta 107th — Mr Ward 125
Mr T Winter's Lady Wartle — C Jewell 51
Mr T Winter's Lotherton Duchess 2nd — C Jewell 70
Mr T Winter's Lotherton Pride 2nd — C Jewell 40

Twenty-six averaged £93 7s.

Local Classes.

BULLS

Mr A Holden's Lord Bruce 2nd — F Cash 20
Mr Milner's Red Duke — Mr Wilson 20

COWS

Mr Milner's Maria Medora — Mr FitzHerbert 20

SHEEP SALES.

Messrs. Mansell and Co. sold the sheep, and the result of the sale was, so far as regards the Shropshires, very satisfactory; and in a measure the same may be said of the Hampshires, but for the other breeds offered there was no demand. The number of sheep sold was ninety-seven, and these gave an average of £21 4s. The Shropshires were first disposed of, commencing with the two-shear ram class. Two were sold which gave an average of £30 19s 6d, Mr. Minton's ram, purchased by Dr Davidson, making best price, 36 guineas. Amongst the better prices realised for the Shropshire yearling rams were the following:—Sir R. Cooper's first prize ram to Mr. Davenport, for New

Zealand, at 115 guineas; Mr. Victor Cavendish's ram to Duke of Sutherland for 73 guineas; Sir R. P. Cooper's Nottingham winner to Mr. E. Ewen at 42 guineas; 30 guineas to Lord Falmouth for one of Mrs. Inge's; 38 guineas, 36 guineas, 29 guineas, and two at 25 guineas each from Mr. T. S. Minton's flock to Mrs. Inge, T. A. Buttar, R. Millar, Canada, and Dr. Davidson, U.S.A. Three of Mr. E. Nock's to Mr. McKerrow at 45 and 30 guineas, and one to Mr. Fair at 21 guineas; two others from Sir R. P. Cooper's at 30 guineas each to Australia and Monte Video; one from Sir W. Corbet at 35 guineas, another at 28 guineas to Mr. Simmons, the average for the sixty-six being £23 19s.

Six yearling ewes were sold, Mr. Victor Cavendish's second prize pen making 25 guineas each, to Mr. R. Miller, Canada, and those of Mr. J. T. Cole, 10 guineas each, to Dr. Davidson, of New York, the average here being £18 7s. 6d.

The Hampshire Down two-shear rams averaged £10 8s. 3d. for six, Mr. Carey Coles making the top price, £14 14s.

There were ten yearling Hampshire Downs sold, Mr. C. Coles making 25 and 20 guineas each for two to Mr. J. Milton, U S.A., and Mr. Fair. Mr. J. Judd made 17 guineas of one to Mr. Webb, and the whole lot made an average of £15 12s. 10d.

Seven ram lambs were sold, but the demand was not at all good. Mr. J. A'K. Falconer realised 36 guineas for one, and the other six that came from Mr. R. S. Ovey were made over at poor prices, the seven giving an average of £11 17s. each.

PIGS.

The demand was good for all the best, and a fair proportion were sold, the total number so disposed of was sixty-nine, whose average was £8 4s. 2d., a very satisfactory result, for many of those sold were young pigs.

Mr. Marshall paid 21 guineas for a Large White sow of Mr. Spencer's, the best price for this breed, of which three were sold at an average of £16 16s.

Three Middle Whites were sold, all from Messrs. Spencer's herd; 8 guineas was top price, and the average £7 14s. The Berkshires were in good request, Mr. James's boar making 21 guineas to the Rev. Mr. Cannon. A pen of three boars from Mr. J. A. Fricker's made 21, 13, and 6 guineas, to the Hon. A. Portman, Mr. A. Field, and Mr. FitzHerbert. Mr. R. W. Hudson's pen of three boars, the first prize ones, realised 31 guineas to Lord Middleton, the top price of the pig sale, 21 guineas to Mr. Hubbard, and 13 guineas to Mr. J. Milton, for America. Mr. J. A. Fricker sold six sow pigs at from 15 guineas to Mr. Hubbard, and two others at 10 guineas each to Mr. Blyth. The twenty-nine of this breed made £10 10s. 5d. The Tamworths were not in great request; five were sold for an average of £6 8s. 1d. The Large Blacks were in fair demand; twenty-nine of them were sold for an average of £5 7s. 9d., the prices ranging from 15 guineas.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

"Red" Worm in Horses: Parasitic Diarrhœa.

(*Continued from page 678.*)

A well-known authority, Mr. Dunstan, in commenting on this peculiar characteristic of the "red" worm, says:—"The worms appear to be hatched, or, at any rate, the adults seem to become detached from the mucous membrane and pass away with the fæces in successive crops, as frequently an animal may be seen passing large numbers to-day, then for a time—which may be a week or even more—the most diligent search fails to reveal a single one; then, without any warning, the next stool may be simply swarming with them. In a very bad case, if the intestines be open immediately after death, the whole of the mucous membrane of the colon and cæcum will appear one seething mass of worms, and the whole of the ingesta contained therein in a similar condition.

"If the mucous membrane be scraped clear, numerous little dark spots will be visible on the surface, varying in size from a small pin's head to a pea. Each of these, on opening by means of a scalpel, will be found containing a worm coiled on itself. It may be in a very early stage of development or the full-grown parasite ready to find its way to the surface."

As these worms are blood-suckers we can easily understand how, when they are present in hundreds of thousands, it is that their host wastes in flesh so rapidly.

The Strongylus tetracanthus is usually of a bright, blood-red colour, hence its popular designation, but it may vary from a dirty white to a dark brownish red in the dead specimen, the shade depending on the amount and condition of the blood it contains, and which it has sucked from the capillaries of the intestinal mucous membrane.

The body of the worm is round, tapering towards the head. The "red" worm varies in length from an eighth to three-quarters of an inch, the females, as is usual with worms, being the largest. The "red" worm is very often associated with another strongyle — popularly known as the "pallisade" worm, and technically as Sclerostomum equinum, Strongylus armatus, or armed strongyle. This association is so common that it has led some observers to conclude that, if not actually the same parasite in some unknown phase of its existence, the life-histories of the two parasites are in some unexplained way very closely intermingled.

As to the habits of the "red" worm, it is supposed that they are taken in by the horse with food or water, that they bore into the blood vessels of the bowels, become adult, and return to the intestine when sexually mature. Eggs are deposited in little pouches or closed cysts in the mucous membrane, and the young worms when hatched bore their way beneath it, where they lie coiled up, head and tail together, until fully developed. Then they come out again to the surface of the mucous membrane, to which they attach themselves by means of the suckers with which the head is furnished. The habits of the armed strongyle or "pallisade" worm appear to be similar. They also infest the lining membrane of the bowels, bore the intestines, make nests in the punctures of blood vessels of the bowels, and return to the intestines when a certain stage of existence is attained. How the worm finds its way into the body of the host in the first instance is tolerably clear. It is well known that certain pastures are sure to cause colts turned out on them to become infested, and it is generally the kind of land—rich, low lying ground—we associate with fluke and lungworm. Cases are most frequent on land liable to flooding, when the ova, or, perhaps, impregnated females, may be water-borne, but cases have occurred among stabled horses, when it has been attributed to fodder cut from an infected source, or to the water supply. It is, however, at grass that the trouble generally occurs, particularly in colts grazed near a stream and left out late in the season.

(*To be concluded*).

Reducing a Splint.

Would you tell me the best thing to do to cure or reduce a splint on three-year-old Hackney colt?—Coon.

Answer: The owner of a young and valuable animal, particularly if intended for sale, is not unnaturally anxious to remove any cause of unsoundness or blemish, but very often the efforts to do so prove disastrous, and the result of active treatment is that inflammation is set up, and lameness is occasioned that did not exist before. This is especially the case where splints and spavins are concerned. Personally I am always in favour of letting bony enlargements that do not cause lameness alone, and I am very doubtful if they are removable by treatment to the extent that many horsemen suppose. No doubt a portion of the abnormal growth is absorbed in time, and that this is assisted by artificial stimulation, but the more consolidated part of the deposit is not affected. With reference to treatment when there is no lameness I am strongly of the opinion of Lieutenant-General Sir F. Fitzwygram, who, besides being a horseman and distinguished cavalry leader, is F.R.C.V.S. He earnestly recommends the owner of a horse with a splint to let it alone if it does not cause lameness, stating that "the eyesore is not great, and blemishes more serious than the splint are often produced in the attempt to remove it." If, after this, you will try treatment, make a trial of iodine. Clip the hair closely from over the exostosis, and once or twice a week rub it with an ointment of:—Resublimed iodine, ½ drachm; iodide of potassium, 10 grains; lanolin, ½ oz. Use only a small quantity of ointment, rub it only over the splint, and stop the application when the skin gets scurfy and tender, resuming it again when the part has hardened.

Norfolk Show.—In the lettering to our illustrations of winners at the Norfolk Show, the shire stalion Billingford Ajax was given as Mrs. R. W. Hudson's instead of Mr. R. Hudson, of Beck Hall, Billingford, East Dereham, Norfolk.

Sheep Worrying by Dogs.—A bad case of sheep worrying by dogs is reported from Acle, Norfolk, a flock of sheep feeding on the marsh being subjected to such vicious attacks that seven were discovered dead, and seven more so badly injured that they had to be killed. A number of others, badly bitten and lamed, had been chased into dykes. The flock was owned by Mr. Henry Read, of Kirkley Hall, who estimates his loss at £60. Two dogs, one of which received a charge of shot when detected, have been traced, and it is alleged the same animals also drove a herd of bullocks into a field of corn, causing further serious damage.

THE
'BIBBY' CAKE
IN THE FORM OF
'CAKETTES.'

"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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STUD HORSE:

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Stock on Sale by the above-named and other noted Sires.

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Established 1886.

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Author of "The Theory of Water Finding by the Divining Rod."

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THE PREMIER FEEDING CAKES FOR ALL STOCK.

97 % Pure Linseed Cakes.

97 % PURE EGYPTIAN COTTON CAKES.

97 % PURE EGYPTIAN COTTON CAKES.

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SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Maldon, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

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THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

CAPTON HERD.—Noted for size, flesh, milk, quality, and symmetry combined; colour dark red, with robust constitutions. 100 for Sale. Exported to all parts of the world. Bulls and Heifers of this Herd always on Sale. A. BOWERMAN, Capton, Williton, Taunton.

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ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

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SHEEP—*continued.*

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(Continued on next page).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

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Agricultural Imports.

An account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 23, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

		1905.	1906.
Oxen, cows, &c....	Number	8,516	8,679
Sheep and lambs ...	,,	1,886	808
Swine	,,	—	—
Horses	,,	167	361
Beef	Cwt.	111,501	111,626
Mutton	,,	115,889	106,184
Pork	,,	4,259	3,918
Bacon	,,	103,662	85,451
Beef	,,	2,456	3,338
Hams	,,	22,839	29,256
Pork	,,	5,035	3,662
Meat, salted or fresh ...	,,	17,172	15,154
Meat, preserved ...	,,	11,559	9,202
Butter	,,	78,495	104,812
Margarine	,,	20,194	17,484
Cheese	,,	64,735	66,587
Milk, fresh	,,	—	—
Milk, cream	,,	130	135
Milk, condensed ...	,,	18,858	19,624
Milk, preserved ...	,,	3	75
Eggs ...	Great Hundreds	476,373	398,809
Poultry	Value £	6,318	2,624
Lard	Cwt.	50,736	42,282
Wheat	,,	1,693,800	2,803,800
Wheat Meal and Flour	,,	218,600	275,770
Barley	,,	308,300	158,700

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Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Liberal and Rural Education.

I thank Earl Carrington for the amicably wise attitude he has adopted in regard to agricultural grants. Lord Barnard—whose judicious interposition elicited so generous an appreciation of an actual necessity from the Minister of Agriculture—did not achieve his object, but he certainly achieved something. The Treasury is not a milch-cow—whose fount is never destined to become parched. True, the sum needed for agricultural research would not be overwhelmingly large as national sums go which are conceded for national purposes; but it is the last straw after all which may break the camel's back. Earl Carrington, if he preferred a demand upon the Treasury, would immediately have the clamant, vociferously-dogged demands which are being preferred by the urban interests contrasted with the dulcet acquiescence in neglect—or, for the matter of that, in anything—of the rural interests, and asked to show wherein the latter reveal an absorbing anxiety. The Minister's suggestion of an inquiry into the character of our agricultural education was not intended as a procrastinating move. It was designed—I believe this to be a proper interpretation—to be an appeal to the Party in which Earl Carrington is a distinctive personality—to the most sensitive part of the Party's intelligence and sympathies. The Liberals profess to be progressive-educationists. If agricultural education is held to be below the standard of practical agricultural necessities, then—*ergo*—the Liberal Party ought to improve it. That it is below that standard the excellent suggestions in the Bill of Mr. Jesse Collings sufficiently shows.

Are These Politicians Wise?

Frankly, I am of opinion that the antagonists of the Land Tenure Bill made a mistake in the character of their opposition when the measure returned to the Commons from the committee. Probably, my assertion will be criticised; but I am writing from the point of view of an observer, who despite his sympathy with the main provisions of the measure, can claim to have, by mere reason of Parliamentary training, a dispassionate outlook. Some of that antagonism to the Bill was apparently instinct with little but a desire to wreck it or to emasculate it to the depth of innocuity and even absurdity. One concession in the direction, as I hold, of weakening the Bill—a concession made, in one case, on the suggestion of Mr. Walter Long, who himself evidenced a spirit that was certainly very different from mere malevolence, and was always characterised by courteous appreciation—was at once made the excuse for demanding a further impossible concession. The authors of this policy—I need not distinguish them—for the time being succeeded; but if I mistake not, they will find their victory, if not as bitter to the taste as Dead Sea fruit, an exasperatingly annoying one. It may help (I am alluding, of course, to Friday week's debate) to the very undoing of the cause they have at heart.

Arousing Labour M.P.'s to Interest.

Now, take one important section of the membership of the House of Commons whose lay sympathies have, I believe, been quickened into an active interest. I do not mean the members of the Land Law Reform Association, the real authors of the Bill, who certainly are, however, more vivaciously resolute than ever. I refer rather to the Labour M.P.'s. Now, if truth be told, these Parliamentarians did not at first seriously concern themselves with the Bill. The fact is that it does not go far enough for them—it is not, in a word, a sufficient offering (indeed, it is no offering at all) on the altar of nationalisation. But this method of baulking the obvious design of the Bill, and, it must be confessed, the obvious desire of the majority of the House, offended their unconventionally business-like methods. They are sufficiently inexperienced of Parliamentary usage as to be as yet unaffected by the numbing and dulling miasma that at last chloroforms the brain to waste and delay and procrastination and thwarting garrulity. The game, too, was so openly played in certain instances—I must always exempt Mr. Walter Long and the men who particularly follow him—that only the obtuse could have failed to detect its purposes. These Labour Parliamentarians have thus in a measure lost their indifference, and have been stimulated with friendship. Can this be wisdom?

An Opportunity for Assertion.

These Labour M.P.'s do not like the Bill because in their view it will accomplish little. As a fact, with many of them the improvement of the system of tenure is objectionable because they hold that such an improvement and the obvious sanction which the system would thus obtain at the hands of the community would be a barrier to nationalisation. A wiser policy infinitely in this prefatory antagonism would have been, not one of thwarting, baffling antagonism (spiced occasionally by malice), but one of moderate anxiety to preserve the real rights of landlordism, whilst sympathetic towards the modern conceptions of tenant-right, this spirit having associated with it a desire for a fair compromise. Then the Labour Party—and they are nowadays levers in the Parliamentary world—would have remained still a body apart. Don't say "The Labour Party have naught to do with us." They will have aught to do with anything and anybody they choose. They are the Brabançoi's of our political life—willing occasionally to run in harness, but preferring infinitely independent self-assertion, and, in fact, welcoming an opportunity for it. I fear they have been given one.

Those Objections to the Amended Bill.

Take, too, those objections which have been urged against the Bill in its amended form, and acceptance of which amended form is the best exhibition of the concessional spirit which had been bred in its promoters. I especially, in this connection, allude to Mr. Soares, who took charge of the Bill in the absence of Mr. Agar-Robartes. Now, the postponement of the operation of the Bill until January 1, 1908, is held to make the landlord (in all excepting Lady-day tenancies) terminate present engagements, whilst it provides the opportunity for the imposition of more onerous conditions on the tenant. Again, it is now being urged that the Bill as amended does not give the tenant power to have his rent reconsidered if he had, as a condition of the renewal of his tenancy before the Bill came into operation, agreed ("been compelled by circumstances to agree" is the phrase used) to pay an increased rent. "Why," ask the authors of this objection, "should not the Bill apply to existing tenancies, and tenants have a right of appeal for compensation for disturbance?" Once more, a tenant under Clause 4 may have legal restrictions imposed on him in the last year of his tenancy as to the disposal of his produce, though the landlord will not—thus it is contended—have imposed upon him the obligation to pay for it to the outgoing tenant. Upon these points a good deal of attention is being concentrated, and they are being advanced as a stern reason for strengthening the Bill. Indeed, I have already heard it urged as a reason for a supplementary measure—a suggestion which, I ween, we should not have heard of but for the character of this not too sagacious Opposition. When you disguise your antagonism so that it hath the guise of friendship, you are astute. When that antagonism flaunts itself aloud and unashamed, it is often innocuous.

The Government and its Honours.

The King's birthday honours' list permits of the suggestion that this Government is really desirous of persuading the world that its concerns are chiefly with the urban interests. You cannot point to one man, be he among the new peers, new baronets, or new knights, and hail him a representative of the country interest. True, you have none among the new recipients of the national dignities who are great landowners, men of many manors and two or three parks; but they are like their fellows, the embodiment of the urban industrial spirit. True, again, Mr. Wentworth Beaumont (one of the new peers) has a name honoured in the landlordism of the North; but somehow I used to regard him, when he was in the House of Commons, as being so little an arcadian that he was an excellent representative of the colliery interests of Northumberland. The squirearchal country-gentleman element—and, after all, Liberalism has not been entirely bereft of the traditional Whig following—has been as sedulously disregarded as though it were a negligible or decadent influence in the State. I suppose we must continue to expect this. When Liberalism works the machinery of the firmament of London, the sun of destruction will only shine on the magnates of the towns. Still, is this well in the interest of Liberalism itself—of that Liberalism which occasionally plays so fascinatingly to the small holders and the agricultural labourers? After all, these have an interest in their class.

Mr. Haggard and Rural Housing.

Mr. Rider Haggard so many times arms himself cap à pie to play the part of the hero knight—destined to rid Arcadia of another dragon that would despoil her—that I am half afraid his picturesqueness is sometimes unheeded. However, there can be no doubt that the pitifully lurid story of unhealthy rural housing which he presented to the Select Committee on the Housing of the Working Classes has evoked a deep and tense feeling. 'Tis, in all sooth, a pitiful story, and would do naught to detract from its dramatic pathos. Mr. Rider Haggard is himself simply victimised by malignant partisanism when publicists of the anti-landlord cult reproduce this story in order to persuade their following that rural landlordism is a bowel-less, soul-less merciless creed which is an enemy to individual happiness and domestic decency. May I suggest, however, to those of less dispassionate mind, that the time has come for the formulation of policies and the education of popular sentiment, and that the time for the recapitulation of the evil is past. Let us accept the housing evil as a deplorable one. Mr. Rider Haggard did propound a policy. We want, however the popular sentiment educated up to the fact that this housing problem provides more or less a national duty, that the State which can be extravagantly generous towards agrarian Ireland should be moderately generous in the assistance of rural authorities and landlords in fulfilling the duties of rebuilding; that the terms of repayment should be easy; that the interest should be small, even nominal, to permit of moderate rents, and that the local regulations should be inspired not by the vainglory of petty councillors but by practical common sense. This I will say—that never had we a Minister for Agriculture more anxious for wise building reforms. A condition precedent to those reforms is, it must be understood that the nation holding the purse will exact not a return suggested by huckstering avarice, but a return which would safeguard the national coffers, or, at all events, permit of but a minimum of loss.

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An intimation has been conveyed to the Poole District Council by the solicitor to the Canford estate, to the effect that Lord Wimborne is contemplating the provision of land for the purpose of small holdings, upon which the tenants would require to build cottages. Lord Wimborne has been much struck by the prosperity of a small holding estate near Verwood, where the cottages are largely mud-built, without any reference, so far as could be seen, to building by-laws, but they appeared to be comfortable.

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The Coming Crops.

There is no doubt that the combined effects of the sunshine, the more genial atmosphere and the rains during the past few days, are seen in our plantations, and we may safely report progress sufficiently marked to give us some encouragement. But an anomalous condition is found almost everywhere, as while the bine is apparently healthy and fairly strong in most of our gardens, the fly and lice are persistent, and at present are scarcely resisting the washing that has been constantly applied. An Oregon planter who has visited some of our Kent districts this week told me that he had never seen such a quantity of blight, and that if his hops were covered to that extent he should give up all hope of a crop, as he should consider they must be entirely ruined. This remark, coming from an impartial and experienced observer is significant, although I am not inclined to take the same despondent view of the situation. But we have before us facts which should make us ponder over the possibilities of the future, and infuse renewed energy into our planters who desire to cope successfully with the difficulties surrounding them.

The following extracts from reports received within the last week will confirm my general estimate of the position :—

KENT.—In the Canterbury district improvement is manifest as regards growth, but blight is hanging on and reappears after every washing. It is hoped that the better climatic conditions will assist planters in getting rid of the pest. The plants are generally backward, but will soon reach the normal if favoured by the weather. Round Maidstone the plantations are making fair progress under present favourable influences, but repeated washings have thus far failed to clear the bine of lice, and fresh broods appear in quick succession. It does not seem possible that more than a very moderate crop can be harvested. Through the Farleighs, one observes some grounds that are in splendid condition, despite the attacks of blight to which they have been, and still are, subject, and others that are in very poor form, their prospects being most unpromising. It is said by some of the older residents, that this year the attack of fly and lice is the most severe they have seen for a long time. The gardens in the Rochester district appear to be in about the same position, and although growth is evident, the plant has not arrived at the point of safety, and there is still much room for anxiety. Round Yalding and Paddock Wood the bine is growing rapidly, and much improvement has been effected recently. Washing is, however, still necessary, as the blight sticks closely to the leaves, and appears to be gifted with extraordinary vitality this season. Reports to the same effect are to hand from other parts of the county; there is health and growth accompanied by blight and washing, and it remains to be seen which will gain the day.

SUSSEX.—A fair average harvest seems to be probable, supposing that the elements continue to be helpful, but in this county also the blight is universal and continuous, and must be got rid of before any definite opinion can be pronounced.

HAMPSHIRE.—These districts are suffering from the persistency of the blight, it being many years since so severe an attack has been experienced. Planters are persevering with washing, hoping to succeed eventually, though their patience and their pockets are being sorely tried in the meantime. The outlook is nothing like so good as at this time last year, and a moderate crop is all that is anticipated.

SURREY.—My previous reports led me to think that the Farnham grounds had fortunately escaped from the evils that have visited other districts, but I now hear that they have not only a taste of the same bitter draught, but are compelled to swallow such a mouthful as far exceeds their average allowance. The effects of washing thus far are hardly perceptible, and the main hope of growers rests upon the weather, and especially upon a good supply of sunshine with occasional thunder and its accompanying rain.

WORCESTER.—Many of the best plantations are showing some clearance of vermin as the result of persistent washing and improvement in the weather, and some growers are now more hopeful. But where the necessary work has not been done, the blight sticks and leaves are beginning to curl. The pest has not been got rid of, and still causes anxiety. The bine is on the whole making good progress, and, apart from the blight, is sound and healthy.

HEREFORD.—Warm rains and sunshine having favoured the plantations, they are looking much more promising, and but for the persistency of the vermin, the outlook would be generally satisfactory. But the growers are compelled to persevere with washing, and are grumbling about the cost, which will seriously discount the results of the crop, be it ever so good. At present the general outlook for this county is fairly satisfactory.

Concerning foreign affairs, I have the following news :—

Bavaria.

SPALTLAND.—The development of the plant is very irregular; some of them have reached the half of the poles, but those which were attacked by the earth flea are still in arrear. The continued rain has hindered the growth, but the bine is generally healthy.

WINDSBACH.—The recent continued damp, cold weather has not been favourable, and the plants consequently look yellow. Warmer atmosphere is much needed.

ABSBERG.—The growth commenced very well, but the bad weather from the middle of May to June 10 hindered it. Since then there has been remarkable progress, and the plants are free from insect pests.

GROSSWEINGARTEN.—We have had many cold days and nights during June, and our plantations have been thereby injured, and unless the weather improves we fear that they will become unsound.

SCHNAITTACH.—Our plants, which are already half-way up the poles, have benefited by the warmer damp weather of the last few days. At present we have no report to make about vermin, but some of our surrounding districts have been troubled by the earth flea, the growth being thus retarded.

NEUSTADT.—The plants are somewhat backward as compared with last year, and the new plantations have suffered considerably from the too abundant rain, so that some of the bine will come to nothing.

BAMBERG.—The plants are not growing well on account of the unkindly weather, but they vary according to position and cultivation. The young plants are good on the whole, but older, transplanted ones are not so good.

AU.—The unfavourable weather has not left our hops without injury, but the general condition is fairly good; most of them have already passed the half of the poles.

WOLNZACH.—The bine has generally reached two-thirds of the height of the poles, and is still making good progress. It is healthy and free from blight, but some gardens are in arrear.

Wurtemberg.

ROTTENBURG.—On account of the cold, wet

weather our plants are generally backward, and look yellow and thin. The last few days have been bright and sunny, and it is hoped that under the improved conditions better progress will soon be evident.

BOEBLINGEN.—The plants on the whole look well, and are already 15 to 18 ft. high. The wet weather has hindered the cultivation.

HORB.—The much-needed warm weather has commenced, but we have too little sunshine. The plants may improve after the rain, but the present warmth makes them all the more sensitive to cold, and one cold night may be most injurious. Many have suffered from flea, and are much in arrear.

TETTNANG.—Continued bad weather, with rain every day, has hindered growth, so that it will be some days before the bine has arrived at its normal height. Warmer weather is essential if the crop is not to be deficient.

Baden.

SCHWETZINGEN.—Our hops look generally well at present. They have been hindered by the wet weather, but are now showing signs of fresh growth. They are quite sound thus far.

HAGNAU.—Since the recent continuous rain, we have had warm sunshine, which has done the plants much good. They are well up the poles, are healthy, and of good light green colour. In the neighbouring districts the condition is, in general, medium to good.

Nassau.

GRENZHAUFEN.—The weather has now improved, but we get much fog in the mornings. The mildew in the valley has not done any harm thus far, as the hops have been well attended to, and are therefore strong, and have power to resist the attacks of disease.

Bohemia.

SACHSENFELD.—Rain has delayed the work in the plantations, and on account of the low temperature, the development, especially of the early sorts, is backward. But the plants are healthy and are now growing well. Some vermin is present, but as yet no harm has been done.

SAAZ.—The bad weather has not done much harm to the plants. The early cut roots have grown well, only a small proportion being backward. Growers complain of blight, but their complaints are not justified, as when better weather arrives the fly will disappear.

POLEPP.—The condition of the plants is unequal on account of the sudden changes in temperature. We had an attack of earth flea, followed by hop lice, but the latter are not increasing. Some washing has been done.

Russia.

WARSAW.—The condition of the hop plantations is generally very satisfactory. They made but slow progress during the spring, as the weather was cold and wet, but within the last few weeks a favourable change has taken place, and the bine is growing in most districts with sufficient rapidity, and in such a healthy condition, that we may look for a fair crop of good quality.

France.

DIJON.—The continuance of strong, cold north winds has hindered the start of the young plants, and the bine is at present somewhat weak, the general aspect of the plantations being much more unsatisfactory than is usual at this period. Some vermin are attacking the plants, but thus far, no alarm is felt on this account.

Belgium.

BRUSSELS.—All reports from the country districts refer to the very severe attack of blight from which the hop plants are suffering. There is no regular system of washing here, planters being generally unable to meet the necessary expense. If Nature comes to the rescue, well and good, but this being the only remedy, there is much uncertainty as to the result, and growers are kept in a very anxious state of mind. The present crop outlook is not favourable, and it seems most probable that the harvest will be much smaller than last year.

America.

From a letter dated June 9, I learn that at that date the crop conditions were very satisfactory. Lice had made their appearance in Oregon and Washington to about the usual extent, and growers were making preparations for washing, but they generally wait for further developments, and delay their actual operations until the end of June or the beginning of July. A cable message received to-day (June 29), says:—"Crop prospects are very favourable, promising a large yield." My Oregon friend, previously referred to, confirms this outlook by his personal knowledge and his subsequent advices from the other side, anticipating that they will have a considerable surplus to spare for shipment to England.

Professor William Hunting, formerly Professor of Veterinary Science and Practice at the Royal Agricultural College, and now president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and examiner for the Royal Veterinary College, has accepted the post of honorary professor and examiner for the diploma at the Royal Agricultural College, in succession to the late Sir George Brown, C.B.

Northern Notes.

IS the agricultural labourer thrifty? Judging by the number of club anniversaries held at this time of the year in the villages of Yorkshire one is inclined to answer affirmatively. These societies have in some instances existed for sixty years and upwards, and have done a good work among the labourers, by whom they are mainly supported, and officered. One grave factor militating against their stability may be mentioned. Probably two out of every three of these village sick clubs do not submit to registration, and are not affiliated with the great parent societies. The result is that the majority of them are insolvent, measured by the standard of sound societies placed on a proper financial basis. Many of the unregistered societies pay out annually for sickness and death more than they receive, and the drain on the funds at the bank goes on year after year, the result in a few years being inevitably a crash. The club's spare the poor rates, and enable the labourers and their families to escape the taint of pauperisation.

WELCOME and much-needed rains on two days of last week, followed by showers the last few days, have set things on their feet, and everything is growing quickly (weeds especially are making a spurt amongst potatoes and the root crops). Early potatoes are showing a variable yield, but it is premature to predict with any accuracy what the general crop will produce. Clovers and meadow hay are in vigorous growth; and the corn crops are well set up and of excellent colour. Wheat is a remarkably strong and healthy plant, and has already burst into ear. Some very good barley will be produced in the North if all goes well from now. There is practically nothing doing in home-grown wheat in northern markets; factors say they are waiting until harvest, and merely attend local markets for customers' sake. A good sample of home-grown oats is worth over a guinea per quarter, and of wheat 30s. and 31s. delivery.

ALL eyes are centred on Derby this week, the Mecca of the agricultural world for a few eventful exciting days. It seems idle to discuss the utility of agricultural shows; and yet, during the early days of this present season one has heard people declaiming against the small exhibitions of stock, which we contend, have their uses and are equally important, relatively, as the bigger meetings. The small farmer finds his own local society a means of advertising his goods, and he has quite as much right to a puff in the newspapers as any other trader with something good to place before the public eye. The small farmer at these small shows can take part in an interesting and healthy rivalry amongst themselves, and no one is any the worse, but a good deal better for the annual meeting, which is, as a matter of fact, in many an instance, the trial ground leading up to future successes in better company. We should vastly like to see a small show run on lines where the prizes were in honours and not in cash. This was a feature in the early history of some societies. We now live in times when gold is paramount, and honours, as such, are but lightly esteemed.

THE energetic gentleman who writes numerous letters to the papers advocating the free importation of Canadian live cattle into this country meets with very generous treatment from the editors of newspapers. He usually receives, we note, a Roland for his Oliver, at the hands of some other quick-witted controversialist. He is still irrepressible. The mistake he makes is in constant reiteration of his belief that the question is entirely one of free trade; and that any person who fails to put implicit confidence in his proposals cannot possibly be a consistent free-trader. A Yorkshire Liberal M.P. and a Tory landlord have lately been taken severely to task by Mr. Gray for their alleged "inconsistencies." What is admirable in Mr. Gray is his pertinacity in what appears to many of us to be an indefensible cause.

AS a rule the prosperous districts are those where farms remain in the hands of families over long periods of time. On an estate which embraces thousands of acres of wold land, a family paid nearly £40,000 in rent during their tenancy, and it is interesting just to note the varying rents that were paid during the eighty years of occupancy. At the beginning of last century 13s. an acre was paid, and it continued at that figure for thirty-two years. Then six more shillings were added per acre for thirty years; then the rent became 22s. for ten more years, and a further shilling was put on for the next decade. In the year 1812 wheat was making as much as £6 per quarter, and the agent intimated to the tenant that his rent would be raised for that one year to 25s. an acre. The tenant refused to pay an advance, although he could well have afforded to do so. The farmers of those days were more frequently brought into contact with their landlords, and a greater community of interest existed between them. Has not one heard of tenants who have never exchanged a word with the owner of the soil which they cultivate?

ONE regrets to say that a drop has occurred in the price of sheep. This was not altogether unexpected at this time of year, when the supplies at market are frequently made up of culls, the primer animals having already gone off the farms at highly remunerative prices, leaving their wool as another valuable asset. Sheep of first quality that will cut up into small lean joints have not fallen so much in price; it is the coarser sort of meat that has declined. Farmers have no cause for grumbling about the sheep trade; if everything on their holdings had brought as good returns as sheep, they would be on the high road to making fortunes. The paper read by Mr. Hollings on the preparation of wool for market at the International Conference of Sheep Breeders, cannot fail to exert a beneficial influence upon the sheepmen who hitherto have exhibited slackness in tieing up their fleeces. Many of them have, no doubt, in their inmost hearts pleaded "not guilty" to the charges of carelessness. Deception once practised against a buyer brings the author into disrepute. Buyers have their wits about them, and soon know their clients and their ways. Good useful wool is bringing about 17s. 6d. per stone up here, and we calculate that this is better by 2s. per stone than the general run last year; but then this is only half the price some of our farmers recollect. The clips are not being parted with hurriedly, as farmers are well aware of the hand-to-mouth policy which manufacturers are pursuing.

June 29, 1906.

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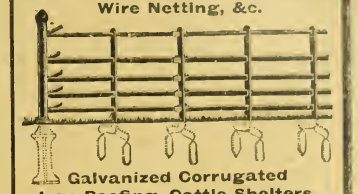
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Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

The report presented at the forty-sixth annual meeting of this Institution showed that the receipts from subscriptions, donations, and church collections for year ending Dec 31, 1905, amounted to £22,076, 9s. 9d., as against £21,568 18s. 4d. in the previous year, being an increase of £507 11s. 5d., mainly derived from new annual subscriptions. As the council have from time to time called attention to the stationary condition of subscriptions, they are gratified with this response to their appeal, particularly as it enables them to recommend the election of a large number of pensioners than last year.

There are now on the books of the institution 218 married pensioners (109 couples), costing £4,360 per annum; 216 male pensioners, costing £5,616 per annum; 606 female pensioners, costing £12,120 per annum. At this year's election were added twelve married couples, thirty males, and forty-six females, thereby increasing the annual charge to £24,276, exclusive of octogenarians and grantees qualified under the rules. The trustees of the Queen Victoria Gifts Fund also kindly allot, as last year, fifteen grants of £10 each to the five male, five female, and five married unsuccessful candidates who poll the highest number of votes in their respective classes, and are not in receipt of grants from any other source.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Crops between Birmingham and Norfolk. A RECENT journey from Warwickshire, through Leicester, Rutland, corners of Huntingdon and Lincoln, and to the Norfolk coast, afforded a rapid view of crops over a very wide area. Haymaking is a little more forward in the east than in the heart of England, and grass generally better there, for during the drought of June it was the central counties beyond the influence of the sea which suffered most. Clovers and mixed grasses in Huntingdon and further east are, however, light, especially on the higher lands. Wheat and oats on the great fertile plain of the East Midlands are generally sturdy, of capital colour, and fairly well grown. In the case of barley everything seems to have depended on the date of sowing, and the difference in promise between crops on similar land in the same district is sometimes very striking. Root crops, patchy in Warwick and Leicester, improve as one goes east, and as the dyke and windmill country is reached fodder crops generally begin to put on a more promising and thriving appearance. The potatoes are very healthy and flourishing, but of course it is early yet for disease to be making an appearance. Field beans in many parts look surprisingly well, and one sees more of them in the Midlands proper than there were a few years ago.

The Outlook in Cambridgeshire. A CAMBRIDGESHIRE farmer sends us the following account of the present farming outlook in that county:—The prospects on the whole may be deemed fairly satisfactory to the end of June. Hay crops are deficient, to all appearance, throughout the county, owing to a dry May and the cutting east winds with occasional frosts. The genial showers we are having are probably partial, but where they do fall it is hoped the grasses will thicken at the bottom. The hay harvest will be late, and where the showers have fallen cannot materially alter the light crops now. The corn crops are looking most promising now we are having warmer nights and gentle rains. The wheat and barley are mostly out in ear, and fortunately no very heavy storms have yet visited this particular part; the corn crops are all standing and promise well, providing storms do not knock them down later on. Root crops are also quite up to the average. Mangolds and kohl rabi have escaped the fly fairly well, and a good plant of all kinds of roots may be anticipated. Sainfoin and clover layers are light, but what has been already gathered has been got in in good condition.

Crops and Stock in Cornwall. THE dry, cold spring, writes a Cornish correspondent, cleared out all the roots and hay very early, and cattle had to be kept on the seeds too late, hence the shares of hay will be very slight. Corn is growing better than one would expect this dry weather. Wheat especially is looking well. Mangolds are growing well, in some fields the rows are almost touching. Swedes are also up in spite of the dry tillage. The price of beef is improving, but I don't know if this is owing to the scandal about tinned meat. Shearing is in full swing, most farmers are shearing with a machine so as to get all the wool possible, which will pay for looking after now. Sheep and lambs, which were looking very bad, have picked up wonderfully during the last two months. Pigs are still selling well, and in great demand. Farmers who are fortunate enough to have any old hay left, have no difficulty in getting £5 a ton for it. Early potatoes are selling fairly well, and there are some splendid crops. The last month has been a grand time for cleaning mangolds, cabbage, &c., and gardens, and if this hot weather continues without much rain I think we shall have an early harvest.

Aberdeenshire Prospects. THE following interesting report on the crops, &c., of Aberdeenshire has come to hand from a well-known farmer in that county:—The weather in Aberdeenshire has been remarkably dry during the past few weeks, and, therefore, quite suitable for the preparation of the ground for laying down the turnip seed. Most farmers with dirty land have taken advantage of the weather for cleaning the land and have removed as many weeds as possible.

The turnip seed season throughout the county is drawing to a close, which, on the whole, has been fairly favourable except during the early portion, when great difficulty was experienced in getting a commencement made with the drill plough. Those farmers who did not exercise patience but rushed in the seed when the land was in a sodden and water-logged condition have already regretted their rashness, as almost every acre that was sown in such a condition has had to be resown. The ordinary yellow turnips have thus taken the place of swedes, of which there was only a very small area put in this season on account of lateness. Cereal crops are greatly in need of a good shower to refresh the earth; but, on the whole, they are doing wonderfully well considering the excessive dryness of the past few weeks. The prospects at present are quite a fortnight behind an average season. There are yet many possibilities, as everything depends on the character of the weather that is to follow, and it is generally after the turn of the day before the best portion of the season for growth is entered upon in this region. Grass is everywhere plentiful, but many fields do not appear to be so heavily stocked with cattle as they frequently are at this period of the year. Feeding cattle has been such an unremunerative job that a few farmers have partially given up the business and turned their attention to sheep in the hope that the fleecy flocks will give better returns for food consumed. During the past two years sheep have done well, and it is to be hoped that the time of pay is not yet over.

Fruit Culture in Gloucestershire. THE annual report of the lecturer on horticulture to the Gloucestershire County Council (Mr. G. H. Hollingworth, F.R.H.S.) just issued, states that the applications for lectures last winter were so numerous that a large number had to be consigned to the reserve list. There is, he says, no lack of evidence to prove that Gloucestershire is naturally adapted for fruit culture, and the many old orchards in the county indicate that its possibilities in this direction were fully realised by a generation of growers in the past. Some ground has doubtless been lost, but the outlook is hopeful, and agriculturists are becoming alive to the fact that if the orchard is to be profitable it must be given the same amount of care as any other department on the farm. Every year, thanks to the instruction given by the County Council, growers realise more and more the necessity of planting good trees of recognised varieties, keeping them clean, and attending to the important items of pruning, protecting, and manuring. Hundreds of trees have been planted during the past winter, and hundreds of others, planted previously, are coming into a state of bearing. In due course the result of this wakening up must be seen, and he hopes Gloucestershire will uphold its time-honoured reputation as one of the leading fruit-growing counties in the West of England.

At a meeting of the Hexham Farmers' Protection Association held at Hexham on Tuesday the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That in the opinion of this meeting of the Hexham Farmers' Protection Association the new dipping order issued by the Board of Agriculture is unnecessary, impossible of being carried out, and will be a serious matter for the farmers of this district."

A **course** of demonstrations and practical work in field and laboratory, on the applications of science to rural life and outdoor industries, will be held at the South Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, on a convenient date (about the last week in July or first week in August) during the summer of 1906. The course will last a fortnight, and will be designed to meet the needs of those masters who, already trained in some branch of pure science, have to teach such subjects as chemistry, botany, zoology, mechanics, physics, &c., to scholars whose homes and lives are in the country, and to whom the teaching of science, as applied to and illustrated by things of importance in country life, will be of greater interest and educational value. Full particulars can be had of the principal of the college.

We regret to see that the Midland Counties Agricultural Supply Association, Ltd., which was formed to meet the combine of the National Federation of Implement Makers, and was so successful that it broke up that combine, has fallen on evil days, an order for the compulsory winding up of the association having been made at Kidderminster County Court. It appears that after the break up of the combine mentioned farmers refused to support the association, which naturally got into difficulties, and a resolution was passed by the members of the association that it was desirable to reconstruct the company, and that it should be wound up voluntarily. Mr. C. G. Macpherson, of Colmore Row, Birmingham, was appointed liquidator, and this was duly confirmed. To meet certain legal requirements it was decided to apply for a compulsory winding up order, which, as stated above, has been granted.

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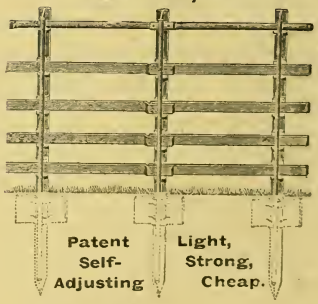

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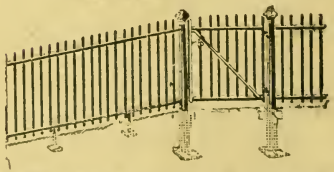

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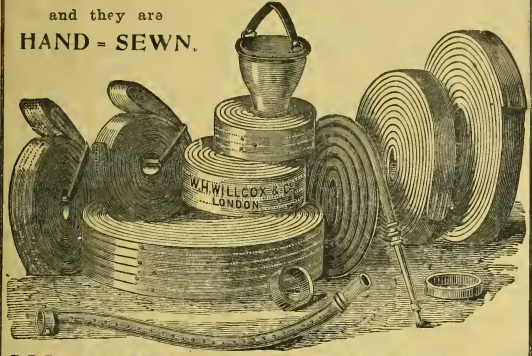

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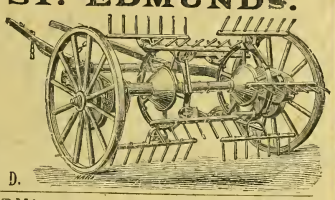

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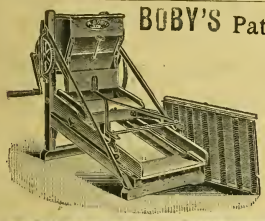

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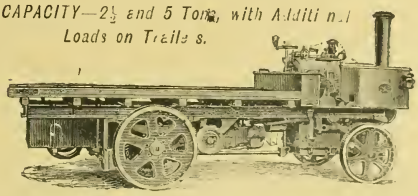

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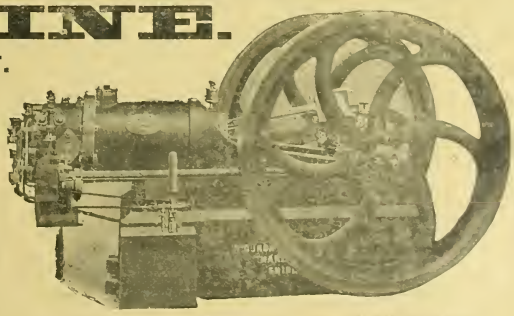

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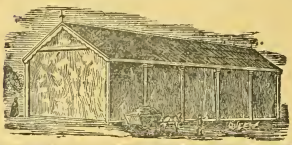

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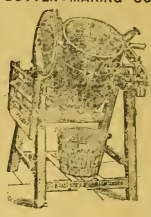

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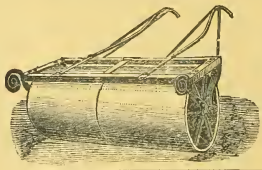

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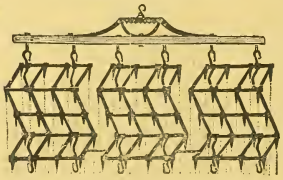

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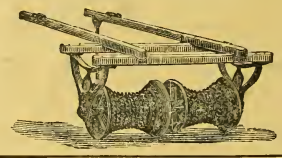

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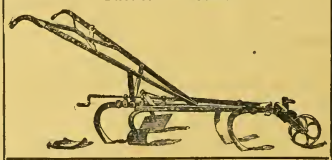

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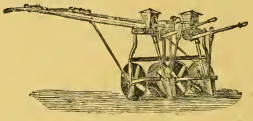

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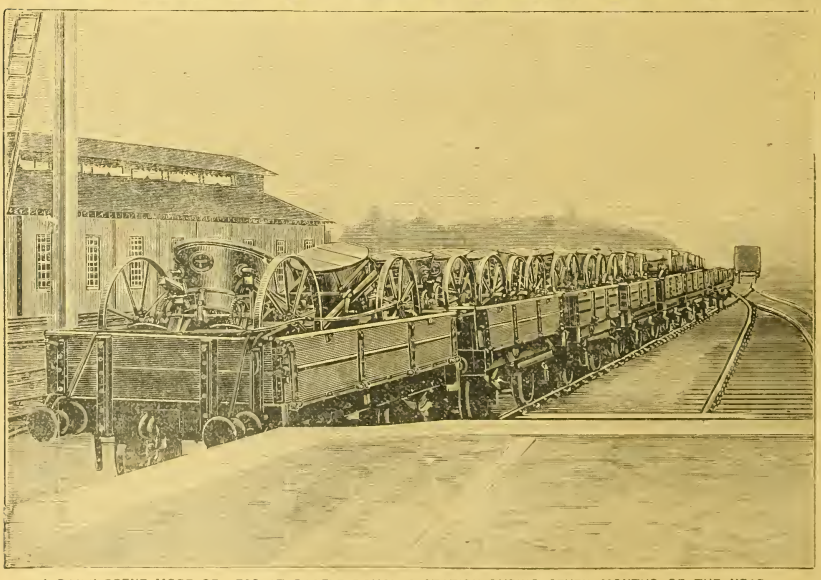

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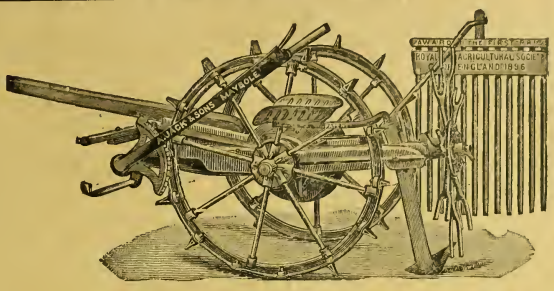

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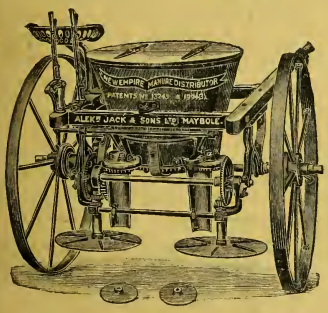

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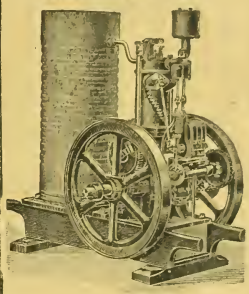

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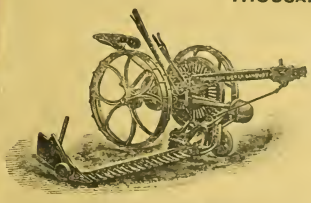

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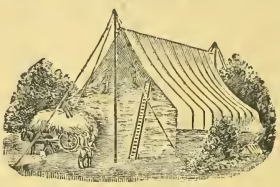

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Any size to order at proportionate price.

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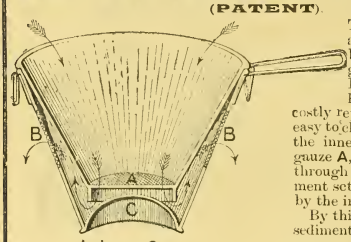
(PATENT).



A Inner Gauze.
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This new invention supplies a long-felt want amongst Dairymen and Farmers generally, as it supplies a PERFECT FILTER at a little cost. There are no costly replacements, and it is most easy to clean. The milk passes from the inner bowl through the brass gauze **A**, and then rising passes out through the finer gauze **B**, the sediment settling in the recess provided by the inverted bottom **C**.

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YORKSHIRE GRIT STONE

(made in two sizes)	16in. × 2½in.	19in. × 3in.
Without Water Trough, and without Brass Tap to Can	21/-	27/6 each
Fitted complete with Water Trough and Water Can with Brass Tap (as illustrated), also Patent Slide Tool Rest and Safety Seat	25/-	30/-

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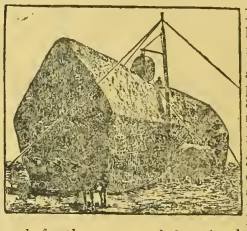

Is by far the Simplest and most Improved Implement for the Building of Hay, Clover, or Loose Straw Stacks. By its use Stacks can be Built Cheaper and in Less time than by any other Implement in use. The Low First Cost and Simplicity of the Implement is a great recommendation in itself. It is Light, Portable, and can be quickly erected. With this Fork we guarantee to deliver 35 feet high a large 2-horse cart load of hay in less than four minutes. We also guarantee our Elevator to do more work in less time and with considerable less labour than any other appliance made for the purpose of elevating hay or straw. It will work equally well on a load of hay that is sweating as on one that has been newly built.

Can be sent anywhere on approval.

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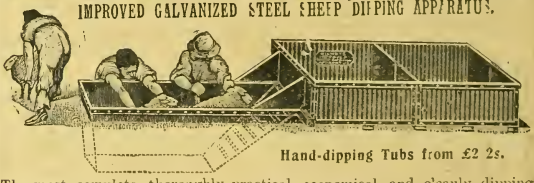

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Don't miss our Stand, at Peebles—it will interest you.

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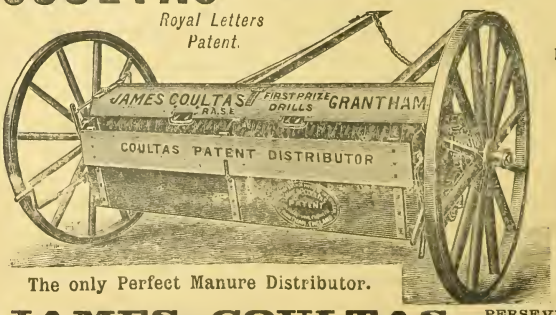

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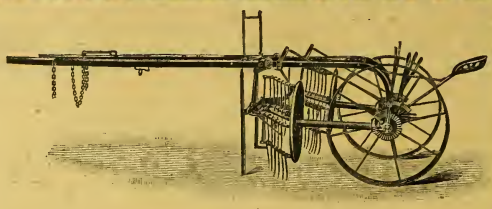

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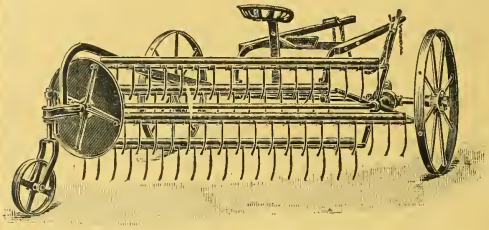

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LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 9, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Midland Enthusiasm. THE story of Derby's triumph has been told, and everyone has read an account of the great and successful show which, we hope, has been the means of inspiring fresh confidence in the Royal Agricultural Society and retrieving its somewhat shattered fortunes. We venture to grant space for one more paragraph, this time in praise of the enthusiasm of the Midlands. It is thorough, whole-hearted, and genuine, and when the Midlander sets his heart on doing anything you may depend on him bringing his whole energy to bear upon it. The clerk of the weather might have set out to do his worst on the day that his Majesty visited the show, but what did that matter? The weather was not too bad to stop the best-loved man in Britain from attending, and it had no power to keep at home thousands of his people who were given the opportunity of seeing the King and a Royal show on the same day. Who says that agricultural shows have ceased to be attractive to the million? While we give all credit to the society, the exhibitors, the Press, and the citizens of Derby for their combined efforts to make the show a success, do not let us forget the inhabitants of Midland towns, villages, and country places, who flocked in their thousands to the show and gave to the exhibition that animated aspect of enthusiasm which was never seen at Park Royal.

Ricking. IN every grass-growing district a farm without a haybarn is voted incomplete, and there can be no doubt about the utility of these structures. It is a fine thing to be able to draw your hay into a barn, unload it, and know it is safe from wet, without the trouble and expense of having to provide poles and a rick cloth. Just so, and in addition to this, when the hay is in the barn it is done with, and there is no after trouble and expense of thatching, which is a consideration in these days when many farmers grow so little straw. The only thing to be regretted about these introductions is that they have been the means of lowering the standard of expert labour. There is no great art in stacking hay under the corrugated roof of a barn, with the pillars to guide you; but the building of a haystack is a different matter. Just as some men excelled at mowing or pitching in the old days, there were also expert rickers who always played this part in the harvesting operations, and woe be to their reputations if through some accident or misjudgment the stack presented a lob-sided appearance when completed. Then came the thatcher—likewise an expert—who knew how to lay the straw on to keep the wet out, and also look neat and workmanlike. The hay-barn does away with all this labour and expense, which is a good thing; but it also reduces the scope for an expert labourer to display his ability.

The June Rainstorm. JUST at the moment when thousands of loyal Britons were shouting themselves hoarse at Derby over the pleasure of seeing their King, it was raining. This is a very mild way of expressing it, and it would be more correct to say that it was pouring. In many parts of the country it began in the form of a shower, and it rained, rained, rained for a matter of thirty-six hours or so, and provided copy for the daily newspapers as well as a topic for general conversation. In fact, the extraordinary downpour afforded one more illustration of what the British climate is capable of doing when in a freakish humour, and various opinions were expressed as to the beneficial or other effects of the lengthy shower. Farmers who left their haymaking, perhaps reluctantly, to visit the Royal show, felt a certain redeeming degree of satisfaction in knowing that they could not have done much had they stopped at home, and gardens and root crops certainly benefited by the lengthy downpour; but this is only part of the story.

The Effects on the Corn, &c. WE made a long journey on June 29 through a rather low lying part of the country, and observed several farmers disconsolately surveying meadows where the grass was submerged half-way up in water. They had not much to trouble about in this fact alone, for the flood quickly subsided, but it left mud and grit behind it which is bad for machines, and reduces the value of the hay considerably. The sight was novel, and it took us back to that series of wet summers nearly thirty years ago, when floods in haytime were general and more than one farmer was ruined. After all, a dry summer in this country is better than a wet one. It was comforting to hear some people say that the rain would do good; but pitiable, nevertheless, to see fields of oats and wheat which the day before stood erect and upright, beaten down to the ground as flat as if a roller had been put over it. It is too much to expect that the corn will ever regain its perpendicular position in many instances, and considering that cutting time is yet some weeks ahead, corn growers have reasons to complain of the lengthy and severe nature of the June rainstorm.

Work in the Hayfield. LOOKING back over a period of less than half a century, one observes the various inventions that have been made for the purpose of reducing manual labour in the hayfield. The mowing machine rattles its way round the field, swath-turners and tedders do the necessary knocking about, the raker gets the hay together, and we have an arrangement for hoisting it on the stack. Of course, we must have horses to draw the implements and men to load waggons and build ricks, but there are prospects of the former being replaced by motors, and perhaps in the fertile brain of some inventor there is a plan of an automatic appliance that will take the place of humanity in the hayfield. How different it all seems to the old days when we, as children, watched for the gangs of big burly Irishmen who used to stride into the village with their scythes on their shoulders and the blue bundles under their arms which contained their worldly belongings. Goodness, how those fellows could work! Talk about Pat being lazy; he might have been in Ireland, but not when he came here for harvesting, for he would swing his scythe from early till late in a manner that would shame many a present day labourer, and do it, mind you, on rough fare, with a truss of straw on a barn floor for a bed. The advent of machinery has robbed Pat of a good deal of his summer harvesting, and the various labour-saving devices have lightened the work in the hayfield considerably. Perhaps it is as well it should be, for if we had to look for the men to-day who could get through the same amount of slogging manual labour as the harvesters of old, should we find them? The question is doubtful.

Correspondence. OF late a good many interesting letters have appeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS on varied topics connected with agriculture, and we have received congratulations on this feature. Agriculture is such a wide field and presents scope for so many expressions of opinion that it seems to us that one of the best means of education is discussion and mutual interchange of views on the part of practical men. A farmer is a man who can never quite become master of his business, because he has always got something more to learn. But while he always remains a pupil he can also be a teacher by giving to his fellows the benefit of his experience, and, after all, knowledge gained by experience is the most reliable. In its own particular sphere the MARK LANE EXPRESS presents itself as a medium for the interchange of opinion and the distribution of knowledge, and its readers are cordially invited to give their views in our correspondence columns on matters of mutual interest and concern.

What Next? IN our issue of June 25 a cablegram was quoted to the effect that Mr. Luther Burbank, called by some the plant-wizard of America, is experi

menting in the hope of giving to the world a new potato, more prolific than any known, and impervious to disease Quite so, and the sooner it comes the better, perhaps potato growers will say, but we must wait a bit People have not got so much faith in wonderful new potatoes as they had before the recent boom, and Mr. Burbank is one of those individuals who have had greatness thrust upon them by an enterprising press. He may have made some interesting and useful introductions; possibly he has, but if he had given to the world one half the wonderful things that he is credited with, he would be a veritable Maskelyne and Cook in the plant world, and, of course, would be honoured accordingly. At any rate, it will suffice to say that Burbank's creations have not caused a great sensation on this side amongst the people who know, and we would suggest that the latest dose about the prospective wonderful potato be taken with a grain of salt.

The Turn of Days.

THIS is the term used by country folk to describe the season when the longest day is past, and we are again on the downward grade, so to speak. It is not without some feelings of regret that we write of this, for though we shall note scarcely any difference for some weeks to come, we know that the days can never be longer, and gradually the shadows of evening will gather in a shade earlier one day than they did the day before. With the farmer, in the spring and early summer seasonable work is of a preparatory and hopeful character. Sowing and planting are done in anticipation of harvest, but when the time of the turn of days comes round we can see what progress has been made, and form some estimate of what the final result will be. From an agricultural point of view the first half of the year might have been better, and, on the other hand, it might have been worse. We have suffered through some of the inconveniences of a late spring, and Jack Frost thought fit to give us one sharp sting before he departed for the season. In spite of this, however, we have had a further illustration of the fact that east wind is a greater enemy in the spring than frost, and of late years these conditions have prevailed at a critical time. Taking a broader view of the situation, and speaking generally of agriculture, the turn of days finds it in a fairly healthy and vigorous condition, and we have learnt from experience to be thankful for small mercies.

Agricultural Labour—an Employer's Views.

THE other day we heard a farmer giving vent to his feelings regarding the agricultural labour question. He deplored the fact that good labourers who take an interest in their master's affairs are difficult to obtain, and drew ugly comparisons between the time when really good men were content to work for half the wages than the biggest duffers want now. The system of education was blamed for putting false notions into the heads of the children, and making them discontented with the lot of their parents; and the man went on to describe how, when farmers were doing pretty well, they could get labour for half the money that they have to pay now, in spite of the fact that they have difficulty in making ends meet. The comparisons made between the past and present were by no means complimentary to the labouring fraternity of to-day, though in fairness to the speaker it must be said that he blamed the system rather than the individual. His arguments, from a farmer's point of view, contained a good deal of logic, and also some truth, but there are two sides to every question, and an intelligent labourer, who was present, gave his views of the situation when the farmer had done speaking.

What a Labourer Thinks.

"IT'S all very well," said the man, "but after all we are only getting our own back a bit. People talk of the palmy days of agriculture when wheat was thirty shillings a quarter, and farmers made fortunes, but what was the labourer's position then? Did he share the prosperity of the farmer, or reap any benefit from the good times? Not a bit of it; for, in too many cases, he was treated like a dog, and paid barely enough to keep life and soul together." The man did not talk without knowing something about it, for he was one of a large family, the father of which earned 9s. a week, and mother and children had to turn out and work to get the common necessaries of life, for luxuries were unknown. "Talk about the good old days," observed the man with scorn, "they might have been good for the farmer, but they were bad for the labourer, and they would probably be as bad now if other opportunities had not come by which labourers are less dependent on agriculture." In this argument we hold no brief for either farmer or labourer, for whereas the former has claims on our sympathy, the latter also has a case.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Provoking their Own Nemesis.

Frankly, the method with which the Land Tenure Bill has been met in the House of Commons does not afford so gratifying an object of contemplation that one would recur it. Remember that this Bill had received in a considerable degree the benison of the Central Chambers of Agriculture—not a body which is easily misled by the torrential platitudes of demagogueism or by the oratorical phantoms of the land nationalisers and the like. It is a body whose native instincts are conservative, and whose action is invariably marked by moderation. This method has, as I prophesied it would, provoked its own Nemesis. What profiteth it to extreme landlordism if, by yielding a ceaseless stream of meandering talk which blocks up the Parliamentary channel, as a sequel it invokes the violent strength of a Government whose force is equal to rushing the barriers verbosity and garrulity have constructed? The first result of the two Fridays' debate in the House has not been to prevent legislation, but to render it assured in a more effective guise. First, the Labour Party, as I reported last week, revolted at what, in its inexperience of the House of Commons, it could only regard as a heretical and jaundiced waste of public time. Next, the whole body of Liberals rose in revolt against a Bill—and, for the first time for many years, they found themselves almost in harmony with the position of the Central Chambers of Committee—so manifestly in harmony with the overwhelming majority of the House being thwarted by a few Parliamentarians whom I heard one of their number describe as "the last articulate remnants of a moss growth of landlordism." As a fact, landlords were, as a class, unfairly dragged into the controversy. Those personally excellent politicians who adopted this opposition attitude—an opposition which watchfully extended to the comma, the semi-colon, and the much misunderstood colon—had no mandate for their relentless infinitesimal anxiety from the class. They played their own hand, and played it, I must say, with none the less enjoyments because they were without commission or credentials.

What if Channing's Bill be Preferred?

Now, the result will be that the Bill will pass the Commons. I should say that seldom has more insistent language been addressed to a Prime Minister than was addressed to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman (true he was absent) by the hundred and odd Liberal members who met on Wednesday in order to demand that the Government should adopt the measure as its own. It was not the language of entreaty so much as it was the language—this, by the way, is the characteristic manner of the henchmen of Radicalism to its leaders nowadays—of peremptory command. Liberal statecraft is as clay to the hands of the potter before the commands of its following. Of course, it may be that with the preoccupations of the Government—with the Education Bill dragging it into the deeper depths of the morass of difficulty, and with the Workmen's Compensation Bill a source of endless legal disputation and petty dialectics—it will not be able to provide facilities for the discussion of the measure during the present normal session. I do not say it will not be possible. As a fact, these Liberals declare that two days' debate would settle the business if it were under Ministerial auspices, and if the eleven o'clock rule were suspended. However, even if this be not possible the Government will be ready—of this I am assured—to set aside two days, or even three, or even four, in the autumn session Put not they faith in princes or peers, messieurs of the landlord opposition! If there be an autumn session there will be a lax attendance of peers. Consider the rival attractions, and weigh the prospect of anything like a vitalised and close criticism of the Bill. Lord Wemyss will, of course, be there; but I would aver that even he is half afraid that if this Bill be mutilated it will be supplanted by a more forbidding Parliamental embodiment, Mr. Channing's Bill, which has now but a spectral possibility associated with it.

What is the Interest Doing?

A member of the House of Commons—a distinctive personality in himself, and not without influence in the inner councils of the Government—assured me that, in view of the revelations made as to the character of the Chicago meat traffic, and of the extent of the trade in putrescence with England, and the consequent introduction of disease into the domestic homes of our land, he was astounded at the calm indifference of the British farming interest. How far he was justified in his statement I cannot say, but he assured me that not only had Mr. John Burns, as President of the Local Government Board, received no organised or authoritative evidence of the existence of an indignant feeling in agriculture against British meat being ousted from British markets by cheap offal and by filth masquerading as flesh, but that Lord Carrington, the Minister for Agriculture, is himself absolutely unaware, unless as a sequel to his own prescient observation, of any particularly keen or vivifying feeling in the agricultural interest in reference to the matter. True, Mr. John Burns is active; true, certain other authorities are; but not as a sequel to any specific advice or deliberate representations from the great rural interests of this country. "Oh," it may be urged, "if this rivalry does not have its genesis in the cupidity of the United States traders, it will have its genesis in Argentina, in Canada, or in Australasia." These are the apologetics of sloth, of economic ne'er-do-wellism, of pitiful indifference. Here is a condition of things revealed in the United States meat-yards which may be declared to be the apotheosis of the poet Coleridge's experience at Cologne:

"I counted two-and-seventy stenches,
All well defined, and several stinks."

This revelation reopens the market from which British agriculturists had been partially ousted. This revelation in itself predisposes the British mind to the patriotic duty of buying from the British producer. To thus leave that market to the more active foreigner or the more vigilant colonist is folly—nay, is much worse than folly with the authorities actually sympathetic.

Who will Succeed Sir Frederick?

I heartily felicitate Mr. Channing on the clear and cogent arguments which he advanced in the hope of persuading the President of the Board of Trade to appoint as successor to Sir Frederick Peel on the Railway Commission a man having some conception of rural necessities and and who sympathises with them. If this column had been the means of suggesting this action to the hon. gentleman, I shall naturally be possessed by a deepened sentiment of appreciation. This much is apparently certain—that if the Minister for Agriculture is consulted in this matter he will seek to accentuate the impression which I am persuaded Mr. Channing made upon the receptive mind of Mr. Lloyd-George. I opine this from the answer which Lord Carrington made to the deputation representative of rural and commercial interests, which suggested to him the setting up of an inexpensive, practical, and expeditious tribunal for dealing with increases of rates or the withdrawal of railway facilities. Of course, there is a Bill on the stocks having this object in view. Lord Carrington is in a large measure in sympathy with this suggestion; but, after all, soft words butter no parsnips, and the promise that the Board of Agriculture, which has no executive authority, is willing to investigate special grievances, and as a consequence to make representations to the Board of Trade, is only a kind of academic expression of friendliness, is only the outward and visible sign of an inherent innocuity. What would be of much more value would be the presence of a man on the Railway Commission who would be on the side of the angels rather than of—well, the railway companies.

An Echo from Bodmin.

I had deliberately made up my mind to proffer no remarks upon the contest in the Bodmin division. I conceived that the feeling

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which had been generated in regard to the treatment meted out to the Land Tenure Bill—of which, of course, we must not forget that Mr. Agar-Robartes was the original sponsor—would embitter the atmosphere and inevitably lead to to misconceptions. I had persisted in this resolve, even though I knew of the tense sympathies which Mr. Freeman Thomas has with the agrarian interest, and his active participation in it. However, when I read that Mr. Freeman Thomas's antagonist had girded at his political foes because this Government had not done more for agriculture than it has done—"What," said he in effect, "had the Government done but extended a kind of academic sympathy to Mr. Agar Robartes's Land Tenure Bill?"—I could not but recall the famous speech of Professor James Long to the Central Chambers of Agriculture, when he declared that Mr. Balfour would apparently rather have his head off than do anything for agriculture. And Mr. Balfour had then been head of a Ministry, possessing one of the most powerful majorities on record, for six years. I am by no means a pro-Ministerialist—I deplore, as my readers know, its attitude of invincible antagonism to all that smacks of clericalism in rural education and the fantastic self-limned pictures of an impossible rural tyranny by which it giddies its own brain; but at least in this particular instance the gibe is not effectively barbed, and is peculiarly maladroit. I will go so far as to add—though I admit that this is due to the individuality of the man rather than to his fellows—that Earl Carrington is one of the most sympathetic Ministers we have ever had at the Board of Agriculture; he has all the practical sympathy of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes and a greater readiness of initiative.

☙ ☙ ☙

Are exemptions for the tax upon sheep-dogs secured too easily? This was the statement made on the Committee stage of the Dogs' Bill. The question, perhaps, should rather assume this form: Who is a farmer and who is not a farmer? It was actually averred—with what fidelity to truth I cannot say—that a man owning a cow or a colt would call himself a farmer in order to claim exemption for his dog. Well, frankly, I think the law ought to include a clear definition of a farmer. I do not see why it should not say the number of acres of land required to be farmed, and the number of cattle or sheep. Of course, in the famous case of Graham v. Haig—which I understand is regarded as decisive by the army of supervisors and revenue officers—the Board refused to grant an exemption where the applicant had six acres of pasture land and three cows. Perhaps this was too drastic an example, and with the development of the application of the small holdings principle it will be held to work a hurt to a desirable section of the farming community. For the life of me, however, I do not see why Clause 5 of the Dogs' Bill—which suggests that exemption shall require the assent of a petty sessional court—should not include some descriptive identifying terminology. But, perhaps, we are unduly fashing ourselves over the matter. Even so optimistic a statesman as Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is not possessed by any confident, optimistic belief in the Bill passing this session. The whole business is on the knees of the gods, and their chief characteristic nowadays is sympathy for garrulity and yielding to its purpose.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Concerning the fair held on Wednesday, Mr. Challinor reports as follows:—Pitch, 60 tons. The attendance of buyers was large, which brought about a quick sale; finest lots making 55s. to 60s; medium, 50s. to 54s.; lower qualities down to 47s. 6d. A good clearance was effected,

CORRESPONDENCE.

Half-Holidays for Farm Labourers.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "Red Rose," wishes to know what others of your readers have to say respecting weekly half-holidays for farm hands. My opinion is this, that a more absurd proposition was never conceived. With regard to moving with the times, a line must be drawn by all practical men at entertaining such an idea by both farmers and labourers.

All such good men, known to "Red Rose," who have left farms in order to work in some other capacity where they could knock off work at one o'clock on Saturdays, can be very well dispensed with in farming.

Good commonsense labourers can see for themselves the utter futility of such a proposition, and would banish from their minds, as readily as the practical farmer, such an absurd idea.

With regard to the perpetual and everlasting grind to which your correspondent attributes the cause of discontent, I must enter a protest. My experience has been that no class of labourers are happier or more content than the genuine farm labourer, and he would be loth to change places (all things considered) with the artisan and mechanic, and in many cases is much better off than the latter.

With regard to the freedom of the agricultural labourer, compared with the labourers of other vocations, your correspondent is lamentably misinformed or unpractical.—Yours respectfully,

June 28, 1906. WHITE ROSE.

SIR,—I am pleased to observe that your correspondent "Midlander" is in accordance with me as to the reasonableness of the farm labourer having a weekly half-holiday. The need may not be yet felt in out-of-the-way and purely agricultural districts, but farmers who live near to towns and manufacturing centres know how difficult it is to get and keep good labourers, and the reason why many of them leave farm labour is because they get more freedom and less restraint than in other occupations. I fully agree with "Midlander" that a little ground of his own is very helpful in keeping a man to the village, and where cottages are not provided with good gardens, allotments should be available. It is sometimes urged that allotments in many villages have turned out a white elephant, but where this is so it often turns out that the worst bit of ground about the place has been turned into allotments, and they are fixed in some far distant and inaccessible spot. I am quite convinced that it is to the interest of farmers to help their labourers in the matter of home gardening, even to the extent of giving them a load or two of manure and drawing it out for them in the winter when work is not pressing.

Turning to the half-holiday question, I was talking the other day to a farm labourer who has a large garden of his own and nearly a quarter of an acre of allotment besides. The ground was in the pink of cultivation, and cropped with a useful variety of vegetables, yet all the work is done before six in the morning and after six in the evening. Would a man of his character appreciate half a day a week to call his own, and would his employer be much worse off if he had it? The question needs no answering, and in these days good labourers are worth considering.

If we are to keep the best men on the land they must be granted concessions, or they will go, and I don't know who can blame them, because, when everything is taken into consideration—the long, drudging hours, the low wage, and hard work—the farm labourer's lot is not all sunshine, and it is a life that many would not be very willing to take on who prateglibly enough about back to the land. RED ROSE.

July 6, 1906.

Women in the Fields.

SIR,—It is not likely that our reformers will induce many men to come back to the land in the capacity of labourers, but if they did, is it so certain that work could be found for many more hands than are at present available? These are busy days, when the hay harvest has to be dealt with without delay, and roots stand simultaneously in need of cleaning and singling, yet, thanks to mechanical help, there was never a period when the stress and anxiety at this season were less. One of the most significant signs of the times may be seen in the almost entire vanishing of female labour from the fields. The men at work are fewer than ever before—but they suffice; the women nowadays are hardly called upon at all, save in exceptional districts. The writer, who had to make a journey of 160 miles last week across some of the most purely agricultural parts of England, saw women occupied in farm work only in two places, and one of these apparently a cottage holding where no hired labour would be employed. It is a change for the better which one is not sorry to see.—Yours faithfully, D.

June 29, 1906.

Shire Horses at the Canadian National Exhibition.

SIR,—I have been favoured with the schedule of prizes of the Canadian National Exhibition, which takes place at Toronto from August 27 to September 10, 1906. Twelve classes are devoted to Shire Horses (imported or Canadian bred), viz.:—

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Stallion, 4 years old and upwards	£20	£12	£8	£4
Stallion, 3 years old ...	£8	£5	£2	£1
Stallion, 2 years old ...	£4	£2	£1	—
Stallion, 1 year old ...	£3	£2	£1	—
Stallion, any age ...	Silver Medal.			
Filly, 3 years old ...	£6	£3	£2	£1
Filly, 2 years old ...	£4	£2	£1	—
Filly, 1 year old ...	£3	£2	£1	—
Brood mare, with foal of the same breed, by her side	£6	£4	£2	£1
Foal of 1906	£2 10s.	£1 5s.	12s 6d	
Mare with two of her progeny	£4	£2	£1	—
Best mare of any age ...	Silver Medal.			

The Shire Horse Society offer two Gold Medals, value £10 each, for the best Shire stallion and the best Shire mare exhibited.

Entries close August 4 to the Manager and Secretary, Dr. J. O. Orr, City Hall, Toronto, Canada.

Dr. Orr urges upon Shire horse breeders the advisability of making an exhibit of Shire horses at the principal Canadian and American fairs for the purpose of showing the farmers of those countries the points of the Shire horse in comparison with other heavy draft breeds. He adds that there never was a better time in the history of the horse-breeding industry of Canada to show farmers a first-class Shire horse than at the present time, and his association would strongly impress upon English breeders the advisability of contributing a representative entry and representative exhibits.

In his opinion the Canadian National Exhibition is the best horse market in America, as buyers come to it from all parts of the United States as well as Canada, including the West and North-West. Everything points this year towards a most successful show, as inquiries are much more numerous, and in the interests of Shire horse breeders on both sides of the Atlantic he earnestly invites the co-operation of English exhibitors.

J. SLOUGHGROVE,
Secretary, Shire Horse Society.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

The American Machinery Question.

SIR,—I am afraid this correspondence has not been so helpful as it should have been, considering the mass of experience both of American and English machinery which your many readers must possess. The cute American set us an example in providing light and easy-running machines. Granted. But our own manufacturers very soon learned their lesson, and to-day are turning out appliances as light as anything need be. So, at least, it seems to me, but what I, and no doubt many others, would like to know is, where in particular is it alleged that the American is beating us to-day? What implement do we buy from the States that is not equalled in workmanlike and durable qualities by others of home manufacture?

Is there any foreign swath-turner, for instance, on the market that will do better work than the best of those we make in England? Can anyone name a manure distributor more serviceable than the English one to which the R.A.S.E. silver medal has been granted? Or any potato-raiser more efficient than the Scotch machine which won the R.A.S.E. £20 prize at Leicester and the Royal Society of Ireland's gold medal? I much doubt it; but if any reader can give us specific instances where the foreign machine has proved the best or where he has obtained American appliances as good as British and at a lower price he would be doing many of us a considerable service, for we shall be glad to follow in his footsteps.

In regard to the question of lightness, by the way, there is at least one implement, I think, on which some manufacturers on both sides have pushed this quality to an extreme. Some of our horse hoes to-day are much too springy and wanting in weight to give a give a good account of land in really bad and cloddy order, as some of us on stiff and heavy soils are finding out to-day.—Yours truly, WARWICKSHIRE.

July 6, 1906.

Literary Luxury.

SIR,—I was much pleased with the poetic lines in the MARK LANE EXPRESS a fortnight since, and the writer will do well to further persevere.

especially as we have lost our amusing rhymster, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, and the humour at the present time is very feeble, and not a small proportion obtained from folk lore. The title of your paper leaves not much choice for illustration of the letter X, but that difficulty may be surmounted by consultation with a friend, especially if it is "Xenophon," who is an adept at that exercise.—Yours truly, W. T.

July 6, 1906.

The Canadian Cattle Question.

SIR,—Recent revelations have brought prominently before the meat consumers of the country the matter of the sources and nature of our supplies. The effect of our Legislation in 1896, whereby we have excluded healthy Canadian store cattle which could have been fed and fattened in this country under the strictest system of inspection, has been to render us more and more dependent upon dead meat in its various forms, chilled, frozen, tinned, &c., without on our part any inspection at the points of origin. In our groundless fears as to the unhealthy conditions of the Canadian herds, we have taken a course which, as shown by recent events, has caused us to strain at the gnat and swallow the camel.

The supply of fresh killed nutritious and healthy meat must occupy our serious attention, and in this connection I beg to enclose you herewith a communication from the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture to the Dominion of Canada, addressed by him to Mr. P. L. Gray, a member of the executive of the Free Importation Canadian Cattle Association of Great Britain, which deals fully and frankly with the condition of the Canadian herds and must prove of real interest to your readers.—Faithfully yours,

THOS. CAIRNS.

House of Commons, Westminster, S.W.

July 4, 1906.

[The letter referred to, which is too long to give in full, traverses the old argument as to the freedom of Canadian cattle from disease, and the writer states that contagious pleuro-pneumonia does not exist and never has existed in Canada.—ED.]

Nature Study—the Children—and Other Things.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space, when convenient, to remove the doubt (or suspicion) from "Country Bumpkin's" mind, as there is no room for doubt in a true husbandman's line of labour.

The cruelty to the children: I too, with "Country Bumpkin," know of Section 23 (1) of the Education Act of 1902, but when I quoted that against the "foster parents" they denied their liability to provide a vehicle, and rather than make provision under the section, they are refusing to educate (book learning meant) my children, though I am heavily rated for education.

There used to be a by-expression amongst the old hands, viz., "The nearer church the further from God." I think my case is more of "The more I see justice the less I get," as I live within sight of the town-hall on one side, and the Cathedral on the other side of the county town—justice administered in one, and right-doing taught in the other.

But to return again to the children. The officials of education, if they had provided to keep my children dry when attending school, I should not have had my second girl crippled for life, or the third girl have gone to the puny child she is now, nor the second boy the small slim object he is. What do officials hereabouts care for the children's lives? If my children had been treated as human, it would have put a block to the living murder that they have undergone at the hands of the different officials, and the children and myself have been spared the suffering and affliction of nine cases of two infectious diseases, throwing the breeding and seeding all awry, to be followed by the consequent losses.

I trust "Country Bumpkin" will ever be thankful that his lot is cast amongst pleasanter child's life than being here where the "regulated families" element dominates everything; whether socially the one with a family of children, only fit to be an outcast of or from their circular society, condemned to a reclusive life because he cannot keep an entertaining open house; whether as to national payments of rates and taxes. O, tax him, he cannot appeal, his family expenses are too great to allow of his erecting the national idol (gold) on his premises. Crush him we must through his children now; but when a dark cloud overhangs us we must have his sons to defend us, because he has taught his children to use the gun

True manhood and womanhood can only be fully developed by having the care, anxiety, ties, and everyday trouble that refine the mind through rearing the young families.

In taking my leave for a few weeks, allow me, sir, to thank you for the effort made to place the MARK LANE EXPRESS in every country household.

Yours truly, "PLOUGHTAIL."

July 6, 1906.

THE ROYAL SHOW AT DERBY.

Its Value to Live Stock Breeders.

Following the practice of former years, we have, as a result of inquiries made on our behalf, been able to gather together a very large amount of information that has been brought about, either directly or indirectly, by the holding of the Royal Agricultural Show.

It is possible that the above statement is somewhat ambiguous, but what is meant is that, as more than one of the live stock transactions mentioned below, these were brought about mainly, if not entirely, owing to the Royal Show being held, because had this fixture been abandoned, as some few would have recommended, more than one who purchased stud stock for export would not have been over here to do so, for it was with a dual object in view that the larger majority of our colonial and foreign visitors came—namely, to see at the Royal Show a collection of the best of England's live stock, and to secure for themselves as much of it as they could, either previous to or at the show, or subsequently.

There were croakers who said that to return to the country was to court failure in more ways than one. However, the result of the Derby Show, whatever it may be financially, is such that has proved once again, no matter where the Royal Show may be, there the buyers will be found; or, in other words, wherever the sale-ground of the best stud stock in the world is—for that is what the Royal has become—there the buyers will go.

The auction sales have been fully dealt with; these were in all sections, save those for horses and cattle other than Shorthorns, eminently successful, and there can be no question but that the present arrangements for holding these sales are correct, save that the sales of Shorthorns ought to commence at 9.30, and be followed by those for other breeds of cattle and horses; 3,000 guineas is a big price for a yearling bull, but this price has been given by Mr. F. Miller for Mr. J. Deane Willis's champion bull, whose champion yearling heifer has been also sold for despatch to Canada.

Mr. T. Buttar, whose Shropshire sheep sold so well at the sheep sale, reports that he has sold eighty rams and all the yearling ewes he has to spare by private treaty, leaving himself only that number of both sexes that he has for many years reserved for his annual sale.

The transactions amongst the Lincoln sheep have not been so numerous as last year, not because the demand was any less keen, but because there have been quite a number secured before the show, how many we are unable to tell, but these transactions will doubtless appear at a later date. As is usual, Mr. F. Miller was early on the look-out for the best. The Riby rams and ewes were not on offer, for these are reserved for the home sale on July 12 next, therefore Mr. Miller, in securing Messrs. Wright's second prize yearling ram and his second prize pen of five yearling rams, got the best that were on sale; 500 guineas for the single ram and 200 guineas for each of the others is the reported selling price, and the same buyer has also secured 108 other yearling rams at home, thus taking the whole Messrs. Wright have to dispose of this season. Mr. C. E. Howard's rn champion and first prize two shear ram, an excellent specimen of its breed, has been secured by Mr. Casares for the Argentine. This well-known buyer has also secured, either at the auction or by private treaty, a large number of Shorthorns and other live stock, also for the Argentine.

Mr. R. Miller, from Ontario, Canada, an almost annual visitor at this show, has made a grand selection this year. At the sheep sale several of the best Shropshire rams fell to his bid, as did also that grand pen of ewes that were second in their class, from Mr. V. Cavendish's flock. This buyer has also purchased a very excellent lot of Shorthorn cattle and some Hackneys, Clydesdales and Welsh ponies. Amongst the more notable selections made in the sheep classes, Mr. Miller secured the champion shearling ram from Sandringham, a very fine lamb this is, two yearling show ewes, with twelve Lincolns and two ewe lambs. A very choice ram lamb and yearling ram from Mr. C. Adeane's flock go to the same purchaser, a Dorset ram lamb, the pick of Mr. C. A. Hambro's third prize pen. Thirty-nine prime Cotswold sheep from Mr. W. T. Eames' flock, including nearly all his show sheep, go with Mr. R. Miller to Canada, and nine others of the same breed from Mr. W. Houlton accompany them. Two beautiful ewe lambs from Mr. T. S. Minton's choice and evenly matched trio go to the same destination, and these will be accompanied by Mr. Walford's first prize pen of ram lambs, Mr. Simms' first prize pen of ewe lambs, and four yearling ewes from Mr. J. Cordon. A pair of specially good ewe lambs, the pick of Mr. G. Adam's pens, also go to Canada. The remainder of Mr. G. Adam's ewe lambs, together with a selection from those left at home, with a large selection of yearling rams, go to the Argentine per Messrs. Poels, who were large buyers at the sheep auction.

Mr. McKerrow, one of America's keenest judges, has selected during his visit here something well over 200 head of sheep, and these include many specimens of high merit of the Hampshire Downs from Mr. H. C. Stephen's flock, which number thirteen ewes, two ewe lambs, a ram lamb, and a shearling ram, and several of this age from that capital flock owned by the Marquis of Winchester. Amongst the Southdown sheep purchased by this breeder are the following:—A yearling ram and two ewes from the Duke of Richmond, two ewe lambs and a ram lamb from executors of Colonel McCalmont, and a very choice ewe from the Earl of Cadogan's flock. The Shropshires include several of good merit purchased at the sale, and three ewes and a ram from Mr. E. Nock's flock, and a choice ewe out of Sir Richard Cooper's first prize pen. Messrs. Cooper Nephews have secured a very choice selection of Hampshires from Mr. H. C. Stephen's flock. These include his third prize yearling ram, five yearling ewes, and a specially good ram lamb.

Mr. C. Adeane's agent reports a very excellent demand for all the sheep he had for sale, and the same is the tenor of Messrs. Mansell and Co.'s report, quite a keen demand being experienced from Australia and Tasmania.

Mr. J. Milton, another of those Americans who pays us an annual visit, has this year bought a very choice lot of sheep. The King's two-shear ram goes with Mr. Milton, and he has taken out about one of the best Southdown ewes sent to the States for a long while, namely, the pick of that grand champion pen owned by the Duke of Devonshire, and then another grand selection was made, namely, that beautiful yearling ram which won third for the executors of Colonel McCalmont. A first prize Dorset ram lamb from Mr. J. Attrill has been secured, as has also a ewe lamb from Mr. E. A. Hambro's third prize pen, and a whole show lot of Cheviots has been secured from Mr. J. Robson, these consisting of an aged ram, a yearling ram, a ram lamb, and a ewe of the three ages—*i.e.*, two shear, yearling, and ewe lamb. Mr. Goodwin Preece, as in former years, assisted Mr. Milton in his selections, and this authority reports that there was a thoroughly good demand all through the live stock section of the show.

Dairy Produce.

Owing to the exigencies of space and time, some of the minor items of the Royal Agricultural Society's successful show at Derby were not dealt with in our last issue, and we now make good the omissions. First of all, we may take the dairy produce sections, and the first of these in the catalogue was the butter, for which two classes were provided and attracted seventy-four entries. The quality all round was very good indeed, and, as may be imagined, with so many entries competition was keen. In the class for a box of twelve 2 lb. rolls of butter made with not more than 1 per cent. of salt there were fifteen entries. The chief award went to Sir Charles Seeley, for a choice lot, Miss M. G. Prideaux was second, and Mr. A. F. Hurt third. The other class was for 2 lb. of fresh butter, slightly salted, made up in pounds, there were nearly sixty entries and the competition was most keen. Twelve prizes were offered, and the first was secured by Mrs. I. Baines, Henfield, Sussex, with a splendid sample. She was, however, closely followed by Mrs. L. R. Mildon. So good were the remaining samples, that no fewer than ten other cash prizes were awarded, whilst twelve others received barren awards.

There was one class for cream in which one dozen quarter pint jars had to be shown, and this attracted thirteen entries. Much to the satisfaction of local visitors a Derbyite came out at the head of the class—namely, Mr. W. Spalton, The Creameries, King Street, Derby—the third ticket also going to a man of Derby, in the person of Mr. W. H. Williamson, Bridge Gate, the second prize being taken by the second prize winner in the first butter class, Miss M. G. Prideaux, The Grange, Motcombe, Dorset.

The class for Cheddar cheese, as a whole, was somewhat irregular, and suffered from being new and not quite ready for market. The first prize cheese was, however, a credit to the maker, Mr. W. C. Speucer, Crewkerne, Somerset. There was a good class of Cheshire cheese, and here Mr. W. H. Hobson, Blakenhall, Nantwich, took the premier award with three splendid cheeses, which were particularly mild, fatty, and flaky. The second and third winners, Mrs M. A. Nunnerley, Whitchurch, Salop, and S. Charlesworth, Redhall, Leighton, were very little behind the winner—in fact, it was no disgrace to the other exhibitors in the class to have not gained a prize. The

quality all round was excellent, and deserved an award.

The Stilton cheese was very good, and the flavour was all that could be desired. In this class the competition was very keen, and the judges had a difficulty in making the awards Finally, they gave the first to Mr. A Hull, Billesdon, Leicester, for three nice cheeses, the second to Mr. J. Smith, Gaddesby, also of Leicestor, and the third to Mr. Wm. Miller, of Plungar, Bottesford. The last two exhibits were not so ripe as the first prize winners. There were four entries in the Wensleydale cheese (Stilton shape) class, but the judges considered the exhibits good enough for two awards, the first being given to Mr. H. Harker, Carperby, S.O., Yorks, and the third to Mrs. Willis, also of Carperby.

The three double Gloucester class attracted a better entry, there being ten exhibits, and here Messrs. Hiscock and Co., Stourton, took the first prize with three splendid cheeses, whilst that exhibited by Mr. N. J. Sims, Pitcombe Bruton, and the Croxden Dairy Association, Croxden, Rocester, second and third respectively, were very useful. The cheese shown in the class for Cheddar Truckle cheese was rather of a poor flavour, and the class for three Staffordshire or Derbyshire cheeses was very disappointing. As the two counties are purely dairy counties it was somewhat disappointing to see such a small entry. Both the first and second prize cheese were made at Derbyshire factories—viz., the Gratton Farmers' Association, Gratton, Winster, and the Mayfield Dairy Association, Mayfield, Ashbourne. The third prize cheese was made at a factory at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, by Mr. J. W. Fowler. There were four entries for cream cheese, and here Messrs. F. W. Gilbert and Co., Swarkestone, near Derby, came to the front, closely pressed by the exhibit of Lady de Rothschild, whilst the Egginton Dairy Company were third.

Cider and Perry.

The four classes of cider and perry drew sixty-five entries, and taken as a whole, the quality was of a very high class, for most of the well-known cider manufacturers were represented. For casks of not less than eighteen and not more than thirty gallons, made in the autumn of 1905, Messrs. D. J. Crofts and Son were awarded first prize, Mr. J. Bazley being second, and Mr. T. Stone third, but the last named came to the front for one dozen bottles of cider made before 1905, Mr. Bazley again being second, and Messrs. Tilley Brothers third. For the same number of bottles of cider made in 1905, Messrs. Slatter and Co. won premier honours, beating Messrs. Ridler and Son and Mr. J. Bazley. Of perry there was but one class, and here Messrs. the Eardiston Farming Company, Ltd., took both second and third prizes, Mr. H. Thomson, Southends, Newent, beating them for the first position.

Wool.

Although the wool classes are of comparative recent introduction, they have grown wonderfully and now form a most interesting section of the show, and one which attracts considerable attention. This year there were sixty-one entries and some of the largest sheep breeders were represented. Several of the classes might have been better filled, but most of the wool was well got up, the Leicester, Lincoln, Southdown, and Shropshire fleeces being by far the best. For Leicester wool Mr. George Harrison, of Darlington, took both prizes, whilst Mr. Dudding, Grimsby, took all before him in the class for Lincoln wool. Three well-known breeders were represented in the Kent or Romney Marsh class—Messrs. H. Rigden, C. File, and F. Neame, and they were placed in the order named. There was another class for fleeces of any other longwool, and here the executors of the late Mr. T. Willis followed up their successes in the sheep section with another win with excellent fleeces from their Wensleydale hoggs.

The short wool fleeces also made a good display. In the class for Southdowns Mr. Dockeray was fortunate enough to beat the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, whilst Lord Calthorpe had to be content with the third award. The Shropshire class proved an easy one for Mr. R. Bach, who took both first and third prizes, Messrs. W. Gibbs and Son beating him for the second; whilst the winners in the class for any other short-wool were Mr. W. Flower (Dorset Horn yearling hoggs), Mr. D. J. Thomas, and Mr. W. H. Davies, both the latter showing Rycland yearling rams' fleeces. Five entries were received for the Welsh class, and two prizes were given, the recipients being Mrs. Wynne Finch and Mr. T. Leathes respectively, whilst in the Scotch class Messrs. Dargue, Dowson and Dobson showed the best exhibits and were placed in the order named.

Bees and Honey.

The display of bees, honey, bee appliances, &c., was a particularly interesting one, and as indicating the industry it was pleasing to note the large entry secured this year, and the high standard that characterised most of the exhibits. The hives and appliances exhibited by manufacturers formed a capital collection, and the framed hives for general use and the use of cottagers were excellent.

Butter Test and Milk Yield Competition.

The awards in the butter test section and in the milk yield competitions were made known on the concluding day. The animals entered were milked dry on Wednesday evening, and the milk of the next twenty-four hours was taken for the trials. The three Shorthorn milk yield prizes were bestowed upon Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's Lady Crystal Bates, Mr. James T. Hobbs's Orange Blossom 13th, and Mr. W. A. H. Bass's Lady Dorothy 50th. Mr. John Evens, of Burton, Lincoln, was first and second in the class open to Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns, whilst for Kerry cows and heifers Lady Greenall took the two principal honours with Aieme Gold and Walton Joyous, the third ticket going to Mr. R. Tait Robertson, of County Dublin, with Belvedere Nora.

The butter test class was divided into two, the first division being for cows of any age, breed or cross, exceeding 900 lb. live weight, and the second for animals under 900 lb. In the heavy division the Shorthorn breed, as represented by Mr. Reuben Shelton's Lady Mainstay, triumphed over Dr. Herbert Watney's Red Maple, a Jersey, which was second, whilst a South Devon cow, the property of Mr. W. P. Vosper, of Plympton, was third, with a Lincoln red Shorthorn (Mr. John Evens's Burton Vic 2nd) reserve. Mr. Evens was also highly commended for Burton 4th. All the winners of prizes in the division under 900 lb. were Jerseys—viz., 1, Major Tennant's Daisy; 2, Dr. Herbert Watney's Violette; 3, Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry's Marigold. After the reserve number five highly commended tickets were bestowed.

Special prizes of £20, £10, and £5 were offered by the English Jersey Cattle Society for the three cows obtaining the greatest number of points in the competition, and they were awarded as follows:—1, Mr. Reuben Shelton's Lady Mainstay; 2, Major Tennant's Daisy; 3, Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry's Marigold. Lady Mainstay further showed her superiority in the special milk yield competition, taking the principal award, and her triple victory proved highly gratifying to Shorthorn breeders. The admirers of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns had also cause for satisfaction, in that Mr. Evens supplied the second winner in Burton 4th, and the reserve number in Burton Primrose 2nd, Mr. Vosper's Primula 2nd, Jersey being third. The high standard of the class will be gauged from the fact that sixteen animals were highly commended. Daisy took the English Jersey Cattle Society's gold medal, or £10 in money, Violette the silver medal, and Red Maple the bronze medal, the three prizes being confined to the Jersey breed.

Mr. F. C. COLLINS, Manningham, Bradford.

Mr. T. MUSGRAVE, Manby House, Otley.

JUDGES OF WOOL AT THE ROYAL SHOW.

A Correction.

Our attention has been called to a couple of errors which crept into our Royal Show report of last week. By a slip of the pen our reporter wrote that in the two-year-old bull class for Aberdeen-Angus "the first prize went to Scotland." It should have been "Ireland," for the winning exhibitor was Mr. Edward Coey, of Droagh, Larne, co. Antrim.

Then in the description of the class for a pen of Berkshire sows farrowed in 1906, it was stated that the Duchess of Devonshire won first prize. This was due to an error in the official prize list before our reporter in which the award was thus given, but a corrected list shows that Mr. Julius A. Fricker was the first prize winner with a pen by Hightide F.B., her Grace being commended.

Meetings of Breed Societies.

As usual, a number of the breed societies held meetings in the show-yard, it proving a most convenient centre, for numbers of the societies' members were naturally present at the show.

The Shorthorn

Society's annual meeting was amongst these, and the report presented proved most satisfactory, for it showed that the society now consists of 563 life members and 975 annual members, making a total of 1,538 on the register, whilst the number of exportation certificates issued during the past year exceeded all previous records, the total number being 2,409, viz., Australia, twenty-four; Canada, thirty-four; France, five; Germany, ten; New Zealand, one; Russia, three; Spain, three; Sweden, ten; South Africa, twenty-seven; South America, 2,285; United States, seven. Further, despite the fact that the fifty-first volume of Coates's Herd Book, issued last year, was the largest volume published by the society, and contained the pedigree of 2,827 bulls and 5,149 cows, with produce, these numbers have been exceeded for the forthcoming volume, the entries being 3,411 bulls and 6,200 cows, with produce. As to the financial side, it was stated that the balance in hand on June 1 was £1,123 on the current account, and £1,300 on deposit, the reserve fund being £7,650 and £505, the latter sum having accrued during the present year. It will thus be seen that the Shorthorn Society is in a most flourishing condition from every point of view.

English Aberdeen-Angus.

At the meeting of the English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society the recommendation of the Committee that the spring show and sale be held at Bingley Hall on February 5 was discussed, and it was eventually resolved to rescind the resolution on the ground that they could not possibly hold their sale until after that of the Shorthorn Society. The date was therefore fixed for March 12. The meeting then considered the question of fixing a minimum reserve, the committee having suggested £15 15s. The chairman (the Rev. C. Boden) supported this on the ground that it would have the effect of excluding inferior beasts, which had a tendency to bring discredit on the breed, but on a vote it was decided to fix no reserve.

Large Black Pig.

Mr. C. F. Marriner, who figured so conspicuously in the prize list for Large Blacks, presided at the meeting of the Large Black Pig Society, at which the secretary made the satisfactory announcement that the export trade had shown a considerable increase, animals having been sent to Argentina, United States, South Africa, Chili, Germany, and Australia, as well as lately to Spain, Madeira, and Italy. The question of a cup to replace that won by Mr. Marriner being raised by members, Mr. J. Oscar Muntz, of Goodameavey, Yelverton, Devon, kindly undertook to supply what was required. As souvenirs were also required in the shape of medals, Mr. Marriner announced that he would defray the initial expense connected with the purchase of dies. Considerable discussion arose concerning the Herd Book, the secretary announcing that insufficient entries had been received to warrant its being published. It was, however, agreed that there should be a fixed date for sending in entries, in order that the book might be published yearly.

National Pig Breeders.

The annual general meeting of the National Pig Breeders Association was held on the Wednesday, and a most satisfactory report was presented. The membership shows a slight increase over the previous year, and the financial position is still good, the balance in hand at the end of the year being £84 15s, with £700 invested in securities. After the adoption of the report, the Hon. D. P. Bouverie was elected president, and Sir G. Greenall president elect.

Mr. Howard Taylor then moved the resolution standing in his name, "That it be a recommendation to the council to decide as to the length of time which should elapse after a member (owning a prefix) resigns membership, before the same prefix can be registered by another member." Mr. Ibbotson seconded. After considerable dis-

cussion Mr. Hughes moved as an amendment, "That in the opinion of this meeting any prefix and affix once registered should remain the property of such person, and cannot subsequently be used except with the written consent of such person." A further amendment, moved by Mr. Owtram, viz. :—"That any prefix which has been registered by a member shall not again be registered in the name of any other member without the written consent of the owner for the time being of such prefix," was withdrawn. Mr. Hughes' amendment having been seconded was accepted, and upon being put to the meeting as a substantive motion, was carried *nem. con.*

At the conclusion of the general meeting a council meeting was held (Mr. Owtram in the chair), at which it was resolved that gold medals be offered in 1907 to the same societies as in the present year, but that the question of silver medals stand over till next meeting, to be held on Dec. 11 at the Smithfield Show.

Cotswold Sheep.

Satisfactory reports from the Council and Finance and Editing Committees were also presented at the annual general meeting of the Cotswold Sheep Society held on the showground on the second day of the show, and they were all adopted.

New Implements.

Although close on sixty new implements were entered for the society's silver medals, the judges after due deliberation on their various merits decided to award only two medals, giving one to Messrs. H. P. Saunderson and Co., Ltd., Bedford, for their universal motor, and the other to Messrs. W. Eddington and Co., Plaistow, E., for a section remover, for removing worn sections from knife backs of mowers and reapers.

This section remover, of which we give an illustration, consists of a block of iron, slotted to take the knife, and having a peg in the centre of slot to hold the section in position. When the knife has been placed in the slot the operator takes a cast-steel tool having a shoulder near the base which takes its seat on the top of the section and drives the latter down, shearing the rivet flush with the knife-bar. It matters not on which side the rivet head is nor whether the rivet is countersunk, or whether the section is flush with the knife-bar or stands slightly above it—the tool operates equally well.

The Universal Motor we also illustrate, and we may mention that our photograph was taken just before it started for the Royal Show at Derby. It had a good load, and travelled by road both going to and coming back from the show. It is of 30 b.h.p., can burn common oil, petrol, or alcohol, is mounted on springs, and has three speeds forward and reverse combinations. It can be used for quite a variety of purposes. For instance, it can be used as a fore-carriage for attaching to and working binders, mowers, ploughs, wagons, &c. ; as an ordinary motor lorry to carry four tons ; or as a three-wheeled agricultural tractor, all three wheels propelling, for hauling and driving machinery. It will haul and work a threshing drum, and has been used under the conditions enumerated with the greatest success.

Exhibitors' Stands.

(Concluded from page 14.)

Engines, &c.

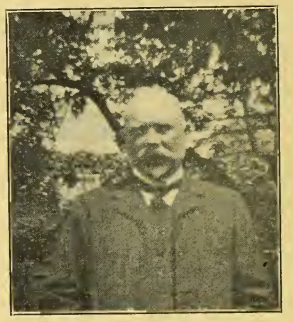
Messrs. T. Glover and Co., Ltd., Eagle Works, Warwick, occupied two stands, No. 102 and 119, and at the latter they showed oil engines of various horse power, a carriage for lifting and transporting pipes, timber, &c., and a model of patent hoisting and traversing gear; whilst at Stand 102 there was a representative display of carts, including milk floats, water carts, brewers' drays and floats, scavenging hand-carts, and carts for several purposes.

Messrs. Brown and May, Ltd., North Wilts Foundry, Devizes, Wilts (Stand No. 113). Steam engines were the attraction here, there being shown a 8 n.h.p. portable steam engine with Pickering governors, cylinder and crankshaft bearings bolted to wrought-iron supports, with patent feed water heater, patent steam blast boiler tube cleaner, patent grease separator, &c. ; another portable of 2½ n.h.p. mounted on wheels, with high-speed Pickering governor; and a two-wheel portable 3 n.h.p., with high-speed Pickering governor, patent steam blast boiler tube cleaner, &c.

Messrs. J. P. Petter and Sons, Ltd., Nautilus Works, Yeovil, and 73, Queen Victoria-street, E.C. (Stand No. 143), showed no fewer than four new implements, and they were as follows:—(1) Petroleum engine, standard Petter, 8 b.h.p., for farm or general purposes, £100. The governing apparatus regulates in due proportion both the air and oil admitted to the vaporiser, thus modifying the force of the explosion according to the load on the engine ; it also provides for the admission of water into the cylinder in a novel manner when the engine is working on a heavy load. This water being converted into steam in the cylinder saturates the charge and retards combustion, thus preventing shock while giving increased power with a more regular turning movement. (2) Petroleum engine, self-propelled, portable, 2½ b.h.p., for light farm work, chaff cutting, pulping, driving elevator, &c. (3) Petroleum traction engine, 22 b.h.p., with two forward speeds and reverse motion. For drawing four to five tons over ordinary roads, for driving machinery, and is convertible into a road roller ; and (4) Petroleum engine, with reduction shaft, portable, fitted with a worm-driven reduced speed shaft making only 25 revolutions when the engine is running at 450 revolutions per minute. It is intended to be used for driving pumps, cream separators, hay elevators, or other slow speed machines, either by means of a pulley and belt, or by a tumbling bar with universal joints such as is used with a horse gear.

Messrs. T. G. Slipper and Co., Brundall, Norwich (Stand No. 165). Here could be seen another new implement, and this was a 7 h.p. petrol engine for agricultural purposes. It has no gears, cams, or complicated mechanism, no adjustments to get out of order. Their other exhibits consisted of a number of oil, petrol, and gas engines, including the "Eli" 3 h.p. petrol engine, manufactured for the exhibitors in U.S.A.

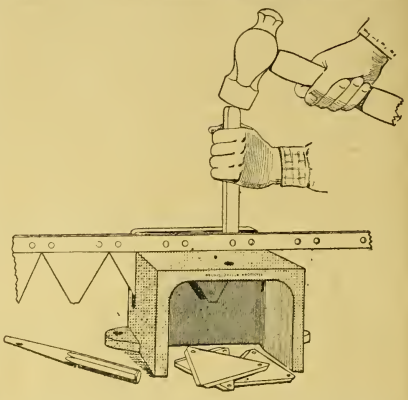
Messrs. George Thurlow and Sons, Ltd., Stowmarket, Suffolk (Stand No. 179) exhibited a great variety of necessities for machinery, such as leather and india-rubber bands for threshing machines ; leather belting and laces ; boiler fittings, injectors, tube expanders, engine packings, lubricating oils, &c. ; in fact, everything required by engineers, especially in the agricultural section.



Mr. T. STIRTON,
Rendlesham Estate Office, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
One of the JUDGES of the NEW IMPLEMENTS

Veterinary Foods, Medicines, &c.

Messrs. Corry and Company, Ltd., Bonded Chemical Works, Shad Thames, London, S.E. (Stand No. 356), had a large collection of veterinary preparations, including Long's non-poisonous specific for scab in sheep; Long's maggot lotion or fly oil ; Long's foot rot lotion ; "Niquas" new non-poisonous sheep dip; Tobacco juice, tobacco powder or snuff and fly powder, manufactured free of duty for agricultural and horticultural purposes ; Tobacco slug destroyer ; "Equisan," for mange, scab, and skin diseases in animals ; whilst, touching another side of the greatest industry they showed specimens of "Niquas" for hop-washing and destruction of that pest, the aphis, on fruit trees, &c.



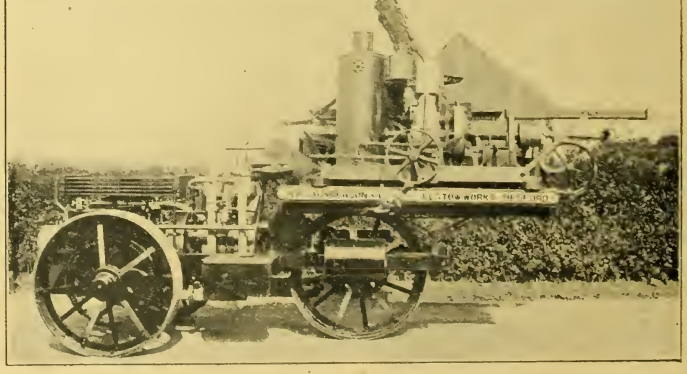
Messrs. EDDINGTON'S SECTION REMOVER,
Awarded a Silver Medal at the Royal Show, Derby.

Molassine Meal, the chief feature of which seems to be that the potash salts contained in the molasses are neutralised in the process of its manufacture, whereby a large quantity of molasses can be given to animals without causing any injurious effect, was exhibited at Stand 370, where the proprietors had a large staff of representatives ready to give any information about the food. One very convenient characteristic of Molassine Meal is that it may be used with equally good results for all live stock, be it horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, or poultry.

B. C. Tipper and Son, Veterinary Chemical Works, 43 and 45, Homer Street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham (Stand No. 371), had on view a good assortment of their well-known goods. These include cod-liver oil condiment for horses, stock, and poultry ; Tipper's Mystery, a medicated conditioning powder for horses, cattle, &c. ; Grul-os, for gruelling horses ; Lacteal, for rearing calves ; poultry and game crumbs, a prepared food ; animal medicines, oils, &c., for the treatment of injuries and disease ; hay spice, Black Leg Vaccine, with vaccinating outfit, &c. ; and finally Thretipene disinfectants, fluid sheep-dip, carbolic soaps, &c.

Messrs. E. Ernest Keighley and Co., Ltd., Yorkshire Cake Mills, Hull, at Stand No. 376, showed their celebrated Yorkshire oil and treacle cake, which contains oil 10 per cent., albuminoids 20 per cent., carbohydrates 42 per cent. ; Empress cake, for feeding, enriching, and increasing yield of milk, oil 8 per cent., albuminoids 18 per cent., carbohydrates 42 per cent ; and also samples of their other well-known cakes and meals for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. These old-established cakes still retain their popularity in spite of the ever-increasing and keen competition, for the output increased over 50 per cent. last year.

Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward, Ltd., Lincoln



Messrs. SAUNDERSON'S UNIVERSAL MOTOR.
Awarded a Silver Medal at the Royal Show, Derby.

(Stand No. 379). This stand was of particular interest to sheep breeders, for the chief exhibits here were samples of Hayward's Yellow Paste sheep dip and fluid; non-poisonous paste and other dips; apparatus for sheep dipping; and also oils, tonics, drenches, powders, &c, all for sheep.

Mr. Stephen Willson, Peterborough (Stand No. 384). The chief exhibit was the collection of the celebrated Canadian pig powders; poultry powders were also to the front, as were also junket tablets, the prices of all articles being ranged to meet requirement, for they could be had in boxes costing 6d. to 21s. tins.

Messrs. H. E. Hope and Co., of 22, Billiter Street, E.C., and Hope's Wharf, Millwall, London, E., made Stand No. 180 an attractive one with their collection of linseed and cotton cakes, cooked food for calves, special feeding meal, winter chaff spice, summer hay spice, calf rearing meal, cattle food, game and poultry spice; condiment for horses and botanic flavourer restorine; pure bones, superphosphates and compound and special manures; and numerous other of their manufactures.

Mr. C. Swaffield, St. Mary's Bridge, and Duke Street, Derby (Stand No. 193). Here feeding stuffs were again in evidence, the stand being taken up with samples of Ayre's Fatanox feeding meal and Maxilac dairy meal, E. K. square compound feeding cake, compound feeding meal, 97 per cent. pure linseed cake and calf meal, linseed cake (both English and American), and cotton cake (both decorticated and undecorticated), Waterloo round linseed and feeding cake, rice meal, Indian meal, decorticated cottonseed meal, &c., and also manures.

The Stud Company, Victoria Mills, Longsight, Manchester, at Stand No. 195, showed their numerous and well-known medicines, &c., for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and dogs. There were Horseine, pick-me-up for horses; electuary for sore throats; worm and cough powders; Newmarket blood purifying powders and Indian fluid; Stud drinks and oils, for horses, cattle, and sheep; mange, skin, grease, and thrush lotions; hoof and blister ointments; white scour mixture for calves and lambs; Hus-kure foot rot cure; medicated condiment for horses, cattle, and sheep; fattening spice and blood iron tonic powders for pigs; hay seasoning spice; and dog remedies.

Mr. T. Mott, Littleport, Cambs, is well known for his horse and cattle medicine, as well as sheep drenches and pig powders, and all of these he displayed to advantage at Stand No. 338.

Miscellaneous.

The English Grains Company, Ltd., 30, Union Street, Burton-on-Trent, had Stand No. 5, and here showed samples of pale ale dried grains, so largely used for cattle, sheep, and horses. These grains are claimed to be invaluable for young stock and lambs on grass in the autumn to prevent scouring, and for ewes and milking cows at all times, and very good for horses.

The Canadian Government (Emigration Dept.), 11 and 12, Charing Cross, S.W., were as usual well represented. This time their exhibit consisted of an exhibition motor waggon containing specimens of Canadian produce, stuffed animals, &c., altogether a striking exhibit. It was situated at Stand No. 35.

Messrs. A. Jack and Sons, Ltd., Maybole, Ayrshire (Stand No. 61) are manufacturers of prize reapers and mowers, ploughs, manure distributors, &c., but the chief item at the stand was their Caledonian potato digger, with which they have won prizes all over the world, including the R.A.S.E.'s first prize. It has been described as the world's best potato raiser, and the claim is by no means an exaggerated one.

Mr. William Cook, West End Works, Yaxley, Peterborough (Stand No. 62), had three interesting exhibits—namely, the National stacker, National horse gear, and the Champion sacklifter.

The Wolseley Sheep Shearing Machine Co., Ltd., Sydney Works, Alma Street, Aston Manor, Birmingham, showed their well-known sheep shearing machines and horse clippers, at Stand No. 206, but the chief feature was undoubtedly the display of the Wolseley-Pedersen cream separators. Twelve different sizes of these were shown and proved their claim to be easy running and easily cleaned, for all parts are accessible.

Mr. T. Newton, 48, King Street West, Manchester (Stand No. 215) makes a speciality of traps for sparrows, rats, &c., and his exhibits included a new implement in the form of a humane rabbit trap (Page's Patent). Mr. Newton's patent sparrow and rat trap, which has been awarded silver medals, has caught as many as sixty sparrows in one hour and twenty-seven rats in two hours.

Messrs. J. Zacharias and Co., Oxford (Stand No. 217). Here we saw a fine display of covers for all purposes, such as waggon, engine, drum, cart, rick and horse covers, all of improved waterproof. In fact, the stand was quite an exhibition of waterproof articles.

Messrs. Follows and Bate, Ltd., Gorton, near Manchester (Stand No. 221). Grind tones for agricultural purposes were one of the features of this stand, and they were shown in various sizes and prices. A collection of paint mills were also on view, as were also lawn mowers of various sizes, whilst other exhibits included useful domestic appliances such as mincing machines, knife cleaners, and bread cutters.

Messrs. J. H. Peck and Co., Ltd., Tarpaulin Works, Wigan, Lancashire (Stand No. 223). The manufactures of this firm are too well known to need mentioning, and all that we need say is that their display of rick and wagon and engine sheets, horse cloths, sacks and bags, &c., was one worthy of the reputation of the firm.

The Economic Fencing Co., Ltd., Billiter House, Billiter Street, London, E.C., had a good display of their well-known fencing at Stand No. 236, and as fencing is a thing all farmers require at some time or other, this stand attracted considerable attention for the fencing exhibited and the advantage of being cheap as well as good.

Mr. G. Ball, North Kilworth, Rugby, showed to great advantage a variety of carts at Stand No. 284, some very useful general purpose carts, farm and road trolleys, and floats for farm and dairy purposes being on view, whilst that useful contrivance, the farm wheelbarrow was also represented.

Strawsons, of 71, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., provided a most attractive stand at No. 286, for their well-known sprayers have gained for themselves a widespread reputation, and wherever shown always prove a centre of attraction.

Messrs. Cardon and Cresno, 61 and 62, Chancery Lane, W.C. (Stand No. 290). Here we come again to fencing, and that shown here consisted of the combined chestnut wood and wire fencing for general purposes, as well as for sheep fencing, and wicket gates.

Messrs. J. D. Allan and Sons, Culthiel Implement Works, Murthly, Perthshire, had four useful implements at Stand No. 297, viz., a patent farmyard manure spreader, a corn cart, a patent thistle and weed cutter, and a potato digger—all of which have proved most effective.

Messrs. J. and R. Wallace, Castle Douglas Foundry, Castle Douglas, N.B., were at Stand No. 300, and here also we saw a manure distributor, but this time there were four, one to sow broadcast only; another special for hop growers; the third with adjustable conveyors, and the fourth had an adjustable hopper for setting to any angle for sowing on uneven ground. The firm also showed a model of a sheep-dipper, in the use of which the sheep is put into a perforated cage, which is then lowered into the dipping tank.

The Westmeria Co., Leighton Buzzard (Stand No. 312). This was of particular interest to the poultry breeder, for there was a large display of incubators of British and foreign make, with egg capacities of from 30 to 360. Foster mothers and brooders, coops, cramming machine, green bone cutters and poultry requisites of various sorts completed the exhibits at this stand.

Messrs. Peter Patrick and Son, Wharefedale Saw Mills, Otley, Yorks (Stand No. 307), showed a number of gates, and, as a new implement, a set of improved gate hangings. Recognising that gates were liable to sag or drop at the nose, and by so doing cause endless trouble, this firm last year placed upon the market a patent hanging possessing those prime essentials of simplicity, effectiveness, and cheapness, with the result that it proved an instantaneous success, the demand being such that they could scarcely cope with it, whilst they won silver medals at four of the principal agricultural shows in the country. This year, however, they have improved upon last year's design and detail, with the result that they have made it even simpler, but still it retains its thorough effectiveness which characterised the older hanging. Our illustration shows the hanging when the gate is in the normal position after having been hung. The eye which fits on to the crook is attached to a loose bar, the top of which is formed into a ratchet, affixed to the shoe which is fastened to the artree of the gate is a lip hung on a brass pin—to prevent rusting. As time goes on the gate becomes afflicted with the dire common complaint and drops at the nose; in order to remedy this the gate has to be lifted up at the head, and by so doing the shoe is brought along the loose ratchet bar and the lip falls into position on to this bar, so that when the head is lifted so as to clear the ground it is maintained in that position, thus giving the gate the desired clearance. No tools, implements, nor skilled labour are required. The head has to be lifted, and the patent being self-adjusting, the "sag" becomes part of the past. The hangings—which are made in malleable iron—may be used along with the existing top hanging or with the clip or strap band that Messrs. Patricks have also placed upon the market.

Messrs. J. T. Hobson and Co., New Wharf, Bedford, are also manufacturers of poultry appliances, and they had a good show at their stand (No. 318). Their chief feature was the display of poultry houses of various descriptions, made to suit all requirements, and these proved very attractive to the numerous visitors interested in poultry keeping.

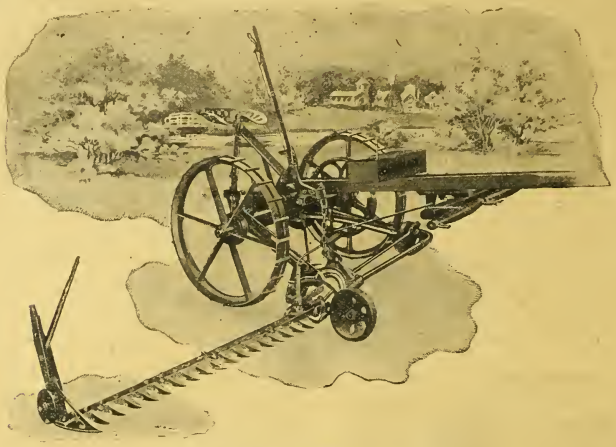
Mr. Arthur Neaverson, Peakirk, Peterborough, (Stand No. 319), is another well-known manufac-

"THE MARK LANE EXPRESS" STAND AT THE ROYAL SHOW.

MESSRS. PATRICK AND SON'S IMPROVED GATE HANGING.

turer of poultry appliances, and his patent self-cleaning fowlhouse proved a centre of attraction, as did also his patent coronation chicken house, a most up-to-date chicken house and run. Cattle cribs and sheep troughs, together with other items, made up an interesting stand.

Messrs. J. Fison and Co., Ltd., Ipswich (Stand 327), occupied a good position on the way to the sheep section, and they made a very striking display of their well known manufactures, including their celebrated fertiliser for barley, which has brought them such distinction in the competitions with which their name has become world renowned, and special fertilisers for mangolds, turnips, potatoes, grass, and practically every other crop. Their associated company, The Chemical Union, Ltd., exhibited at this stand their canary guano and other horticultural fertilisers, used largely by gardeners and market growers throughout the country.



THE WALTER A. WOOD MOWER.
Awarded First Prize Royal Cornwall Show, Redruth.

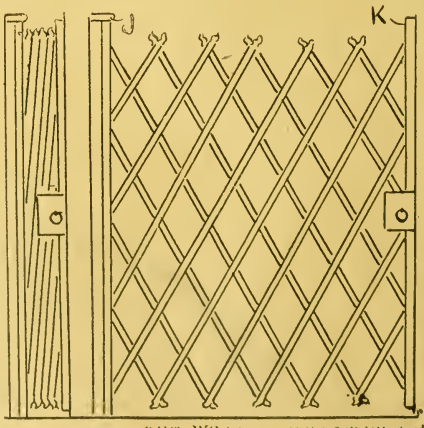
Messrs. J. P. White, the Pyghtle Works, Bedford, attracted a large number of garden lovers to Stand No. 397, for here they had a big show of choice garden seats and chairs to suit all tastes, whilst their summer houses and arbours were the admiration of many.

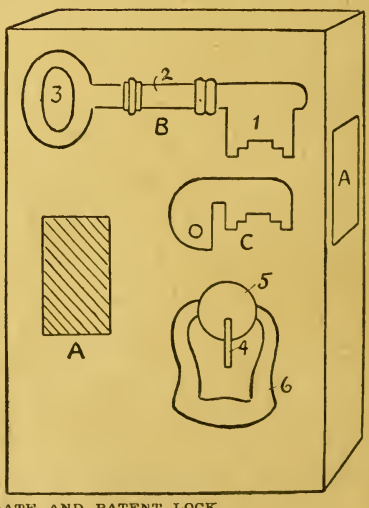
The Horse, Carriage, and General Insurance Company, Ltd., 17, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., had Stand No. 413, and here exhibited cards and pamphlets relating to the advantages of insuring horses, cattle, and all classes of farm live-stock, vehicles, etc., against accidents, and indemnity to employers against drivers' accidents, personal accidents, also workmen's compensation insurance.

Another stand of a similar nature was No. 415, for here we found the Imperial Accident, Live Stock and General Insurance Company, Ltd., of 17, Pall Mall East, London, S.W., who undertake all kinds of insurance, both personal and for live-stock.

Messrs. McDougall Bros., 68, Port Street, Manchester, and 10, Mark Lane, London, E.C., occupied Stand No. 377 with a good show of sheep dips, insecticides for hop and fruit growers, disinfectants for farm use, &c., whilst there was also a portable swim sheep-dipping appliance. The machine is fitted with all the latest improvements, including McDougall's Patent Revolving Gate, and enables the sheep to be dipped thoroughly and expeditiously with the minimum of labour, and it avoids unnecessary handling and struggling.

Messrs. E. Worrall and Co., 143, Dale Street, Liverpool (Stand No. 212) were among the competitors for the society's medal given for new implements, theirs consisting of a collapsible gate, self sustained, without tracks and secured by improved patent lock. Complaints of the cumbersomeness of keys have caused Messrs. Worrall to give their attention to the solution of the problem of how to obtain the maximum strength of the lock with the minimum size of the key. The lock and the key attached to the improved patent collapsible gate, here shown solves this problem by introducing an entirely new principle. The lock generally is of the ordinary type, with four levers. A is the bolt of the lock in cross section. B is the size and shape of an ordinary key such as would be required to shoot the bolt. Now it will be remembered that a key has three principal parts, namely, the bit or serrated end 1, the pin 2, and the bow 3. This bow supplies the purchase or leverage for the shooting of the bolt. Hitherto it has been necessary to carry in the pocket all these three parts in one, but according to this new invention only the first part, consisting of the bit or serrated end, has to be carried and the other two parts, the pin and the bow are built into and form part of the lock itself. The size and strength of the patent key has nothing whatever to do with the size of the bolt A. It is dependent entirely upon the number of levers in the lock, for it only lifts the levers, it does not shoot the bolt. The patent key may be furnished with a ring for attachment to the key ring or watch chain or bangle, and may be in gold or silver or other metal, as well as steel. It is cut like any other key to fit and lift the levers in the lock, and as the levers in each lock differ from those in every other lock, so the serrations on the patent keys of one lock differ from those in all other patent keys, and each lock therefore can only be opened by its own patent key.





THE WORRALL COLLAPSIBLE GATE AND PATENT LOCK.

The annual reports of proceedings under the Diseases of Animals Acts, &c., issued by the Board of Agriculture, will be perused with interest. The difficult task of reducing the outbreaks of swine fever has progressed steadily, in comparison with former years. Of the 817 outbreaks in Great Britain in 1905 (compared with 1,196 in the previous year), only 125 occurred in the counties of Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland; the latter county had practically a clean sheet, with one outbreak only; Durham had ten, and the rest were in the three divisions of Yorkshire, the West Riding having the largest total—72, and is consequently the blackest spot on the map issued with the reports.

Rural Housing Suggestions.

Mr. Wilson Fox, one of the Labour Commissioners of the Board of Trade, with a knowledge of the housing question throughout the kingdom, made several interesting suggestions before the Select Committee on the Housing of the Working Classes Bill last week.

He suggested, for instance, that land values in towns might be taxed to assist in the erection of cottages in rural districts, the migration of people from which had swelled the unearned increments in towns.

Another suggestion witness made was that landowners should be enabled to borrow money from the county councils to build houses. During the past twelve years a great deal of improvement had taken place both in the construction and in the sanitary arrangements of cottages.

A week ago witness sent out over 200 circular letters to agriculturists and officials of local authorities and had received ninety-three replies, of which twenty-six were to the effect that the cottages were insufficient, fifty-two said they were sufficient, and fifteen stated that they were more than sufficient.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 30, 1906:—

Period.		Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended June 30, 1906		22	19	...	...	35	22	...	...	1	315	26
Correspondingweek in	1905	14	17	...	...	33	24	...	...	...	145	32
	1904	11	11	...	...	65	47	...	...	1	108	46
	1903	20	13	...	...	57	28	...	...	...	235	39
Total for 26 weeks in 1906		772	524	...	...	570	627	...	...	287	3,440	634
Corresponding period in	1905	750	545	...	...	1,054	789	...	...	643	2,024	422
	1904	818	567	...	...	1,487	1,387	...	...	1,056	3,863	798
	1903	969	429	...	...	1,135	883	...	...	1,154	4,191	859

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

SHOWS.

East Kent.

This year the East Kent Agricultural Society joined forces with the Ashford Horse Show Society with highly successful results. A better show has never been held under the auspices of the East Kent Society, whose eleventh annual show this was, it being the second time during that period in which its tents have been pitched at Ashford. The attendance, like the entries, was a record one, and it has seldom been our pleasure to visit a better arranged show ground, nor have we found at any show this season greater courtesy and consideration given to the representatives of the press.

The show, like the rest of its class, can broadly be divided into four principal sections, the spectacular displays in the horse ring, the live stock, the implement, and the produce. The first section is an all-important one, one that probably draws the far larger proportion of the attendance; in fact, there are but few even of the regular showyard attendants who do not at some time or other take a quiet turn in the grand stand, and from there watch with interest the attractions provided for their entertainment. How long it will be before we have at these shows some kind of competition for motors we do not know, but one of the features around the ring side was the very large number of motor cars arranged in the places that in the immediate past used to be occupied by carriages. The occupants of these to a large extent were lovers of horse flesh, for many had entries in these classes. The displays in the ring were excellent, in many instances much above the average of those seen at county shows. The first-class hunters that won for Mr. W. Winans, Mr. J. C. Buckland, and Lord Harris were of high merit. The Hack class under saddle were good, and some fine displays of well-mannered and well-ridden horses were given. Mrs. W. C. N. Chapman, with Messrs. O. T. Price and J. C. Buckland were foremost winners. An interesting class of polo ponies, judged with stick and ball, was an attractive feature, Mr. O. T. Price taking leading honours. It is not necessary to expatiate upon the merit of the driving displays, single, pairs, or tandems, further than to mention the winners included those excellently trained and well brought out horses owned by Messrs. E. H. Goad, W. S. Cunard, and W. Winans, who won in the open classes for single Harness Horses. Mr. E. H. Goud, whose beautifully-manered Lord Pick-em-Up and Prince Pick-em-Up that won for pairs, closely followed by Mr. W. S. Cunnard's excellent pair Wild Lucy and Jenny Lind, that won as best tandems after an exciting and very close contest with Mr. W. Winans' Mafeking and Pickenham Gabriel that came in for third honours in the class for pairs.

The jumping contests, ever a source of great amusement, were equally so upon this occasion. The entries were large, and the contests were watched by a very large number of visitors, more than a thousand being in the grand stand—quite a record number for this show.

The live stock section may be dealt with briefly under three main headings—horses. cattle, sheep.

The horses were principally of the Shire horse breed, few but these were entered in any of the classes. Mr. Walpole Greenwell, Mr. H. G. Harris, and Lord Hothfield supported the open classes, in which were also some very capital specimens of the Shire breed sent by Messrs. F. de B. Collard, Ernest Neve, and W. F. Wood, tenant farmers of that type that have done so much to make agriculture a success in England. The above were owners of the principal winners in these classes. The local classes were of good average merit, and well supported, Mr. Ernest Neve's Amberfield Rambler, first in the brood mare class, whose capital foal was first in the foal class were real good Shires. Mr. F. de B. Collard, Mr. A. Amos, Mr. F. W. Wood, and Mr. T. D. Harris shared in the other awards given in these classes. The quality of many of the entries, particularly some of the geldings, was very good indeed.

The cattle section had classes in it for the undermentioned breeds. Jerseys came first in the schedule; these were represented by some good specimens. Amongst the best were Black Pearl and Alfriston's Pride that were first for Mrs. McIntosh and Mr. A. Miller-Hallett in the two bull classes.

The cow and heifer class was a good one, here Mr. Miller-Hallett's Vanilla II took first, her herd mate Coral, a beautiful cow, was rn, having between them Mrs. McIntosh's symmetrical Ingate. There were two heifer classes, Mrs. McIntosh was first in both of them with specially good ones, North Star taking the lead for two-year-olds, and Havering Glorissa VI for yearlings.

The Shorthorn classes were small, but some very valuable animals were to be found in them, in fact amongst the winners were some very fine heifers, notably Messrs. Denny's Chiddingstone Cherry, a first-class yearling heifer of high merit, and Mr. R. J. Balston's Sweet Briar, a two-year-old of choice quality. Amongst the older animals may be mentioned Mr. J. Colman's Hawthorne Flower, and the same owner's bull, Millhill's Favourite, the latter first in its class, and the former second.

A very good entry of Sussex cattle were found in the three classes allotted this breed, the Hon. R. P. Nevill won in the bull class with a very fine young bull, Lord Percy, the Earl of Derby and Mr. F. Winch shared the honours in the cow and heifer class, and the latter won first honours in the yearling heifer class with Tilsden Jessie, a very level youngster.

The sheep section was one of the best we have ever seen. The entry made by the Kent or Romney Marsh breeders was both the largest and the best we have ever seen at this show. The yearling ram class had an entry of thirty-three, and all the other classes were fully as well supported. Some said the show was notable on account of the many alterations made in the awards as compared with those made at the Royal, but this is hardly the case, because whilst the awards were not in all cases the same, to the careful critic there were in practically all cases good grounds to support the alterations. For instance, Mr. C. File, who was first and fourth at the Royal, took a similar position here, but the winning Royal sheep was not first, that position being occupied by the Royal fourth; this award really corrected an error made at the Royal. Mr. W. Millen's old ram was first and champion here, but only second at the Royal, an award occasioned by the alteration of judges, those at Ashford giving preference to this type of sheep. Mr. H. Rigden won first in the store ram class with a grand ram of fine merit. Messrs. C. File won for yearling ewes, W. Millen for ram lambs, and H. Rigden for ewe lambs. A new class for ewe tegs in the full fleece was well supported, an inovation for this breed, and one we should like to see continued. Mr. F. Neame owned the winners. The Southdowns were a good lot, particularly that very superior entry made by Colonel Hammond, whose flock has not been out this season at previous shows; these won most of the principal awards.

The produce section consisted of one of the largest and best entries of wool we have seen for some long while. Thirty-two entries were found in the Kent wool classes; Messrs. Kelsey and Rigden won in the smaller Southdown classes, Mr. W. Dockeray, who won first prize for this wool at the Royal, took first again in all three classes here. The butter classes were of high merit, and the competition in them was very close for the leading entries.

The implement section of the show was well supported. Several medals were offered for competition, and a prize of £5 was offered for the best set of cattle food preparing machinery, including oil or gas engine. The entries were fairly numerous, and most of the local firms had stands for machinery, that appertaining to the hop and fruit industries taking a leading place. The usual stands for cattle food vendors and the cattle medicine sellers were as usual, and, taking a brief survey of the catalogue, it can be said this section was equally comprehensive and well supported as any in the show.

Doncaster.

The Doncaster Agricultural Society decided to conduct this year's show on quite a different basis to former years—in fact, to turn it from a two days' show into two separate and complete one day shows, the stock shown on the first day leaving at the close and an entirely fresh lot coming in on the second day. Whatever be the ultimate effect upon the show's prestige the council hope by the new arrangement to gain one or two important advantages. Firstly, and most important, they will save the heavy cost of erecting the shedding necessary for the protection of stock that remains on the showground during the night. In the second place they hope to give more encouragement to the tenant farmers and smaller men, who as a rule cannot afford to send their stock to a show for two days. The experiment has been watched with interest in all parts of the country, and that it has proved successful—this year, at any rate—can hardly be doubted, for the entries were 1,148, as compared with the previous record of 995, and the attendance of visitors marked a great improvement on recent years.

On the first day the horses shown comprised agricultural, hunters, and two classes of Hackneys, and though losing somewhat by the smaller display, they made, nevertheless, a good show, quality being quite up to the average, the agricultural horses being particularly strong. The whole of the cattle were shown on the first day, and they made quite an imposing display, for the number (eighty-five) was higher than at any show during the past six years, and the quality, too, was quite up to the average, some of the best Shorthorn strains in the country being represented. Indeed, with the exception of three classes of Jerseys, the show was entirely made up of Shorthorns, and as usual, Mr. George Harrison, of Darlington, was a conspicuous winner. Sheep, also shown on first day, were not a strong feature of the show, though individually the exhibits were most commendable, whilst the horticultural display had its attractions. For the delectation of those who found the judging of horses, cattle, and sheep a trifle slow on the first day, there was a jumping competition and a "push ball" contest.

On the second day the remaining Hackney classes, saddle and harness horses, dogs and poultry, occupied the showyard and attracted over 3,000, whilst after six o'clock the admission fee was reduced to sixpence for the evening sports and gala, the public poured into the showground in large numbers. Hackneys were not very numerous, though the quality of the animals which paraded was very satisfactory, as may be imagined when it is stated that Mr. H. W. Hickling, of Adbolton, Nottingham, had several excellent representatives forward. The saddle and harness classes brought out some good animals, whilst there were were some creditable tradesmen's turn outs. An average number of dogs were benched, and quality was well maintained, whilst as to the poultry, these made a capital display.

Ripon.

The show of the Ripon Agricultural Society was a successful one all round, the entries being better than ever, both as regards quantity and quality, whilst the weather being fine there was a large number of visitors. Ripon has always a few first-rate hunters to show, and certainly the contests that aroused most interest were two in this section—one for four-year-olds by a thoroughbred, and the other for hunting gelding or mare five years and upwards. The judges found the best four-year-old in a fine chesnut belonging to Messrs. Snowden, of Starbeck, and the pick of the five-year-olds was, curiously enough, shown by the same firm. Mr, Fletcher's three-year-old, which headed its class, also carried off the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal. A small but good class of roadster brood mares was led by a shapely four-year-old chesnut—Padeley Princess—belonging to Messrs. Board and Carling, and she was given the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal. The harness classes included some smart turnouts, whilst the classes for heavy horses were all well filled, and included very creditable exhibits, especially when it is remembered that most of them were confined to the district. In the cattle section there were some typical Shorthorns, and the dairy cattle attracted much attention, there being forward some pretty Channel Island cows and heifers, the best of which belonged to Mr. T. R. D. Wright and Sir Reginald Graham. Ripon being so near to a famous sheep-breeding district, it was only to be expected that there should be a good show of Wensleydales and Mashams.

County Cork.

The Jubilee Show of the County Cork Agricultural Society was held last week in beautiful weather, and attracted a large attendance of visitors. The society, which some years ago fell upon evil times, seems now to have completely recovered and is prospering, this year's exhibition being in all respects excellent. Horses were a strong department, furnishing about 400 entries, and it is not too much to say that the three-year-olds likely to make hunters have not been surpassed at Balls Bridge. The sheep display showed a small falling off compared with last year, but the quality was well maintained. There were no cattle on exhibition, as these were embraced in the spring show held some months since, but there was a large and excellent display of dogs, which was quite one of the features of the show.

At a meeting convened by the Liberty and Property Defence League held last week (Lord Wemyss presiding), a resolution condemning the Land Tenure Bill was passed, and a committee was appointed to watch the further stages of the Bill. In the notice of meeting the league said:—"If this Bill becomes law, all security in private property in land and houses will be at an end, and all contracts and agreements relating thereto little better than waste paper."

On Monday, Messrs. Thomas, Peyer, and Miles offered several important maltings and two brewery concerns by auction at the Mart, London, but as evidencing the prevailing depression in this class of security, not one was sold, though, judging from the large attendance, the sale excited considerable interest, and it would appear from the auctioneer's remarks that biddings for the respective properties did not fall far short of the reserves, so there is reasonable prospect of some being sold privately. For two malthouses, situate in Norman Street, Lincoln, the highest bid was £7,300, and for two other malthouses, situate on Brayford Wharf, Lincoln, £4,400. A granary and drying kiln, belonging to Messrs. Bass and Co., and used in connection with the maltings, was also bought in.

SHOW GOSSIP.

To-morrow (Tuesday) is the first day of the Peterborough Agricultural Society's great summer show, noted for its display of horses, and its hound shows. The society has drawn up the usual attractive programme for each of the three days, and with a continuance of the fine weather, this year's fixture should be the most satisfactory one of a successful series. The show will open at 8.30 on Tuesday and at 9 on the other days, and until it closes (7 o'clock) there will be a continual programme of interest for the visitors, and as a wind-up on the last day there will be a firework display, which should appeal to the general public, for after two o'clock on that day the admission is only sixpence.

As the result of their show on Whit Monday the Lydney Farmers' Club are £30 better off now than before the event, as the receipts total £320 and the expenses only £290. Close on £100 was taken at the gate—a most respectable sum for a local club, and the members are to be congratulated on the success of the show. In fact, the club is in a very sound position, for its members number over 260, and it has in hand a balance of nearly £400.

For their society's fourth annual show, to be held on August 23 at Ruthven, the Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society have drawn up an attractive prize schedule, containing over two hundred classes, and providing for cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, dogs, dairy produce, poultry, pigeons, etc. The class prizes are good ones, and in addition there are no fewer than fifty-seven specials, so that a good entry should be received. The majority of the classes are confined to Denbighshire and Flintshire, but there are some open to all North Wales, whilst the leaping competition is open to the United Kingdom. Prizes, schedules, and entry forms can be had of the secretary, Mr. T. Welsby, of 9, Wellington Road, Rhyl.

The eleventh annual show of the Upholland and District Horse, Dog, &c., Society will be held on the 25th inst., and gives promise of being a most successful event. Horses are the feature of the show, but classes are provided for cattle, dogs, poultry, rabbits, cats, cavies, &c., so that visitors will have quite a variety of stock to inspect. The society belongs to the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies, so that entries finally close at the time stated, viz., dogs, Friday the 20th inst., and other exhibits on the following day, the latest hour for receiving on both days being 10 a.m. Mr. G. H. Scrivener, Greenfield, Upholland, Wigan, is the hon. sec.

The schedule of prizes has now been issued for the East Berks Horse Show Society's tenth annual exhibition, which will be held at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse on Thursday, August 23. This show has a widespread reputation, and the society do well to foster it by offering good prizes and providing a large variety of classes. The Hackney, Hunter, and Shire Horse Societies all contribute their valuable medals, whilst there are other specials, including a thirty guinea challenge cup, presented by Miss F. Langworthy, for the best turned out private pair-horse carriage, with coachman and groom or footman on box, in livery. Special mention may be made of the produce classes introduced last year, and which undoubtedly proved popular, for entries have been received from breeders all over the country. Prize schedules, &c., can be had of the the hon. secretary, Mr. C. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

The Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society will hold their annual show on Monday, August 6, at Lutterworth, and for it they provide an attractive prize schedule. It includes open classes for Shire foals, heavy and light weight hunters, jumping, driving, &c., whilst the specials include the Shire Horse and Hunter Improvement Societies' silver medals. Entries close Monday, the 23rd inst., or at double fees on Saturday, July 28. For schedules and particulars apply to the secretary, Mr. T. C. Bodycote, Lutterworth.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. LEWES T. LOVENDEN PRYCE, Welsh National Agricultural Society.

The Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show and jumping and driving competition—an event which is ever increasing in popularity—will take place on Wednesday, August 15, entries closing on August 1. Schedules and entry forms can be had on application to Mr. W. Paine, Sumner House, Montague Street, Worthing.

The Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society's Show takes place to-morrow (Tuesday), and should prove most successful, for numerous classes with good prizes have been arranged, the sections including horses, cattle, produce, poultry, dogs, cavies, &c., whilst as special attractions there will be leaping and driving competitions.

At Coleshill Horse Show, to be held on September 19, over £160 will be offered in prizes for jumping, driving, turn-outs, &c. Entries will not close until September 5, and forms, prize schedules, &c., can be had of the secretary, Mr. W. H. M. Barton, Church Hill, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

Corridor Milk Trains.

The London and North-Western Railway Company are making a new experiment in the carriage of milk, and the results will be watched with interest by dairy farmers. Recognising the importance of the rapid and careful conveyance of milk, the company have recently constructed at their carriage works, at Wolverton, ten vans of novel design to be employed exclusively in the milk traffic. Two of the new vehicles will be held in reserve, and the remainder are now engaged in making double journeys daily to the stations serving the great pasture districts of Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, from which a very large quantity of milk is provided for use in the metropolis.

Two objects have been aimed at by the designers of the cars. The first is to produce a train which shall save time at stopping-places, and permit of the sorting of the churns during running. The second and principal desire of the builders is to secure that the milk shall be free from any possibility of contamination in transit. It is claimed that the train admirably carries out these features, and that it embodies all that science can suggest for dust-proof, well-ventilated cars.

The whole train is coupled up with gangways so that there may be communication from end to end. The cars are 50 ft. long, 8 ft. wide, and 7 ft. 10 in. high in the centre. On either side there are doors sliding open to a maximum width of 5 ft., to which the platform trolleys, laden with milk churns, may be brought, and the car loaded with a minimum disturbance of the milk.

A little trolley inside the train will enable the four railway servants who compose the "crew" to sort out the churns for Willesden, Addison Road, and other portions of the metropolis served by the North-Western system, and to place them in the proper cars, thus avoiding a long delay at an intermediate station. The vans containing milk for the supply of Kensington and north-western districts are detached at Willesden, and the stop at that junction need be no longer than the time occupied in splitting up the train.

Rapid transit of any perishable commodity is, of course, a necessity. But while the new service is considerably faster than the old, and that alone is an important matter, the improvements made in the ventilation of the cars are so great that if the new train took half as long again as the milk trains under the old system it would still be a great advance, from a hygienic point of view.

Andover Wool Fair.—At this fair on Monday prices showed a considerable advance over those of last year, as much as 2d. per lb. increase being realised. Over 50,000 fleeces of wool were pitched, and every lot was sold, the top price obtained being 15d. per lb.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

HORSE AND SHEEP SHOW, AUGUST 28, 29, 30, 31.
For Prize Lists and Entry Forms apply to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.
By Order,
RICHARD J. MOSS, Registrar.

UPHOLLAND and DISTRICT SHOW (Lancashire Federation), WEDNESDAY, JULY 25:—Judges—Cattle and Pigs: C. Hartley, Esq. Horses and Turn-Outs: T. F. Hutchinson, Esq. Dog Entries close July 20, 10 a.m.; other Exhibits July 21, 10 a.m. Schedules G. H. SCRIVENER, Greenfield, Upholland, near Wigan.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW will be held at HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE (between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks), on THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1906.
Entries close July 31, or with double fees, August 7.
Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

N.B.—DON'T FORGET!
ENTRIES CLOSE NEXT WEDNESDAY.
WELSH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
President:
Sir POWLETT MILBANK, Bart.
Will hold its SHOW AT ABERYSTWYTH ON AUGUST 8 AND 9, 1906.
Over £1,000 in Prizes. Entries close next Wednesday, July 11. Schedules and particulars from—
THE SECRETARY,
Cambrian Chambers,
Aberystwyth.

FELTON AND WARKWORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. AMBLE SHOW, MONDAY, AUG. 6, 1906.
Extra Prizes for Open Competitions in Horse Leaping. Entries close July 19. Prize Lists and Entry Forms on application to the Secretary, J. BARKER, High Stanners, Morpeth.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW at WOLSINGHAM, On WEDNESDAY, August 15, 1906.
Upwards of £1,000 given in Prizes for
Cattle, Sheep Dog Trials,
Sheep, Dogs,
Horses, Pigeons,
Leaping, Poultry,
Milking Demonstrations, Rabbits,
Implements and Harness, Butter,
Eggs, &c.
Entries close Monday, July 30, 1906.
Prize Schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham.
Prize Schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,
WM. CHRYSTAL,
Houghton-le-Spring.

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.—54th ANNUAL SHOW, THURSDAY, AUG. 9, 1906.
PRIZES—£600—PRIZES.
Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hunters, Shires, Pigs, Dogs, Cats, Poultry, Turn-Outs and Leaping. Schedules, W. A. BENSON, Silverdale, Staffs.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, Wednesday, July 25, 1906. President Capt. Clive Behrens. Entries Close July 7. Schedules and Entry Forms on application to the Secretary.—THOS. MITCHELL, The Mount, Malton.

EASINGWOLD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
The next SHOW will take place at EASINGWOLD on SEPTEMBER 19, 1905. For Schedules of Prizes apply
JNO. J. PENTY.
85, Stanhope Road,
Darlington.

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906. £160 in prizes, JUMPING, DRIVING, TURNOUTS &c. Entries close September 5, 1906—W. H. M. BARTON, Sec., Church Hill, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

HARROGATE AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW.
President: HY. WILLIAMS, Esq., J.P.
will be held
On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906.
About £500 in Prizes. Schedules now ready. G. SAVILLE,
Park View, Harrogate.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	s. d. 15 0	s. d. 12 6	s. d. 15 0	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d 12 6	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. 15 0	s. d. 15 0	s. d. —	s. d. —	s. d. —
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and 1 added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Scientific Feeding of Horses.

The Paris "Compagnie Generale des Voitures," or General Cab Company, owns nearly 12,000 horses, and it is, therefore, essential that the methods of feeding this large number should be most carefully thought out so as to combine the greatest economy with the production of the maximum amount of power and endurance in the animals.

To obtain reliable guidance a research department was established some time ago, and it is its duty to investigate the difficult problems connected with this important matter

The various food materials are bought in large quantities, and for the most part come from abroad; at the present time they consist chiefly of oats from the Danube, although a portion are purchased in France, peas from the East Indies, American maize, locust beans from Algiers, brewers grains, molasses fodder from the beet sugar factories, and a compound special cake (granule) prepared by the company.

Two points are most rigidly adhered to:—

1. All the materials are thoroughly cleaned by special machinery to remove any foreign substances which might interfere with the digestive process and are sometimes of an injurious nature.

2. The different materials before being given to the horses are subjected to a most thorough intermixture, as numerous experiments have proved that by this process the food is more completely assimilated.

The special cake is prepared from suitable materials selected according to the relative cheapness of the food-units in the different materials offering on the market at the time of purchase; thus, among other things, bran, rice-offal, brewers' grains, are bought, and then mixed according to a calculation of the food-units, the following analysis in the prepared cake being aimed at:—Albuminoids 21·7 per cent, fat 5, carbohydrates 20 to 30, ash about 6 per cent, including phosphates 1 to 2, and lime about ¾ per cent. Hay and horse-beans are not employed at present, being too dear.

Rations. The daily rations differ for "resting" and "working" horses. On resting days no oats are given, and the ration consists of 6·17 lb. chopped oat straw, 4·62 lb. maize, 2·64 lb. crushed peas, 2·64 lb. locust beans, 2·20 lb. brewers' grains, and 1·10 lb. special cake, altogether 19·37 lb. This mixture is given to the animals in four equal parts.

For "working" horses; before leaving the stall a fourth portion of the above ration is given; in the course of the day, as convenient, a ration made up of 7·7 lb. oats and 1·10lb. crushed peas, and after return to the stall a third ration of 6·6 lb. molasses straw (60 per cent.) and 1·76 maize, making altogether in a working day 22 lb.

Bedding. The atmosphere in the stables is kept quite sweet, which is due to the exclusive use of peat-moss bedding. The horses stand on a thick mattress of this material, and the parts soaked with urine are daily replaced. About 17 lb. per horse per week are thus removed. The manure finds a ready sale in the neighbourhood.

Disease. The company takes every precaution to protect their animals from infectious diseases. Freshly bought horses are inoculated before being brought to the stables. Isolated stalls are available for horses suffering from disease or accident.

Feeding System. The system of feeding is the result of a long series of investigations and trials by the experimental department. The trials were conducted with thirty horses chosen for their average condition and capacities for a long period under careful supervision.

These trials led to the important and interesting conclusion that the previous nutritive ratio should be abandoned. For a resting horse it was in the proportion of 1 to 5 or 6 and for a working horse 1 to 4 or 5; but the experiments showed that the proportion of carbohydrates could be increased with advantage to the ratio of 1 to 8; 1 to 12, and indeed, 1 to 20 with the liberal use of sugar.

It was demonstrated that the value of the ration depended not so much on the percentage of albuminoids as on the total of digestible matter which the ration contained. This has led to a great economy in the use of the expensive nitrogenous foods, and having been now tested on a staff of 12,000 horses it may be assumed to be a conclusion verified by experience.

Cutting the Hay Crop.

A question of great importance to be considered is, apart from the weather, what is the proper time to begin the cutting? It is incontestable that the best results are obtained when the greater number of the dominant plants of the herbage are in flower. If cut too soon, the crop contains much water, dries slowly, and loses in the drying process part of its nourishment with considerable loss of weight.

On the other hand it is not wise to delay the operation until the plants have begun to form seed. The crop is then hard, fibrous, less aromatic, and less rich in nourishing constituents. The yield may be a little larger, but this increase is at the expense of its quality. The crop, if intended for sale, may perhaps be allowed to stand somewhat longer so as to get the advantage of more bulk, but if for consumption on the farm, it is best to secure the best quality by cutting in good time.

The grass should be cut as close as possible to the ground, so as to secure the full advantage of the undergrowth—the lower part of the stalks of the plants yield a large part of the forage. If left in the field they are wasted.

Garden Crops.

Garden crops should always be forced. If only barnyard manure is used for garden vegetables, the soil may not be sufficiently in condition to immediately supply the demands of plants. High-grade, complete fertilisers should be applied wherever crops are to be grown quickly, as they are in proper condition for feeding the young plants.

No brand of fertiliser can give satisfactory results when the conditions are not favourable. The land should receive proper cultivation, and there should be sufficient moisture in the soil to dissolve the plant foods. Droughts do not admit of deriving all that is possible from a crop, even with the aid of fertilisers. But fertilisers may save the farmer from total loss, under the most adverse conditions, compared with crop growing without the aid of plant foods.

In this country the average fall of rain is about 28 inches. It is heavier on the west than on the east side of the island. Round London it is about 22 inches, round Liverpool 33 inches.

Nitrate of Soda—Statistics and Position.

The usual half-yearly circulars of the well-known nitrate of soda broker, Mr. Thomson Aikman, jun., and of the importers, Messrs. W. Montgomery and Co., Ltd., have reached us.

The principal factor in the trade during the past six months has been the conclusion of the negotiations for the renewal for a further period of three years of the combination arrangement by which the quantities shipped are controlled.

The previous arrangements lasted for five years, and proved to be of such signal advantage to the nitrate producers, that, although there were many difficulties in the way of the renewal, they were finally overcome.

The initial quotas on which the new combination is based amount to about 3,500,000 tons, as the approximate annual produced capacity of all the works, and of this quantity the directorate of the combination have provisionally authorised the shipment during the year ending March 31 next of 70 per cent., or about 2,450,000 tons, but judging from last years' experience and the aspect of the labour and shipping markets, it is not likely that this figure will be attained.

Last year the authorised quantity was 1,765,000 tons.

The quantity shipped was 1,638,000 tons.

This year the authorised quantity is 2,450,000 tons, and the exported shipments about 1,750,000 tons.

The available supplies for the world's consumption will probably, therefore, be something like 100,000 tons more than last year, but as the use of the article is yearly extending throughout the civilised world, it is thought that this extra quantity will not more than satisfy the increased demand. The world's consumption during the past three years is estimated to have been :—

Consumption.

		In the United Kingdom about
1904	1,430,000 tons	111,000
1905	1,515,000 ,, ...	110,000
1906	1,615,000 ,, ...	105,000

While the use of nitrate throughout the world is always increasing, it may be noted that its employment in England has become smaller. This is attributed to the diminishing acreage under wheat, and it seems to reflect the continued depression of British agriculture, because there is absolutely no doubt that larger quantities, especially on the grass lands, could be employed with profit.

The year opened with the price at 10s. 6d. to 10s 7½d. per cwt, and advanced at one time during the season to 11s 3d. to 11s. 6d. per cwt. At present there is no consumptive demand in this country, but as an indication of what the prices are expected to be next season it may be mentioned that forward contracts are being made by the big continental buyers for next season's delivery at prices equal to about 11s. per cwt. According to the present outlook, the prices for next season's consumption will be approximate to those of last season, and may be on a slightly higher level. There does not seem much chance of our farmers having the advantage of cheap nitrate. It is fortunate that an advance in the price per ton does not really represent much per acre, and that a moderate increase in the crop more than repays the outlay for nitrate.

Price.

The average price of nitrate for the past five years is given as—

9s. 6d.	per cwt.	for	1902.
8s. 11d.	,,	,,	1903.
9s. 10d.	,,	,,	1904.
10s. 9d.	,,	,,	1905.
10s. 9d.	,,	,,	1906.

With regard to other fertilising material, Mr. Aikman reports :—

Sulphate of Ammonia. — The price at the beginning of the year was £12 7s. 6d. to £12 10s., and is quoted to-day at £12. Farmers must bear in mind that the unit of ammonia in sulphate is considerably cheaper, that the equivalent fertilising unit is nitrate, and should use sulphate whenever they can judiciously do so.

Mineral Phosphates.—The imports have been large at ordinary prices, and we are afraid that superphosphate may be dearer next season. The consumption of this material is enormous.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Bill.

Good Progress made.

Sir David Brynmor Jones presided at renewed sittings of the Standing Committee on Law of the House of Commons, at which further consideration was given to the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Bill.

On Clause 1, which provides for the giving, by sellers, of warranties as to fertilisers and feeding stuffs,

Mr. Cross (L.U.) moved an amendment providing that the analytical invoice given by the seller of food for cattle or poultry artificially prepared otherwise than by being milled, ground, or chopped, shall have effect as a warranty by the seller "that the actual percentages do not differ from those stated" beyond certain limitations of variation unavoidable in practical industrial production. He held that it would be better that the variations should be enacted by Parliament itself rather than that they should be left to the Board of Agriculture. The Bill was a serious departure from the ordinary lines of legislation. If the restrictions proposed in the clause in the Bill were allowed to stand the importation of oilcake, which was of very great importance to the agricultural interest, would largely be prevented.

Sir E. Strachey (representing the Board of Agriculture) said it was impossible to accept the amendment. He urged that the Board of Agriculture could be trusted, and would be only too anxious to consult those interested in fixing fair and reasonable limits.

Mr. Howell Davies (L.) objected to the extraordinary proposition that more onerous conditions should be placed on English manufacturers than were exacted from foreign manufacturers. Ultimately the amendment was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Cross (L.U.) next moved to provide that the Bill should not apply to sales of less than 5 cwt.

The Lord Advocate pointed out that the amendment amounted to a proposal to make an exception from the principle of the Bill against the small humble purchaser, who was precisely the person who most needed protection.

Mr. G. D. Faber (C.) entirely agreed that the person who required protection was the small farmer.

The amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. Wiles (L.) moved to except agreements concluded between buyers and sellers from the operation of sub-section 5 of clause 1, which provides that "Any statement by the seller of the percentages of the chemical and other ingredients contained in any article sold for use as a fertiliser of the soil, or of the nutritive and other ingredients contained in any article sold for use as food for cattle or poultry made after the commencement of this Act, in an invoice of such article, or in any circular or advertisement descriptive of such article, shall have effect as a warranty by the seller." He did not want to protect the foreigner, but in assisting the farmer he did not want to damage this great trade. If the guarantees asked for had to be placed on the invoice in all cases, the trade would be so harassed that it would be impossible for any foreign cake to enter this country.

Sir E. Strachey opposed the amendment on the ground that its effect would be to render the Bill nugatory.

After some remarks by Mr. Albert Bright, Mr. Howell Davies and Mr. Maddison,

The Lord Advocate said that the trade in fertilisers and feeding stuffs was one in which a warranty was peculiarly necessary to prevent deception or fraud. The contracting out amendment would sweep away the whole defence which the Bill proposed to set up.

On the division the amendment was rejected by twenty-one votes against ten.

The first clause was then passed. Clause 2, dealing with the appointment of a chief analyst and samplers, was postponed until the necessary money resolution should be obtained in the House. Clause 3, which provides for an analysis of any fertiliser or feeding stuff being made by the agricultural analyst, and for samples of the article being taken by an official sampler, was passed with the following new sub-section 6, proposed by Sir E. Strachey :—

"(6) Where a sample is, under this section, sent for analysis to the chief analyst or to an agricultural analyst, there should be sent with the sample the invoice (if any) relating to the article from which the sample was taken, or a copy of the invoice or of any prescribed part thereof."

This was agreed to, and the clause as amended, was added to the Bill.

On Clause 4, which gives power to the Board of Agriculture to make regulations with respect to any matter which is to be prescribed under the Bill, it was agreed, on the motion of Sir E. Strachey, that all regulations made under this section shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament as soon as might be after they were made.

The clause, as amended, was passed.

On Clause 5—Provisions as to county and county borough councils.

Sir E. Strachey moved to add :—"The Council of any county or county borough may contribute towards any expenses incurred by any agricultural body or association in causing samples to be taken for analysis by the agricultural analyst."

This was agreed to, and the clause, as amended, was added to the Bill.

On Clause 6, which deals with the penalties for breach of duty by the seller

Mr. John Johnson moved to leave out sub-section (3), "A prosecution for an offence under this section shall not be instituted except with the consent of the Board of Agriculture."

Sir E. Strachey resisted the amendment, which was negatived.

Clause 7 was agreed to with a slight amendment.

On Clause 8, which provides that if the owner or the person entrusted for the time being with the custody of any fertiliser or feeding stuff refuses to allow an official sampler to take a sample of the article for the purpose of analysis, or if the purchaser of any such article refuses to give to an official sampler the invoice of the articles or a copy thereof, he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

Mr. Bowles proposed to strike out the clause, which he regarded as a most objectionable one. He hoped the committee would put a check upon this bureaucratic notion, and would have some regard for the interests of the small cultivators, who might suffer a cruel injustice under this clause.

Mr. Faber and others also objected to the clause.

On a division, it was found that 12 voted for the retention of the clause and 6 against.

The chairman, in announcing the figures, said there was not a quorum present. The sitting must therefore be suspended.

The committee adjourned at 1.50.

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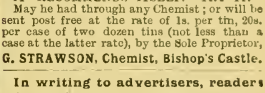

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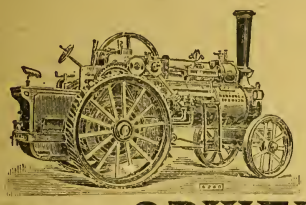

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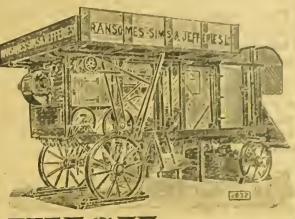

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A COUNTRY COTTAGERS' GRIEVANCE.

A very genuine grievance of country cottagers is reported to us on excellent authority from Buckinghamshire, and inquiry elicits the unsatisfactory certainty that similar grievances exist in other counties. The matter is well worthy the attention of farmers, as not only does it make for the depletion of the countryside, but it is a wrong from which their poorer neighbours, who actually look to them for championship, ought not to suffer. We refer to the great distance which very young children, from five to ten years of age, have to be sent to rural schools. Some of the latter have recently been closed owing to feuds between local authorities and the Education Department, and in these cases the distance children have to be sent is almost incredible. Cases in Buckinghamshire, of which we have amply verified evidence, show that children, none too strong or fit for walking, are required to walk nearly three miles to school daily, and as far back. The mid-day interval for dinner of course involves a further difficulty. In one case where a respectable cottager declined to send his child because the little one's health would not admit of five miles' walking to and fro, repeated fines were inflicted until the labourer gave up in despair and left the district altogether, thereby depriving the farmer who employed him of one of his right-hand men.

But our readers will ask, has no representation been made in London? The answer is that full representation has been made, both to the Education Department and to the Board of Agriculture. With respect to the former there has been little courtesy and no sympathy; the rules must be obeyed, and fines of progressive severity will be inflicted until they are obeyed The Board of Agriculture is sympathetic, but asserts its own impotence. That is official exactitude and practical nonsense. Lord Carrington is evidently mortally afraid of his Cabinet colleague, Mr. Birrell, and perhaps not without reason, for if one of these eminent men had to go, it is fairly certain that it would not be Mr. Birrell.

But can one imagine Mr. Hanbury being treated in this way? It does one good just to think of the crumpled condition of the clever essayist from Bristol after a Cabinet discussion with the stalwart Midland squire, whose death was a national loss. It is true that the late Mr. Hanbury was not a Liberal, but there are Liberals who are also agriculturists, and who are quite capable of standing up to a pedant and a professor. We doubt if Mr. Birrell would exactly walk over Sir Walter Gilbey or over Mr. Courtenay Warner. Would that that good agriculturist, Lord Spencer, were still in harness! We can imagine "the Red Earl" being perfectly explicit even to Mr. Birrell!

Meanwhile, as the Minister of Education is bdurate and the Minister of Agriculture afraid, the plain and practical course is for local squires and farmers to stand by their labourers and to pay, in cases of gross hardship, their fines. Meetings should be held, the labourers told by plain word and handbill where the mischief lies and who the enemy is. In the last resort the Lords might rightly be petitioned not to proceed with any theoretical proposals of Mr. Birrell until certain very practical difficulties were met in the proper spirit.

PREFERENTIAL RAILWAY RATES.

That the Central Chamber of Agriculture should express dissatisfaction at the report of the Departmental Committee on Railway Rates will scarcely be wondered at, when it is divested of techuicalities and reduced to plain meaning. There is *primâ facie* but not undue preference, the report states, the former being justified by the railway companies on the grounds "of the greater bulk, more constaut and regular supply, aud better packing of the foreign and Colonial consignments; of the lessened cost, therefore, in dealing with them; and also of the undeniable fact that in many cases the competition of water transit is so severe that unless they have the rates which now prevail, this traffic would equally go to its destination and would equally compete with home produce in the market."

The committee not only "recognise the strength of the justification and explanation," but praise "the generous offers and efforts made by most of the great companies to stimulate local agricultural trading," which they say "have met with but scanty recognition." The report then goes on to state that the local trader cannot expect for small, irregular, and often ill-packed consignments the same rates as are given to the large, regular, well-packed ones, and that, in order to claim comparatively equal rates and facilities, he must organise something like a reasonable approach to the like conditions.

The majority of the committee on the above grounds have declared that there is no undue preference, and not only so, but state that no further alteration of the present system of dealing with complaints against traffic rates or disputes is required. Agriculturists are, therefore, advised to co-operate and endeavour to improve their position that way. In fact the Majority Report is perfectly dictatorial on this point, stating "co-operation affords a practical method of enabling farmers to meet foreign competition and to put themselves in a position to obtain lower railway rates. It is to be regretted that its adoption should make so little progress."

One member of the committee only, Mr. E. G. Haygarth Brown, differed from his colleagues. In his report, after stating that preferential treatment is given to foreign over home produce, he considers that agriculturists have no means of ascertaining whether it amounts to undue or illegal preference or not. The Board of Agriculture should, in his opiniou, aid them to ascertain this whenever desired to do so, and also assist them in bringing questionable cases before the Board of Trade.

Seemingly the whole matter lies in a nutshell. If home-producers were to do all that the railway companies require them, the latter would still convey foreign consignments at less rates than theirs, which, in fact, is virtually admitted by them, only they say "if we did not bring the produce it would come all the same by water, and agriculturists would gain nothing thereby."

Meantime, the Chamber of Agriculture has instructed its Railway Rates Committee to prepare a statement showing that the admitted preferential rates are not justifiable ones. The Chairman of that committee declared plainly at the last meeting of the Chamber that the fact of there being undue preferential rates can be clearly proved, and held out the promise that a manifesto willl be prepared which shall throw a far different light on the entire question.

The Norfolk County Council Technical Instruction Committee has had a van equipped with farriery appliances, and it will pass from village to village accompanied by a lecturer, who will give demonstrations in horse shoeing, and will vary the practical operations by lectures on the structure of the horse's hoof, and other subjects incidental to farriery.

Notes of the Week.

It is a pleasure to record that the result of the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Derby has been highly gratifying to all concerned.

The wisdom of reverting to the migratory system is clearly demonstrated, and also the policy of keeping the show open on the last day of the week.

The extra inducements in the shape of the jumping competitions, band competition, military tournament, &c., helped to make the show attractive to the multitude, and will, no doubt, form a feature of future shows.

We offer our congratulations to the officials, who all worked heartily and harmoniously to make it a success.

All the exhibitors, the implement makers, the seed firms, and others, seemed well pleased with the arrangements, and from what we heard, will be quite ready to support next year's show.

The opinion was expressed by a good many members of the Society from the North that if the show could be held next year at Newcastle-on-Tyne, it would be certain to meet with success.

There seems to exist a feeling that it should be the turn of the North to welcome the show, as it has been held for three times in succession in the South and now at Derby in the Midlands.

Some of the leading stockbreeders did excellent business at the show, we understand that Mr. Deane Willis sold his champion Shorthorn bull for exportation for the sum of 3,000 guineas.

"The cultivation of the land is a factor of the highest importance to the prosperity of the country."

This remark of the King at the opening of the show should be kept permanently posted up in every school of the country.

It would help to instil into the minds of the growing generation the importance of agriculture, the greatest of all industries.

This essential fact cannot be too deeply impressed upon the children; it would gradually revive the conception of the dignity and worth of agricultural pursuits.

The exhibit of the Agricultural Education Association was calculated to do good in directing more attention to the scientific side of agriculture.

Practice without science is equivalent to conducting farming operations in the dark; science without practice is simply theory.

But when the two are happily united, the offspring is prosperity.

It may be said that the dam of agriculture should be practical experience, and its sire should be science, out of investigation and research.

Harvesting operations connected with the ingathering of the hay crop are now general throughout the country.

There is no more pleasant or animated sight than the busy work in the hay fields, young and old, men and maidens, participating in it and enjoying it.

"In every field, in every lawn and mead,
The rousing voice of industry is heard;
The haycock rises and the frequent rake
Sweeps in the fragant hay in heavy wreaths:
The old and young, the weak and strong are there,
And, as they can, help in the cheerful work."

The swish of the glittering scythe has given place to the more expeditious mower, but haymaking in sunny weather still remains the pleasantest of all farming occupations.

It is estimated that during the tremendous downpour of rain which fell in the closing days of June, a quantity of 400,000,000 tons of water fell over the Home Counties, sufficient to explain the floods that occurred.

The hay crop was temporarily in danger, but thanks to sunshine and breezes, the damage does not appear to have been of a serious nature.

Are earthquakes the cause of heavy rains? The idea suggests itself in consequence of the quite unusual downpour that followed the earthquake in Wales and the tremor felt at Croydon.

In a report of an earthquake that occurred in Scotland early last century, it is recorded that a most excessive and continued rain followed, swelling the rivers and inundating much of the land.

The late Sir Wilfrid Lawson was for many years a devotee of the Shorthorn cattle, and at the time of the "Duchess" boom he was led into buying from the Holker herd a Duchess bull—Duke of Oxford—for 2,000 guineas.

Unfortunately for Sir Wilfrid, the animal died very soon after being installed in its new home, and its witty owner feelingly wrote the following epitaph over the bull:—

Here lies Duke of Oxford quiet and cool.
Bred by a Duke and bought by a fool!

It may be added that in recent years Sir Wilfrid went in for some good sires of the best Cruickshank blood, and he never had occasion to write similar epitaphs.

Scarcely a day passes without convictions for selling or exposing for sale adulterated butter.

Evidently the fines inflicted do not have the desired effect of stopping the unfair trade. Of what use is it to fine a man £5 when he is making hundreds of pounds?

The object of punishment is to prevent a recurrence of the offence, and to deter others from committing it.

Heavier fines must be imposed, and in bad cases the offender should be sent to prison.

We would suggest the publication of a black list, giving the names of the offenders. Wide publicity is the best deterrent.

Mr. Rider Haggard, besides being the possessor of a vivid imagination, is blessed with a stock of practical sense; he sees clearly the danger impending over this country from the steady depopulation of the rural districts.

He was the chief speaker at a meeting in Essex the other day, and among other remarks delivered the epigram, "the redistribution of population was really the greatest problem of the day."

His remedy consists of "land colonies," but the Government Departmental Committee appointed to consider his scheme reported unfavourably upon it.

His scheme, therefore, perished, said Mr. Rider Haggard, of that fatal disease—Departmental Committee.

No help, in his opinion, is to be expected from the Government.

My own individual opinion is that this malady, causing the exodus from the rural districts to the towns, results from the continued and growing poverty of the farmers.

That is the root of the evil to be attacked. The British farmer is a generous man, and likes to see those around him happy and contented.

If he could afford it, he would gladly employ more labour and pay fair wages.

We want, and I hope shall get, a good Land Tenure Bill and an arrangement for facilitating small holdings. That is the first step.

Then should follow Government assistance, or at least benevolent neutrality, leading to the introduction of the sugar beet industry, the manufacture of alcohol from potatoes, and some encouragement to British wheat growers.

If such changes could be brought about, combined with improved cottages, there would be no need for the continual plaintive cry, "back to the land."

One thing more. In all the schools the Board of Education should see that the elements of practical agricultural work should be taught, and as far as possible a love of country life impressed on the children.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.—Professor F. S. Boulger, F.L.S., has accepted the post of Honorary Professor of Natural History and External Examiner for the Diploma, in succession to the late Dr. Fream. Like Dr. Fream, Professor Boulger was formerly one of the resident professors of the college.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 10.—Peterborough Great Show, first day—Bishop Auckland Agricultural Show—Yeovil Great Wool Sale—Marsden Cattle Fair—Ringwood Agricultural Fair—Carmarthen Horse Fair—Birmingham Annual Wool Sale (80,000 fleeces entered—Royal Horticultural Society's Show, Holland House, first day—Leeds Horse Fair—Millers' Conference at Windsor, first day—Special Sales at Highbridge: Caerphilly Cheese, 10.0 a.m., Calves, 3.0 p.m.—Entries close for Border Show and (with double fees) for the Cambridgeshire Fens Show at March—Entries to be sent in for the Welsh Principality Show at Aberystwith, Cardigan.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11.—Royal Horticultural Show, second day—Millers' Excursion to Sonning—Maidstone Agricultural Show—Bath Cheese Fair—Macclesfield and Peterborough Agricultural Fairs—Holsworthy Cattle Fair—Oakhampton Cattle Fair—Uppingham Horse and Cattle Fair.

THURSDAY, JULY 12.—Mr. A. D. Hall speaks at Windsor on "The Chemistry of Wheat and Flour"—Wainfleet Agricultural Show—Witheriness Horse and Foal Show—Lloyds' Horse Sale, Crewe—Thornton's Ram Sale, Stallingborough—Brockenhurst Live Stock Sale—Sherborne Calf Sale—Alton Lamb Fair—Mansfield Agricultural Fair.

FRIDAY, JULY 13.—Millers' Ball at the White Hart, Windsor—Large Sale of Agricultural Lands in Sheppey. Messrs. Cobb, at the Mart, 2 p.m.—Thornton's Shorthorn and Sheep Sale, Melton Ross—Grantham Cherry and Fruit Fair—Congleton and Leicester Agricultural Fairs—Yeovil Horse Sale.

SATURDAY, JULY 14.—Norden Agricultural Show—Agricultural Land Sale at Shaftesbury.

MONDAY, JULY 16.—Ludlow Cattle and Sheep Fair—Entries close for Lutterworth Agricultural Show—Entries close for Maltby Horse and Foal Show.

TUESDAY, JULY 17.—Horse and Foal Show at March, Cambridgeshire—Lincoln Horse Sale—Sale of Romney Marsh Sheep Land at the Saracen's Head, Ashford—Sale of Wilesborough Farm and Mill, Saracen's Head, Ashford—Lyndhurst Timber Sale—Warrington Fair—Entries close for Chepstow Agricultural Show—Highland and Ayr Society's Show at Peebles, first day.

Judges at Dublin Horse Show.

The following gentlemen have agreed to officiate as judges at the Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep Show on August 28, 29, 30, and 31:—

THOROUGHBRED STALLIONS.—G. H. Breen, Wigmore Grange, Leintwardine, R.S.O.; John Hill, Marsh Brook House, Church Stretton.

THOROUGHBRED BROOD MARES AND YEARLINGS.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Coventry, 1, Balfour Place, Park Lane, London, W.; C. H. Prior, Adstock Manor, Winslow, Bucks.

BROOD MARES TO PRODUCE WEIGHT-CARRYING HUNTERS.—G. H. Breen, Wigmore Grange, Leinwardine, R.S.O.

HUNTERS AND YOUNG HORSES.—Richard L. Angas, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock; W. Henry Barber, Culham Court, Henley-on-Thames; Reginald Corbet, Adderley, Market Drayton; Frederick R. Hill, Marsh Brook House, Church Stretton; W. G. Lambarde, Bradbourne Hall, Sevenoaks; T. B. Miller, The Manor House, Cricklade, Wilts; Hon. A. E. Parker, The Cottage, Doveridge, Derby; Owen C. Wallis, West Haddon Hall, Rugby.

RIDING COBS AND PONIES.—General Rimington, Ballyfair, Curragh Camp.

HARNESS HORSES.—Charles E. Galbraith, Lerregles, Dumfries, N.B.; Alex. Morton, Gowan Bank, Darvel, N.B.

SHEEP.—Roscommon: Matthew Flanagan, Tomona, Tulsk, co. Roscommon. Lincoln: Tom Casswell, Pointon House, Folkingham. Blackfaced and Cheviots: William Whyte, Hatton of Eassie, Glamis, N.B. Shropshire: Matthew Williams, Whiston Hall, Albrighton, Wolverhampton. Oxford Downs, Hampshire Downs, Southdowns, and Suffolks: W. D. Little, Middleton Stoney, Bicester.

Meat Inspection in London.—Reporting upon the scheme of the Public Health Committee of the London County Council for the establishment of public slaughterhouses in London, where the proper inspection of all meat could be carried out, the Finance Committee remark: "It is apparent that the establishment of food-inspection stations and public slaughterhouses will necessitate the expenditure of large sums, both upon capital and upon maintenance account, but in the absence of any details we cannot do more at the present time than express the hope that the committee, in working out their proposals for the consideration of the Council, will bear in mind the fact that the Council's present commitments on capital account are very large."

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

The fine show of Cleveland bays which was held at the Royal at Derby, and for which we are in a great measure indebted to the liberality of Sir Gilbert Greenall, is sufficient proof of the wisdom of the policy which was adopted at the general meeting of the Cleveland Bay Horse Society in January, when a suggested amalgamation with the Yorkshire Coach Horse Society was emphatically negatived. Taking into consideration that the home of the Cleveland Bays is a long way from the site of the Royal Show, that it is also an awkward journey from the East Moor Dales to Derby, and that the bulk of the breed are in the hands of small farmers, the entry of twenty-one in three classes, with twenty of them forward, was highly satisfactory. And these twenty horses represented eleven breeders, none of whom come from the north. The two south country breeders, Mr. H. C. Stephens and Mr. F. Bateman, sent five between them, and it is a sign of progress to see gentlemen in the south taking to breeding Cleveland Bays.

SHIRE STALLION, HOLKER MENESTREL 2nd.
First Prize and Reserve Champion, Royal Show, Derby.
The property of Mr. VICTOR C. W. CAVENDISH, M.P., Holker Hall, Cark-in-Cartmel, Lancs.

The show was, I take it, a very instructive one. In the first place we had a good class of stallions. Mr. Frank Bateman's winner, Beadlam Fred, is a much-improved horse since last year, and he made a very fine show, but exception was taken to him by the critical that he did not show sufficient quality about his head and neck. Now this mysterious, almost indefinable, characteristic "quality" is frequently, in the humble opinion of the writer, pulled into an argument unnecessarily. There is, for example, the quality which is necessary for carriage horses in the park. Well, we do not look for that in a Cleveland Bay stallion. If we got it we should in all probability—nay, certainly—lose some much more valuable attributes; for instance, that masculine character which is so indispensable in a sire.

It is admittedly a characteristic of the Cleveland Bay that he has a rather big head, but it is generally well carried, and it must be remembered, in criticising the Cleveland Bay, it is not fair to look at him as only a harness horse, or to compare him, as some people do, with the Hackney type of harness horse. The Cleveland Bay has a quality and an elegance which is peculiarly his own, and the long, level quarters which look so well in leather are seldom, if ever, seen in any other breed, save and except in his near relative, the Yorkshire coach horse.

The Cleveland Bay is more than a mere harness horse; he is the foundation of half-bred light horse breeding. To see the Cleveland Bay breed at its best it is necessary to look to the mares. There was no lack of quality in the half-dozen which came into the ring on Wednesday morning at Derby, and everyone of them was decorated, and rightly so, too. This is not the place to describe the mares individually or to speak of prize winners. It is my object to call attention to the value of the breed. Now, most if not all the half-dozen were mares of long pedigree—one of them, I know, dates back to a mare foaled in 1855, whose grandam was by Victory, foaled in 1826, and whose great grandam's pedigree is also given. Now here we have a pedigree dating back for at any rate close on a hundred years, whilst the type, clean hard bone of thoroughbred character, good action and great power, must be invaluable as a foundation for either riding or driving horses. The argument against the Cleveland Bay that he has scarcely enough quality for a fashionable harness horse therefore falls to the ground at once. And it must not be forgotten that it is necessary to preserve a breed pure in order to get the best results from crossing with it, the first and second crosses being always the best. There is one more word to be said about the Cleveland Bay before I leave the breed for the present. Our friends on the Continent have known and recognised the value of the breed, and most of those harness horses which come from abroad, and of which we hear so much, have Cleveland Bay blood in their veins. It is essential to the well-being of modern horse-breeding that there should be good Cleveland Bay mares of long descent, for from them high-class hunters and harness horses can be bred. And there is only one way of keeping this very valuable foundation, and that is by encouraging the pure breed.

It seems very curious that after something like two thousand years of writing and discussion on the subject, the question of whether the yew is poisonous or non-poisonous again crops up for discussion. There have been many discussions on the subject in the past, and all of them have been somewhat similar in character to that which is just now going on in the columns of a contemporary. There is, I think, little doubt that the safe way is the best way, so far as the yew is concerned, and I should certainly advise all stockowners to treat it as if it were poisonous at all times and in all states. Whether it is or not is quite another matter. A well-known authority, writing in 1849, says that "the foliage of the yew possesses a very perplexing reputation in reference to the domesticated animals; for in some instances it seems to be indifferent to them, little eaten and seeming neither to help nor to hurt; in others, it appears to act as as a virulent poison; and in others, though under limited and cautious conditions, it serves well and long as food." Then the writer goes on to say that the yew probably owes this peculiarity partly to the different circumstances of soil and situation in which it grows, and partly to the different conditions and succulency and maturity, or of season and vitality, in which it is eaten. He goes on to say that in the island of Inchlonoch, in Loch Lomond, where yew trees predominate to a great extent, when a heavy snow comes, the deer eat largely of them—indeed, practically live on them—whilst the forester's cows also partake largely of them without taking any harm. This, however, is is mid-winter, when the succulency has in a great measure been dried up A later authority says that the leaves of the yew are especially dangerous when they have been laid in a heap after the trees had been dressed and have fermented. This being the case, the trimmings of the yew should be certainly destroyed at once.

An instance of yew poisoning occurred to a horse belonging to a friend. Some yew trees had been dressed, the dressings thrown into a heap, and the horse, which had been turned out for a few weeks of well-earned rest, ate greedily of them, as was evident, though he had an excellent pasture, and was in good case. But there was evidently something about the yew which appealed to his taste, and he made his last meal on yew leaves, for he was dead in a few hours.

I was talking the question over with a friend a few days ago, and he told me that he never knew that there was anything poisonous about the yew tree till it was brought home to him in a curious way. I should say that he is a very observant man, having a keen eye for everything which is passing round him. He was staying in the Lake District some few years ago, and was particularly taken with a team which ran in one of the coaches of which there are so many in the Lake District. Especially was he taken with the leaders, as good-looking horses One day, when the horses were standing with the coachman not on the box, but somewhere in the vicinity, these leaders began to eat heartily of a yew tree which was near. They had not much time to gorge, but they had a fair quantity. Now as to the result. One horse died within twenty-four hours; the other recovered, and at the end of ten days took his place in the coach again. But he was a very different horse to what he had been before indulging in his fatal appetite. His bloom had gone, big patches denuded of hair were all over his body, and he was altogether a pitiable object.

At this distance of time there are no reliable data from which we can arrive at a reason why these two horses were so differently affected by the yew leaves they had eaten. The horse that died might have been nearer the tree and eaten more of it; or the leaves he ate might have been more succulent; or, again, the horse that survived might have had the stronger constitution. But, on the face of it here, we have two horses which took the poisonous yew at the same time and under similar circumstances; both of them were affected by it, and one succumbed whilst the other recovered. For all we know at present the conditions were precisely the same, though they might have differed in the way I have pointed out.

"What is the value of a horse over and above his apparent value—that is to say, his value in a fair if nothing was known of his merits?" was a question which was asked me the other day, and it is one which is easier asked than answered. For instance, let us take some well-known winner of jumping prizes. To look at probably he is not worth more than £50, perhaps not so much. But he is a fine performer, he is practically sound, by which I mean that there is no prospect of his breaking down for some time to come. There are plenty of prizes that seem to be well within his grasp. What, then, is his value? Now, in estimating the value of a horse like this there are three or four things which must count against him. The first of these is that the continuous jumping on the hard ground may tell sooner than anyone can anticipate from appearances—that the breakdown is nearer at hand than any expert would expect from the closest examination. Then there is the possibility—and however good the performer may be, the time will come—that he may meet something better than himself, that instead of taking first prize after first prize he may drop to seconds and thirds, or even out of the money altogether. Or, like the famous Fanny Drape, he may over-jump himself and break his back. For him it may be argued that he won £200, more or less, last year; that there is nothing "new" coming out; that he has a practical walk-over for many prizes; and that he is likely to win at any rate half, but probably more than half, of what he had done in the previous year. Now, how to arrive at his value. I think perhaps twice his value in a fair would be a fair valuation, but I should not like to generalise

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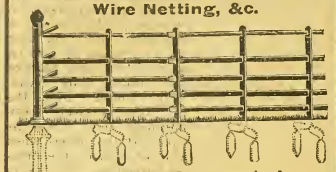

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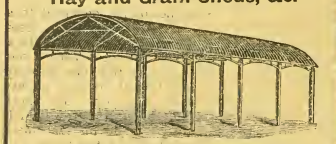

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on the subject. What a man refuses, of course, has nothing to do with it, for there are men in the happy position of wanting the horse and not wanting money. THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale of Hackneys at Llanmaes Stud Farm.

The twelfth annual sale of pedigree Hackneys and harness horses, belonging to Mr. James Howell, of Llanmaes Hackney Stud Farm, St. Fagans, near Cardiff, took place on Tuesday, and, as usual, attracted a large company of breeders from all parts of the country, and some brisk bidding was witnessed. Messrs. Stephenson and Alexander were the auctioneers, and they had the disposal of a splendid lot of horses, as well as brood mares and foals; in fact, as the auctioneer remarked, they included some of the best hackneys in the Kingdom. The best price of the sale was 112 guineas, at which figure Hywel's The Gentleman, a bay gelding, foaled 1901, and by Golden Fireaway, changed hands. Mr. H. E. Grey, Merthyr Vale, gave 126 guineas for two bay geldings, Taffy, foaled 1901, sire Golden Fireaway, and Tommy, foaled 1902, also by Golden Fireaway. Mr. C. Radcliffe, of Cardiff, gave 77 guineas for Lady Grant, a chesnut, foaled in 1902, and another get of Golden Fireaway, whilst yet another of this sire's progeny, Hywel's Starlight, a brown gelding, fetched 70 guineas from Mr. Morton, Darvel, N.B. Golden Fireaway who is one of the stud horses, is a handsome bay with black points, by Goldfinder VI., and his value was proved by the good prices obtained by his stock, as in addition to the sales already mentioned, numerous others by him went at prices up to 64 guineas, 62 guineas being obtained twice. Animals by other sires also sold well up to 57 guineas.

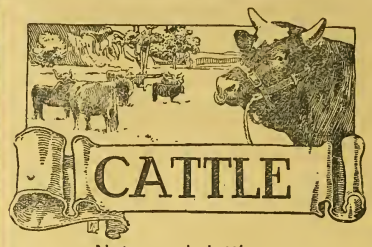
The Memorial to Dr. Fream.

The Dr. Fream Memorial Committee, as the result of inquiries, learn that nothing could be in closer accord with the wishes of the deceased or those of his relatives than the offer of prizes or scholarships for poor lads in connection with an agricultural course of study. The exact form the memorial will take will, however, be a matter of consideration for the committee.

Until it is known what funds will be forthcoming, any definite decision on the point must be postponed. But although a few liberal subscriptions will be welcomed, a large number of moderate and small donations are specially desired from the many farmers and others connected with the land who have benefited by the late Dr. Fream's valuable services to agriculture, and who would wish thus to perpetuate his memory.

The enthusiasm with which the proposal has already been taken up indicates that there will be a generous response to the appeal of the committee, over which Lord Jersey has been kind enough to promise to preside, and for which Sir George Barham has been so good as to undertake the duties of treasurer.

Mr. G. F. Strawson, 71A, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., is the hon. secretary of the committee, and he will be pleased to hear from those who would like to identify themselves with the memorial.



Notes and Jottings.

Seldom does the first week of July find us with such sweet and luxuriant pastures as are found in almost all parts of the country this year. The rains of the past ten days, coupled with great heat, have brought up the white clover in the greatest profusion and freshened up the general herbage as if by magic. In spite of such favourable feed the proverbial abatement in milk has arrived, gallons short of a fortnight ago are quite general, and the butter and cheese produced is proportionately less. This year, however, the abatement is due entirely to the time of year, and the disturbance of the flies, which have been very busy recently, and as feed remains green, we may hope that the supplies of dairy produce will not sink to such a low ebb as is often the case in July.

Hay is being secured generally in very good condition, and the crops still standing have in many cases grown very heavy. This coupled with a capital plant and good breadth of mangolds and swedes gives an all round fair promise for winter feed, which is a matter for much congratulation. When the bulk of the food that is home grown is plentiful and of good quality it not only reduces the outlay necessary for artificial food, but the cattle also give much better results. The young stores grow better, the fattening steers make greater weight, and the milkers fill the pails and churns as well as maintain their own condition much more liberally and at much less cost generally than when these bulky home-grown foods are short in quantity and of middling quality.

How satisfactory the export busiuess in pedigree cattle continues, what gigantic proportions it has attained. The demand for the Shorthorns at the auction in the Royal showyard was quite astounding as regards the numbers required for and purchased by foreigners, and it is very gratifying to find that news recently received from Argentina from those who are pretty competent to give an opinion is that there is not likely to be any reductions in the demand for the best animals for that country for at least many years to come. There appears likely to be less inquiry for medium qualities than there has been in the past. At one time large numbers were purchased at very low prices and of ordinary pretensions. These, however, did a good work in their day by laying foundations for herds and improving the then native stock.

The herds founded there have grown in numbers and improved in quality to such an incredible extent that to-day the chief, indeed it may almost be said the entire, demand is for just the very cream of our cattle, to add as it were the last polish to these existing herds. The satisfaction, however, to our home breeders lies in the fact that when the highest possible polish has been raised in these herds it can only be retained by at least occasional importations from the original home and herds of the breed, and as the area of country over which these foreign herds exist is so vast, and the number of animals so great in comparison with our own tight little island, there seems but little likelihood of our supply of the best cattle becoming too great at any time.

It is very seldom that the demand for export is so much confined to one breed, as was the case this year. Scarcely an animal was sold at a price worth recording (under the hammer) from any other breed except the Shorthorns. This is quite wonderful altogether, and must be set down, one would think, in a great measure to the fashion that prevails so extensively, both at home and abroad, just now to become possessed of a Shorthorn herd. Whether this fashion at home is due entirely to the high prices this breed are making for export, or whether it is due to the more widely practical dual purpose character of the Shorthorn, it is hard to say. Probably the two reasons have combined to bring about this great desire to become possessed of a herd. The greater attention recently devoted to their milk-giving properties also is not without its effect.

The second price of the show appears to be that of the sale privately of Mr. J. Deane Willis's splendid yearling bull Bapton Viceroy at 3,000 guineas; this, too, is a record price at home for many years past. The sale of this animal, too, emphasises very much the importance of our Royal Show. The value of the champion prize at the "Royal" being the ruling condition in the fixing his value, and when the difference of winning or not winning this championship assumes the dimensions of hundreds of pounds, it proves how highly the honours of the great English Royal are valued by our customers over the seas. Long may the Royal continue, and long may its exhibits maintain their superiority over those of other countries, and thus bring the dollars of those countries into the coffers of our breeders.

Of the many sections in the cattle department of the Royal Show, the most disappointing were those of two or three of the Northern breeds. The West Highlanders with but two entries (and those from a breeder in the South of England), the Ayrshires with but a handful (though of very good quality), and the Galloways with very scantily supported classes. Surely where the foreign buyer is so much in evidence, as was the case at Derby Royal, it would have served in the interests of breeders of these varieties of cattle to have been at the trouble and expense of giving a much more liberal and more representative display of their wares. On many of the extensive ranches across the seas there are sections where the Highlander and the Galloway would be very much at home, and would afford a good profit as well as giving pleasing variety.

The quotations given in the last issue of this paper of our London Cattle and meat markets are rather striking. In the live cattle market at Islington on Monday, July 2, this year, the total supply of cattle was 610, as compared with 1,070 the corresponding market in 1905; yet with this great difference in the supply the quotations appear to have remained as a year ago. Years ago the hot weather season was usually considered favourable to a larger dead and greater supply of live cattle, owing to the difficulty of dealing with dead meat at such a time. The increased facilities, however, afforded by improved refrigerators and cold storage appear to have so lessened this trouble that there seems quite a probability, as was mentioned in these columns a long time ago, of an end being put to the live fat cattle trade.

The quotations in the Central dead meat market are also worth glancing over. We find there that the best Scotch sides made 4s. 2d. per stone, whilst Deptford and Liverpool killed meat was quoted at 3s. 6d., a difference of 1d. per lb. only, and refrigerated hindquarters are given as making the same price. The noticeable fact in this dead meat department is that there is but 1d. per lb. difference between our best Scotch sides and the Birkenhead killed (imported), yet when we come to mutton the difference between the best English and the best imported is 2d. per lb. Frequently it happens that there is a still wider range in the prices of beef and those of mutton. Why is it that the foreign beef is so near in value to our own as compared with the mutton? A penny per lb. in a 90 stone steer means £3.

The dairy section of the Royal is a very important part, and should be especially so in a county so much devoted to dairying as is Derbyshire. In England, however, to-day the greater part—and an annually increasing greater part of dairying—consists merely of providing a certain supply of new milk night and morning, year in year out, cooling this and otherwise sending it off to the railway station, and thence to the large towns and cities without any further manipulation. We say "merely," but merely providing and otherwise managing such a supply is by no means an easy task, neither must it be handled carelessly if customers are to be retained and a price realised that will keep body and soul together.

The expense of raising a large dairy of new milk for the town dairyman, refrigerating it, cleansing all the necessary utensils, including the railway churns, providing float, time and man to take it to the station, and then pay the cost of carriage, runs away with an enormous share of the income, and when the sale price does not amount to more than about 6½d. per imperial gallon, it is difficult to see where the profit accrues. The chief information or instruction that visitors to the Royal Show could obtain lay in the churning competitions in the dairy and the butter tests and milking trials carried out with all the breeds of cattle. It is rather a pity that the results of these tests and trials are not made known earlier.

A large amount of money was given in prizes for the test yields of milk and butter from various breeds of cattle, yet so little interest was taken in this, and so slow were matters carried out that even at the time of writing one is without the information as to the quantities and qualities of the milk and butter that the various breeds produced. Not that the writer attaches much importance to these tests and

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trials, as the results much more frequently hinge upon the cow's temperament, her restfulness and feeding capacity, rather than her actual milking capacity. Were the animals tested in their own homes, we should seldom see the same cows at the head of the list that we find placed there in the showyard competitions.

Sale of Messrs. Robertson's Dexter and Kerry Cattle.

The annual sale of Dexter and Kerry cattle, the property of Messrs. Robertson and Sons, of La Mancha, Malahide, Co. Dublin, was held this year at Bletchley, on Friday last, Mr. Jonas Webb, of the firm of Messrs. Thornton and Co., officiating. There was a good company, which included most of the well-known breeders, and for many of the animals there was spirited bidding and good prices. Messrs. Robertson's successes in the showring have been almost phenomenal, and their judgment and enterprise in connection with these breeds have been so great that most of the principal herds in England have been formed with stock purchased from them.

Mr. Martin J. Sutton, an old fancier of the Dexters, was announced as the buyer of the first lot, La Mancha Noble Lassie, a nine-year-old cow, at 14 guineas; he also got Compton Dongola, a young cow, at 15 guineas. Quite the best animal in the sale was Springfield Edna, a red six-year-old cow, that won third prize in the inspection class and first in the milking trials at the Royal Show at Derby. Starting at twenty guineas, there were bidders galore up to 69 guineas, but then it remained with Mr. Sutton, the Hon. Claud Portman, and Mr. Collins (representing the Countess of Sefton). Mr. Sutton was in last at 81 guineas, but the final bid of 85 soon followed, and she went to Croxteth Park at that figure. Other purchases made on behalf of the Countess of Sefton were La Mancha Peggy, 47 guineas, La Mancha Grace, 20 guineas, and the Dexter bull, La Mancha Peter Pan, 25 guineas.

Mr. B de Bertodano gave 51 guineas for a charming heifer in Orchid, 31 guineas for La Mancha Sunlight, and 12 guineas for another yearling. Mr. Hordern gave 26 guineas for La Mancha Chloe on behalf of Mr. Harding, of Stanton Hall, Birkenhead. This was a two-year-old Kerry heifer that won second prize at Derby. The Duchess of Devonshire's representative got La Mancha Wee Mite, one of the best yearlings, at 39 guineas. Other buyers were Mr. Tillotson, Mr. Dinsdale, Mr Jones Mortimer, and Sir Walter Gilbey. The best price for a Kerry bull was 29 guineas paid by Mr Vicary. The average was £19 8s. 2d. for 33 head, and the total of the sale £661 15s.

Dorchester July Sheep Fair.

This important Western fair, which has long been celebrated for the excellent breed of sheep, both Horns and Downs, associated with the fair, was held in beautiful summer-like weather on Friday, when something like 16,000 sheep and lambs were penned at the two great sales held under the direction of Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, and of Messrs. H. Duke and Son. Buyers were largely represented, including most of the best known dealers in the Western and South-Western shires. The sheep were a very meritorious lot, including, as they did, many registered drafts of the two different breeds. The younger ages of ewes, both Horns and Downs, were much sought after, and, as a consequence, these brought satisfactory prices, which, as a rule, compared favourably with those realised at the corresponding fair last year; but the lamb trade was scarcely characterised by the same activity, and prices suffered slightly by comparison.

As the attendance included many needy buyers, a clearance was with very little difficulty effected, ewes relatively finding a readier sale than lambs. Horn ewes commanded a quick sale at from 49s. 6d. to 57s. for the best registered drafts, more ordinary pens selling from 42s. up to 48s., one good pen of two tooths realising 51s.; two-tooth wethers, 45s. to 49s.; chilver lambs, 35s. up to 49s. (Mr. Elworthy Monkton realising the latter figure); wether lambs, 28s. 6d. to 33s. The Down ewes sold equally well for the younger ages at from 44s. up to 53s. for a registered draft from Mr. Hooper, Winfrith, down to 37s. 6d. for ordinary ewes; two-tooth wethers, 34s. 6d. to 40s.; wether lambs, 30s. 6d. to 38s.; chilvers, 31s. to 33s.; mixed lots, 24s. 6d. to 30s.; crossbreds, 28s. to 35s.; Southdown ewes sold from 38s. 6d. to 43s. for a good pen of Mr. Mayo, of Pudlehinton; lambs making 29s. to 32s. It was generally admitted that but for the recent rain prices would have been nothing like as good as they were.

The main haytime hirings at Kirkby Stephen took place on Monday, when there was about an average attendance of men seeking engagements. With the early approach of harvest, in consequence hiring proceeded apace. A goodly number of men accepted service for the month at £6 to £7, plus maintenance, while superior hands obtained to £7 10s., and in very rare cases £8. Young lads could command from £3 10s. to £5.

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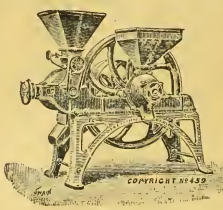

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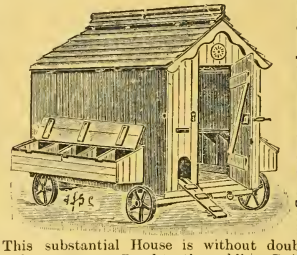

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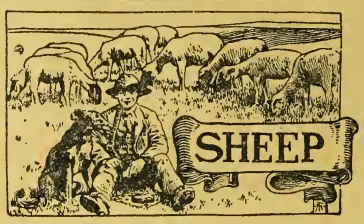


Notes and Jottings.

The prospects for sheep keep both for the near future and for the coming winter have entirely altered, for now the aftermaths are likely to be good, and the root crop has been assured a strong start. The dry time before the rains had given good opportunities for cleaning the land, and it is quite the exception to see a really foul piece of root land. The later-sown swedes have been brought on rapidly by the period when danger from fly may be expected. There is yet a good area of turnips to be put in after summer crops are fed off, but there is ample moisture below to help start them.

The sheep show at the Royal was excellent throughout; there is no doubt there was never a time when there were so many who kept flocks of high excellence as at present. One remembers, not so very long ago, when it was not uncommon to see pens exhibited that were very ordinary in their breeding, and which made their exhibitors appear foolish for sending them; there is very little of this sort of thing nowadays. There was a good trade at the show, the Shropshire doing specially well among the Shortwools, and the Lincolns and Kentish among the Longwools. There is no doubt that any breed which is attractive to Argentine buyers is easy of sale. There is practically no limit to their buying powers, and enormous commissions are in hand. Land values in the Argentine have advanced from 30 to 40 per cent. during the last three or four years, and with the big returns from wool and mutton, as well as from other classes of stock, there is great wealth accumulating in their country. Seeing the great agricultural future of their country, and with the evidence of the last few years' success before them, there is a general endeavour to increase their holdings and to get them stocked. Promising as other things are, wool is doing so well that sheep stand first in their estimation; but what they demand is the best. The English sales this year will be attended by more foreigners than has ever been known, as the vast number of Argentines over here have come with the intention of buying. The trade is by no means confined to the breeds instanced, for there is an open mindedness about the Argentine buyers; and many other countries are well represented. The short supply of sheep in the world is being recognised on all hands. The Argentine meat trade is not likely to slacken, and a new line of steamers will shortly be fitted out to carry cold meat from Buenos Aires.

The rains have given an impetus to growth, and keep will be somewhat flush, with a tendency to cause scour; though, with the greater abundance of food there ought not to be much trouble in finding plenty which is not soured through being sheeped previously this season. The fine start that the clover and sainfoin crops have got since they were cut will altogether alter the prospect, and provide sweet keep, and after the light growth in many districts are likely to grow a very heavy aftermath.

It is not always pleasant to be told of our sins or failings, and the loyal way in which the leading sheep breeders took up the cudgels for their weaker brethren in the discussion on Mr. Holling's paper on "The Preparation of Wool for Market" was very pretty; at the same time some of the indictments are not without ground. Undoubtedly there are a good many matters in which we are not quite so careful as we might be in respect to marketing. In the good old days when we had the markets under our thumb and the foreigner was not a terror to us, we were inclined to have our own way, and take our own methods in getting it. But the foreigner is here, and he got here a good deal by making his produce appear attractive; we have instances of this in the marketing of fruit, butter, and many other things, which are no better than our own, but which he has made the public believe are so; he can send margarine so attractively made up that he often gets more for it than some of us do for our fresh butter. Mr. Hollings is not the first to remind us of our deficiencies in making up wool; the buyer wants wool and only wool, and if he gets a mixture he cannot sell it to the stapler as clean wool; foreign fibrous material, such as hay and straw, twine, and the like are most troublesome for him to deal with, and he must be at the expense of pulling these out. In respect to dirt he must make an allowance for that, and he naturally takes care to keep himself on the safe side by assuming that there is a considerable quantity there. There is no particular need for the farmer to perform the work of the sorter; what the farmer has to do is to keep out deleterious matter so far as he is able, and with the observance of a reasonable amount of care this can be done. The man who deliberately puts cloggy wool into the fleece is foolish, if nothing worse; unfortunately we are obliged to admit we have seen it done, and at rather widely-lying points too; and we agree with Mr. Hollings that it is not a practice that is likely to be profitable to a man for long.

The worst feature of careless or intentionally deceptive packing is that the many have to suffer for the few. The gentleman who could find no advantage from his better-quality wool and care in handling, on reflection would see that those who are dealing with large quantities cannot put themselves out of their stride for an occasional little lot that may be offered. A district or a fair very often has a certain reputation, and the buyers set their tone by it; it may be a high tone or a low one; just as hops from one district have a special value not altogether in accordance with their intrinsic worth; but it is hard on those who deal fairly and well with their wool that they should have to suffer because their neighbours are not similarly careful. The buyer says that there are those who are not so careful as they should be; and instead of burying our heads in the sand, it would be wiser to admit it, and do our best to influence others to prepare their wool as well as the best of us have done.

Matters relating to wool are much forward just now, with the stimulus of better price. In the Northern counties there is a movement to abolish the extra half pound per stone draft given when weighing up wool. Uniformity in weights and measures is very desirable, but whether there is the gain in altering weights in an instance like this that some assume is open to doubt. It is ridiculous to suppose that a man who sells a stone of wool, sells 14 lb. and gives away half a pound. He sells 14½ lb., and the buyer buys it. If the buyer bought by the imperial stone, he would fix the price accordingly. When the guileless sort of buyer goes around and gives the same for 14 lb. as he does for 14½ lb., he will be said to have come from Wensleydale, where they breed the blue-faced sheep, locally known as Muggs. Draft is an old concession, supposed to be a compensation for the dirt on the wool; but that it gives an advantage to the buyer must be dependent upon the intelligence of the seller; if the seller will let 14½ lb. go for the price of 14 lb. he certainly wants some association to take care of him.

Lamb Sales.

Diss.

Messrs. T. W. Gaze and Son had an entry of between 18,000 and 19,000 lambs and sheep for their annual sale at Diss, and there was a large attendance of buyers. Both lambs and ewes met with a very good trade, lambs being from 2s. to 3s. a head dearer than at Bury market on the previous day, and showing quite that advance as compared with a year ago. From the very first lot there was a brisk trade, and, with very few exceptions, this was maintained throughout the sale. The highest bid of the day was that of Mr. Gooding, of Witnesham, near Ipswich, who gave 44s. a head for twenty selected Suffolk ewe lambs (registered and earmarked), consigned and bred by Mr. Alfred Johnson, of Burston, from rams bred by Mr. Thomas Keeble and Mr. F. C. Mariner. Thirty others from the same flock, also registered and earmarked, realised 38s. 6d.; whilst the pick of the wethers fetched 34s.

Barnham.

The thirty-sixth annual lamb sale at Barnham took place on Monday, Messrs. Biddell and Blencowe being, as from the commencement, the auctioneers. The number penned was about 7,000 lambs and sheep, including a more numerous representation of the Suffolk breed than usual, and there was a big company and trade for lambs was very good throughout, bringing 3s. more a head than last year. Two score first-cross lambs from Viscount Iveagh made top price, 43s. 6d., at which they were secured by Mr. George Townsend, of Fordham; the next best 40 first-cross being from a tenant farmer, Mr. H. A. A. Smith, Ieklingham, 41s., and 50 from Mr. Sayer, Troston, 40s. A score pure Southdown wether lambs from Earl Cadogan made the high figure of 40s., and the best pen of Suffolk ewe lambs (42s.) was from Hon. E. G. Strutt's Timworth estate.

Hadleigh.

Hadleigh lamb and sheep sale took place on Monday, and proved most successful, over 3,000 animals changing hands at satisfactory prices. Some of the best prices for lambs were got for 280 Suffolk ewe and wether lambs, consigned by Mr. Stephen Jackson, of Kersey Priory, from his registered flock. The first lot of 40 Suffolk ewes made 39s. each, the next 40 37s., and the third 28s.

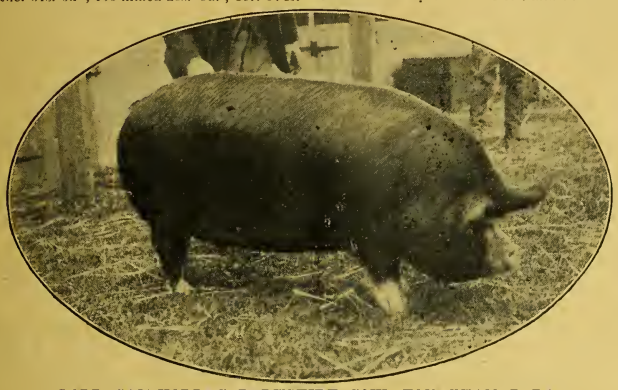
The first lot of 40 wethers realised 40s. a-piece, the second lot 36s., the third 32s., and 39 others, including three ewes, fetched 27s. First-cross ewe and wether lambs (out of black-faced ewes by Lincoln tups) to the number of 250, consigned by Mr. P. V. Hills, Boxford, were another lot to realise very good prices. Fifty ewes sold for 38s. 6d. each, another 50 33s., whilst lots of 50 wethers each went at 37s. and 32s.; 30 mixed made 27s.

Ipswich.

On Tuesday Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons held their ninth annual lamb sale at Ipswich, and they had an entry of about 1,100, which included lambs of all the local breeds, and a very satisfactory trade was experienced, biddings being sharp. The sale opened with 180 Southdown lambs from the registered flock of Sir Thomas Gooch, of which 29 ear-marked realised 25s., 50 ewe 28s., 30s., 26s., 50 wether 29s. 6d., 21 mixed 26s.; and also from Benacre Park came 119 first-cross lambs, 50 28s., 50 27s. 6d., 19 18s. 6d Three registered flocks of the Suffolk breed were represented, and 20 ear-marked lambs from Mr. J. R. Keeble, Brantham, brought the best figure of the sale, 42s., being 2s. above last year. A pen of 18 ewe, not ear-marked, fetched 34s. 6d., and 50 wether 36s. Two consignments of half-bred lambs sold as under:—Mr. F. F. Orford, Sproughton, 50 ewe 30s. 6d., 50 wether 31s. 6d; 100 mixed 28s. 9d.; Mr. J. A. Chalmers, Felixstowe, 50 mixed 31s., 50 25s. 6d., 17 21s.

St. John's.

This well-known Sussex lamb fair took place at Burgess Hill on Thursday, and was well supplied with lambs, about 4,000 being forward, but trade is dull, the weather was hot, and the attendance good, but finding business dull, farmers hurried back home for haymaking, which is about two weeks late, and probably accounted for the dull business. The chief trade was done in the culls at prices up to about 20s., whilst the best class lambs went up to 28s. Little or no trade was done in sheep.



LORD CALTHORPE'S BERKSHIRE SOW, ELVETHAM DORA, Champion and First Prize, Oxfordshire Show, 1906.

Railway Rates on Perishable Food.

Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, who was accompanied by Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., Sir T. H. Elliot (secretary of that department), and by Sir Herbert Jekyll (of the Board of Trade), received at the House of Lords on Thursday a deputation from the Joint Railway and Parliamentary Committee representing the producers and distributors of perishable foods. The various speakers complained of excessive railway rates, and unfair classification of their consignments. They asked that the Government should afford facilities for a Bill to amend the already out-of-date classification, and to set up a tribunal for dealing with increases of rates or withdrawal of railway facilities.

Lord Carrington said that he could not promise that the Government would adopt their proposed Bill, but he sympathised with many of the complaints made by aggrieved traders, and declared that his Board was willing to investigate specific grievances, and to assist in putting any hard cases before railway companies or the Board of Trade.

Northampton Wool Fair.—One has to go back to 1866 to find the record of a smaller pitch of fleeces at Northampton Wool Fair than the 16,798 fleeces sent in this year. The highest price paid in the fair was 33s. 6d. per tod, and the average, 32s. 2¼d., was half-a-crown in advance of the average obtained last year, and the highest average since 1879, when, with over 40,000 fleeces pitched, the average worked out at 34s. 5¾d.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

"Red" Worm in Horses: Parasitic Diarrhœa.

(*Concluded from page 27*).

Prevention is, of course, the most important consideration, although the breeder is prone to give first place to treatment. Pastures known to be infested or dangerous should be avoided for horses, and colts should be taken from them early in the season. Housing at night and feeding with corn and hay as compensation for the lost grass is attended with good results.

The results of medicinal treatment seem to be very varied, and one colt will often die under the treatment that has succeeded admirably with another. It is generally admitted that the recognised anthelmintics are not very successful in the expulsion of this worm. Some go so far as to say that anthelmintics are useless, and that if irritant are harmful, or that drugs are no good at all, and only spoil the appetite and hasten dissolution. Turpentine, sulphate, and other preparations of iron, carbolic acid, and vegetable tonics have their advocates and their detractors, and those of experience have to admit a general lack of success, although they have tried nearly every remedy. The best results appear to be obtained with thymol. This agent was employed some years ago by Professor Theobald, and later on by Mr. Peter Wilson, who obtained some success with it among Professor Ewart's hybrids produced in the famous Penicuik experiments.

It was recommended by Professor Theobald to give fifteen grains of thymol early in the morning, a second dose two hours afterwards, and a strong dose of castor oil on the following day, the treatment being repeated in a week's time, if necessary. Mr. Wilson advised ten-grain doses of thymol, dissolved in equal parts of glycerine and spirit, and administered in milk or water, for three days in succession, followed by a full dose of castor oil.

At a recent meeting of the South Durham and North Yorkshire Veterinary Medical Association several members, in discussing infestation with strongyles, testified to the beneficial results obtained from the use of thymol in daily doses for three or four mornings The great improvement in colts affected with "red" worms and "pallisade" worms following the use of molassine meal was also remarked by several veterinary surgeons, and this food stuff is well worth a trial in cases of parasitic diarrhœa. M.R.C.V.S.

Presentation to Sir John M'Fadyean.

At the annual meeting of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Sir John M'Fadyean, Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, was the recipient of a handsome service of plate subscribed for by members of the veterinary profession in recognition of the honour of knighthood recently conferred upon him. Accompanying this gift was a superb diamond pendant for Lady M'Fadyean. Colonel Duck, late Director-General of the Army Veterinary Department, stated that the testimonial had been subscribed for by over 600 members of the profession.

The total amount received was £688, and after defraying the cost of the silver plate and the gift to Lady M'Fadyean, there remained a balance of over £300, which is to be spent on the purchase of a portrait in oils of Sir John for his family and on a replica to be hung in the Council Chamber of the Society.

In making the presentation, Mr. J. Abson, the president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, said his Majesty had conferred knighthood on Sir John solely in recognition of his services to science. The work he had done in scientific work would endure long after he had passed away.

Cow with Capped Knee.

Can you tell me how to make a sweating bottle for a cow with a big knee?—There are three or four ingredients: one is mercury, and I think another is turpentine. I do not know what the other is. I shall esteem it a favour if you can tell me what the others are.—L. G.

Answer: I have no knowledge of the formula to which you refer, and therefore cannot undertake to complete the recipe for your "sweating bottle." The usual course in cases of capped knee in cattle, a very common trouble where they lie on hard floors insufficiently bedded, is to first remove the cause—that is, prevent further injury, without which treatment is utterly useless, and then to apply a sweating blister. The effect of this is sometimes to cause absorption of the effused fluid, but generally by converting the soft, fluctuating swelling into a hardish indurated mass, which is eventually removed by absorption. The agent generally employed is an ointment of: Biniodide of mercury, 1 drachm; lard, 11 drachms. To be rubbed into the swelling after clipping the hair from over the part, The alternative treatment is to evacuate the fluid, and apply pressure by means of a flannel bandage, but you are not advised to undertake this for yourself.

Warts on Cow's Teats.

I have a cow in full milk which has warts on her teats. Can you help me?—S. J. S.

Answer: The variety of wart found on the teats is small and diffuse popularly "pearl" or "seed" warts—and do not lend themselves to ligature, or, indeed, to any method of removal except destruction by caustic agency. This necessarily causes a certain amount of soreness, and therefore causes pain in milking, which, in its turn, often results in imperfect removal of the milk and mammitis. Further, the caustic agents generally used, and the most efficient, are a paste of arsenic or of perchloride of mercury. Both these are deadly poisons, and the smallest quantity getting into the milk owing to the teats not being thoroughly washed would be dangerous. Moreover, caustic dressings washed off twice a day would not be very effective, and the application would be troublesome. Unless the excrescences are very much in the way and cause a great deal of soreness, they will be best left alone until the cow is dry. This is the time to deal with warts on the teats.

Thinning a Mane.

I have a nag horse that has been laying out a winter. I have now got him up to work this summer. Can you tell me, through your valuable paper, the best way to thin his mane, which has grown very thick, so thick that I cannot get it to lay over properly? Shall be pleased with any information you can give me.—NOVICE.

Answer: The only way to thin a mane so as to make it "lay over properly" is to pull out the shorter hairs, and this is done by taking up a few at a time and twisting them round the teeth of a mane comb and pulling them out by the roots with a smart jerk. Saddlers sell an iron-toothed instrument, called a mane puller, which is better for the purpose than the ordinary mane comb, because it is not only less liable to break, but is furnished with a wooden handle which affords a better hand hold and more power. No thick mane will "lay over properly," and unless such a mane is well thinned and freely water brushed there is nothing for it but to "hog it"

Farm Colonies.—The Departmental Committee appointed to consider Mr. Rider Haggard's report on agricultural settlements in British Colonies states in its report, recently issued, that it cannot recommend that any steps should be taken by the Government at present to further any scheme of colonisation. It urges that a grant-in-aid should be given by the Imperial Government to the committees formed under the Unemployed Workmen Act for the purpose of emigration; and that it should be made a condition of such grant that the committees accept the advice of the Emigrants' Information Office as to the colonies to which the emigrants should be sent, and that the actual work of emigration should be carried out by societies or organisations approved by that office. If the colony concerned so desire, each emigrant should be approved by its representative in England.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Maldon, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. Cam[illegible], Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh Esher. Irish bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Barn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYSON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Hetrick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 84184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Prince 79965. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penhurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1860. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

CAPTON HERD.—Noted for size, flesh, milk, quality, and symmetry combined; colour dark red, with robust constitutions. 100 for Sale. Exported to all parts of the world. Bulls and Heifers of this Herd always on Sale. A. BOWERMAN, Capton, Williton, Taunton.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

FOR SALE. Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Eight to ten guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTE[illegible], St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902 and 1904, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901 all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12th; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.).*

THE WATERS PLACE FLOCK
OF
HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.
Registered in Vol. I. of the Hampshire Down Flock Book.

ESTABLISHED in the year 1874 by Ewes purchased from the late Mr. J. Rawlence and Mr. E. Dibben, by
T. FOWELL BUXTON, Esq.
Winners of First and Champion Prizes at Royal, Royal Counties, Smithfield, Prince of Wales 100 guinea Challenge Cup at Smithfield Club, 1903, for best pen of sheep in show bred and fed by exhibitor.

ANNUAL SALE of RAM LAMBS, RAMS, and EWES on the Farm JULY 23.

For particulars of Animals for Sale or Hire apply to—
J. H. HURFORD,
Waters Place, Ware. Herts.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Hetrick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.
COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes, won at the **Royal Highland, Bath and West,** and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U.S.A. International Exposition, 1904,** breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and also **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Basset, Notts.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middlo Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, s undness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited – A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in pig Sows for sale. —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate – H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

This Week's Live Stock Sales.

There are two or three important sales of live stock this week, notably Mr. Dudding's Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep, and the late Mr. J. Webb's Shorthorns and Southdown sheep; but we will take the days as they come.

To-morrow (Tuesday) Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck hold a special sale of pedigree Hackneys, harness horses, and Shire mares and geldings, at Peterborough. The entries are from several breeders, among them being Sir Charles Brownlow, who sends five pedigree Hackneys, and Mr. H Johnson, Bishops Stortford.

Wednesday is a blank day so far as sales are concerned. but on Thursday Messrs J. Thornton and Co. bring under the hammer at Riby Grove, Stallingborough, Lincs., some of Mr. Henry Dudding's famous Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep. The catalogue comprises most of the three, two, and one year old heifers and young bulls from Mr. Dudding's herd, reared in one of the highest-lying and healthiest districts of North Lincolnshire, and which has been celebrated for more than a century for the size and quality of the cattle and sheep which are reared in this part of the country. As to the high-class breeding of the animals nothing need be said, for it is common knowledge. Many of the heifers have calves at foot, and most of the others are in a forward breeding state; the yearlings, both heifers and bulls, comprise many beautiful young animals suitable for show purposes, the latter including the prize bull Prince Alastair, and many others of great growth and fine quality, well adapted to go into first-class herds or for shipment to South America. About sixty of the best specially selected Lincoln Long Woolled yearling rams and the prize-winning yearling ewes will be sold after the Shorthorns; they are well up to the usual high standard of the flock, and include many prize-winners.

The Cheshire Repository, Crewe, will also be the scene of a sale on Thursday, the stock to be offered here including hunters, pedigree hackneys, and show cobs and ponies. The sale will be continued on Friday, when heavy horses will be the feature.

The most important sale on Friday is the dispersal of the remainder of the late Mr. Jonas Webb's well-known herd of Shorthorns and flock of Southdown sheep at Melton Ross, Barnetby Junction, Lincs. It will be remembered that last summer forty animals of the herd were sold at an average of nearly fifty guineas per head, and now the rest are to be disposed of by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The herd is of long standing, having been founded in the year 1864, and bred almost entirely from animals of the favourite old Bates blood. These now comprise the Duchess, Red Rose, Oxford, Blanche, and Waterloo tribes; there are also some good animals of the old Laurustina family, which trace back to a famous cow by Comet 155th, Mr. Charles Colling's celebrated bull that was sold at the Great Ketton sale in 1810 for 1,000 guineas These Laurustinas were bred for many years by the Webb family in Cambridgeshire, and won numerous prizes. The dispersion of this old and highly-bred herd offers a rare opportunity to breeders of obtaining some of the fine old strains of Bates blood which now are rarely met with, are in much demand, and were so much appreciated at the recent Ruddington sale, where nine animals of the Grand Duchess tribe averaged £249 15s. 8d.

On Friday we also have a sale of Suffolk sheep and lambs at Sutton, near Melton Station, this being one of the many sales of the kind held in East Anglia by Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons; whilst on Saturday Hampshire Down sheep breeders have their turn at the noted Salisbury fair.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

The fair at Thurles, co. Tipperary, on Tuesday was a rather small one; the demand was very good, and, with the exception of some small poor cattle, all were sold. Prices: Calves, 1st class, £3 to £3 10s.; 2nd class, £2 to £2 10s. Yearlings 1st class, £17 17s. 6d. to £9.; 2nd class, £6 to £7 10s.; 3rd class, £4 to £5 10s. Two-year olds, 1st class, £11 10s. to £13 10s.; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £10 15s.; 3rd class, £6 to £7. Three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 to £15 10s; 2nd class, £13 10. to £13 15s. Springers, 1st class, £15 10s to £18 10s.; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £15. Lambs, 1st class, £1 9s. to £1 11s.; 2nd class, £1 4s. to £1 8s Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, were in fair demand at from 18s. to 24s. each.

The Ruckton Hall farm estate, including homestead and 415 acres of fertile arable and pasture lands situate in East Yorkshire, was offered by Messrs. Mabbett and Edge, in conjunction with Messrs G. W. Clark and Sons, at Hull on Tuesday, and was withdrawn at £10,800.

Midland Notes.

JUST for the moment it is the healthiness of its meat supply the general public is most anxious about, and milk has temporarily sunk rather out of remembrance. Yet such a story as Dr. Beaton appears to have been telling the London County Council reminds us that the British dairy farmer, no less than the Chicago meat packer, may soon have to face new and exacting demands for additional inspection and supervision. According to Dr. Beaton, a Staffordshire farm, where three persons were suffering from scarlet fever, sent milk to Shoreditch. Safely conveyed there. the disease spread thence to Bethnal Green, Finsbury, Islington, and St. Pancras; and how much that single tainted source of supply has cost the metropolis in life and human suffering and money, is impossible to calculate.

CONFRONTED by incidents like this, what wonder is it if London boroughs now desired to send its own inspectors down into Staffordshire and other parts of the country, and give these officials power either to demand expensive and very likely impossible changes in farmers' methods, or to prohibit them from sending milk to the Metropolis at all? People of influence in other cities—in Birmingham for instance—are equally anxious to see a system of increase municipal control; and if once the city inspector, full of his urban ideas of sanitation and forgetful of the virtues of pure country air, should get a footing in our cow-sheds, there will be an ill time coming for milk producers. Such cases as that mentioned are scarce, but just for that reason the more noise is made about them when they do occur, and that they should ever happen at all is much to be regretted.

SWINE fever, as we all know, is decreasing, the Board of Agriculture's recent veterinary returns show as much, beyond any doubt. But when the figures for 1906 come to be summed up, it looks very much as though they would reveal another retrogression in this respect. Certainly there have been more swine fever outbreaks this year in the Midlands, and more swine slaughtered than there were last year. In the last fortnight Warwickshire has had seven outbreaks, Salop ten, Gloucester four, and Stafford and Northampton one a-piece, and the calculations over a longer period indicate pretty plainly that we are still far from getting the disease properly under control.

WE have progressed so far, it is true, as to be able to begin grouping the infected areas together into larger districts, within which swine may be freely moved about. But the list of areas in which Regulation of Movement Orders are still enforced is even now a long one. In the Midlands Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire now form one area, Northamptonshire another. Leicestershire and Rutland are grouped together with Lincolnshire to make a third, and Bucks and Oxfordshire go along with Berks and Middlesex. We have no more stringent order in force now anywhere in Central England; but even these regulations mean that the movement of pigs from one part of the country to another is frequently attended with some little difficulty and annoyance, and naturally it is the breeders of high-class pedigree stock, who would naturally find buyers in all parts of the country, who are hardest hit.

LIKE those in other parts of the country, Midland markets have shown a little falling off just lately in the prices paid for sheep. But the decline is more apparent than real, and has not been felt where stock of ordinarily good quality has been offered, but only in the case of the inferior sheep from which the flocks are now being freed. The cheapening in wool prices is a more genuine movement, and suggests that at some recent country auctions more has been offered than buyers are quite ready to absorb; unless, that is, they can do so upon advantageous terms. If so, there is the more necessity for consigning the clip in an attractive condition to the purchaser. A year or so ago the common excuse for sending wool to the sales contaminated with hay, straw, fragments of string and the like, was that the current prices would not repay the grower for the time and trouble of handling and sorting. That cannot be said now; yet the same carelessness is still too common.

INTEREST in the question of canal development shows no signs of dying out, and farmers in many parts of the Midlands will be glad to see that their view of the matter is being represented to the Royal Commission by well-informed and competent witnesses. Mr. Claude U. S. Pilkington, who gave evidence on Wednesday, is well known in Nottinghamshire as agent to Lord Middleton's estates; Mr. Latham, who spoke on behalf of the chambers of agriculture, is an Oxfordshire farmer; and Mr. John Johnston, of St. Ives, was able to furnish evidence as to the

SEE OUR STAND,
Peterborough Show, July 10, 11, & 12, 1906.

H. EDWARD HOPE
& COMPANY,
22, BILLITER STREET, LONDON, E C.,

Works—
HOPE'S WHARF, MILLWALL, LONDON E.,

Will be pleased to see their numerous friends at the Stand, where samples of the following goods will be exhibited:—

Lard and Cylinder Oil, 2/6 a gallon.
No. 2 Heavy Machinery Oil, 1/6 a gallon.
Hope's Special Harness Oils, from 2/6 a gallon to 7/6, according to quality.
Motor Oils, from 1/6 to 2/6 a gallon.
Motor Greases, from 4d. per lb.
Special Oils for Traction Engines, from 1/3 to 2/- a gallon.
Cylinder Oils, from 1/8 to 3/- a gallon.
Burning Oils, Colza, Rape and Seal Oils
Engine Wastes and Engineers' Sundries.
Pynerzone Disinfectants—Powder, Fluids.
Carberzone Disinfectants—Powder, Fluids.
Carbolocleo: Liquid Soap and Disinfectant, 3/- a gallon
Weed Destroyer, from 2/- a gallon.
Jetol: Wood and Iron Varnish from 1/2 a gallon for barrels.
Belting Composition, prevents Slipping, 10/- a gallon
Boiler Fluid, 2/- to 3/6 a gallon.
Leather Goods, Belting Packings.

use actually made of inland waterways in that important agricultural district. At present transit by canal, even where available, is generally too slow to be of any great service to farmers, and beyond any doubt the present system will have to be very much improved indeed if they are to be made of real utility. But this time commercial men and farmers are at one, and working together with a common purpose, so that there really does seem to be ground for hope that their efforts may achieve a certain measure of success. We must all wish the movement well, for if it comes to anything no part of the country stands to gain more than the Midlands.

July 4, 1906.

OBITUARY.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson.

By the death of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bart., agriculture as well as temperance reform has lost one of its supporters, for Sir Wilfrid ever took an interest in matters agricultural, and was particularly a strenuous supporter of agricultural education; in fact, he was one of the founders of the Aspatria Agricultural College, which was the pioneer of agricultural education in the North of England. He was also a strong supporter of the Aspatria Agricultural Co-operative Association, and a popular member of the Cumberland Chamber of Agriculture, his sparkling wit made the meetings of the chamber much more interesting than they otherwise would have been. Sir Wilfrid, too, was a devotee of the Shorthorn, and his herd was well known other than locally, for he purchased some of the best stock, and figured as a prize winner at agricultural shows.

Mr. J. Biggar.

The death, from pneumonia, is announced of Mr. James Biggar, Chapelton, Castle Douglas, president of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, and a well-known Scottish agriculturist. He was senior partner in the firm of Thomas Biggar and Sons, who own large manure works at Dalbeattie. In 1879, Mr. Biggar was selected delegate to report on agriculture by the Canadian Government. He paid several subsequent visits to America, the last in 1902, when he judged the championships at Chicago Show. He was for many years a member of the Highland and Agricultural Society, and was one of the examiners at Leeds College for the national diploma. He gave evidence before several Royal Commissions, and as far back as 1887 advocated the founding of a College of Agriculture. Mr. Biggar was also well-known as a breeder and judge of Galloway cattle, and the Chapelton herd achieved many successes at the Smithfield, Royal, and other shows.

Northern Notes.

JUNE has turned out to be a dry month. At a meteorological station in Yorkshire the measured rainfall was only three points over one inch, and more than a third of this total precipitation fell on the 22nd. There were twelve "rainy" days; two days of high shade temperature, 77·0 deg., on the 20th and 21st, the lowest reading being 32·5 deg. on the 6th. Fruit trees, strawberries, and potatoes at the beginning of this week were badly needing moisture. This will be a poor fruit season in the North, and cottagers who look to the crops to bring in their rents will be hard hit. The clover fields are emitting their sweet perfumes; and though the rural districts present a bright aspect, the shortage of clover is everywhere in the grazing districts regarded as the fly in the ointment this season. A bad "take" has followed the dry summer of 1905, and in some districts about a third were ploughed out and sown with corn. The potato crop does not give much promise; rooks were troublesome in pulling up sets, and required a good deal of scaring.

SWEDES are spoken of hopefully, and singling is affording work for the numerous labourers who have had nothing to do in the best of districts during part of May and June. At a Wold village in Yorkshire twenty men were out of work—a circumstance not recalled by the oldest cultivator; and an appeal to the poor-law authorities was made in the hope of establishing a stone yard at their nearest workhouse to give the men test labour. This can be done under the provisions of the Test Labour Order, which the Local Government Board has the power to issue. Before there was time to formulate a scheme, the unemployed were taken on by the farmers. Unemployment on any large scale at this time of year is quite unusual; but there is always a residuum of idlers, even in the smallest towns and villages. Stone-breaking would be to them the most uninviting work imaginable.

HOW pleasant it is to walk past farms and to observe good order kept, to see the neatly-trimmed hedges, and the bottoms cleared of rubbish and undergrowth. A great mistake is made by leaving hedge bottoms full of tangle all through the summer and into the winter. They are the breeding-ground for all sorts of farm pests, whereas, at a trifling cost they could be cleared of all noxious weeds, and the larvæ of insects would to a great extent be annihilated. Lecturers on agriculture have impressed these matters upon farmers in Yorkshire and Lancashire, and the advice has been beneficial, resulting as it has done in the more frequent incineration of rubbish heaps.

A FARMER has been airing a grievance which we cannot really say has much to commend it to our hard-headed Northerners. When they form an opinion they stand their ground. The grievance referred to is an objection to publicity being given to crop reports. The farmer alluded to has for years refused to fill up the Government returns on June 4, on the ground that he would be a traitor to his fellow-agriculturists if he gave away all the information asked for; and he also considers it detrimental to the interests of agriculture in England to play into the hands of the foreigners by furnishing information which is of more use to them than to ourselves. We are constantly meeting men with extreme views on various subjects; but we confess this objector has a very bad cause. Human nature has a selfish side, and while one can sympathise with a farmer of so highly-strung a temperament, there can be no question that the collection and publication of crop reports and returns is an important matter, and is of value to the students of statistics relating to our greatest industry. The foreigner, maybe, profits from the knowledge he thus acquires; it is questionable whether our home markets are flooded with products of which we happen to be short as a direct result of published statistics. Our rural philosophy stands on a higher platform.

CONGRATULATIONS may be freely offered to Yorkshire Hackney men over their outstanding successes at the Royal Show at Derby, the most notable feature of the department being the winnings of the Rosador strain. Lancashire also had its breeding triumphs at Derby, as witness the renewed evidences of its supremacy as a Shire Horse-breeding centre. For several years the breeders of the county, it is said, made the mistake of selling their best mares at prices which were very attractive at the moment, but which were full of future penalties. The folly of this having become apparent, Lancashire men have kept their best fillies during the past three or four years, and the result is seen in successive triumphs for Lancashire-bred cart-horses

July 6, 1906.

FARM.

Earl Carrington and Fruit Growers.

A very representative deputation of fruit growers and market gardeners of Great Britain recently waited on Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, at the House of Lords, and urged the necessity for giving effect to the recommendations made in the report of the Departmental Committee appointed by Lord Onslow, the predecessor of Earl Carrington at the Board of Agriculture, to inquire into the position of fruit culture in Great Britain and to consider whether any further measures might with advantage be taken for its promotion and encouragement. The report was issued last year, but at present no action has been taken in regard to it.

After several of the members had spoken, Earl Carrington, in reply, said that he was pleased at having the honour to receive that most influential deputation of fruit growers, who represented an industry which cultivated 243,000 acres of orchards, and 78,000 acres of land under small fruit. He hoped great attention would be paid to the large amount of well paid labour that flourishing industry brought into play. He always had a warm corner in his heart for fruit growers, because he had been a grower under glass himself. Mr. Boscawen called attention to work that it was recommended should be carried on by a sub-department of the Board of Agriculture. He thought they all agreed that that work was an absolute necessity.

At the present moment, of course, they had no special sub-department which dealt only with fruit questions. A good deal, however, had been done by the intelligence branch, in conjunction with the scientific staff at Kew Gardens. The late Mr. John Innes had left a large sum of money, and 550 acres of very good land, his property at Merton, for a school of scientific agriculture. When they heard of this they at once set to work to see if some of this money could not be used for the public advantage. They had been very courteously and well met, and there was a proposal in hand at the present moment. At any rate, they would have some sort of experimental farm at Merton.

It was also urged that imported farm and fruit pulp should be inspected, and that it would be an advantage to fruit growers and the public generally if the Local Government Board collected statistics of fruit seized and condemned as unfit for human food. They had communicated with the Local Government Board as to this. It was an entirely new departure, in favour of which no strong evidence had been produced, and it might involve much labour on local authorities without any corresponding benefit. This point had, however, been so much insisted upon that he would see if, with the other Department, they could do this.

The question of railway facilities did not belong to his department, but to the Board of Trade. The railway companies had recently agreed to pay compensation for loss due to the culpable negligence of their servants, and he hoped that, with a little pressure, they would make better terms still. Dr. Gatherford mentioned small holdings which was a question very near his (the speaker's) heart, and cheap cottages, and the necessity for the alteration of the bye-laws, which, in some instances, were very hard. Nos 14 and 15 had to do with the rates and taxes, and concerned the Inland Revenue Department more than himself. The department has brought No. 14 to the notice of the Inland Revenue.

He was pleased to hear from the representative for Evesham about the security of tenure they had in their district. That seemed to be the crux of the whole matter. When any persons put their money into fruit growing they all knew that for six or seven more years it did not bring any return, and it seemed perfectly monstrous that at the end of the tenancy the landlord should be able to take all the fruit trees. That was a thing which deserved the greatest possible attention.

A delegate inquired if Earl Carrington would guarantee the formation of a sub-department to deal with fruit questions, and Earl Carrington remarked that it meant spending more money. This year, he said, would be hardly the time to go to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and ask him to give them such small doles as that when he was doing his best to lighten the taxation of the country. As soon as we can get the taxation of the country reduced, then I shall be only too pleased to get something from the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the purpose.

Horse Breeding in Japan.—The British Ambassador at Tokio reports that £75,000 was voted during the last session of the Japanese Diet for the purpose of erecting a central bureau and a number of Government stud farms throughout the country to supersede all existing arrangements for Government horse-breeding. The scheme, which was expected to be in working order by the end of May, provides for the eventual purchase of 1,500 stallions abroad

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The Curing Process.

This is commonly spoken of as "Hop drying," and if the only object in view were the getting rid of the superfluous moisture, we should experience very little difficulty in accomplishing it. The passage of dry air through any moist substance is sufficient to carry away all the contained water, if the exposure is long enough for the purpose. There is, therefore, no great skill required to remove the 75 to 80 per cent. of water contained in freshly-gathered hop cones. But we must remember that the absorbing capacity of natural air is limited. At its normal temperature of 60 deg. Fahr. a cubic metre of air will not carry more than 12 grammes of moisture. It is then saturated. But its capacity is increased in rapid proportion by heat; when it is raised to 68 deg. it takes up 17 grammes, 22 grammes at 77 deg., nearly 40 grammes at 95 deg., over 50 grammes at 104 deg., and when increased to 122 deg. its point of saturation is rather over 82 grammes, being four times as much as when the temperature is at 77.

The natural condition of the atmosphere in our country reduces its powers of absorption to a certain extent, dependent upon the weather; therefore when we wish to hasten any drying process we are compelled to raise the heat by artificial means, and thus we introduce another element into our consideration. We must also provide for the continuous changing of the air, as when saturation has taken place, no more moisture can be carried, and the drying process is checked. Therefore arises the necessity of what we describe as draught, and whatever the system of drying may be, if it is deficient in this particular, our efforts will only result in failure.

If an open vessel filled with water is placed upon a fire, evaporation goes on rapidly, and we soon perceive that the vessel is empty and dry. But if the vessel be covered, though not hermetically closed, the water is lowered very slowly, as the vapour is condensed upon the cover, and returns to the water. The hop cone is a closed vessel. Not only are the petals which are folded over each other an obstacle to evaporation, but the water contained in the tissues of the petals can only escape slowly by microscopic openings.

Again, the load of hops upon the drying floor is composed of many layers, each of which forms a screen hindering the passage of air; the whole being a very imperfect conductor of heat, the resulting vapour also having the same effect. Thus, unless the pressure of the draught is sufficiently powerful to overcome this resistance, the lower layers are over dried, while the upper ones are damaged by the condensation caused by the cooler hops near the surface of the load. The lower hops become, as it were, roasted, their colour is spoiled, and the precious lupulin is practically destroyed, while at the same time the upper layers are stewed.

The volume as well as the temperature of the air must therefore be taken into account. For instance, if with the air at 170 degrees, 20 cubic metres are required to evaporate a given quantity of water, five times as much, or 100 cubic metres, will be necessary to produce the same effect if the temperature is reduced to about 100 degrees. It is clear that extreme heat is not necessary if the proportionate additional volume of air is compelled to circulate.

The German system of partially drying the cones by exposure to natural air, and subsequently finishing the process on a kiln at very low temperature, has many advantages, which are confirmed by the preference given to hops thus cured by the native brewers, and although this method is hardly practicable in England, it appears that the nearer we can approach to it, the better the results we shall attain. The Germans are well aware of the delicate nature of the material they have to deal with, and have found by long experience that in order to preserve the essential qualities of the hop they must prevent the escape of the lupulin, and must avoid any chance of the change of the soft resins into hard, which change always accompanies the application of excessive heat.

Many inventions have been introduced during recent years to accomplish the desired end. Fans have been added to kilns heated by the open fires in general use with us, and much improvement has been thereby effected, but the objections to the passage of the products of combustion through the hops, and the possibility of contamination thereby, still remain. It is admitted that having in view the recent scare concerning the deposit of arsenic from the fuel, the use of pure air for drying must be advantageous and actually safe. The old-fashioned cockle accomplished this result, but in its primitive form it was too slow in action, and therefore fell into disuse.

There are several modern methods by which good results are obtained, the most elaborate of which—viz., the combination of hot air chambers with forced draught created by powerful fans, being, perhaps, the most prominent. But however effective these may be, they present an almost insurmountable drawback to the great majority of planters, inasmuch as the outlay required for their installation is beyond the reach of so many, especially when the small returns of profit of late years are taken into consideration.

It is, however, very encouraging to know that our planters are enabled to avail themselves of the most recent inventions for the improvement of their products, thanks to the enterprise of manufacturers in this country, and it is advisable that growers should take advantage of them, inasmuch as they are exposed to keen and unsparing competition, which will continue to pursue them. Every practical proposal tending to economy and efficiency should therefore be examined, so that they may keep ahead in the race and retain the position that has been theirs for so long a series of years.

Our Crop Prospects.

I do not propose to reproduce the many reports that have reached me from the plantations during the past week, as they are very much alike, and a few general remarks will practically embrace them all. The warmer weather and the rain have doubtless advanced the bine in almost all districts, it has become stronger and more healthy, but there are many places in which it is slack and weak. There is, however, no relaxation of the attack of blight, that resists all the efforts for its destruction, in which planters are everywhere persevering. It is thus far in this respect a most disappointing and costly season. The remarks of a Worcestershire grower in a private letter that I have been allowed to quote from, paint a picture that is probably illustrative of the general state of affairs. His letter is dated July 3, and he says:—

"I have repeatedly seen the same hop yards here this season, and I saw hops which were washed up to late last Saturday week, and on the Monday following at five o'clock were covered again with fly and lice. Some yards have already been given up and are being left by the planters to take their chance, as they think recovery hopeless and further washing useless. One thing I think can be taken as certain, that is, that the blight here is fully as bad as it was two years ago—all agree to that—but I think it is worse, as no yards have escaped it, all being hit very hard indeed."

Under the most favourable circumstances I don't think more than half an ordinary crop can possibly be grown, and to do that everything for the future must be most favourable.

I consider it is the worst blight I have seen for forty-one years, during which time the only astonishing recovery was in 1884. That year they did, as the saying is, come out of the poles, but I have never before or since seen such a recovery as that, and you can hardly look for a repetition of it now because then the bine was everywhere strong, and very strong, too, while this year it is generally particularly weak and helpless.

The Borough.

It is somewhat surprising that under present conditions our market should continue to be so quiet, as I am sure that our traders are becoming very anxious as to the outcome of the crop, and its results on our future business. But the fact remains that there is at present little or no demand, although values remain exceedingly firm at recent rates.

London County Council and the Milk Supply.

At Tuesday's meeting of the London County Council the Public Health Committee recommended that application be made to Parliament for authority to enable the Council, among other things, to prohibit the supply within the county, from a dairy within or without the county, of milk likely to cause infections disease or tuberculosis. It was proposed to seek authority also to require dairymen to supply lists of their customers and the sources from which their supplies of milk are derived, to take samples of milk at railway stations and elsewhere, and to deal with such as appeared to be so impure as to be unfit for human food.

Mr. W. W. Bruce thought that steps should be taken to inform buyers of milk when chemical preservatives were used.

Sir T. Brooke-Hitching argued that the proposal of the committee amounted to an attempt to penalise and put to heavy expense all who dealt in milk. He hoped the Council would hesitate before it put the milk dealers of England under greater disadvantages than those who canned milk in Switzerland, and then sent it to England without any inspection.

Mr. Sanders urged that the true solution of the question was the establishment of dairy farms by the county council, with the borough councils as distributors.

Dr. Beaton, who moved the adoption of the report, said that there were 4,000,000 milch cows in this country yielding annually 1,752,000,000 gallons, for which the public paid £115,000,000 a year. They had no desire to cripple such an important industry, but to strengthen it. A short time ago there was an outbreak of scarlet fever, which began in Bethnal Green and spread to Finsbury, Islington, and St. Pancras. Investigation showed that it arose in Staffordshire, on a farm from which the milk supply came, and where the farmer, his wife, and daughter were suffering from scarlet fever. It was a well-known fact that 2 per cent. of the milch cows in this country were suffering from tuberculous udders, and it was not an exaggeration to say that 32,000,000 gallons of tuberculous milk were consumed in this country every year.

The recommendations were agreed to.

The council then decided, without discussion, to include in the Bill power to enable the borough councils to provide and sell milk for the food of infants.

Agricultural Education Grants.

In reply to a question put in the House of Lords by Lord Barnard as to whether there was any prospect of increased grants for agricultural education, the President of the Board of Agriculture said that the Government appreciated all the efforts made to provide better facilities for agricultural education, and everybody, he thought, would agree that money could be spent in no better way than in helping farmers to meet the great competition which they had to face. The Treasury had not been ungenerous to the Agricultural Department, and this year the sum voted was £11,500. He did not deny that that was a very small sum compared with what was voted in America and on the Continent of Europe, but it was satisfactory to know that full value was received for it, owing to the cordial co-operation of the county councils.

It had to be remembered, however, that the income tax stood at a shilling, and an extra million was proposed to be given for the maintenance of Church schools. This made it almost impossible for anyone at the present moment to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer for even small additions to the expenditure of the country.

He thought this was a question which might receive the practical consideration of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he ventured to propose that some inquiry should be held into the system of agricultural education. There had been no inquiry of the kind since 1888. If such an investigation showed that there was good ground for an increased grant, then their hands would be considerably strengthened. It would enable them to go to the Chancellor of the Exchequer with a stouter heart. The Goverument were in full sympathy with the object Lord Barnard had in view, and their earnest desire was to see that object attained at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Sugar Beet Question.—At a large attendance of farmers held at Sleaford on Monday to consider the desirability of forming a company for the purpose of creeting a factory in the neighbourhood of Sleaford for the extraction of sugar from sugar beet, a committee was appointed to further consider the matter, and if they deemed it advisable to form a company, to take the necessary steps for so doing, if the support was, in their opinion, sufficient as to the amount of beet agreed to be grown, and they could see a probability of the capital required being subscribed, the selection of a site and all other details being left to them.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

The Progress of Hay-making. THE hay harvest is dragging itself along in a wearying sort of way, and up to the moment of writing farmers have not made the headway they would have liked. We had some nice weather about the middle of June, and those who made an early start were able to clear a few fields quickly, but the last part of the month was not favourable for haymaking, and there are prospects of the harvest dragging somewhat. In addition to having unsettled weather, with rain that would have done more good six weeks sooner, there have been a good many what farmers call "poor hay days," when skies were gloomy and there was little or no sunshine. Speaking generally, crops cannot be called heavy, indeed in many cases they are light, which makes it very desirable that we should have good weather for harvesting, and thus reduce the cost of labour. In fact, a catchy haytime is wearying to the farmer, and likewise trying to his patience and his temper, for in addition to having the work hanging about for a long time, he is painfully aware that his expenses are mounting up in the meantime, and he is not getting such good hay as he would if the weather was more favourable.

The Hay Crop in Essex. THE hay harvest in Essex is getting on well, writes a Chigwell farmer, but there is not much more than half a crop, and a somewhat similar report comes from another Essex farmer living at Braintree. He says:—The clover hay has not been a heavy crop, both for want of rain, and the young clovers dying off in a great many places by more than half; and the hay crop generally will be about a two-thirds crop. Hay, being dearer, has cleared off a good many of the long-standing stacks. The grass hay crop will be very light.

Cornwall. AS regards the hay crop in Cornwall, one of our correspondents writes:—Thanks to some good rain towards the end of May and in June everything has grown well since, and the hay crop is much better than it promised to be. A lot of hay is now being cut, and also a considerable quantity is being carted. A continuance of fine weather is wanted for a few days more.

Harvest Prospects. THE prospects for the coming harvest in Mid-Essex are looking well on the cool bottom lands, but the light lands have been wanting a shower very badly; but the early frosts have, it is feared, damaged the crops all round more than can now be seen, especially the pea crop, which is showing in the green peas being now picked, and which are yielding about half what they were last year; but prices for same are better. Mangold have planted well, and sheep feed fairly well. From another part of Essex comes the report that corn is looking fairly well but short in the straw, and this is a complaint received from other counties, a good many stating that the crop cannot be a full one. It, of course, depends on the weather now to decide what sort of grain will be developed and the quantity per acre.

Good Prospects in Cornwall. A CORNISH farmer sends us a very optimistic report on present farming prospects in Cornwall. He says:—The outlook for the farming industry is rather better than it was a year or two ago; wool is selling well, about 2d. per lb more than last year; also sheep are a fairly good trade. The beef trade keeps from about 56s. to 60s. per cwt., and in cases of extra quality a little more is given. Pigs are also selling well, which is a great help to many a small farmer in Cornwall. Given good seasons and the present range of prices for our produce, we shall hear very little about bad times in Cornwall.

Live Stock. OUR Essex correspondent summarises the live stock trade as follows, and his remarks will apply pretty generally to the whole country:—The sheep and lamb trade has been generally good; wool being dearer and a very ready sale. The fat bullock trade has been very bad, and, if possible, the store beast trade worse, and it seems difficult to understand why we cannot have a Merchandise Marks Act for English meat to stop so much foreign meat being sold for English. The pig trade has been good all through the year, stores especially selling well

SOCIETIES.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

A meeting of the council of the above association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday (Mr. W. Ashcroft in the chair), when seventeen new members were elected.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee reported that the balance at bank on current account on June 30 was £691 16s. 5d., against which they recommended payments to a total of £337 8s. 1d. The committee submitted a return showing that in the nine weeks ended June 30 only 3 cwt. of fresh milk were imported into the United Kingdom, there being none in the corresponding weeks of last year. Of cream the imports in the same period amounted to 869 compared with 853 cwt., of preserved milk 337 against 173 cwt.; and of condensed milk 173,870 compared with 146,286 cwt.

With deep regret the committee reported the death of Dr. Fream, who has for many years held the post of Consulting Botanist to the association. They recommended that the vacancy thus caused in the list of the society's consulting officers be filled by the appointment of Prof. John Percival, of the University College, Reading. The report was adopted.

The selection committee presented their nominations of stewards and judges at the Dairy Show to be held on October 9 and three following days, and recommendations were received from the show committee with regard to a variety of matters connected with the arrangements for the forthcoming show; whilst the poultry and pigeon committee submitted a report having reference to their department.

The conference committee stated that they once more have the satisfaction of reporting that the annual conference and excursions in Shropshire were in every respect successful. The gatherings were attended by about 100 members, who had the advantage of inspecting a number of thoroughly well managed and otherwise excellent farms, estates, and educational establishments, as well as the popular cheese fair at Whitchurch. The society's visit aroused an exceptional degree of interest, and the members were everywhere received with unbounded kindness and hospitality. Many of the party expressed themselves as being greatly impressed with the advantages of these annual gatherings, a sentiment which the committee fully shared. The proceedings not only attracted new members, but helped to keep alive the interest in the association, and afforded desirable opportunities of becoming acquainted with different farming conditions and methods. Each year emphasised the value of the conferences and excursions, which, in the opinion of the committee, constituted one of the most valuable features of the society's work.

The next meeting was fixed to be held on Wednesday, August 1.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY NOTES.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Norwegian Customs Department have recently issued instructions to customs officers to admit reaping-machines into Norway free of duty until further notice.

In his report on the trade of Bulgaria for 1905, the British Vice-Consul at Sofia (Mr. G. O'B. Toulmin) remarks that agricultural machinery, supplied hitherto by Austria-Hungary and Germany, forms one of the most pressing needs of the country, and affords an excellent field for British enterprise.

There is probability of diminished shipments of United States agricultural machinery this year to the Bordeaux district of France, in view of the large stocks left on hand in 1905, says Mr. R. Macdonal, H.M.'s Consul there, and he adds that the higher price of British farming machinery is slowly but surely reducing, each season, the British percentage of the total of farming machinery coming to France. There are exceptions, however, in the case of certain classes of machines, particularly in that of British portable steam engines, which hold their own and are even increasing in favour.

In the Department of the Landes, hundreds of these portable engines are employed in the pine-forests for sawing, and the present high price of turpentine and pine wood makes this department an exceptionally rich field. British makers should, however, note that large, semi-portable engines of from 80 to 300 horse-power, for producing electric current, are now finding their way into Bordeaux from Germany

AUCTION SALE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, JULY 12.—Mr. Henry Dudding's SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN SHEEP at Riby Grove, Stallingborough, Lincs.

FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 13.—The late Mr. Jonas Webb's entire herd of SHORTHORNS and flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP at Melton Ross, Barnetby Junction, Lincoln.

FRIDAY, JULY 20.—Mr. H. Sessions' SHORTHORNS, RYEDALE SHEEP, and LARGE BLACK PIGS at Ifton Manor, Newport, Mon.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Mr. D. Arkell's entire herd of SHORTHORNS, at Butler's Court, Lechlade, Glos.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' entire herd of LARGE WHITE PIGS at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY, JULY 26.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' entire herd of BERKSHIRE PIGS at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2.—Col. H. W. Shakerley's and Mr. E. A. Hambro's GUERNSEY CATTLE at Burgate, Godalming, Surrey.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.—Mr. E. Henty's SOUTHDOWN SHEEP at Ferring Worthing, Sussex.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—Mr. F. H. Jennings' SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and BERKSHIRE PIGS at Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's DEXTER CATTLE and BERKSHIRE PIGS at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Prince's Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

CROWMARSH MILLS, OXON.—On the River Thames, 2 miles from Wallingford, G.W.R.—This valuable FREEHOLD COMMERCIAL PROPERTY will be SOLD by AUCTION by

FRANKLIN & GALE, at the Town Hall, Wallingford, on FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1906, at 3 o'clock precisely, in 3 lots, with possession on completion.

Particulars, plans, and conditions of sale may be obtained of Messrs. Burn & Berridge, Solicitors 11, Old Broad St., London, E.C.; of Messrs. Twist & Sons, Solicitors, 16, Hertford St., Coventry; or of the Auctioneers, Wallingford, Reading, and Oxford.

FOR SALE, at most reasonable prices, to make room for young stock.

30 PURE-BRED LARGE WHITE GILTS,
8 to 10 months old; also
10 GRAND YOUNG BOARS
fit for service.

All eligible for registration in Herd Book; inspection invited.—Apply, HERBERT BROOM, Wissett Hall, Halesworth.

COCUM FARM,
Six miles from Micheldever Station, two from Sutton Scotney Station, and seven from Winchester.
ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS

MESSRS. JAMES HARRIS and SON have been favoured with instructions from Mr George Judd to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the premises as above, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1906—

100 RAM LAMBS,
and 6 SHEARLING RAMS,
from his well-known Cocum Flock, entered in Vol. 1 of Flock Book.

Conveyances will meet the principal trains at Sutton Scotney Station, and a brake will leave Winchester Station at twelve o'clock and Andover at same time on day of sale.

Luncheon will be provided at one o'clock and sale commence immediately after.

Mr. Judd will be pleased to show his Flock of Breeding Ewes, Ram Lambs, &c., to his friends or intending purchasers at any time previous to sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

At low reserves to dispose of an outlying Estate.

ISLE OF SHEPPEY, KENT.

In the Parishes of Minster, Eastchurch, and Leysdown, close to Eastchurch Station, and intersected by the light railway from Leysdown to Queenborough, whence London is reached in about one and a half hours.

FREEHOLD PROPERTIES, covering an area of 2521a. 3r. 22p., comprising the very interesting and historical house known as "Shurland" (the site of the 13th Century Castle), eight farm-houses, 31 cottages, agricultural buildings, and various enclosures of productive arable and excellent grazing land; also the Eastchurch Cattle Market and building land in the village.

The arable, besides being good corn land, is well suited for the growth of turnip and mangold seed, canary, &c., and the pasture for sheep grazing or dairying purposes, for which the light railway offers considerable advantages, besides affording facilities for the sale of produce and purchase of manure and feeding stuffs.

Portions of the Estate, having charming views over the North Sea, the River Thames, Medway, and Swale might profitably be developed for building purposes, whilst other portions afford sites for the erection of commercial premises, with the advantage of rail and water carriage.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION by Messrs. COBB, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London E.C., on Friday, July 13, 1906, at 2 o'clock precisely, in nine convenient lots, viz.:—

	a.	r.	p.
1. Shurland	393	2	1
2. Rides ...	65	0	20
3. Old Rides	443	0	12
4. New Rides	408	2	28
5. Parsonage .	154	2	24
6. Building Land...	3	0	0
7. Eastchurch Cattle Market	1	2	12
8. Groves and New Buildings	744	0	11
9 New Hook	308	0	34
	2,521	3	22

Possession of nearly the whole may be had on completion of the purchase.

Particulars and conditions of sale, with plan and views, may be obtained at the place of sale; The Crooked Billett, Eastchurch, Isle of Sheppey, Kent; of Messrs. FRERE, CHOLMELEY, and Co., Solicitors, 28, Lincoln's-inn fields, London, W.C.; of DAVID LINDSAY, Esq., Land Agent, Tetbury, Gloucestershire; and of Messrs. COBB, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester, Kent.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON, TUESDAY JULY 24TH, 1906.

IMPORTANT SALE OF PEDIGREE HACKNEYS AND PONIES,
the property of
SIR GILBERT GREENALL, BART.,
comprising about
16 YEARLING COLTS,
8 YEARLING FILLIES,
2 THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES,
16 THREE-YEAR-OLD GELDINGS,
5 STALLIONS,
8 HARNESS GELDINGS & MARES.

The sale contains some notable animals by Goldfinder VI., Copper King, Mathias, Sir Horace, &c. On view July 19, 20, 21.

Catalogues from Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—65 Ram Lambs and 80 Draft Ewes, from the Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's Flock, will be SOLD by AUCTION (without reserve) on FRIDAY, JULY 20, at 1 30 o'clock, at the Home Farm, Tring (L & N.W.R., 30 miles from Euston). This year's selection compares favourably with the grand lot of Lambs offered annually, and the good results from purchases made at this Sale in previous years is sufficient guarantee that the type established is universally approved. Pedigrees on the Sale day and further particulars of RICHARDSON CARR, Esq., Tring, and Messrs. W. BROWN & Co., Auctioneers, Tring.

SUFFOLK PUNCH HORSES' ANNUAL SALE,
On MONDAY, JULY 30TH, 1906,
At IPSWICH
(G.E. Rail, 2 hours from London),
Under the directions of the
SUFFOLK HORSE SOCIETY.

100 HEAD of SUFFOLK HORSES, including the entire BENTLEY STUD (late the property of Mr. Edward Quilter, deceased), consisting of some **50** noted Stallions, Mares and Fillies, including many prize-winners.

Catalogues in due course on application to the Auctioneers, Alfred Preston, Worlingworth, Framlingham, and The Arcade, Ipswich.

FREC. SMITH, Secretary.
Suffolk Horse Society, Woodbridge.

CORN and FLOUR MERCHANT'S BUSINESS.—old established, with lease of House and Shop, No. 22, Chapel Street, Somers Town, St. Pancras, N.W.—To be Sold by Auction on July 19, by MR. LEOPOLD NEUMEGEN 27, King Street, Cheapside, E.C. Particulars on application.

LEGAL NOTICE.

Notice to Creditors.—In the Matter of a Deed of Assignment for the benefit of the Creditors, dated 3rd day of April, 1906, executed by Frank Edgar Newton, of 43 and 45, Montpelier Vale, Blackheath, in the County of Kent.

I, the undersigned, WILLIAM CHARLES PENNY, the Trustee in the above matter, hereby give notice that I am about to declare a first and final dividend. All persons having any claim against the above estate must send particulars of same to me (if they have not already done so) on or before the 21st day of July, 1906, or they will be excluded from the said dividend.

Dated this 7th day of July, 1906.

(Signed) WILLIAM C. PENNY, Trustee, of the firm of Broad, Wiltshire and Penny, Auctioneers, Valuers and Surveyors, 7, Queen Street, Cheapside, London, E.C.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

BIRKBECK BANK
Established 1851.
Current Accounts. 2% Interest allowed on minimum monthly balances when not drawn below £100.
Deposits. 2½% Interest allowed on Deposit Accounts.
Advances made. **Stocks and Shares** bought and sold.—Apply SECRETARY, Southampton Buildings, High Holborn, W.C.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE
19, Lombard Street, London, E.C.
Established 1782.
Lowest Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
Assured Free of all Liability.
Electric Lighting Rules Supplied.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
SICKNESS,
BURGLARY and FIDELITY GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE Co.
Capital (fully subscribed) £1,000,000
Claims paid £5,000,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary*
64, Cornhill, London.

AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams; "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds.* Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP.—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE SIR WALTER FRANCIS HELY-HUTCHINSON,

Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, etc., etc., etc.

WHEREAS it has been shown to me to be expedient to alter and amend the Regulations, promulgated by Proclamation No. 75, bearing date the 21st day of April, 1909, providing for the examination and quarantine for the disease known as Tuberculosis of cattle introduced into this Colony from any country oversea other than the Colony of Natal:

Now, therefore, under and by virtue of the powers and authorities in me vested by the seventh section of the Act, No. 27 of 1893, intituled the "Animal Diseases Act, 1893," I do hereby proclaim, declare and make known that the Regulations contained in the subjoined Schedule shall be the Regulations for the examination and quarantine of cattle which may be introduced into this Colony from any country oversea other than the Colony of Natal, and shall have force and effect from and after the 1st July, 1906, in lieu of those promulgated by the aforesaid Proclamation No. 75 of 1909, which is hereby superseded and repealed.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given under my Hand and the Public Seal of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, this 5th day of May, 1906.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Governor.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor in Council
ARTHUR J. FULLER.

No. 156, 1906.

Schedule to the foregoing Proclamation.

1. The word "Cattle" in these Regulations shall be taken to mean and include all animals of the bovine tribe.

2. All cattle, save as hereafter excepted, shall upon arrival at any Port of this Colony from any country whatsoever oversea be liable to be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the test, known as the tuberculin test, before being allowed to land.

It will, however, be within the discretion of the Veterinary Officer aforesaid to accept the certificate of any duly qualified Veterinary Surgeon of the country from which such animals have been brought, supported by a record of temperature re-actions, to the effect that such cattle were submitted to the tuberculin test immediately before being embarked and had given no indication of the presence of tuberculosis.

3. In the absence of a satisfactory certificate as aforesaid the cattle shall be removed to place provided by the Government or by the owners subject to the approval of the Inspecting Officer for quarantine purposes, and shall be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the necessary testing by tuberculin to ascertain whether they are or are not affected with tuberculosis.

4. In the event of the test indicating the existence of tuberculosis, the animals shall not be removed alive from the quarantine station, but shall be destroyed there, and the owner shall be allowed to deal with the carcases as he may think fit, provided, however, that the flesh shall not be used for human consumption unless the said officer shall give a certificate that it is fit for that purpose.

5. All expenses of inspection, quarantine, testing, destruction and otherwise shall be borne by the owner of such cattle.

6. The foregoing Regulations shall not apply to cattle entering by sea from the Colony of Natal, so long as similar regulations remain in force in that Colony, nor shall they apply to cattle imported solely for purposes of slaughter, provided that, before being landed, they shall be inspected by the Government Veterinary Surgeon and declared to the best of his belief to be not unfit for human consumption, and the owners or importer shall sign and deliver to such officer an undertaking to the effect that none of such animals shall be used or disposed of for any other purpose than for immediate slaughter for food.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets: 12ft. by 9ft., 12s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 15s.; and so on to any size at 1s per square yard, with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt. Cash returned if not approved of H. J GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye

WATER TANKS for storing water will hold 400 gallons, wrought iron manhole at top, weight 476lbs., size 4ft. 3 ins. square, £3 15s. each; Iron Corn Bins, hold 25 gallons airtight lids, 6s. each; Galvanised Iron Mangers, hold 8 gallons, 4s. each; any of the above carriage paid.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

STRAWBERRY Netting.—Small mesh; keeps out the smallest birds; oiled and dressed; will not rot if left out in all weathers; 100 yds. by 1 yd. wide, 4s.; by 2 yds. wide, 8s.; by 3 yds. 12s. and so on up to any width; carriage paid on orders over 5s.; cash returned if not approved of. —H. J. GASSON, Net Works, Rye

RICK COVERS, quite new, all sizes, 6 yds by 6 yds., 27s; 7 yds. by 6 yds., £1 11s. 6d.; 8 yds. by 8 yds, £2 8s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., £3 15s.; or any size to order at 9d. per square yard. Good hemp rope. Fitted easily. Returned if not approved of. Carriage paid – H. J GASSON, Rick Cloth Manufacturer, Rye.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

LADDERS, with wood sides and galvanized, steel tube rounds; 22 rounds or under, 6d. per round, carriage paid for cash. — JONES Patentee, Sedgley.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro Farmer writes:—"After using a 1/- Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles Dogs or cats won't touch it. Price 6d, 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, Broad Street, Reading.

SEED POTATOES.—From healthy, selected crops. Scotch Yorkshire or Lincolnshire grown. Quotations for autumn or spring delivery.—For price apply, W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

VESICO-SUDORIFIC is the most famous remedy in the world for curing Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, Curb, Windgall, Tumours, Strained Sinews, and Strengthening Legs of Horses without blemish or needing rest. Price 2s. 6d. to 5s., of chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & Co., Temple, Bristol.

NOTE.—DAVID & Co's price for New Galvanised Steel Cisterns. 100 gallons, 19s. 6d.; 150 gallons, 31s.; 240 gallons, 47s., carriage paid. Brand New Galvanised Corrugated Sheets, finest quality, 5ft., 1s. 4d.; 6ft., 1s. 7d.; 7ft., 1s. 10d.; 8ft., 2s. 1d.; 9ft., 2s. 5d.; 10ft., 2s. 10d.—DAVID & Co., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 5d.; 3 ft., 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 1d; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s 8d.; 3 ft., 7s 9d.; 4 ft., 10s. 3d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft., 9s. 5d.; 3 ft., 13s. 5d.; 4 ft. 17s. 10d. **BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.**—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, with centre strand, strong, 10s. 4d.; medium, 9s. 3d. per 50 yard roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s per cwt; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt, galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt, 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard.

Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality, 5 ft., 1s. 3d.; 6 ft., 1s. 8½d. 7 ft., 2s. ; 8 ft., 2s. 3½d ; 9 ft., 2s. 8d.; 10 ft., 3s. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11b. cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns, corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

Mark Lane Express

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1 insertion	8/-
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☞ Small Advertisements in body type of Farms to Let, Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Secondhand Implements, Machinery, and Agencies, &c. (under classified headings), are charged at the rate of Sixpence per line.

Society Announcements, Auction Sales, at the rate of 6/- per inch.

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Situations Vacant and Wanted, three words a penny when accompanied by remittance.

Publishing Offices: 3 WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND LONDON

MISCELLANEOUS.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1s. per lb., over 1lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon

BASIC SLAG PHOSPHATE. Remarkably successful on Grass land. Obtain our prices and book requirements to ensure delivery. Binder Twine all brands; Rick and Wagon Covers; Implements, at very lowest prices. Write us to day, it will pay you.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL Co. LTD., Cannock, Staffs.

KEEP YOUR PIGS SO THAT THEY WILL KEEP YOU.—And undoubtedly the best way to do this is to mix with the food for each Pig one of WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS once or twice a week according to age. The result will astonish you. Sold in packets—7 powders, 6d., post free, 7d.; 16, 1s., post free, 1s 2d.; boxes—48 powders, 2s 9d, post free, 3s.; 144, 8s., post free, 8s.—Sole Proprietors, STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 20-30 per cent. phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post. —CLEMENT SHAFFIELD, Derby.

THE SCOUR SPECIFIC.—The never-failing cure for White Scour in Calves and Scour in Cattle Calves, sheep, &c. Post free 2/9 and 5/, used by State Agricultural College, Quebec, Canada. Anti-Saw-Horn, guaranteed to prevent Horns from growing on young Calves. Post free 1/3 (sufficient for 15) from A. H. JONES, M.P.S.I., Chemist, Doneraile, co. Cork.

RHEUMATISM CURED.—Mr. Wm. Baring-Gould, Queenswood, Moseley, Birmingham, strongly recommends Wonderful Cure, Chronic Rheumatic Disorders. FREE information for addressed envelope.

BELGIAN HARES, Table Rabbits, Flemish Giants, English Bucks for service, and Does in kindle.—PRYER 12, Medway Terrace, Waterside, Maidstone.

POULTRY.

IMPORTANT.—Everybody having old HENS for DISPOSAL should communicate with GEEN & Co., Smithfield Market, London, the largest poultry buyers in England

U.P.C. Prize Laying Strain White Wyandotte Cockerels. 10s. 6d. — SMITHWOOD POULTRY FARM, Cranleigh, Surrey.

120 Large Toulouse Embden Goslings, 3/6 each: 20, sent carriage paid, £3 15s. Also March Pullets for Autumn layers, 26/- doz., carriage paid, picked from selected layers. Also Ducklings, full grown, 24/- doz., carriage paid. Every bird guaranteed in perfect health.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARD, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, the Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd. Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FARM. — BERKSHIRE. — EAST HANNEY FARM, near Wantage, comprising 200 Acres ARABLE and 56 Acres excellent Old PASTURE with plenty of Water, DWELLING HOUSE and spacious Out-buildings; 1 mile from railway station, 3 miles from Wantage, and 7 miles from Abingdon Rent £250 tithe free. To be LET from Michaelmas next. — Apply, Messrs. E. and E. B. Ormond, Solicitors, Wantage; Messrs. Mecey and Son, Solicitors, Thatcham, Berkshire; or Messrs. Belcher, Adkin, and Co., Estate Agents, Wantage.

CROWN LANDS. Isle of Sheppey, Kent.—TO BE LET from Michaelmas next, the valuable compact GRAZING and CORN FARM, known as "Neat's Court Farm," containing about 790 acres, of which about 500 acres are Pasture and Marsh Grazing Land, and 270 acres Arable The farm is situated near to Queenborough Station on the South Eastern and London, Chatham and Dover Railway, and within easy reach of Sheerness and the market town of Sittingbourne. There is a good Farm House with modern Farm Buildings and Nine Labourers' Cottages. The Sporting will be included in the letting.—For further particulars apply to Messrs. CLUTTON, Crown Receivers, 9, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.

CAPITAL DAIRY FARM of 154 acres adjoining an important market town in Suffolk, and close to the Station, to be SOLD. Freehold, with good House, containing six bed and three reception rooms; pretty gardens and tennis lawn; ample farm buildings for a large herd of cows, and four cottages, all in good repair. The milk sales average a ward of 200 gallons per week direct to consumers in the town.—Inspected and recommended by Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON & Co., 80, Cheapside, E.C.

BEDS (one and a half miles from Midland main line station, about 50 mins. from town) —TO BE LET, PLEASURE FARM, with Residence; four bed, bath, and two reception rooms; good buildings and gardens, and about 82 acres of very fertile land, in excellent state of cultivation, well adapted for market gardening.—Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON & Co., 80, Cheapside, E.C.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

JULY TRAIN ALTERATIONS. The Great Northern Railway Company are adding considerably to their already numerous travelling facilities, both as regards train service and cheap fares, from the commencement of July Full particulars may be obtained at any Great Northern Railway Company's Office, or from the Chief Passenger Agent at King's Cross

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ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER.
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President—THE EARL SPENCER, K.G.
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Estate Management and Forestry Branch.
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Next Session begins TUESDAY, OCT. 9.

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EIGHTY FOURTH SESSION.
Trustees:
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THE only endowed Veterinary School in Great Britain. Under arrangements which are now being made, the equipment of the College will be strengthened and modernised, and the teaching facilities greatly increased.

An Examination in General Knowledge, for intending students, will be held on JULY 5, 6, 7, and on SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8.

Next Session commences TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1906.

Further particulars may be learned on application to—
PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

HARPER ADAMS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE (NEWPORT) SALOP.

This Residential College (endowed and recognised by the Board of Agriculture) provides complete practical and Scientific Courses in Agriculture, Courses of Study qualifying for all the higher Agricultural Examinations. Laboratories, Farm (recently extended), Dairy. Workshops For prospectus and full particulars apply to the Principal.

Terms commence January, April and September.

P. HEDWORTH FOULKES, B.Sc., F.S.E.

Situations, Agents, Wanted and Vacant.

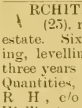
WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C

ARCHITECT AND SURVEYOR (25), requires engagement on an estate. Six years' experience surveying, levelling, and civil engineering, three years with large provincial firm. Quantities, drainage, specifications.—R. H., c/o MARK LANE EXPRESS, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London.

GENTLEMAN possessing a good knowledge of Surveying, Civil Engineering, Land Drainage, &c., requires engagement upon an Estate. Small salary.—C. WRAY, c/o Laughton & Co., Ltd., Advertising Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London.

GENTLEMAN holding the National Diploma for Agriculture has VACANCIES for Two or Three Gentlemen's Sons as pupils. Inclusive terms for tuition, board and residence in one of the healthiest and most beautiful parts of Sussex. Good references given and required.—LANGRIDGE and FREEMAN, Estate Agents, Tunbridge Wells.

"PAYING POULTRY."—An illustrated Handbook on Poultry Keeping and Breeding. Price 1s. (by post 1s. 2½d.). Bound in cloth, 2s. 6d. (post free 2s. 9d.).—WILLIAM A. MAY, F. F. & F. Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.



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Dereham Road Cycle Co., Norwich.

Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 16, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

The Grouping of Farms. WE view with some alarm the growing tendency in the direction of grouping farms. Particularly is this noticeable in districts where agriculture is conducted on a large scale, such as the Cotswold country in Gloucestershire. Plenty of instances could be given of men who are ready to take any holding which may become vacant until perhaps they will be in occupation of four or five farms. The tenant can, of course, only occupy one of the homesteads, so he puts a labourer or bailiff in each one of the others. This in itself is bad enough, considering that if each homstead was occupied by a farmer and his family more people would be on the land. Again, we contend that the land is not so well cultivated when three or four farms are held by one tenant, neither is there as much manual or horse labour employed. By his methods of farming the tenant occupying several holdings may make a profit for himself, but generally speaking the system of grouping is neither good for the land nor the landlord, and it is certainly not a means of bringing people back to the country.

Farming Landlords. WHEN agriculture felt the finger of depression at its keenest, many farmers went under, and landlords had to take holdings in hand for the simple reason that they could not get tenants for them. Some of the landlords made the farms pay, but perhaps more did not, and were glad enough to let them again at the very first opportunity. Fortunately, a better state of affairs exists just now, and agriculture has looked up somewhat. Still we find a good many landlords farming their own land, not because they are reduced to the necessity of doing so, but purely as a business transaction. Personally we have not a word to say against wealthy landlords farming a fair proportion of their own estates, because as a rule the landlord farmer is in a position to spend more money, simply because the property is his own, and he can afford to employ more labour than the tenant farmer. Altogether, farming landlords are good for a locality, and the recent boom in pedigree stock has been responsible for developments in this direction. We do not wish to oust the tenant by any means, but there is moderation in all things, and a fair percentage of gentlemen farmers is good for agriculture.

Is the Farm Labourer Thrifty? THIS pointed question was asked in the MARK LANE EXPRESS a few weeks ago, and when we compare the farm labourer with workers in other occupations, the question can only be answered in the affirmative. Of course, there are black sheep in every flock, and some farm labourers are as thriftless as they could well be. We must not judge communities by individuals, however, but, on the other hand, strike an average. There are hundreds of men on the land to-day who are ornaments to British labour. What they earn in the shape of wages is only small, even after making allowances for perquisites, but they keep themselves respectable, bring up families, provide against sickness by paying into the local club, and never ask for anything in the shape of charity. We contend that these men are thrifty, and on account of their own thrift are better off than hundreds of their fellows who earn a great deal more. Indeed, we venture to say that if labourers in other occupations made as much of what they earn as farm labourers do, there would be less poverty in the country and fewer charitable organisations would be required.

The Royal and the Best Cultivated Farms. AT the general meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, which took place at Derby, a suggestion was made that the council should revive the custom of giving prizes for the best cultivated farms. The president promised that the matter should be carefully considered by the council, and we shall watch with interest to see what comes of it. The agricultural world, and, indeed, the world in general, is delighted with the success of the recent show at Derby, and it is hoped that the event is the beginning of a new era of prosperity for the society. The R.A.S.E. lives for the object of encouraging and improving agriculture, and above all things we want our farms well cultivated. It may be urged that the farmer has sufficient incentive for doing this in the success of his business. Granted; but farmers, like the rest of us, are only human, and if there is an honour or an award to be gained, he is urged by the mystic spirit of competition to strive harder than he probably would otherwise. We know several local societies who give prizes for the best managed farms, and the usefulness of these competitions is generally admitted.

Local Markets in Hay-time. THE haymaking season has a very marked effect on local markets. The latter are sparsely attended, no great amount of business is done, and farmers seem to be in a general hurry to get their business done so that they can be off home again. In fact, during hay-time things seem to go from one extreme to the other on market days, and in many cases it would not be bad if a little more of the anxiety to get home again which is noticeable when haymaking is on was displayed at other seasons. In the interests of agriculture local markets are, of course, essential for the purpose of buying and selling, but habitual attendance at these gatherings has been the downfall of more than one farmer. Perhaps things are not so bad as they used to be when going to market meant wasting a whole day, with the consequent expenses connected with the market dinner and so forth; but, nevertheless, if a man can get away from market at mid-day when his hay is about, he could do it on many other occasions in the year if he wished, and would probably find himself better in health and pocket by doing so. We make no reference to the cases where market-going is a matter of custom rather than business.

Culinary Peas as a Farm Crop. THE average Briton at this time of the year has a characteristic weakness for a dish of green peas, and this is very marked amongst those people who live in towns, have no gardens of their own, and have to rely on the greengrocer for their vegetables. An intensely human creature is the greengrocer, and when he calls on his customers and displays his withered, battered, pea-pods to view, he feelingly calls them "marrowfats." Dear, dear, if half the people who buy peas only knew what real marrowfats are, what arguments there would be when the greengrocer called! All the same, the green pea trade (call them what you like) is an extensive one, and in districts adjoining large town centres the crop is an important one from an agricultural point of view. Unfortunately, the wrinkled, seeded, highly flavoured varieties, which are almost exclusively grown in gardens, are too tender in constitution for field culture, so the farmer sticks to a few of the older and small round seeded sorts, which the greengrocer calls marrowfats. The fact is the farmer caters for the million in the way of peas, and the *bona-fide* market gardener provides green peas for the well-to-do.

Potato Spraying. WE have arrived at the season when we are told that it is desirable to spray potatoes as a preventive of disease, but except in cases where the crop is grown on a large scale the operation is not generally performed. The reasons for this are various. In the first place, there is always the hope that the climate will be favourable and we shall not get much disease, and the British cultivator has a strong weakness for clinging to hope if it means saving time and labour; secondly, spraying though a good is not an infallible preventive of disease; and thirdly,

FARMS

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hundreds of potato growers have no apparatus for doing it. The mistaken idea about spraying is that many people begin to think about doing it when those tell-tale black patches appear on the leaves. This is parallel to locking the stable door when the horse is stolen, for spraying is essentially a preventive of disease rather than a cure. Britain is not the only country where potato blight plays havoc, and we have a report before us telling of the scarcity of potatoes and the high prices they are fetching in New Zealand owing to the prevalence of disease in the crop last season.

A Point About the Egg Trade. WE hold no brief for the British poultry-keeper, but we have heard so much about the millions of eggs that are annually imported to this country and the millions of pounds that are lost through this trade not being kept at home, that the story gets a little wearying. There is a sidelight in connection with it, however, that is generally overlooked by those who chide the British poultry-keepers for allowing the foreigner to monopolise the egg trade. If we supplied all our own eggs we should have to keep a good many more hens. Could we grow and produce the maize, corn, and other materials required for their upkeep? To say the least of it the point is doubtful, and, therefore, instead of buying eggs we should be buying stuff to keep the fowls on, so all the money now paid to the foreigner for eggs would not be kept at home, because he would get a good list of it the same as now. It may be well to remember that the people who send us so many eggs is able to obtain his feeding stuff cheaper than the British poultry keeper, and is, therefore, able to undersell him.

Weeds and Plant Food. THE word manure is said to be derived from "manœuvre," which meant tilling by hand, and this being so, the term must have been originally used in connection with cultivation rather than any application of plant food to the soil. We point this out because there are some people who seem to think that the whole sum and substance of successful cultivation is manure. This is a great error, and it is not too much to say that there are hundreds of pounds spent on both animal and artificial manures that are simply wasted. Here is a case in point. A grower of our acquaintance informed us in the spring that he meant having a bumping crop of potatoes, and with this object in view he gave a heavy dressing of dung, and supplemented it with an equally heavy dressing of artificials. A few weeks ago we went to see the crop and found the field so infested with rank weeds that the tops of the potatoes could scarcely be seen. The question is, how much of the plant food and the money spent on it were absorbed by the obnoxious vegetation? And, again, would it not have been better to have spent half the money invested in manure on cleaning the ground before cropping? Be it far from us to say a word against manure, because we can do little without it, but contend, nevertheless, that cleanliness is one of the most important factors in arable farming.

Work Amongst the Hops. ONE cannot help sympathising with the British hop grower in his clamourings for a pure beer Bill, when one considers the uncertainty of hop culture, the capital it requires, and the many difficulties there are to contend with. The people who rush through Kent on their way to the continent discuss hop gardens merely from a spectator's point of view, but they know nothing of the details. As a matter of fact, a man cannot be behind the times and make money out of hops. On the other hand, he must be very much up to date, for things are not as they used to be. In spite of appliances of the most approved type and insecticides galore, aphis flourishes alarmingly, and washing is a serious item in the expenses of the hop-grower. Apart from the manuring and cultivation of the ground, there is the continual work through the season of tying, washing, and sulphuring, and all before the great final task of harvesting. When we think of it all, and consider the money a hop-grower has to speculate (for no other term describes the situation better) before he can hope for a return, it is only a matter of common reasoning that his interests ought to be protected.

The first prize for the best pruned and kept orchard in the county of Gloucester, or within twenty-five miles of the city, was awarded by the Gloucester Root, Fruit and Grain Society to Mr. J. R. Bennett, Chaxhill, for his plum orchard of four acres, planted by him in 1887.

Lord Amherst's old-established and entire prize herd of Red Polled cattle will be sold during the autumn in consequence of the Halland the Home Farms being let. The herd contains some very fine specimens of the breed, well known as the old Didlington blood, and has for many years been successfully exhibited at the Royal and County shows.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Royal Show Correction.

SIR,—In your issue of 2nd inst., in the account of Guernsey cattle at the Royal, you write of "Roland of Seaview 10th," bred by the *late* Mr. Glynn. I am thankful to say I have been and am in perfect health, and very much alive, and was invited to judge Guernseys at the Royal. Some of those who have known me as a very successful exhibitor and breeder of Guernseys may take it that I am dead. I gave up exhibiting last year, but still have my herd of Guernseys, some sixty head of the old blood so much to the front in the showyard.—Faithfully yours,

Seagrove, Seaview, W. A. GLYNN.
Isle of Wight,
July 10, 1906.

[We tender Mr. Glynn our apologies for the error he mentions, and in doing so echo the wish of Guernsey breeders that it may be many a long year before he has to be described as "late," so that he may give us more of those splendid specimens of Guernseys for which he has gained so wide a reputation.—ED.]

Half-Holidays for Farm Labourers.

SIR,—If your correspondent, "Red Rose," will explain who will feed and attend to the live stock on a farm on the weekly half-holiday he wishes to be extended to farm labourers he will do much to facilitate its adoption; and this problem *must* be solved before such a proposal can be made practicable.

Agriculture is not in a position to bear the additional expense of employing casual labour to do this work on half-holidays, even if it could be obtained, and surely "Red Rose" does not expect the farmer and his family to do it whilst his men are holidaying. "Red Rose" asserts that the unpleasantness and inconvenience of continually being on duty is driving labourers from the land; he should remember that such men do not work from choice but necessity, and would not work at all if they could live comfortably without doing so.

July 10, 1906. ANOTHER ROSE.

SIR,—"White Rose's" opinion that a more absurd proposition than the above was never conceived, would have carried more weight if he had backed up this sweeping assertion with a few sound arguments. Many changes which have come about in recent years have been voted as absurd at the outset, but they have come nevertheless, as probably this may in due course. I wish I could think with "White Rose" "that no class of labourers are more happy or more content than the genuine farm labourer, and he would be loth to change places with the artisan and mechanic (all things considered)."

If this happy state of affairs really exists, perhaps "White Rose" will kindly explain how it is that good—I may quote your correspondent and say genuine—farm labourers are getting more scarce every year, and also say why it is that the sons of farm labourers do not follow in the occupation of their fathers. Facts do not corroborate "White Rose's" statement, and if the farm labourer is such a free, happy, contented, and well-treated individual, what is the cause of the lamentable rural depopulation, and whence comes the necessity of the cry of back to the land?

I claim to know something of the life of a farm labourer, and I still contend that it is a grind in too many cases, with not very much in the way of prospect, and I further contend that all work and no play is conducive to making Jack a dull boy. RED ROSE.

July 12, 1906.

SIR,—In this matter my sympathies are with the views expressed by "Red Rose." If the boys in the villages are to be induced to remain there, instead of being attracted as they grow up to centres of population, some counter attractions must be offered them.

My idea is that in every village a "sports club" should be organised, that the squire, parson, farmers and shoppeople should subscribe to the necessary expenses, and that the boys should pay a weekly small contribution. There should be a local cricket club, in which the "quality" should take an interest, and that matches should be played on Saturday afternoons. Many a boy would willingly work half an hour longer on other days in the week in order to get off on Saturday afternoon. The local parson should try to keep control over the boys, not in a goody-goody sort of way, but by participating in their games and gaining their confidence. The boys would then get to look upon the village as the centre of interest, and would be loth to leave a place associated with many a pleasant hour.

But if he is kept always at work, he naturally yearns for a more varied life. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and not only dull but discontented. In such cases it is not to be wondered at if he quits the village at the first opportunity, and remembers it only as a place of dull, monotonous grind.—Yours truly,

YOKEL.

June 13, 1906.

Money Instead of Beer.

SIR,—I am very much interested in the note from "J. D. W. F." on the above subject, because it bears out what I have long contended, that beer is not so essential in the hayfield as some people would have us think. The fact of the matter is that it is a time-honoured custom for beer to be given to men during hay and harvest, and everyone knows that it is not easy to upset customs, particularly in agriculture.

"J. D. W. F." says that he can get his hay-making done with less grumbling now that he gives money instead of beer. I can quite believe this, and my experience teaches me that it is a common thing for hay-harvesters where beer is provided to be everlastingly complaining that they do not get enough. To contend that a man cannot do a fair day's haymaking without beer is absurd, because he can get other palatable drinks if he is thirsty, and to supply men with liquor with the idea of getting more work out of them is following a wrong principle.

It is no part of my gospel to wish to try and deprive any working man of his pint of beer, but if he is healthy and strong he wants no stimulant to help him do his work, and by far the most business-like principle is to pay extra money for extra work and let the men drink what they like. There are scores of labourers who will drink beer all day if provided *ad lib.*; but their common sense does not allow them to spend all their extra money in liquor, and they are all the better for it.

RED ROSE.

July 7, 1906.

Agricultural Imports.

An account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 7, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

		1905.	1906.
Oxen, cows, &c....	Number	8,723	13,011
Sheep and lambs	,,	398	600
Swine	,,	—	—
Horses	,,	235	207
Beef	Cwt.	78,486	94,130
Mutton	,,	26,675	60,876
Pork	,,	3,226	4,642
Bacon	,,	111,698	108,065
Beef	,,	2,004	3,218
Hams	,,	28,150	36,603
Pork	,,	4,733	4,131
Meat, salted or fresh	,,	9,954	12,232
Meat, preserved	,,	6,928	9,770
Butter	,,	79,200	96,459
Margarine	,,	13,978	22,696
Cheese	,,	73,701	67,877
Milk, fresh	,,	—	—
Milk, cream	,,	201	182
Milk, condensed	,,	18,136	16,018
Milk, preserved	,,	27	22
Eggs	Great Hundreds	430,366	418,429
Poultry	Value £	1,748	5,343
Lard	Cwt.	47,921	54,634
Wheat	,,	2,365,300	3,062,200
Wheat Meal and Flour	,,	119,500	284,900
Barley	,,	155,700	236,400
Oats	,,	752,400	467,100
Peas	,,	17,490	32,470
Beans	,,	8,280	3,510
Maize or Indian Corn	,,	961,300	1,349,000
Apples	,,	8,787	3,353
Hay	Tons.	2,981	4,984
Straw	,,	1,963	1,840
Moss Litter	,,	1,457	1,399
Hops	Cwt.	63	3,584
Locust Beans	,,	20,840	21,340
Onions	Bush.	42,755	46,646
Potatoes	Cwt.	249,068	400,606

SITUATIONS WANTED and VACANT.

Those to whom this column appeals, if identified in some way with agriculture, will have no difficulty in obtaining employment or filling a vacancy if their requirements are advertised in the "Mark Lane Express," which is best done under a nom de plume, and addressed to this office. The charge is only a penny for every three words, but the cash must be remitted at the time of ordering the advertisement.

PETERBOROUGH SHOW.

The annual summer show under the auspices of the Peterborough Agricultural Society was held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last, and was in every way a very successful meeting. The weather was fine, and with a gentle breeze was not too hot, while the greater part of the judging was got through upon the first day. Towards four o'clock slight rain came over, but by this time the thick of the day's work was over. The Peterborough Society has few, if any, equals in the way of agricultural societies that are managed on such thoroughly practical lines and by all round practical men, who take a direct interest in the management of the show, from the framing of the prize schedule to the stewarding and looking after small matters on the days of the exhibition; and it is doubtless this practical sympathy with the movement that has caused the society to progress so successfully from year to year until it has acquired a place second to none in showyard history. The spring and autumn horse shows under the society's management work admirably in connection with the summer meeting, and the show of horses on this account forms the great feature of the exhibition. The prizes offered in the open classes are sufficiently liberal to induce owners of the best animals in the country to compete for them, and the honour of winning at Peterborough is second only to those of London, whether in respect to the Shire, for which the immediate neighbourhood is so renowned, or for the Hunter or Hackney, each of these breeds being well represented. As regards other classes of live stock, Peterborough is more the centre of a good feeding district than of a breeder's home, there being but few pedigree herds of cattle of note or flocks of sheep in the immediate neighbourhood, so that these sections are not patronised to the same extent as those of the horses.

PETERBOROUGH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW: A PARADE OF THE SHIRE HORSES.

Hunters.

The catalogue commenced with the Hunter section, of which there was a very good entry, animals being contributed by most of the leading show people, who had not forgotten to send of their best to meet the keen competition. The heavyweight class of brood mares drew entries from all over the hunting districts, the awards going to Mr. L. B. Wilkinson's Laurista, Mr. H. R. R Roe's Harmony, and Mr. J. A. Mullin's Gaiety Girl, leaving nothing but the reserve place for so good a brood mare as Mr. Colman's Homely Lass by the premium stallion Homely. All these mares are well known for their brood character and for their breeding alike. Coming to the foals out of these mares, Mr. Robinson's colt out of the young Pantomime mare Good Arm secured first honour, Mr. Colman coming second with the filly out of Homely Lass, sired by Royal Mask, and it is cause for some satisfaction that the hunter-bred sire, Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Matchmaker, was the sire of the third prize foal, which, however, was out of the blood mare Florence by Bluegrass. In the lighter weight class of brood mares Mr. Wilkinson's well-known Glasspore was once more in her accustomed place, beating Mr. A. J. Brown's Rosalinda and Mr. Ernest Robinson's Golden Leaf, both high class brood mares. In the foals out of these so-called lighter weight mares Merry Matchmaker had the honour of siring both first and second prize winners, the third being sired by Boatswain.

The gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society was awarded to Mr. Wilkinson's Glasspore, and the reserve to Mr. J. A. Brown's Rosalinda.

The young Hunter classes were exceptionally well supported both as regards numbers and quality. There were no less than sixteen entries of yearlings and seventeen of two-year-olds. This circumstance should be more than gratifying to our country; it is the only bright spot in the appearance of our future horse supply for military purposes, and it is well that the sport of fox hunting is the one thing above all others tending to maintain the breeding of the best possible class of horses for army remounts.

Our town and general public companies are day after day doing their utmost to drive the horse from our midst, and so prevent interest being taken in its breeding, that it behoves those who have any thought for our army in time of war ought to feel doubly grateful that at least fox-hunters and farmers are determined that good mounts shall not die out, and these fine classes of highly-bred young stock at Peterborough are worth thinking about. Amongst the best of the yearlings were Mr. J. L. Nickisson's Ensign, a colt with power and style by Yard Arm, Mr. Fenwick's Gayboy, fit to cross country or anything, got by Whisperer, and Mr. Wilkinson's His Grace by Erskine. The best of the two-year-olds were Mr. Rickaby's by Lifeboat, Major Renton's by Enterprise, and Mr. Long's by Merman. Three-year-olds, also in two classes (fillies and geldings), made up a total of eighteen entries

The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for best filly was awarded to Major Renton's Success, and the reserve to Mr. J. H. Stokes' Black Pearl.

The made Hunter classes were very strong, and included many of the crack Hunters from all parts of the country that have been winning at the leading shows in the spring and early summer. The championship of these made classes lay between Mr. Drage's Nuggett by Chieftain and Mr. Colman's The Monk by Dirk Hatterick, who has sired a remarkably good lot of Hunters in the Shropshire district. After a long and close competition the honours were placed in the order named above.

Polo ponies were a small entry of three, and call for little comment.

Hackneys.

Hackneys were in pretty good force, especially if we take into account the horses of this breed shown in the harness classes. The breeding classes, however, at an agricultural show claim first attention, and the two-year old stallions came first in these. Mr. A. J. Hall's Copmanthorpe Performer and Mr. R. P. Evan's Gartouius were first and second in these, their sires being Duke of Connaught and Garton Duke of Connaught. The Connaught blood also came in again in the third prize colt, Sir Walter Gilbey's Bouncing Connaught. The Hackney brood mare class was a very strong one, and included several well-known competitors, hard nuts to crack. Mr. W. Burnell Tubb's Rosadora, Sir Walter Gilbey's Mitre, and Mr. Evan's Ticonderoga were the best of them, the foal out of the latter mare by Royal Danegelt heading its class for Sir Walter Gilbey. Very smart and precocious are many of these Hackney foals, their action and manners will bear looking into. Other good foals were Mr. Rowell's by Rosadore, and Mr. Evans's by Evanthius. The local classes of brood mares was also very good, Messrs. Beldam James, and Baxter winning the prizes with well bred stock. Two-year-old fillies were eight in number, Mr. C. E. Cook's Lilleadora and Mr. Tubb's Two Dozen, the former by Rosadore and the latter by Garton Duke of Connaught, were the best of them. Yearlings were rather on the weak side, Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Beeswing and Mrs. F. E. Colman's filly by Ganymede were the best.

Hackneys in saddle found a place, and eight were entered; these, however, were quite of the high-stepping harness class of Hackneys, not exactly suited to the saddle. Mrs. Hartley Batt's Prince Edward, Mr. Tubb's Hopwood Clematis, and Prince Edward's companion, Hopwood Horace were awarded the prizes. The harness classes were a very important section of the show, so far as sight-seers were concerned, and proved a great attraction. Mrs. Hartley Batt's horses above mentioned as winning in saddle were included in the harness classes also, and so was Hopwood Clematis. There were entered also Mr. Sykes' Fylde Sabinetta, Mr. Makeague's Summator and Pink Blossom, well known in double harness, as well as Mr. Kerr's Advertisement and Paddock Wildfire. In the pony section there were also many of the leading animals of the season competing.

Shires.

Shires were, as usual, quite the strength of the equine section, and were exceptionally well represented both in the open and local section, and with several American as well as home buyers present these classes made a business occasion of it as well as an exhibition.

Two-year-old stallions came first in this department, and were one of the weakest classes to deal with. It was rather unfortunate that several of the entries had taken cold at the recent Royal and were unable to take their places, so that only five animals came before the judges. Mr. R. W. Hudson, as is his wont this year, came to the front with Shustoke Monarch, a wide, big, good-quality colt with substance, got by Coleshill Paxton. Mr. W. Hammond also sent a very weighty and fine mover in Catterall Black Prince by Westminster III., that stood second, and Sir P. A. Muntz and Mr. C. Morbey also exhibited very promising colts.

Some thirteen entries of geldings were competing in the two classes open to them. In the junior class Mr. A. H. Clarke had a fine colt in Captain by Castle Bromwich Keith, which came well to the front, and very good furnished geldings were shown in the older class by Mr. Wynn, Mr. R. P. Cooper, and others. These classes illustrated very plainly that there is money in

breeding Shire horses now as in the past, when £100 and over was readily offered for the best of these, and several of them had been working on the fallows to within a few days of the show. When Shire geldings will grow money at the rate of £25 a year, and do the work of the farm at the same time, wherein lies the sense or necessity for employing motor power, which runs up an expensive bill for petrol every month, and another heavy bill for wear and tear?

Yearling entire colts were a very good class, both open and local. Mr. F. E. Muntz's Royal winner was again invincible, coming out in fine condition, and with his capital back and limbs, as well as quality, looks like retaining his hold of the public for a long time to come. Other winners were shown by Mr. Max Michaelis, Sir P. A. Muntz, Mr. J. Rowell, Messrs. Fletcher and Andrews, and Mr. J. Measures. Lockinge Forest King blood was very prominent in these colts, and, indeed, had a thorough good innings the day through.

Yearling Shire fillies were also a very formidable lot, Mr. G. Atterbury, Mr. E. Orme, and H.M. the King in the open, and Mr. Favhock, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Rowell in the restricted class were the chief winners; the leading filly this time being sired by Dunsmore Jameson, the second was by Tatton Friar.

In the two-year-old class Lockinge Forest King blood again asserted itself, Messrs. W. and J. Thompson winning first with Desford Future Queen, a well built, carty, good filly all round, come to stay, Sir P. A. Muntz and Lady Wantage had also famous fillies here in the money.

The Lockinge Forest King blood also made what we may call an indelible impression in the three-year-old class, as Mr. Max Michaelis' Pailton Sorais by that sire carried off the first prize, which was followed by the first prize in a class open to all ages, and also by the championship of the entire show later on. The contest in the three-year-old class, however, was only accomplished by the umpire's choice, as the two judges were divided as to Pailton Sorais and Sir P. A. Muntz's Quality, the latter a very nice quality filly and a fine mover. Pailton Sorais, we may add, was first in London when a yearling, and has since then grown into a wide and weighty mare with excellent build, and she moves well. Quality is the get of Dunsmore Jameson. H.M. the King's very shapely and good quality Facsoma by Colwich Blend was given third.

The classes for the best single mare or filly, and also for the best pairs of mares, fillies, or geldings, were capitally filled, and included in addition to the mare mentioned as champion, such notable animals as Lord Rothschild's Blythwood Guelder Rose (second), Mr. Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia, Lord Beauchamp's Sussex Bluegown and Monks Polly, the former London champion, and the two now first as best pair; then there were Mr. C. Morbey's fine mares Handley Bounce and Thorney Pride, second as a pair, and from the local folk such splendid Shires as Mr. F. W. Griffin's Borough Parlourmaid, winner of the £25 subscription challenge cup, which is now won outright by Mr. Griffin, Mr. T. Gee's Wydelands Sunshine and Wydelands Starlight, as nice mares as could be wished; also those good Duchesses of Mr. John Bradley's, and in the bigger company again mares and foals from Lord Egerton, whither the third prize for foals was given, Sir P. A. Muntz taking first with a foal by Jameson, and Lord Rothschild second with the get of Birdsall Menestrel.

The championship, as previously mentioned, was accorded to Pailton Sorais, and the reserve to Blythwood Guelder Rose, the latter mare also carrying off the Shire Horse Society's gold medal for which Rolleston Fuchsia was reserved.

Cattle.

This section was somewhat insignificant when compared with the extraordinary show of horses, and consisted of three breeds only, Shorthorns, Lincoln Reds, and Red Polled, the Polled Angus and Jersey classes having been struck out of the schedule.

In the Shorthorn classes Mr. F. Miller's Linkfield Champion, the bull that was first in his class and reserve champion at the "Royal," was well first for bulls over two years, where he beat H.M. the King's very level-fleshed Royal Carlisle. Messrs. Haslam and Son had also a good bull in Kinross 3rd. In the younger and local class of bulls Mr. R. M. Knowles, Lord Armstrong, and Mr. J. A. Preece contributed very good animals, Mr. Steward and Mr. Stokes also coming in for a share of the prizes. In bull calves under a year Lord Armstrong, the Hon. L. de Rothschild, and Mr. Preece were again in the running, the class a good one of thirteen entries. In the cow and heifer classes Sir Arnold Mousley's heifers, Proud Duchess and Rolleston Spice, were first in their respective classes, and also carried off the champion prize in their section. Mr. W. Bell's Ratcleugh Witch, another well-known cow, and her herd companion, Ratcleugh Beauty, were in the money, as was also Mr. Leon's beautiful white heifer Silver Flora and Mr. W. A. H. Bass's Whitewall Anna.

In the mixed class of registered or not cows for dairy purposes, there was a good show of milk. Mr. John Even's Lincoln Red Burton Quality 3rd being first. Very good cows followed shown by Mr. Thos. Stokes, Mr. F. J. Stanhope and others.

Lincoln Reds were certainly a very useful lot, to say the least of them, Mr. W. J. Atkinson's Weston Monarch 4th was best bull over a year and a half, a good-shaped and well-grown one; Mr. R. Chatterton and Mr. J. Laugham in the younger bull class were successful with very straight yearlings; and in the cow class Mr. John Even's Burton Quality, Messrs. Fletcher and Andrews' Clara, and Mr. Patchett's Cherry Perfection were the winners, Mr. Laugham, Mr. Chatterton, and Mr. J. Topham sharing the heifer prizes.

There was a very good show of Red Polls, its supporters coming well to the help of their favourites. The breed, however, as represented at Peterborough appeared more inclined to beef points than to milk. There were two capital aged bulls, Mr. H. Daplyn's Dairyson 244th and Sir R. Cooper's Ashlyn's Major, placed as named. In younger bulls Sir Walter Corbet's Acton Rufus and Lord Amherst's Darius, two very level, well-bred ones, carried off the prizes. Cows were only two in number, Lord Amherst's Waxlight 2nd and Sir Walter Corbet's Tiff 4th; these were given first and second prizes as named; and out of half-a-dozen entries of very level heifers Sir Walter Corbet's Acton Beryl, Lord Amherst's Didlington Daisy 17th, and Sir R. P. Cooper's Ashlyn's Flirt were the best. The champion prize of this breed fell to Mr. H. Daplyn's first prize aged bull Dairyson 244th.

Sheep.

These consisted chiefly of Lincolns and Hampshire Downs, the display being about an average, and a good number of the entries were shown in untrimmed, natural condition. For Long-woolled Shearling Rams there were four entries, Messrs. Dean and Sons taking all the money. Hampshire Ram lambs made a good show of seven entries, Mr. F. F. Buxton having four entries of very forward good lambs, and carrying off first, second, and reserve honours. Mr. F. Ward and Mr. J. A. Preece stood at the head of the local ewe class, and Messrs. Dean and Sons scored in a small class of lambs. In cross-bred stock Mr. J. A. Preece and Mr. T. Stokes were the only exhibitors.

Pigs.

The pig section of the show was a very important one, quite a long range of sheds and pens being filled by the grunters, and included in them were a number of the best pigs of the season.

There were eight entries of Large White boars, in which Mr. T. Henson came off victorious with Peterboro' Bar None, a very lengthy and deep pig; Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son's Hollywell Hoppy, another pig, younger and of good quality, came second; and Sir G. Greenall's Walton King 4th followed. Large White sows were a very fine class of eleven entries, Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Lady Jane being first; Mr. Knowles and Mr. Henson were also in the money. These same exhibitors, with Mr. Dewhirst, Mr. J. Neaverson, Mr. Daybell, and Messrs. Wherry were also successful in the younger classes, which were well filled, that for pairs of gelts having fourteen entries.

Berkshires were also capitally represented. Mr. Inman, Mr. R. W. Hudson, the Duchess of Devonshire, and Lord Calthorpe were the chief exhibitors, the quality was of the best, and the honours were pretty well divided.

Mid-Kent.

The Mid-Kent Agricultural Society's eleventh Annual Show was held on Wednesday in beautiful weather, and was an all ronnd success. Sir Marcus Samuel once more placed the beautiful Mote Park at the services of the society, and this was no small attraction, whilst the show of stock, &c., was a good one as regards quality and a record one in respect of numbers, so that the success was well deserved. The Shire Horse classes, always popular in Kent, were well filled, and most of the well-known breeders were represented by excellent animals. Mr. Cornwallis won a notable victory with Linton Uniform, who was placed above Mr. Walpole Greenwell's well known Marden Conqueror. Mr. Max Michaelis, the Hon. R. P. Nevill, Mr. E. Neve, and Lord Hothfield divided most of the prizes between them. Mr. Walpole Greenwell's special prize for the best Shire or filly went to Mr. Ernest Neve for Amberfield Rambler, while the Shire Horse Society's silver medal was given to Lord Hothfield for Empress of India, Mr. Max Michaelis being awarded the reserve for Wimbledon Fuchsia. In the any breed section there was rather a surprise, for Mr. Neve's Amberfield Rambler, who was beaten at Ashford by Horne's Surprise, turned the tables this time and gained first prize. The Hunter classes were stronger than last year, and there were some good harness classes.

There were some splendid specimens of Sussex cattle on show, and in these classes the Hon. R. P. Nevill was a conspicuous winner. The Shorthorns were also strong, and for cows and bulls the first prizes went to Mr. Jeremiah Coleman. Channel Islands cattle were by no means numerous, but were of good quality, and the same may be said of the class for any breed or cross breed. The entries for sheep, which are usually small, this year showed a slight increase. Mr. Charles File, of Elham, led the van of the prize winners, but Mr. Quested, Mr. Gazalet, and Mr. Coleman also figured prominently in the prize list.

VETERINARY PREPARATIONS,

and Small Articles of a Portable Character, sell readily when brought regularly before the readers of the "Mark Lane Express."

United East Lothian.

The United East Lothian Agricultural Society is fortunate enough to have Lord Wemyss' beautiful Amisfield Park, near Haddington, as the site of their show, and this alone is enough to attract visitors. Beautiful weather favoured their show on the 7th inst., and the show being an all-round good one, the attendance was on a large scale. Clydesdale horses, which are always a prominent feature in the yard, were on the whole better than last year, notwithstanding the blanks caused by the death of the late Mr. St. Clair Cunningham, who was always a large exhibitor. There was also a large and meritorious collection of horses for road and field, whilst in the cattle section there was a good display of Shorthorns—one of the best seen here. Sheep also made a creditable display, Leicesters and Cheviots being the feature, but half-breds were good, though not numerous. Apart from its agricultural features, there was much in the yard to engage the attention of the spectators. The popular element was abundantly provided, and included a military tournament and musical ride by a detachment of the Royal Scots Greys, horse leaping competitions, driving competitions, and athletic sports. An extremely interesting display was the working trials of collies, in which there was an unusually large entry and very keen competition.

Great Chesterford.

On account of the death of their popular president, Sir Robert Herbert, G.C.B., so near the date of their show, the Great Chesterford Colt and Foal Society last year decided to forgoe the event and with a new president to resume the show in 1906. They have been fortunate enough to secure Lord Howard de Walden as a successor to Sir Robert, and this year's show took place under his presidency. The entries were not quite up to those of 1904 as regards number, but the quality, on the other hand, showed some improvement, many first-class animals being forward, and the judges had no easy task in making their awards. The class for Shire fillies foaled in 1904 was a strong entry, the pick of thirteen animals being Mr. Towgood's Shelford Link, which was also the winner of the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, but was closely run by Mr. E. Pigg's Brothertoft First Lady, which was the winner of the challenge cup given by Messrs. Hudson and Co. The agricultural gelding or mare class had fifteen entries, all of good quality, the best being Mr. J. E. Tellow's Red Rose, a very fine five-year-old mare. In the Hunter classes the premier honour went to Mr. H. Duke's bay gelding, which was first in his class, and also the winner of Mr. F. A. Taylor's silver cup. Among the brood mares The Witch, shown by Sir Walter Gilbey, was an easy first, and the same exhibitor had another easy win in the hackney colt or filly foal class, in which there were three entries, with his five weeks' old filly, whose dam, Bold Princess, was awarded the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal.

Sutton Sheep Fair.

About 6,300 lambs were brought to the hammer by Messrs. Bond and Sons at the ninety-eighth Sutton lamb sale on Friday, and met with a very good trade, there being a considerable number of Norfolk as well as of Essex and Suffolk buyers. The leading price for registered Suffolk ewe lambs this year fell to Mr. Fred Smith, Woodbridge—53s. for twenty—which were bought by Mr. W. F. Paul for his Kirton flock. Mr. J. Cracknell, Wickham Market, and Mr. Alfred J. Smith, Rendlesham, came next, tieing at 52s. for pens of twenty; and Mr. C. F. Marriner, Hasketon, was fourth for a score at 50s. 6d. A pen of fifty half-bred lambs from Mr. George Walker, Hacheston, realised 40s. The wether lambs sold quite as dear as at Great Bentley on the preceding day, but ewe were perhaps a trifle easier, although as regards several flocks there was an appreciable advance on the year.

THE SWEDISH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

HIS SHOW, WHICH IS ONLY HELD ONCE EVERY FIVE YEARS, TOOK PLACE AT NORRKÖPPING FROM JULY 2 TO 9.

Reading from left to right our illustrations show:—1. A general View of the Showyard, from which it will be seen that it is very much on the same familiar lines of English Shows. 2. A View of the big Ring, in which the animals were Judged and numerous Parades took place. 3. A Bull of the Polled Swedish Breed, the only pure breed. 4. A Dutch Bull and his herdsman, who is riding him, as is the custom of the country. 5. An Ardenne Stallion, a Belgian Breed of horses that is very popular in Sweden. 6. A Dutch Cow, bred in Sweden.

THE Swedish National Agricultural Show, as mentioned above, took place at Norrköpping from July 2 to 9, and it has proved to be a great success. It was opened by King Oscar in person, who displays as much interest in agriculture as does our own most gracious monarch. The prize money and show expenses are guaranteed jointly by the National Government and by the Provinces, but this year there was no need to make any call upon such sources, as the attendances have left a handsome profit on the exhibition. On the opening day 2,262 persons paid the sum of 5 kroner for admission (a kroner is worth roughly 1s. 1½d.), while on one other day the figures reached over 50,000 at a kroner each. The last day of the show, it may be mentioned, admission was only 50 ore, or under 7d. each.

The catalogue itself is more or less a puzzle to an Englishman, but what most particularly strikes the visitor is the fact that Sweden is almost entirely dependent upon other nations for her breeds of stock as well as for agricultural implements.

Horses are given the first place, and the object aimed at is the provision of army remounts, for which thoroughbred stallions are in most demand, many of which are imported from England.

Cattle are almost entirely confined to Ayrshires and Dutch, with an occasional representative of another breed. The Ayrshires are of good quality, although not quite satisfying the requirements of the Scotsman, as they are apt to get a bit leggy and lose that fine drawn milking character so much sought after. The Dutch cattle are descended from some of the best strains imported from Holland, and, if anything, they seem best fitted to the needs of the country. There is but one Swedish breed yet remaining pure, and these are known as Hill Cattle, being small and white in colour, with occasionally a few black spots upon them.

There was only a small number of sheep exhibited, and these, with a few exceptions, were rams imported from England. Sheep are not much kept, as the rigours of the climate render it necessary to house them for seven months out of the twelve.

The most popular breed of pigs were the Large White, and much English blood is in general use; while in the poultry section many of our popular breeds could be seen, about the most numerous being the White Leghorn and the Plymouth Rock.

The implement section was almost entirely occupied by American machinery, and the extent to which this section is monopolised is remarkable.

Findon Sheep Fair.

This well-known Southern fair was held on Thursday, and was far from successful from a seller's point of view, prices being low and demand being by no means brisk. Close on 4,000 lambs, &c., were forward, and most of the business was given to the auctioneer (Mr. Harry Jas. Burt, of Steyning), very few private sales being reported. Top price was realised by Mr. Thomas Watson, who sold 100 mixed lambs at 35s. 6d., whilst Mr. J. T. Strong was next with 35s. for 100 wether lambs. One of the best private sales was that by Mr. Phillips, of Sompting, who disposed of 90 lambs to Mr. Candy at 34s.

SOCIETIES.

The Lancashire Federation.

The chief subject discussed at the annual meeting of the Federation of the Lancashire Agricultural Society was the question of railway facilities for exhibitors and officials attending shows. The chairman (Mr. J. W. Parkinson) said the question had been before the committee on several occasions, but they were somewhat handicapped in Lancashire owing to the fact that a number of railway companies had no termini in Lancashire as they had in London. The Kennel Club was taking up the question, and the secretary had written the secretary of that body to say that any help the federation could give them on the matter would be gladly extended.

Mr. Rawcliffe (ex-chairman of the Federation) proposed (*a*) "that the sub-committee appointed at our last meeting draw up a petition asking the various railway companies that the facilities now given to delegates and representatives at conferences and other meetings, anglers, golfers, &c., of travelling at cheap rates be extended to exhibitors and officials attending shows, and that a copy of such petition be sent to each federated society for consideration by its committee, and if approved, to be signed by the officials and committee of such society, and returned to the secretary of the Federation on or before September 1. (*b*) That copies of the petition be forwarded to all other district societies, inviting similar action. (*c*) That the Royal and County Society be asked to use their influence to further the objects of the petition."

He observed that the committee had been delegated to approach the railway companies to ask them to grant certain facilities for *bonâ fide* exhibitors—that they should be permitted to travel to and from any show at which they exhibited, at a fare and a quarter for the return journey. When they went into the matter they remembered that there were exhibitors from all over the country coming to their attractive Lancashire shows, and they realised that isolated action to effect the remedy they desired would be ineffective. It was therefore decided to associate themselves with one great body or organised influence, to approach not only a portion, but the whole of the railway companies of England on the matter. All the agricultural organisations of the kingdom were similarly interested in this matter, and would, he felt sure, be glad to ally themselves with this movement. An exhibitor naturally considered the cost of attending shows, and they felt that if the fares were reduced the exhibitors would come to see their stock judged, and the influence and prestige of exhibitions would be enlarged. The Royal and the County Agricultural Societies managed to secure that which the district societies failed to get, and they, therefore, could not ask them to take similar action to themselves; but they could reasonably ask them to lend their vast strength of influence for the welfare of the local societies of England, remembering that the district shows were the auxiliaries of the larger, and that all were bound together in one common object—the welfare of the agriculture of England.

The resolution was carried, and we may add that the Federation trusts that all secretaries to whom the petition will be sent, who consider the interests of exhibitors, will recognise the importance of the movement, and give immediate attention to the obtaining of the necessary signatures, as it is believed that only by a combined united action, that the importance of the objects of the petition can be sufficiently impressed upon the Railway Clearing House Committee.

As some difficulty may be experienced in obtaining a complete list of the secretaries of the various societies it is requested that any secretary who has not received a copy of the petition by August 13 notify the secretary, Mr. M. Bartwistle, of the fact, by postcard to 8, Garden Street, Ramsbottom.

That the Federation is increasing in strength and usefulness each year was shown by the annual report, for this stated that six new societies had joined during the season, the number of new members of the Federation being twenty-nine.

Scottish Chamber.

The Land Tenure Bill came under discussion at the last meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture. Viscount Dalrymple wrote that he thought the Bill was so extremely badly drafted that he did not think its good points were sufficiently good to warrant its passing with all its bad points. It was framed by people who were totally ignorant of Scottish requirements under present conditions, and the uncompromising attitude with which they met various amendments, even on the preamble of the Bill, exposed their inability to see both sides of the question. Personally, he trusted that, if they were to have a Bill for Scotland, it would be another one framed by people with some knowledge of Scotland and applicable only to Scotland.

The secretary read a letter from Mr. Munro Ferguson, M.P., in which he suggested that the Chamber should frame a bill on Scottish lines on reasonable terms. He would be willing to take charge of it next session, and no doubt it would be backed by members of both parties. After discussion it was decided not to take action in the matter.

The secretary reported that Lord Carrington had intimated that October 10 would be a convenient date for the conference. It was resolved to invite the Secretary for Scotland also to attend the conference, which will be held in Edinburgh.

With regard to the subjects for discussion, Mr. Rutherford suggested that the question of the inspection and marking of foreign meat should be widened to embrace the whole question of the meat supply of the country. In view of the American meat scandals, were they agreed that it would be the best thing that all the meat should be killed on the other side and then brought here?

It was agreed to instruct the secretary to send out a circular to the affiliated societies, with a list of the subjects suggested for discussion, and inviting additions and an indication of the lines on which they wished resolutions to be submitted. The subjects would include the milk standard and the expenses of milk prosecutions, the inspection and marking of foreign meat and War Office contracts, butter manipulation, dairy regulations, and the amendment of the Holdings Act and the Ground Game Act.

Mr. Prentice suggested that the Chamber should consider as to taking steps for the appointment of an advisory board in Edinburgh for the Board of Agriculture, or to secure that there should be more Scottish influence and representation in the Board. It was agreed that a representation should be made that a Scotsman should be appointed to the vacancy in the Board caused by the withdrawal of Dr. Somerville.

Felton and Warkworth.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Felton and Warkworth Agricultural Society was held at Amble under the presidency of J. T. Dand, Esq., Vice-President. The names of several well-known agriculturists were announced as having accepted the office of judge in the several classes at the ensuing annual show.

On a motion by Mr. Jas. Davison, of Guyzance, the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That in the opinion of this meeting the new dipping order issued by the Board of Agriculture is unnecessarily harsh in its requirements, very difficult to carry out, and likely to interfere seriously with the business of the farmers in the district." It was agreed that the chairman and the secretary (Mr. J. Barker) be empowered to act on behalf of the society in uniting with other similar associations in obtaining the repeal or modification of the order.

Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club.

The accounts presented at the annual meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club showed that receipts of £112 1s. 5d., and expenditure £88 1s. 5d., thus leaving a credit balance of £24. The year, it was pointed out, had been a successful one altogether, for some interesting papers had been read, and useful discussion taken place; whilst the membership had increased.

Mr. W. Troy was elected president for the ensuing year, and a vote of thanks returned to the retiring president, Mr. Walter; whilst other officers were chosen, Dr. H. H. Lester, the hon. secretary since the death of Mr. Durrant, being unanimously reelected as hon. secretary.

An Edition de Luxe of the Great Eastern Railway Company's Handbook, "Summer Holidays," has been issued, and is altogether a well-got-up production likely to increase the popularity of East Anglia. Prominence has been given to some less known districts in East Anglia, and the facsimile water-colour, and pen and ink illustrations have been made a special feature.

Professor Collinge, of the University of Birmingham, whose entomological work has more than once been noted in these columns, has, we learn, another scheme in hand that is of not a little interest to farmers. In the view of men of science the ordinary modes of destroying insect pests by means of sprays, washes, fumigations, and the like, are one and all wasteful and inefficient; and what Mr. Collinge contemplates is the establishment of an "insectory" where certain parasites which prey on fruit-destroying insects may be systematically cultivated and disseminated through the gardens and orchards of the Midlands when the need arises. So in due time it should be possible for any farmer or fruit grower on notifying any serious insect infestation, to receive a supply of the particular parasite which naturally checks its course. For a beginning a campaign has been opened against the larvæ of the cooling moth, the plum and hop aphis, and the rose aphis, to oppose which the ichneumon fly is being encouraged; and if a sufficient number of the last can be bred, Midland fruit growers may hope to see the pests referred to largely and permanently reduced in numbers.

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Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 7, 1906:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	167	67	161	3,607	2,091
					123		4,024
					25		4,314
	Outbreaks.	No.	31	22	36	665	444
					25		834
							904
Sheep Scab	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	1	[illegible]	2	288	643
					4		1,058
							1,158
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
	Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	42	38	75	1,696	1,125
					55		1,462
	Outbreaks.	No.	25	18	33	595	645
					33		802
							716
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	1	1	794	757
				23	20		841
							689
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	11	19	536	546
				19	13		546
							422
Period.	Week ended July 7, 1906						
	Corresponding week in 1905						
	Corresponding week in 1904						
	Corresponding week in 1903						
	Total for 27 weeks in 1906						
	Corresponding period in 1905						
	Corresponding period in 1904						
	Corresponding period in 1903						

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

There was an average supply of cattle at the fair at Middleton (co. Cork) on Monday, and a fair demand was experienced. Prices: Yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s. to £9; 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7 7s. 6d.; 3rd class, £5 to £6; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 to £13; 2nd class, £8 to £9 15s.; 3rd class, £7 to £7 12s. 6d.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £15 5s. to £16 10s.; 2nd class, £13 10s. Springers, 1st class, £14 7s. 6d. to £16; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £13; 3rd class, £9 to £10. Lambs, 1st class, £1 6s. to £1 12s; 2nd class, £1 3s. to £1 5s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months' old, 1st class, £2 1s. to £2 6s.; 2nd class, £1 14s. 6d. to £1 18s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks' old, averaged about 24s. each.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The Sussex County Agricultural Society have drawn up an attractive programme for their show at Brighton on Wednesday and Thursday next, and given fine weather the show should be a great success, for "London by the Sea" is now crowded with visitors from all parts of the country, and a large proportion will no doubt put in an appearance at the show. The attractions, other than the display of live stock, include riding, driving, and jumping competitions, bending race, and the band of the 20th Hussars. The showyard will be opened each day at 10 a.m. and close at 7.45 on the first day, and 6 p.m. on the second day.

The fifty-fourth annual show of the Keele Agricultural and Horticultural Society is to be held in Keele Park on Thursday, August 9, and should certainly prove a success, for no less a sum than £600 is offered in prizes—an unusually large amount for a local society—and the sum is well spread over all sections, which include horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, butter and cheese, poultry, pigeons, &c., and, of course, the horticultural classes. Numerous attractions are provided for the visitors, who would soon tire of a purely agricultural show, so that the society leaves no stone unturned to make the event a success; and it is to be hoped they will be rewarded as they deserve. Prize schedules, &c., can be had of the Secretary, Mr. W. A. Benson, Silverdale.

£400 is the sum offered in prizes by the Cleveland Agricultural Society for their show at Redcar on August 24, prize schedules for which have now been issued. The cattle, sheep, and pigs classes are confined to the district, but a large number of horse classes have been provided, and these are open to the United Kingdom. Agricultural horses, hunters, Cleveland Bays, coach horses, Hackneys, and ponies all figure in the list, whilst in addition there will be driving, jumping, and turn-out competitions, also a donkey race. Minor sections include dairy and farm produce, rabbits, poultry, pigeons, and ferrets. Entries close on August 15 with the secretary, Mr. T. Turner, Lazenby, Eston, R.S.O., Yorks.

For a local society the Cookstown Agricultural and Horticultural Society issued quite an ambitious prize schedule, and that it meets with success is proved by the fact that the entries at the last two shows have been considerably over a thousand. The sections comprise cattle and poultry (some of the classes for which were open to ones), flowers, fruit, vegetables, butter, eggs, honey, and home industries. This year's show, to be held on August 22, will be on similar lines to that of last year, and a good amount is offered in prizes. Entries close August 4, with the assistant secretary, Mr. G. Ramsay, Mountain View, Cookstown.

The entries received for the Tunbridge Wells

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. E. J. POWELL, Smithfield Club.

and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society's annual show at Tunbridge Wells on the 26th and 27th inst., indicate that the show may be expected to be of the usual extent and high character, the number of animals entered being generally satisfactory. Heavy horses (Shires) account for nearly 100 entries, and there are about twice that number in the classes for Hunters, Hackneys, and other of the lighter breeds. Among cattle, Jerseys will, as is customary at this show, take the lead numerically, and some strong classes will be found; but other breeds will be there in satisfactory numbers, and admirers of Shorthorn, Sussex, Guernsey, Angus, and Dexter stock will find plenty to interest them; while, from the practical business point of view, the competitions in the milking-trial classes promise to be of unusual interest, judging by the number of cows entered.

Sheep bid fair to be one of the chief attractions of the above show. The entries are numerous, especially of the Romney Marsh breed, which will include contributions from most of the best known breeders and exhibitors, and the rapid improvement in this class of sheep during the past few years will prepare visitors for seeing some very superior specimens, while Southdowns will not be lacking either in number or quality. There will also be a large collection of goats, and as they will be sent by the most famous breeders they are certain to be of the best. The show of carriages, implements, &c., will be of about the usual extent and the customary competitions in the horse ring will doubtless prove as attractive as ever. Under favourable weather conditions there would appear every ground for anticipating another successful show.

The Whalley Agricultural Society have issued a good prize schedule for their show on the 28th inst., it including open classes and handsome premiums for Shires, Hackneys, hunters, turnouts, leapers, cattle, sheep, poultry, &c. The society, which was instituted as far back as 1810, is as vigorous as ever, and the above show will doubtless be as successful as any of its predecessors. Entries close at 10 a.m. on the 24th inst. with the secretary, Mr. J. M. Rawcliffe, Whalley, Blackburn.

We would remind intending exhibitors at the South Durham and North Yorks Horse, Cattle, and Dog Show, to be held at Darlington on August 1, that entries close on Monday next, the 23rd inst. Forty-four classes have been provided for horses and cattle, including eleven classes for hunters, and good prizes are offered in each. In addition there is a good classification for harness and agricultural horses, dairy and farm produce, poultry, &c. Mr. J. J. Harris, 6, Arden Street, Darlington, is the secretary, and from him can be had entry forms, prize schedules, &c.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW at WOLSINGHAM,
On WEDNESDAY, August 15, 1906.
Upwards of £1,000 given in Prizes for

Cattle,	Sheep Dog Trials,
Sheep,	Dogs,
Horses,	Pigeons,
Leaping,	Poultry,
Milking Demonstrations,	Rabbits,
	Butter,
Implements and Harness,	Eggs, &c.

Entries close Monday, July, 30, 1906.
Prize Schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham.
Prize Schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,
WM. CHRYSTAL,
Houghton-le-Spring.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD AND LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY are holding their
FOAL SHOW on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1906,
at Leighton Buzzard. Schedules now ready, and can be had on application to either of the Secretaries.
Entries close September 4.
WALTER C. PRUDAMES,
W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS,
Hon. Secs.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW will be held at HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE (between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks), on
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1906.
Entries close July 31, or with double fees, August 7.
Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SHOW at NUNEATON, AUGUST 29 and 30, 1906. Prizes over £1,140. For Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Implements, Dairy Produce, Eggs, Dressed Poultry, Stock Judging Competition, &c., &c. Prizes in Horse Department over £595. Special Driving and Jumping Classes. Last day of Entry July 28, after which at double fees up to 8 p.m., July 31.
Prize Books and Entry Forms sent on application to—
FREDERICK H. MOORE,
Secretary,
Warwick.

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1906.
£600 PRIZES.
Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Dogs, Cats, Poultry, Rabbits, Flowers, Vegetables, Turn-Outs and Leaping.
Entries close July 30; double fees later, except dogs. Schedules ready.
W. A. BENSON, Silverdale, Staffs.

MELTHAM AND DISTRICT Fifteenth Annual Agricultural Show, JULY 28, 1906.—A Grand Show of Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, Farming and Gardening Produce, &c., Leaping, and Sheep Dog trials, in conjunction with Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons and Rabbits. Entries close July 21.—For Schedules, now ready, apply to J. BRAMLEY, Carlisle Terrace, Meltham, Huddersfield.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, Wednesday, July 25, 1906. President—Capt. Clive Behrens. Entries Close July 7. Schedules and Entry Forms on application to the Secretary.—THOS. MITCHELL, The Mount, Malton.

THE SOUTH DURHAM AND NORTH YORKSHIRE HORSE CATTLE AND DOG SHOW, AT DARLINGTON, ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1906.
44 classes for Horses and Cattle, including 11 classes for Hunters. £15 First Prize for Four-year-olds and upwards.
There is also a splendid classification for Harness and Agricultural Horses Classes for Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Honey, and Dressed Poultry.
Entries close Monday, July 23, 1906. Schedules and entry forms on application to—J. J. HARRIS, 6, Arden Street, Darlington.

WHALLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
(Instituted 1810.)
ANNUAL SHOW, SATURDAY, JULY 28. Prize of £5 offered for best Shire Mare, and of £6 each for best Shire Colt or Filly Foal. Open Classes and Handsome Premiums for Hackneys, Hunters, Turnouts, Leapers, Cattle, Sheep, Poultry, &c. Entries close 10 a.m., July 24. Dogs one day earlier. Particulars and entry forms from JAS. M. RAWCLIFFE, Whalley, Blackburn.

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906. £160 in prizes, JUMPING, DRIVING, TURNOUTS &c. Entries close September 5, 1906—W. H. M. BARTON, Sec., Church Hill, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

FELTON AND WARKWORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
AMBLE SHOW,
MONDAY, AUG. 6, 1906.
Extra Prizes for Open Competitions in Horse Leaping. Entries close July 19. Prize Lists and Entry Forms on application to the Secretary, J. BARKER, High Stanners, Morpeth.

GREAT AGRICULTURAL SHOW AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, JULY 26TH AND 27TH, 1906.
Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs and Goats, Poultry, Pigeons and Rabbits, IMPLEMENTS, &c.
Jumping and Driving Classes each day. Grand Parade of Horses and Cattle on FRIDAY, JULY 27TH, at 11.30 a.m. The Ceylon Band will perform each day. Cheap Tickets on S.E. & L.C. & D. and L.B. & S.C. Railways. (See the Companies own announcements).
ADMISSION—
Thursday, 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., 2/6.
,, 1.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., 1/-.
Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 6.0 p.m., 1/-.
Carriages, 10/- each.
(Signed) WM. ROPER,
Secretary, Tunbridge Wells.

HARROGATE AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW.
President: HY. WILLIAMS, ESQ., J.P. will be held
On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906.
About £500 in Prizes. Schedules now ready. G. SAVILLE,
Park View, Harrogate.

THE CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
The 73rd ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Redcar on AUGUST 24, 1906.
Over £400 Prize Money.
Schedules from
THOS TURNER, Sec.,
Lazenby Eston, R.S.O., Yorks.

UPHOLLAND AND DISTRICT SHOW (Lancashire Federation), WEDNESDAY, JULY 25:—Judges—Cattle and Pigs: C. Hartley, Esq. Horses and Turn-Outs: T. F. Hutchinson, Esq. Dog Entries close July 20, 10 a.m.; other Exhibits July 21, 10 a.m. Schedules G. H. SCRIVENER, Greenfield, Upholland, near Wigan.

DAIRY.

The Butter Committee's Report.

The report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Butter was laid upon the table of the House of Commons last week. It will be remembered that the inquiry was instituted at the commencement of the session "to consider whether any, and if so what, further legislation is required in order to secure the better conduct and control of the trade in butter and butter substitutes," and, under the chairmanship of Sir Edward Strechey, who represents the Board of Agriculture in the House of Commons, has held a considerable number of meetings.

The principal recommendation of the report is that butter factories should be placed under the same law as margarine factories so far as inspection is concerned. At present there is no power of inspecting premises where butter is made or dealt with the public markets, and the committee found that there has been a good deal of "faking" and adulteration, which it is necessary to check. It is hoped by means of inspection to put an end to such practices and to trace where foreign fats are used for the manufacture of butter.

The report suggests that powers should be given to inspectors of the Board of Agriculture to enter any premises where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that butter is blended, reworked, or adulterated, or where it is believed adulterated butter is stored, and that all such premises should be registered, the licence granted at the time of registration being subject to annual renewal.

In the same connection, it is proposed than no fat other than butter-fat, and no vegetables or other oils, nor any substance capable of being used as an adulterant of butter, should be allowed to be stored in any registered butter factory, that no butter made or reworked in such factory should contain more than 16 per cent. of water, and that the addition to butter at any stage of manufacture of any fat not derived from milk should be forbidden.

Other recommendations of the committee are:—Penalties for the importation of adulterated butter should be proportionate to the magnitude of the consignment, and that all practicable steps should be taken to bring about international agreements as to the prevention of adulteration.

Milk-Blended Butter.

As regards the blending of milk with butter, the committee say:—

"Your committee think it would not be desirable to prohibit the manufacture or sale of the substance known as milk-blended butter, as it appears that this substance meets the wants or suits the tastes of a certain section of the community; but they consider that it is not butter; that it and other substances (not being margarine) containing butter fat, should only be allowed to be manufactured for sale under a special name, and regulations, approved by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; and that when sold by retail, it should be delivered to the purchaser in a wrapper, also approved by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. It would be necessary that factories where the mixture is made, and the premises of wholesale dealers who deal in it, should be registered, and that books should be kept on these factories and premises by which consignments of this mixture could be traced to the retailer."

Numerous witnesses expressed the opinion that no special exemption as to salt firkin butter manufactured by Irish farmers is desirable. The Committee concur in this view. They think that the existing law should be sufficient to prevent the manufacture by farmers in Ireland of salt firkin butter containing an unreasonable or fraudulent amount of moisture, and, so far as this kind of butter is concerned, they do not recommend any further legislation.

The Local Government Board and Preservatives in Milk.

The Local Government Board has issued a circular to authorities under the Food and Drugs Act, with reference to preservatives in milk. It is pointed out that the report of the Departmental Committee on Food Preservatives (the last meeting of which body was held in May, 1900) concluded that the addition of preservatives to milk was not necessary, and recommended that no preservatives should be so added.

The circular goes on to say that the Board has obtained further evidence on the subject, which shows that many milk vendors now conduct their business without preservatives, and that in some districts prosecutions have been frequently and successfully carried out against vendors, in order to bring about the disuse of the practice.

The circular advises the local authorities to obtain reports from their public analysts as to the extent of the use of preservatives, to notify milk traders that action will be taken under the Food and Drugs Act, and finally, where necessary, to take such action.

It is pointed out that a question of some difficulty arises where milk is sold subject to a declaration that it contains preservatives, but the board is advised that where the usual fomalin or boron preservatives are used in a certain strength, the presumption that the article has been rendered injurious to health is strong.

Adulterated Dutch Butter.

The interesting case which has occupied a considerable time of the Grimsby stipendiary magistrate, was finally concluded on Wednesday. It will be remembered that the Customs authorities charged Messrs. John C. Hopkinson, provision merchants, Liverpool, E. K. and W. E. Peters, produce importers, Grimsby, and the Continental Egg Company, Grimsby, with importing adulterated butter, and there were two summonses against the first-named, three against the second, and two against the last-named, who pleaded guilty of a technical offence.

His Worship said that after very carefully considering the evidence he felt bound to decide that the Government analysts had not made mistakes, and that the figures submitted by them must decide the cases. The prominent analysts who had been called for the defence had all admitted that the butter was suspicious, but that they would not in their capacities as public analysts condemn it. He had come to the conclusion that the butter was not genuine. There was nothing to prove the guilty knowledge of the importers, but under the Act the importer was liable.

There was another innocent party to consider. It was not fair to the consumer who thought he, when he purchased a shilling's worth of butter, should get 10½d. worth of good butter and the rest refined beef suet. In the interest of the consumer the importation should be stopped. He would impose a fine of £10 and £10 costs on Messrs. Hopkinson's first summons, and £1 and the court costs on the second. Messrs. Peters would be fined £5 and £10 costs for the first offence, and £1 each and the court costs upon the other two, while the Continental Egg Company, who had pleady guilty, would be fined £5 and the court costs.

The Butter Warranty Case.

In accordance with the recently-delivered judgment of the King's Bench Divisional Court, Alderman Sir James Ritchie sat, at the Mansion House, on Wednesday, to re-hear the summons issued at the instance of the Customs against Messrs. J. and J. Lonsdale and Co., Ltd., Stanley Street, Liverpool, for having, on August 28, 1905, imported into the United Kingdom from Rotterdam 127 packages of butter which, on examination of a sample thereof, was found to be adulterated, the packages not being conspicuously marked as required by the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act.

The summons was heard before Sir James Ritchie in January, and it was dismissed by him, the defendants having proved that they had received a warranty with the butter, which warranty stated that it was pure butter manufactured under the control of the Dutch Government, and known as "control butter." From the alderman's decision the Customs appealed to the King's Bench Division. The appeal came on for hearing recently before a Divisional Court, who set aside Sir James Ritchie's decision and sent the case back to be reheard by him, with the expression of the court's opinion that the defence of warranty was not available on a summons for importing butter.

Sir James Ritchie said the Customs had expressed themselves very favourably towards the defendants, and he imposed the nominal fine of 10s. and £3 3s. costs.

Western Counties Cheddar Cheese School.

The first draft of twenty-eight cheeses, weighing over 29 cwt., made during the month of April last at the above-named school, carried on at Glendale Farm, near Wedmore, has just been sold to Messrs Hill Brothers, of Evercreech, at 65s. per cwt. of 112 lb. 3,577 gallons of milk made 3,503 lb. of green cheese, which, when sold at eleven weeks old, weighed 3,300 lb., being a shrinkage of 6 per cent.

The following particulars relating to the manufacture of the cheese will be of interest to cheesemakers:—Temperature of milk when renneted, 84 deg.; average acidity of milk when renneted, ·19; average temperature of first and second scalds, 88 deg. and 93 deg.; average acidity of whey at close of second scald, ·15; average acidity of whey when cheese was vatted, ·77; average time when cheese was put in press, 3.25 p.m.

All Advertisements ordered for the "Mark Lane Express" appear simultaneously in the THIN paper COLONIAL and FOREIGN EDITION for circulation abroad, WITHOUT EXTRA COST to the Advertiser.

Midland Notes.

I HEAR to-day of one entire field of wheat, now growing in Warwickshire, being sold this week to a well-known Midland firm of corn merchants, who are expecting to do well out of the bargain. But how will the grower fare? Not very brilliantly, one fears. It is not a case of money being wanted immediately for some pressing purpose. The crop, which will not be ripe for three weeks or so, must be harvested, threshed out, and delivered before the cheque will be received, and though the purchasers take the chance of damage by prolonged rain, it is not to be supposed that they do not make allowance for that and similar risks in calculating the price. But apart from any question of expediency, the deal is worth noting as being about the first of the kind effected this season in this district.

THE *Times* reports upon crop prospects at the beginning of July, issued to-day, give but a poor account of the outlook in that big section of the country which takes in the counties of Leicester, Northants, Notts, Oxford, Rutland, and Warwick. Judged by these figures, barley and oats appear just a little more promising than they did twelve months ago, but wheat indifferent and of poorer promise than in any other section of the country, roots distinctly worse than in any other district, and grass decidedly inferior to that of the north and west. Potatoes, judged by the same statistics, seem to be better in these Midland counties than they are further east, but by no means so good as in the other divisions of the kingdom; and beans are spoken of favourably from every county but Warwick. Surely, however, there is some mistake in a report which places the condition of field beans in Warwickshire at 10 per cent. less than of any other county mentioned, and 20 per cent. less than most.

THERE are various reasons, however, for suggesting that some of these figures are more or less misleading. It is misleading, in the first place, to assign a low value to a crop merely because it is a little backward, and although it may be healthy and promising with every prospect of an ultimate abundant yield. In the second place, what stood in the way of the progress of vegetation during June was lack of moisture, and since the end of the month crops of all kinds have come on rapidly. Farmers in Staffordshire, who are more systematic in manuring their grass land than some others, are reaping their reward to-day in a hay crop of more than average bulk and an abundant supply of herbage on the pastures, although in the latter case so much of the grass has now run to seed that the milk flow is not considerably helped. One is sorry to see and hear of a good deal of blight among the potatoes, earlies especially, in some districts of Worcestershire and Warwickshire, along the borders.

THE customary announcement of the preserved egg prizes at the coming Christmas Cattle Show at Bingley Hall, is a reminder both of the time of the year, and of a certain commercial grievance of which I have been hearing. It is so seldom any complaint is made as to farmers' honesty—or lack of it—that when any arises it is worth inquiry. In this case it is the manager of a large Midland company doing an extensive trade in dairy produce who is aggrieved, and the trouble arises over eggs. Eggs are collected by the company's agents from very many farms within a 100 miles of Birmingham, and in the summer there is no cause for anxiety as to the supply. But the farmer, I am assured, has learned too well the possibilities of egg preservation, with the result that when autumn comes a considerable and growing proportion of the eggs offered are found on examination to be preserved. If they were openly sold as such no great harm would be done, but they are sold as "new laid" and at "new laid" prices. In this case (it being the practice to examine every egg) they are returned, I am told, to the consignor, who is notified that for the future he may take his custom elsewhere. But apparently the number of preserved eggs that masquerade as fresh during autumn and winter is increasing.

July 12, 1906.

AT Thursday's meeting of the Court of Common Council Mr. Hepburn, chairman of the Sanitary Committee, said that so far from a recent statement at the London County Council as to the excessive adulteration of milk sold in the City being true, the percentage of adulteration had decreased from 21 per cent. of the samples examined in 1901 to 7·5 in the last two years, which favourably compared with 12·5 in the rest of the metropolis.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Lord Carrington and the Fertilisers Bill.

What a tense anxiety for the immaculate character of the Minister for Agriculture possesses those politicians who protested against Lord Carrington seeking, as they put it, to influence the Committee dealing with the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Bill! What an heretical criminality was this of his lordship's! Interested in the progress of a Bill promoted by his own department, and having the sympathy of Conservatives and Liberals alike and actually bearing the *imprimatur* of his predecessor in his office, Lord Carrington, finding himself ostracised from the Committee dowered with the duty of examining it, sought to commend its purpose to the legislators having that duty. Had he been in the Commons he would have inevitably been a member of this body, and in that capacity had the duty not merely of presenting arguments, but of commending them by every personal influence and solicitation! To seek to recompense himself for the disability he thus suffered as a result of titular distinction and the accident of his birth was thus not merely heresy but flagrant burglary.

The Four More Significant Points.

I am bound to say that I regard the report of the Committee on what is brusquely described in the House of Commons as "butter adulteration" as being on the whole satisfactory. Members of the House—even those who demanded the imposition of the most rigorous and punitive measures—are possessed by that view. Sympathetic appreciation especially centres upon four suggestions: The first is that providing that an inspector of the Board of Agriculture should have power to enter any premises where butter is blended, re-worked or adulterated, or where the adulterated article is suspected to be stored, and insisting on the licensing of such premises. The second is that proposing that no fat other than butter fat, and no vegetable or other oils, or any substitute capable of being used as an adulterant for oils, should be allowed in a registered butter factory. The third is that providing that neither butter nor margarine shall contain more than 16 per cent. of water or moisture, and that in the case of the former no fat other than that derived from milk shall be added. The fourth is that providing that margarine shall masquerade under no other name, and that other substances shall have a name applied to them which shall be sufficiently descriptive to differentiate them from butter.

The House Against Adulteration.

There will be no serious difficulty, except from the rancorous spirit which indulges in wanton obstruction or loves to revel in antagonism from buffoon impishness, in retaining in the measure this saliently rigorous character. It is an admirable sign of the times—it is especially the case with the more democratic and demagogic section—that the prevalent sentiment of the House is strongly in favour of the insistence upon the purity of all foods. This sentiment regards the words "blending," "reworking," and "substitutes" as often something very like synonyms for adulteration, and, to put it bluntly, nastiness.

Sir E. Strachey as Minister.

It is only right that a tribute should be paid to the intelligent assiduity and wise insistence of Sir E. Strachey in connection with this and other matters. Sir E. Strachey, as the Minister representing agriculture in the House of Commons, has been sensible enough never to seek to coruscate. He has been content to be a minor being in the firmament of officialdom and not been moved by the desire to scintillate. Agriculture may be described as the science of Bœotia, of decorous solidity; and, recognising the fact, Sir E. Strachey has played the part of one of its apostles with amiable discretion and harmonious common-sense. On such a question as this of fertilisers and feeding stuffs, Sir E. Strachey has a knowledge which, allied to undeniable capacity and sympathy, has been of the greatest value to the interest. The fact that the Minister for Agriculture, as the chief of a national spending department (national parsimony does not allow him to be reckless with his "demnition ha'pence"), has no place in the House of Commons, where he could be subjected to an unceasingly interrogative vigilance, is still to be deplored. Still, failing the realisation of this wisdom, the present system is an excellent one; that is, the having in either Chamber a Minister who is alert, sympathetic, and generously reformative in character; without being touched by that featherheadedness which is too often associated with progressive politics.

Mr. Burns and Our Interest.

Methinks Mr. John Burns is justifying the character which I have given him—he, the erstwhile intransigeant who once regarded the red hat as the sacred oriflamme of liberty as a friend of agriculture. He may not intend it, but he is, or rather has been, our friend. His opposition to the insensate drafting of the street-corner loaferdom of the towns into the villages, there to become (in the eyes of their ebullient but ever-emotional apologists) heaven-sent agriculturists, had, as a sequel, a resolve to do nothing to facilitate the entrance of Yankee putrescence impudently pretending to be meat into this country. It is a wise sequel that he should be the author of a measure (the Public Health Regulations as to Food Bill) whose purpose is to impose regulations restricting and governing the importation, preparation, storage, and distribution of articles of food. I am glad that with his sane enthusiasm he has not been deflected from his purpose of dealing with this foreign offal trade by the fantastic depreciation of our own methods by men over-given to heroics. "If," said a speaker at the Sanitary Inspectors' Conference at Bristol, "the public knew a quarter of what is going on in the slaughter-houses of this country, the Chicago scare would not be in it." This means, if it mean anything at all, that our own filth is infinitely worse than the most revolting revelations of "The Jungle," or of the American investigators. This is not merely ridiculous exaggeration—it is, I should say, turgid rhodomontade, intended to tickle the ears of the groundlings—Mr. Burns is intent on completing the system of food-supply inspection, of robbing it of its gaps. But, again I ask, what is being done by the disciplined agrarian bodies to persuade the food-growers of this country to take advantage of the opportunities thus created for them? Those bodies exhibit a spirit of dull acquiescence in anything the State may ordain. They have become too habituated to their own inertia to now relinquish it.

Gilbertan Position in Cornwall.

"Was I sober when I swore?" asks Omar Khamyyan. Well, perhaps, this is an unwise preface to the question as to what is thought by those politicians who have been anathematising the Land Tenure Bill as though it were a sacrilege against landlord-rights, and very nigh unto economic blasphemy of the fact that the Conservative candidate for the seat from which Mr. Agar-Robartes has been ejected is in favour of the measure. Of course, the same vitriolic heat has not been generated over this measure as has been generated over the Education Bill; but at least it may be said to be the second measure of the Session, over which men's imaginations have been inflamed and their tempers irritated. Well, here is the fact that from this point of view what may now be described as the second Ministerial measure of the Session (as a fact, economically it has nothing like the significance of the Workmen's Compensation Bill or the Taff Vale Bill) is supported by the anti-Ministerial candidate in an attempt to wrest a seat from the Ministerialists. 'Tis almost a Gilbertan situation, but to those of us who are aware of the electoral situation it is comprehensible. I am not accusing this Conservative candidate of insincerity—far from it, and he is certainly fighting the seat with conspicuous ability and gallantry; but he is in the area in which the Callington rural programme is fashioned, and to set himself athwart its tenure-reform suggestions — most of which are included in the Land Tenure Bill—would be to court overwhelming and assured defeat.

Even Antagonism Better than Apathy.

Well, at all events, despite the unintended humour of this situation—humour which must have, however, a pungent distaste for certain members of the House of Commons—it is at least gratifying to find that there is one rural constituency in England in which a rural issue of moment to farmers commands an absorbing interest. No matter what may be the character of that interest so long as it have an intelligent basis—its exhibition is a happy portent. Better have tenure proposals which have received the approval of the Central Chambers derided by antagonism than have them regarded in the place where the rural interest is the dominating quantity with indifference and apathy!

An Heroic Deed—Neglected!

By the way, the possibility of a greatly heroic deed presented itself to my gaze. The vision was of the capable and vigorous Parliamentarians who have so strenuously opposed the Land Tenure Bill descending armed *cap-à-pie* upon the Bodmin constituency willing to couch a lance *à l'outrance* against any knight who dared champion the measure. Mind you, this constituency is, in a sense, its birth-place. True, the Central Chambers have accepted the main principles of the Bill; but this should not have prevented this act of daring, knightly derring-do. I am assured that not one has leapt into the arena, because not one has been invited to do so. They would be an electoral inconvenience. Is the meaning of this perceived?—the meaning that a moderate reform is comprehended to be the best enemy of wild turgid suggestions.

The Staffordshire Agricultural Society is amongst those holding their shows this week, and the site is at Stone, where, on Wednesday and Thursday, thousands of visitors are expected, for a good show has been arranged, and the programme, a copy of which we have seen, shows that there will be plenty to interest visitors. All that seems wanted is fine weather, and it is to be hoped the society will be favoured in this respect.

Last autumn, during the winter, and in the early spring we heard a good deal about the ravages of wood-pigeons, and the complaints have not ceased, for in some parts these voracious marauders have been the authors of considerable mischief during the early summer, and there are few signs of them holding their hand. The mild weather early in the year was favourable fo breeding, and pigeons began nesting early, wit the result that two broods have been brought o in many cases, and the young birds have turne to the turnip fields for food. While the young pigeons are feeding earlier turnips are later own to dry weather and the ravages of the turnip fly, and the result is that the birds destroy the plants, which would have been much more advanced in growth had the general conditions been normal. We are inclined to agree with a farmer who observed the other day that if he had not one pest to worry him to death he was sure to have another.

National Potato Society.—Mr. W. P. Wright, having been appointed Horticultural Superintendent at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, has been reluctantly compelled to resign the secretaryship and treasurership of the National Potato Society, and the new officers are:—Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adsett, Hatton House, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Charles Foster, University College, Reading, Berks.

British Possessions beyond the Seas AND THEIR London Representatives.

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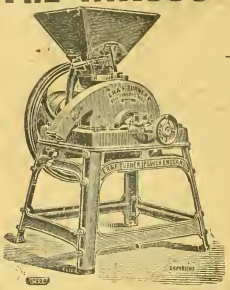

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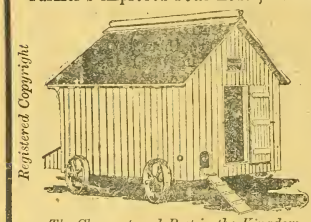

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Weather, Crops and Stock.

A Wiltshire Survey. ONE of our Wiltshire readers, who writes under the signature of "An Old Hand"—he is turned eighty-one years of age, so the *nom de plume* is an appropriate one—informs us that he returned on Tuesday from his regular and yearly inspection of some of the largest corn farms in the county of Wiltshire. Two brothers he visited farm between them nearly 4,000 acres on separate holdings, and he has been good enough to send us his verdict on his inspection. It is as follows:—I only saw 2,003 pieces of wheat up to a full average, which I call eight sacks, and the greater portion *much under this*; it is so thin on the land, and consequently a very small crop of straw, and as every straw must have an ear at the end of it, I fail to see how the crop can be any other than a light one. I may add that all the land I saw is well farmed, and has been so for fifty years to my knowledge, and the same stock of sheep on it as has always been. The barley and oats, I take it, will be about an average, having wonderfully improved of late, and I say this because about a month since I was over the same farms, so could note the change. Hay will be about three-quarters of an average. In conclusion our correspondent says:—I have always been much interested in the corn crops, especially barley, which you can understand when I tell you that for many years I bought 500 qr. of this grain weekly, and was a grower also.

The Crops in Huntingdonshire. A WELL-KNOWN Huntingdonshire farmer and breeder sends us the following interesting account of the position in that county:—The rain on the 29th ult., has done an immense amount of good in the high lands on which all crops much needed moisture. On the Fens the oat, barley, and some of the wheat crops have been laid by the heavy storms, and great fears are entertained for the yield and quality of the grain. Some of the more thoughtful or observant farmers have secured their hay grown on the uplands in good condition, whilst others who fondly imagined that the rains would increase the growth of the undergrass have been disappointed, and now find that the quality of the bents is gone and the residue very much like highly coloured straw and of about equal feeding value. It appears that each crop will be ready in about the usual season, even though the weather may have been unpropitious. Sometimes the period of ripening is delayed, and then the crop usually suffers in loss of quantity or quality. Roots and weeds are growing splendidly. There will be some very fine fields of barley, whilst many other fields will show signs of dual growth and ripening, thus rendering the barley of less use for malting, not as great a loss as formerly.

The Outlook in Brecon. A BRECON farmer sends us the following roseate view of the present farming outlook in his county, and it will be noticed that his is one of the few districts where the hay crop is abundant:—The present summer is one of the best that has been experienced for many years, the occasional showers of rain, combined with the nice genial weather, have worked such a good effect on the ground, so that the crops generally are very promising, and the hay crop abundant. Grass is also very plentiful, and provided we get a good harvest, evidently it will be one of the best seasons on record.

The Scottish Harvest: Good Prospects. REPORTS as to harvest prospects in the various districts of Scotland, published by the *Scotsman* are, with few exceptions, of an exceptionally hopeful character. All round, with favourable weather, the crops are expected to be heavier and more profitable than for many years. The harvest will probably begin about the end of August, or in backward districts about the first week of September. It will thus be from a fortnight to three weeks later than last year's harvest. The main, and practically the only, exception to the favourable outlook is furnished in the case of turnips. Where farmers have sown early the plants have grown well; but those sowing later found an unfavourable seed-time. Resowing has had to be resorted to in many cases, and the prospects vary considerably.

Mr. Ernest Parke, the results of whose artificial manure experiments at Kineton have appeared in our columns during the past five years, has been made a magistrate for Warwickshire.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Whitechapel Hay Market Customs in Dispute.

On Tuesday, sitting as an additional Judge of the King's Bench Division, Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady delivered reserved judgment in the case of "Gingell, Son, and Foskett (Limited) *v.* the Stepney Borough Council." This was a test action brought by the salesmen of the ancient hay and straw market in High Street, Whitechapel, to determine the validity of certain market regulations issued by the Stepney Borough Council, and their right to extend the limits of the market into Leman Street, Commercial Street, and Commercial Road, which adjoin the High Street. The Council denied that the salesmen had any such right, and claimed that the market was restricted to the High Street.

His Lordship held that the proper inference to be drawn from the evidence and the documents was that the Whitechapel Hay Market was a market without meets and bounds, and might extend from time to time as the exigencies of the market might require, and that the streets in question must be presumed to have been dedicated to the public, subject to the exercise of the market franchise. That position was recognised by Section 46 of the Whitechapel Improvement Act, 1853.

His Lordship also found that the market regulations issued by the council were invalid. The declaration asked for by the salesmen was granted, and the council was ordered to pay the costs.

Damage by Trespassing Cattle.

SIR,—I should be glad if your Barrister-at-Law will give me advice on the following:—A. and B. have lands adjoining, divided by fences, belonging in some places to A. and in others to B. Last week B.'s bull broke through B.'s fence into A.'s land and gored one of A.'s cows so badly that she had to be killed. Is B. liable for the loss, and if so, how should A. proceed in order to obtain damages? It may be said that B. has been approached in a friendly manner on the subject, but denies any liability.

July 13, 1906. MANY YEARS SUBSCRIBER.

[It is the duty of every occupier of fields who keeps cattle in them to prevent them from doing damage by straying or injuring the property of others. This entails the liability of fencing properly. A.'s cow was injured by B.'s bull breaking through B.'s fence, therefore it rests with B. to show that he took the proper precautions to prevent this. *Primâ facie* he did not, otherwise B.'s bull would not have broken through the fence. A can bring an action. He should prove that the cow was killed and the loss occasioned him by the death of the cow. Evidence should be called to show that B.'s fence was broken through, and that it was not secure. On these facts being proved A. should succeed in his claim.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW].

Income Tax.

SIR,—I am a tenant farmer, and my rent is admitted by the Surveyor of Taxes as being below taxable values for income tax. But my wife in her profession earns a considerable yearly income which she pays income tax on. From this I do not benefit one single farthing, as, naturally, my wife takes her earnings and does what she pleases with them. But the Surveyor of Taxes—wrongly, I am certain—says I have to pay income tax in addition, because my wife earns money on which she now pays the full tax of 1s. in the pound. I know this claim on the part of the Surveyor of Taxes must be unfair; but I don't know what steps to take to prevent this claim for taxes on me. Cannot I do something? Should not married women's incomes be assessed absolutely separately? I trust your barrister can easily answer these questions. I have a strong conviction that I should not be made to pay income tax in addition to what my wife pays, as if she did not pay I should not be charged at all.

July 10, 1906. A TENANT FARMER.

[The law on the point is as follows:—The income of a married woman residing with her husband is deemed to be his income for income tax purposes, notwithstanding any settlement or provisions of the Married Woman's Property Act, 1882, and the joint income of husband and wife must be included in the claim which should be preferred by the husband; but by the Finance Act, 1897, where the total joint income of a husband and wife does not exceed £500, a wife may separate her claim for exemption or abatement from that of her husband on profits earned by means of her own personal labour in any profession, employment, or vocation under Schedule D, or from any office or employment under Schedule E.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10·2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Nitrogenous Fertilisers: Their Comparative Efficacy.

A series of trials has been carried on for several years at the Experimental Station of the "Park des Princes" with the object of testing the relative fertilising value of the principal forms of nitrogenous plant food, and Professor Grandeau has recently published in the *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique*, a *resumé* of the conclusions. The trials were made with nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, and organic ammonia in the form of dried blood, the crops being potatoes and maize.

It should be stated at the outset that the soil is described as flinty, dry, and deficient in lime, and therefore not favourable to the natural process of nitrification, so that the results must not be accepted as applying to other kinds of soil. We must not generalise from the particular to the common.

In 1892, 1893, and 1896 potatoes were grown, and in 1897 maize. During these four years nitrogen was given in the three different forms at the rate of 40 lb. nitrogen per acre, the soil being well supplied with phosphate and potash.

The average yield of potatoes during the seasons 1892, 1893, and 1896 was, calculated per acre:—

(*a*) with nitrate of soda..... 10 tons.
(*b*) with sulphate of ammonia. 8¼ ,,
(*c*) with dried blood ..... 6½ ,,

All the other conditions of cultivation being the same, the excess of the (*a*) plot cannot be attributed to anything else than the superiority on such soils of nitrate of soda over sulphate of ammonia or organic ammonia.

With the maize crop in 1897 the result, calculated per acre, was

With nitrate of soda ... ... 21½ tons.
With sulphate of ammonia ... 18¾ tons.
With dried blood ... ... 16 tons.

Here, again, the increase of crop can only be put down to the greater efficacy of nitrate of soda—and it must be explained by the fact that whereas nitrate of soda supplies to the plant nitrogen in a form directly assimilable, the nitrogen of the other two fertilisers has to undergo a transformation in the soil, this process being more rapid in the sulphate of ammonia than in the organic material.

These experiments, according to the opinion of Professor Grandeau, have demonstrated so clearly the superiority of nitrate of soda on the soils of the experimental station, that the trials with the three forms of nitrogenous manure have been discontinued.

This year nitrate of soda is being tested against the new nitrogenous fertiliser manufactured by the Birkeland Eyde process, in Norway, from atmospheric nitrogen, and known under the names of nitrate of lime, basic nitrate of lime, and nitrite. The results should be of a very interesting character and will be published in due course.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Mr. Eugene Wason presided at the final sittings of the Standing Committee on Law, at which further consideration was given to the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Bill.

Discussion was resumed on the motion to omit Clause 8, which provides for the imposition of a penalty in the case of any one who, having the custody of a fertiliser or feeding stuff, obstructs the official sampler in taking a sample for the purpose of analysis.

Mr. Bowles (C.) strongly opposed the clause, holding that it was a monstrous suggestion that persons, whether vendors or purchasers of these goods, should be bound to allow any officious official to enter their premises to take samples, and to require the productions of the invoices relating to them.

Mr. Cave (C.) characterised the clause as absurd.

Sir E. Strachey, representing the Board of Agriculture, declared that the clause was absolutely necessary if earlier clauses were to be operative, and he pointed out that similar power existed under the Food and Drugs Act of 1879, and other Acts.

The amendment was negatived, and the clause added to the Bill.

Mr. Barnes (Lab.) moved as a new clause:—"The provisions of this Act shall not apply to fertilisers of the soil consisting of residual products from sewage purification or the manufacture of gas, or refuse from the cleansing of areas under the control of any county council or county borough which have been subjected to an artificial process for the purpose of rendering them suitable for transport or application to the soil." He said there was no desire to put local authorities above the law, but simply to safeguard them in the law and practice hitherto observed.

Sir E. Strachey said that his object throughout the proceedings on this Bill had been to see that no injustice was done to the farmer on the one hand, or the trader on the other. This, however, was a proposal to give exceptional treatment to municipalities who traded in fertilisers.

The clause was negatived without a division, and the Bill as amended was ordered to be reported to the House.

Production of Sulphuric Acid.

The production of sulphuric acid may be regarded as in some measure indicative of the progress of agriculture and manufactures in a country. It is a product largely used in many industrial processes and especially in the manufacture of superphosphate; this material contains about half its weight of acid. As might be supposed, the consumption of such an important article is constantly increasing. In England its production amounts to about 1,000,000 tons, in Germany 900,000 tons, in the United States nearly as much, France is estimated to make 500,000 tons, Italy 200,000 tons, Austria nearly as much, Belgium 165,000 tons, Russia 125,000, and, finally, Japan 50,000 tons.

Using Liquid Manure.

Liquid manure should never be used when the soil is dry, as it is best appropriated by plants when there is plenty of moisture in the soil. Weakly plants are often killed with liquid manure unless it is very much diluted, as the stronger and more vigorous a plant the more food it can assimilate. To use liquid manure properly not only should small quantities be applied, but it should be spread over a wide surface, hoeing the ground when it becomes dry. It is used mostly for flowers, and especially rose bushes. It gives excellent results if applied a little at a time and often, but many who use it do not dilute it sufficiently, hence they claim that it is an injurious substance to use.

Preserving Potatoes in Germany.

The increasing difficulty of disposing at profitable prices of the enormous quantities of potatoes grown in Germany is causing anxiety among the growers, as it is feared that the position will fall into the same unsatisfactory state as that of the beetroot cultivation.

During the last twelve to fifteen years the acreage under potatoes has extended from 7,000,000 acres to over 8,000,000, and the average yield per acre, owing to the greater use of artificial manures, has also increased, in consequence of which the selling price has seriously declined.

The total crop is now estimated to be about 44,000,000 tons, which is disposed of somewhat as follows:—For seed, 6,000,000 tons; loss through disease, 5,000,000; human consumption, 1,500,000; fodder, 21,000,000; starch manufacture, 2,000,000; alcohol manufacture, 3,000,000; leaving a surplus of 5,000,000. It is just this surplus which gives the buyers the whip-hand of the market, as the growers, fearing to have such perishable stock left on their hands, are forced to sell cheap.

In order to find a way out of such an unsatisfactory condition, the farmers are taking counsel together. The idea is that they should establish works to dessicate the surplus potatoes, so that they can be stored for any length of time. Then the position would be changed to the advantage of the growers, who would no longer be at the mercy of the big buyers.

The large quantities, about 21,000,000 tons, used as food for pigs and cattle are got rid of during the months from October to June, while the potatoes are good and sound; and if the tubers could be preserved, the farmers could employ them as fodder with great advantage during the four other months. At least 9,000,000 tons of dried potatos could be so used, which would quite relieve the market of the present surplus supplies, and even permit of a further extended cultivation.

* * *

The process of desiccating potatoes has already made considerable progress in Germany, and as 75 per cent. of moisture is dried out of them the product can be sent long distances at little cost.

According to statistics, foreign feeding stuffs are imported into Germany to the value of about £22,000,000. It should be possible to save a third of this enormous expenditure from going out of the country.

But besides the prospect of the advantageous use of dried potatoes, it is thought that there is another way in which potatoes might be put to good purpose. At present the potato haulms are burnt or put into the compost heap for manure. With proper drying apparatus, the green stuff could be dried without much cost, and potato hay made out of it. Four and a-half cwt. of haulm will make 1 cwt. of hay, which is said to equal good meadow hay, and to be not only much liked by cattle, but to influence favourably the yield of rich milk.

Dried potatoes are also found to be quite suitable for alcohol manufacture, and the refuse to form a good cattle food, which will keep a long time.

The above ideas were a subject of discussion at a meeting of the German Agricultural Society, and are worth consideration.

Oilseed Crops of Eastern Bengal.

The Department of Land Records and Agriculture for Eastern Bengal and Assam have issued their final rough estimate of the area under oilseed crops in the important districts under their supervision.

On the whole the growing season has not been good; short rainfall at the time of sowing and insect pests have operated adversely.

Area sown.—The area under rape and mustard is estimated to be 8 per cent. below that of last year, the shortage occurring principally in Mymensingh. In the Rajshahi district the area under rape and mustard is estimated to be a little more than one-third of that sown last year; it is stated that the cultivators have substituted sesamum for mustard on an area approximating to 25,000 acres; and altogether the area sown has decreased by 48,000 acres, owing to losses incurred on the crop of the previous year. The area under sesamum is larger owing to this change of cropping, though in other districts it is generally much the same as in previous years.

The area under linseed has increased in Rajshahi and Naokhali and elsewhere is much the same as in last year.

Rape and Mustard.—The crop was generally poor, except in Pabna, where the final forecast indicates a normal crop. The final forecast indicates a 70 per cent. crop as compared with the original estimate of 75 per cent.

Linseed.—The outturn is expected to be 76 per cent., rather less than the original estimate.

Sesamum.—An outturn of 78 per cent. is expected for *rabi til* and 80 per cent for *bhadoi til*.

Other oilseeds.—The estimate is 73 per cent. as in the preliminary forecast.

Gross outturn.—The outturn of rape and mustard is 168,900 tons, nearly 28 per cent. less than in 1904-1905, the decrease being due partly to a diminished area under cultivation and partly to unfavourable weather. The outturn of linseed (17,300 tons) is expected to be practically the same as in the previous year. The yield of sesamum and other oilseeds is estimated at 34,100—a very slight variation from the figures of 1904-1905.

Atmospheric Nitrogen.

Notes from a paper read by Dr. Birkeland, of Christiania, before the Faraday Society on July 2:

The nitrate problem has gained within a short space of time an important place among technical problems. During the last twenty years more than four times as much nitrate was exported from Chili than during the preceding twenty years, and the requirements of the world are still increasing. At the present time about a million and a half tons are yearly shipped, and experts calculate that the stock will be exhausted by 1940 at the latest.

* * *

In 1898 Sir William Crookes, in his address as president of the British Association, drew the attention of the entire civilised world to the question of food supply. The present acreage devoted to the world's growth of wheat is about 163,000,000 acres. At the average of 12·7 bushels per acre, this gives 2,570,000,000 bushels. But thirty years hence the demand will be 3,260,000 000 bushels, and there will be difficulty in finding the necessary acreage on which to grow the additional amount required. By increasing the present yield per acre from 12·7 to 20 bushels, we should, with our present acreage, secure a crop of the requisite amount. Now from 12·7 to 20 bushels per acre is a moderate increase of productiveness, and there is no doubt that a dressing with nitrate of soda will give this increase and more.

The action of nitrate of soda in improving the yield of wheat has been studied practically by Sir John Lawes and Sir Henry Gilbert on their experimental field at Rothamsted. This field was sown with wheat for thirteen consecutive years without manure, and yielded an average of 11·9 bushels to the acre. For the next thirteen years it was sown with wheat, and dressed with 5 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre, other mineral constituents also being present. The average yield for these years was 35·4 bushels per acre—an increase of 24·5 bushels.

At this rate, to increase the world's crop of wheat by 7·3 bushels, about 1½ cwt. of nitrate of soda must annually be applied to each acre. The amount required to raise the world's crop on 163,000,000 acres from the present supply of 2,070,000,000 bushels to the required 3,260,000,000 bushels, will be 12,000,000 tons distributed in varying amounts over the wheat-growing countries of the world.

If we assume a liberal estimate for nitrate obtained from the lower-grade deposit, and say that it will equal in quantity that from the richer quality, the supply may last, possibly, fifty years, at the rate of a million tons a year; but at the rate required to augment the world's supply of wheat to the point demanded thirty years hence, it will not last more than forty years.

According to Professor Grandeau the crops harvested upon the cultivated area of France abstract annually 600,000 tons of nitrogen—in round numbers—from the soil. It is proved that the nitrogen returned in stable manure—even supposing it were all taken to the fields, which is not the case—would not represent more than 327,000 tons.

Now France consumes only 230,000 tons of Chili saltpetre per annum, which represents 31,200 tons of nitrogen, while the deficiency is 273,000 tons. The amount imported is thus only 11 per cent. of the deficiency produced by the removal of the crops.

Chili nitrate is a first-rate fertiliser. One hundred kilogrammes = 220 lb. of nitrate give, on an average, the following mean excess of products:—

Cereals	660 to 880 lbs. of grain, and straw to correspond.
Potatoes	3½ tons.
Beetroot	5½ ,,
Roots, Indian corn	4½ to 5½ tons.

The great importance of the nitrogen problem is there evident. And now that this problem has been solved, as I shall presently show, and the atmosphere itself freely offers us the raw material, so that out of the air over each square mile of the earth's surface we can make more saltpetre than is to be found in all Chili, we have no longer any reason to fear "the near exhaustion of the world's stock of fixed nitrogen."

The "Mark Lane Express" has the finest connection amongst
MAKERS of FERTILISERS and FEEDING STUFFS
of any journal in the United Kingdom.
The best medium for this class of announcement.—*Hound.*

The nitrogen problem has been solved in two ways. By taking as his starting-point the power possessed by several metals of directly-fixing nitrogen, Professor Frank, of Berlin, in collaboration with Mr. Caro, has been led to the discovery of his beautiful method—namely, the introduction of calcium carbide as an absorbent of pure nitrogen.

At a red heat, the carbides of the metals of alkaline earths absorb the nitrogen supplied to them, and are thereby transformed into metallic salts of cyanamide. These salts are capable of many kinds of chemical changes. After being for a short time in the soil, for instance, they decompose and form ammonia. Calcium cyanamide can, therefore, be employed directly as a fertiliser, and is manufactured for this purpose by the Cyanidgesellschaft in Berlin, whence it appears upon the market under the name of lime-nitrogen.

The other way in which the nitrogen of the atmosphere can be fixed very simply and to great advantage is by the oxidation of nitrogen in electric arcs. This method has been followed by a great number of scientists and inventors, whose endeavours have been chiefly directed towards the discovery of a stable and practical form of electric arc that could serve as a flame for the oxidising of nitrogen. A flame such as this, burning with a power up to 1,000 kilowatts, and fulfilling every requirement as regards reliability for manufacture on a large scale, has been used for the first time in the "Birkeland-Eyde Process," the method now employed in the Notodden Saltpetre Manufactory, and also to be employed at the new Svaelgfos-Notodden Works of about 30,000 h.p., which will be completed next year.

(*To be continued.*)

Nitrate of Soda.

According to news from Chili the price of nitrate of soda on the West Coast is gaining in firmness, as it is becoming recognised that the conditions are not favourable for any increased production on a large scale, while, on the other hand, the consumption throughout the world is continually extending. It is reported that merchants on the Continent, in view of the above situation, are already contracting for cargoes in 1907 and 1908 at advanced prices.

Renewing Pastures.

An experimental station is undertaking to renew a worn-out hill pasture on its test farm without breaking the ground, an experiment which has direct interest for many farmers. It was begun one year ago. The greater part of it was disked sufficiently to give some fresh soil, but not enough to destroy the little grass that remained from a sod once fairly good. It then was reseeded with clover and grasses, and was fertilised. The new growth is excellent.

But the actual test of the need of the land was made on a series of plats in the field where manure, various commercial fertilisers, reseeding and no treatment were tried. The soil is clay, and is typical of much hill land. A study of all the plats is convincing that such worn pasture land needs only two things—viz., phosphorus and reseeding.

When plants are nourished by acidified or dissolved phosphates they do not take them up in the form in which they are applied. Dr. Dyer writes that the moisture in the soil first dissolves the acid phosphates, and these combine with the basis of the soil. If there is a fair supply of lime in the soil, the acidity is counteracted, and we get precipitated phosphate of lime. If there is absence or deficiency of lime the phosphate forms acid phosphates of lime and alumina, the sourness of which will only gradually disappear, and these are less healthy for plant food than thoroughly and rapidly neutralised phosphates, such as would be formed in a soil well supplied with carbonate of lime.

Sugar beet contains more nourishment than any other crop except the potato.

Fertilisers in Spain.

The British Vice-Consul at Valencia (Mr. A. F. Ivens) reports that fertilisers, consisting chiefly of sulphate of ammonia and superphosphates of lime for the manufacture in Spain of artificial manures, continue to be imported into Valencia from the United Kingdom, Belgium, and other foreign countries on an increasing scale.—(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,631.)

There is no one way on the farm in which money can slip away so easily as through the improper handling of manure. Probably because of the cash value being hidden under an unattractive surface, the farmer does not see the actual value. But if the manure was dried and handled in bags, with the value marked on an official tag, it might make a difference, and the farmer would take care of it.

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Gives immense increase in CORN, ROOT and GRASS CROPS, MARKET GARDEN CROPS, HOPS.

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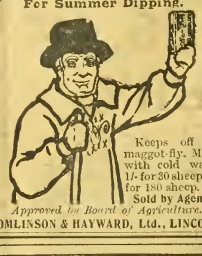

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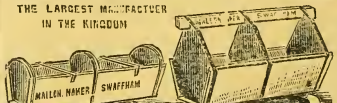

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IN THE FORM OF
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'Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using,' was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please,' and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

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and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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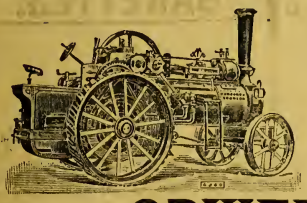

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THE BUTTER COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

We give elsewhere those details of the Butter Committee's Report which our readers will naturally wish to study; it need only be remarked here that the report is distinguished by very great moderation, and that it is unanimous. The Session would in ordinary years be too far advanced for legislation to be possible on the basis of the Committee's recommendations, but this does not apply in the present exceptional year, when the controversy between Lords and Commons on the Education Bill is certain to keep the Legislature at work all through the autumn. Now the inevitable negotiations between the two Houses, whatever their ultimate issue may be, will necessarily be attended by awkward pauses and short adjournments. Is not the opportunity unique, and should not Sir Edward Strachey, who has acted as chairman of the Butter Committee, seize the occasion to embody that committee's recommendations in a Bill? It might fairly claim to be treated as a non-contentious measure, and its becoming law on January 1, 1907, instead of January 1, 1908, would be a real boon to our dairy interests.

The report can, at its best, be regarded as a step of an experimental character. Wrappers and registration, inspectors and inspection—these are all so many essays in meeting the iniquity of the adulterator. We do not build much on the proposal that no fat other than butter fat shall be stored or allowed in any butter factory, nor, indeed, do we attach any cardinal importance to any provisoes which do not touch the retail trade and distribution. However, we shall see, and it is for the Government to insure our seeing as soon as possible.

If the Bill, which sooner or later—and the sooner the better—issues from the committee's report, serves the avowed purpose of the report, well and good. If it fails to do so and evasion once more brings widespread adulteration in its train, then there will still remain the one clear remedy which the Legislature has hitherto hesitated to apply. By requiring all imitation butters to be coloured differently from butter so that the purchaser can see at a glance what he is buying, this particular adulteration evil can always as a last resort be suppressed.

SHOWYARD INFLUENCES ON DAIRY HERDS.

What with our milk and butter tests so thoroughly carried out at the leading agricultural shows and the additional classes for Shorthorn cows, the prizes for which are offered by the two societies of that breed, dairying is much more promoted by the show system than it used to be. But these provisions, highly important as they are, must be deemed very much circumscribed in their influences to the pedigree herds; and the bulk of our middle-class and smaller farmers throughout the country keep cross-bred cows. The prizes offered by nearly all the agricultural societies for dairy cows, irrespective of breed, are too few and small to tempt any large numbers of these classes to send their best milkers to the shows, and unless they do so, they are unable to compete in the milk and butter tests. The popular belief as to how these non-pedigree herds ought to be improved is that of the selection and use of pedigree bulls of deep-milking families; but there is, unfortunately, a wide-spread prejudice against doing this on the part of many ordinary farmers, not merely because of the extra outlay involved, but, to quote a phrase once happily used by the late Clare Sewell Read, "lest the milk be pedigreed away."

The same idea, probably, weighs with judges occasionally in awarding prizes for bulls belonging to breeds of a general purpose character. This would scarcely be so for Shorthorns or North Devons, the bulls of which to win at shows must have grand conformation, richness of flesh, with indications of early maturity—properties which do not come into the reckoning with dairy farmers. But it appears that breeders of South Devon cattle at their local shows have for many years been accustomed to seek for indications of dairy property in bulls no less than in cows and heifers. The true reason why certain awards made at the Devon County, Bath and West, and Royal Counties' Shows this year could not be understood by those accustomed to appraise bulls according to what is termed showyard character, may be attributed to this. The Red polled breed is a general purpose one, no less than the others above mentioned, but bulls of that breed like Shorthorns and North Devons, have gained success in show-yards for possessing grazing rather than dairy property. Whether anything of utility could be gained by having special classes for bulls best adapted for dairy service is very much to be doubted. Whenever such are wanted they can always, of course, be had by seeking for them in herds of undoubted deep-milking property.

According to the paper read by Mr. Primrose McConnell at the Shrewsbury Dairy Conference, there is abundant room for improving the milk-yields of dairy herds throughout the country, and, of course, the means recommended by him for its promotion, that of more general private testing and keeping of milk-registers, have been those placed in the foreground continually for twenty years or more. The homily that every dairy farmer ought to make himself acquainted with the milk yields of his cows has been preached perpetually, whether ears have been open to receive it or not. The maxim has also been insisted on that when a cow is found to be an indifferent milker she cannot be too soon got rid of for the substitution of a better one. But unfortunately this is not always so easy in accomplishment practically as theory would suggest. The owner in most cases would have to sacrifice a large amount to do so, and the ordinary farmers who have the worst milkers are, as a rule, too impecunious to make such changes as they would like to carry out. In former times farmers on discovering that they had unprofitable milkers, were accustomed to feed them highly that they might lay on flesh, so that after a brief period they sold them for about the same price they could get fresh calvers to put in their places. But cow-beef has lately been quite a drug in the market, and likely to continue to be so, owing to the enormous quantities of imported foreign to compete with it.

The Earl of Ancaster made a return of 10 per cent. to his agricultural tenantry at the Lady Day rent audit of his Lincolnshire estates held at Rippingale on Wednesday.

ALL MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES of FARMING NECESSITIES certainly find a Ready Sale when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express." The charge is very moderate, and consistent with the profit such small goods yield.

Notes of the Week.

The show of the Highland and Agricultural Society, which opens to-morrow, is an event to which the great body of agriculturists in Scotland and the north of England look forward with great interest.

It always follows about a fortnight after the show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and is succeeded by the great Irish show of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society.

The Highland Society can lay claim to a long descent, having been founded in 1784.

This year the small town of Peebles, lying about twenty miles south of Edinburgh, has the honour of receiving the show.

It is the first time the society has visited this town, and, considering the small population, it is doubtful whether it will be a financial success, although in other respects it will do much good.

Fortunately, the Highland Society has a big reserve, and is not obliged to study the question of £ s. d. so closely as some other societies.

The Scotch agriculturists, perhaps wisely, concentrate their energies chiefly in one important show. Whereas in England during this year there are about 350 agricultural shows, including horse shows, in Scotland there are only about 30.

Mr. Henry Dudding is to be congratulated on the success of his sale on Thursday, and also on securing a fresh record price for a ram.

It will be remembered that previous to last week he held the record of 1,000 guineas, but this he has now beaten by no less than 450 guineas, Mr. Miller giving 1,450 gs. for the shearling ram Riby which won a first prize and the championship at the Royal Agricultural Society's show at Derby. This is the highest figure ever obtained in England for a ram, and will certainly be difficult to beat.

Among the cattle sold at Riby Grove on Thursday, £1,000 was obtained for the two-year old roan bull, Prince Alastair. The bull was purchased by Mr. Pearson, and like so many other plums of the sale, will be sent to South America.

Two Bills of great interest to farmers have just passed the Committee stage, the Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Bill and the Land Tenure Bill.

Many farmers will be disappointed if facilities are not afforded by the Government in order that these Bills may be placed on the Statute Book during the present session.

As regards the Land Tenure Bill, the Prime Minister promised to a deputation last week that the Government would provide the necessary facilities.

And as to the Fertiliser Bill, the different clauses have been fully discussed in Committee, so there can be no need for further controversy in the House.

The important interests of the traders were represented by Mr. Alexander Cross with the tactical skill and argumentative tenacity for which his countrymen are renowned.

The still greater interests of the farmers were looked after with equal ability by Sir E. Strachey.

So that the Bill, as now reported to the House, is an equitable adjustment of conflicting interests, and should meet with general approval.

No less than 3,000,000 tons of potatoes are used in Germany for the manufacture of spirit, the residue from the distilling operation being employed as cattle food.

Nearly another 2,000,000 tons are used in the production of starch.

Is it not a pity that similar important industries cannot be operated in this country?

The climate of Ireland is particularly adapted for the growth of potatoes, and the production could be increased with great advantage if there were a market for them.

Tubers not fit for consumption by man or beast can be quite well used for manufacturing purposes.

When Sir Joshua Reynolds was asked by a young artist how he mixed his colours with such brilliant results, he answered "with brains."

The farmer also who would be successful must cultivate his land and conduct his operations "with brains."

So writes Mr. James Long in an interesting article in the *Manchester Courier*.

This must not be understood to insinuate that farmers in the past have neglected to do so, but that under modern conditions, the Intelligence Department, centred in the "brain," has become more important.

Scientific farming must co-operate with Nature's handiwork, and make the best use of labour-saving machinery, seed selection, and scientific feeding of animals and crops.

The farmer's brain must be actively at work, finding out what his soil requires for the different crops, and what his stock requires for the production of milk, butter, cheese, beef, and mutton.

There are right and wrong, economical and wasteful methods, which lead to success or the reverse.

The present Government would be all the better for a little judicious pressure. Earl Carrington acknowledges that several measures are necessary to assist agriculture.

But he puts off taking the necessary steps, which would involve a small outlay, because, forsooth, the Chancellor of the Exchequer bars the way.

Thus to the deputation of fruit growers, the other day, the Minister of Agriculture, whilst very sympathetic, pleaded that want of means prevented him from acting on their reasonable suggestions.

Lord Carrington can be trusted to do what he can, but the Ministry as a body should be constantly reminded that moderate expenditure to assist agriculture is the truest economy for the country.

So Alderney has decided at a public meeting to support a scheme for the importation of live cattle and sheep from Argentina to be slaughtered in the island for shipment to England and the Continent.

If this scheme is carried out it will have to be carefully watched. It involves the possibility of bringing disease very near our shores, and the necessary measures will have to be adopted to keep it out of this country.

A friend of mine, when arranging the other day for the refreshments of a large school-treat, insisted that the sandwiches, meat-pies, &c., should be guaranteed "made of English meat."

This is a condition which should generally be adopted.

It should be a stipulation of Army and Navy meat contracts. Now that our eyes are open, there is no excuse for supplying our men with meat which, if half what we hear is true, is fit only for the manure heap.

Oh, for the roast beef of old England! succulent, strengthening, and wholesome.

The advantages of good cultivation are very apparent this season.

The average hay crops are decidedly light, but on some farms where the fields were liberally treated with farmyard or chemical manure the yield is quite satisfactory.

Similarly with oats. In many places in the south the prospects of the crop are poor, but where a small dressing of nitrate of soda was given the plant gives promise of a good crop.

Good cultivation by strengthening the plant enables it to send its roots deeper down, thus finding food with the essential moisture.

With its fine connection amongst Live Stock Owners, the "Mark Lane Express" is undoubtedly ONE of the BEST MEDIA for the Disposal of Pedigree Live Stock, either by Public Auction or Private Treaty.

The Journal goes directly into the hands of likely purchasers at home and abroad.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 17.—Highland and Scottish Agricultural Show at Peebles, first day—Horse and Foal Show at March, Cambridgeshire—Lincoln Horse Sale—Sale of Romney Marsh Sheep Land at the Saracen's Head, Ashford — Sale of Willesborough Farm and Mill, Saracen's Head, Ashford—Lyndhurst Timber Sale — Warrington Fair—Entries close for Chepstow Agricultural Show — Horticultural College Swanley: Prize Giving — Flower Show, Vincent Square: Lecture on Growing Sweet Peas, 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18.—Scottish Agricultural Show at Peebles, second day—Wye Agricultural College: Address by Lord Carrington, Minister of Agriculture 3 p.m. —Bedfordshire Agricultural Show at Luton —Agricultural Show at Esscrick — S.E. Surrey Agricultural Show at Oxted—Cambridgeshire Agricultural Show at Ely—Staffordshire Agricultural Show at Stone—Sussex Agricultural Show at Brighton—Lincolnshire Agricultural Show at Gainsborough—Entries close for the Chesterfield Show, for the Tadcaster Show, and for the Adlington Show — S affham Horse and Cattle Fair—Sheep Fairs at Kirton, St. Boswell's, Horsham, Kenninghall and Overton—Cattle and Sheep Fair at Malmesbury —Cattle Fairs at Leeds, Camelford, and Kirton.

THURSDAY, JULY 19.—Second days of the Gainsborough, Ely, Staffordshire, and Brighton Shows — Third day of the Scottish Show at Peebles—East Cornwall Agricultural Show at Launceston — Foal Shows at Burgh and at Sutton-on-Hull—Horse Shows at Sutton-on-Hull and Taunton—Entries close for the Wem Show—Entries close for the Whitchurch Show—Bristol Colt Fair—Entries close for the Dublin Great Sheep Show—Leeds Horse Fair.

FRIDAY, JULY 20.—Scottish Show at Peebles: last day—Aspatria Agricultural College: Prize giving and Speeches, 2.30 p.m.—Combined Foal and Horticultural Show at Hutton. Cranswick—Entries close for the Up-Holland Show—Ifton Manor Sale of pure bred Stock—Lord Rothschild's Lamb and Ewe Sale at Tring—Maidstone Horse and Cattle Fair.

SATURDAY, JULY 21.—Cumberland Agricultural Society's Show at Carlisle—Entries for Normanby Park Show close—Entries close for the Meltham Show—Entries close for the Barlington, Jersey, and Pembrokeshire Shows—Hucknall Torkard Agricultural Show.

MONDAY, JULY 23.—Hampshire Down Sheep Ram, and Ewe Sale at Ware—Helston Fair—Stamford Fair—Ware Sheep Fair—Ickleton Horse Fair—Entries for Wrexham Horse Show and Sale close, also for Tutbury Horse Show.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Sir Gilbert Greenall's Pedigree Horses: Sale at Warrington—Sale of Knowle Hall Pedigree Devons at Bridgewater—Sale of Shorthorn Cattle at Lechlade — Entries close for the Shows at Whalley, Shirley and Cliffe Sale of Rams at Kettering—Reading Great Fair—Entries close for Pickering Foal Show—Barnard Castle and Howden Fairs.

Southdown Sheep Fairs.

The two great fairs of Southdown sheep will be held this year on August 8 and September 21. These fairs are held at Lindfield, not far from Hayward's Heath and at the county town of Lewes respectively. Both fairs are easy of access, being only a little over an hour's run from London, and with excellent railway service from other parts of the country.

Lindfield Fair in the Weald of Sussex, consists principally of lambs, with a certain number of draft ewes and tegs. Lewes Fair, held in the heart of the Southdowns, consists of the greater number of draft ewes from the Down flocks, and a very large number of lambs, while most of the Sussex breeders send consignments of rams and ram lambs.

Sheep at these fairs come in most cases direct from the hill flocks, and are shown straight from the flock without artificial feeding, and therefore pay well when put on better land, with or without extra help in the way of cake. These fairs are well worth a visit from those interested in sheep. Here can be seen the Southdown sheep in its purest type, straight from the farms in their natural state and in breeding and store condition.

Mr. Patino, one of the largest cattle-breeders and produce brokers in the Argentine Republic, who arrived in London from Paris a little more than a week ago, was taken ill whilst riding in a cab a day or two afterwards and died before medical aid could be summoned. At the inquest a verdict of death due to suffocation from internal haemorrhage, the result of chronic consumption, was recorded. The body is to be embalmed and sent to Buenos Ayres.

Notes and Jottings.

The present season will surely end with the heaviest sales of pedigree stock that have ever been recorded in this country. The demand all round for Shorthorns appears quite insatiable, and prices remain as firm at the higher level that has been attained as they did when lower figures prevailed. The splendid sale at the Royal Show has been followed up by high prices at the Riby sale, as well as by very high prices paid privately for animals for export. Altogether, it really seems as though the remarks of a well-known feeder the other day are likely to prove true—namely, that the days for making beef at a profit in this country are ended. It would be greater satisfaction, so far as pedigree stock are concerned, if more of our breeds shared to a larger extent than at present in the foreign demand.

As matters stand at present, the Shorthorn enjoys quite enough of a monopoly. The Hereford, it is true, has experienced perhaps its share in the demand, but none of the other breeds have been patronised to the extent that might fairly be anticipated. Reading in a business pamphlet from the Argentine recently, it is stated in effect that other breeds are slowly making their way, and will in time become quite as much sought after as the one or two favoured herds mentioned. As much has been intimated in these notes for some time past, but the lane is a long time before we reach the turn where these are concerned. Prejudice takes a great deal of breaking up, and it would appear that beyond the general purpose character of the Shorthorn, which has been so great an inducement to foreign buyers, there has also been a strong prejudice in their favour for fashions sake.

In the course of the next few weeks several fine herds of Sussex cattle are announced to come under the auctioneer's hammer, and the show these cattle have made recently—notably at the "Royal"—should go a long way in inducing our Argentine friends to give them a liberal trial. The breed was quite amongst the most uniformly good in the Royal showyard, and the young stock were big for age. So far as beef producing is concerned, there was certainly a sufficient development in the way of weight for age to make the breeding and feeding of them a profitable enterprise in such countries as the Argentine, and the development mentioned in the classes at the Royal Show has been many times equalled in the splendid classes of the breed seen at Smithfield each year, where it has been shown that the Sussex steer has given the largest return in gain of weight per day. Some enterprising speculators might do worse than purchase and export some of the best specimens at the sales indicated.

We notice also that a sale of the old Longhorn cattle is announced to take place in Kent the end of the present month. It will be seen by the tabulated statement of the milking trials at the recent trial that the only specimen cow of this breed entered in those trials came out with an exceedingly satisfactory percentage of butter fat, being beaten only by the Channel Island breeds, and the quantity of milk yielded was satisfactory also. Whether for beef making or dairying in a pure state, or for crossing purposes, the Longhorn is a most valuable breed.

Breeding for colour in several of our different breeds of cattle that have been taken in hand within the last twenty years or so has been a great hindrance to the progress of such breeds in their general improvement. About the time mentioned there was a great craze in colour amongst breeders of Jersey cattle, and animals showing even a very, very small amount of white intermixed with their silver grey coats were discarded altogether, doubtless very much to the hindrance of the development of milking properties, for at that time of day most of the cows of that Channel Island breed showing white were invariably amongst the best milkers that could be found, and the more white there was visible the more milk usually followed.

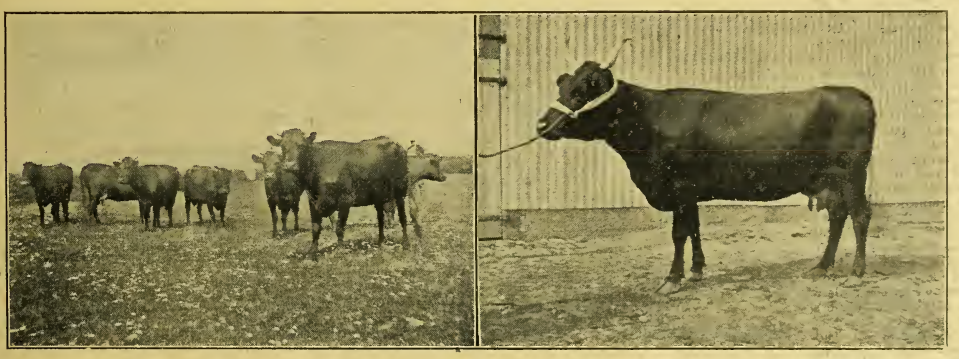
American buyers were then quite as much prejudiced against white markings as were the owners of the leading herds in England, and for some countries, Australia is an instance, the same antipathy to white spots or markings still exists. In England the fancy has in a great measure died out, though there are still many breeders who prefer what is called a whole coloured herd, and as regards the uniform appearance, no one can doubt but the herd consisting entirely of unbroken fawns in colour is much the most attractive and appeals to one's admiration much more strongly than the herd that is variegated by having a good proportion of its members showing a considerable amount of white markings.

The Kerry and Dexter breed, too, suffered very considerably in their march on the way to improvement when the colour lines were first laid down in the rules of their herd-book. Prior to that date many magnificent Dexters and some Kerries were seen with quite an amount of white about them, and with these, as with the Jersey breed, these specimens in many instances gave by far the greatest show of milk, so that the discarding these barred for a time the dual purpose progress of these breeds. With time, however, a sufficiency of heavy milkers has been found of the orthodox red or black colours to maintain and increase the dairy properties of the herd as well as their symmetry and general appearance of breeding.

In both the breeds mentioned, there hinges a certain evidence of purity of breeding in the animals that are without white. Many years ago, in the Island of Jersey, alien breeds were not as stringently forbidden to breeders as is the case in the present day, and it is quite likely, indeed, more than this, that a good deal of the white that was visible was due to other blood being infused. Cattle from Guernsey were at one time admitted, also other breeds, and the markings introduced by these cattle remain almost indelible. It takes many generations to efface the points of another breed that have once gained a footing in a herd. The offending colour, type of head, and other points will occasionally crop up after many long years of the greatest care.

There are few points in cattle so susceptible to alteration by the infusion of other blood as the coat, and this is often completely changed both in colour and character without what may literally be termed any infusion of alien blood. Black is a colour that frequently crops up where it ought not to do. Many a Shorthorn breeder in the past has found his young stock throwing up dark muzzles, though perfectly purely bred and from parents for generations with the orthodox flesh-coloured nose, the objectionable dark colour having come, perhaps, from the sire having been allowed to serve a black cow for crossing purposes, or from the fact of one or two black animals having come in contact with the dam whilst in season. No breeder can be too careful about such matters.

Whilst upon the subject of colour, what splendid coloured calves some of our white Shorthorn bulls are siring. When mated with a dark red the result is almost invariably a roan of the richest possible hue, and the coat is generally of that silky, mossy texture that delights the eye as much as its mellow touch pleases the hand. The dark red colour is very pleasing and attractive when a whole herd is in view without the presence of any other colours, as may be seen where a well-bred herd of Red Polls, Sussex, or North Devon are concerned, or even the Lincoln Red Shorthorns, but with the Coates Shorthorns, or, as we like better to call it, the Durham Shorthorn, a good rich roan is very hard to beat for general attractiveness; and when pastured with reds or red and white the mixture adds quite a charm by its variety.



PRIZE WINNING KERRY CATTLE, THE PROPERTY OF Mr. D. M. RATTRAY, GORTNASKEHY, BALLYBUNION, CO. KERRY. The group on the left have won several prizes at leading Shows, whilst the cow on the right has won a First Prize at the Belfast Show, and 2nd at Dublin.

Travelling recently over a large area of the best grazing land of the country, cattle generally appear to have done remarkably well. From their backward condition at April such improvement as is now visible could scarcely have been anticipated, and with very good pastures, succulent and clovery at the middle of July, and showers falling frequently, there appears every prospect of a much shorter supply of half-meated cattle in the autumn than at one time appeared imminent. This should improve prices, or, in other words, should tend to prevent their sinking to so low a ebb as is frequently the case when the markets are crowded with unripe animals. Nothing has such a lowering effect upon prices as a market filled with unfinished beasts.

The beef trade in American markets appears to have somewhat brightened of late; supplies have not been in excess of the demand, and a clearance has generally been made; whilst advices as to future supplies are such as not to alarm feeders on this side of the water. At home, though prices have not been sufficiently high to leave a fair profit to the feeder, they have nevertheless maintained a fair level, best Herefords being quoted in the provincial markets at 6½d. to 7d. per lb., sinking the offals. Dublin's best quotations are also over 6d. per lb., and London, with very short supplies last week, remains at about its normal pitch. In addition to good pastures, swedes and other roots for autumn and winter use are growing rapidly and of charming colour in the foliage.

ADVERTISEMENTS received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

The "Mark Lane Express" is a SPLENDID MEDIUM for the Disposal of all Kinds of Farm Seeds and Plants.

Riby Shorthorn and Lincoln Sale.

Record Price for a Ram.

This noted sale was held on Thursday last, and the attendance was one of the largest and most representative we have seen for a very long while. Mr. Dudding, who was confined to bed by his broken ankle, was not able to witness the great triumph in person, but he had the pleasure of seeing most of his friends seated upon his bed at the open window. The congratulations given him were well deserved, because probably no breeder has ever before been able to have so notable a sale of his own stock and to sell in one and the same day a bull for 1,000 gs. and a ram for 1,450 gs., or eight rams, all yearlings, his exhibit at the late Royal Show, for an average of £560 8s. 9d. per head. The space at command being limited, the better way to convey to the reader full details of the sale is to give the price list, and although it would be of interest to record the names of those who were present and those who were the principal breeders, this cannot be done because the crowd was so large a one, and it can be said in general terms to have been representative of all the principal herds and flocks in England, and also of the leading Argentine buyers now in England, as well as others from New Zealand, Uruguay, Sweden, Germany, &c. Messrs. Thornton and Co. conducted the Shorthorn sale, Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall and Davy that of the Lincoln Longwool sheep.

The Shorthorn sale was highly successful, and here as elsewhere the increasing value of the older strains of blood was emphasised by the keen manner for which they were competed, not only by the English breeder but also by those from abroad.

The cows and calves sold numbered fifteen, the top price was 100 guineas paid by Lord Winterstoke for a very choice cow indeed; four others made the century or over, going to Mr. E. N. Casares, who took two at 105 and 100 guineas, Mr. A. W. Hickling, who gave 100 guineas, and Mr. C. Villatte, who gave the same price. The average for this age was £85 9s. 4d.

The two-year-old heifers numbered five, and it was amongst them that the top price of the female section of the sale was found, namely, Bright Morn 2nd, for which Mr. C. Villatte paid 270 guineas, Mr. E. N. Casares gave 110 guineas for another, and Mr. D. MacLennan for another of the same age, the average working out at £113 12s. 2d.

The yearling heifers numbered sixteen, a very level and good lot of youngsters. These were in good demand, although the top price of the age was 180 guineas, two making this—one, Merry Bride, to Mr. R J. Pearson, and the other, Riby Jessie, to Mr. C. Villate. Mr. T. Mathews gave 95 guineas for another one, another average of this age was £74 5s. 1d., making the average of the thirty-six females sold to work out at £84 8s. 2d.

The demand for the bulls was not so level, but the most notable lot of the sale—namely, Prince Alastair, that grand young bull that has been so well to the fore at the leading shows this year was in keen demand, and ultimately went to Mr. R. F. Pearson at the notable price of 1,000 guineas, Mr. Maclennan being the runner up.

The average for the fifteen bulls sold, worked out at £134 16s. 4d., making the average for the whole sale of fifty-one head £99 4s. 8d. The following were the sales at 50 guineas and over :—

Cows and Heifers.		Gs.
Lavender Augusta, c July 4, 1898, s Lavender Archer	Mr A W Hickling	110
Duchess of Wellington 53rd, c Jan 21, 1900, s Rosario	Lord Winterstoke	110
Her bc, c Oct 19, 1905, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Mr E N Casares	55
York's Certainty Duchess 16th, c July 29, 1902, s Crystal Quentin	Mr E N Casares	100
Her cc, c Sept 14, 1905, s Knapton Waterloo 5th	Mr E N Casares	55
Muriel's Pride, c Sept 13, 1902, s Emperor of Waterloo 32nd	Lord Calthorpe	50
Maid Mary, c April 10, 1903, s Red Monarch	Mr C Villatte	100
Dame Meek 4th, c May 3, 1903, s Wanderer's Chief	Lord Sherbourne	52
Veda 12th, c May 17, 1903, s Lord St Clair	Mr E N Casares	105
Mayday Mildred 3rd, c Oct 25, 1903, s Stratton Square	Mr D Maclennan	81
May Mildred 4th, c Dec. 26, 1903, s Stratton Squire	Mr M Hearne	66
Bright Morn 2nd, c Jan 21, 1904, s Stratton Squire	Mr C Villatte	270
Riby Jennie 26th, c June 9, 1904, s Prince Gwynne 2nd	Mr D MacLennan	100
Riby Princess 5th, c Dec 22, 1904, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Mr E N Cassares	110
Riby Charmer, c Jan 5, 1905 s Merry Squire 5th	Mr C Villatte	60
Kingscote Kirk Levington 11th, c Jan 10, 1905, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Lord Winterstoke	86
Riby Jennie 7th, c Jan 18, 1905, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Mr Riglos	60
Golden Princess 4th, c Jan 27, 1905, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Mr Hearne	60
Riby Gwynne 25th, c Feb 17, 1905, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Mr T Mathews	95
May Mildred 5th, c March 10, 1905, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Mr T Mathews	50
Merry Bride, c March 11, 1905, s Merry Squire 5th	Mr R J Pearson	180
Riby Daisy 5th, c May 10, 1905, s Scottish Daisy Duke	Lord Winterstoke	72
Riby Jessie 5th, c May 29, 1905, s Fencote	Mr C Villatte	180
Adelaide, c July 24, 1905, sire White Czar	Mr Riglos	80
Bulls.		
Prince Alastair, c Feb 1, 1904, s Alastair	Mr R F Pearson	1000
Chief Wanderer, c March 23, 1904, s Wanderer's Chief	Mr C Schwzer	61
Riby Squire, c Dec 17, 1903, s Stratton Squire	Mr Hearne	55
Baron Dunthorpe, c March 14, 1904, s Baron Bridekirk 31st	Mr McLean	85
Birthday Squire, c July 11, 1904, s Merry Squire 5th	Mr E N Casares	135
Riby Haycroft 4th, c Oct 2 1904, s Haycroft 3rd	Mr Poels	100
Whitehall Fanatic, c, Nov 21, 1904, s, Brilliant Star	Mr E N Casares	105
Alastair 2nd, c, Jan 3, 1905, s, Alastair	Mr E N Casares	85
Langcot Wanderer, c March 25, 1905, s, Wanderer's Gift	Mr E N Casares	100
Riby Scottish Duke, c Sept 14, 1905, s, Scottish Daisy Duke	Lord Winterstoke	50

Lincoln Sheep.

There is no need to say much in connection with this sale further than to note we have been unable to find any previous record where an average of £151 1s. 9d. has ever been made of sixty yearling rams. The competition was notably keen all through, and that for the champion ram that Mr. F. Miller secured at 1,450 guineas was continued right up to the last by the English breeders, Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, who bid 1,350 guineas for him, then came a fifty from Mr. C. Villatte, followed by Mr. F. Miller's final bid of fifty more, which made him the purchaser at the price given above. This same buyer also took the five rams that were in the first prize pen at the Royal Show this year; these cost 580 guineas, 500 guineas, 430 guineas, 330 guineas, and 300 guineas, or an average of £449 8s. per head for a pen of five, a record, we think, that will not often occur. Mr. E. N. Casares, as will be seen from the detailed list, was a large buyer, as also were several of the other large exporters and agents, and it is a satisfactory feature to find that so large a number of the home breeders were able to secure some few of these choice specimens of this well-known flock that had probably never before been represented by a better lot of rams at any of its sales.

The following is a list of the sheep sold, prices realised, &c. :—

List of Prices (Shearling Rams).		Gs.
Riby Prizeman, 1st, pen of five, Royal, 1906	Mr. F Miller	80
Riby Panton, hc, Royal, 1096	Mr E N Casares	120
Riby Derby Champion, 1st, single shearling ram and long-woolled champion at Royal, 1906	Mr F Miller	1450
Riby Laughton 3rd, 1st, pen of five, Royal, 1906	Mr F Miller	350
Riby Quality 3rd, single ram, Royal, 1906	Mr E N Casares	560
Riby Nelson, hc, Nottinham, 1906	Mr D Maclennan	65
Riby Pride	Mr E N Casares	110
Riby Premier, 1st, pen of five, Royal, 1906	Mr F Miller	300
Riby Primus, 1st, pen of five, Royal, 1906	Mr F Miller	430
Riby Glory, 1st, pen of five, Royal, 1906	Mr F Miller	500
Riby Substance	Mr E N Casares	110
Riby Doncaster 2nd	Messrs Toromé	30
Riby Promise	Mr J B Nelson	30
Riby Leconfield Pilot	Mr E N Casares	145
Riby Yorkshireman	Mr D Maclennan	110
Riby Nocton Gordon	Mr E N Casares	310
Riby Pointon Riby	Mr D Maclennan	60
Riby Prophet	Mr R Fisher	90
Riby Primus 2nd	Mr F Miller	140
Riby Chieftain 2nd	Mr T Caswell	160
Riby Brandesburton	Mr S E Dean & Son	250
Riby Bloom	Mr D Maclennan	110
Riby Duke	Mr E N Casares	140
Riby Wright	Mr English	115
Riby Chief	Mr E N Casares	100
Riby Riby Royal	Mr R Fisher	75
Riby Conqueror	Messrs Toromé	30
Riby Pointsman	Mr W B Swallow	55
Riby Blue Blood	Sir R Cooper	62
Riby Aristocrat	Mr J Anderson	36
Riby Plum	Mr E N Casares	32
Riby Magnet	Mr W Savage	30
Riby Spearmint	Messrs Toromé	23
Riby Colonel	Mr E N Casares	40
Riby Leader	Mr W Savage	150
Riby Bridlington	Mr J Pears	140
Riby Barrister	Mr English	125
Riby Commander	Messrs Toromé	50
Riby Lincoln	Mr L Stephenson	52
Riby Nabob	Mr F Ward	62
Riby Prince	Mr English	34
Riby Guardsman	Mr E N Casares	26
Riby Roosevelt	Mr D Maclennan	46
Riby Don	Messrs Toromé	32
Riby Lancaster	Mr English	96
Riby Dreadnought	Sir R Cooper	72
Riby Rambler	Mr Brown	25
Riby Northbrook	W B Swallow	30
Riby Edward	Mr Wilson	26
Riby Leicester	Mr Richardson	82
Riby Bradshaw	Mr. E N Casares	50
Riby Briton	Mr Atkinson	40
Riby Lieutenant	Mr W. Savage	72
Riby Kitchener	Mr Herbert Webb	33
Riby Charlie	Mr Johnson	28

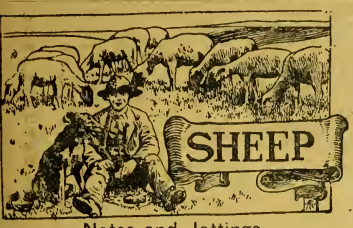
The average for the rams was £151 1s 9d., and that for the ewes £16 17s. 4d., making the aggregate amount realised for the combined sale £13,909 17s. 6d.

Dispersal of the Melton Ross Herd of Shorthorns.

This herd, owned by the late Mr. Jonas Webb, came up for dispersal on Friday last, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. The sale, which was an absolute clear out, was a notable one by reason of the very high prices realised for the older cows and the yearling heifers, particularly of that noted old Duchess tribe, of which there were quite a number of specially good specimens. The attendance was a representative one, and many of the choice young animals, it is satisfactory to note, remain in this country, at Sir R. P. Cooper's herd. Mr. Dudding got one of rare good merit, as did also Lord Middleton, his lordship being present in person. We have given a full price list, and will give the several averages, which were as follows :—Cows and calves, eighteen, at £104 4s. 2d.; two-year-old heifers, five, at £113 8s.; one-year-old heifers, ten, at £108 7s.; making the average for the thirty-three females £105 7s. 7d.; and the seven bulls, which met with a satisfactory demand, averaged £64 7s., making the general average for the whole sale of forty animals to work out at £98 4s.

The Southdown sheep, which have been kept there for many years, were also sold, but the prices realised were not high. The following were the chief sales of Shorthorns :—

Cows and Heifers.		Gs.
Duchess of Vittoria 27th, c Mar 11, 1894, s Viscount Oxford 14th	Mr W Thompson	51
Balsam, c Dec 23, 1894, s Master Mason	Mr Chatterton	31
Her c c, by Melton Baronet 2nd	Messrs S E Dean and Son	20
Water Maid, c June 15, 1898, s Oxford Marquis	Mr W Thompson	65
Duchess of Melton, c July 29, 1898, s Napier	Messrs S E Dean and Son	51
Her c c, c Mar 30, 1906, by Laureate		
Oxford Duchess of Melton, c Sept 22, 1898, s Wild Wilts	Lord Middleton	110
Duchess of Melton 2nd, c Nov 25, 1899, s Carlisle Wellington	Mr F Miller	350
Bonny Scot, c Sept 14, 1900, s Royal Scot	Mr Ward	42
Melton Premium Rose 4th, c May 6, 1902, s Ewerby King	Sir R. P Cooper	105
Melton Vittoria Belle, c May 8, 1902, s Laureate	Mr H Dudding	65
Melton Vittoria Princess, c June 5, 1902, s Oxford Duke of Melton	Mr F Miller	280
Her bc, c Feb 24, 1903, s Melton Baronet	Mr Miller	60
Melton Duchess 3rd, c March 28, 1903, s Oxford Duke of Melton	Messrs. Dean & Son	75
Melton Duchess 4th, c Dec 6, 1903, s Waterloo Grand Duke 2nd	Mr H Garther	125
Water Maid 3rd, c June 10, 1904, s Laureate	Lord Winterstoke	80
Melton Duchess 5th, c Nov 3, 1904, s Lord Sandgrove 54th	Mr F Miller	350
Melton Brenda 3rd, c Dec 6 1904, s Laureate	Mr Brocklebank	57
Melton Rose 3rd, c Jan 12, 1905, s Melton Baronet	Sir R P Cooper	150
Melton Duchess Vittoria 4th, c March 14, 1905, s Laureate	Sir R P Cooper	160
Laurustina Maid 3rd, c March 21, 1905; s Laureate	Mr T Mathews	50
Melton Duchess 8th, c March 26, 1905; s Laureate	Sir R P Cooper	175
Nancy Lea 3rd, c March 31, 1905; s Melton Baronet	Mr. Turton	50
Duchess of Melton 5th, c May 21, 1905; s Laureate	Sir R P Cooper	170
Melton Waterloo 6th, c Nov 6, 1905; s Laureate	Sir O. Moseley	62
Melton Duchess 9th, c Nov 21, 1905; s Melton Baronet	Mr H. Dudding	150
Bulls.		
Laureate, c June 4, 1900; s Stroxton Prince	Hon W F Smith	100
Melton Grand Duke 2nd, c April 25, 1904, s Laureate	Mr Hearne	40
Melton Knightley, c July 31, 1904, s Laureate	Mr Hearne	130
Melton Vittoria Duke, c Sept 5, 1905, s Lord Sandgrove 54th	Mr D E Robertson	65



Notes and Jottings.

Lamb sales have gone briskly, and portend a good sale for the pedigree rams which are coming to the hammer from now to the autumn. The prospect for keep is good enough to make breeders feel in a strong position, for sheep are likely to be dear, and as a rule there is sufficient food not to have to hurry them off the farm. Still, as the season comes round, lamb keep is not so available on breeding farms as it is in early summer, and in the general economy of the farm they are best moved on; and they thrive better on going into districts where fewer sheep have been carried during spring and summer. In the strictly breeding districts such a high sheep stock is kept per acre that it requires skill in cropping not to get the land sheep sick, that it is not as a rule wise to keep the heavy stock running on the land for an exceptionally long period. Lambs are subject to the affection of many kinds of worm, from which the ewes are not altogether free, and present profit by holding on longer than usual is not unlikely to cause trouble in the future in those districts where sheep keeping is done at high pressure in respect to the head of stock per acre.

The modern farmer fortunately does not have to inspect a lame sheep to see if it has foot-and-mouth disease, as was the case some years ago; but no man likes to take footrot on to his farm. There are many farms which can trace persistent footrot over a great many years to a particular lot of sheep, or even to an individual ram, which has been bought with footrot in its feet, though it was apparently sound. The loss which comes to a farm previously free from the disease is very serious, for when once the contagion is there, a constant fight has to be made to keep it in check, or better still to stamp it out. There are few things more troublesome on the farm, though it is doubtless more prevalent than it would be if more active steps were taken to check it when once it appears; a single outbreak should be attended to at once, and the sheep be isolated; but to prevent further cases, the whole flock should at once be walked through an arsenic or carbolic acid bath. The neglect to pare the feet, causing abrasions which admit the germs, is frequently the initial cause of an outbreak. The knife should always be at work, so that the feet are kept in proper shape.

One very important point often misses recognition, and that is that when dressing and paring the feet of infected sheep the parings are allowed to fall on the ground and leave the infection there. There can scarcely be a surer way of keeping the disease in the land. Although it is sometimes rather inconvenient, the paring ought to be done on a cloth, so that the diseased parts may be collected and burned. In buying in sheep it is not merely a matter that the sheep are sound at the moment—the condition of the hoof is of considerable importance. If the foot has been contorted through neglect in the first instance, and made unduly hard by the use of too strong acid dressings subsequently, there is every probability that trouble will come again; and whether a buyer regards this point or not, there is no doubt that a lot of sheep with naturally formed hoofs, and no traces of previous rot, are worth a substantial sum more than those which through bad treatment are likely to cause the loss which footrot always occasions.

The season has come round again when the early breeders are beginning to look round for a suitable ram, and ram sales will be frequent in the south in a very short time. Those who are going in for pedigree breeding know pretty well what blood will mate best with their flocks, as experience has shown this. It is always a risk to bring in strange blood, for there is no certainty as to how it will nick in. There are many breeders who have had the experience of a change which did a considerable amount of harm to their flock; and violent changes must always be dangerous where a certain type has been obtained by following one course of management. The best animal of the year does not necessarily mate best with every flock of high degree: the blood may be too distant, and though it may give vigour to a flock wanting tone, yet it may give rise to some of the faults of cross-breeding because of distant relationship. A tendency to horns, a too dark skin, too much hair on the breech, and other blemishes which the flock was previously free from, have not infrequently arisen, even from a ram which appeared practically perfect.

A ram for a general flock where the type is not well marked should be one with a considerable amount of character about it, so that it may stamp its own features on the offspring. It is for this reason that a strong masculine character is so often looked for. A ram with effeminate features is not, as a rule, an impressive sire; although it may get lambs which will mature quickly. For a general flock, where there is no intention of raising it into the first flight among show animals, the longest priced sheep are usually beyond what it is desirable to pay; there is a special market for them among exhibition men; but the step down in price from the best is often longer in proportion than the falling off in quality might appear to indicate; and it is here that the man with a modest but improving flock may find his opportunity to do himself a good turn. Provided it is without any serious blemish, and has the better features, such as a good heart girth, good back and loin, a well-set-up dock, and a full leg, and a good neck and brisket, of a good standard, and appears likely to suit the character of the ewes to which it will be put, it is worth giving a trifle more than one had decided upon, rather than lose him.

THE RAM WHICH WAS SOLD FOR THE RECORD PRICE OF 1,450 GUINEAS at Mr. H. DUDDING'S Sale, last week. The buyer was Mr. MILLER, the well-known Argentine Exporter.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Great Bentley.

Great Bentley annual lamb sale was held on Thursday by Messrs. Sexton and Grimwade, and a very good demand was experienced for the 5,000 lambs offered. Mr. John Eagle headed the prices with a pen of a score ewe, which, after keen competition, went to Messrs. E. and H. Girling at 70s., a rise of 15s. on the year, whilst the average of the 573 sent from Mr. Eagle's Walton Hall and St. Osyth flocks was 42s. 10½d., about 2s. 6d. a head more than in 1905. Other good averages fell to Mr. John Salmon, of Kirby le-Soken, 40s. 10½d. for 300, and to Mr. Edwin Giles, of Great Clacton, nearly 39s. for 516, their top pens of ewe being respectively 50s. for 25, and 46s. 6d. for 50. Mr. Arthur Stanford, of Beaumont, realised 48s. 6d. for 50 ewe, and the top wether from these four flocks were:—Mr. Eagle's 47s. 6d., Mr. Salmon's 47s., Mr. Stanford's 45s. 6d., Mr. Giles 44s.

The SHEEP SALES NUMBER of the "Mark Lane Express" will be published on the 30th inst.

Haverhill.

A record entry of sheep and lambs—the total being about 7,000—was received by Mr. C. Boardman for his annual sale at Haverhill on Monday. The entries were principally from registered Suffolk flocks, and the importance of the sale attracted a large number of buyers from a wide district. Wethers and ewes of the Suffolk breed made from 47s. to 68s., the latter figure being secured by Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brice, J.P., Finchingfield, for a grand collection of Suffolk shearling ewes, others from the flock made 67s. (twice), 64s., and 63s. Suffolk lambs sold from 34s to 48s., half breds 30s. 6d. to 38s. 6d., Hampshires 27s. 6d. to 32s., and first-cross 31s. 6d. to 41s. 6d. Mr. W. R. Hedges, Worsted Lodge, Balsham, entered thirty half-bred lambs out of Hampshire ewes by Oxford Down rams. They were very heavy, and made the top price of the lambs—viz., 50s. 6d.

Stowmarket.

At the eighth annual lamb sale held at Stowmarket on the 6th inst. by Messrs. Spurlings and Hempson 3,000 lambs and ewes were penned, and in two instances the highest figures for Suffolk ewe lambs at the sales in this district this season have to be recorded, namely, 52s. for 20 from the flock of Mr. Percy A. Noble, Stonham, and 49s. for 20 from Exors. T. Woodward, Old Newton. In these and two other cases exceptionally good averages were made, namely, Mr. Noble's 174 lambs 38s. 8d., Exors. T. Woodward 204 38s., Mr. S. Scott, Felsham, 121 37s. 3d., and Messrs. Webb and Son, Cambs, 292 36s 8d. First cross lambs were also in sharp demand, two pens of ewe making 37s. 6d., and of a few lots of black-faced ewes 35 two-shear from Mr. G. A. Woodward, Stonham, realised 62s., and 10 maiden shearlings from Exors. W. Juby, Mendlesham, 58s. 6d.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Birmingham.

The annual sale of wool at Birmingham took place on Tuesday at the Wool Warehouses, New Canal Street, and was conducted by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, in conjunction with the Butchers' Hide, Skin, and Wool Company. Buyers attended from Bradford, Halifax, Leicester, Newtown, Welshpool, Kendal, Swindon, Stratford, Stone, Kidderminster, &c., and a good clearance was effected at well-maintained prices. Washed wool sold up to 15d. per lb., and unwashed up to 12½d.

Blandford.

This well-known Dorset Wool Fair was held on the 7th ult., in brilliantly fine weather. Buyers were represented from Scotland, Cork, Athlone, Bradford, Kidderminster, Halifax, Oxford, Winchester, and many other places, Blandford wool being held in high repute by staplers owing to its general high-class character. Close on 100,000 fleeces were pitched in the usual meadow where the sales take place by Messrs. Ensor and Son (Dorchester), Messrs. Senior, Godwin, and Young (Sturminster), and Messrs. Duke and Son (Dorchester). Business was generally very animated, and the whole of the wool was quickly appropriated at prices showing a general advance of a 1d. to 1½d. on last year's rates. Viscount Portman pitched a grand lot of Downs, which realised 15¾d., the top price of the fair, which was given by Mr. Elling, of Warminster; and Lord Alington sold his Southdown clip at 15½d. A general range for the best Down fleeces was from 14¾d. to 15½d., and ordinary lots 13½d. to 14½d. Washed lamb wool ranged from 13d. to 14½d., and unwashed lots 10¾d. to 14½d. All the picked wools met an exceptionally keen competition.

Devizes.

Devizes Wool Fair was held on Tuesday, when about 70,000 fleeces were sold. Trade was not over brisk, but prices were good. The highest price for washed was 15½d., and unwashed 11d.

Dorchester.

This fair on Monday was in every respect the most successful that can be remembered for very many years past, the pitch being considerably in excess of previous years, the attendance of buyers of a larger and more representative character, and the prices considerably in advance of last year's—from 1½d. to 2½d. per lb. The pitch was about equally divided between Horns and Downs, and, although both classes of wool excited keener competition than can be recollected for a long decade, the Horns undoubtedly found the greatest favour, though there was no very marked difference in the relative prices realised by the two different classes of wool. In proof of the extensive character of

the fair we may state that close on 200,000 fleeces were included in the two auction sales conducted by Messrs. Ensor and Son and by Messrs. Duke and Son, a complete clearance of which was readily effected.

The best price at the fair was made by Mr. W. R. Flower, of West Stafford, Dorchester, with a rare sample, his fleeces going up to 15¾d—a price that was touched by no other lot, though a number of other lots made 15½d., and his lamb brought 15½d. Mr. F. Hooper, of Southover, another well-known Horn flockmaster, made 15½d. all round for his fleeces and also for his lamb, which was a good achievement. The general range for the best Horn fleeces was from 14¾d. to 15½d., and for unwashed lots 10½d. to 12¾d.; best Horn lamb, 15d. to 15½d.; unwashed Horn, 11d. to 13¼d.; Down fleeces ranged from 14¾d. to 15½d., and unwashed lots, 10½d. to 11½d.; best Down lamb, 13¾d. to 14½d.; and unwashed lamb, 10½d. to 11¾d.

Perth.

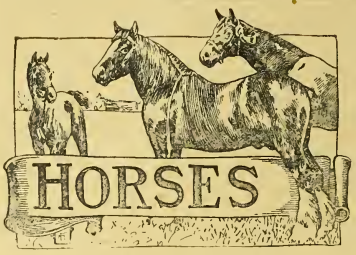
Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co. held a wool sale at Perth on Thursday, and brought under the hammer 2,645 bales of cross, half-bred, Cheviot, and black-faced. The attendance was larger than at any previous sale, and for all classes of wool an animated demand was experienced, a decided rise over last year's prices being obtained. The advance in cross and half-bred wool was 1½d. per lb., while black-faced wool made an advance of 1d. per lb. Black-faced ewe and wether was making up to 8¾d. per lb., black-faced hogg to 9d., cross ewe to 11d., cross hogg to 1s., half-bred hogg to 13¾d., half-bred ewe to 12½d., Cheviot hogg to 13½d., Cheviot ewe to 13d., Shropshire and Oxford 1s 0½d.

Salisbury.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence's thirtieth annual sale of English Down wool at Salisbury took place on the 16th inst., when the catalogue comprised about 85,000 fleeces, divided into 180 lots, besides 60 lots of tailings and trimmings, and the whole was disposed of. There was a good attendance of buyers, and a steady selling trade at a rise of about 1½d. per lb. for washed and unwashed wools above last year's figures, prices ranging as follows:—Washed, from 13½d. to 15½d., one lot making the top figure of 15½d., three lots 15¼d., 19 lots 15d., 30 lots 14¾d., 14 lots 14½d., 12 lots 14¼d., and the remainder 13¾d. to 14d. Unwashed made from 10d. to 11½d., one lot making the highest figure of 11½d., two lots 11¼d., six lots 11d., five lots 10¾d., 18 lots 10½d., 24 lots 10¼d., 12 lots 10d., and the remainder 9½d. and 9¾d., whilst lamb wool made from 11¼ to 13½d.

Winchester.

At Winchester wool fair on Wednesday about 75,000 fleeces, mostly Hampshire Downs, were offered. There was a good attendance of buyers, and bidding was brisk, prices showing an improvement over last year's figures of about 1d. per lb. The average for washed wool was between 14½d. per lb. and 14¾d., while the highest price touched for this grade of wool was 15½d. per lb. Greasy wool made up to 11d.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

The Canadian National Exhibition of Toronto will be held from August 27 to September 10, and it is said to be the best horse market in America. On this account Dr. Orr urges English breeders of Shire horses to exhibit their horses there, so that American and Canadian farmers may be able to compare them with other heavy breeds. It is scarcely likely that English breeders, unless they have a connection at the other side, will go to the expense and trouble of sending their horses over the Atlantic merely on the off chance of selling, let the Toronto market be ever so good. They will argue, and wisely, that if Toronto is such a good market, let the dealers who come over here make up their lots for the Toronto market; they know the customers on yon side and we don't. It would take away a lot of the profit if a man were to be left with a horse or two a few thousand miles from home and had either to bring them home or sell them at a sacrifice.

It is interesting to look for a moment at the prizes offered at this National Exhibition and compare them with some of the prizes offered on this side of the water. For stallions four years old and upwards prizes of £20, £12, £8, and £4 are offered. For three-year-old stallions prizes of £8, £5, £2, and £1 are offered; for two-year-old stallions the prizes are £4, £2, and £1; and for yearlings they are £3, £2, and £1. To three-year-old fillies £6, £3, £2, and £1 are allocated; two-year-old fillies have £4, £2, and £1 allotted to them; and yearling fillies have £3, £2, and £1. Brood mares are put on the same lines as three-year-old fillies, with the exception that an additional sovereign is added to the second prize, and there is a class for mares with any two of their progeny for which prizes of £4, £2, and £1 are offered. For foals the prizes are 50s., 25s., and 12s. 6d.

I have gone into the details of this prize schedule, first to compare it with those at which our English exhibitors grumble so heavily and so often without cause. With one exception the prizes offered are insignificant—the exception being in the class for stallions four years old and upwards, and this compares but poorly with the four year old class at the Shire Horse Show, where the prizes summed up to £83, nearly double the amount offered at Toronto. But the prizes offered evidently bring together an excellent show, or we should not have a prominent man like Dr. Orr accentuating the importance of it in the way he has done. And, therefore, though the prizes offered are not such as are likely to attract English breeders, it is evident that they serve their purpose. But the show in Canada and the United States is something very different to what it is in England, where there are so many important centres within easy reach of each other, and where the very circumstances which surround showing has raised up a class of professional exhibitors. The bulk of the horses shown at Toronto will be for sale, and so winning of prizes is looked upon in a different light to what it is here, and the mere amount of them seems a secondary consideration.

But for all that, English breeders will be well represented at Toronto, for his Majesty the King is going to send some from the famous Sandringham stud to the Canadian National Exhibition, and so is Lord Rothschild, report having it that his Majesty has asked Lord Rothschild to send some of the Tring Stud. So that English Shire breeders will have direct representation at the Toronto show, where our Canadian and American friends will have the chance of seeing some of the best. Such a public-spirited policy cannot fail to give trade a fillip, and Shire breeders may well expect to see it even better in the immediate future than it has been in the past. Nor is Toronto the only place at which the Royal and Tring stud representatives will be seen. The shows at Ottawa, London, and Kansas, U.S.A., will also be visited.

I often wonder why, at our large shows, we have not more produce classes. There are many very good-looking mares which are not very good breeders. They are either irregular breeders or they breed moderate foals, and it would not be difficult to find mares of any breed that can win in the brood-mare classes of their breed and that in the best of company, and that never breed anything of the very highest class. If prizes were given for two or three of the produce of one mare we should then find which were the best breeders, and, after all, that is what we want to find out. Classes of this sort would provide a very useful lesson in horsebreeding provided the pedigrees of the mares were carefully noted. But somehow we go on in the same old groove, and when there is a produce group class at a show, which is not often, the prizes are generally for the produce of a stallion. I only know of one exception to this rule, and that was at the Polo pony show this year, where there was a mare produce class, which was perhaps the most interesting one at the show.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
July				
*20	Messrs. John Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.	Shorthorn Cattle	Ifton Manor, Newport, Mon.	Mr. H. Session.
20	Messrs. W. Brown and Co., Tring	Hampshire Down Ram Lambs	Tring Park, Tring	Lord Rothschild.
20	Messrs. Preece and Overall, Shrewsbury	Store Cattle and Sheep	Shrewsbury, Smithfield	Various.
20	Messrs. J. Risdon & Son, Wiveliscombe, Somerset	Devon Longwoolled Rams	Exeter Cattle Market	Various.
*23	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Sheep	Waters Place Farm, Ware, Herts.	Mr. T. F. Buxton.
24	Mr. W. Bainbridge, Walton House, Warrington	Hackneys and Ponies	Walton Hall, Warrington	Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
*24	Messrs. John Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.	Shorthorn Cattle	Butler's Court, Lechlade, Glos.	Mr. D. Arkell.
*24	Messrs. Berry Bros. and Bagshaw, Kettering	Hampshire Down Sheep, Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Broughton Lodge, Kettering	Mr. W. Shatford James.
24	Messrs. C. R. Morris, Sons, and Peard, North Curry, Som.	Devon Cattle	Knowle Hall Estate, near Bridgwater, Som.	Mr. B. C. Shepherd.
*25 & 26	Messrs. John Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.	Large White and Berkshire Pigs	Ruddington, Nottingham	The late Mr. P. L. Mills.
25	Messrs. Lythall and Walters, Bingley Hall, Birmingham	Longhorn Cattle	Eastwell Park, Ashford, Kent	Right Hon. Lord Gerard.
25	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Derby Horse Repository	Various.
26	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Lambs	Alresford Fair	Various.
26	Messrs. Hall, Pain and Goldsmith, Petersfield	Hampshire Down Sheep	Alresford Fair	Mr. J. Goldsmith.
26	Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons, Attleborough, Norfolk	Cotswold Rams	Marham Hall, Downham Market	Messrs. T. Brown and Son.
26	Mr. W. Bainbridge, Walton House, Warrington	Polo and Riding Ponies	Woodlands Stud, Stockport	Mr. S. H. Moorhouse.
27	Messrs. Walters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Sheep	Weyhill Fair	Various.
28	Mr. W. J. Leversha, Torre, Washford, Taunton	Hampshire Down Ram Lambs	Taunton Market	Messrs. P. C. Tory and John Joyce.
28	Messrs. J. Risdon and Son, Wiveliscombe	Devon Rams	Taunton	Various.
28	Messrs. Collins, Exeter	Hunters	Exeter	Various.
30	Mr. A. Preston, Worlingworth, Framlingham	Suffolk Horses	Ipswich	Members of the Suffolk Horse Society.
31	Messrs. Walters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Sheep	Market House, Salisbury	Mr. J. Dean.
31	Messrs. Henry Manley and Sons, The Repository, Crewe	Horses	Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay, North Wales	Messrs. John Jones and Sons.
31	Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons, Crewe and Wrexham	Harness Horses and Matched Pairs	North Wales Repository, Wrexham	Various.

* Further details appear in our advertisement columns.

Of course there would be a little difficulty in getting entries in a mare produce class. The owner of the mare might, and indeed, he probably would have sold her produce, or the best of them, and there might be some difficulty in getting them together. For instance, some men who had bought the produce might object to showing it, and some of the produce might have changed hands two or three times, and might be difficult to trace. With Stallion produce groups there is, of course, no difficulty, as the owner of the stallion looks after getting his horse represented by the best of his stock that is at the show. Still difficulties can be met, and I cannot but think that a produce class for mares, in which, say, not more than two of the produce of any mare should be shown, the said produce to be three years old, or under, would prove very attractive. It would also be likely to bring buyers to look after any of the fillies that were shown. At any rate, I think mare produce classes are worth a trial, and I should not be discouraged if for a time or two they proved a failure.

This brings me to the Brood Mare Society, the second annual report of which has just been sent to me. The report is a very satisfactory one, and perhaps there is no society in England at the present moment which is doing so much good at such a small outlay. During the last year the society has spent £85 15s. on the purchase of mares, and has sold one mare for £25 5s., the total income from all sources, including the balance in hand at the commencement of the financial year which was £122 14s. 11d., amounts to £496 16s. 9d., and the total expenditure was £394 13s. 2d., leaving a balance of £102 3s. 7d. There are fifty mares in the hands of breeders, which I take it is a very satisfactory result for such a small expenditure. The men to whom the mares are lent pay a rent of £2 per annum for them, which is an admirable plan. And as it is the endeavour of the society to supply a mare which is capable of working on a farm, her heir is very cheap at £2 per annum even if she should miss breeding a foal. The society is doing a good work and its receipts from annual subscriptions, which are now £291, should run into four figures. Indeed, it should have done so by this time. If with the present subscription there are fifty mares allocated, it is easy to see what would be done if the society met with the support it deserves. A few hundred good sound brood mares in the country that could not be sent out of it would soon alter the position of light horse breeding.

I have always thought that the Brood Mare Society and Cleveland Bay and Yorkshire Coach Horse Breeders should come into touch. In the Cleveland bay mare and the larger stamp of Yorkshire coaching mare there is the foundation for either a good hunter or a good harness horse, and they are eminently fitted to work on the land, being both active and powerful. Unfortunately there are not too many of them, but there are plenty for a foundation, and the numbers would soon increase if there was, as was once the case, a good steady *home* demand. Under present circumstances the foreigners get the best mares, for even now, when the trade is not so brisk as it was, the foreigner gets the pick of the market. This is nothing less than a national calamity, and it will be found so some day. An active, powerful, hardy breed like the Cleveland Bay is, even in these days, a valuable national possession.

THE LOOKER ON.

The Bentley Stud.

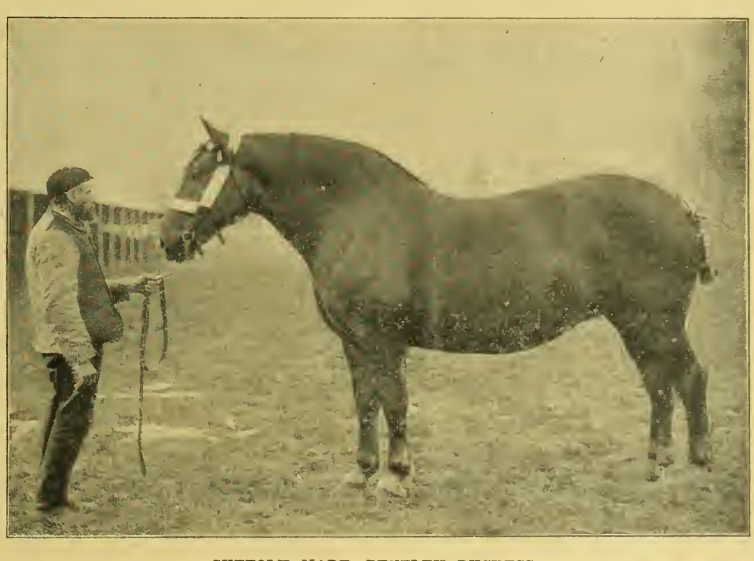
Situated in the extreme east of England, exposed to the north-east winds from the German Ocean, lies the parish of Bentley, where the late Mr. Edward Quilter founded one of the most successful studs of Suffolk horses which have of recent years competed in the showyard. The fact of the exposed position of this locality is a proof that this stud is endowed with that hardiness of constitution which cannot fail to stand any inclemency of the weather that might prove fatal to stock less robust and hardy. It is with regret the present owner, Major J. A. C. Quilter, has decided to submit his horses to public auction. The farm, however, being let, it has been thought advisable to offer the entire stud at the annual Suffolk horse sale to be held at Ipswich on Monday next, the 30th inst.

In addition to Bentley Duchess (4129) (of whom we give an illustration), a great prizewinner, being thrice first and champion at the Suffolk Show, there are many other noted animals, including in the mares Bentley Christine (4716), Bentley Princess (5217), and Bentley Gladness (5150) having all been conspicuous in the show ring, and may be relied upon as breeders, being offered for sale with foals at foot. Other mares such as Bentley Belle (4320) and Bentley Perfect (5317) have, and will no doubt continue to give a good account of themselves.

The stallions, although not large in number, are one of the choicest lots that have come before the public for a considerable time. The three-year-old stallion Bentley Cornet (3122) by Mars, winner of first prize and reserve for the champion at the recent Suffolk Show, cannot fail to attract notice; whilst Bentley Grist (3238), unbeaten as a yearling last year at the principal shows, will undoubtedly be in request. It is to be hoped that these stallions will be retained in the country, as it is predicted by some of the best judges of the breed that there is every prospect of their proving valuable sires in the future.

The West Ayton Hunters.

The late Mr. J. S. Darrell's well-known stud of hunters and young hunter stock was dispersed by auction at West Ayton, near Scarborough, on the 6th inst. by Messrs. Walker and Sons and Messrs. Boulton and Cooper. Breeders from all parts were present, and a satisfactory sale resulted, the total amount realised for sixty-two animals being £2,085 16s. 6d. Two three-figure prices were recorded, a four-year-old brown mare by Red Eagle being knocked down to Mr. Willaers, of Antwerp, for 117 guineas, and a four-year-old chesnut gelding by Castlereagh fetching 103 guineas from Mr. Murry. The five year-olds and upwards sold at prices up to 68 guineas, three-year-olds up to 62 guineas, and two-year-olds to 50 guineas.



SUFFOLK MARE, BENTLEY DUCHESS.
Winner of numerous Prizes, including three Championships.
One of the late Mr. EDWARD QUILTER'S Bentley Stud.

Ayrshire Cattle Society.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book Society, stated that during the year 281 certificates of pedigree had been granted, from which it may be inferred that 281 Ayrshires of both sexes have been exported during the course of the year. As compared with last year, this shows an increase of forty-seven. The destinations of the animals were as follows:—Canada, 107; Finland, seventy-six; Sweden, thirty; United States of America, twenty-nine; South Africa, twenty-six; Australia, twelve, Ireland, one. During the year twenty-four annual members had joined the society.

The committee were, the report continued, disappointed with this year's sales of pedigreed Ayrshires. They did not think, however, that the show and sale should be abandoned. A sale of pedigreed stock could not be established in one or two years. Breeders seemed to think that buyers were not forward in sufficient numbers to afford competition for their stock. On the other hand, the committee reminded breeders that buyers could not be induced to come from a distance unless a good selection was afforded in the way of numbers. They strongly urged that members should send consignments, and that purchasers would inevitably follow.

The total revenue from all sources during the year was £207 0s. 5d., as against £200 1s. 6d. in 1905, while the expenditure was £206 9s. 6d., as against £275 2s. in 1905. Annual subscriptions show an increase of £5 15s. The revenue from entry-fees showed an increase of £12 5s. 6d., and from certificates an increase of £3 5s. 6d. As regards expenditure, the decrease is accounted for by reduction in the amount given as special prizes. The expenditure on the show and sale was £52 15s. 2d., of which £35 15s. was given in prize money. The receipts amounted to £10 19s. 3d., compared with £15 5s. 10d. last year. There was thus a net loss on the show and sale of £41 15s. 11d., the receipts even failing to meet the cost of printing, advertising, &c., to the extent of £6 0s. 11d. The society's capital assets, valued on the same basis as last year, stand at £680 16s. 11d.

Some discussion took place as to the continuance of the Society's annual show, on which there had last year been a net loss of over £41. The chairman, the Hon. G. R. Vernon, said it was known to the members that the show was encouraging the breeding of Ayrshire cattle, and he thought they were justified in continuing the show, even though the receipts did not meet the expenditure. It was unanimously agreed to continue the show.

The Marquis of Ailsa was appointed patron for the ensuing year, the Hon. G. R. Vernon president, and Mr. A. Cross, of Knockdon, vice-president.

It was agreed to give £20 to Ayrshire Agricultural Association, to vote £40 for the Society's own show, and £30 to be allocated among such shows as applied for grants. It was agreed to send representatives to the conference at Peebles in regard to proposed points in judging cattle. It was also agreed to add to points for judging Ayrshire cattle the colours black and white.

Alderney and the British Meat Trade.

A public meeting, attended by over 200 of the principal inhabitants of Alderney, was held on that island on Thursday in connection with a scheme to import Argentine cattle and sheep to be slaughtered there and the carcases shipped direct to English and Continental ports.

The meeting was called by Mr. Spurling, chairman of the syndicate, because the Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey desired the disadvantages, as well as the advantages, to be fully explained to the Alderney people. Mr. Spurling said smell would be caused, but the buildings would be far from the habitations. In slaughtering and dealing with by-products British and local labour would be exclusively used. There would be no sweating or wage-cutting. One of the objects would be the introduction of the famous Channel Islands' breeds of cattle to South America.

The meeting unanimously passed resolutions in favour of the scheme, to be conveyed to the Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Board of Agriculture. It is proposed to import 500 cattle and 4,000 sheep weekly if the scheme is practicable.

PUMPING MACHINERY
is always required amongst the class of readers who regularly take the "Mark Lane Express"—the larger farmers and estate owners.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore' Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

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HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

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CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S, Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

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WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

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THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Eudale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

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CAPTON HERD.—Noted for size, flesh, milk, quality, and symmetry combined; colour dark red, with robust constitutions. 100 for Sale. Exported to all parts of the world. Bulls and Heifers of this Herd always on Sale. A. BOWERMAN, Capton, Williton, Taunton.

CATTLE—*continued.*

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SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowons, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS
COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

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TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

FOR SALE.—Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Eight to ten guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTER, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

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DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902 and 1904, 25 gs. challenge cup, Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb at for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03 05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.).*

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OF
HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.
Registered in Vol. I. of the Hampshire Down Flock Book.

ESTABLISHED in the year 1874
by Ewes purchased from the late Mr. J. Rawlence and Mr. E. Dibben, by
T. FOWELL BUXTON, Esq.
Winners of First and Champion Prizes at Royal, Royal Counties, Smithfield, Prince of Wales 100 guinea Challenge Cup at Smithfield Club, 1903, for best pen of sheep in show bred and fed by exhibitor.

ANNUAL SALE of RAM LAMBS, RAMS, and EWES on the Farm JULY 23.

For particulars of Animals for Sale or Hire apply to—
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STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

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COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

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NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st up for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

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KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.
COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows, of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

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The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

(Continued on next page).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale. —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

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PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

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SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cup: Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

"Fly" or "Maggot" in Sheep.

Recently a querist ("F. M.," page 620) sought information as to "how to prevent flies tormenting cattle and sheep." Some information was given with reference to a dressing for the former, and it was promised that, the subject being a seasonable one, fly prevention and maggoting in sheep should be dealt with in greater detail at an early date. May and June are reputed the great "fly" months, but the attacks are continued throughout the summer, and in mild seasons prolonged far into the autumn. In thundery weather, after showers, and at the latter end of their short existence, the flies appear particularly vicious, and the shepherd dares not relax his vigilance for a moment.

The particular "fly" responsible for "maggoting" sheep has long been in dispute, and probably several of the Muscidae, an important family of the two-winged flies, are concerned in causing this trouble, but one of the green-bottle flies—Lucilia sericata—appears the most prevalent cause. The following description of Lucilia in its different stages, as supplied by the Board of Agriculture leaflet on the subject, can hardly fail to be of interest:—

L. sericata is a bright shining green or blue-green fly, about one-third of an inch long, and about seven-eights of an inch in spread of wing. The fly, examined with a lens, is seen to be covered with dark bristles, the arrangement of these bristles being used as an aid in distinguishing this and allied species.

The eggs are yellowish white, and measure about one-sixteenth of an inch in length.

The larvæ is a legless maggot, capable, however, of an active crawling movement. It measures, when full grown, up to half an inch or more in length; the head end is pointed, and provided with two mouth hooks; the hind end is blunt, with tubercles round its margin and two plates carrying the spiracles on its flat surface.

The female fly is capable of laying as many as 500 eggs, and fixes these to the wool in clusters of twenty or more. These eggs may hatch in twenty-four hours, the resulting maggots feeding at first externally, and later boring into the skin and flesh. In a fortnight they may be full grown, when they drop away from the sheep and become pupæ, under cover of brown and rounded or barrel-shaped cases, from which the fly, when ready, issues from a hole at one end.

In certain experiments that have been made the flies issued in from less than a fortnight to over a fortnight, according to temperature and other conditions. Direct loss of sheep or lambs from death is not common unless under conditions such as on hill pastures, where careful oversight is impossible, but unless the maggots are destroyed and the wounds kept clean, the torture ends in death.

Either from neglect or lack of knowledge, or both, sheep sometimes get practically eaten alive. Indirect loss is heavy owing to the disturbance caused by the frequent hunting and collecting, and "struck" sheep always thrive badly, and are depreciated in value owing to rapid loss of condition and injury to the wool.

Two things that favour the attack of the "fly" are cuts and similar injuries, the former often received in shearing, and allowing the sheep to get dirty behind. Filth seems to form a congenial habitat for the maggots, and a damp fœtid patch of wool will generally be found where they are actually at work. Thus the rump and tail are parts liable to attack.

It is said that a good dog recognises a "struck" sheep, but there are some bipeds that are either less observant or less intelligent than the canine guardian of the flock, for maggoting is sometimes overlooked. The sheep is at first restless and excitable, shakes its tail in a peculiar manner, stamps its feet, runs about, and tries to rub or bite in order to allay the irritation caused by the maggots. Later, the animal becomes dull and dejected, loses appetite, and stands listlessly, with hanging head, apart from its companions.

The wool at the seat of attack is raised, rough, and discoloured, there is an oozing from the sores of an evil-smelling discharge, and the maggots in working into the tissues cause deep fissures or galleries.

The wool, which falls out, does not, in bad cases, grow again.

An attack on lambs is worse than on old sheep.

Prevention is, of course, of the greatest importance. This includes the destruction of the carcases of all dead animals, including birds, which should be burned or buried deeply in order that they may not serve as breeding places for the fly. This is a precaution very commonly overlooked or neglected. The prompt treatment of cuts, wounds, or abrasions of the skin at the time of their infliction is essential. For the protection of wounds zinc ointment to which ten drops of pure carbolic acid has been added to each ounce, or a mixture of sulphur in carbolised oil, are very useful.

The latter is especially convenient, as it can be supplied to the shearers or carried in a can by the shepherd, and applied with a brush to the part. The removal of dirty locks of wool, and the trimming up of parts contaminated, when, owing to the nature of the food, the bowels are relaxed, or the animal suffers from diarrhœa, should be attended to. Sheep suffering from "scour" fall easy prey to the fly, and the object of keeping them thoroughly clean about their hindquarters, and clearing away any filth, is to afford as little opportunity as possible for lodgment. Flies have a keen sense of smell, and are quickly attracted to dirty places for their egg-laying.

These precautions as to dressing wounds and careful trimming do not, however, entirely suffice, for the yolk of the wool proves a sufficient attraction, and, no matter what care is taken, the fly will often strike, particularly in moist, warm, muggy weather, or warm sunshine, after showers, unless there is an application to the wool of some agent that is either obnoxious to the fly and deters egg-laying, or preventive of the development of the maggots.

"Powdering" used to be a favourite method of prevention and cure, and most country chemists sell "fly powder" for dredging into the fleece, both for preventing the "fly" and the destruction of the maggots. They consist for the most part of mixtures of sulphur, arsenic, helleboro, white lead, cinnabar of antimony, alum, prepared chalk, Armenian bole, umber, ochre, and whale oil in various combinations and proportions; but dipping, and to a lesser degree, sprinkling have almost entirely superseded powdering, as being more economical and efficient. M.R.C.V.S.

(*To be concluded.*)

Swelling on Cow's Knee.

SIR,—Will you kindly tell me through your paper what to do with a windgall on cow's knee as large as a quart measure and soft; has been there four or five months?—A CONSTANT READER.

Answer: "What to do" in such a case will be to call in the local veterinary surgeon and consult him as to the advisability of putting a seton through the swelling, and we tender you this advice because we fear there is nothing you can do in such a case for yourself. You are of course aware how such bursal enlargements are caused, but the size of the enlargement and the persistence for such a long period is suggestive of the cause remaining in operation. The most common cause of the enormously enlarged knees in cattle is bruising due to their lying on hard and insufficiently bedded floors, and unless this is remedied the swelling not only persists, even in spite of treatment, but becomes considerably large. In recent case, where the enlargement is small, cold water bandaging and protection against further injury is occasionally effective, but a more common practice is to blister the front of the knee. This converts the soft fluctuating swelling into a hardish, indurated mass that is sometimes gradually removed by absorption. Anything so large as "a quart measure" cannot, however, be dealt with in this way, and the only thing is a seton through the body of the swelling and protection from further injury. The question as to whether the game is worth the candle is for you to decide. It is true that these bursal enlargements—they are not windgalls, but contain fluid, not air—are terrible eyesores, but they rarely cause lameness, and there is, therefore, no cruelty; the milk yield; is not affected, and the knee is not a paticularly valuable part of a carcase of beef. M.R.C.V.S.

Butter Gone Wrong.

SIR,—I should feel obliged if you could tell me what is the cause of the very disagreeable taste in the enclosed sample of butter. There is only the one cow, and the cow-man can see no weed in the pasture that would cause it. The dairy is kept very clean, and the cow seems in good health. The taste has been in the butter for the last month or six weeks; during the last three weeks butter has been made twice a week. The taste is not so strong on the first day.—B. Q. V.

Answer: The trouble I am inclined to think is caused either by some unwholesome food or water the cow takes, although there are a dozen other things I could name that might cause it. Bad drinking water is often an unthought-of cause of such a trouble. And water used in dairy work should be quite pure. I advise you to keep the cow in the shed for a week or ten days, and there feed and water carefully. Then, if the butter is sweet, you will know there has been something taken afield to cause the taint; while, if the disagreeable taste still prevails, you may look elsewhere for the mischief. The butter tastes to me as if food or water gave the taint as aforesaid, and the fact of it going off to bad flavour after a day or two points all the more strongly to my theory. M.R.C.V.S.

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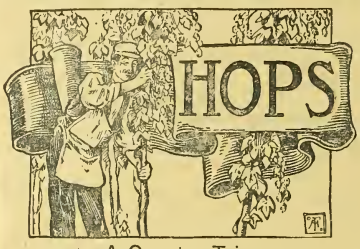


A Country Trip.

I have had the opportunity of spending a couple of very enjoyable days in Kent this week, and have now the pleasure of recording the results of my observations. Looking at the plantations that were within the range of my vision from the railway train, I was struck with the general aspect of slackness and apparent weakness of the bine, and was therefore not surprised to find confirmation of my impressions when I came into closer contact with them.

Arriving at Paddock Wood, I was met by a friend, who kindly offered me a seat in his motor car, and we were rapidly conveyed by this most agreeable modern method of locomotion through many miles of roads, bordered on each side by some of the best hop grounds in England, which may be accepted as representing the most skilful culivators in the world. I was soon aware that the reports I had received of the general condition were not exaggerated, for the first gardens we passed showed very evidently the trials they had been through, and the critical condition in which they still remain. The next that should have come under observation were the famous Beltring gardens, but we passed on to Wateringbury, where it was painful to notice in many grounds the lightness of the bine and the sickly appearance of the foliage, giving evidence of the severity of the attack of blight, and of the labour that must have been bestowed in fighting with it.

Here and there a more promising piece was to be seen, but, on the whole, my impressions were very unfavourable. Similar pictures were presented as we passed through East Barming, until we arrived at the outskirts of Maidstone, when houses took the place of hops. Leaving the town by another route, we ran through Tovil and entered upon the Farleighs, looking with interest at the extensive grounds of Messrs. Ballard. Here it is well known that capital and labour are not spared to ensure good crops. The most persistent attack of aphis blight is met by an elaborate system of spraying pipes distributed throughout the gardens, the wash being applied by the power provided by steam pumps.

This process had been in operation from the moment of the first appearance of the pest, and was being continued at the time of my visit. The plants are fairly clean, but as a fresh supply of lice constantly takes the place of their destroyed predecessors, it seems that perseverance in washing will be necessary up to the last possible moment. With the advantages of such an arrangement as I have mentioned, it was to be expected that good results should be found, and to some extent this is the case, but, nevertheless, the general condition appeared to be much in arrear of what I have seen in these gardens, and the bine must still make great progress if the crop is to come up to an average.

Further on there were very many poor looking pieces, and certainly the Bow Hill grounds seemed to be disappointing, so far as I was able to observe them. Too much daylight was a marked feature in glancing across the gardens. They did not look like cropping to the extent desired, and had clearly suffered, and were still suffering from the ravages of the blight. Some gardens at Kenward were apparently in a rather more satisfactory condition. The bine was stronger and more plentiful and the foliage of sounder colour, but as we approached Yalding we found some gardens that were in a most lamentable condition. Whether they had been neglected, I do not know, but much of the foliage was smothered with vermin, many of the leaves were turning black, and the feeble aspect of the bine could not be overlooked. Such pieces cannot produce any amount of crop even under the most favourable conditions during the remainder of the season. Round the village of Yalding there are some grounds with fair promise, and others for which the outlook must be somewhat dark.

The general effect upon my mind of this brief survey may perhaps be illustrated by the feeling aroused when one meets a friend who stands with his head lowered, his back bent, his eyes half closed, and his whole attitude expressive of anxiety and depression. One wonders what is wrong with him, and one's sympathies are stirred as one realises that one cannot assist him.

As with the man, so with the hops this year; they are despondent, they are oppressed with trouble, and unless Nature comes to their help they will continue on the downward path. Illustrations are not often entirely applicable, and I feel that my attempt cannot quite convey my meaning, but it is pretty certain that the general condition of our plantations is not promising, and we may safely go farther, and predict that present appearances warrant us in anticipating a harvest that must come far short of that of last year, and will probably not much exceed the yield of 1904.

From Foreign Plantations.

I have received the following from the German Hop Growers' Association :—

Bavaria.

SPALT.—Although the late and early hops are going on well, it is still too early to come to any decision as to the amount of the crop, as it depends on the weather which we shall have.

HAPSBURG.—In our neighbourhood the hops are medium and inferior. In nearly all the plantations the plant is injured with lice, and mildew and rust have set in.

SCHNAITTACH.—On account of the great quantities of lice the plant has not made much progress during the last fourteen days. It is to be feared that by unfavourable weather rust will set in. The different attempts to clean the black rusty hops have met with some success.

NEUSTADT A/AISCH.—During the last fourteen days the condition of the plant has improved, but in many gardens—particularly new plantations—the plant has not grown well—there are lice, and the hops are likely to get black.

BAMBERG.—Condition better.

MAINBURG.—The condition of our hop plant in general is very good; it has grown well, and is free from vermin and disease. The storm last week has freshened up the plants considerably.

SIEGENBURG.—The condition of the plant is good, but the lice have increased and have attacked some of the plantations. In this neighbourhood there has been a heavy hail shower, which has completely destroyed some of the hops, and others are badly injured.

MEMMINGEN.—The weather is at present favourable, and the plant is two-thirds up the pole. On the whole it looks healthy, and is free from vermin.

Wurtemberg.

RENNINGEN.—The condition of our plant is good. With regard to the amount of the crop, it will not be far behind that of others, comparatively. At present leaf-lice are showing themselves, but not so much so as to cause anxiety.

HERRENBERG.—The wet and cold weather has injured the plant, and those gardens which have suffered from the earth flea are behind, the condition of the gardens is therefore unequal. During the last eight days leaf-lice have increased, and in some of the best gardens it looks as if the plant would get black if we do not have good weather, especially warm nights.

AIDLINGEN.—The condition of our gardens is at present varied. Some places have suffered so much with the earth-flea that it has been impossible to train them on the pole; others, on the contrary, have developed beautifully.

WEILDERSTADT.—Condition in general good. On account of the cold nights in low-lying places lice are to be found, but there is no sign of the hop turning black.

ROTTENBURG.—Development has been slow on account of unfavourable weather, and the condition of the plantations is unequal. Since middle of June weather has been better and the condition has improved; there have been some cold nights, and if they repeat themselves much harm will be done.

Baden.

HAGNAU.—The warmer weather has done much good; early hops begin to blossom, the bine is good, but the amount produced will be smaller than that of the late hops.

Prussia.

NEUTOMISCHEL.—Plants backward on account of bad weather; they have hardly reached the half of the pole, and to prevent mildew from setting in heavy rains are much required.

GARDELEGEN.—Condition unequal here, and some of the plants are suffering from vermin. On

the whole things are fourteen days behind against last year. A warm, wetting rain would do much good. It is safe to say we shall not have a very good or early crop.

Austria-Hungary.

SACHSENFELD.—The weather has changed here at last, and we have warm nights and days. In strong "golding" gardens buds are noticeable. Vermin is not increasing.

SCHASSBURG.—From middle May till middle June the weather in this district was bad, and the prospects look far from promising. At last, however, the weather has changed for the better. The hops in general are sound, good green, and uninjured up till now.

SAAZ.—Since last report, weather good with some rain, and the plant has developed nicely. As is the case every year—this year part of our plantations, those which have been cut late—are rather weak, but the greater part are luxuriant and have well developed side shoots. Vermin has not increased where there have been heavy showers, and if the weather does not change again for the worse, our prospects are as before good.

Belgium.

Some Belgian planters, with whom I have had some conversation this week, inform me that the blight is universal and most persistent throughout the Alost plantations. Their system of washing is very primitive and ineffective, being limited to hand syringing with soft soap, extract of tobacco—in which they appear to place much confidence—and in some plantations quassia is also used. The general condition is stated to be unfavourable, and only a very moderate crop is anticipated.

America.

From Washington I have received to-day (Friday) the following extract from the *Morning Oregonian*, dated June 29:—

SALEM, Or.—Almost incredible though it may seem, well-posted Oregon hopgrowers expect a crop of 130,000 bales in this State this season. This is an expectation based upon the present condition of the yards. Some men who are both dealers and growers say they will not be surprised at a crop of 140,000 bales, and will be disappointed if it goes under 130,000, with continued favourable weather conditions. The largest crop heretofore gathered was that of last year, aggregating 108,000 bales.

All the yards are now in first-class condition. Many old yards are promising a yield of 25 to 50 per cent. greater than last year. In addition to this, there are many young yards which produced light crops of baby hops last year that will yield full crops for the first time this year. The great question in the minds of growers is whether all the hops can be gathered. Labour is scarce, and a much larger number of people than usual will be required to pick the crop.

Our Foreign Trade.

Contrary to my expectation, the official returns for June show an increase in our exports of hops. The Continent has fallen off, but America has again come to the front with 8,396 cwt., raising our total receipts for the month to 10,271 cwts. These arrivals are mainly from the Pacific Coast, and are principally traceable to the desire of a large Californian grower to unload himself of his holdings for special reasons. Our aggregate of imports during the past six months now shows the important figure of 98,796 cwt., and we have received from all foreign sources since the beginning of our season on September 1, 1905, no less than 173,412 cwt. After deducting the exports for the same period it will be seen that the balance against our market is 153,870 cwt., which, taken in connection with our immense native crop, is much too heavy for the satisfaction of English growers. Referring to the exports of the past season, it is pleasing to know that colonial brewers give such marked preference to English growths, as out of our shipments of 19,542 cwt. 15,612 cwt. were of our production.

The Swindon Tram Accident.—After extending over six days, the coroner's inquiry touching the death of four persons who succumbed to injuries sustained in the tramcar accident at Swindon on the occasion of the Bath and West Show, was concluded on Thursday. The jury, after a lengthy absence, returned a verdict of "Accidental death." They exonerated the driver from all blame, and found that the brakes were not in perfect working order, and considered that the electrical engineer and the tramway manager, Mr. G. J. Griffin, were lacking in judgment in not sending the car in. They also found the tramway committee of the corporation guilty of general slackness in not enforcing the by-laws. Mr. Thomas Neate, of Bath, died at Swindon Hospital on Thursday from injuries received in the accident, making the total deaths five.

Northern Notes.

THE backwardness of farmers in grasping new ideas is one of the things which militates against their prosperity. Every farmer who will spend fivepence on the official copy of the Report of the Departmental Committee on Railway Rates would be rewarded manifoldly. Much grumbling is directed against the railway companies. The complaints are many of them ill-founded. When agriculturists have thoroughly learnt the lesson of co-operation, we may hope for a more satisfactory state of affairs in the carrying world. The companies will carry cheaply if they are allowed to handle big lots; but the comparatively small and petty lots sent over a system of railway cost much more in proportion than a truck or several truck loads forwarded to a given centre. Manufacturers of farmers' requirements in Yorkshire are adopting the plan of delivering their orders by means of a motor service of their own, sending the goods along free within a given radius. This is enterprise; and the offer of free delivery is a tempting bait. While combination and co-operation have on the Continent enabled the agriculturists to export freely and thus to compete in our markets, here it appears to be difficult to induce farmers to abandon their antiquated methods.

COPIOUS, penetrating rains have fallen this week in some parts of the North, where the rainfall for the second quarter of the year is deficient. Notwithstanding, the outlook all round is far better than last summer, and, in fact, for several years past. The difference in the appearance of most turnip plots is strikingly in favour of the roots now in the ground, and the prospect of a sufficiency of winter feed has put heart into the farmers who feed for the markets. The hay crops are receiving attention, but not universally. Wealthy crops of clover hay are being mown, and corn and ordinary meadow-land crops have been greatly stimulated by the torrential showers and subsequent heat. The idea is being fast exploded that it is possible to produce something out of nothing; and it is interesting to observe that fertilisers are being used after the first "sweep of the scythe," in order to ensure a more rapid growth of the aftermath. The judicious use of a fertiliser amply rewards an enterprising man.

ON suitable wheat lands the crop is conspicuously good. Slight attacks of wireworm have been spoken of, but these are by no means prevalent. Wheat is now well into ear, and is so heavy a plant that many fields have bowed beneath the weight of rainstorms. There is much more straw this summer; this remark is applicable to all the three cereals—wheat, oats, and barley. Oats were a shockingly light crop last harvest; they suffered from the drought, and we saw field after field on the Yorkshire wolds which would not repay the cost of cutting. With a spell of heat after the rains, it is quite possible the harvest may be much earlier than is at the present moment anticipated. In Northumbria an excellent mat of clover is reported, and it is so thick in some cases that yellowness of bottom due to lack of air is to be seen. Haymaking has become a much more rapid process than it once was; appliances for tedding, raking, sweeping, and carting are becoming very general. The pastures are affording an excellent bite in these northern regions, and milk producers are finding trade pretty remunerative; otherwise so many new aspirants to "fortune" would not be so venturesome as to plank down their savings in the dairying business. Milk selling is to be preferred to butter-making in June and July, when the manufactured article recedes in value to 8d. and even less per lb.

SEVERAL well-known breeders in Yorkshire and Durham have made remunerative prices for animals exhibited at the Derby Royal, amongst them being Mr. Harrison, of Gainsford, who has sold his yearling bull—the winner of second prize—for a long figure. Mr. Harrison appears to have good luck, following sound judgment, in regard to both Shorthorns and Leicester sheep. He is a prominent breeder of both, having divided honours pretty evenly with Mr. Jordan, of Driffield, for Leicesters, besides winning both the prizes offered for wool of that breed. Mr. Geo. Scoby, of Helmsley, has, we hear, sold his Yorkshire coach horse, Easingwold, to go abroad. This very fine specimen of a coacher has realised a big price. Some people appear to seriously question whether we can really afford to let some of our best stock be shipped abroad. The reason we can afford to do so is that our stock-raisers are such adepts at the art. What has been done in breeding can be repeated; at any rate, we will hope so. If we declined to allow the foreigner his choice, we should pretty quickly lose his custom altogether; his addresses would be paid to some other nation, but because he finds the best in England, to England he comes, and he enriches our lucky and intelligent farmers. The latter can hardly afford, after their merits have been determined in the prize ring, to throw away prospects of high values for their cattle, horses and sheep because of sentiment. The pedigree live-stock man has hardly arrived at that stage of absolute independence that he can afford to become a national philanthropist.

I HEAR, from what I have occasion to believe is a trustworthy source, that a number of large holdings on two extensive estates in Yorkshire are shortly coming into the market. The farms in question have for the most part been in the same occupation many years. All the farms are well let, and the only apparent object of putting them on the market is to reduce the area of the estates. Farmers of late years have not saved much money, except the fortunate few, who have done a heavy stroke of business in Hackney breeding. It occasionally comes to pass that a tenant purchases his holding. Land is always there when bought; it does not pass in a night, as investments of the will-o'-the-wisp order are apt to do. Many considerations enter into the purchase of land; its contiguity or otherwise to a railway is an important factor in determining its commercial value. An offer was made of about £26 an acre for a 400 acre holding in East Yorkshire recently; but the vendors declined to part with it.

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised, there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

POULTRY.

Late-Hatched Chickens.

The many phases of chicken life make poultry-keeping full of a variety that is charming, and an interest that attracts. Some people object to late-hatched chickens, feeling that those hatched during the months when the wild birds bring up their young are really natural birds, and fit for good work in the poultry-yard. But these people forget that domestic poultry are very largely out of their element in many respects, and as they remember this they will cease to clamour for any other thing than the most natural, and anything beyond that will assist Nature to ensure success.

We must also remember in this connection that it is profitable poultry-keeping, and not natural poultry-keeping that we have to study, and that utility in a modern sense is not always allied to copying Nature in her times and seasons, if we find it advantageous to copy her methods, and that when a system is found to produce beneficial results it is always most legitimate to employ it, because this principle, evolved very largely out of the higher intelligence of men to govern the beasts of the field and living things generally, has been at the source of all improvements, and very much of the excellence that now exists in many departments of life. So it was often remarked by men and women of the old school, "July and August chickens do not do well."

We believe that the blundering management was largely responsible for the condition of things of which this remark was only too sadly true, and as we have looked round the question we have not been surprised that it was so under the old management, so sadly defective, and which claimed a margin for so much of inattention and deficiency in many ways.

Let us now look at what really was the

THE CAUSE OF FAILURE.

One very frequent cause of chickens that were hatched late not being reared was found in the tendency poultry-keepers had to bring up old and young chickens together. This modern poultry-keepers know to be a most fatal mistake, and often the poor little late-hatched chicks were allowed to huddle up in the chicken houses with the older birds, until they were almost stifled, and their growth and vigour seriously impaired. And even now, strange to say, many people are very careless over this matter, and these grumble and blame the chickens, poultry-keeping, and, indeed, everything else, except the one cause—even their own bungling through ignorance; and then finding their young late-hatched chickens dying off one by one, wonder how this is, when they might be quite sure that this would be the result of such bad management as their poor little chickens are oftentimes subjected to.

Then, again, in breeding, bad feeding, wrong mating, and other evils of ignorance cause weakness of constitution, and the consequence is a sad story of failures that are most disastrous. Further, with the old negligence, hens are set in the old nests, which are infested with vermin, and consequently the hen is soon attacked, and loss of blood causes her to lose heat, and weak chickens are the result. Of course these do not do as well as if they had the advantage of quick, vigorous incubation, and so if a little cold weather should come, then they are weak and scarcely able to stand against it. Another

CAUSE OF DEATH

among young chickens is found in blows in the

back of the head which little chickens frequently get when they are allowed to feed with the earlier-hatched, larger chickens and the older birds. Of course, they live on perhaps for weeks after, but they gradually lose ground and droop, and are soon found dead, as this seems to cause some most fatal affection of the brain, from which they never recover.

Then, the ground on which the late-hatched chickens run is often quite stale before they are put there, consequently this causes death in many instances, and people wonder why it is their chickens are dying off. As a rule, if properly managed, late-hatched do as well, and in some cases, even better than earlier-hatched ones, but as with the spring-hatched chickens, so with these later-hatched birds, some are bad, while the vast majority, if properly cared for, turn out well.

One rather remarkable fact is noticeable in some of the July-hatched chickens, and that is that some of these hatched about the end of July have begun to lay before birds hatched in March and April. So, strange as this may appear, it seems abundantly certain that in these cases the birds lose nothing in the way of vigour, etc., by being late-hatched. If poultry keepers are short of birds at this time, we should advise them to get some eggs now they are cheap, and

SET TO WORK HATCHING AT ONCE,

as they may both hatch and rear birds well at the end of the summer or early in the autumn. We would urge poultry-keepers to study well the bearing of these economical methods of keeping up the supply of birds when they are short of stock through disaster earlier in the season, as they might very well in part make up now for any shortcomings in this respect. For anyone who has only limited space at their disposal, and pens filled with good chickens, we should not advise any attempt at such proceedings, but where birds are required these may be got, and that with little difficulty and trouble.

Where one is able to rear birds quickly from a good laying strain, birds of the right kind may often be produced, so that birds hatched at the end of August are found laying in January. In some cases we have known birds hatched the last week in August were laying at Christmas, while some hatched in February do not lay even then. These

LITTLE POINTS OF MANAGEMENT

are often the many points in which many fail, and while they are thinking of what they can do, and mourning their disappointments, the time flies away, and the opportunities are lost for ever. Where poultry keepers are unable to afford the higher prices paid for good eggs early in the season, they may get good stock by buying eggs and hatching late when they are cheap, and getting some good birds the first year; they would, if they followed this up by mating a large, early-hatching cockerel with the hens, the next year get some fine stock, equal almost to birds bred early in the season.

A good deal depends upon how people go to work in these matters, because practical poultry-keeping is largely a question of economy, which is taking up with constantly remembering that "Time and tide wait for no man." Of course, stock bred in the way we have mentioned is not the size the birds bred directly would be, but one gets the blood, and that is a great consideration, as this often means vigour and characteristic strength of constitution, and, in many instances, we have known them to grow out quite large birds the second season.

TABLE BIRDS

may be reared in large numbers late in the season. The Surrey and Sussex table breeders hatch immense numbers of birds at the end of August, September, and October. Birds hatched at that time make 1s. or 1s. 6d. more in the London markets than those hatched in May and June; that is to say, birds that are sold at the end of January or during February and March. These people are well up to their business, and so select the most advantageous moments for hatching the birds with which they supply the markets so continuously and so well, and we are most anxious to see the splendid enterprise, which has made these fatteners justly famous, extending to all parts of the country, until each county shall have cause to rejoice over mighty results in profitable poultry-keeping.

There are two reasons why these birds make more. Pullets that have already laid, at the end of the summer are not worth much for table, and the cockerels throw spurs, and although a little bigger, their flesh is tough and not worth as much as that of younger birds. In cases where people only hatch and rear birds for their own consumption, a few good autumn-hatched chickens are very useful. The cheap time for selling poultry is during the months of July, August, September, October, and November, and during this time chickens make worst prices.

One thing is always to be aimed at, and that is to get the birds of a good weight and of good quality, so that the birds may command good prices in the markets.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY NOTES.

The Walter A. Wood Mowing and Reaping Machine Co., Ltd., of 36, Worship Street, London, E.C., are ever to the front in introducing features of the greatest service to users of farm machinery, and their latest is in connection with their "Admiral" mower, which was awarded a first prize at the Royal Cornwall Show at Redruth in June. They have now a reaping attachment for this machine which is most simple, but at the same time of the greatest value, for the mower can in the space of a very few minutes be turned into a most efficient reaper, whilst if the machine has to be transported anywhere no parts need to be removed, the attachment simply being folded up to the side of the mower. An illustration of the mower with the reaping attachment is given on this page. Another feature of the machine is the increased space allowed between the lead-wheel and the pole for inside horse—an advantage apparent to all users of machinery. In fact the "Admiral" mower deserves the addition of two more letters in its name, and thus make it the "Admirable."

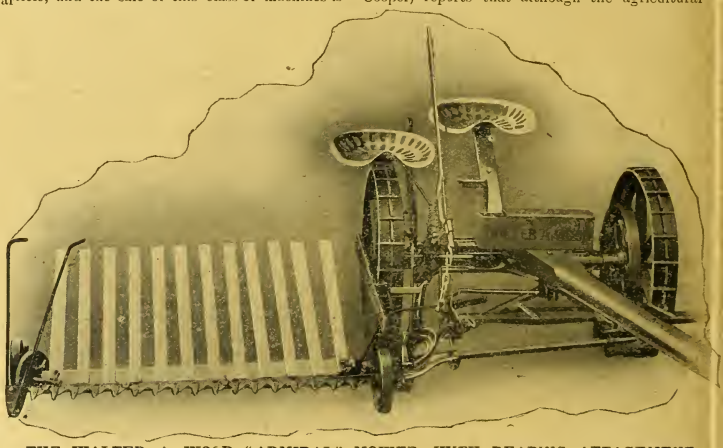
In his report on the trade of Italy for 1905, recently issued, Mr. J. H. Towsey (H.M. Consul at Milan) states that in the supply of steam-engines and steam threshing-machines British makers still held their own, but that the hay-making and harvesting machinery trade has for a long time been entirely lost to the United Kingdom, and is in the hands of the United States. They supply a very much lighter and cheaper article, and the sale of this class of machines is increasing, but Canada is now getting a small share of this trade. Italy imports quite 1,200 tons of ploughs and seed-drills per year, and this trade is entirely in the hands of the Germans, who have studied and are continually studying the local requirements. The German type of plough is preferred, and no British cattle-drawn ploughs come to the country.

The reasons for the above failure of British makers in Italy are thus clearly set out by Mr. Towsey:—Because makers of other countries study the requirements of the country; as a consequence they visit the local shows and compete for prizes. They push principally such implements as are sold in large numbers and sold in truckloads. They frequently publish catalognes and price lists, often in Italian and French currency and metrical measures; they further often visit the dealers. They do not require cash with the order or before delivery, but to good firms they allow, as a matter of course, three months' credit, and only as an alternative they quote their discount for cash.

When one considers that goods from the United Kingdom arrive at their destination in Italy in three or four weeks, and from any station in Germany to the centre of Italy in ten days, this difference in the payment conditions of the two countries becomes even more marked. The three months' credit from the German maker means eighty days' credit from receipt of the goods. The cash with the order or against bill of lading means four or five weeks' anticipation of the money. Finally they send their goods by rail without packing, and buyers know beforehand the cost of their purchases, whereas with British goods this is impossible. Mr. Towsey adds that if British makers would quote prices delivered at dealers' station, in francs, and on more liberal terms, the trade might even now return.

H.M. Consul-General at Odessa (Mr. C. S. Smith), states in his report for 1905 that of harvesting machinery, self-binders, reapers, mowers, horse-rakes, about three and a-half shiploads, of some 30,000 tons (40 cubic feet), arrived at this port during the year 1905. For these articles the United States, with some competition from Canada, holds the market. The manufacturers of these countries have specially studied the adaptation of their products to South Russian requirements and the chief merits of the machines, by which they have gained the monopoly, are lightness of construction, an essential in a country where the draught animals are either oxen or undersized horses; cheapness; and the low prices of the reserve parts, of which immense stocks are held. This latter point is a speciality, for the machines are not strongly built and soon shake to pieces. By the provision of reserve parts at low prices and by the small original cost of the machine, the American producer has successfully tempted the Russian buyer, who is for the most part a man of limited means, and largely dependent on the results of each harvest.

H.M. Consular Agent at Corumbá (Mr. C. C. Cooper) reports that although the agricultural industry of the State of Matto Grosso is destined to become one of the principal sources of revenue on account of the fertility of the soil, varied climate and favourable position, agriculture is as yet in its most elementary state, owing chiefly to lack of labour and a general want of enterprise on the part of landowners. Manufacturers of agricultural implements and machinery should, however, keep this market before them as an important consumer of their products in the near future.



THE WALTER A. WOOD "ADMIRAL" MOWER, WITH REAPING ATTACHMENT.

FARM MACHINERY and IMPLEMENTS have for so long been closely identified with the "Mark Lane Express," that the Journal's position as a means of bringing Maker, Agent, and Customer together is unique.

Stowmarket Show.

The thirty-second annual show of the Stowmarket and Central Suffolk Farmers' Club took place on Friday on the King's Meadows at Stowmarket. Seeing that this local agricultural organisation includes within its operations an annual display of live stock, as well as of machinery in motion, the example of a kindred and older Suffolk institution might surely be properly followed by making an addition to the already long title of "Agricultural Association." With such a display of the extent and character as that of Friday on the King's Meadows, the Stowmarket Farmers' Club might well be regarded as doing work on behalf of the great agricultural cause other than holding discussion meetings and the reading of papers on farming topics. This year's show was one of the largest and the best held for some years, the entries on the present occasion numbering something like 100 more than in 1905, this gratifying increase being spread over all the classes. There were more Suffolks and Shires, while in respect to hunters and Hackneys, whose performances in the ring claim so much of the interested attention of the general body of visitors, there was a decided improvement.

AUCTION SALE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY, JULY 20.—Mr. H. Sessions' SHORTHORNS, RYELAND SHEEP, and LARGE BLACK PIGS, at Ifton Manor, Newport, Mon.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Mr. D. Arkell's entire herd of SHORTHORNS, at Butler's Court, Lechlade, Glos.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' entire herd of LARGE WHITE PIGS, at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY, JULY 26.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' entire herd of BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2.—Col. H. W. Shakerley's and Mr. E. A. Hambro's GUERNSEY CATTLE, at Burgate, Godalming, Surrey.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.—Mr. E. Henty's SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Ferring, Worthing, Sussex.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—Mr. F. H. Jennings' SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Cockfield Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's DEXTER CATTLE and BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Prince's Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

SUFFOLK PUNCH HORSES' ANNUAL SALE,
On MONDAY, JULY 30TH, 1906,
At IPSWICH
(G.E. Rail, 2 hours from London),
Under the directions of the
SUFFOLK HORSE SOCIETY.

100 HEAD of SUFFOLK HORSES, including the entire BENTLEY STUD (late the property of Mr. Edward Quilter, deceased), consisting of some **50** noted Stallions, Mares and Fillies, including many prize-winners.

Catalogues in due course on application to the Auctioneers, Alfred Preston, Worlingworth, Framlingham, and The Arcade, Ipswich.

FREC. SMITH, Secretary.
Suffolk Horse Society, Woodbridge.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON, TUESDAY, JULY 24TH, 1906.

IMPORTANT SALE of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS AND PONIES, the property of SIR GILBERT GREENALL, BART., comprising about
16 YEARLING COLTS,
8 YEARLING FILLIES,
2 THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES,
16 THREE-YEAR-OLD GELDINGS,
5 STALLIONS,
8 HARNESS GELDINGS & MARES.

The sale contains some notable animals by Goldfinder VI., Copper King, Mathias, Sir Horace, &c. On view July 19, 20, 21.

Catalogues from Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

SUSSEX.—LINDFIELD and LEWES SHEEP FAIRS.

To Flock Masters, Flock Breeders, and others interested in the noted breed of Southdown Sheep.

THESE GREAT FAIRS will be held on AUGUST 8, 1906, at LINDFIELD, one and a half miles from the first-class Station of HAYWARDS HEATH, on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

And at the County Town of Sussex, LEWES, on SEPTEMBER 21, 1906, about one mile from LEWES STATION, on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

The Stations are within 1 hour and 1½ hours from London.

Sheep penned, including Ewes, Lambs, and Rams, at LINDFIELD, 13,000;
At LEWES, 18,000.

MONDAY, JULY 23, 1906.
THE WATERS' PLACE HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK,
The property of Mr. T. FOWELL BUXTON.
Registered in the *Hampshire Down Flock Book.*
Notice of the Annual Sale and Letting of
96 RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
together with
135 DRAFT EWES IN AGES,
and which
(In conjunction with Messrs. Jackson and Son) Messrs.

WATERS and RAWLENCE are instructed to LET and SELL by AUCTION, at Waters' Place Farm, two miles from Ware (Hertford Branch), and three miles from Roydon (Cambridge Line) Stations, G.E.R., on MONDAY, July 23, 1906.

From a personal visit to the Estate the Auctioneers can testify to the general excellence of the Waters' Place Flock. Mr. Hurford, the manager, is satisfied he will bring out for the sale a very choice lot of Sires. It is admitted that no Flock possesses a greater depth of flesh or those essential qualities of early maturity. That noted sheep "The Swell" (4668) or his direct descendants are the Sires of many of the Ram Lambs, a fact alone sufficient to attract the attention of all Hampshire Down Breeders.

Conveyances will meet the trains at the above Stations.

Luncheon at 12.30 and Sale after.

Catalogues of Mr. J. H. Hurford, Waters' Place Farm, Ware; of Messrs. G. Jackson and Son, Auctioneers, Hitchin; or of Waters and Rawlence, Canal, Salisbury.

BROUGHTON LODGE, KETTERING (one mile from Kettering Station, Midland Main Line.)

ANNUAL SALE of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE.

BERRY BROS. AND BAGSHAW have received instructions from Mr. W. SHATFORD JAMES to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises, as above, on TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1906,
45 PURE-BRED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and 20 EWE LAMBS, also 17 CHOICE PEDIGREE ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, including Lord Fearless 18086, winner of Five Champion (2 gold medals) and Eight First Prizes; and others of noted tribes, viz:—Three Erica, Two Miss Burgess, Two Jilt and Four Pride of Aberdeen.

Luncheon at 1 o'clock. Sale immediately after.

Catalogues may be obtained of Mr. W. SHATFORD JAMES, Broughton Lodge, Kettering, who will send to meet anyone by appointment previous to or on the morning of the Sale; or of the AUCTIONEERS, Market Place, Kettering.

OXFORD RAM FAIR.

DISPERSAL SALE OF THE RENOWNED SHIFFORD FLOCK OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP.

FRANKLIN & GALE are favoured with instructions from W. A. L. Cripps, Esq., who is relinquishing farming, to sell by auction in Messrs. Morrell's Close at the above Fair, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1906 the Highly-celebrated and Registered Hampshire Down Flock, consisting of 160 Stock Ewes, 80 Choice Two-Tooth Ewes, 60 Matching Ewe Lambs, and 42 Rams and Ram Lambs. Catalogues may be had of Mr. CRIPPS, Shifford Manor, Bampton, Oxon; or of the Auctioneers, Wallingford, Reading, and Oxford.

PRELIMINARY.

THE 21st ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of Mr. LAMBERT'S pure-bred HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS will take place at CAMBRIDGE, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1906.

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Cambridge and Linton.

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SUGDON and PEARCE-BROWN have received instructions from Mr. Robert Fisher to SELL by AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906, 80 SHEARLING RAMS from the above Registered Flock; when Mr. Fisher will be glad to see his friends.

Sale after 1 o'clock luncheon.

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PUBLIC NOTICE.

PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE SIR WALTER FRANCIS HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, etc., etc., etc.

WHEREAS it has been shown to me to be expedient to alter and amend the Regulations, promulgated by Proclamation No. 75, bearing date the 21st day of April, 1900, providing for the examination and quarantine for the disease known as Tuberculosis of cattle introduced into this Colony from any country overseas other than the Colony of Natal:

Now, therefore, under and by virtue of the powers and authorities in me vested by the seventh section of the Act, No. 27 of 1893, intituled the "Animal Diseases Act 1893," I do hereby proclaim, declare and make known that the Regulations contained in the subjoined Schedule shall be the Regulations for the examination and quarantine of cattle which may be introduced into this Colony from any country overseas other than the Colony of Natal, and shall have force and effect from and after the 1st July, 1906, in lieu of those promulgated by the aforesaid Proclamation No. 75 of 1900, which is hereby superseded and repealed.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given under my Hand and the Public Seal of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, this 5th day of May, 1906.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Governor.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor in Council
ARTHUR J. FULLER.

No. 156, 1906.

Schedule to the foregoing Proclamation.

1. The word "Cattle" in these Regulations shall be taken to mean and include all animals of the bovine tribe.

2. All cattle, save as hereafter excepted, shall upon arrival at any Port of this Colony from any country whatsoever overseas be liable to be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the test, known as the tuberculin test, before being allowed to land.

It will, however, be within the discretion of the Veterinary Officer aforesaid to accept the certificate of any duly qualified Veterinary Surgeon of the country from which such animals have been brought, supported by a record of temperature reactions, to the effect that such cattle were submitted to the tuberculin test immediately before being embarked and had given no indication of the presence of tuberculosis.

3. In the absence of a satisfactory certificate as aforesaid the cattle shall be removed to place provided by the Government or by the owners subject to the approval of the Inspecting Officer for quarantine purposes, and shall be subjected by a Goverment Veterinary Surgeon to the necessary testing by tuberculin to ascertain whether they are or are not affected with tuberculosis.

4. In the event of the test indicating the existence of tuberculosis, the animals shall not be received alive from the quarantine station, but shall be destroyed there and the owner shall be allowed to deal with the carcases as he may think fit, provided however that the flesh shall not be used for human consumption unless the said officer shall give a certificate that it is fit for that purpose.

5. All expenses of inspection, quarantine, testing, destruction and otherwise shall be borne by the owner of such cattle.

6. The foregoing Regulations shall not apply to cattle entering by sea from the Colony of Natal, so long as similar regulations remain in force in that Colony, nor shall they apply to cattle imported solely for purposes of slaughter provided that, before being landed, they shall be inspected by the Government Veterinary Surgeon and declared to the best of his knowledge to be not unfit for human consumption, and the owners or importers shall sign and give to such officer an undertaking to the effect that none of such animals shall be used or disposed of for any other purpose than for immediate slaughter for food.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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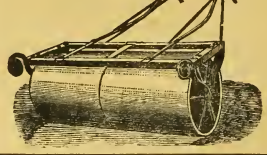

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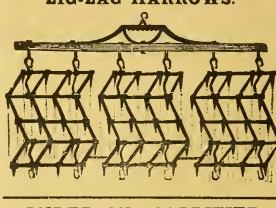

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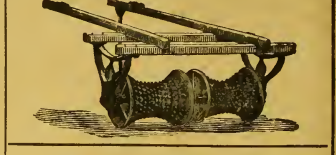

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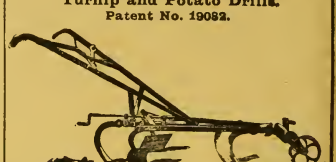

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Highland and Agricultural Society's Show at Peebles, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th July.

On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th July, First and Third Class Return Tickets at a **Single Fare** (plus fractions of a penny) will be issued to Peebles by Ordinary Trains from all North British Stations—Minimum Reduced Fares, 5s. First Class and 2s. 6d. Third Class—and they will be available for returning any day up to and including Monday, 23rd July.

THE FOLLOWING TRAIN SERVICE WILL BE IN OPERATION BETWEEN EDINBURGH AND PEEBLES DURING HIGHLAND SHOW WEEK.

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 17th and 18th JULY, 1906.

	a.m	a.m.*	a.m.*	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Leave Edinburgh.....	6.55	8.0	9.35	10.32	2.17	4 32	6.5	8 27
Arrive Peebles	8.11	9.6	10.45	11.34	3.23	5.30	7.2	9.30
		a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.*	p.m.
Leave Peebles	—	7 50	8 50	10.10	2 24	5 12	5.40	7.48
Arrive Edinburgh ...	—	8.50	9 47	11.11	3.38	6.15	6.40	8 51

THURSDAY and FRIDAY, 19th and 20th July, 1906.

	a.m.	a.m.*	a.m.*	a.m.*	a.m.	p.m	p.m.	p.m.
Leave Edinburgh.....	6 55	8 0	9.35	10.25	10.32	2 17	6 5	8.27
Arrive Peebles	8 11	9 6	10 42	11 26	11 34	3.23	7.2	9.30
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.*	p.m.*	p.m.*	p.m.
Leave Peebles	7 50	8 50	11.10	2 24	4.40	5.10	5.40	7.48
Arrive Edinburgh ...	8 50	9 47	12.11	3 38	5.40	6.7	6.40	8 51

Trains marked thus * arrive at and depart from Peebles (Engine Shed Platform).

NOTICE.

The Company hereby give Special Notice that in consequence of there being only a Single Line to Peebles, and limited Station accommodation and facilities there, they do not undertake or guarantee that Passengers will reach Peebles, and will not be responsible for delays which may occur on, or in connection with, either the outward or the return journey, however excessive or from whatever cause arising. All Tickets to Peebles, available for 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th July, are issued subject to this Notice. The Company do not undertake responsibility for the Luggage of Passengers booked at the above Fares.

W. F. JACKSON, General Manager.

Edinburgh, July, 1906.

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LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 23, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Agriculture and Small Village Schools.

A CASE was recently brought before our notice in which a certain county education authority proposed, on the grounds of economy, to close a small village school containing about thirty scholars, and make arrangements for these children to be accommodated at another village school two or three miles away. The gentlemen who sit in committee at the county town doubtless thought they were doing a good stroke of business for the ratepayers, but the villagers thought otherwise, and very properly sent a deputation to the county committee to state their case. The end of it all was that the village won, and the school is still open, though is is questionable whether this would have been the case had not a farm labourer with six children been one of the deputation, and the strong point of his argument was that he objected to sending his youngsters two or three miles to school, and if the county authorities persisted in carrying out their proposals he should leave the village. This is just the point. We want economy by all means in educational matters, but not at the expense of closing small village schools, which are as useful in their way as large ones, and driving working men away to places where their children can get education without having to tramp two or three miles a day for it.

St. Swithin's Day.

ST. SWITHIN'S Day is past and gone, and though rain was not general on that memorable occasion, showers fell in places, in consequence of which, according to the old story, wet should predominate during the forty days following. But there, St. Swithin has lost his reputation, and people of the present generation place no faith in him. This is not to be wondered at, considering how many times the weather has proved to be of an entirely different character afterwards to that on the day of the saint referred to, and it would be interesting to know the origin of this time-honoured weather story of St. Swithin. We may venture to leave the saint out of the question, but the fact remains that the first half of the summer has been unsettled. In fact, the Yankee's description of an English summer being two fine days and a thunderstorm has been applicable, for as yet we have had no stretch of unbroken sunshine, which is so welcome to farmers at haymaking time. And after all it is sunshine that makes a summer, whereas day after day of gloomy skies are depressing alike to all.

Small Shows.

BIG agricultural shows like the Royal and the Bath and West serve a useful purpose of their own, but they live more for the big breeder than the ordinary tenant farmer. With here and there an exception, the latter cannot hope to compete with success at the big events, and there is no need for us to explain the reason why. Still, in a good many districts the tenant farmer has a show of his own at which he can compete with his neighbours on common grounds. It has been urged that there is a possibility of local shows taking the place of bigger meetings, but we do not think so (though we agree that the latter may suffer), because, after all, the big open show caters for a different class of breeder to the small local event. We are quite in favour of local agricultural societies having their own shows, because it is good to encourage the ordinary tenant farmer to take an interest in and improve the standard of his stock. Apart from this, local agricultural shows are a means of keeping the people interested in farming in touch with each other, and they are also qualified to do more than a little to maintain a feeling of mutual good fellowship between landlords and tenants.

The Art of Shoeing.

IT was Tennyson who immortalised the village blacksmith, and as an individual he is as indispensable to the farmer as in days of yore. The smithy, too, remains unchanged, and you find it, as a rule, a somewhat ramshackle looking affair by the roadside. The only difference is that the village blacksmith of to-day adds letters after his name on his sign board, because blacksmiths can pass examinations now and take certain degrees in their profession. Perhaps county councils think that shoeing-smiths are not quite so expert at their business as they ought to be, because most of these bodies employ an expert who travels about and gives instruction in this work. We think this is as it should be, because there is a scientific or theoretical, as well as a practical side to farriery, and the man who gets no tuition besides that which he receives in the village smithy cannot be expected to acquire much knowledge of the former. It is not every man who calls himself a smith that can shoe a horse as it should be done, and of smiths as a body it must be said that they are not averse to receiving instruction providing they realise that the man who sets out to teach knows more about the work than they themselves. In common fairness to the village blacksmith it must be said that he is a man of parts and does not live by shoeing alone. Every farmer in these days must have implements, some of which are more or less intricate, but as soon as anything goes wrong, the blacksmith is sent for, in full expectation that he will know all about it and be able to put matters right. Nor is it often that he fails, and though there is a wide difference between shoeing a hunter and temporarily gearing up a motor car, the man at the smithy is generally equal to the occasion.

FARM MACHINERY and IMPLEMENTS have for so long been closely identified with the "Mark Lane Express," that the Journal's position as a means of bringing Maker, Agent, and Customer together is unique.

Cleanliness in Cowsheds.

THE habitations of cows are not unlike those of human beings, which means to say that just as men live in palaces and hovels, so also the lot of some cows is to be housed in aristocratic sheds while others have to make the most of very ill-arranged and dilapidated structures. Certainly the cows do not seem to mind, and are apparently as healthy in the lowly shed as is the country labourer who in his country cottage does not get anything like the amount of air space which, according to the health authorities, he ought to have. Of course it is very nice for those who can afford it to have smart, up-to-date cowsheds of model character, but there have to be cottages as well as palaces in the cowshed world. What we would urge in respect of cowsheds is sweetness and cleanliness. No reasonable excuse can be urged for filth and dirt, and just as the lowliest cottage can be kept in a state of cleanliness, so also can the ordinary cowshed. Lime is cheap enough, goodness knows, and there are many days in the year when it is impossible to pursue outdoor occupations, and these occasions should be taken advantage of for limewashing and cleansing sheds. In short, there is no excuse for dirt.

Derbyshire Cheese at the Royal.

IN our report of the Royal Show at Derby we were obliged to express disappointment at the poor competition in the class for Derbyshire or Staffordshire cheese. At a Royal show, held in the very heart of a famous dairying country, one might have reasonably expected to find a keen competition for local produce, and such would have been the case at one time, but things have changed now. The fact of the matter is cheese-making is now only a minor industry in Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and those long, heavily-laden milk-trains which daily rattle their way from the Midlands to London explain the secret of the poor competition in the local cheese classes at the Royal. We have known the above counties for a lifetime, and remember buxom farmers' wives of the Mrs. Poyser type, so faithfully depicted by George Eliott in "Adam Bede," who took a pride in making cheese as well as winning prizes with it, and they initiated their daughters in the art. More milk is

now produced in the district than ever was the case, but it is wanted in London, Manchester, and elsewhere; consequently, it is allowed to go, and the farmer is contented to buy a bit of cheese from America for his own use. This explains the poor competition at the Royal.

Rent Audits. HALF yearly rent audits have been the order of late, and we observe that several eminent landlords have made returns of 5 and in some cases 10 per cent. to their tenants. This is very gratifying to the latter, and also shows that the landlords in question display more than a superficial interest in the affairs of their tenants. We question, however, whether the principle is altogether the best, because everything depends on the generosity of the landlord, and we have known cases in which the tenants on one estate have received a return of 10 per cent., and on an adjoinining estate the full amount due was exacted. In view of this kind of thing, would it not be infinitely better if some rule or sliding scale could be adopted by which both landlord and tenant could share alike the benefits of a prosperous time and also be co-partners in adversity? As things are now, both the landlord and tenant has a case under different circumstances, because after the price per acre has been mutually arranged the landlord is often called upon to make a return when rent day comes round. This, of course, is when the farmer has not done so well as he anticipated; but if things were ever so prosperous the landlord would not have the privilege of asking another shilling per acre. This, as Kipling would say, is another story.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Four Proposals of Grave Moment.

Four facts affecting rural areas stand out luminous and distinct in Mr. Burns' remarkable, and, I would add, romantic speech—I use the word "romantic" as illustrative of the deep sincerity and enlighted sentiment which possessed the President of the Local Government Board—in connection with the Unemployed Act. The first is that Mr. Burns has not for a moment relinquished that sane antagonism to the over-fantastic Quixotry of the unpractical visionaries who believe that the unfortunates of the towns—the unemployed and the unemployable, the ne'er-do-wells, and the mere shiftless, unstable, or weakling—have only to be drafted to the villages to become, in the guise of farm colonists, reformed characters, skilled workers, and the smiling harbingers of peace and prosperity. As a wise man, Mr. Burns refuses to be drawn into the vortex of impracticable featherheadedness in which so many Labour leaders have been immersed. The second fact is that he is determined to, if possible, arrest that process of migration to the towns, the sequel to which is a tragic decline in the will, social habit, character, and sturdiness of the countryman transplanted to the slumdom of the great congeries of our life. The third, and most momentous of all, is that the Local Government Board, under Mr. Burns's ægis, meditates a far-reaching reform of rural housing, and for this purpose will not hesitate to—among other schemes affecting rural areas, one of which will concern allotments—invoke an English analogue of the Irish Labourers Bill. The fourth is—and the MARK LANE EXPRESS has every reason to be gratified at this resolve, for it is in harmony with the persistent advocacy of the suggestion in this column—the speedy utilisation of some thousands of acres of land in afforestation. The absence of a disciplined system of afforestation is a flaunting crime, and its redemption will be a heroism.

Re-building the Villages.

Mr. Burns has not lost faith in the possibilities of this land of ours for the native-born Britisher. He believes that emigration can be little more than an anodyne. This is his view as I interpret it. And what is needed in the re-utilisation of the economic possibilities of England is not the irrelevant irresponsibility of men without knowledge, not the dumping-down of ne'er-do-wells where science is required, but the recognition that in this matter lies a national responsibility. In this work the application of the Irish Labourers Bill to England will have a great economic significance. 'Tis not merely that we have to save the villages. The application of the principle of the Bill to England may be also a factor in the relief of the undesirable congestion of the great towns. The migrating rural labourer—without an urban trade, without any comprehension of the stress of life in these great hives of competitive jealousy—does not long escape the influence of the fœtid and miasmatic economic and social conditions of the towns. The village migration, instead of being a source of strength to the towns, is often but a stream which adds to the unhealthiness of its misery-pools. "It makes the mouth of us Englishmen water," said Mr. Harwood, M.P., to the Parliamentary Committee examining the Irish Labourers Bill. Well it might! Of course, it cannot be entirely applied in its present guise to England; the necessity of the difference of character in the two people will be appreciated. The outstanding, salient fact, however, is that the Government recognises that this rural housing problem—the impossibility of building houses which will secure a remunerative rent is only one of the difficulties—provides a national duty. In Ireland it will mean the advance of between three or four million pounds. What will the English edition of this Bill mean to the English rural areas?

Be Not Suspicious.

I beg that this proposal be regarded apart from partisan jealousies and partisan sentiment—that it should have a non-partisan consideration. The rural housing question has to be dealt with by the State. Neither capitalism nor landlordism ought to be expected to build cottages which will not pay a remunerative rent; and, what is more, they will not. Philanthropy can do nothing, because of necessity it must be ill-regulated and undisciplined. Legislation of the type of Sir Thomas Wrightson's Bill is worse than elusive and illusory, worse than useless Here is a definite proposal that the State should formally step in. Quibble not that it is applying the principles of State Socialism to England—this would be but one of a number of such applications. 'Tis but the price of a Somaliland expedition; and, methinks, 'tis a better use of the money. Gore only occasionally produces fruit.

Mr. Rider Haggard and Waste Lands.

Is Mr. Rider Haggard revealing his characteristic prescience in the advise he has given anent the recent silly Gilbertan land-grabbing incidents? Mr. Haggard suggests that local urban authorities should make grants of the waste land in their immediate vicinity to such of the unemployed or others who are anxious to cultivate them. Well, let us concede for a moment even the rather extravagant contention of the extremists, that the permitting of waste land is, in a land like ours dependent to so large an extent for its supplies of food upon outside sources, an offence against the community. Does not, however, Mr. Haggard perceive that it would be difficult to discriminate in a matter like this? Supposing, for instance, that a local authority was called into existence which was in favour of this rather fantastic principle of cultivating waste land by the unfortunates of the community. Why should it be forbidden realising its chimerical ambition because its area happened to be described as "rural" rather than "urban"? Again, why should a rural unfortunate, who, after all, might be assumed to have some knowledge of cultivation, be forbidden the privilege of a waste-land plot which had just been conceded an "urban" unfortunate or ne'er-do-well, whose first knowledge of a cabbage-plant was probably obtained by the presentation of a bundle to him by emotional philanthropy? Mr. Rider Haggard justifies his suggestion by an American illustration. Transatlantic illustrations are not applicable to a narrow, confined, restricted country like our own. Nothing could so piquantly illustrate the folly of this farm colonising, anybody-will-do-for-a-farm-labourer-or-small-farmer craze than its modern day developments. These have almost brought the idea down to the bathos of opera-bouffe.

Rural Areas and the Motor Commission.

Surely the rural authorities will not permit the presentation of the report of the Motor Commission—which we may expect at any moment—to pass by with unheeded eye. There is not a county, scarcely a rural area, which is not vitally concerned in the increase and development of this expensive and devastating nuisance. There is not a county which has not a tale to tell of higher expenditure on roads, of a lessened comfort of life along the main highways, of cottages which have been relinquished for former habitants and of a dust-laden atmosphere, which is an antagonism to cultivation; and all this endured without any compensation or sufficient penalty being exacted from the scurrying, flying motorist, who, with soul dead to the enjoyment of the picturesque in the landscape, loves naught but the distribution of nauseating fumes and the inducement of unnecessary fear. What, however, are those rural authorities doing by way of promoting concerted action? The urban authorities are already alert and vigilant, and in London in particular, are taking steps by which the executive administration of the country shall become definitely aware of the urban sentiment. A conference of municipal bodies is being arranged; and, proceeding with discreet expedition, will seek to impress its own views and necessities upon any legislation that may emanate from Parliament. Why should not there be a similar conference of urban authorities? Of course, isolated action is better than no action at all; but it could not have the same significance as action representing a concerted and probably a unanimous suggestion as to the best way of relieving the counties of growing, undesirable expenditure, and of a dust menace which is an enemy, in not a few instances, of successful roadside culture. The Locomotives on Highways Act of 1896 is not sufficient to protect the country-side against the motor nuisance. Upon that there must be a common agreement. How should it be amended? This is the question.

The State and Horse Breeding.

Well, Earl Carrington—whose natural temperament disposes him, I fear, to the optimistic view—is not without hope of, at least in one instance, inducing the too suspicious Treasury to loose its purse-strings. I hope his lordship's anticipations may be realised. Again and again attention has been called in this column to the wisdom of persuading the Government to do something practical with a view to the encouragement of the horse-breeding industry. In the MARK LANE EXPRESS the suggestion has been more than once made that what I may describe as the equine necessities of the army should be made the basis of this encouragement policy. Well, this view so impressed both the present Board of Agriculture and the present War Office that a conference was held with a view to the adoption of some scheme. Of course, these two departments were aware of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding: but they were without any practical scheme—alas! the word "inertia" is but a synonym for "agrarian interest"!—as to how to carry out those recommendations from the very bodies vitally concerned in them. "Why," say noble legislators like the Duke of Portland and the Earl of Donoughmore, "should not the Government give financial assistance to organisations like the Brood Mares' Society?" "The Brood Mares' Society," says Earl Carrington, "is doing excellent work. Give us, however, a practical scheme for dealing with what I confess is a dangerous situation—more particularly this foreign collaring of our best mares—and I will promise to seek to persuade the Treasury (not without hope) to provide the necessary funds." Will this invitation be accepted? Or has it already fallen on fallow-ground?

Mr. Spokes, of King's Sutton, near Bicester, is reported to have lost a cow under rather peculiar circumstances. It had been ailing for a considerable time, and died a few days ago. The carcase being examined, it was found to contain a cricket ball, which, it was thought, caused the animal's death.

ADVERTISEMENTS received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

THE HIGHLAND SHOW AT PEEBLES.

The showyard of the Highland and Agricultural Society at Peebles was without doubt one of the best ever occupied by the society, not only for its adaptability to the purposes of the show, but also for its picturesqueness, for it was by the side of the Tweed at a part where the broad historic river is seen at its best as it flows through this ancient borough. It is right in the heart of the land of grouse and salmon, and although the crack of the gun was not heard, the angler up to the waist in the Tweed was a familiar sight. This was the first time the society had visited Peebles (it is not likely to be the last), the previous shows in the Border districts being that of Kelso eight years ago, and the Kelso exhibition as far back as the year 1889. In comparing the Peebles Show with the others promoted by the Highland Society a better estimate is arrived at by comparing this year's figures with those of Kelso, leaving Glasgow and other places visited in the meantime out of the question. At Peebles then cattle numbered 253, at Kelso there were 238; horses made a total of 255, as against 284; of sheep there were 291, whilst at Kelso they were 366; and the entries in the other sections were about the same, one department being balanced by another. Naturally the entries in a South-Eastern district are not so strong as is the case when the show is, as it were, on its native heath at centres like Stirling and Perth. Bearing this difference in mind, this year's show was well up to the society's standard. The people of Peebles gave the society a most hearty welcome and practical assistance, for the county council realised by voluntary assessment the sum of £139 for the show; the West Linton Agricultural Society contributed £105, the merchants of Peebles subscribed £105, and the town council also gave a handsome donation in addition to granting the use of the Victoria Park and the water supply.

Cattle.

The Shorthorn cattle came first in the catalogue, and they made a capital show, the entries including several champions and other prize winners at the Royal at Derby. In the class for Shorthorn bulls calved before 1904, Sir Richard Cooper's famous white two-year-old, Meteor, was easily at the head of the list. At the Royal he was beaten by Linksfield Champion, belonging to Mr. Miller, of Birkenhead, who, however, did not journey thus far north. In the two-year-old bull competition Mr. Gordon's Fascinator repeated his victory at the Royal, again heading a strong class in which Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, was among the winners, taking fourth award for Royal Ensign, a companion of Charming Victor 2nd, who was second in a similar class at Derby. Yearlings looked well, and were led by Mr. Robertson's Avondale, which was closely followed by Messrs. Law's Pride of Holl, a promising son of the well-known sire Pride of Aron. Mr. George Harrison's big roan cow, Ursula Raglan, bred in Cumberland, and fourth at Derby, was adjudged the best of the cows. She has great scale, but is just a trifle common looking in her quarters. Mr. Robert Taylor's three-year-old roan, Silver May, also bred in the North-west of England, came second. With Dalmeny Beauty II, a well-ribbed, even roan, by Villager, Sir Richard Cooper took the lead in two-year-old heifers, whilst Mr. Robertson's female champion at Stirling, the red Royal Lily by Victor Chief out of a Newton Stone cow, made a close second. From a big and generally meritorious lot of yearling heifers the judges selected without much trouble Mr. Taylor's dark roan, Pitlivie Rosebud 2nd, by Golden Dawn, and winner of a third at the Royal. She had a fine specimen against her, however, in the frequently successful Montrave Wondrous, owned by Mr. George Harrison, and bought at Perth in Spring. Sir R. P. Cooper's Meteor took the £25 special as best bull, Mr. Gordon's two-year-old being reserve; whilst Mr. Harrison's cow won the corresponding prize for best female of the breed in the yard. Sir R. P. Cooper's bull took the President's medal as best of the breed, and Mr. Gordon's bull was reserve for that honour.

The display of Aberdeen-Angus, while not so large as usual, was of a good representative character, and showed no falling off in general quality. In the class for aged bulls, Sir George Macpherson Grant, Ballindalloch, was placed first with his five-year-old Jeshurun, which was bred by himself; whilst the class for bulls calved after December 1, 1903, was headed by Mr. G. A. Duff, Hatton Castle, with a fair type of the breed, showing considerable quality, his Majesty the King being fourth with a bull from Balmoral, sired by Elandslaagte. In a small class of yearlings, Mr. D. M. Macrae, Stenhouse, Thornhill, led the way with Everlasting of Ballindalloch, one of the most perfect Aberdeen-Angus yearlings seen for many a day, and he was reserved for the male championship. There was a good class of cows, in which the noted Juana Erica, the property of Mr. J. E. Kerr, Harviestoun Castle, came to the front. She had already won championships at the Highland and Royal Shows, and further added to the list on this occasion by being awarded the championship prize for the best animal of the breed. There was a strong class of two-year-olds topped by the King's Gwitch, which was first at the Highland Show last year, but many preferred Mr. G. S. Grant's heifer, first at the Royal Show. The yearling class was notable for its good general quality, and here there was a close contest for first place. After a lengthy scrutiny by the judges, a heifer shown by Mr. James Whyte, Hayston, and bred by himself, was given the position, the second prize-winner being the exhibit of Sir George Macpherson Grant. The male championship, after a close contest, went to Sir George Macpherson Grant's winning aged bull, Mr. D. M. Macrae's first prize yearling being reserve. As the aged bull was bred by himself, Sir George also received the breeder's silver medals. As has been already noted, the female championship of the breed went to Mr. Kerr's aged cow, the reserve being the aged bull. Mr. Kerr's cow was also awarded the gold medal for the best breeding animal in the section.

There were forty-four entries of Galloways, being six more than last year, and about a dozen more than at the last Border show at Kelso. Even with such notable absentees as the Chapelton and Stepford herds, the animals forward were well representative of the breed. A high standard of excellence was maintained, especially among the females. The aged bull class was remarkable for the fact that Mr. Cunningham's Chancellor, which was first and male champion at the Royal, Derby, this year, was only placed third; while the fifth prize-taker at the Highland last year, Campfollower 3rd, of Stepford, belonging to Mr. Walter Montgomerie Neilson, of Queenshill, Ringford, received the premier position, and later was awarded the medal for the best bull, and also the president's champion medal for the best Galloway in the yard. Campfollower, it may be added, is a bull of extraordinary substance, and turns the scale at 23 cwt. In a class of four bulls calved in 1903 the Countess of Carlisle had leading honours with Bruce of Naworth, which was second at Derby, whilst another Royal winner headed the class for bulls calved in 1904—namely, the exhibit of Mr. J. Wilson, Tundergarth Mains. Cows were a nice lot, so were two-year-old heifers, whilst there was an attractive bevy of yearling heifers, the last-named class having the honour of supplying the reserve champion in Mr. Fox-Brockbank's Jacimine, a Newton-Stewart-bred daughter of Cairnhouse.

As was to be expected, the Highland breed was strongly represented, and made a capital show, there being not a single weak class. The Earl of Southesk and the Duke of Atholl were amongst the prominent winners, although the President's Medal for the best animal of the breed was secured by Bullough's Trustees, Meggernie Castle, with the noted brindle Lord Clyde, bred by the late Earl of Southesk, and silver medallist last season at Glasgow.

The show of Ayrshires, though small, was select, and competition was very keen, especially in the yeld stock section, the quality of the entries being very high and uniform. The cows in milk, calved after January, 1903, had the honour of supplying the day's champion in Mr. Alexander Cross's Lady Diana. Considerable comment was passed on the poor muster in the class for cows in calf or for heifers calved in 1903, in calf, and due to calve within nine months after the show. The rule applying to the class is that the animals must be in milk on show day, must have had a calf within nine months previous to the show, and must be due to calve within nine months after it. These rigid restrictions were alleged to be responsible for the great depletion of the class, and it is probable that a change will be effected.

Horses.

Being away from the home of the breed, it was not to be expected that the show of agricultural horses would be so large as at Glasgow last year, but the display was a very creditable one for the Border district, and if the numbers were a little less than usual, the quality all over was quite up to the average of former years. All the classes were well filled, and in some of them there was a large entry for a country show. The remarkable feature of the judging in this section was the extraordinary success achieved by the produce of Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's noted stallion, Baron's Pride. This celebrated sire—one of the most typical and one of the best stock-getting Clydesdales of his day—had to his credit no fewer

All Advertisements ordered for the "Mark Lane Express" appear simultaneously in the THIN paper COLONIAL and FOREIGN EDITION for circulation abroad, WITHOUT EXTRA COST to the Advertiser.

than six first prizes, three seconds, five thirds, and three fourths, while his progeny also carried off the two championships, a feat which has not before been equalled in any showyard. The male champion was found in a big class of two-year-old colts, this being Messrs. Montgomery's Scottish Crest, who made his first appearance in the showyard. He is by Baron's Pride, and had no difficulty in getting first prize in his class, whilst the awarding of the championship to him met with general approval. The competition for the Cawdor Cup for the best female lay between Mr. Kerr's first prize yearling filly, Marilla, and the same owner's six-year-old mare, Pyrene, both sired by Baron's Pride. The mare, which was shown as extra stock, has been a noted winner since she was placed first at Edinburgh as a yearling in 1901. In addition to her many other honours, she was the champion female at Edinburgh and reserve for the championship at Glasgow last year, and she has this year been first at Kilmarnock and Ayr, and champion female at Edinburgh and Glasgow. The coveted trophy was awarded to the mare, the yearling filly being reserve. The Robert Murdoch prize for the breeder of the best brood mare was awarded to the representatives of the late Mr. Thomas Smith, Blacon Point, for Chester Princess.

Hackneys were not so numerous as on many previous occasions, but those forward were capital specimens, and made a good show. Mr. Arthur Hall, of Copmanthorpe Grange, York, scored a remarkable victory with his two-year-old chesnut, Copmanthorpe Performer. This colt was not only first in its class, but when parading in the ring for the championship was almost immediately picked out for that distinction. Copmanthorpe Performer, who has won at Peterborough, the Royal, and London shows, is of quite exceptional quality, and has a beautiful neck and shoulders. The reserve was Mr. A. W. Hickling's winning brood mare, Adbolton Rosina, a chesnut five-year-old daughter of the celebrated Rosador, shown with foal, by Polonius. She is a strong goer and a prize-taker throughout England. She was also awarded the champion prize of £10, or gold medal, granted by the Hackney Horse Society for the best mare or filly. In the smaller class for brood mares Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, Harviestoun, Dollar, was first with Londesborough Nancy, a brown five-year-old of beautiful quality, and nursing a nice foal by Mathias; Mr. J. Ernest Kerr won in the class for yeld mares or three-year-old fillies with Broxton Geltlette, first at the Highland show last year; whilst in the two-year-old filly class Mr. A. W. Hickling's Adbolton Rosamond, a fine quality mare, which won at Doncaster, was first. Mr. Wm. M'Allister won for yearlings with the well-known Acclamation of Inverness, which won both at Edinburgh and Glasgow, and in the class for big-sized stallions Mr. Thomas Hall was easily first with St. Thomas, a son of Garton Duke, the Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited, being second with Freemason, an animal which would make a very good harness horse. In the class for smaller-sized stallions, Mr. Wm. M'Allister won with Inverness Royalist, which also won at Aberdeen. Mr. Wm. M'Allister won for yearling colts with a son of the winning stallion St. Thomas out of a Lord Derby II. dam, and this colt, it is reported, has been sold to Messrs. Graham Brothers, Ontario.

Hunters made a rather small show, but the quality was excellent, among the young stock being several promising animals. Yearlings were led by Peg the Rake, a nice filly, belonging to Mr. William Lee Carlyle, Ecclefechan. Another promising animal, a colt, which was bred and exhibited by the Earl of Rothes, and named Wotan after Baliol, was second. Among the two-year-olds another Dumfriesshire exhibitor, Mr. Beattie, Canonbie, showed the way with a brown gelding, Gilnockie, which was sired by Hale, and was bred at Tarraby, Carlisle. In the three-year-old class Mr. J. A. Robson Scott, Jedburgh, took precedence with a promising filly bred by himself and got by Battlefield, second place falling to Larry, a gelding bred in Cumberland, and after Menelaus, the owner being Mr. Charles Jackson, Dalston, Carlisle. In the two classes of made hunters, Messrs. T. and H. Ward, Great Ayton, led. The winner among the heavy weights was the bay five-year-old, Sportsman; and in the class for light weights, Ireland, an animal of the same age, which was bred in Ireland, took precedence. The latter was also awarded the president's medal for the best hunter, while the Hunter Improvement Society's gold medal for the best filly fell to Peg the Rake. About half-a-dozen brood mares were out, and the winner was found in Beatrice, a very handsome specimen, belonging to the Messrs. Ward, whilst Mr. Robert Wallace, Townhead of Drumley, Ayr, had the second prize-taker in Fire Escape, a seventeen-year-old, which occupied a similar position at this show last year at Glasgow.

The usual classes were provided for the various breeds of ponies, and there was an interesting display in this section, particularly of the little Shetlanders. The president's medal for the best Hackney pony went to Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, Harviestoun, Dollar, for Sir Archie, a nice bay three-year-old stallion bred by Sir Gilbert Greenall, the reserve being Mr. John Cairns' dark brown three-year-old mare, Little Queen. The president's medal for the best cob went to the Earl of Minto, Hawick, for his brown four-year-old mare Coronation, a stylish home-bred of good shape and quality. Highland ponies made a most creditable show, and the president's medal in this section went to Lord Arthur Cecil's MacNeil, from The Mount, Lymington, Hants. This is a dun five-year-old stallion of an exceptionally useful as well as attractive type. The president's medal for Shetland ponies fell to Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie, Earlshall, Leuchars, for the well-known six-year-old stallion Bellman, a home-bred animal of a good type, whilst the reserve was Mr. William Mungall's four-year-old mare Thoralind, bred by the Marchioness of Linlithgow.

Sheep.

The display of sheep, though not so large as in some previous years, was a very strong one, and quite a feature of the show. There was an excellent display of Blackface sheep, the yearling tups being as good a class as has ever been seen at a Highland Society Show. First honours in the aged tup class went to Mr. James Clark with Heather Bell, which secured the leading awards at Glasgow last year as a shearling. He is an outstanding animal of great substance, with a very finely shaped head and horn, and a good class of wool, and later was given the reserve ticket for the championship. Messrs. Cadzow Brothers, who had to be content with a third prize in this class, came to the front in the shearling class—the pick of the section—with a tup of great substance with beautiful head and fine carriage. He was sired by the £123 Sandilands sheep, purchased at Lanark, and was looked upon as the best shearling seen at the Highland Show for many years. It was therefore only natural that he should be awarded the president's medal and the champion prize, and Messrs. Cadzow also gained the Sinclair Scott Challenge Trophy for a group of sheep.

Cheviots have been more numerous, but it is doubtful whether the quality has ever been surpassed, some splendid animals being forward. There was a capital display of aged tups, fifteen of them giving the judges considerable trouble. The premier position fell to Mr. Jacob Robson, Otterburn, with Lanercost, a sheep which won in his class at Edinburgh, and is a grand specimen of the breed. In a class of sixteen shearling tups Mr. John Elliot took first position with the champion at Edinburgh, a fine type of a Cheviot, with beautiful style and action, second place being given to Mr. Jacob Robson, Otterburn, for an animal which had not the firmness and Cheviot characteristics of the winner. Later in the day Mr. Elliot was given the president's champion medal and the challenge cup for his shearling tups. In the female classes the competition also lay between Mr. Robson and Mr. Elliot. The former was placed first with the ewe that won at Glasgow last year, but in a strong class of shearling ewes Mr. Elliot came to the front.

The Border Leicesters were well represented both as regards numbers and quality. In the class for aged tups, Mr. R. Taylor, Pitlivie, had an outstanding winner in Pitlivie Brilliant, bred by the Duke of Buccleuch, which as a shearling brought £80 at Kelso last year. He was first and champion at Edinburgh, and also champion at the Royal Northern Show at Aberdeen, and on the present occasion carried off the championship, the Tweeddale gold medal, and the Sheep-Breeders' prize of £10. In the shearling tup class, Mr. David Hume, Brechin, received the principal award with a sheep of very equal quality. A very stiff contest ensued in the aged ewe class. Messrs. Smith gained the premier award with a very stylish sweet ewe which was third at Glasgow as a gimmer. At the same time several good judges would have preferred the Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour's exhibit, which was put into second position. Mr. Hume took the leading award in the shearling ewe class with an animal which thoroughly deserved her place, the second award going to Mr. Kerr's first at the Edinburgh Show.

Shropshire sheep were represented by only two exhibitors—Sir Richard Cooper, Shenstone Court, and Mr. Buttar, Corston. Sir Richard took the first prize for aged tups with the ram with which he was first at the Royal Show, and was now given the President's medal, whilst Mr. Buttar was second in the class with his fourth prize winner at the Royal Show. Mr. Buttar found some compensation in the shearling class, which he headed with a big, strong sheep of beautiful quality, shown for the first time. Sir Richard's second prizewinner was second at the Royal Show. For aged ewes Sir Richard was first, and Mr. Buttar second and third, and for gimmers Sir Richard was also first with one of the first prize Royal Show pen. In the Oxford Down class Mr. James T. Hobbs, Gloucester, secured all the prizes, while Mr. Wm. Ford, Fentonbarns, Mr. Alexr. Anderson, Berryhill, and Mr. Wm. Kennedy, Luce Mains, were the winners amongst the Suffolks.

Half-bred sheep made an uncommonly good display in point of quality, although in numbers there were only about half the entries recorded at the Kelso Show eight years ago.

Pigs, &c.

Pigs made a capital display, many breeders having forwarded fine specimens. The president's champion medal for the best pen of swine fell to Mr. David W. Gunn, Craigcrook Farm, Edinburgh. Poultry also made a good show, whilst there were several classes for dairy produce, and in each the display was excellent.

Royal Northern.

The Royal Northern Agricultural Society's Show at the Central Park, Killybrewster, Aberdeen, last week, was quite up to the high average, although the entries which numbered 1,042, were not quite so numerous as last year when the total was 1,130, but in 1904 it was 918, and in 1903, 976. Cattle last week numbered 190, horses 313, sheep 118, pigs 10, poultry 357, and dairy produce 54.

The display of Shorthorns was one of the best seen here for many years, except, perhaps, in aged bull class. Here Mr. Chalmers, Auchrynie, won with a seven-year-old Inverquhomery-bred red bull by Waverley, which was champion at one of the local shows last year. In a class of two-year-olds Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combuscauseway, had an easy win with Fascinator, his Jackstown-bred Royal English winner. In the yearling bull class Mr. Anderson, Saphock, had a grand leader in Diamond Star by Royal Edward, an exceedingly pretty white bull, bred by Mr. Duthie, Collynie. The Pitlivie bull Lindis Fame, which was first at Edinburgh, only came in fourth, the Messrs. Law, Sanquhar, being second, and Lady Cathcart, County, third. In a great class of cows Colonel Grant, Minmore, was the first prize winner with Augusta 2nd of Minmore, an exceedingly handsome four-year-old roan by Scottish Wanderer. Mr. Taylor, Pitlivie, was second with his second prize Edinburgh winner, Silver May. Mr. Taylor, Pitlivie, showed as one of first prize pair of cows his beautiful Edinburgh champion, Donside Princess.

There was a keen struggle for the championship of the Shorthorn breed between Mr. Taylor's cow Donside Princess and Mr. A. T. Gordon's two-year-old bull Fascinator. The umpire who had to be called in gave the championship to the cow, which was undoubtedly one of the best ever seen at the Royal Northern. She was bred by Mr. Campbell, Deystone, and it is interesting to know that the only other occasion when a female won the championship here the breeder of the exhibit was Mr. Campbell's father, the late Mr. Sylvester Campbell, Kinellar. Mr. Gordon's bull won the male championship.

The Aberdeen-Angus were a good average show. Colonel Grant's Royal English champion Prince Forest had a walk-over in the aged bull class. The handsome Erica bull Eblis, shown by Mr. Duff, of Hatton, and bred by Mr. Kennedy, of Donholm, won in the two-year-old class, Colonel Grant, Auchorachan, being second with his Derby exhibit Ephorus. In the yearling class Mr. Findlay, of Aberlour, won with his Derby winne. Blizzard. In a good class of cows Mr. Cran, Morlich, won with one of his famous Jemima family by Rover of Craibstone. In the two-year-old heifer class Colonel Grant, Auchorachan, won well with his Royal English reserve female champion Pride of Spey IV., beating Gwytch, the pretty heifer belonging to the King, which was first last year at the Highland at Glasgow. Mr. Findlay, with his first prize yearling at Derby named Prize, won, one of Mr. Cran's Jemimas being second. Colonel Grant, Auchorachan, won the championship of the breed quite easily with Prince Forest. Mr. Findlay was reserve with his nice show cow of last year, Pride of Honour, which also won the female championship.

In a good show of Clydesdale horses, Mr. Barr, Tulloford, won the special for the best draught stallion in the older classes with his Marcellus three-year-old horse Lord Guthrie. In the younger class, Messrs. Cocker, Hill of Petty, took the special prize with his Everlasting colt Girvan Chief, which also won the Highland Society's prize for the best draught stallion. The championship prize for the best mare or filly was won by Mr. Argo, Petty Fyvie, with a two-year-old filly by Royal Edward, and the special for the best draught mare or horse in harness was won by the Messrs. Crocker with a three-year-old filly by Hiawatha. Other sections of the show were well filled, and the quality in most cases was up to a good standard.

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SUSSEX SHOW AT BRIGHTON.

Those of us who remember the inception of this show twenty years ago can but be surprised how it has grown and increased since the days when it was started quite as a small local affair. That there was room for the show within the confines of Sussex has also been proved, for few county shows can boast of a better average entry or of a more attractive programme than this show.

This year's meeting was held in that most typical show ground, Preston Park, Brighton, and the attendance of visitors was a good one. The larger proportion it is true were attracted by the large and varied programme of competitions arranged to take place in the large ring, for a feature of this display has always been made by the society, particularly when its visits are made to one or other of the popular seaside resorts within the confines of the county.

Sheep.

There is one point in connection with this society that few others have—namely, the special conditions under which several of the more important ewe and lamb classes are held. The purport of these conditions is that the exhibits shall be exhibited under as near as possible the ordinary conditions, and that there shall be as little as possible of that showyard preparation both in respect to feeding and dressing. The result of these conditions is that one is able to see at Brighton a competition amongst Southdown flocks in the usual conditions found on the farms. Such a competition is full of interest; and the fact that such classes are given affords the visitor full opportunity to see the native breed as near as possible in a natural instead of an artificial condition. It would be well if there were more classes of this description at other shows for other breeds, because nothing can be a better means of proving the merit or value of any kind of stock to the prospective breeder than its being shown him in a natural condition.

The class for flock ewes is one that is well deserving of being copied by other societies, because here we have a class of nine, three of each of the usual flock ages, a very much more severe and thorough test of any flock than three of any particular age. To get an even pen of these is a very difficult matter, but to get one of nine is, of course, infinitely more difficult, and hence when a pen can be made of uniform type and character, it is evident that the flock from whence they come must be one of considerable value. The Hill flock class this year was a good one, but in making the awards there are good grounds to believe that the judges, as is unfortunately so often the case, fail to give sufficient prominence to the necessity of the winner of the fleece, for in one, if not more, instances it appeared that preference had been given to pens somewhat deficient in this important particular. Mr. F. J. Maitland, who won first in this class and special for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs from Hill flocks, won with a typical pen of its breed, Mr. A. M. Singer was second and rn, and the Duke of Richmond third; but for the typical Southdown ewe, as generally found on the Southdown Hills, the unnoticed pen of Mr. A. Cooper was probably the better example in the whole class. The ewe lambs from the Hill flocks were a very good lot indeed. Here the Goodwood flock claimed first honours with a particularly even and well matched pen of very choice quality; Mr. Cooper's pen ought to have followed these, but the judges held different ideas and put in that pen of well-grown lambs from Mr. J. T. Strong's flock, which were followed by Mr. F. J. Maitland's pen, whose next attendant in the award list was Mr. A. M. Singer's pen, a pen of strong and well-grown lambs, but hardly of the quality one likes to see in a pen of breeding Southdown sheep.

The Underhill classes were smaller in number than usual, only three competitors were found in each, and the awards in both classes went to the same breeder, Mr. J. Tompkins taking the two first, Mr. E. Henty the two seconds, and the Duke of Devonshire the rn. The winning pen here was of striking merit in both classes, and that flock of Mr. Tompkins, which is very widely known, has seldom been represented by a better and more even pen, they were true to type and of first-class colour and good fleeces.

There was one class for yearling ewes, and here the usual showyard or over-fed breeding ewes are exhibited; this year there were only two pens, that from the Duke of Devonshire taking first honours and the special as best pen of ewes in the yard, leaving Mr. J. Coleman's pen that have been seen at most of the shows this year with another second award to their credit.

The Goodwood flock came out well in the class for two-shear rams, and the Duke of Richmond for the second year in succession had the pleasure to win at the county show in classes open to all first prize for two-shear rams, and the Southdown Society's gold medal. His Grace was third with his second entry, and the Pagham Harbour Co. came in for second honours as well as r.n. for the champion prize. The last-mentioned exhibitors were first for yearling rams, with a real good ram, and first and second for ram lambs with a pair of the most typical and best woolled ram lambs seen for some considerable time at this or any other show. Second honours for rams went to Mr. A. Heasman, and third and rn went to Mr. E. Henty. All of these sheep were of good merit, and the same remark is applicable to the ram lambs that won third for Mr. Colman, fourth and hc for the Duke of Devonshire, and rn for Mr. Henty.

Horses.

The noticeable feature in connection with the agricultural horse classes was that in nearly all cases the exhibits that won were sent forward by the tenant farmer. This is a very pleasing fact, and shows that those who were competing have not been slow to take the advantage offered them by the landlords who have been the means during the past ten or fifteen years of taking into this district quite a number of very high-class and well-bred Shires. Mr. John Rearman, with Astoria, first in the four-year-old class, won the Shire Horse Society's medal for best mare or filly, Mr. T. Luckin taking the rn for this honour with Sussex Surprise, a well grown, evenly-balanced three-year-old filly. The stallion class had for its winner Sussex Menestrel, also owned by Mr. T. Luckin, whose nearest attendant in the award list was Sir M. R. Birrell's Alvechurch Monaco.

The Hunter classes were very attractive, and included in them were quite a number of very capital horses. The display these gave in the ring was witnessed by a good number of the principal sporting men of the district. Sir Merrik Burrell gained the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal with his chesnut mare Victory, as good a mare as could be desired. The Hackney classes, once so popular at these shows, failed to secure any entry at all. The driving classes and those for jumping, which has always been made a special feature at this show, secured their full share of entries, and the displays given in the ring in many of these driving classes were of a high order.

Cattle.

The Shorthorn and mixed-bred cattle classes do not call for much comment. The cow class had quite a good lot of milch cows, whilst the winning two-year-old heifer from the Duke of Richmond, and those yearling heifers that were first, second, and rn, from Mr. G. Duck, Sir A. H. Brown, and the Marquis of Camden had good merit.

The entry of the Sussex cattle was one of high merit, and although it was not quite so large as was the case at the 1905 show, it is a matter of gratification to find that there are more competi-

SUSSEX BULL, MAYOR.

WINNER OF FIRST PRIZE AT THE ROYAL SHOW AT DERBY.
Bred by and the property of the EARL OF DERBY, K.G., Orchardmains, Tonbridge.

tors coming out in these classes, and from other sources of information it looks as though there is going to be a revival of interest in this grand breed of beef cattle, quite one of the best we have in the country. The Earl Winterton was very successful, and the all-round good merit of his females fully deserved their success. These included first for cows, first for heifers under three years old (this one was made champion female), first for heifers under a year old, and second for the heifers under two years old—a notable array of successes; in addition to this, his lordship won first prize for the under twelve months old bull-calf with Shillington Gold, one of the best of its age we have seen for some time. Mr. P. Saillard was also well to the fore for heifers. The Earl of Derby was second for cows. In the bull classes Mr. E. E. Braby's Lord of Dungewick 5th won first honours as a two-year-old, and was also made champion, beating in this contest that well-known bull Lord Eric, owned by Mr. C. J. Lucas, and that handsome calf from Shillington, mentioned above.

The entry of Jerseys was not by any means a record one, but the high average of merit and type all through were first class. Lord Rothschild, who won the champion honours for the best cow and also the Blythwood Bowl; Mr. McIntosh, who won first in the old bull class and champion honours for the best male with Black Pearl; Lady De Rothschild, Messrs. Millin Hallett, J. Corbet, D. Mutton, Freeman Thomas, and Bishop Fisher were amongst the leading winners.

There were no entries of Guernsey cattle, an event that we do not remember ever noticing before since these classes were given.

The Dexter and Kerry classes had a very choice but small entry. The Duchess of Devonshire won for females, and Mr. B. de Bertodano went to the fore for bulls.

The entries for poultry, butter, &c., were good, and the collection of implements were amongst the best we have seen at this show for some little time.

Cambridgeshire.

When Ely invited the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society to hold their show in that town this year, it was stipulated that the exhibition should be a two-day one, and not for one day only, as has been the case of late years. The stipulation was agreed to, and the show was held on Wednesday and Thursday. Unfortunately it clashed with the Bedfordshire and Lincolnshire shows, so that an accurate idea of the result of the return to a two day fixture cannot be arrived at, but, nevertheless, the entries showed a falling off of something over 110 when compared with the previous lowest during the past eight years, and the total was but 289 as against 406 last year at Cambridge, and 345 when the show was last held at Ely in 1900, when the affair was confined to one day.

The falling off in the entries was most marked in the Shire classes, several of which did not secure a single entry, a result which was probably to some extent due to the Bedfordshire and Lincolnshire shows being held on the same day. Nevertheless, visitors had the opportunity of seeing some of the best Shires in the country. Mr. C. Morbey, of Soham, supplied the winner in the class for stallions foaled before 1902 with his Raydon Duke, and having twice won in London, it was only in the order of things that the championship should also fall to him. Mr. W. Richardson, of Doddington, who came first with the three-year-olds, exhibited an animal bred by himself, in Northern Star II., which since its appearance at the March Show as a colt, has not been exhibited since. Mr. W. Hammond, of Ware, with his Peterborough winner, Catterall Black Prince, came first in the next class for entire colt foaled in 1904, but was run very close by Mr. W. Richardson, who had a big weighty animal, which many considered was the better of the two. It won easily in the tenant farmers' class. Yearling colts formed a nice lot, and here Mr. J. Rowell, of Bury, Huntingdon, came first with one which has every appearance of growing into an excellent horse, whilst Mr. C. Morbey's brood mare, Brigstock Countess, with which he won second at Peterborough, came first in the brood mare class, Capt. Duncombe having to be content with second for Festive. Shelford Link, Mr. Hamar Towgood's two-year-old filly, was first in her class, and for yearling fillies, Mr. W. Richardson's bay was given the premier honour. Mr. Hamar Towgood's prize for the best three mares or fillies, the property of a tenant farmer occupying land in Cambs or the Isle fell to Mr. Gee, who won with a grand trio in Wrydelands Starlight, Sunshine, and Pink, the first of which secured its owner a champion prize offered for the best Shire mare or filly, as well as the Shire Horse Society's gold medal. Shire geldings of any age had only one representative, Mr. Johnson, of Soham, being the exhibitor, but there were eight colt foals, the two best of which were the property of Capt. Duncombe.

Hackneys were fairly numerous, and included some very nice specimens. Mr. R. G. Heaton, of Chatteris, with Warwick Marshall, shown in the class for stallions foaled in or before 1902, won with an excellent horse of the real hackney type. Winning Sir Walter Gilbey's Challenge Cup for the best hackney stallion, it curiously enough lost the Hackney Society's champion prize through not being brought into the ring—a blunder which cannot be laid upon the judges, who understood it was not going to compete. Mr. R. A. de Mancha, of St. Albans, took the leading place in the three-year-old stallion class with Ver Precocity, which while being reserved for Sir Walter Gilbey's Cup, won the championship, for the reasons stated. The entire colts, foaled in 1904, had some good representatives, Mr. W. Flanders, of Witcham, taking the leading place with Lord Nelson, whilst the second winner was shown by Mr. A. Collen, of Saffron Walden. Brood mares formed a particularly strong class, and it was very creditable to Mr. R. A. de Mancha to be able to win with Bashful Kate in such company. Sir Walter Gilbey's Gallant Girl ran the other exceedingly close, but lacked the bone of the winner below the knee. The first of the three-year-old mares was a credit to the Elsenham stud. Two-year-old fillies only formed a small class; nevertheless, everything was of the best, and from among the four animals shown the judges selected the champion mare, this being Lillaflora, a beautiful dark chestnut, belonging to Mr. C. E. E. Cooke, of Bygrave Baldock, who also obtained first at the Royal Show. She had plenty of size and weight, and looked like growing into a very valuable animal. There were as many as eleven colt foals, and the judges at first put Sir Walter Gilbey's chesnut aside for the premier award, but when moved off for the final trial the fine action of Mr. Mancha's animal resulted in the red rosette going to his foal. In the filly foal class Mr. W. Flanders was an easy winner; Mr. R. G. Heaton had an easy winner in the saddle class for mares over 15 hands; and Mr. A. J. Rowell, of Bury, Huntingdon, scored a double success with a chesnut, taking firsts in the saddle and harness classes for mares under 15 hands.

There were not many hunters, but a couple of good brood mares came under notice, shown by Mr. Parsley, of Waresley, who won the champion medal with a very fine type of hunter.

The cattle exhibits were not numerous, but there was some compensation for the deficiency in numbers in that several good animals were shown. Mr. W. J. Atkinson, of Weston St. Mary, Spalding, won in the Shorthorn bull class with his first Peterboro' winner, which was also third at the Royal Show at Derby. Mr. H. S. Leon, of Bletchley, was ahead of Captain Duncombe, of Waresley Park, in the class for cow of any age, Mr. H. Towgood, of Little Shelford, taking the reserve number.

Merton Dairyman, shown by Mr. F. Hargreaves, of Gamlingay, took the leading place among the Channel Islands bulls, all of which were shown by the same exhibitor. He was likewise the only exhibitor of Channel Islands cows, of which there were three. The best of the dairy cows came from Mr. E. R. Gill, of Highflyer, who like Mr. J. Neaverson, of Eye, near Peterboro', entered an animal that had never been shown before. Captain Duncombe was the only exhibitor of a Shorthorn cow, eligible for registration in the Herd Book.

As there was a lack of entries in the sheep classes, the competition was practically nil, in fact it was in only two classes for the Hampshire breed there was more than one exhibitor. The Exors. of the late Colonel McCalmont alone supported the Southdown breed, Mr. W. J. Green, of Childerley Gate, being the sole exhibitor of Wensleydales. Black-faced Suffolks were shown from the flock of Mr. R. Barclay, of Higham, near Bury St. Edmund's, and being the sole exhibitor, had no difficulty in taking the Suffolk Society's medal for the leading pen of Suffolks. Mr. H. J. Briggs, of Babraham, and Mr. A. E. Hall, of Six Mile Bottom, were competitors in two of the three Hampshires, the latter taking the premier awards for both ram and ewe lambs, whilst Mr. E. R. Gill, of Highflier, Ely, was the only exhibitor of cross-bred lambs.

Staffordshire.

After an absence of twelve years the Staffordshire Agricultural Society held their show at Stone again last week, and although the town, in which, by the way, the society's first show was held in 1844, is less favourably situated with regard to population than many towns in the county, it is the centre of a large agricultural district, whose residents look upon an agricultural show with sympathetic interest, as on previous occasions, and the society were given a warm and hearty welcome. The exhibition itself was fully up to the high standard of previous years, although the entries were not quite so numerous as last year. The total number of entries of live stock was 634, as compared with 671 last year at Walsall, and 525 two years ago, when the society met at Hanley. There were 300 entries of horses, as compared with 318 and 247 in the two preceding years; 218 of cattle, against 246 and 181; 87 pens of sheep, against 75 and 66; and 26 pens of pigs, against 28 and 31. There were also 108 entries of cheese, 45 of butter, and 120 of honey, all increases on last year's figures, whilst there were something like 400 poultry forward, and a good display of implements, &c. The attendance, however, was very disappointing, for the official return shows that the total number of persons paying for admission to the show on both days was only 8,652 as compared with 23,804 at Walsall last year, 16,229 at Hanley in 1904, and 14,437 in 1894 at the jubilee exhibition at Stone. The total receipts for the two days amounted to £482 18s. (including grand stand receipts), as against £1,029 1s. 6d. at Walsall. The falling off is generally attributed to the Royal having been held so recently at Derby, which absorbed in a great measure the agricultural interest of the whole of the Midlands. It is too early yet to speak of the financial result, but there will probably be a loss to the society, which is much to be regretted.

Horses.

The feature of the horse section was undoubtedly the display of Shires, for they were the best lot ever seen in a Staffordshire showyard. There was a large entry, and the horses were of such even quality that the judges had a most difficult task. The competition in the open classes was never so keen, and among the animals paraded were several which have earned distinction at our big shows. There was a splendid class of brood mares, all big, weighty animals of true Shire character. Earl Beauchamp's great grey, Sussex Bluegown, one of the best of Nailstone Cœur de Lion's progeny, was placed first. She was adjudged best at Nottingham, and in company with Lord Beauchamp's other grey, Monk's Polly, won first at Peterborough. The Duke of Sutherland's Lilleshall Moss Rose by Markeaton Royal Harold is a mare of fine quality, and she was run close for the second card by Mr. Cunningham's Starborough Catherine, a thick, weighty animal. The younger mares are also animals of correct type, and two by Dunsmore Jameson carried off the chief prizes in the two and three year old classes. In the former class, Mr. R. Whitehead's Peak Dolly, a beautiful bay, beat another daughter of Dunsmore Jameson, and in the other class the winner was a grey belonging to Sir P. A. Muntz, M.P., aptly named Quality. Particularly difficult was the task of the judges in the class for the best brood mare with foal at foot. The president's Argent, a Buscot Harold brown, which has been frequently seen in the showyard, was eventually given first prize, and the second to a grey belonging to Mr. W. F. S. Humphreys, a well-known Montgomeryshire breeder. The tenant farmers' mares and geldings were a useful lot, and made a nice display.

Several promising young stallions were paraded, and the outstanding horse among the two-year-olds was Ratcliff Forest King, a worthy son of Lockinge Forest King. He possesses all the good points of this famous strain, and has won seconds at the Royal, the London, and the Nottingham shows. Mr. Walter Cunningham's Childwall Chanter, which was adjudged second, was slightly lacking in character. It is interesting to note that Sir P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Royalty, which was not placed, has previously beaten the second and third horses. The best of the yearlings was King Forest, also son of Lockinge Forest King, and a winner at other shows this season. The foal classes were somewhat weak and disappointing.

There were several remarkably good Hunters in the show, the class of brood mares in particular being very creditable; the winner was Mr. Bowen's Molly, a bay showing a lot of quality. There were some good-looking foals, which should develop into capable performers, notably the first prize winner, Captain Heywood-Lonsdale's filly. The yearlings were a poor class, and there was no difficulty in choosing the best. The two-year-olds gave more trouble, but the strongest class in the show was that for three-year olds, and here a beautiful brown gelding, shown by Mr. J. Young, Jun., Keele, Newcastle, came to the front. There was nothing of exceptional merit among the four-year-olds, but there were some excellent weight-carrying geldings, in which Mr. Young again figured as a first prize winner, other prize takers being the Wigginton Stud and Lord Huntingdon.

Cattle.

The cattle were quite up to the high standard seen at this show, and the collection on the whole was a very fine one. Shorthorns predominated, and the first class for bulls of this breed calved in or previous to 1904, and not exceeding five years old. A number of particularly interesting animals faced the judges, the best being King Edward, a three-year-old Scotch bred roan, the property of Sir Oswald Mosley. King Edward is of great scale, level, and of the best quality. He was bought by Sir Oswald at the Ruddington sale some weeks ago for 200 guineas, and his capital form now made him an easy winner. A stylish roan, nearly four years old, Royal Guard, shown by Mr. J. Lucas, was second. Yearling bulls, which looked well, were headed by Sir R. Cooper's Chiddingstone Malcolm, a choice specimen, smart, level, and of first-class quality, bred by Messrs. Denny, next to him coming Rolleston Bellaport, a white bull bred by

Sir Oswald Mosley. The latter was adjudged the best bull bred in Staffordshire, and as such received the special prize of the Shorthorn Society. Mr. C. W. Kellock headed the bull calf class with Viscount Clarence, a massive red youngster just under the age limit, bred in Cheshire, but was closely run by Sir R. Cooper's Shenstone Albino, a home-bred white son of Speculator. Captain Harrison showed the best milking cow in Elderberry 4th, a roan, eight years old, bred at Wigton, and the winner of numerous prizes, which is of nice quality and great scale, and attracted attention at the Shropshire and West Midland show, where she led in her class. At the Royal Show she was commended in an exceptionally strong class. In the two-year-old heifer class Captain Harrison was second with Bearstone Sunshine, which made a good fight with Sir Oswald Mosley's Rolleston Faithful, a useful roan, which, however, beat him. Captain Harrison was more successful in the yearling heifer class, for he took the first two prizes with Bearstone Sybil and Aldershaw Primrose II., Sir R. Cooper having to be content with third place for Shenstone Empress.

The tenant-farmers' classes were filled with dairy cattle, and it was easy to see that a great improvement had been made in the local herds of late years. The butchers' beasts, too, were shown in prime condition, and of marketable quality. All of the exhibits were of the polled type, and the chief prize was taken by Mr. J. Bostock, with a ripe polled Angus bullock, which also secured a couple of special awards.

pens were on view, an increase of twelve on last year, so that the display was by no means a small one. The aged ram class contained several capital sheep, notably the animal with which Sir Richard Cooper took the first prize. Shearling rams also made a good show, and the best of these was a fine specimen the property of Mr. M. Williams, who also won the second prize with an almost equally meritorious example. Mr. E. Nock beat the Duke of Sutherland in the pens of five shearling rams with well-matched and well-grown sheep; and Sir Richard Cooper had a sequence of successes, being placed at the head of five classes of ram lambs and ewes. There was a considerable improvement noticeable in the tenant farmers' classes when compared with previous years, and some of the animals would do credit to more pretentious flocks.

Twenty-seven entries of pigs had been received, but not all were forward, and thus this section was a small one; quality, however, was of the best. Mr. A. C. Twentyman showed the best boar of the Large, Middle, or Small White breed, with a grand specimen of the Middle type, which also won the medal offered for the best boar in the show. The same exhibitor was also successful with his breeding sows, for which he received two prizes. Sir Peter Walker and Mr. F. W. Gilbert carried off the honours for Tamworths, while to Berkshires Mr. C. T. Avins was the most successful exhibitor.

LINCOLNSHIRE SHOW AT GAINSBOROUGH.

The Lincolnshire Agricultural Society received a good entry for their show at Gainsborough on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last, but there was one disappointing feature, and that was the falling off in the number of Hunters and Hackneys from some cause or other, and no doubt the clashing with other big shows was the chief. Anyhow, Hackneys were the smallest number since 1889, there being only 42 entries, whilst hunters numbered but 99 as against 130 at Grantham last year, and 149 at Grimsby in 1904. On the other hand, cattle showed a marked improvement, being 164 as against 145 last year, whilst Shire horses, sheep, and pigs were well up to the average. Altogether the show was an interesting one, the exhibits being of good quality, and it attracted a large number of visitors.

The cattle section was made up of Shorthorns and Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns and dairy cattle, and all did credit to the society and exhibitors. Pride of Sunshine, exhibited by Mr. T. Atkinson, of Bury, and bred by the King at Sandringham, worthily occupied the premier position in the class for the old Shorthorn bulls, second to him being Kinross, a Yorkshire-bred animal, and owned by Essex gentlemen. The yearling bulls and bull calve classes witnessed a reversion of the Peterborough awards. At Peterborough Mr. R. Knowles, of Colston Bassett Hall, Notts, was first with Handicraft, a roan of the Earl of Powis's breeding, and Lord Armstrong was second with Baron Merry Beau, a son of Baron Hopeful; but now Baron Merry Beau was put first and the second ticket given to Handicraft. Then as to the bull calf class. At Peterborough Lord Armstrong's Wild Duke of Geneva 259th led from the Hon. L. de Rothschild's Ascot Victor and Ascot Wanderer which were second and third respectively. Now the Northumberland calf had to be content with an empty honour, the leading position being filled by Ascot Wanderer, and Ascot Victor was delegated to third place. Lord Middleton received the second prize for Birdsall Brewer, a home bred son of Bradford 6th. The Shorthorn Society's prize of £10 for bull in the county of Lincoln calved in 1905, was taken by Mr. Robert Chatterton for Forester, a yearling which was reserve in the yearling open class. A quartette of cows was not a big entry, but the two animals decorated Mr. J. P. Raynar's (York) Honey 92nd and Messrs. Dean's Brigstock Princess—are good specimens. The two or three-year-old heifers also made only a moderate display. Heifers between one and two years were headed by Mr. Lions' well-known Silver Flora, from Bletchley, Bucks, the same owner's Augustine winning in the class for heifer calves under one year.

As was only to be expected, the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns made a very strong show, and one worthy of the county. In the old bull class there was a partial upsetting of the Royal verdict; Mr. Chatterton's Sterigot Regal Chief was placed, and Mr. A. Parker's Saddleed Bonus was slipped out for first most honours, in preference to A. S. Crawley's Western Monarch 2nd. At Derby the latter was second, and the present leader held the

LINCOLNSHIRE RED SHORTHORN BULL, BRANDON GRENADIER.

FIRST PRIZE WINNER AT THE ROYAL SHOW, DERBY, AND SECOND AT THE LINCOLNSHIRE SHOW GAINSBOROUGH.
Bred by and the property of Mr. J. LANGHAM, The Park, Nottingham.

The collection of Aberdeen-Angus cattle was small but good. There were fourteen entries in three classes, and they included several choice specimens of the famous beef-producing breed. The best cow was Corskie 4th of Wyrley, ten years old, which has been profitable to Mrs. Macpherson in her Pelsall herd. The cow is in capital show condition, and defeated the richly-bred Mabel 8th of Knapperna, belonging to Mr. J. J. Cridlan. Mr. Cridlan, however, was a very successful exhibitor, for he won the two prizes for heifers and the two for bulls with grand representatives of the Maisemore herd. His straight, level, promising yearling bull Bengal of Ballindallock also secured the silver medal of the English Aberdeen Angus Cattle Association. Mr Cridlan further secured the challenge cup offered to the exhibitor gaining the greatest number of points in the section.

Sheep and Pigs.

The show of sheep was a good one, though not particularly numerous, due to some extent to the fact that the regulations do not permit of winners at the Royal Show being entered. Eighty-seven

OIL and GAS ENGINES
are growing more than ever in demand, and would be still further "boomed" if regularly advertised in the "Mark Lane Express."

position of reserve. Saltfleet Bonus also gained the male championship for the section, the runner-up being Western Monarch 2nd. The yearling bulls were headed by Mr. Chatterton's Gosberton Beau, and the successful bull calves were exhibited by Captain E. M. Grantham, Mr. Joseph Drewery, and Mr. S. B. Carnley. The pick of the cows and the female champion was Mr. E. H. Cartwright's Miss Calceby 3rd, the other prize winners including animals from the herds of Mr. John Langham, Mr. Chatterton, Mr. John Evens, and Mr. George Laughton. The male challenge cup of 20 guineas was taken by the Shorthorn Pride of Sunshine, with the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Saltfleet Bonus reserve.

Although the sheep have been more numerous, they have certainly never been better in quality, and the display was a really excellent one, but Lincolnshire Longwools were the only breed shown. The centre of attraction was the shearling ram class, for here Mr. Dudding exhibited the animal which was sold for 1,450 guineas at his recent sale. Naturally, he secured the first prize, and was also awarded the challenge plate. Mr. Dudding also supplied the first and second prize-takers in the animals which sold for 580 guineas and 350 guineas at his sale. They are of similar type to the other, but not so big. Messrs. R. and W. Wright, of Nocton Heath, Lincoln, were fourth and fifth, and Mr. T. Casswell, of Pointon, Folkingham, was the reserve, whilst six animals were in the hc and c division. Mr. Howard, of Nocton Rise, Lincoln, won in the class for two-shear rams. The pens of three ram lambs form an extraordinarily good class and here Messrs. R. and W. Wright were first and Mr. Dudding second with animals which were even in skin and capable of great development. In the class for shearling gimmers Mr. Dudding's winning animals were far in advance in the matter of growth of any of the others; whilst in the class for she lambs, an exceptionally good one of Messrs. R. and W. Wright once more came out at the top.

The show of pigs was the best seen here for some time, quality being very much in evidence. Classes of the old Lincolnshire curly hair breed were, as usual, included, and it is a matter of interest that it is intended that the breed shall remain distinct, and that a stud book is to be started. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons were successful exhibitors in these classes, whilst for Large Whites Messrs. Duckering and Son and Sir Gilbert Greenall were amongst the winners, Mr. J. Jefferson and Lord Calthorp being prominent in the Berkshire classes.

Had it not been for the presence of a number of well-known show horses, the section for Hunters would have been weak in calibre as well as in numbers. In regard to brood mares, there is not much to linger over after the three winners. The first of these was Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's beautiful Glasspore by Glasshampton—Extempore, Mr. A. J. Brown's well-known Rosalinda coming next, and the last named took the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal. Foals were not particularly strong, while "fair" adequately described the yearlings, Mr. Swallow, of Wotton Lawn, Ulceby, winning with one of nice quality by Wales. All the three prizes for two-year-olds remain in Lincolnshire, Mr. Swallow taking the first and second with Red Morn and Vigo, which were first and second respectively at the Royal. Mr. Wilkinson's Destruction improved upon his seconds at Derby and Peterborough in the three-year-old class, Mr. Stokes, of Great Bowden, Market Harborough, being second with Black Pearl. There were four riding classes, but they were not particularly well filled. Mr. Stokes was first in each class, being represented by Sybarite, Dervische, Madrid, and Border Boy, whilst in three of the classes Mr. Brown, of Doncaster, was second.

As previously stated, Hackneys were poorly represented, and the quality was by no means great, taken as a whole, though, of course, there were some conspicuous winners. Only one stallion three-year-old and upwards came forward, this being Mr. Surfleet's Beckingham Squire, from Beckingham, Gainsborough. The younger class was headed by Mr. Haley's Blanch Illuminator, from Malton, which is quite of the stallion type. Messrs. Cockayne Bros., of Sheffield, won in the class for mares with their well-known Paddock Queen, which has been shown for years, and secured a medal for the first time in her career, whilst Mr. Surfleet secured the premier award in the foal class, with a nice filly by Beckingham Squire. There was one pony class, and it was a very good one, Mr. Franklin, of Derby, being successful with his Grand Duchess Go Bang.

The Shire horses made up for the weakness of the other horse sections, for they were a grand lot, including as they did representatives from the leading studs. The old stallion classes brought out five of the eight entered, and the first prize fell to Mr. Clark's Ethelwulf, from Moulton Eaugate, Spalding, a nice-sized bay, very attractive in build and movement. Second was Mr. Sutton Nelthorpe's Souldern Seylax, from Scawby, Brigg, which won at the Royal as a two-year-old, and has done well in Lancashire and Yorkshire. In the class for two-year-old stallions five came before the judges, but there was no disputing the leader in Messrs. Forshaw's Catterall Drayman, by Drayman XXIII. This colt has come on immensely since he won the gold medal at Nottingham. Sir Berkeley Sheffield, of Doncaster, was second with the heavy-boned bay Kingsway by Birdsall Menestrel. Lord Egerton, of Tatton Park, Knutsford, won in the class for yearling colts with the big heavy-boned Tatton Champion, being followed by Mr. Jackson's Knottingley Marquis, from Knottingley, Yorkshire.

The brood mare class brought out a big entry of good animals, and the judges were some time in deciding as to the first three. Lord Egerton's Tatton Amora by Buscot Harold, was eventually placed first, and Mr. Dook's great favourite, Reamer 2nd, from Scotton, Lincoln, was second, and Mr. Jackson's celebrated Enfield Poppy, third. In the foal class, Lord Egerton again won with a colt by Tatton Friar, Mr. Jackson's second being closely pressed by Sir Berkeley Sheffield's filly by Birdsall Menestrel, which won at Doncaster, where she beat the other. Another victory was gained by Lord Egerton in the yearling filly class with the dark brown, Tatton Abbess, which has been a conspicuous winner, whilst Mr. Jackson gained a very easy success in the class for three-year-olds with Knottingley May Queen. The three-year-old filly class saw Mr. Glasier, of Winterton, come out at the top with Roxby Starlight, an upstanding, heavy-limbed animal, closely followed by a very good filly belonging to the Duchess of Newcastle, which won the gold medal and champion cup at the Notts Show.

Wirral and Birkenhead.

The Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society are so used to having deplorable weather for their show that the fine weather experienced last week came as a welcome surprise, and as the entries were on a most satisfactory scale—4,524, as compared with 3,168 last year—and the attendance of visitors good, the show may be described as an all-round success. The society deserved it, for they had done everything possible in their power to command this success, and their financial failures of previous years, owing solely to disastrous weather, need some making up.

Among the cattle, the dairy classes were especially good. The well-known exhibitor, Mr. Raingill, of Ringway, was among the successful competitors, and two first prizes were won by Mrs. Turton, Woodchurch. In the class for cows in-calf, Mrs. Turton, with her roan cow, Landican beauty, which had never previously been shown, succeeded in defeating some well-known winners.

Shorthorns made a capital display, some well-known animals being forward, but Mr. F. Miller had matters nearly all his own way, for he took no fewer than half a dozen first prizes. For yearling bulls he won with Bapton Viceroy, an animal for which he recently paid 2,500 guineas, and which has won every time exhibited. Mr. Miller's Broadbooks Champion was first in the class for bulls calved in 1904, and the same exhibitor took premier honours for aged bulls with his Linksfield, which was champion at Dublin and Belfast and first at the Royal Show. All the animals placed in the yearling heifer class were capital types of Shorthorns.

The Shire horses were undoubtedly the feature of the show, being both numerous and of first-rate quality. A particularly gratifying feature to local exhibitors was the success of Mr. J. Gould, a tenant farmer of Lymm, near Warrington. His three Shire mares were pronounced by the judges as the finest specimens of their kind, and they questioned if any stud in the kingdom could show a better type of animal. With his mare Lymm Blossom Mr. Gould won the Shire Horse Society's gold medal, the J. W. Kenworthy 50-guinea challenge cup, and the Toogood silver medal. The same exhibitor carried off first honours in the class for Shire stallions foaled in 1904 with Lockinge Truffle, which also won the George Harding 50-guinea challenge cup for the best Shire stallion in the show, beating the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish's bay Holker Menestrel II., which was reserved champion at the Royal Show. The W. H. Lever 50-guinea challenge bowl for the best Shire gelding was taken by Mr. A. Sparkes, of Altrincham; and the special prize presented by the Royal Rock Beagles for the best Shire mare or gelding bred by the exhibitor went to Mr. Joseph Reecroft, of Eastham, for his Bankfields Perfection.

Among the Hunters were some of the best brood mares in the kingdom, and among those in saddle some of the best known animals in the ring. Hackneys were an exceptionally good section, and described by experts as the best seen since Islington. The big class, exceeding 15 hands, contained several magnificent specimens. The brown gelding Radiant, owned by Mr. J. Jurgens (Holland), was placed first; his pace was not so good as the second horse, but the judges preferred his action. Dr. Tubbs again won the record Reign 50-guinea challenge vase for the best Hackney mare with foal at foot with Rosadore; and his chesnut stallion Administrator carried off for the second year the subscription challenge bowl. Mr. Howard Frank's brown mare Kissington Kit Cat was an easy winner in the class for Hackney mares or geldings. This animal was first at Islington, and more recently at the Hague.

Though the entry in the leaper class was numerous, the jumping outside that of the prize-winners was not superior to that previously seen at this society's shows. Two accidents occurred, neither of which, happily, was as serious as at first seemed. Walter Wilson, of Bebington, riding Mr. Brewin's mare Lightning, came to grief at the first hurdle. He was thrown off, turned a somersault, and had an ugly fall, his mount treading on him in passing over him. He was stunned, but was able to get up, and was assisted out of the ring. The second mishap occurred to the rider of Mr. T. G. Jolley's gelding Blazer. The horse refused the water-jump, swerved, fouled a hurdle in close proximity, and pitched off his rider, rolling over him. It was at first thought that he was seriously hurt, but, happily, this was not so, for he was able to walk away.

By far the strongest and best sheep class were the Shropshires, of which there were quite a number of the first grade. Pigs, though not numerous, were distinguished for excellence of breed, as may be imagined, when it is stated that Sir Gilbert Greenall was the chief prize winner, he taking in all ten honours.

Bedfordshire.

The annual show in connection with the Bedfordshire Agricultural Society was held in Luton Hoo Park, the beautiful grounds of the president, Sir Julius Wernher, Bart., on Wednesday, in warm, sunny weather. Though the show appurtenances covered a straggling area, the undulating character of the park was excellently adapted for a good view of the ring competitions, and during the afternoon a natural bank at the end of the ring in which the jumping took place was occupied by a big crowd, in fact the attendance was one of the best on record. There was unfortunately a marked falling off in the number of entries as compared with last year's show at Ampthill, but there were about forty more than on the occasion of the last show at Luton in 1901. The figures this year were:—Horses, 200; cattle, 57; sheep, 40; pigs, 11; butter and poultry, 41; honey and eggs, 22; sheep dogs, 6; working dairy competitions, 30; horse shoeing, 22.

Shire horses made a good display, some well-known animals being forward. The prize offered by the President for the best Shire filly bred in the county of Bedford was awarded to Mr. Robert Long's Stondon May Flower, other successful exhibitors in the same section including Mr. W. S. Brocklehurst, Mr. Draper Spencer, and Mr. B. Howkins. The best of the mares suitable for breeding hunters was Mr. Howkins's Dart, her foal being by Gruden, the Grand National winner. Mr. J. Sturgess's Donovan by Diakka was the best of the yearlings, and the Messrs. Sturgess's bay colt by Rouval was picked out by the judges for winning honours in a good class of two-year-olds. The winning three- and four-year-old hunters were Mr. W. Whitehead's Simple Simon and Mr. Robert Long's Refinement, whilst Mr. J. H. Stokes's unnamed exhibits were the pick of both the light and heavy weight classes.

The winning exhibitors of cattle included Mr. W. Simmons, Mr. C. F. Raphael (whose Bright Silver was awarded the special prize of the Shorthorn Society), Mr. W. A. Bass, and Mr. A. Brittain. Sir Julius Wernher, Mr. T. F. Buxton, and Mr. Joseph Newman were the most successful exhibitors of sheep. The classes for produce were exceedingly well supported, Mr. E. Tewson and Mr. G. Dickson being among the winning butter makers. Mr. J. N. Godfrey won both the prizes offered for comb and run honey.

Lord Alwyne Compton's prize for the labourer in husbandry who had worked the longest time in the same employment was awarded to John Constant, who had served Mr. W. H. Joyce, of Renhold, Bedford, for sixty years. The shepherds' prizes went to George Rickett, who had reared 271 lambs, and W. Teasdale, whose record was 108 lambs.

SITUATIONS WANTED and VACANT.

Those to whom this column appeals, if identified in some way with agriculture, will have no difficulty in obtaining employment or filling a vacancy if their requirements are advertised in the "Mark Lane Express," which is best done under a nom de plume, and addressed to this office. The charge is only a penny for every three words, but the cash must be remitted at the time of ordering the advertisement.

Mr. C. J. Tong, of Great Towbrick Farm, Hambleton, Poulton-le-Fylde, last week shipped to Santander, Spain, a young Large White boar and gilt, sired by Shard Roger 2nd, winner of the third prize at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Derby, and out of Shard Floss 12th.

SHOW GOSSIP.

"Never do to-day what you can do to-morrow," which is said to be a favourite motto with journalists, evidently finds no favour with the Peterborough Agricultural Society, for only four days after their recent successful show they sent out notices to the effect that their 1907 show would be held on July 9, 10, and 11. Prize schedules are, however, not yet ready!

The twenty-sixth annual Horse Show at Kington, Herefordshire, will take place on Wednesday, September 19, and a good prize schedule has been arranged for it. Competition is open to the United Kingdom, and classes are provided for Agricultural horses, Hunters, Hackneys, Polo ponies, whilst there will be jumping and driving trials. The Shire, Hunters' Improvement, and Hackney Horse Societies offer their medals, and the class prizes are on a liberal scale, so that a good entry should be received. Prize schedules, entry forms, &c., can be obtained from the secretary, Mr. T. H. Vaughan Morris, Byford House, Staunton-on-Wye, Hereford.

The annual autumn show and sale of Shorthorn cattle at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, September 5 and 6. There will be seven classes—four for females and three for bulls, viz.:—(1) Cows or heifers exceeding three years old (calved prior to September 1, 1903); (2) Heifers exceeding two and not exceeding three years old (calved between September 1, 1903, and August 31, 1904, both days inclusive); (3) Heifers exceeding one and not exceeding two years old (calved between September 1, 1904, and August 31, 1905, both days inclusive); (4) Heifer calves not exceeding one year old (calved on or after September 1, 1905); (5) Bulls exceeding eighteen months old (calved before March 1, 1905); (6) Bulls exceeding twelve and not exceeding eighteen months old (calved between March 1, 1905, and August 31, 1905, both days inclusive); (7) Bulls not exceeding twelve months old (calved on or after September 1, 1905).

The prizes in classes 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7 consist of £10 first prize and £5 second prize; in class 4 the prizes are £7 and £3 respectively; whilst in class 6 the first prize will be £15, the second £10, third £7, fourth £5, and fifth £3. Although not such a big event as the spring sale, this autumn Shorthorn sale has increased in popularity considerably in recent years, and, seeing the present boom in Shorthorns, there is likely to be a larger entry than ever this year. Entries close on Thursday, August 9, with the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

The Dunster Summer Show of horses, cattle, and sheep, of which Sir W. J. Trevelyan, Bart., M.H., Nettlecombe Court, is president, will be held in the Dunster Castle Lawns on Friday, September 7. This will be the seventy-first annual show, and there seems no reason why it should not be as successful as in other years, for a liberal prize schedule has been arranged, and that the show is as popular as ever is quite evident. Mr. W. Risdon, Dunster, is the secretary, and from him prize schedules and entry forms (the latter have to be returned by August 23) can be obtained.

The desirability of breeders or exhibitors being allowed to show their stock themselves before the judges—a subject that has often occupied the attention of the Highland Agricultural Society—was once more discussed at a meeting held in the Peebles showyard on Wednesday. As the regulations stood up to the time of the meeting no owner or exhibitor was allowed to parade his stock in the ring. This had to be done by somebody else—the exhibitor's son, attendant, or herdsman—the object

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. A. H. EDWARDSON, Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society.

evidently being to keep the judges' mind entirely free from being prejudiced in favour of any particular owner whom the judges might happen to know. At Wednesday's meeting a strong protest was raised against this regulation by a member, who said the rule worked particularly hard on tenant farmers, who were put to the expense of having a man to show the stock, when he himself could do it more easily and to much better advantage, seeing that he was better acquainted with the exhibit than any one else. The Rev. Dr. Gillespie said he thought it hard that exhibitors coming all the way from Galloway and Ayrshire should be under the penalty of having to bring a man with them, because they could not show their stock themselves, and eventually a resolution directing the abolition of the regulation that owners be not allowed to parade their own stock was carried by an overwhelming majority. In future, therefore, breeders or exhibitors will be allowed to parade their own stock before the judges.

The Staffordshire Agricultural Society has accepted the invitation to hold their 1907 show at Burton-on-Trent.

We would remind intending exhibitors at the Royal Dublin Society Horse Show that the entries close at single fees on Friday, the 27th inst., and at double fees on Thursday, August 2. Applications for prize list and entry forms, &c., should be addressed to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

Whilst sweltering in the shade of the hottest day of the year, we were quite refreshed with thoughts of winter which were brought to mind by the receipt of a copy of the prize schedule for the Smithfield Club's show at Islington. Christmas is coming, but is yet a good way off, so that a detailed review of the schedule will hold over to another issue, when summer shows are not quite so pressing as they are this week.

By the way, what a pity it is that the clashing of shows—at least, county fixtures—is not, we were going to say cannot, be avoided. Last week the Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Sussex and Staffordshire shows all opened on Wednesday, and, in addition, there was the Wirral and Birkenhead Show, to say nothing of the Highland at Peebles. The result was that all suffered to some extent as regards entries, as reports of the shows will demonstrate, whereas with a little more co-operation a great deal of the clashing could be avoided.

At a meeting of the council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, held at York on Thursday, the secretary stated that the entries of stock for the forthcoming show at Middlesbrough on August 8, 9, and 10, are very good, but there is a considerable falling off in the entries of implements, which is attributed to the fact that Middlesbrough is in a remote corner of the county, and also to the enormous entry of implements at the Royal Show at Derby. The total of live stock is 930 as against 867 at Hull last year, cattle number 223—an increase of 20—sheep 127, or 5 more than last year, pigs total 97 against 99, and horses 483, or an increase of exactly 40. In addition, there are 266 entries of cheese, honey, and horse-shoeing and butter-making competitions. The number of feet frontage of implement shedding, &c., at Middlesbrough is 5,114, compared with 6,836 at Hull last year. The open space for rustic houses, greenhouses, &c., amounts to 790 odd square yards, considerably less than the record of 1,730 square yards at Hull. Excellent arrangements have been made for the military tournament on the third day by the 18th Hussars, and the council hope the experiment will prove a great success.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW at NUNEATON, AUGUST 29 and 30, 1906. Prizes over £1,140. For Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Implements, Dairy Produce, Eggs, Dressed Poultry, Stock Judging Competition, &c., &c. Prizes in Horse Department over £595. Special Driving and Jumping Classes. Last day of Entry July 28, after which at double fees up to 8 p.m., July 31.

Prize Books and Entry Forms sent on application to—

FREDERICK H. MOORE, Secretary, Warwick.

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1906.

£600 PRIZES.

Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Dogs, Cats, Poultry, Rabbits, Flowers, Vegetables, Turn-Outs and Leaping.

Entries close July 30; double fees later, except dogs. Schedules ready.

W. A. BENSON, Silverdale, Staffs.

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906. £160 in prizes, JUMPING, DRIVING, TURNOUTS &c. Entries close September 5, 1906 —W. H. M. BARTON, Sec., Church Hill, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW at WOLSINGHAM.

On WEDNESDAY, August 15, 1906.

Upwards of £1,000 given in Prizes for

Cattle,	Sheep Dog Trials,
Sheep,	Dogs,
Horses,	Pigeons,
Leaping,	Poultry,
Milking Demonstrations,	Rabbits,
Implements and Harness,	Butter, Eggs, &c.

Entries close Monday, July, 30, 1906.

Prize Schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham.

Prize Schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,

WM. CHRYSTAL, Houghton-le-Spring.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW will be held at HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE (between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks), on THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1906.

Entries close July 31, or with double fees, August 7.

Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Hon. Sec., C. H. W. DIXON, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

THE SOUTH DURHAM AND NORTH YORKSHIRE HORSE, CATTLE AND DOG SHOW, AT DARLINGTON, ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1906.

44 classes for Horses and Cattle, including 11 classes for Hunters. £15 First Prize for Four-year-olds and upwards.

There is also a splendid classification for Harness and Agricultural Horses

Classes for Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Honey, and Dressed Poultry.

Entries close Monday, July 23, 1906. Schedules and entry forms on application to—J. J. HARRIS, 6, Arden Street, Darlington.

EASINGWOLD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The next SHOW will take place at EASINGWOLD on SEPTEMBER 19, 1906. For Schedules of Prizes apply

JNO. J. PENTY, 85, Stanhope Road, Darlington.

HARROGATE AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

President: HY. WILLIAMS, ESQ., J.P. will be held On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906.

About £500 in Prizes. Schedules now ready. G. SAVILLE, Park View, Harrogate.

WARRINGTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President: SIR GILBERT GREENALL, BART.

Vice-President: RT. HON. LORD LILFORD.

17th ANNUAL SHOW To be held in WALTON PARK, near Warrington, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1906.

Prizes, Cups and Medals value £700.

Open Classes for Jumpers, Harness, Hunters, Shires.

Entries close August 1.

H. BERESFORD MELVILLE, Secretary, Estates Office, Warrington.

WELBECK TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1906.

1062 ENTRIES.

HAY HORSE SHOW, September 20, 1906. Entries close on September 6; double fees September 12.—REECE MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Filgrove School.

SIR,—The editorial article in your issue of the 9th inst. with regard to the closing of Filgrove School in Bucks, and to the distance which the children had consequently to walk in order to attend school, is calculated to convey such an inaccurate impression that I must ask you to allow me to state the actual facts. So far from the Board of Agriculture having been apathetic, the fact is that they took up the matter as soon as it was brought to their notice, and represented to the Board of Education the effect which the closing of small local schools might have in driving country people into the towns. The Board of Education readily agreed to reconsider the matter, and on the 3rd inst. they ordered the school to be reopened.

As evidence of the appreciation felt for Lord Carrington's action, I may quote the following extract from a letter addressed to his lordship by Mr. J. C. H. Robinson, of Filgrove, who brought the matter to the notice of the Board :—

"I consider this village and the whole of the smaller villages in the country are indebted to the Board of Agriculture for their action in the matter; and I know the farmers of the country will appreciate the efforts of the Board."—Yours faithfully,

R. WINFREY.

House of Commons, July 19, 1906.

[We print the above with the greatest pleasure, and also draw attention to the editorial article recording the reopening of the school on another page, which for our own justification we may say was in type before the above letter was received. We had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Robinson at Derby, when the full facts of the case were explained to us and our aid was invoked to bring about a change, which we are pleased to see has been effective.—ED.]

Teaching Agriculture.

SIR,—Your remarks on the necessity of teaching agriculture to children are the most sensible I have seen. There is no doubt, the Education Act has done much towards the depopulation of rural districts by preventing the children of agricultural labourers from becoming familiarised with the treatment and handling of animals (which must begin young), and from any opportunity of seeing how work is done, and taking an intelligent interest in it.

Instead, they hang about the villages (often around the public house) during the long evenings and holidays, and, with nothing to occupy them usefully, become accomplished loafers of no use to the farmer, when a paternal (or shall I say grandmotherly) Government allows them to attempt to earn a livelihood.

Another serious matter is the extinction of the small landowner or squire, who was generally a practical farmer living amongst his tenantry, spending the rents they paid him in the neighbourhood, and maintaining a standard of respectability by precept and example.

In his place we have now the large landowner buying up parish after parish—throwing farms together for cheaper management, and drawing all the rents he can from them to spend anywhere but in the district, which he considers ought to be grateful if he comes for a couple of months in the year to reside at some castle he may own nine or ten miles away, to which he has all his stores sent from London.

It is this sort of absenteeism which is ruining the country, and unless some restriction is placed on the number of acres, anyone may own in a parish in which he does not reside, the evil is bound to go on increasing, for the nature of the entail on many of these large estates provides that, however extravagant and spendthrift the tenant for life may be, there is always some source of income he cannot touch which is available for investment.

Thus the thrifty farmer or cottager is not allowed to buy land, for what is dreaded more than anything is an independant neighbour who dare assert it is unlawful to close a footpath or enclose an open space. Neither does the owner always know what pressure is put on the tenantry by the agent, who invariably manages to grow rich whatever his master may do.—Yours &c.,

July 17, 1906. M. OR N.

How Tainted Butter is Made.

SIR,—One hardly expects to find, in these days of scientific sanitation, impure and foul water used in the manufacture of butter. That such cases are everyday becoming rarer is a matter for congratulation, but nevertheless, isolated cases are met with even to-day. A week or so ago the sanitary inspector of the Langport (Somerset) District Council took samples of water from one of the villages in the union, the supply in this particular village being from wells. The samples were duly analysed, and found to be "all polluted with sewage," impure and unfit for dietetic purposes.

The inspector, in reporting the matter to the council at their last meeting, stated that a lady who made butter assured him that she did not use the water from the well on her premises when it "stunk," but that she used the water from another well close by. This, on analysis, proved to be worse than any other of the samples, all of which were to be "viewed with the greatest suspicion." Yet the extraordinary part of it is, that although previous samples from the same village have been condemned, and although a wholesome supply from a neighbouring town passes through the village, the inhabitants resolutely decline to be connected with that supply.

We are personally acquainted with this spot, and can vouch for the circumstances related above. A great deal remains to be done in the way of educating our rural people, particularly in the more remote quarters.—Yours, &c., L. F. S.

July 17, 1906.

Agricultural Depression.

SIR,—Just a few words with you on what is popularly called "agricultural depression," for which farmers have received (and still do so) so many suggestions and so much free "advice."

There is not the slightest doubt but that agriculture is being carried on at a disadvantage, and I doubt if the pinch was ever felt so acutely as at the present time.

Well, Sir, we have been told (I say *we*, I am a farmer myself and sorry) to go in for fruitgrowing, to lay land down to grass, to farm on more up-to date methods, to combine, &c., and we have heard the cry "back to the land"; but, in my humble opinion, what is wrong with the whole business is this :—

Agriculture is suffering from *over production*. Of course there are a lot of side issues to this as to all else, one is lower rents. The daily papers (who so kindly give us such a lot of free and *practical* advice) have been emphasising the cry of "back to the land," but the farmer does not seem to have joined in to any extent.

Well, Sir, instead of bewailing the rush of the workers from the rural districts to the towns during the last ten years or so, including both labourers and farmers and their families, it would have been, in my opinion, better if as many again or more had left the ranks of food producers and migrated, not to produce food abroad, but to the towns. We want production reduced until such time as the demand will create a little bit more competition for the supply, and consequently raise prices on to a level whereby farmers can obtain a fair living and pay their helpers (workmen) as high a wage as any skilled workman in other trades.

The foreign producer is in about the same position as we are, he wants better prices (some farmers would say he wanted canned meat).

Of course, under co-operation and unionism prices might be artificially stimulated, but it would be a bad sign for agriculture I think, but with your permission I will write you again on this.—Yours truly, F. A. H.

July 18, 1906.

Back to the Land.

SIR,—The letters advocating some attraction for young countrymen to remain in the villages I have perused with interest, and the suggestions as to means of imparting cheer to life.

It will be well for them not to *turn* "back to the land" if they wish to avoid risk of rush to battle.

It is almost an unparalleled circumstance to criticise the effusions of humorous celebrities, but the *Daily Mail* of July 18 describes the verses by *Punch* as "A Bitter Gibe." The introduction is as follows :—

"O city clerk, in whom the hopes are stored
Of England's manhood, let me talk with you."

It would therefore seem that rural attendance will not be required, so the labourer can be dispensed with as far as military display is concerned, and continue to be jolly and merry on the farm.—Yours truly, RURAL.

The Needs of Village Education.

SIR,—Shall we ever get an Education Act from any Government which shows any true appreciation of the needs of the villages? The inordinate distance which young children have to walk to school in certain districts is a grievance by no means confined to Buckinghamshire. We have it here also, and doubtless in other parts of the Midlands; but one looks in vain in the new Bill for anything to lessen it. So far, indeed, as the difficulty may be produced by feuds between the school authorities and Whitehall, and consequent closing of schools, the present Bill may rather augment it than otherwise. How long are we to wait for a really practical rural curriculum, adapted to fit a lad for work upon the land, or a girl for such tasks as fall generally to the lot of a farm servant, dairymaid, or cottager's wife? We are moving slowly in that direction, I admit, but very slowly and not so much by virtue of anything the House of Commons has done as in spite of it. How much longer, once more, is it going to be possible for local authorities to keep our lads and girls at school until the last chance of their turning out fit for a rural career is gone? By Mr. Birrell's account of it, "in about two-thirds of the rural areas of England and Wales children can leave school at twelve years of age" on passing certain examinations. So far, so good. But in the remaining third of rural England they cannot. Why should the determination of such a point be left to local discretion or indiscretion? Surely the adoption of regulations of such vital importance as this ought not to be made a matter of local option. At a time like this, when everyone is anxious to keep young people in the country and fit them for country pursuits, one would have supposed that Parliament might have given a strong lead; but, no! Legislation on the lines that farmers and country people generally like to see would not be popular with the rank and file of the party, or with the urban members, who cannot conceive that anything but an urban education is worthy to be called education at all.—Yours faithfully, WORCESTER.

July 20, 1906.

The Farming Outlook.

SIR,—I am glad to be able to report that prospects all round in this county (Cumberland) are so far above the average, and the empty barns are almost certain to be all well filled, which is much needed, as another scanty crop year like the last would have brought many small and even some large farmers to the verge of bankruptcy. However, as to questions which affect the welfare of farmers outside their own efforts and labours, the prospects become darker in the shape of feeding as well as teaching the labouring classes, and local taxation seems bound to increase.—Yours truly,

July 19, 1906. MID-CUMBERLAND.

Agriculture Handicapped.

SIR,—The season and the times seem all against agriculture. Take, for instance, the motor traffic, which is injuring the agricultural trade in more ways than one, but notably in the trade for hay and straw, which it has cut down considerably. There seems no remedy to help the British farmer. He has to be handicapped all ways, and I should like to know what will be the end of this. It must cause a great calamity before very long.

Bucks, July 20, 1906. J. H.

St. Boswells Fair.—The annual fair, which is one of the largest and most important of its kind in Scotland, was held on St. Boswells Green on Wednesday, when, owing to the Highland Society's show being held in the Border district the same week, the attendance was rather under the average, and horses were not so extensively shown as on some former occasions, the number forward being about 500. A fair trade was experienced for the best class of draught animals at prices up to £70, but secondary and inferior sorts were slow to sell. There was the usual attendance of wool buyers, but they were disposed to offer about 1s. per stone under recent quotations, and in these circumstances holders were inclined to wait till the later markets in the district in order to make better bargains. For all hogg wool 30s. per stone of 24 lb. was expected, and 28s. for all ewe fleeces, and the prices offered was only 27s. and 26s. respectively.

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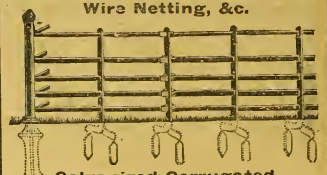
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USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

How to Get a Good Hay Crop.

Good hay takes the first place among the fodder for animals, especially in winter time, and it should be the effort of every farmer to grow and gather crop so that it may possess in the highest degree both nourishing and appetising qualities. It the first place it may be noted that its feeding value is dependent on the character of the growth, which is greatly influenced by the soil, moisture, and system of manuring.

The fields should be cultivated with the view of developing the sweet grasses and to suppress the herbage of low value. This can be done through drainage, harrowing, spudding out the bad weeds, yearly application of fertilisers, with occasional dressings of lime, and in cases where there is an evident deficiency of good grasses, by reseeding with carefully selected seeds.

As a rule, the worthless grasses flourish from an excess of moisture, and therefore drainage is necessary to hold them in check, and then the application of slag and potash should follow. Nitrogen is not so necessary, as old meadows usually contain a good supply of humus; but if there is a sign of impoverishment, a dressing of farmyard manure or compost is desirable.

Next to the quality of the growth, the time of cutting it is important. This operation is very often deferred too long. Analysis has clearly demonstrated that the plant is richest in nourishment at the time of early flowering. At that stage of its evelopment the growth ceases, the seed formation begins, and the herbage becomes more hard and fibrous. Clovers at that time lose many of their leaves, the most valuable portion of the plant.

Experiments in the digestive properties of grass and clover have shown that the product obtained from three cuttings, the first very early, a higher quality was obtained than by two cuttings.

A late cutting has the further drawback that the time for the growth of the second crop is shortened, and the gathering has to be done in the short autumn days when the dews are heavy.

The growth of the first crop can be pushed forward by fertilisers, so that it can be taken early, leaving sufficient time for the satisfactory development of the second crop; and, again, if the first crop is cut late, the seed formation will have begun, and the capacity of the plant for the next growth will have thereby greatly suffered. Moreover, if the first crop is allowed to stand too long, a large part of the weeds will have seeded, and thus permanent injury is caused to the quality of the growth.

The quality of the hay is also very dependent on the way in which it is gathered. If the drying crop is subjected to heavy rain when spread out over the field, it will lose much of its best parts, especially will suffer in its albuminoid and aromatic qualities. The best period is generally the first half of June for the first cutting, and then the rains, which so often fall in the second half of the month and early in July, will be most beneficial for the second growth.

The hay should not be spread out, if possible, more than a couple of days, it should be frequently turned and on the second evening collected in cocks. If left spread out the dew injures it.

With the implements now in use, it is possible to cut the crop and collect it very quickly, so as to save the risk of exposure to bad weather.

The chief thing, it may again be remarked, is to cultivate the crop, so as to stimulate the growth for a first early cutting, and thus secure it in the most nourishing condition and leave time for the second crop to develop in a satisfactory manner.

Rye, rape and mustard are excellent materials for the formation of catch-crops, and their extended use is greatly to be desired on account of the many benefits they confer on the farmer

Oat Variety Trials.

In a report on oat experiments, 1904, just issued by the Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture, the object of the investigation being to discover the comparative merits of some of the recently-introduced varieties, it is stated that experience in other districts has shown that the native oats of Scotland are inferior as grain producers to some, if not all, of the kinds which have been introduced from America and Germany or produced by crossing with foreign strains. As the oat is by far the most important cereal of the North of Scotland, and Aberdeen the largest oat-growing county, it is of the first importance to ascertain if the local varieties are giving the largest possible returns per acre.

In the trials of 1903 the superiority of American varieties such as Banner and Siberian was marked in the good climate of Morayshire, while even in the later climate of Ross-shire and in an exceptionally cold wet season the "new" varieties gave a good account of themselves. It is too early to place the oats which have been tested in a definite list according to their merits; they must run the gauntlet of more seasons, good and bad, and more soils late and early, before the older strains can be safely discarded in favour of the new, but from the knowledge already gained it is permissible to infer that the loss by the use of the old kinds like Potato and Sandy is, in some cases, equal to the rent of the farm, and in a few cases equal to twice that amount.

In the trials the lion's share of honours was obtained by the "Banner" oats, and the varieties "Thousand Dollar" and "Newmarket" stood second and third.

Longer experience may show that the older native varieties may prove more suitable in the long run; but, at any rate, the trials clearly illustrate the wisdom of not adhering too closely to old varieties, and of trying whether a change might not prove of advantage.

The investigations of the Aberdeen College are certainly helpful in affording guidance to farmers in this matter.

Cabbage is a valuable food for milch cows; it increases the quantity and quality of the milk, and the butter made from it is free from any unpleasant flavour,

The New Potato.

(Solanum Commersoni Violet).

The glowing accounts which have been published from time to time of the character and qualities of the new tuber have caused considerable attention to be attracted to it, so that the following particulars, summarised from an article by von Hasslach and Roumanille on the subject may be read with interest.

Potato History.

The ordinary potato was known in Peru before the Spaniards conquered that country, and was cultivated by the natives as a food crop under the name of "papas," No wild progenitor of the ordinary plant has ever been found in any part of the world. The credit of introducing the potato to England belongs to the celebrated botanist, Charles de l'Ecluse, who lived in the sixteenth century. It was first grown in Vienna in 1588, and its cultivation gradually spread over Europe. It was brought to England from Virginia in America, where it was carried from Peru. In France there was at first a strong prejudice against the new vegetable, which was alleged to cause cholera and other diseases, but after the great famine of 1170, its nourishing properties were appreciated at their due worth, and its consumption became general.

To-day the cultivation of the potato crop throughout the world is enormous, and there are numberless sorts evolved by growers, each put forward as possessing some special virtue. The recent boom in different much-vaunted seeds and the attendant disappointments will not soon be forgotten.

The new blue potato from Paraguay seems, however, to be really of quite a new character, and to have a long future before it.

Special Characteristics.

The following special characteristics are claimed for it:—

1. Unsusceptibility to dampness, and therefore well adapted for cultivation in wet soils.
2. Resisting power against disease.
3. Excellent eating qualities
4. Great productive power, 50 to 100 per cent. over the ordinary kind.

The Solanum Commersoni has its origin in in South America, where it grows wild on the banks of the rivers of Uruguay, where it produces small yellow tubers about the size of a hen's egg, and possessing a bitter taste. It was first reported upon by the botanist Commersoni, who noticed it growing on the moist banks of the river Mercedes, near Montevideo In 1850 Felix de St. Quentin, attracted by its characteristics, which seemed to make it very appropriate for agricultural purposes cultivated it in Uruguay. Then the Consul of Uruguay in Marseilles imported samples of the wild tubers, which were grown in the Colonial garden in that town, and catalogued as a new food crop for moist lands. The improved development of the plant was completed after four years' cultivation by Labergerie, and the new Solanium Commersoni Violet evolved in the process. Labergerie was successful in cultivating the plant so that the tubers lost their original bitter taste and possessed the high qualities before mentioned. The wetter the soil, the greater was the crop; thus in very dry ground about 10 tons, 50 tons in wet soil, and up to 90 tons in bogland per hectare of about 2½ acres. The yield was in proportion to the moistness of the soil.

The immunity of the plant from disease was also shown by experiments.

The flavour of the tuber is excellent, surpassing that of the ordinary kind.

The tubers weigh from 2 to 4 lb., and the plants bear from five to seven tubers.

The satisfactory conclusion is formed that, thanks to the patience and skill of Monsieur Labergerie, an addition to agricultural crops has been made which will prove of great service for the sustenance of man and animals, and also in the industries which use potatoes.

New Laboratory at Rothamsted.

On Thursday last Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, visited the famous Experimental Station at Rothamsted, and opened the new laboratory for the study of agricultural bacteriology, erected and equipped at the cost of £1,000 by Mr. J. F. Mason, M.P., in memory of his father, the late Mr. James Mason, of Eynsham Hall, Oxon, who for many years conducted on his own estate extensive experiments on questions connected with the utilisation of leguminous plants and the unlocking of the fertility stored up in the subsoil. The new building consists of a main laboratory for microscopic work, &c., 25 ft. by 15 ft., a preparation room adjoining, a dark room for photography, &c., and a room for the director. It has been built from the designs of Mr. V. T. Hodgson, and is the only laboratory in this country, set aside solely for the study of agricultural bacteriology. It has been endowed by the donor with £50 a year towards its working expenses. The subjects of investigation at present in progress are those connected with the bacteria in the soil which manufacture or prepare food for the higher plants, particularly the bacteria which fix atmospheric nitrogen when living either alone or upon the roots of the leguminous plants. The conditions of the soil or of the plant which lead to "Clover Sickness" and prevent the continuous growth of leguminous plants, which is so manifest upon the field plots at Rothamsted, forms one important subject of investigation, as also the conditions which lead to the accumulation of fertility when land is laid down to grass. Some of the specimens on view in the laboratory served to illustrate these investigations.

At the inaugural proceedings, Sir J. Evans, chairman of the committee of management, presided, and there were present, in addition to Earl Carrington and Sir M. Foster, ex-member for London University, Sir W. Church, Mr. James Mason, M.P., Sir T. Elliott, Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, Sir C. Lawes-Wittewronge, Dr. H. Muller, Dr. Voelcker, Mr. A. D. Hall (director), Professor Mellola, Mr. Channing, M.P., Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., Mr. A. H. Smith, M.P., Mr. G. B. Hudson, Dr. Armstrong, and Mr. Bowen (chairman of the Chemical Committee, Royal Agricultural Society).

The chairman said that the Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee had for many years been labouring under great pecuniary difficulties, even to carry on the original amount of research which was inaugurated by Sir John Lawes and Sir Henry Gilbert at Rothamsted. He was thankful to say that, so far as bacteriological research was concerned—and that was one of the most important branches of agricultural inquiry at the present day—they had to a great extent been relieved by Mr. Mason's gifts (applause). The Lawes Committee had founded a society for improving and increasing the Rothamsted experiments, but he was sorry to say they had not received that amount of local support which he would have liked. He circulated appeals to the members of the county council of Hertford-hire, and especially with those connected with the agricultural department, and with, he was sorry to say, practically no result. He suggested the establishment of some central council of agricultural research, which should have placed at their disposal a certain amount to aid experiments carried on there and elsewhere. Unless something of the kind was done there would be very little hope for agriculture so far as it depended upon experimental researches for the immediate future. In England they did not get anything like the amount allotted to agricultural research that was granted to Ireland (hear, hear)—and he thought, being the Mother-country, they were entitled to as much as the daughter (laughter and applause).

Earl Carrington, in declaring the new laboratory open, expressed the hope that the new buildings would result in a great work being done in solving the agricultural problems which still remained, and to meet the new conditions which arose from the later discoveries of agricultural science. The chairman had alluded to the Central Council for Research, which no doubt would do great and practical good, and he had naturally expressed a hope that the present Government would be able in some way to assist so praiseworthy an object. He sincerely hoped so, too—(laughter)—but at the present moment he would remind them that the income tax was at a shilling. Ninety-four millions a few years ago seemed to be enough to run the country, but now the amount had jumped to £145,000,000. He looked, therefore, with some little apprehension to going to Mr. Asquith on the subject of a little more money for any of these good objects. He hoped times might mend. They were in hopes of having a good harvest, trade was reviving, and they were pledged as a Government to that detestable proposal of economy which made them so unpopular in the country (laughter). Still, he hoped at some time, if things went right, that, backed by the scientific world, he might be able to go with a good case to lay before the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and they might then be able to get some contribution to so desirable an object. (Hear, hear.)

Sir M Foster, proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Mason for his munificent gift, said that he and his fellow members of the committee had felt for years past that, great and important as were the investigations they were carrying out, there was a want of one line of investigation, viz., the investigation of the part which organisms, the so-called microbes, played in the work of the soil and the plant We heard a good deal about microbes now, and we especially heard of the enemies they are to us, and how they were doing their best to kill us. But there were microbes which were our friends, and, perhaps, some of the strongest of our friends among microbes were those working silently and unseen in the soil.

The struggle for existence, when they come to its basis, was the struggle for nitrogen, because it was nitrogen which we had to pay most for in our food. "There are now," continued Sir Michael, "microbes in the soil which are making this nitrogen of the atmosphere eatable by us and it is a very happy thing that the attention of the late Mr. James Mason should have been turned to this subject. Thanks to the gift of Mr. Mason, I hope that in the years to come, from this laboratory, there will be thrown much light upon the action of microbes in producing our national food. The microbes are valuable. Lord Carrington spoke just now of the money for which we are asking; but I venture to suggest that we do not ask for that money to be given us. We only ask for that money to be lent. It will come back to us sooner or later, and," concluded Sir Michael, "I venture to think that the microbes will in the future be important agents in reducing the income-tax" (laughter and applause).

Sir T. Elliott seconded the motion, which, having been carried by acclamation, was acknowledged by

Mr. Mason, M.P., who expressed the hope that his gift would be the means of adding something to the sum total of scientific agricultural knowledge (applause).

After the opening ceremony was over, the company inspected the other buildings and the experimental plots, being evidently much interested in what they saw.

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It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the 'Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

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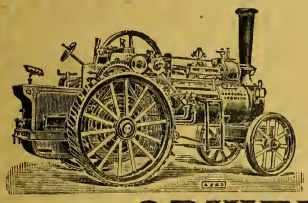

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SHOWYARD AUCTIONS.

The auctions held on the ground of the Royal Derby Show were so very successful that the question has been put whether all the county societies which hold more than a single day's exhibition might not profitably add this new feature to their catalogues of procedure. The live-stock exhibitors do not often now appear at them after the judging has been completed, but would have an inducement to do so if there were an auction sale of the kinds of animals they breed; and as after the opening day parades of stock form the leading part of the programme, and in many cases there is a difficulty in filling it up attractively, breeders would be unlikely to meet with opposition from the directors and managers of the shows if they took up the matter and pushed it forward earnestly. But it is just here that the object is allowed to slope. "What is everybody's business is nobody's" has often been experienced. Such an innovation requires organisation on the part of the breeders mostly interested. Besides which, unless a company of anxious buyers can be depended on, the first attempts to establish a showyard auction may prove a failure.

At the Derby auction the chief element of success was perfectly well assured beforehand. So thoroughly well convinced were Shorthorn breeders that buyers for the Argentine would attend with the object of buying every animal at all adapted for export to that country, that a considerable proportion of the entries were made solely that the animals might be offered and pass under the survey of the exporting agents. The entries of Shorthorns for the Derby Royal proved a record one, to be attributed entirely to this cause, the desire to seize on such a good opportunity of sharing Argentine high prices. Such being the case, how was it that the other breeds for which there is a demand in Argentina were not entered for sale likewise? For instance, during 1905 there had been an increasing demand for Herefords for Buenos Ayres as well as for Uruguay. Yet, although this had undergone still greater development in the spring and early summer of this year, the sale of not a single animal of the breed is reported to have taken place at the Derby auction. The chief cause must lie in the unsuitability of the Royal showyard auctions when held far distant from Herefordshire for animals of the breed to be disposed of most advantageously. The fewer export agents looking out for Herefords must have home buyers to compete with at auction sales or they would fail to bid high prices. The Hereford men found that in the three successive annual auctions at Park Royal no satisfactory prices for their animals were realised. For the 1904 sale they entered twelve; for 1904, twenty-two; but for 1905, only seven; for Derby auction, one.

By this we learn that for the generality of breeds it is of little use offering animals by auction in any district foreign to them, but wherever the Royal pitches its tents the breeds native to that particular part of the country might be expected to have good sale at its auctions. Shorthorns are a cosmopolitan breed in demand everywhere except in Devon, the society of which county has ceased to offer prizes for Shorthorns at its shows, the alleged reason being that there are no pure Shorthorn herds in Devon. There seems no ground for doubt that showyard auctions, great and small, at which stock native to the respective district are sold, ought to be as popular as market auctions are.

EDUCATION OF COUNTRY CHILDREN.

We learn that the agricultural cottagers grievance in the Aylesbury and Newport Pagnell districts of Bucks has been abated, largely owing to the public spirited intervention of Mr. Robinson, of Newport Pagnell, who, aided by the Board of Agriculture, has prevailed upon the Education Authorities. But there are other counties besides Bucks where cottagers are liable to be harassed and prosecuted by the local educational authority. Where the nearest school is more than two miles distant, the enforced attendance of very young children is productive of much friction, and there should be means provided for suspending local action during the period of appeal to the authorities in London.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Exclusive Reports.

Hampshire. THE Highclere district has suffered in common with the rest of the South of England from the inclement nature of the spring, with the result that crops of all kinds are generally below the average. Clover and hay crops are light, but sainfoin was quite up to last year. Benefiting by recent rains, the root crops up to the present show some promise, but want more sun; there is a good plant, but they do not grow as quickly as they ought. Mangolds have made good progress and will be above the average. Turnips and swedes, although suffering occasionally from fly, now give promise of an average crop. Wheat is the most successful of the corn crops and has filled well but wants more sun, while barley and oats are variable, especially the latter, which on some farms is decidedly bad, but that there will be a shortage of straw is now a certainty. Live stock are generally healthy, forage crops are good, which makes lambs dearer than last year, while hay ricks are smaller, making ewes cheaper. Sheep and pigs are short in number and likely to maintain, if not improve upon, their present prices.

Bucks. THE season has been too dry and cold; we had frost up to May, which hurt the hay crop very much, and we have a rather short cut of meadow hay; the mixtures and clovers rather better, but much under average, although the weather being fine most of it has been secured in good condition. The dry season has very much hurt the late-sown corn, which is very short; the roots have stood the dry weather fairly well, and with some rain now will greatly improve them. The yield of corn has so far been very unsatisfactory.

Hereford. TAKING everything all round, the season and prospects are better than we have had for some years. The hay crop is not heavy, but is being got together well, and we have a fair amount of grass. Roots are looking well, especially mangels, whilst wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas are all more than an average crop. There are not many really heavy crops, but they are regular and generally standing well, and with fine weather should be a good yeild. Fruit and hops are our bad crops. Some apple trees have a good crop on, but the greater part have none. Pears are almost a failure. It is rather early to say, but it cannot be more than one-third of a crop. As to hops, those who have washed well will grow a nice little crop, but many yards are gone, and there is still a good deal of blight. It must be a small crop, possibly two-thirds of an average.

Norfolk (East). CORNS generally are looking well, but straw is rather short. Hardly any beans and peas grown, but the few fields seen appear quite an average crop. Hay crop very short, stacks few and far between, but secured in excellent condition. Beet, swedes, and turnips will furnish quite average crops. Rain would do them good, also the potatoes and lands. Harvest from present appearances will not commence till the middle of August, but a few oats may be cut before then.

Notes of the Week.

The "Highland" for 1906 has come and gone, and from a strictly "show" point of view may be regarded as successful.

Peebles sustained its reputation as regards weather, and on no account would I have missed its accompaniments.

The isolated position of this pretty little Scotch village, reached by single lines from both directions, led one to expect none too rapid locomotion.

Nevertheless, in face of unmistakable difficulties, the railway companies acquitted themselves very well.

Indeed, I personally am grateful to the N.B. folk for a courtesy not often met with this side of the Tweed.

To wit, keeping a train fully three minutes for a straggling passenger, who had also the somewhat unique experience of a five-minute walk through streets to his train after leaving the booking office.

The show ground was picturesquely situated on the banks of the Tweed, and the lack of any display of bunting on the part of the villagers was amply made up by the glorious natural beauties of the place.

For the sake of the stand holders I am glad Edinburgh has been chosen for 1907, many and varied were the grumbles this week at lack of trade.

I must not forget to make mention of the happy avoidance on the first afternoon of what might have been a much more serious accident.

An excited animal in the harness classes broke away shafts and fencing of a big ring and bolted pell-mell down the show-yard towards the entrance.

Finally coming to bay on some timbers in the forestry department, fortunately, so far as I could gather, without injury to itself or the visitors.

Here and there one came across a familiar face from the South, and the several representatives of clans from the North, in full dress, added a dignity to the gathering.

I noticed, too, the indefatigable Mr. Chrystal, of the Durham Society, on his hunt for Clydesdales.

And a very representative lot of sheep men also, doubtless for the Border Leicester Society's meeting, which was quite one of the features.

As, of course, one would expect in what is essentially a sheep district.

The flocks, miles round, for all the admittedly bad spring for putting them out, looked wonderfully well.

Looking also from the train, the hay round about looked badly pitched as though getting over a bad period of weather.

Plenty of hemp and seeds about to "flush up the lambs a bit," as they say.

Our Scottish friends are taking interest in the possibilities for next year's rendezvous of the "Royal."

If Newcastle is decided upon, a very good attendance from over the border is assured both of stock and visitors.

Speaking of Newcastle, the question arises—Would Northumberland and Durham unite with Hanover Square to make a bumper gathering? I think they would if properly approached, and Tyneside is thought of seriously.

Everyone interested in agriculture should take the earliest opportunity of inspecting the Woburn Experimental Farm.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England places every facility at the disposal of visitors.

The field experiments carried on at Woburn, under the able direction of Dr. Voelcker and his courteous assistants, are practical object lessons,

And give proof of what science can do by proper cultivation and use of fertilisers upon various soils.

Many farmers would overcome difficulties and disappointments with their crops by devoting a little time to the examination of the work done at this and similar experimental stations.

Although at this, the farmers' busy season of the year, it seems unlikely that he can spare the time, but we are sure that a day spent at Woburn would yield a profitable crop of knowledge.

If any of our readers care to act on our suggestion they would do well to get further particulars from Dr. Voelcker, 13, Hanover Square, London, W.

The Woburn Experimental Farm is one mile from Ridgmont Station (L. and N.W. Railway, Bedford and Cambridge branch).

The Luton Agricultural Society can boast of being almost the oldest in the country. Last Wednesday it held its 105th show, when the attendance was a record one in the long history of the society.

Suggestive! In the prosecution at the North London Police Court of a tradesman for selling poisonous bottled peas imported from France, the prosecuting counsel said:—"In France they would not be allowed to sell these poisonous peas, but it appears anything can be sent for consumption here."

The Board of Trade returns are not the sort of literature adapted to wile away the tedium of a railway journey.

But still some of the figures convey information of an interesting character in connection with agricultural matters.

For instance, in the returns for the past half year, it is recorded that the imports into this country of American agricultural machinery represent a value of £586,211 against £515,485 during the same period of last year.

This may be noted by the gentlemen who have been taking part in the interesting correspondence in this paper on British *v.* American Agricultural Machinery.

Then we see that the bulk import of hops was 5,039 cwt., against 4,505 cwt., whereas while the quantity was greater, the value dropped from £34,060 to £20,631, illustrating the great fall in the value.

Why should the imports of potatoes from Germany have jumped up from 10,366 cwt. to 92,343 cwt.? Was this a case of dumping?

Onions seem to be coming in more largely every year. The imports are given as 3,886,940 bushels, against 3,299,950 bushels for the six months last year.

It would seem that there is room for a far larger cultivation of this crop in England.

Strawberries were imported to the tune of 38,787 cwt., value £52,001, against 25,535 cwt., value £37,128.

On imported plums, currants, and gooseberries we spent over £32,000.

Four-fifths of the meat sold in the London market is of foreign origin and ranges in quality.—*Lancet.*

In London alone, before the introduction of motor cars and motor omnibuses, there were 6,000 veterinary surgeons in regular employment, but, according to an ex-president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, in three years' time there will not be employment for more than 300.

Rain fell heavily in some districts on the 15th inst., the day dedicated to St. Swithin. Many of us, although we have long outgrown any pious belief in the power of the saint over the weather, are still in the habit of saying as the date comes round, "This is St. Swithin's Day, I hope it won't rain."

St. Swithin was Bishop of Winchester in the reign of King Alfred in 850, and after death was canonised. When his sacred bones were being transferred to the interior of the cathedral, which was to have taken place on July 15, the operation was delayed for forty days by continued excessive rains.

Hence arose the popular superstition that, if rain should fall on that day, there would be rain on the following forty days.

Following a curious annual custom, new mown hay was laid down in St. Swithin's Church, Old Western Hunt's. Years ago a field was left by an eccentric donor to the parish clerk on the condition that it should be mown on St. Swithin's Day and some of the hay strewn on the floor of the church. The custom is said to have arisen from the fact that on Feast Sunday the parishioners sported new boots, and the hay was intended to deaden the sound of the squeaking boots.

The correspondence columns of this paper form interesting reading. Recently the topics have ranged over a good many subjects, and the contents of the letters illustrate how widely different are the opinions of the writers.

For instance, there were numerous letters on the question "British *v.* American Machinery." The general conclusion seemed to be that the British farmer will buy what suits him best.

It rests with English makers to be enterprising and liberal to their customers.

By the bye, I note the remark in the short, interesting description of the Swedish National Agricultural Show in last issue, that the implement section was almost entirely occupied by American machinery.

What are our manufacturers doing? Sweden lies much nearer to them, the carriage from England is all in their favour, so they ought not to let the trade go to America.

It is the same in Italy, Spain, and other parts of the Continent. We are being cut out by American competition.

The Prince of Wales said, in an address delivered after returning from his Indian tour, "British merchants and manufacturers must wake up!"

It would seem that the people of London-by-the-Sea, *i.e.*, Brighton, are no more fond of agricultural shows than Londoners, for only seven thousand odd people paid for admission to the Sussex County Agricultural Society's show at Preston Park on the two days.

True the weather on the second day was not altogether favourable, but this does not justify the poor attendance of only 2,956. Besides, the total for the two days is only 400 less than when the society last visited Brighton, and then perfect weather prevailed throughout.

No! The great majority of dwellers in the big towns do not care the proverbial "tuppence" for an agricultural show.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Sir Gilbert Greenall's Pedigree Horse Sale at Warrington—Sale of Knowsle Hall Pedigree Devons at Bridgwater—Sale of Shorthorns at Lechlade—Barnard Castle and Howden Fairs—Reading Great Fair—Entries close for Whalley, Shirley and Cliffe Shows—Kettering Ram Sale.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25.—Shows at Chesterfield, Malton, Tadcaster, Upholland, Birkenhead, Newcastle, Belfast, &c.—Ashton, Tregony, and Honiton Cattle Fairs—Ilminster Wool Fair—Wisbech, Shrewsbury, and Colne Horse Fairs—Bolton Cow Fair—Liverpool Horse and Cattle Fair—Sandringham Estate Cottagers' Show, by Royal Permission, in Sandringham Park—Entries close for Alford Show and for the Pickering Show.

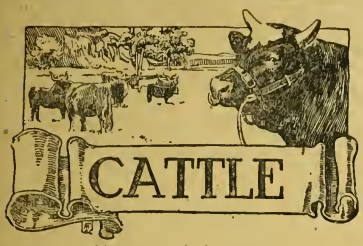
THURSDAY, JULY 26.—Second day of Shows at Birkenhead, Belfast and Newcastle—Shows at Framlingham, Hatfield, Maltby, Newport, Normanby Park, Thorney and Tunbridge Wells—Lewes and Sherborne Wool Fairs—Tamworth Horse and Cattle Fair—Entries close for Castleford Show.

FRIDAY, JULY 27.—Third day of Shows at Newcastle and Belfast—Second day of Thorney and Tunbridge Wells Shows—Kingsbridge and Barnstaple Fairs—Weyhill Horse and Cattle Fair—Rutherglen Sheep Fair—Entries close for Ayton and Whitchurch Shows.

SATURDAY, JULY 28.—Exeter, Meltham, and Whalley Shows—Leek Cattle and Hiring Fair—Cornish Cattle Fair, Menheriot—Winchcomb Agricultural Fair—Entries close for Haby Show, Bosworth Park Show, Denbigh Show, and for the Lutterworth Show.

MONDAY, JULY 30.—Horse Show at Shirley, near Birmingham—Alnwick Agricultural Fair—Rugby and Stalybridge Fairs—Hornby Cattle Fair—Pulborough Great Market.

TUESDAY, JULY 31.—Cliffe Agricultural Show—Abergavenny Fair—Alfreton Horse Fair—Guisborough Wool Fair—Preston Cheese Fair—Linton Sheep Fair—Uttoxeter Fair—Market Harborough Agricultural Fair—Alford Sheep and Lamb Fair—Entries close for the Wisbech Show.



Notes and Jottings.

The show season still remains a very busy one, some six or seven very important events having taken place last week, and each of them more or less successful as exhibitions of cattle. The shows were in such vastly different localities that few exhibitors could avail themselves of more than one show to exhibit their animals, and it is quite surprising that after the numerous sales of our best for export, there should still be a sufficiency of first-class cattle to make a respectable representation at several different shows. Especially do these remarks apply to the Shorthorn breed, as these were in good force all round. The Highland Society, the Birkenhead and Wirral, the Staffordshire, the Lincolnshire, the Sussex, and one or two other shows all having a good display.

A visit to, and stroll through, the cattle lairs and slaughter-houses at Birkenhead is very interesting to anyone whose business lies either in the breeding or fattening of cattle, or if engaged in the dual business. The immense number of live cattle landed at Birkenhead each week is quite astonishing, and yet all find a market, and in very short time, no animals being allowed to remain in the lairs to await markets longer than ten days, and no animals are, of course, allowed to leave those lairs alive. The lairage accommodation is supposed to hold something like near upon 5,000, and very comfortable the poor beasts appear. Provided with good water and hay, as well as other food, and in warm and well-ventilated buildings, with ample space, they lie and chew their cuds in the most homely manner, and the majority of them show but little fear of strangers; this docility probably being due to the long time they have been on board ship.

On the morning of our visit a cargo of 700 had just been disembarked and were awaiting veterinary inspection, our guide informing us that not for a long time has any suspicious case claimed attention, so that everything has gone on day by day in the usual course. Were any one animal in a cargo to be found infected, the whole cargo would have to be slaughtered forthwith, and all fodder, manure, &c., that had been in contact destroyed and the lairage thoroughly disinfected. These precautions are taken regularly and carried out rigidly, so that there is absolutely no fear of infection under the present system of importation and inspection.

A walk round the various lairs with their long lines of cattle all tied up carefully and resting or feeding calmly gave room for observations as to what is being done on the other side of the Atlantic in the way of improving the quality of the animals by breeding, and also in the way of maturing them. If the bulk of those cattle as seen at the time of our visit are to be taken as representative of the best class of cattle fattened in the States, then there is little doubt but there is plenty of room yet for the use of the highest class of pedigree bulls, as a great number of the cattle that had apparently come from farmed land were rather, or very, plain; and not too well finished whilst the ranch cattle were altogether coarser, and some of these very common looking. For the other side of the question, there were also in several lots a number of either pure or very highly graded Shorthorns that had been dehorned in their youth that were as symmetrical and well finished up to good weights as the most fastidious could desire. There appeared to be also a few well-graded Herefords of good shape and quality.

As regards the general weight of the stock in some of the long rows of sides of beef that were just slaughtered and hung up, the weights were very light, and the thought struck us that, with land rising in price, and feeding stuff, too, as it is

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1. Three Shorthorn Heifers: Reading from left to right they are Montrave Winsome, a three-year-old, and winner of numerous first and other prizes; Thuxton Blossom, calved June 25, 1905; and Princess Royal 88th, winner of second prize, Wayland Show, and reserve at the Norfolk Show, Harleston.
2. A four-year-old Hackney gelding and a five-year-old Hackney mare shown in hand, both prize winners in saddle and harness.
3. Shorthorn bull Chanticleer, winner of the Shorthorn Society's £10 Special at the Suffolk Show, Ipswich, and 2nd reserve for the Championship at the Essex Show, Brentwood.

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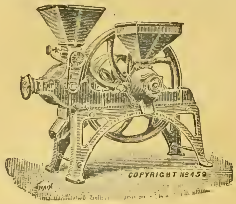

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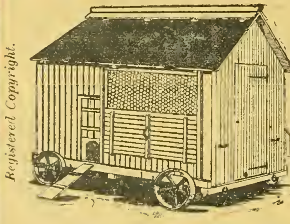

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in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning . .

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS

when writing to our Advertisers.

doing at the present time in the States, there could be but very small profits arising from the feeding of cattle to such light weights when the prices prevailing in our dead meat markets at the present time have to be accepted, and all costs, freight, and insurance deducted. From these points of view we came to the conclusion that highly-bred bulls would still be required, and that there would be little probability of the prices lowering for cattle from that quarter.

Whether the Argentine, that as a country is so highly favoured by Nature, will be able to supply beef at a profit with present prices ruling remains to be proved; but on the face of it there does not seem any probability of this. The expenses, even in that favoured, land will be increasing each year. Of course, to return to the quality of the animals seen once more, allowance has to be made for the shrinkage that must occur upon a long rail and sea journey as compared with our home-fed cattle that have come pretty direct from their feeding quarters. Though a great many of these sides of beef appeared good on the top, in quite a large majority of cases the animals had killed rather weak in kidney fat, perhaps not the worse for the beef at this hot season of the year.

Another thing that attracted attention was the very large proportion of red cattle amongst them, the very few roans, and the almost total absence of whites and blacks amongst them. Whether there were fewer of the latter colours on that particular occasion, or whether the absence of these colours is common, we cannot say. Quite the largest proportion of the stock had been dishorned at some time in their lives, but there were some lots of ranchers and also farm cattle that had their horns on and fully developed. We were pleased to see the animals so well cared for and, as far as possible, kindly treated; indeed, one could scarcely imagine such numbers of animals being managed with so little trouble and hard measures.

The lairs being quite apart from the slaughter-houses prevents any unwholesome and disturbing smells being noticed where the live cattle have to abide their time; then the convenient and safely fenced pens in the large open alley adjoining the door of each slaughter-house is very much better than for the poor brutes to have to be driven into the place over blood and other smells. The pens mentioned appear to hold six or eight bullocks, and this number are very quickly dispatched. You see them quietly standing in the pen awaiting their time, a youth slings a strong rope over the head of the bullock, and he is drawn up to the block and knocked down ere he knows about it. Indeed, every little matter from beginning to end was carried out, so far as could be seen (and everything was open to inspection), with the least possible abuse or cruelty to the beasts, and the meat kept as cleanly as possible, the sides as they hung looking bright and in every way calculated to give the greatest satisfaction to the salesman, the purchaser, and the consumer.

When one comes to think that the large establishment at Birkenhead here described is but one of several such in the United Kingdom, and that in addition to all the numbers of live cattle imported into these various places there are thousands of quarters of chilled beef arriving every day, one can but wonder what would be our position to-day and the price of beef were we depending upon our home resources. The increase in the consumption of meat, due in a great measure to the higher wages received, is altogether beyond conception, and is taking an enormous amount of money out of the country every day.

Our milk supply will be one of the next things to trouble us. It is yearly becoming more difficult to find anything like an adequate supply of dairy cattle for our milk-selling farmers, and higher prices are being given; even at the present time, with beef so low and grass and other feed fairly plentiful, a good milking cow finds a ready sale at a substantial figure. It is quite worth the consideration of our breeders of beef cattle whether it would not be to their advantage to cultivate the milking properties of the breeds they patronise a little more than they are doing at the present time, when to give even a moderate quantity of milk is looked upon as somewhat of a sin as being damaging to the beef-making properties of the animal and its breed.

In calling attention to this point it is not intended for one moment to advise the cultivating the milk-giving properties of these breeds to the exclusion of beef, but simply to give the matter such attention as would ensure every cow yielding a good and sufficient quantity of milk to carry on her own calf; even this would be a great improvement upon the present state of things when many calves require a wet nurse on account of the absence of this essential food from their own mothers. The calves would thrive better, and in the event of a calf being lost the dam would be able to pay for her keep in milk whilst breeding another young one, and other advantages would also accrue.

Sale of Mr. Harold Sessions' Shorthorns.

The entire herd of Shorthorns, the property of Mr. Harold Sessions, was dispersed on Friday at Ifton Manor, Rogiet, Newport, Mon., by Messrs. Thornton and Co. It was only of recent formation, but the death of the owner of the farm, and the absorption of much of the land for railway and quarrying purposes, necessitated the farm being given up and the sale of the herd. The cattle were mostly well bred, and having been bought with good judgment, a large number of breeders were attracted to the sale, and although the bids came slowly for some of them, the majority found ready buyers at capital prices. Several of the choicest lots were bought for South America, including the grand young red bull Quirinal, bred by Sir Arthur Stepney, Bart., which was taken by Mr. E. Jewell at 170 guineas, this being the top price of the sale. Mr. W. Hosken took Kirklevington Lassie, lot 1, at 32 guineas, and the Hon. C. Portman's Bellona 2nd, lot 2, at 40 guineas, a pretty red calf from her falling to Mr. E. Harwood, 24 guineas. After this there were no particular prices until Miss Blanche 3rd, lot 6, came forward, and again the Hon. C. Portman was announced a buyer at 83 guineas, her calf also going to Mr. Harwood at 47 guineas. Kirklevington Rose 2nd, lot 10, was the choice of many, and this attractive cow, which was bred by Miss A. de Rothschild, quickly ran up to 160 guineas, Mr. Horlick, of Cheltenham, taking her at that figure. Mr. Mitchell Innes secured several good cows that looked like paying their way in the dairy, and he also secured a first-class two-year-old heifer for Lord Tredegar at 81 guineas. Waterloo Queen, a red yearling, was thought about the pick of that age, and she ran up to 100 guineas before being sold, it was stated, to found a herd for Mr. Cleaver, in Northamptonshire.

Several of the young bulls, including two the property of Mr. R. Stratton, of The Duffryn, were purchased by Mr. Whigham for Buenos Ayres. The average of over £45 for the forty-seven head was considered very good, as a number of the animals were low in condition and others rather young. Altogether forty seven Shorthorns were sold at an average per head of £45 5s., thirty-five cows and heifers averaging £46 8s. 6d., and the twelve bulls £41 16s 6d. each.

A few Ryeland sheep were also disposed of. Mr. R. Stratton took three pens of ewes and one pen of lambs, the prices varying from 52s. to 62s. for ewes, and Mr. C. O. Liddell got a good pen of lambs at 51s. Ram lambs made up to 83s. A dozen pigs of the Large Black breed, which were in little demand, made up to £12.

Irish Cattle and Consumption.

Mr. R. T. Houston, secretary of the Armagh Agricultural and Technical Instruction Committee, in giving evidence before the commission appointed to inquire into the working of the Irish Department of Agriculture, which is presided over by Sir Horace Plunkett, said that at present there were many unsound animals at stud doing serious injury. In the past eight years he had subjected over 200 cattle to the tuberculine test. Of these 164 failed to stand the test, and four were doubtful—in other words a quarter of the cattle in Ireland were tuberculous. No one with his experience could doubt the reality of the test.

It was no wonder that the death-rate in Ireland from consumption was high, having regard to this state of affairs, because much of the meat was diseased, and children drank milk that was swarming with bacilli. No wonder the Irish death-rate was high. He held that tuberculosis in cattle should be a notifiable disease as well as many others, unless premium bulls were subjected to the tuberculine test. The end would be a country full of tuberculous animals.

Every animal at stud in Ireland should, he maintained, be licensed by the Department only after an examination which would leave no doubt but that the animal was absolutely free from disease. He advocated the establishment of stud farms in Ireland for the breeding and improving of horses.

Live Stock for America. Since the month of July came in Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live-stock exporters of Shrewsbury, have been very busy, having shipped no fewer than 617 pedigree sheep, 24 Shorthorn cattle, 28 horses and ponies, 4 pigs, and 2 dogs to various customers in the United States and Canada. The sheep have comprised Hampshires, Dorset Horns, and Southdowns, all from the flocks of well known breeders, and these, as well as the horses and cattle, will doubtless render a good account of themselves on the other side of the Atlantic.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

How soon a good brood mare can as it were "establish" a stud is seen by the history of Beatrice, Mr. W. B. Swallow's famous old mare who has now passed her twentieth year. Beatrice was bred in 1886 by Mr. Robert Leiper, of Stamfordham, in Northumberland, and is by Horizon who was by Land Mark, dam by Saccharometer—Duty Free by Lambton, her dam Lady Elizabeth by Sleight o' Hand. The pedigree of Beatrice's dam is not obtainable, but that she was a well-bred mare is evident both from her appearance and performances. She carried Will Dale for five seasons when he hunted Brocklesby, and I have often heard him say that he was never better carried than by the old mare. When her hunting career was over she came into Mr. Swallow's hands and her first foal, a colt by Minnidosa by Galopin was dropped in 1899.

So Beatrice was several years old when she went to the stud, and she had been hard hunted for several years; yet, in opposition to all theories, she has proved an excellent brood mare. Her daughter Tugela, who was a frequent winner at the leading shows, is following in her dam's footsteps as a brood mare. Mr. Swallow has gone in for another strain of blood this year in addition to that with which his name is chiefly associated as a hunter breeder. This is Countess by Knight Templar, a purchase from Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, for whom she won many prizes. Her foal Recruit has never been beaten till the Lincolnshire show at Gainsborough last week, when his defeat caused some discussion.

Alpha, a good-looking yearling, that was reserve at the Royal, and that won in a good class at Gainsborough, where she had a London premium horse and a big prize-winner behind her, is a daughter of Tugela—her first foal, if memory serves me rightly. Mr. Swallow certainly has no reason to regret sticking to the mares, and in Alpha he has one that can fill the place of her granddam when she chances to drop out, which, by the way, she is by no means like doing just yet.

"Stick to the mares," that was really the keynote of the debate on Horse Breeding in the House of Lords last week. There was nothing new said. The same old story was told of our needs and the difficulty of supplying them when the time of sudden emergency comes. The Duke of Portland urged the importance of the mares being kept in the country, and related his experiences with lending mares to his tenants. I have attended the Welbeck Show for several years now, and I must say that there is a considerable improvement in the young hunting stock shown there. The Duke said, however, that in many cases the colts and fillies were sold, and so were lost to that part of the country which he wished to benefit.

There can be no doubt that a man who has a filly from a mare such as the Duke of Portland has provided for his tenants is acting a wise part if he keeps her to breed from. What a good brood mare can do I have shown in the case of Mr Swallow's Beatrice. But at the same time it is only fair to look at the other side of the picture. Horses, especially young horses, go wrong at times. What is equally annoying, they go the wrong way. Indeed, I am not sure whether this is not the most annoying way in which a horse can "go wrong." When a man sees a good-looking one, of which he has formed high hopes, go amiss or happen on accident, it is discouraging enough. But in this case a man has bred what he set out to breed—a good horse; he has every reason to think that by following the same methods he will breed another good horse; and he naturally hopes for better luck next time. But when the promising foal and yearling begins to deteriorate as a two or three-year-old, and as a four-year-old is comparatively valueless, unless a man is a horseman born, full of perseverance and full of pluck, he is apt to give it up altogether.

So, after all, there is something to be said for the farmer who sells his colts and fillies when they are young. To begin with, they have not cost very much, and if they are promising, they are easy to sell at a remunerative figure. The old Yorkshire proverb, "Better rue sell than rue keep," has a good deal to commend it after all, and in these bad times it is hardly to be expected that a man will speculate on horses unless he be a horseman and keen. And there is still another side to the question. The man who gets the "nimble ninepence" is likely to remember with gratitude where it comes from and to go on breeding. I remember a man who, by no stretch of imagination, could be called a horseman—a man who thought but little of horses, and whose opinion of them at one time was scarcely thought much of by his friends and neighbours. But he got hold of an old mare or two—somehow by some lucky accident. They were good breeders, and their foals were sold every year at a very good price. It was what he called graphically "found brass" that he got for them; gradually he grew keen, and when last I saw him had some very nice mares, and knew a good bit about horses and breeding. Success had encouraged him to take an interest in breeding and to study it carefully.

Probably if this man had kept his first foals till they were four or five years old and then sold them for only a few pounds more than he could have sold them for as foals, which is by no means a remote contingency when young horses are in some people's hands, in all probability he would have thrown up hunter breeding altogether, and so a very useful man would have been lost to the industry.

The Duke of Portland in his speech alluded to the motor car, which he said could not fail to have a weakening influence on the horse breeding industry. There can be no doubt that the Duke is right in making this statement. The railway movement had a decidedly weakening influence on the horse breeding industry. A lot of men, jumping to the conclusion, that because stage coaches were to become a thing of the past, therefore, horses would no longer be wanted, gave up breeding light horses. The result, of course, showed that horses were as much wanted as ever, but there is no doubt that the scare, for such it was, caused a serious national loss in sending out of the country many valuable mares at a small price—mares such as could take half a plough on ordinary land and breed a high-class hunter or harness horse.

The difficulty that the motor car will make seems to me to be this. For light van work and omnibus work the horse will be less and less used. At any rate, there is a probability of this taking place when motor omnibuses are made safer modes of conveyance by being properly balanced and more judiciously driven. Then the question arises, "What will become of the 'bus horses?" There does not seem to be any other work to turn them to. And it is these very 'bus horses that are invaluable in time of war for transport service, for artillery, and even for the cavalry on occasion. The omnibus and the van also provided a market for horses, which were not of the very highest class; which market, if not a very remunerative one, still enabled the unfortunate breeder of the misfit to get out of his horse with the minimum of loss, or perhaps even at a small profit. With the market gone the outlook for the horse-breeder is certainly not so good as it is now. It is, however, some encouragement that there seemed to be no use for the coach horses and the post horses when the railways came to revolutionise travelling, and that yet there was always work for them to do, and a market for them of sorts.

Perhaps the most practical benefit to be derived from the debate will be found to be the prominence which has been given to the Brood Mare Society in it. One noble lord after another spoke of the society in terms of no limited praise. This should be brought to the notice of those who perhaps have never heard of the society, or if they have heard of it, know nothing of its methods. It should, I think, be apparent to every right-thinking man that, as our horse supply is a matter of national importance, the country gentlemen who have so far done all that has been done in the way of helping the farmer to breed good stock, should not be left alone in the good work. The rich dweller in cities is perhaps more interested in the question of our horse supply in time of war than is the country dweller, and it is certainly not too much to ask him to subscribe his guinea to such a good cause.

It is quite possible also that the fact of helping to supply a want may make the City man by degrees form a new market for horses. He may find that all the good in life is not to be got by riding in a motor car, and he may help to create a demand as well as help to supply it. What is wanted is a revival of the national interest in horse breeding. Nothing else will do any good in the long run. Government subsidies, it must be remembered, carry with them Government interference, and the interference of Government with horse breeding can only result in harm. Experience teaches us that politicians frequently wax the most eloquent on subjects of which they know little or nothing, and we should have meddling and muddling if once horse breeding came under State supervision.

THE LOOKER ON.

PUMPING MACHINERY

is always required amongst the class of readers who regularly take the "Mark Lane Express"—the larger farmers and estate owners.

The Dinarth Hall Pony Stud.

The annual sale of high-class pedigree Hackneys and Welsh pony brood mares, &c., from the well-known Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay, will take place on Tuesday, the 30th inst., Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Ltd., being the auctioneers. The names of Messrs. John Jones and Son have for the last twenty five years been prominently identified as owners of Welsh cobs and ponies, and their remarkable success in the showyard has made Dinarth Hall Stud a familiar name in all parts of the country, so that a description of the animals is not needed. Messrs. Jones have decided to considerably reduce the stud, and the sale will thus afford breeders an opportunity to secure the cream of Julius Cæsar's blood, in the young stallions, three-year-old, two-year-old, and yearling fillies, including Lord Cæsar, Julia Snorer, Action Again, and others.

The harness and saddle horses are all Welsh bred, either at the stud or purchased direct from the breeder, ensuring to the purchaser fresh and serviceable animals. They include several fine goers and future show-ring winners, and the choicest of the old type of Welsh cobs and ponies. Following the precedent of the two previous sales held by this stud, with few exceptions all the animals catalogued will be sold without reserve.

Hackneys for the United States.

Mr. Frederick Pabst, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A., has recently visited several of the Hackney breeding establishments in the neighbourhood of Driffield, and has purchased several animals therefrom, to improve the breed on the other side of the Atlantic. Among those purchased are the following:—

From Mr. John Atkinson, Highfield, Garton, a three-year-old mare by His Majesty, dam Island Beauty, by Danegelt; also a two-year-old by Chocolate Junior 4185, dam Ariosto, by Garton Duke of Connaught.

From Mr. Henry Moore's stud at Burn Butts, the three-year-old bay filly 16436 B.B. Carmencita (winner of the second prize at Driffield) sire Conquest II. 5560, dam 12055 Lobelia; the chesnut five-year-old mare 14918 B.B. Coronarea, sire champion Connaught 1453, dam Minnie; and a brown filly foal, sire Chocolate Junior 4185, dam B.B. 14918 Coronarea.

From Mr. George Wilson's stud at Cedar House, Garton-on-the-Wolds, the two-year-old chesnut filly Winifred, sire Danebury, dam Cedar Girl. This filly won the first prize both at the Otley and Driffield Shows.

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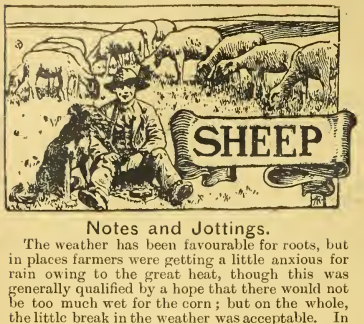
Messrs. Franklin and Gale, of Wallingford, recently sold by auction two valuable copyhold properties, viz., Saunders Farm, comprising an area of 47 a. 3 r. 5 p. at Warborough, Oxon, and Allnutts Farm, with an area of 91 a. 0 r. 31 p., at Brightwell, Berks. The first-named was secured by Sir Coleridge Grove, K.C.B., for £1,000, while the other was bought by various purchasers at a total of £1,632 10s. The same auctioneers have also disposed of the freehold commercial property known as the Crowmarsh Mills, at Crowmarsh, Oxon, for £2,800 to Mr. G. D. Faber, C.B., M.P.



Notes and Jottings.

The weather has been favourable for roots, but in places farmers were getting a little anxious for rain owing to the great heat, though this was generally qualified by a hope that there would not be too much wet for the corn; but on the whole, the little break in the weather was acceptable. In the hill districts there has been ample moisture to ensure a growth for a long time ahead, so that one way or another sheep-keepers have reason to be well satisfied.

Weather has generally been good enough for a big store of hay to be gathered in with little injury, consequently there has been no need to have recourse to ensilage to save the grass and clover. It is a long time since we had a long, cold winter when the roots became frozen hard into the ground for weeks together; but in accord with the climate of this country, as long as there has been any record of it, winters of exceptional severity from time to time come, and there are no indications that what has been will not be reproduced. In a cold, bad time there is nothing better to turn to than to a good heap of silage, especially of clover silage, as whilst the sheep have to break their teeth in gnawing at frozen turnips, and have to keep up their bodily heat from the same congested source, warm silage fresh from the stock is a very welcome change. For ewes with lambs it is undoubtedly the best food procurable when roots are frozen, as with it a good flow of milk can be ensured. Those who have used it for this purpose know from experience how valuable it is. For fattening sheep in the cold season it is most suitable, for in cold weather sheep have to eat an enormous quantity of roots to keep them going. Admittedly, a good ration of hay is a great help in such circumstances, for it greatly counteracts the chilling effect of the roots. On the whole, it is quite worth while considering if every arable land sheep farmer should not make some ensilage every year. Of course, after so many mild winters as we have had of late there are many who begin to feel that the difficulties of the sheep pen are not so great as they were accustomed to think, but it takes only one severe winter to put them back on to their original line of thought. Aftermath hay is not so feeding as the first crop, but it makes good ensilage, even when the weather is not good for haymaking, and as there is a prospect of good aftermath growths, there are many who would act wisely in converting a portion into silage.

The loss of life among sheep from husk rarely seems to approximate to the proportion of those of young cattle, still there is no doubt that the hacking cough the husk worm causes is responsible for a great loss in value apart from those which really die. It must not, however, be thought that the gross number of deaths among sheep from this cause is inconsiderable, though it varies very much in districts, and also among those kept on grass land and on arable land. Those who have seen the marsh sheep come off the Kent marshes to winter on the Weald, know what a terrible time a large number of the young sheep go through for want of attention. There seems to be a special callousness in the way these sheep are sent out; there is a more or less recognised percentage of losses reckoned upon during the winter agistment, and it is certain that this could be much lowered if the lambs were freed from the worm before they were sent from home. Some of the Kent men now secure other food than grass for their sheep, but still, a good many sheep see little else than grass, no matter what the winter is like, and those who winter the sheep best are well repaid for the extra expense they incur. There are several ways in which the worms may be destroyed, such as subjecting them to sulphur or chlorine fumes, or by inter-bacterial injections. The cost per head is almost nominal, even where veterinary aid is called in to inject with a syringe, which takes some skill and necessitates more care than a shepherd is likely to exercise in respect to thorough septic cleanliness. Drenching is a useful, if less effective method of treatment, and any of the methods commonly adopted are better than the gross neglect which so frequently prevails.

English breeds of sheep keep up a steady invasion on Scotland, and as years go on Scotch sheep will be largely under the influence of the Down breeds. The hardy Oxford, which is so suitable for cold or wet lair, has for some time made strong footing there, and many ram breeders look to the disposal of a large number of sheep at the notable Scotch fairs. Other breeds are becoming better known every year, the demand for meat of Down flavour and quality being steadily on the increase. In this Scotchmen are in the same position as Whitefaced breeders throughout a large part of England, where a quarter of a century ago a Blackface was comparatively rare. But it is for cross-breeding that the sheep are in most demand, for most profit is found when the indigenous animals are to a large degree entained. There is no need for—in fact it would be a great pity if there were any—reduction in high class breeding of any breed. It is only by maintaining good blood on both sides that the best results can be obtained. One sometimes hears, though not so frequently as in the past, the statement in reference to an inferior ram, that it is good enough for crossing. It is a great mistake to think that one may be indifferent in selecting an animal for crossbreeding. Two bads will not produce a good one; and it is the good one that pays.

The sheep farmer is in a much better position than the cattle breeder. Milk production is done on such a large scale, and so many calves are bred from sires whose only good feature is that he can beget a calf and put the cow in milk, that the universal improvement of cattle is greatly hindered; it is always difficulty to find a bunch of good cattle—that is as good as they might be, or approaching it, and when a good lot gets into a market there are plenty of eager buyers. The good ones are generally kept by the breeder. In sheep breeding there is nothing of this sort to hinder, and with skilled breeders interested in every breed there is no doubt as to the steady improvement in sheep stock. A little more courage in ram buying is still required by some, for the sheep breeder has no excuse to breed badly, as he has but two objects, the production of mutton and wool, and no distraction in the way of milk to hinder him.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Aylesbury.

About 12,000 fleeces from the leading flocks in the Vale of Aylesbury were pitched at the sale held by Messrs. W. Brown and Co., and every lot was sold at satisfactory prices. The highest price was 15¼d. per lb. paid for the wool of sixty Down tegs sent by Sir Oswald Mosley. This worked out at the satisfactory figure of 35s. 7d. per tod against 13¾d. or 32s. 11d. per tod last year. Two lots made 14¾d. per lb., or 34s. 5d. per tod—105 fleeces of Shropshire ewes sent by Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, and eighty-seven Down ewes consigned by Mr. H. Jenney, Lodge Farm, Buckland. A large number of lots made from 14d. to 14½d. per lb.; indeed, the prices for washed ranged from 32s. 1d. per tod, last year's highest price, to 35s. 7d. per tod. For unwashed fleeces the prices realised were from 23s 11d. to 25s. 1d., so that altogether they compared very favourably with those of other sales in the district.

Dublin.

Messrs Ganly and Sons' second wool sale for the season was held at their sale room last week. The catalogue embraced some 315 lots, or nearly 500,000 lb., of the various descriptions of Irish grown wools, and it was generally conceded that the quality and get-up of the wools were above the average. Notwithstanding, bidding was slow and irregular, and prices showed a full penny drop on bred wools as compared with June rates, and in consequence, several lots had to be withdrawn. The following were the prices realised:—

	Washed.	Greasy.
Shropshires and Downs	14d. to 14½d.	11d. to 11½d.
Fine Hogs	13½d. to 13¾d.	10½d. to 11¼d.
Fine Wethers	13d. to 13¼d.	10½d. to 11d.
Strong Hogs	12¾d. to 13¼d.	10½d. to 11d.
Strong Wethers	11½d. to 12½d.	10¼d. to 10¾d.
Mountain and Seaside	9½d. to 12d.	8½d. to 10½d.
Blackface and Scotch	8d. to 9½d.	6½d. to 8d.

Hawick.

Hawick wool fair was held on Thursday, and was well attended by buyers from all parts. Farmers were in expectation of a substantial advance on last year's prices, and as buyers were not inclined to give this, the day was far advanced before any transactions took place, and eventually a large number of clips changed hands at an advance on last year's prices. A considerable number of Cheviot clips were sold at an increase of 1d., 1½d., and in one or two instances 1¾d. per lb, prices ranging from 27s. 9d. to 28s, with some at 28s. 6d., the general rise being from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per stone. There was not much done in half-bred wool, but where business was transacted prices showed an advance on last year of about 2s. per stone, the price for half-bred ewe wool being 26s. and half-bred hogg 28s. A half bred clip with a third of hogg was sold at 27s. There was little business doing in black-faced clips, but transactions revealed a rise of 2s. per stone, prices making up to 17s.

Halesworth.

Messrs. Stanford and Brown held their annual sale of lambs at Halesworth on Thursday, when they had nearly 8,000 to dispose of. The dispersals in other centres had made it pretty evident that the demand would be very brisk, and this became a certainty when refreshing rain showers fell whilst the lambs were being penned. There was a big contingent of buyers, and trade proved fast at rates somewhat in advance of the later sales. The leading prices were, for half-bred lambs, twenty-five from Mr. C. Goddard, Dennington, 46s. 6d.; and thirty from Mr. John Lee, Bramfield, 43s. 6d.; and for Suffolk lambs, forty ear-marked from Mr. Wm. Whatling, Wissett, 50s.; and twenty from Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, also 50s. Of nearly 250 Suffolk shearling ewes from Mr. Wm. F. Neave, Walpole, eighty went to Mr. Leonard Smith at 68s., and Mr. H. E. Catling, St. John's, made 67s. for thirty, whilst a score first-cross from Mr. Gray made 59s.

Lewes.

Nearly 200 lots, comprising about 40,000 fleeces, were offered at Lewes fair on Monday, and with a good attendance a satisfactory trade was experienced. Top price for washed wool was 15½d., whilst 15¼d., 15d., and 14¾d, were quite common figures. Unwashed sold up to 13½d.

Salisbury.

At this fair, at which 20,000 were penned, lambs made about late rates, but ewes were back at 2s a head. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their usual sale of Hampshire Downs, the entry comprising 11,852 head, and with plenty of buyers the whole (excepting about six lots) were readily sold. It was generally considered that the trade for ewes was not quite up to last year, although in some instances it was fully so if not over, and for lambs it was undoubtedly equally good. Best regular draft ewes made from 46s. to 64s. per head, Mr. A. F. T. Drake's making the higher figure; second quality ditto, 40s. to 45s. 6d.; best draft ewes, good on tooth and udder, 48s. to 55s., Mr. J. H. Dibben's making the higher figure; others, 35s. 6d. to 44s. 6d.; grazing ewes, 31s. to 36s. 6d.; best two-teeth ewes, 50s. to 56s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 40s. to 49s. 6d.; mixed young ewes, 40s. to 50s.; two-teeth wethers, 51s.; a small lot of couples, 56s.; ewe lambs, 32s. 6d. to 40s.; wether lambs, 35s. to 41s.; and mixed lambs, 29s. to 35s. 6d. The show wether lambs of Mr. W. A. Hunt, which were highly commended, made 50s. 6d. and 51s. in lots of fifty. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence also sold by auction, in lots of five and ten each, 100 two-teeth ewes, the property of Mr. W. C. Young, of Stratford-sub-Castle; these elicited keen competition at from £4 to £6 10s. per head, the average of the 100 being the good one of £5 2s.

Inverness Sheep and Wool Fair.

The annual sheep and wool fair at Inverness was held on the 13th and 14th inst., and proved as popular as ever, for there were good supplies, a large attendance, and a brisk trade. The keenest demand was experienced for Cheviot mid ewe lambs, which were selling at a rise of 2s. to 3s. as compared with last year. All classes of Cheviot sheep were selling at a rise of 3s. Blackfaced sheep also met with a similar animated demand, and there was a corresponding increase in prices. In one transaction of Blackfaced cast ewes a rise of 4s. 6d. was recorded. The advance in prices varied rather more than usual, for reasons that were not quite apparent on the surface, but the average rates were quoted as follows:—Cheviot wedders, 2s. to 2s. 6d. up; Cheviot ewes, 2s. to 2s. 6d. up; Cheviot lambs, 1s. to 2s. up; Blackfaced wedders, 1s. 6d up; Blackfaced ewes, 3s. to 3s. 6d. up; Blackfaced lambs, 1s. to 2s. up.

The demand for wools was not so brisk as expected, probably owing to the fact that the manufacturers are not disposed to lay in large stocks just at present. They were in hopes that increasing supplies may bring about a slackening of rates. It is pointed out that since 1901 these have gone up steadily. In five years Cheviot hogg wool bettered by 4½d. per lb., Cheviot ewe wool by 6d., Blackfaced hogg wool by 5½d., and other classes of wool proportionately. The advance this year is again distinct, ranging from 1d. to 2d., according to the particular clips.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor reports as follows:—Pitch forty-six tons. The attendance of buyers was large and representative. Business was brisk, all being cleared within the hour. Prices: finest lots, 63s. to 67s. 6d.; medium, 58s. to 62s.; lower grades down to 55s.

The SHEEP SALES NUMBER of the "Mark Lane Express" will be published NEXT WEEK.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore' Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS' MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

CAPTON HERD.—Noted for size, flesh, milk, quality, and symmetry combined; colour dark red, with robust constitutions. 100 for Sale. Exported to all parts of the world. Bulls and Heifers of this Herd always on Sale. A. BOWERMAN, Capton, Williton, Taunton.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

FOR SALE.—Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Eight to ten guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTER, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902 and 1904, 25 gs. challenge cup, Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb et for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.)*.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows, of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes, won at the **Royal, Highland, Bath and West,** and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U S A International Exposition, 1904,** breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and also **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Basset, Notts.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale. —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

Killed in the Hayfield.—James Morrey, aged thirty years, a workman employed by Mr. Thomas Simpson, farmer and stockbreeder, of Winnington Grange, Market Drayton, was killed whilst working in the hayfield on Monday evening. Morrey was loading hay from the side of the waggon when the horses bolted. He was dragged under the wheels of the heavily laden cart, which passed over him, and broke his neck.

Presentation to a Secretary.—At the last meeting of the Polled Cattle Society it was announced that as the result of a movement on the part of the council of the society to recognise the services of their secretary, Dr. Alexander Ramsay, Banff, a sum of £150 had been subscribed, and it was decided to forward a cheque for that amount to Dr. Ramsay, who was unable to be present through failing health.

Early Barley.—Mr. J. B. Sainsbury, of White Cross, Ross, Herefordshire, known throughout the land for his New Winter King two-rowed barley, commenced cutting forty acres on Wednesday last, or only two days later than last year, which, considering the backward season of a month or two ago, speaks well for the Winter King barley. Mr. Sainsbury claims that the New Winter King is the best and earliest barley in cultivation, for it ripens early and is of the highest quality, whilst it withstands the storms to which it is liable. That this claim is not an extravagant one has been proved over and over again by all who have used the New Winter King barley, and each year witnesses an increase in the growers of the early barley.

Some Suggestions for the R.A.S.E.

In the course of a speech at the luncheon held in connection with the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's show at Gainsborough last week, the chairman (Mr. J. D. Sandars) made some appreciative remarks concerning the Royal show, and also made some suggestions he would like the society to adopt. He said that the success of the show at Derby was a matter of very great importance, not only to the society itself, but also to England, because he believed that in great measure it was owing to the success of the Royal that agriculturists were able to get the big prices for their cattle and other stock. When Lincolnshire agriculturists could make over £1,500 for a ram, he thought everybody in the country should endeavour, as far as possible, to keep the Royal going as a centre of attraction for foreign buyers. In England they required something to help them to carry on agriculture. If, owing to the laws of the land, they could not make a profit on their stock when it was turned into meat, then let them make it out of live stock, exported to produce the meat which was eventually eaten here.

The Royal was now more or less on its trial, and its expenditure was being examined detail by detail. County councils were now spending in agricultural education and experiments £90,000 annually. When the Royal was started, there were no county councils to undertake agricultural experiments and the education of agriculturists, and it appeared to him that the experimental and educational part of the work of the Royal Society was not quite worth the money now expended upon it.

He hoped that in the future this part of the expenditure might be curtailed, and that the show itself would be more encouraged. He believed that the investigations showed that the Royal shows for a period of twenty years had paid their own expenses. He hoped that in the future the society would spend more time and attention on the shows. The journal and literature of the society might also be made of greater use to the agricultural community as a whole.

In this connection he suggested the affiliation of the county societies with the Royal, so that, instead of having friction, as in the past, they should in turn yearly welcome the national society, and temporarily put their county shows into the background. He also threw out the suggestion that the Journal and literature should be circulated among the members of the Royal and the members of the affiliated county societies. It was important that agriculturists should be kept well posted in the latest scientific experiments. It was no good circulating those results among farmers in scientific language, and therefore he should like to see the Royal Society employ some one to read and digest all the scientific papers, selecting the best portions of them, and putting them in plain, homely language in the Journal.

The Lincolnshire County Councils had spent a lot of money on barley and potato experiments, but he did not think the county or the country had benefited to the extent that they ought to have done, inasmuch as the results of those experiments had not been properly published. He therefore hoped that the Royal Agricultural Journal might be developed on more useful lines.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Lame Mare.

Will you tell me what to do with my mare to get it better? It is out at grass, and foaled a dead foal. It started foaling in the cart coming home, and was got out, but did not foal until two hours after, and then not without help. The cleanse came with the foal, which I think was dead before the mare was got out of the cart. It was all right the day it foaled, but since then is very stiff on all fours, as if walking on crutches, short of wind when hurried, eats well, can lie down and get itself removed with shoes, but gets very little better. It is a farm mare twelve years old, had a few foals, only done farm work, and was never stiff before. Will it ever be fit for work again or is it likely always to be lame? Will it be fit for breeding purposes this season or in years to come? Is a little Indian corn bad for an in-foal mare, with plenty of roots in winter when on dry keep?—FARMER.

Answer: The most obvious thing about the case is that the mare was worked too long in the cart. We can only suggest that the mare suffered from parturient laminitis, and that this has become chronic. Mares after foaling or abortion sometimes suffer an attack of congestion or inflammation of the feet, attacks which either occur suddenly or without any very definite premonitory indications. If prompt and proper treatment is adopted there may be complete recovery, but sometimes the malady assumes the chronic form of "fever in the feet." If we are right in assuming that the mare did suffer from parturient laminitis—and we are very far from affirming that she did—it is fairly obvious that the disease has now become chronic. Owing to the uncertainty as to what was the matter and the requirements of the case now, we cannot dream of offering advice as to treatment or of giving an opinion as to whether she will ever be fit for work again, or is likely always to be lame. Assuming laminitis, we could not recommend you to breed from her, even if she became fit, because the use of unsound parents is not for the benefit of the race. As to the feeding, a little Indian corn with plenty of roots is not any more an ideal diet for an in-foal mare at work than is a cart an ideal vehicle for her to work in.

Tapeworm in Lambs.

What would you give to lambs for tapeworm? How young may they be drenched, must they be kept from their dams all night, and should all be dosed to prevent tapeworm?—A. W. L.

Answer: It is not usual to dose lambs for tapeworm until after they are weaned, and therefore the question of keeping them all night from their dams does not arise. All worm medicine, however, acts with greater celerity and certainty when the stomach and bowels are comparatively empty, and lambs to be treated for the expulsion of tapeworm should be removed over night in a bare place, where they can get nothing to eat, and the medicine given in the morning. Many flockmasters now dose their lambs for tapeworm as soon as they are weaned, as part of the routine of management; some to expel the parasites they know are harboured, and others to prevent infestation. Many, probably the majority, employ one or the other of the proprietary preparations advertised so extensively in this and other agricultural journals at this season of the year, and these are as cheap, convenient, and effective, indeed, more convenient, than anything you can make up for yourself, or get prepared by the chemist. Turpentine, in doses of one drachm, in one ounce of linseed oil, to which some gruel is added, is a cheap and useful remedy.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Destruction of Wheat by Rats—Farmer Sues a Corporation.

Mr. James Taylor, a Deal farmer, sued the Deal Corporation in the Sandwich County Court for £44 12s. 6d., damages for the destruction of part of a crop of his wheat. Mr. Taylor's case was that the corporation had acquired land which they used as a refuse heap on the opposite side of the road to his farm. The result was that enormous numbers of rats were attracted there which destroyed the crops of neighbouring farmers.

Judge Shortt, in giving judgment, said that he had tried to discover whether there was any established principle of law which would justify him in holding the corporation responsible for this damage, but he had been unable to do so. The corporation did not intentionally bring the rats on to their land, but, on the contrary, paid a rat-catcher to keep them off and kill vast numbers of them. In order for the claim to succeed, it appeared to him that the plaintiff must show that no person could put his land to any use which would have the effect of attracting the rats of the neighbourhood. If that were the case, a man could not stack corn on his land or erect a granary, either of which would admittedly attract rats. He therefore gave judgment for the corporation, with costs.

Shooting Rights.

SIR,—If the owner of an estate lets the shooting, not to the tenant farmer, for one year, from February 1, subject to the tenant's right to kill ground game (no other conditions named), would the person renting shoot have a right to kill ground game? Also what would be a reasonable time to send in debit note for rent of shoot? The game is chiefly partridge and pheasant.—FARMER.

[There are two questions involved here. With reference to the first, the shooting tenant would have a right to shoot ground game, but not an exclusive right. The second question is a matter of taste, in the absence of agreement on the point. It is usually provided for by agreement, but if nothing is said the account might be sent in, say, a month before the expiration of the time it is due.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

NORTHERN NOTES.

THE stacks of hay that are now being run up in such fine haymaking weather are more numerous and bigger than those which we were wont to see last season. Coupling this adventitious sign with the vastly improved outlook for the turnip crop—this remark applies even to strong land—the farmer has excellent reasons for wreathing his face in those happy smiles which are so becoming to the rubicund face of John Bull. The farmer is, in short, in good heart over the better prospects for winter keep, which are everywhere apparent. The King's most welcome visit North gave Novocastrians an opportunity for a genuine display of loyalty to Edward VII. and his most gracious Consort; but the elements were cruel at a most critical time. If they put an end to haymaking for that eventful day, the pitiless rainfall failed to damp the spirits of the people.

THERE are many interested in agriculture who pin their faith to the legend of St. Swithin. We had rain on the 15th, and the weather having been unsettled since, the augury for forty wet days is progressing towards fulfilment! For all that, we shall not put by our implements of husbandry and wait with folded arms forty days for the passing of St. Swithin. No exact observer of things as they are could ever say that the legend is true. It may come true, as it did when, in 1879, the 15th of July was wet, and it rained on the succeeding forty days. It came true again in 1893, when the day was fine, and was followed by more than forty fine days. Such instances are, however, rare, and the legend, which is certainly worthy of cherishing for the sake of the halo of romance about it, finds more supporters in the aged and the unsophisticated youth than in the staid person of middle age.

NATURE study is entering into the curriculum at teachers' centres in Yorkshire, and also into that of elementary schools, with a view to making the normal surroundings of country-bred children the more fascinating. A whole world of life and interest may be opened out before the mind of child and youth in this way. Mr. Squeers taught practical agriculture, in a way, to the pupils of Dotheboys Hall. Schoolboys have now happier moments and more pleasurable surroundings. The East Riding County Council is taking a lead in the cultivation of agricultural pursuits among school children. Interesting evidence of this is afforded by an experiment at Hemingborough, where over a dozen children have each cultivated a plot of land and raised crops, the council supplying all requisite materials and seed. The land was worked by the boys from its crude state; and as an inducement to perseverance and intelligent appreciation of their work, prizes have been awarded to the cultivators of the best plots. Girls, too, are being interested in the land in a like manner.

THE incidents connected with the outbreaks and suppression of swine fever are the cause of much controversy. The Board of Agriculture directs the preventive measures by means of its inspectors stationed throughout the country at various centres. This plan, we have reason to believe, is not altogether to the satisfaction of local authorities, who naturally incline to the opinion that they could manage the business better. The property committee of the Hull Corporation have just "expressed their regret" that the Board of Agriculture have not been able to see their way to adopt their suggestion with reference to the local authority imposing restrictions on the movement of store swine. The committee are strongly of opinion that cases of swine fever are due to the unrestricted movement of such animals. A local market in one of the greatest agricultural centres in Yorkshire has been closed against swine for the last thirteen weeks. At the same time, pigs may be moved past the market in carts and taken to others. The market referred to has since been tarred and otherwise disinfected in all essential parts, and the reason for the continued application of the closure is scarcely obvious.

ALL MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES of FARMING NECESSITIES certainly find a Ready Sale when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express." The charge is very moderate, and consistent with the profit such small goods yield.

THE Holderness Agricultural Club, one of the most important and one of the largest organisations in the North of England in the farming interest, has got a grievance about some pigs, and this was very modestly ventilated in the House of Commons by Mr. Stanley Wilson, member for the division after which the club is named. A question of compensation was involved. It is usual when the inspectors are satisfied that a case of swine fever has been clearly established to order immediate slaughter of the animals affected. A Holderness farmer in May last had 124 pigs on his holding, and, strange to say, he had not, since the previous September, had any transaction in pigs; the outbreak, therefore, was not due to any carelessness on his part. Two neighbours within a very short distance of the farm also had outbreaks; the pigs, in both the second and third instance, were ordered to be slaughtered, and compensation was paid. In the case of the farmer with his six score and four pigs he was left severely alone (with the exception that his place was declared an infected area), and his pigs died one after the other until he has only a score left. The hardship of this case is that no order was given to slaughter, and consequently no compensation has been granted. Either the system of slaughter followed by the granting of compensation is right or it is wrong; whichever it may be, the practice ought to be uniform. It is fair to assume that the 104 pigs the uncompensated farmer lost were not all attacked at once; but he was in the predicament of being unable to remove the sound ones so as to isolate them from those attacked. Some satisfactory explanation may be forthcoming of this seemingly curious incident.

Lord Burghclere, speaking at the Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association's Show on Wednesday, said that the breeding industry had become almost the principal mainstay of British agriculture. It was not the first time in our history that the cultivation of animals had superseded the cultivation of corn. Whether with regard to horses, cattle, or sheep, Great Britain was at the head of the breeding industry of the world, but if she were to maintain her supremacy, she must lose no opportunity of calling science to her aid. She had many possible rivals, and her most formidable competitors were those countries who most readily used science as their handmaid, whether in manufactures or agriculture.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
July				
*24	Mr. W. Bainbridge, Walton House, Warrington	Hackneys and Ponies	Walton Hall, Warrington	Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
*24	Messrs. John Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.	Shorthorn Cattle	Butler's Court, Lechlade, Glos.	Mr. D. Arkell.
*24	Messrs. Berry Bros. and Bagshaw, Kettering	Hampshire Down Sheep, Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Broughton Lodge, Kettering.	Mr. W. Shatford James.
24	Messrs. C. R. Morris, Sons, and Peard, North Curry, Som.	Devon Cattle	Knowle Hall Estate, near Bridgwater, Som.	Mr. B. C. Shepherd.
*25 & 26	Messrs. John Thornton and Co.	Large White & Berkshire Pigs	Ruddington, Nottingham	The late Mr. P. L. Mills.
25	Messrs. Lythall and Walters, Birmingham	Longhorn Cattle	Eastwell Park, Ashford, Kent	Right Hon. Lord Gerard.
25	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, Peterboro	Horses	Derby Horse Repository	Various.
26	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Lambs	Alresford Fair	Various.
26	Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons, Attleborough, Norfolk	Cotswold Rams	Marham Hall, Downham Market	Messrs. T. Brown and Son.
26	Mr. W. Bainbridge	Polo and Riding Ponies	Woodlands Stud, Stockport	Mr. S. H. Moorhouse.
26	Messrs. Hall, Pain and Goldsmith, Petersfield	Hampshire Down Ram Lambs	Alresford Fair	Mr. J. Goldsmith.
27	Messrs. Walters and Rawlence	Hampshire Down Sheep	Weyhill Fair	Various.
28	Mr. W. J. Leversha, Torre, Washford, Taunton	Hampshire Down Ram Lambs	Taunton Market	Messrs. P. C. Tory and John Joyce.
28	Messrs. J. Risdon and Son, Wiveliscombe	Devon Rams	Taunton	Various.
28	Messrs. Collins, Exeter	Hunters	Exeter	Various.
*30	Mr. A. Preston, Worlingworth, Framlingham	Suffolk Horses	Ipswich	Members of the Suffolk Horse Society.
31	Messrs. Walters and Rawlence	Hampshire Down Sheep	Market House, Salisbury	Mr. J. Dean.
31	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Crewe	Horses	Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay, North Wales	Messrs. John Jones and Sons.
31 & August 1 & 2	Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Harness Horses and Matched Pairs	North Wales Repository, Wrexham	Various.
August				
1	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Hackney Horses	Amberly Court, Monmouth	Mr. W. R. Lysaght and Rt. Hon. F. Wrench.
1	Messrs. F. D. Holiday and Son, Bicester, Oxon.	Oxford Down Shearling Rams	Upper Winchendon, nr. Aylesbury.	Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell.
1 & 2	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons, Ipswich,	Suffolk Sheep	Gippeswyke Park, Ipswich	Various.
*2	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Guernsey Cattle	Burgate, Godalming, Surrey	Col. Shakerley and Mr. E. A. Hambro.
*2	Messrs. Chalk, Cambridge	Hampshire Down Sheep	Cambridge	Mr. Lambert.
*2	Messrs. J. Harris and Son, Winchester	Ram Lambs	Cocum Farm, nr. Micheldever	Mr. G. Judd.
3	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Hampshire Down Sheep	Manor Farm, Winterbourne, Stoke	Mr. Carey Coles.
3	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury	Store Stock	Shrewsbury Cattle Market	Various.
3	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons	Suffolk Sheep	Sutton, near Melton Station	Various.
7	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Hampshire Down Sheep	Market House, Salisbury	Mr. Dibben.
7	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackney Horses	Londesborough Stud, Market Weighton	Mr. R. Whitworth.

* Further details appear in our advertisement columns.

A VIEW IN SWEDEN, GIVING AN IDEA OF THE BEAUTIFUL WOODS AND LAKES OF THE COUNTRY.

AGRICULTURE IN SWEDEN.

The opportunity was recently afforded us of forming one of a small party of agricultural journalists who, by the courtesy of the Swedish Government, had an opportunity of seeing the farming industry of that country. The party, which was only a small one, was under the guidance of Mr. Fred Bagge, the Agricultural Commissioner for Sweden in London, who had for his right hand and able assistant Mr. Ernest Petersson, of Ultuna College, Upsala; both of these gentlemen spoke English fluently, and to them we are largely indebted for the information acquired of the agriculture of a considerable part of Scandinavia.

The tour extended over a fortnight, and the first three days were profitably spent at Norrköpping, at which town was being held the quinquennial show of the Swedish National Agricultural Society. Some particulars of this exhibition, together with illustrations, appeared in our last issue, and there are only a few points which need further reference.

A fact that cannot help striking the Englishman is that in other countries the term "agriculture" is far more of an elastic character than it is in this country. Only some few months ago many were disposed to laugh at the word "Fisheries" having been tacked on to the Board of Agriculture. But in Sweden such a frame of mind is totally out of place, for as far as we could gather, there the Agricultural Departments deal with anything appertaining to "Field, Wood, or Water"; for instance, the show at Norrköpping, in addition to the usual classes of breeding stock of farm animals—and, by the way, the remount question was by no means the least prominent of these—there were also a number of other sections of an interesting character which we should hardly consider in place at an agricultural show. To give examples there were specimens of the different varieties of fish in lake and stream, while in the same building there were specimens of the different birds and beasts that are distributed throughout the length of the land, ranging from the magnificent elk down to the very smallest variety of duck.

Another feature which struck us as being very practical was the experimental plot in the showyard. Here a number of trials of crops under different conditions of cultivation, manure, and seed were being carried out, and the plots themselves gave striking evidence as to the best means and method to be employed to wring the greatest yields from the land.

The system of small holdings carried out under the active patronage of the Government, who provide a sum approximating to £350, is interesting. The money is lent entirely free of interest and on an easy instalment principle of repayment for the purpose of providing houses and buildings for the small holder. That the Government of the country and King Oscar are quite alive to the fact that small holders must be encouraged by all legitimate means was evidenced at the banquet over which his Majesty presided, and which was attended by the foremost men of Sweden. The King, in referring to the show, alluded to the fact that times had changed, and that the future of the country lay in the hands of the peasant and the peasant proprietor.

The Adelsvärd Barony.

After three days at the show we had an opportunity of visiting a number of agricultural centres, the first of these was the Adelsvärd Barony. This estate is of an unusual character in Sweden, as it is held direct from the Crown under certain peculiar conditions, which we believe have no parallel in any other part of the country.

A drive round the estate gave us a wrinkle, which, although a common thing in Sweden, struck us as being capable of adoption in this country. We refer to a speedy method of getting hay into the barn. The cart on which the hay is loaded is provided with a net spread over the bottom, and when the necessary quantity of hay has been put in the waggon a rope is run through the four corners, and it is hoisted by a travelling pulley fixed in the roof of the barn, and it is slid along until the desired spot is reached, when the rope is released and the net pulled from under the load.

Where hay is stored in the barn the second operation of shifting by manual labour the hay from the waggon is avoided, and this simple labour saving device seems to be worthy of adoption in this country. The power, we may add, to raise the load to the necessary height is provided by gears, and in Sweden all work of this character is almost without exception done by the bulls.

The barony is very extensive, running to over 23,000 hectares, or upwards of 50,000 acres, and naturally the farm stock is extremely numerous. The present owner, Baron Theodore Adelsvärd, only keeps a small portion of the land in hand, but he maintains a fine herd of Algua cattle. This is a Swiss breed of nice type and pale silver colour, the general characteristics of which may be gathered from the portrait of a bull which appears on this page. The baron is the only breeder of this particular variety in Sweden, but they give very good results, yielding on an average 2,700 kilograms of milk per annum, with a fat percentage of 3·60.

There is a small stud of horses of different varieties including an English thoroughbred stallion, while the herd of Large Yorkshire pigs aggregating 250 strong are entirely disposed of locally.

The stock of poultry is a very large one, consisting almost exclusively of White Leghorns with a few representatives of the Faverolle breed. Inquiry brought out the fact that an egg average of 110 was obtained, and it would be interesting to know how this compares with the figures of this country. In conversation, the manager of the poultry stated that they were well satisfied with the White Leghorns, especially dwelling on their hardiness to withstand the rough winter. A suggestion that he should give a trial to some of the newer breeds did not meet with much enthusiasm, as it was stated that they were quite satisfied with the performances of the White Leghorns, and that they could readily sell more than the eggs produced.

In connection with the barony there is an horticultural school run on essentially practical lines; great attention being paid to the production of trees and shrubs. We took the opportunity of inquiring as to whether the large exports of wood and wood-pulp had made any inroads into the extensive forests, but we were assured on good authority that during the past ten years replanting had been so general that there is not likely to be any decrease in the output for many years to come.

The creamery and dairy schools are partially supported by the State, in order to give practical and theoretical instruction in butter and cheese-making. The principal output is butter, which is exported to England, but there is also a considerable quantity of Swedish and Gouda cheese manufactured, all of which is consumed in the country.

The feature of the barony, as, indeed, in many of the estates in this locality, are the saw-mills, in which are manufactured all sorts of wooden articles ranging from door and window frames up to American roll-top desks. The wood exports go to England.

AN ALGAU (SWISS) BULL

A Cottage Exhibition is now being held at Cleveleys, between Blackpool and Fleetwood, Lancashire, the object of which is to show not what can be done if the existing building laws were modified, but what can be done to-day under the laws as they now stand. The fact that no limit was fixed in the cost of the houses gives an exhibition which appeals to a very wide class, and it is altogether an interesting one. Numerous prizes will be awarded, and seeing it is within easy distance of Blackpool, it should prove an attraction for many of the visitors to that popular resort. The exhibition was opened on Saturday, and will be continued until September.

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised, there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

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Ask Particulars and Expert Advice.
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JONES & ATTWOOD,
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STOURBRIDGE.

HOPS.

The Coming Crops.

Further personal examination of some of the plantations do not give me any encouragement in expecting a successful hop harvest this year. It is, perhaps, hardly fair to the growers who are suffering from the misfortunes of this trying season to locate some grounds that I have seen wherein absolute ruin is evident. It is sufficient for me to say that, having journeyed many miles this week through certain parts of Kent, I have not met with a really good piece of hops, and have seen some grounds that are in such a sad condition as takes me back to the most disastrous year within my memory. I was not in touch with hops in 1882, but I am told by friends who have knowledge of what then occurred that they are very forcibly reminded now, by the appearance of some gardens, of what was almost universal in that year. Not only is the bine weak and deficient in nearly every garden, but the blight holds on, despite the washing that is being persevered in without cessation in all directions. Here and there one can find gardens where the foliage is black and perishing, and where the aspect of the whole of the plants is most lamentable. Such grounds cannot possibly yield any crop worth picking. In other places the courage of the planters has been rewarded by partial cleansing of the bine, and some development is apparent. But even here the attack of lice and fly still continues, and if any crop is to be gathered, washing must go on to the last possible moment. Happily there are some exceptions to such conditions, and it is pleasing for me to be able to speak of gardens where the combined advantages of situation, soil, and skill will secure for the planters crops that will, I trust, reward them well.

Notably the well-known Beltring plantations are distinctly in front of all others that have come under my recent observation. The careful attention given to every detail in cultivation, training, and washing, are very evident. Having gone through the whole of them, comprising about 150 acres, I can confidently say, that considering the special character of the present season, their condition leaves hardly anything to be desired. The bine is certainly lighter than usual, but it is healthy, and sufficiently strong to promise a good average yield. The foliage is practically clean, the pins on the laterals being sound and safe, suggesting the development of hops at every joint. One cannot visit Beltring without being persuaded that these results are due to scientific as well as practical good management. The company working this farm operates in the laboratory as well as in the field. Their long experience suggesting the object to be gained, it is sought for by the help of the microscope and the test tube. Experiments having achieved certain results, they are put into actual practice. By these methods Beltring has come to be recognised as the object lesson school of the hop world, and it must be satisfactory to the managers, in a critical season like the present, to find that their research and their judicious work have the promise of a successful issue.

Of course, speculation as to the total yield is now pretty active. Many estimates are being put forward, the highest that I have met with being 400,000 cwt. Observation and inquiry do not induce me to accept this as the probable figure. Taking the average of opinion, I should set the weight at about 325,000 to 350,000 cwt, and am disposed to favour the lower rather than the higher figure. But we are still in the region of uncertainty, and it will be well to wait a little before coming to any conclusion.

There is no change worth noticing in the reports from the Continent. Generally speaking, an average crop seems to be anticipated, some improvements having taken place in the condition of the plantations. From America I have the following this week:—"We have never had a more perfect stand of hops in this country than we have at the present time. Some are estimating our crop as high as 350,000 bales. We do not think these figures will be realised, but we have to admit it is a possibility."

The London Market.

The conviction that the yield of the coming crop must be very moderate is evidently influencing the minds of buyers, as during the past fortnight we have had an active demand with a regular hardening of prices. The few growers who have hops on hand have withdrawn them from sale, therefore the principal business has been done by borough holders, who have seized the opportunity to make some profit on their earlier purchases. The result is seen in gradual advances in value, until we can safely say that prices are quite 15s. higher than they were at the beginning of the month. The present position is one of marked firmness, and if there is no change for the better in the plantation reports, we may expect to see the way prepared for a promising opening for business in September.

Midland Notes.

THE hay being stacked, the topic of the moment, wherever farmers congregate, is now the corn harvest and the expected date of cutting. In the fierce heat of a July sun blazing all day from almost cloudless skies the cereals have made rapid progress lately towards maturity, so that, notwithstanding the backward spring, the harvest should be no later on the whole than usual. There is no prospect of anything to compare with such years as 1899, 1900, and 1901, when many wheat-fields were in stook in southern shires before July had run its course; but winter oats will probably be cut next week in many districts, while, as for wheat, the first week in August should see the reaper beginning everywhere. August 6 and 7, for instance, are named as likely days for making a start by farmers in Bucks, Gloucester, Worcester, Warwick, Northants, and mid-Nottingham; though probably the middle of August will be a more general date in Notts, as it will be, so far as one can judge, in Staffordshire and Salop. No doubt in many cases these dates of cutting compare a little misleadingly with those of earlier years, for even here scientific teaching has had its influence, and one finds in consequence an increasing tendency to cut before the wheat is fully ripe, so avoiding both the waste from lost corns during harvesting, and an excessive proportion of bran in the ear.

WHEN the ingathering does begin it ought to be a rapid and an easy one; that is, if the weather permit. Except in favoured districts the straw is apt to be short, and that must tend to reduce the amount of labour required, while up to the present time there is no large average of corn so lodged as to present any difficulties to the reaping-machine. Nor is there, as a rule, any marked scarcity of labour; and where there is, the migratory Irish, though fewer in number than they used to be, will help to redress the balance.

THE July sheep sales in the South have been watched with interest by Midland flock-owners, who see in them an indication of what may be expected at their own fairs and markets still to come. Apparently, we may look for prices about on a level with last year's for all sheep of good quality, but secondary grades may make a little less. Much, however, depends on the outlook for winter keep, and there is general agreement that the hay crop is better in the Midlands than the South, as it is better, by all accounts, in the North and East of England than in the Midlands. For the present the flocks are doing well, the recent rain and heat having stimulated the pasture wonderfully. After so poor a spring, it is inevitable that the lambs should be more than usually variable in growth and condition.

THE discussion by the Warwickshire County Council on Wednesday brings the motor traffic grievance to the front again. The feelings of country people are sufficiently indicated by the fact that seventy-six parish councils in the county have petitioned for a by-law limiting cars to a speed of eight miles an hour while passing through the villages, and that the dust created under present conditions is a source of even more complaint than the danger. It is sad to see the cottage gardens smothered in it as they are, and along main roads the pastures on either side are rendered almost worthless for stock by the amount of grit deposited on the grass. Yet if the remedy is better—which means more expensive roads, it threatens to be almost worse than the disease. Already the main roads in Warwickshire cost £63 per mile each year against £50 ten years ago, and the increase is still going on. Worcestershire ratepayers are even worse off; they paid £64 per mile in 1899, and to-day the figure is £86; while the same story of advancing cost is told in Stafford and Nottingham. Heavy as local rates are everywhere, there is no item of expenditure concerning which agricultural turists are so bitter as this. Even the heavy education rate is acquiesced with without much grumbling, since it is felt to be in accord with what the majority of people feel to be the needs of the time. But country folk see no necessity at all for laying out enormous sums on roads in order to protect themselves against the motorist. He creates the nuisance: let him pay for amending it, as he can well afford to do; that is the general view.

July 19, 1906.

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society have formally accepted the invitation from Barnsley to hold their 1907 show in that town, and have asked a deputation to meet the council on the show ground at Middlesbrough on Wednesday, August 8, to ratify the matter. An excellent site has been placed at the disposal of the society about a mile and a-half from the railway stations, with an excellent approach.

PRIZE DAY AT WYE COLLEGE.

Much disappointment was felt by the large company who assembled at Wye on Wednesday last hoping to meet the Right Hon. Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture. His lordship was detained in London by a Cabinet Council, therefore we were deprived of the advantage of hearing his views on agricultural education, which many had anticipated with considerable interest. We were, however, solaced by the charming presence of the Countess Carrington, who most gracefully and efficiently fulfilled the duties assigned to her in opening the new buildings recently erected, and in presenting the prizes to the successful students. Her ladyship must have been gratified by the welcome assured to her husband by the crowd of influential persons who warmly greeted her as she took her seat on the platform. Amongst them were Lord Ashcombe (chairman of the Governors), Dr. Clowes, and Messrs Masham and Alfred Amos (Governors), Laurence Hardy, Esq., M.P., General West, Lieutenant-Colonel Honeyball, Canon Tindall, Major Neve, Colonel Broomhead, Professor Lloyd, Messrs. H. S. Buss, James Dungey, A. Brown, F. Neame, W. S. Harnett, A. J. Burrows, A. Miskin, H. Amos, J. D. Maxted, W. W. Blest, S. Thirkell, and many other hop planters, together with a large number of ladies.

The meeting, which was held in the new assembly hall, was presided over by Mr. M. J. Dunstan, Principal of the College, whose popularity with the students was proved by the hearty cheers which announced his appearance. Having expressed his regret at the unavoidable absence of Earl Carrington, and his hearty welcome to the Countess, he referred to the new additions to the college, which consisted of the hall in which they were assembled, a drawing office, some workshops and other buildings, for whole of which the governors were indebted to private munificence, the donors desiring to remain without publicity being given to their names. On behalf of the staff, the students, and the supporters of the college, he tendered his warmest thanks to their anonymous friends. He proceeded to say, with much satisfaction, that the college was filled to its utmost capacity, having 100 students on the roll, for nearly half of whom they were compelled to find lodging accommodation in the village. But in addition to the numbers of the students, he was gratified to be able to report that the standard of their work was advancing. About thirty to forty were leaving their ranks that term, and he was sorry to lose such good fellows. They had acquitted themselves well, and he wished them God-speed in their entry into their life work, in which he believed they would bring credit to the college. He always desired to imbue their students with a sense of their responsibility, believing in the efficacy of the American system, which recognised the value of young energy, and by placing their youthful citizens in responsible positions, tested their real value. The successful man was not only he who possessed ability and industry, and was not afraid of work, but he who could organise and supervise the labour of others. With that object their students were encouraged to accept responsibility as the ultimate measure of success. Mr. Dunstan, however, regretted the growing tendency amongst the young men of today to give play and sport the first place in their consideration. He would and did encourage sport, but it must occupy the second place. But he abhorred any lack of earnestness, either in play or work, and regretted to notice that too many were content to be lookers-on rather than actors in the battle of life. He was proud to say that all were workers at Wye College. Whether in the actual labour of the farm, or in studying in the class-room or laboratory, the method and manner of their work was always earnest and practical. The future openings for success and profit in English farming were within the reach of those who had studied and worked there, and their students went into the world with the benefit of the past experience of their forefathers, but with minds enlarged and open for the reception and examination of new ideas. He considered that Wye College was the most completely equipped and the best staffed in England. They had grants from the amalgamated county councils of Kent and Surrey, and also from the Board of Agriculture. The latter was willing to help them by larger grants, but were hindered by that more powerful body, the Treasury. They had advanced in extent and efficiency very considerably since the opening of the college, but were still developing, and had recently added to the staff a gentleman who would be entirely occupied in research, and from whose labours important results were expected, that would especially benefit the fruit and hop industries. More national assistance was needed and a fuller recognition of the value of their work by the State, and he earnestly trusted that the result of that meeting would be seen in the raising of the position of the college to a much higher point than it had hitherto attained.

The Countess Carrington, having declared the new buildings open, and having presented the prizes, Lord Ashcombe proposed a vote of thanks to her ladyship.

Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., who was very warmly received, seconded the proposition, and in doing so remarked that he thought one reason to which the success of the college might be attributed was the co-operation of the staff with the farmers. The union of science with practice which they thus secured, was most essential to their progress, the whole of the two counties being in effect their experimental farm. He was glad to know that a department for research was included in their curriculum. It was much needed, especially in farming that was dependent to so large an extent upon the operations of Nature.

Misfortunes that were frequently ascribed to the act of God might often be traced to the neglect of man. Such neglect might be corrected by research, and as the counties were doing their duty in that matter, an appeal might reasonably be made to Government to assist them further. He had great faith in the influence of the noble Countess, who having seen something of their efforts, would be able to persuade the President of the Board to consider favourably any future application they might make for increased grants.

Major Craigie, representing the Board of Agriculture, returned thanks on behalf of Lady Carrington, and assured the meeting that his chief was in full sympathy with the objects they had in view. The Agricultural Department recognised that science, such as was taught in that college, was necessary to enable British farmers to meet the competition of the world with which they had to contend. Unfortunately, the voting power of agriculture was not sufficient to influence governments, as it was in some other countries, therefore pressure could not be exerted at the opportune moment, when the Treasury was called upon for supplies.

The proceedings then concluded, and the company adjourned to the old cloisters, where tea and other refreshments were served, forming an agreeable finish to a very pleasant and interesting day.

FARMS

never remain unlet when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express."

The charge is Sixpence per Line per Insertion.

Agriculture in 1905.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries on Friday issued their annual yellow book giving the agricultural statistics for 1905. These details have previously been published in other forms, but in the book form are handy for reference. The feature of the year was that while, as heretofore, there was a reduction in the acreage of arable land under cultivation in the United Kingdom, there was a large increase in the production of wheat. This was accompanied by a marked decline in the importation of wheat and flour; in fact, the proportion per head of population of the imports of corn, grain, meal and flour (excluding rice) fell to 509 lb., the lowest figure since 1897.

For the whole of the United Kingdom, including Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands, the arable land under cultivation is returned at 18,808,000 acres, against 18,978,000 in 1904; there were 28,865,000 acres under permanent pasture in 1905 against 28,693,000. The increase in the number of cattle was nearly 2 per cent.; there was also a slight increase in sheep, and a decrease of 15·3 per cent. on the year in pigs

At Tuesday's meeting of the London County Council, quite a score of petitions were presented by various members asking the council not to adopt the proposals of the Public Health Committee to apply to Parliament next session for power to enable the council to establish food inspection stations and public abattoirs, and to provide for the inspection of all food entering London. The proposal was therefore dropped without discussion.

Successful Allotments.—The Spalding Urban Council have purchased for the sum of £975 eleven acres of allotment land from the representatives of the late Mr. H. F. Pollock, who formerly stood for the division in Parliament. The council's allotment rents, independent of this purchase, now aggregate £225 a year, and the receipts in the form of rents from the labourers—to whom the land is let—cover all the expenses which the council are put to in the matter, and there is, therefore, no call upon the rates.

EDUCATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER.
Patron—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.
President—THE EARL SPENCER, K.G.
For Land-owners, Land-agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, &c.
Farming and Colonial Branch.
Estate Management and Forestry Branch.
For Prospectus of Curriculum, Fees, Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, &c., apply to the PRINCIPAL.
Next Session begins TUESDAY, OCT. 9.

ARMSTRONG COLLEGE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
(In the University of Durham.)
Professor of Agriculture—DOUGLAS A. GILCHRIST, M.Sc.
Secretary—F. H. PRUEN.
For full particulars of B.Sc. (Agriculture), College Diploma, and courses in Agriculture, Forestry, Estate Management, and Dairy Farming, apply to the Secretary.
Session commences September 24, 1906.

HARPER ADAMS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE (NEWPORT) SALOP.
This Residential College (endowed and recognised by the Board of Agriculture) provides complete practical and Scientific Courses in Agriculture, Courses of Study qualifying for all the higher Agricultural Examinations. Laboratories, Farm (recently extended), Dairy, Workshops. For prospectus and full particulars apply to the Principal.
Terms commence January, April and September.
P. HEDWORTH FOULKES, B.Sc., F.S.E.

FODDER CROPS.
BY
C. G. FREER-THONGER.
ONE SHILLING. Post Free, 1/2½.
W. A. MAY,
The "Mark Lane Express,"
8, WELLINGTON ST., STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, READING.
Principal: W. M. CHILDS, M.A.
DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE.
Director: JOHN PERCIVAL, M.A.
This College is one of the Collegiate Centres of the Board of Agriculture.
Complete courses of practical and theoretical instruction in Agriculture are given at the College, and at the College Farm (145 acres), Shinfield, Berks.
Complete courses of practical and theoretical instruction in Dairying are given at the College and the British Dairy Institute (Manager: Mr. Miles Benson).
Special courses of instruction in Poultry-keeping at the College Poultry Farm, Theale (Lecturer: Mr. Edward Brown, F.L.S.).
An illustrated Prospectus will be sent post free on application to the REGISTRAR, University College, Reading.

In writing to advertisers, readers will confer a favour by mentioning the "Mark Lane Express" as the source of their information.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION.
Trustees:
THE LORD PROVOST, MAGISTRATES, AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH.
THE only endowed Veterinary School in Great Britain. Under arrangements which are now being made, the equipment of the College will be strengthened and modernised, and the teaching facilities greatly increased.
An Examination in General Knowledge, for intending students, will be held on JULY 5, 6, 7, and on SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8.
Next Session commences TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1906.
Further particulars may be learned on application to—
PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—Agricultural Course. Prospectus, Edinburgh Agricultural College; also regulations, degree of B.Sc., and Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture.—Apply to CLERK OF SENATUS.

AUCTION SALE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY NEXT, JULY 25.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' LARGE WHITE PIGS, at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY NEXT, JULY 26.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2.—Col. H. W. Shakerley's and Mr. E. A. Hambro's GUERNSEY CATTLE, at Burgate, Godalming, Surrey.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.—Mr. E. Henty's SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Ferring, Worthing, Sussex.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—Mr. F. H. Jennings' SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's DEXTER CATTLE and BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Prince's Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR.

DISPERSAL SALE OF THE RENOWNED SHIFFORD FLOCK OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP.

FRANKLIN & GALE are favoured with instructions from W. A. L. Cripps, Esq., who is relinquishing farming, to sell by auction in Messrs. Morrell's Close at the above Fair, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1906, the Highly-celebrated and Registered Hampshire Down Flock, consisting of
160 STOCK EWES,
80 CHOICE 2-TOOTH EWES,
60 MATCHING EWE LAMBS, and
42 RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

Catalogues may be had of Mr. CRIPPS, Shifford Manor, Bampton, Oxon; or of the Auctioneers, Wallingford, Reading, and Oxford.

BROUGHTON LODGE, KETTERING (one mile from Kettering Station, Midland Main Line.)

ANNUAL SALE of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE.

BERRY BROS. AND BAGSHAW have received instructions from Mr. W. SHATFORD JAMES to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises, as above, on TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1906,
45 PURE-BRED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and 20 EWE LAMBS, also 17 CHOICE PEDIGREE ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, including Lord Fearless 18086, winner of Five Champion (2 gold medals) and Eight First Prizes; and others of noted tribes, viz:—Three Erica, Two Miss Burgess, Two Jilt and Four Pride of Aberdeen.

Luncheon at 1 o'clock. Sale immediately after.

Catalogues may be obtained of Mr. W. SHATFORD JAMES, Broughton Lodge, Kettering, who will send to meet anyone by appointment previous to or on the morning of the Sale; or of the AUCTIONEERS, Market Place, Kettering.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON, TUESDAY, JULY 24TH, 1906.

IMPORTANT SALE OF PEDIGREE HACKNEYS AND PONIES, the property of SIR GILBERT GREENALL, BART., comprising about
16 YEARLING COLTS,
8 YEARLING FILLIES,
2 THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES,
16 THREE-YEAR-OLD GELDINGS,
5 STALLIONS,
8 HARNESS GELDINGS & MARES.

The sale contains some notable animals by Goldfinder VI., Copper King, Mathias, Sir Horace, &c. On view July 19, 20, 21.

Catalogues from Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

Highly Important Forthcoming Sales of pure-bred Southdown Sheep on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, AUGUST 8 and 9.

SUMMERSBURY,
SHALFORD, GUILDFORD.

One mile from Bramley Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway; half a mile from Shalford Station, S.E. Railway; two and a-half miles from Guildford, L. & S.W., L.B. & S.C., and S.E. Railways. UNRESERVED SALE OF THE WHOLE OF MR. EDWIN ELLIS'S PRIZE-WINNING PEDIGREE SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (registered and trade-marked, Reg. No. 12). — On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8 next, Messrs.

STRIDE AND SON (in conjunction with Stride, Son, and Ellis, of Guildford) beg to announce that they are in receipt of instructions from Edwin Ellis, Esq., who is giving up sheep breeding, to Sell by Auction, WITHOUT RESERVE, at Summersbury, on the above date, the whole of his famous Southdown Flock (which has taken over £4,000 IN PRIZES at the Principal Shows, both in England and abroad, during the last twenty years), comprising about—
630 HEAD, in ages, as follows:—
120 SHEARLING EWES.
60 FOUR-TEETH EWES.
38 SIX-TEETH EWES.
63 FULL-MOUTH EWES.
65 DRAFT EWES.
30 OVER-AGE EWES.
140 EWE LAMBS.
36 Grand SHEARLING and FOUR-TEETH RAMS (including many Prize Winners) and
65 RAM LAMBS.

The Summersbury Flock was established in the year 1879 by the purchase of carefully selected ewes from the Flock of Messrs. Botting, where the old Rigden blood had been freely used, and which had also been replenished by some of Mr. Colman's best rams and ewes.

At the dispersal of Lord Walsingham's noted Flock in 1885 many of the choicest ewes were purchased at prices as high as 12 to 15 guineas per head, together with the two rams "Merton" and "Ripon," one costing 105 guineas and the other 45 guineas. Many of the best Southdowns now in existence trace back to one or other of these two famous sheep.

Whenever a change of blood has been thought desirable some of the best Flocks have been drawn upon, and in one case a ram was obtained from Mr. Henry Webb at the price of 140 guineas.

In 1885 Mr. Ellis first sent specimens of his Flock to the leading showyards, and then commenced that wonderful record of success which has probably never been excelled, if indeed it has been equalled, in the annals of the Southdown or any other breed. Not only at the Royal, the Royal Counties, the Bath and West, and other English Shows, but also at the great exhibitions of the United States of America, Canada, France and other countries have the Summersbury Sheep time and time again met with the most striking success, often forming one of the most notable features of the live stock classes, and in more than one season securing a larger number of First and Champion prizes than all the other exhibits of the breed added together.

Every sheep in the Flock is included in this Sale, and every lot WILL BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER WITHOUT RESERVE.

No sheep will be exhibited this season or will be sold before the Sale.

The Flock is open to inspection at any time by appointment with Edwin Ellis, Esq., Summersbury, Shalford, Guildford.

Luncheon (by ticket) at 12.30. Sale to commence punctually at 1.30. Commissions carefully executed.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, East Street, Chichester, Sussex; or of Messrs. STRIDE, SON & ELLIS, 108, High Street, Guildford.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(The great centre for the sale of Southdown Sheep).

Great Annual Prize Show and Sale of pure-bred Registered Southdown Sheep, Thursday, August 9 next (the day after the sale of Mr. Edwin Ellis's famous Southdown Flock at Summersbury, Guildford).—Messrs.

STRIDE & SON beg to announce that this important great annual AUCTION SALE, which is held in the Market, Chichester, will comprise about
480 SOUTHDOWN SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS
(from many of the best breeders),
6,000 SOUTHDOWN EWES,
including a grand entry of SHEARLING, REGULAR DRAFT and DRAFT EWES, and many lots of four-teeth and six-teeth Ewes.

The Auctioneers beg to call special attention to this year's sale, which will consist of the largest and best selection of pure-bred Southdown Rams, Ram Lambs, and Ewes to be sold anywhere this season. *First Edition Catalogues on application.*

Judging at 9 o'clock. Sales punctually at 10 o'clock. Commissions carefully executed.

Buyers arriving at Chichester overnight will find "The Dolphin" a convenient and comfortable hotel to stay at, and the Auctioneers will be glad to book rooms.

Auction Offices, East Street, Chichester.

SUFFOLK PUNCH HORSES' ANNUAL SALE.

On MONDAY, JULY 30TH, 1906,
At IPSWICH
(G.E. Rail, 2 hours from London),
Under the directions of the SUFFOLK HORSE SOCIETY.

100 HEAD of SUFFOLK HORSES, including the entire BENTLEY STUD (late the property of Mr. Edward Quilter, deceased), consisting of some **50** noted Stallions, Mares and Fillies, including many prize-winners.

Catalogues in due course on application to the Auctioneers, Alfred Preston, Worlingworth, Framlingham, and The Arcade, Ipswich.

FREC. SMITH, Secretary.
Suffolk Horse Society, Woodbridge.

COCUM FARM,

Six miles from Micheldever Station, two from Sutton Scotney Station, and seven from Winchester.

ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS

MESSRS. JAMES HARRIS and SON have been favoured with instructions from Mr. George Judd to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the premises as above, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1906—
100 RAM LAMBS,
and 6 SHEARLING RAMS,
from his well-known Cocum Flock, entered in Vol. 1 of Flock Book.

Conveyances will meet the principal trains at Sutton Scotney Station, and a brake will leave Winchester Station at twelve o'clock and Andover at same time on day of sale.

Luncheon will be provided at one o'clock and sale commence immediately after.

Mr. Judd will be pleased to show his Flock of Breeding Ewes, Ram Lambs, &c., to his friends or intending purchasers at any time previous to sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

ANNUAL SOUTH DEVON RAM SALES.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Sales of Registered South Devon Rams will be held at the places mentioned below:—
TOTNES on August 2, 1906.
LISKEARD on August 13, 1906.
TRURO on September 5, 1906.

At all of these Sales selections of Rams from the principal flock owners will be offered, and buyers will find these to include a grand lot of first-class Rams of high quality. Special prizes are offered for competition at the Totnes Sale. Full information and Catalogues can be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. W. W. CHAPMAN, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk St., Strand, London, W.C.

THE
LECONFIELD LINCOLN LONG-WOOL RAMS,
No. 38 IN FLOCK BOOK.

MESSRS.

SUGDON and PEARCE-BROWN have received instructions from Mr. Robert Fisher to SELL by AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906, 80 SHEARLING RAMS from the above Registered Flock; when Mr. Fisher will be glad to see his friends.

Sale after 1 o'clock luncheon.

Conveyances will meet the trains at Beverley and Arram Stations.

Auctioneers' Office,
Market Place, Beverley.

PRELIMINARY.

THE 21st ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of Mr. LAMBERT'S pure-bred HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS will take place at CAMBRIDGE, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1906.

Messrs. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street,
Cambridge and Linton.

AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams; "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP.—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

HERTS.—TO LET, FLOUR GRIST WATER MILL, situate close to Hemel Hempstead. The Mill contains 3 pair of stones, four Dressing Machines, Smutter, Bolter, Oat Crusher, &c.; good House, Stabling, Piggeries, &c.; two acres of Meadow Land.—For further particulars and orders to view, apply to Messrs. SEDGWICK, SON & WEALL, Land Agents, 38, High Street, Watford, Herts.

TO MALTSTERS.

East Kent, in a good Barley District.
TO BE SOLD.
With possession in August.

AN Excellent 50-Quarter Malting, with good Malt and Barley Stores, and extra Barley Kiln, with Herman's patent wire floor. Malster's House, three good Cottages, Outbuildings, large Garden and Paddock, 1½ miles from Station, and conveniently near to a good Corn Market.

Apply to Messrs. WORSFOLD & HAYWARD, Land Agents and Auctioneers, Dover, and 80, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

PUBLICATION.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER, Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd. Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE SIR WALTER FRANCIS HELY-HUTCHINSON,

Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, etc., etc., etc.

WHEREAS it has been shown to me to be expedient to alter and amend the Regulations, promulgated by Proclamation No. 75, bearing date the 21st day of April, 1900, providing for the examination and quarantine for the disease known as Tuberculosis of cattle introduced into this Colony from any country overseas other than the Colony of Natal:

Now, therefore, under and by virtue of the powers and authorities in me vested by the seventh section of the Act, No. 27 of 1893, intituled the "Animal Diseases Act, 1893," I do hereby proclaim, declare and make known that the Regulations contained in the subjoined Schedule shall be the Regulations for the examination and quarantine of cattle which may be introduced into this Colony from any country overseas other than the Colony of Natal, and shall have force and effect from and after the 1st July, 1906, in lieu of those promulgated by the aforesaid Proclamation No. 75 of 1900, which is hereby superseded and repealed.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given under my Hand and the Public Seal of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, this 5th day of May, 1906.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Governor.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor in Council
ARTHUR J. FULLER.

No. 156, 1906.

Schedule to the foregoing Proclamation.

1. The word "Cattle" in these Regulations shall be taken to mean and include all animals of the bovine tribe.

2. All cattle, save as hereafter excepted, shall upon arrival at any Port of this Colony from any country whatsoever overseas be liable to be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the test, known as the tuberculin test, before being allowed to land.

It will, however, be within the discretion of the Veterinary Officer aforesaid to accept the certificate of any duly qualified Veterinary Surgeon of the country from which such animals have been brought, supported by a record of temperature re-actions, to the effect that such cattle were submitted to the tuberculin test immediately before being embarked and had given no indication of the presence of tuberculosis.

3. In the absence of a satisfactory certificate as aforesaid the cattle shall be removed to place provided by the Government or by the owners subject to the approval of the Inspecting Officer for quarantine purposes, and shall be subjected by a Goverment Veterinary Surgeon to the necessary testing by tuberculin to ascertain whether they are or are not affected with tuberculosis.

4. In the event of the test indicating the existence of tuberculosis, the animals shall not be removed alive from the quarantine station, but shall be destroyed there, and the owner shall be allowed to deal with the carcases as he may think fit, provided, however, that the flesh shall not be used for human consumption unless the said officer shall give a certificate that it is fit for that purpose.

5. All expenses of inspection, quarantine, testing, destruction and otherwise shall be borne by the owner of such cattle.

6. The foregoing Regulations shall not apply to cattle entering by sea from the Colony of Natal, so long as similar regulations remain in force in that Colony, nor shall they apply to cattle imported solely for purposes of slaughter, provided that, before being landed, they shall be inspected by the Government Veterinary Surgeon and declared to the best of his belief to be not unfit for human consumption, and the owners or importer shall sign and deliver to such officer an undertaking to the effect that none of such animals shall be used or disposed of for any other purpose than for *immediate* slaughter for food.

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LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 30, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Bank Holiday. TO work a whole year round without a holiday is the exception rather than the rule in these days, and August is the month when all the world and his wife rushes away to recuperate in the pure air of the country or by the silvery sea. The fortunate amongst us can afford to snatch a week or a fortnight from the round of work at this season, but thousands have to be content with a week-end or perhaps only a day, and who can blame them if they make the most of August Bank Holiday? Agricultural show committees know when the man in the street is out tripping, and several local societies, with an eye to the nimble shillings, arrange their shows on the general August holiday. This is not at all a bad idea, because at this season there is a slight lull in the pressure of labour owing to the haymaking being mostly finished and the corn-cutting not quite begun. And, after all, why should not farmer folk enjoy their bank holiday as much as their friends in town, and enjoy it in their own way at an agricultural gathering?

Farmhouse Lodgings. OF late years a new means of income has opened itself to businesslike farmers' wives in certain districts, and it has come about in this way. There are a good many people who do not wish to rush about and tire themselves during holiday time, but, on the other hand, get rest. Promenades and seaside crowds possess no fascination for them, and they look for quiet resorts in the country where they can do as they like, dress how they please, be idle and happy. Could a better place for such a life be found than a farmhouse, where the tired townsman get not only fresh air, but fresh, home-produced food that will do him just as much good? We know several farmers' wives who are as anxious about their summer letting as the lodging-house landlady at the seaside (though, as a rule, they are not so avaricious), and the money they make in this way comes in extremely useful. Of course, it is a matter of business with them, but in letting apartments during the holiday season farmers' wives are conferring a benefit on those who take advantage of this means of rest and recuperation.

Work amongst the Roots. WHILE haymaking is on, and all hands are employed in this important branch of harvest, it is not surprising that the root crops get a little neglected, and consequently work is waiting when the mowing machine has completed its task for the year. Never was there a more true saying than the old one that ill weeds grow apace, and a glimpse at the roots just when haymaking is completed is a clear demonstration of the foul or clean condition of the land. Some weeds which are difficult to eradicate have a right royal time of it while all hands are busy with the hay, and it is surprising what progress such pests as charlock, couch, creeping bindweed, cat's tail, &c., will make in a few weeks. Amongst earthed-up potatoes, in particular, it is difficult to get clear of these obnoxious plants when they have once got a good hold, and perhaps this is the reason why some dirty patches remain so to the end. Wise is the farmer who abominates weeds and will give them no quarter, for he can turn to his arable land and find it comparatively clean when the rush of haymaking is over.

Odds and Ends of Haymaking. IT is no use beating about the bush when haymaking begins, and where there is a good lot to get there is nothing like setting about the task in earnest, provided the weather is favourable, and making the harvest season as short as possible. When the back of the task is broken, as it is now in most districts, one gets a little breathing space and time to look round with the object of gathering up the fragments that remain. It is always well to look after the odds and ends, and on most farms there are bits of grass in the orchard, by the side of bye-lanes, near hedgerows, and even in some pastures that are worth the trouble of cutting and making. It is waste to leave these odds and ends uncut, because nothing will eat them, and they come in useful for topping up ricks and to provide a bit of rough fodder in the winter. According to an old Scotch saying, "Many a mickle makes a muckle," and if the odds and ends are carefully looked after it is surprising what a substantial quantity they often make in the bulk.

The Small Holder's Hay Crop. IN many farm establishments there are men employed who live on small places, keep a cow or two, and have several acres of hay to get in. Naturally these men are wanted by their employers during the pressure of the harvest, and consequently their little bits are left till somewhat late; but even though they are small, the few acres of hay which the small holder has to deal with are just as important to him as a hundred acres may be to his employer. The latter can help his servant considerably in his small harvesting operations, and in many cases he does this willingly. It is a real godsend for the small holder when his master will send his machine and a man to knock off his two or three acres of grass for him, and give him a hand with his waggon and team when it is ready for carrying. The employer loses nothing by small acts of generosity like this, and the man cheerfully lets his own haymaking wait, even at the risk of losing the aftermath, in order to give his time during the busy season to his employer.

The Value of Forage Crops. THE present is rather a trying time for the keeper of dairy cows who wants, and must have, milk. Dry weather and hot sunshine have browned the pastures to such an extent that cows can find little to eat there, and the animals refuse to go into the recently-mown meadows where there is no aftermath. Under circumstances like this, what a fine thing it is to have a good piece of lucerne to cut at, and how the cows revel in this juicy forage crop. On some farms there is wash or sewage land, which is very helpful in the culture of lucerne, because, if the moisture is turned on after cutting the crop is quickly ready for the scythe again. The other day we were talking with a large dairy farmer, who, with the knowledge that most of his hay was carried, was deploring the bare state of the pastures and sighing for showers. But for the large breadth of lucerne he had thoughtfully provided he would not know how to feed the cows, and, if we mistake not, there are many others who are realising the value of this important forage crop.

Tinned Meat Scandals and Home-grown Produce. IT is an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and we are told that the revelations recently made about the tinned meat trade in Chicago have been the means of causing more attention to be paid to home productions, and consequently the price of cheese and bacon has gone up considerably of late. We are told, too, that bacon is getting more popular as a breakfast dish in America, which means that more pigs are wanted and there are less for export to this country. How will this increase in prices affect the British farmer? In the few districts where cheese is still made he ought to benefit, but, of course, most of the cheese consumed is imported, and the consumer will have to pay more for it without the farmer being much better off. As for bacon and hams, here again we depend largely on the foreigner, and feel the pinch of restrictions which prevent pig-breeding and bacon-curing being an extensive industry in this country.

Land Reform. MANY of us remember the old Birmingham election cry of three acres and a cow, and the general impression may be that it is a cry, and will never be anything else. Be that as it may, the apostle of the doctrine, Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., is not the man to let a thing drop which he has once taken up, and during a period of apparent inaction he has been preparing a book which is worthy of the careful perusal of all persons interested in the all-important land question. This paragraph is not intended to be a review of Mr. Jesse Collings's

"Land Reform," and it is not to be expected that it will be received without criticism, but it is a bold effort of a man who is in real earnest about the subject. Mr. Collings scornfully derides the idea that there is no demand for small holdings in this country, and of our county councils he speaks of the members as being mostly of the old quarter session type—the territorial class, who are kindly disposed towards the labourer, but have not yet accepted the idea that the creation of a class of land-owning peasants would be good for the community.

Water Supply. As yet there has been no general outcry about shortage of water such as we remember during the dry summers experienced a few years ago; but, nevertheless, it may be observed that pits and waterings on some farms are getting low, and we have what is frequently a dry month before us. The farmer who has limpid streams running through his ground has none of those anxieties experienced by another who is not so well blessed, but in many cases scarcity of water is due to neglect. What a common thing even now it is to see pits with a few inches of water covered with green slime overlying a deep bed of mud. Apart from the question as to whether the water is really fit for animals to drink, it soon gives out in dry weather, whereas there would be enough to stand a siege if the mud were cleaned out and the holding capacities of the pond made the most of. We know what a blessing a good stream is, particularly for dairy cows, but where such a convenience does not exist let us have clean ponds, not the filthy mud holes which are far too oommon.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Mr. Collings's Evangel.

Mr. Jesse Collings's work on "Land Tenure" and, of course, I only deal with it because of its political purpose and aim—was confessedly and designedly undertaken with the idea of commending his own Purchase of Land Bill. I do not know how far Mr. Collings's original associates in the promotion of that Bill—which personally I always regarded as a portent rather than as a panacea—will share in his vividly-told story as to how the yeomen and the copyholders were dispossessed, or how they will appreciate his laudations (for laudations they are) of the peasants' revolts against those whom he regards as the authors of a despoiling landlordism. As a fact, this inquiry is not necessary. What is important is that representatives of this landlordism are willing to utilise the machinery of the State for replacing the very classes dispossessed, for recalling the yeomen class nearly banished from the land, and for reviving the smaller owners. Of course, if the strict law of logic be applied to Mr. Collings's arguments and contentions they must be adjudged to be faulty. He has allowed his native sentiments and his inherited detestation—but assuredly *not* present-day malice—of the evolution of landlord-ownership to distort his vision. If this evolution was spoliation, then the Government should not assist in selling to the occupiers on the basis of present rents; and this is what Mr. Collings suggests.

An Antidote to Socialism.

As a fact, however, this problem is not to be solved by the chop-logicians. A definite ownership has been given, despite the economists, by the usage of centuries; and it is on this foundation—forgetting his own philippics and girdings against the past—that Mr. Collings rears his admirably-suggestive fabric. We have not to consider the laches of the past—with those laches condoned and accepted and legalised by the State for centuries. We have to consider the practical policy for the present. And Mr. Collings's purpose is the best antidote to the fantastic dreams of the emotional Socialists. The resurrection of the trinity—"the small landed gentry; the yeomen and the peasant proprietary" (I quote from Mr. Collings)—would render impossible and futile all the wild, impractical beliefs of those Socialists who, knowing no more of a flail than they doof the method of the traffic in Mars, would yoke the land-cultivator to an impersonal State, careless of individual and immediate circumstances, and always insistent on a rigid code and an inflexible obedience to it, in which code neither the idiosyncrasies of the heavens, the fluctuating virtues of the soil or the temperament of the individual would have any consideration. As a fact, this evolution is inevitable, and it is best to welcome it in the guise which Mr. Collings suggests, a guise which would not be the habiliment of a wild revolution—a wild revolution not the less dangerous, because it would only be an experiment. Mr. Jesse Collings can at least point to example.

Who does Mr. Collings Mean?

But a word to Mr. Collings on his chapters dealing with the fiscal issue. Again, I beg of him—as I have besought of him in the past—to tell us how the encouraged dumping-down of colonial products in our home markets in competition with our home products is going to save the British farmer. True, Mr. Collings suggests meat and corn duties upon the foreigner. If his own dream be realised those duties would be ineffective for his own purpose. He hopes that one of their first results would be to foster the inter-Empire trade; in other words, the sale of colonial produce. It is the hope of this prospective mart, which nerves our colonial brethren with such thrilling enthusiastic sympathy with the new economy. And this produce would come in not merely duty free, but would come from a land where rates and rent are comparatively unknown, and where extravagant transit charges are prevented by a Government, which also, in its paterfamilian sympathy, sees to it that the transit-method shall be practicable, reliable and speedy.

Farmers and "The Curse of the Age."

"The curse of this era is cheapness," said a manufacturer at a recent meeting of great British industrialists. I fear me that, with this competition against us from the Colonies operating to our hurt—and colonial dumping does not differ in its effects from foreign dumping because of its name — the cost of the manufactured articles which British farmers might have to buy would be increased. This is no captious criticism uttered by a mere partisan and schismatic. It is inspired by a personal appreciation of the career and sincerity of Mr. Collings, and by a generous sympathy of the purpose he has in view in this very remarkable work. If we are going to fight the foreign dumpers, should we invoke a worse affliction? If we are to have Protection, should we not have Protection all round? Now, Mr. Collings, wherein will the "colonial" dumper as a competitor differ from the "foreign" dumper, excepting that he will be better equipped and advantaged for the task, and excepting that he will not have attaching to him the prejudice which must, or at least should, attach to the foreign rival? This phase of the question ought not to be cavalierly disregarded by the advocates of the new economy.

Motorist to Pay for his Highway.

Every rural county council which is appalled with fear over the growing cost of the maintenance of the highways, every rural area which complains that the fertility of the land bordering on those highways is being smothered in the maleficent by-products of petrol whirlwinds, should bestir themselves to seek to realise the main suggestions affecting their areas made by the Motor Commissioners. The motorist—the man who does not confer any particular benefit on the particular locality because he is what may be called "a through trafficker"—is to be made to pay for the injury he now inflicts on the unfortunate rural ratepayers' macadam. He is to be made to pay for the maintenance of the road he despoils by means of a tax, the revenue from which is to be distributed among the local authorities. Whether that tax should be graduated according to the cars weight or according to the horse-power need not for the moment be discussed. Personally, I would rather have it by horse-power. The greater the horse-power the more stifling and devastating is the odorous germ-laden dust; and it is this dust which is our enemy. It is enough for us that the principle of the maintenance of the roads by the men who cut them up, by the scurrying rider who is careless of all but the sensation of dashing through air, and so indifferent to the public convenience that he regards himself as the possessor of a heaven-sent title to them, has been formally recognised in this report. Well that it is so. Else what would happen to the unfortunate ratepayer? This traffic is on the increase, and a greater expense in the maintenance of the roads is as fore-assured as is the rising of the sun in the heavens. Without such a tax, the rural ratepayer would be as much despoiled by these furious Mercurys as though they were themselves highwaymen.

What about Damage from Dust?

But should not the demand of the rural authorities go further than this? As a fact, the suggestion that a portion of the grant to local authorities should be ear-marked as compensation for the destruction caused by dust does not, under the circumstances, meet the situation. The very readiness with which the motor-leaders have acquiesced in this suggestion seems to me to be an assurance that they do not assume it would be a serious infliction. Now, if there is to be no speed-limit—except that imposed by county councils at dangerous points, and the like—we may anticipate that this dust nuisance will assume an aggravated character. The Commissioners themselves admit, in effect, that the dust raised is increased in proportion as the vehicles travel more than ten miles an hour. Now, a rapid speed along a straight bit of road could not probably be described as reckless driving or negligent driving (and this under section one of the 1903 Act would be required to render the proceeding culpable), and would not in all probability be interpreted to be dangerous to the public. However, a thick, stifling vapour would be generated which would be perilous to vegetation and herbage. True, the Commissioners do promise drastic provisions against those who drive their cars "without regard to the discomfort and annoyance caused to every other user of the highway and dweller alongside it"; but this is indefinite enough to be meaningless. At all events, here is a point to which the local authorities concerned should devote a practical attention. It is all very well to promise a grant from a fund provided by the taxation of motor cars. This fund is primarily intended for the up-keep of the roads. How far would it compensate for the damage wrought to the roadside?

Only One Lesson from Bodmin.

There is, after all, only one lesson to be deduced from the Bodmin elector. This is that the farmers, who are vitally interested in a reform of tenure-law, are yet willing to subordinate every personal desire of their own to the partisan ambition. True, at first the Land Tenure Bill was a feature of the fight, probably as a sequel to the association of Mr. Agar-Robartes with it and to the proximity of Callington. Then the anxiety thus expressed was drowned beneath the tornado of party declamations; and presently the issues associated with the Bill were not even whispered from the platform. This is a pitiful gibing comment upon the prophesies of those of us optimists who had dared believe that this election might be their prelude to a keener electoral interest on the part of farmers in the Bill and its possibilities in their weal. When Bodmin, the neighbour of Callington, refuses to be practically interested, what can we expect elsewhere?

Mr. Collings's Tribute to a Woman.

As I close I am reminded that I have not referred to Mr. Jessie Collings's beautiful tribute to his mother, a noble peasant woman, contained in his dedication. No man could write that tribute who has not fidelity, affection, reverence in his soul; no man could pen it on whom the manes of his mother does not gaze with love.

SITUATIONS WANTED and VACANT.

Those to whom this column appeals, if identified in some way with agriculture, will have no difficulty in obtaining employment or filling a vacancy if their requirements are advertised in the "Mark Lane Express," which is best done under a nom de plume, and addressed to this office. The charge is only a penny for every three words, but the cash must be remitted at the time of ordering the advertisement.

The Sheep Sale Season.

PRESENT PROSPECTS—RAM SALES—PRICE OF WOOL—RAM SELECTION.

THE period between Midsummer and Lammas Day is the most critical of any in the year for sheep-breeders owing to the prospects of the root crop becoming indicated therein, on which the magnitudinous flock-tradings of the autumn in rams, wether lambs, and draft ewes so much depend. Thus, at Salisbury Great Sheep Fair, although lambs were considered to sell at about the prices realised at the sale of the previous year, there was reported to be a decline of about 2s. per head in ewes, the cause being entirely attributed to some degree of uncertainty having been prevalent at that time, the middle of July, in respect to turnip prospects. The Chalk Hill districts of the south-west had less of the copious rainfall which fell in other parts of the kingdom during the latter part of the spring as well as in the summer, when both the northern and western counties were satiated. Nor had they much of the rainfall in the last week of June and the first week of July. So far from there being a decline, advances in the rates of ewes as well as lambs are reported from Scotland and every part of the kingdom where the almost absolute certainty of a good turnip crop has been well assured. Moreover, as there appears to be a satisfactory plant of turnips, even where a fortnight since the soil wanted watering, and as showers have more or less refreshed the latter since, we may fairly hope that the range of values will now appreciate everywhere throughout the season.

Ram sales had a grand, stimulating feature of a truly sensational nature at the Riby sale on July 12, by the record price of 1,450 guineas having been realised for a Lincoln ram, and an average of over £101 having been obtained by the sale of fifty-six. It will be asserted, no doubt, that the enormous demand in Argentina for rams of that breed was the chief cause; but according to experience in the past, high prices for the rams of other breeds have always been realised in the years when those of the South American buyers have swelled most. The export demand for some of the other breeds has attained high proportions, and the general harmony in the condition of things usually causes the home demand to be affected by the foreign. The higher rates for wool naturally affect favourably every description of sheep-breeding and sheep-trading. The fact of the fleeces of most flocks yielding on an average from half-a-crown to four shillings each more than they did three or four years since is sufficient in itself to cause many farmers to return to sheep-keeping who abandoned it when the times were indifferent. Any active demand for sheep in ordinary markets leads to more breeding and to a larger number of rams being required. Hence the appreciation of wool affects shepherding all along the line until it reaches the ram breeder.

But there is another influence which has always exerted a far more powerful operative trend. Sheep have ever been more effectively the agents and administrators of better farming than any other stock. By growing roots and green crops for sheep to feed off on the land the latter becomes replete of fertility to produce heavy crops of whatever will realise greatest revenue, so that the enrichment of the farm brings full stackyards and wealth to the operator. "Sheep have golden feet, and wherever the print of them appears the soil is turned into gold," so runs the old proverb. But some kinds of sheep do this far more effectually than others, by which arises the necessity of flock improvement and carrying out the best systems and arts of sheep culture. Rams play the most important part in these evolutionary processes. By the employment of a suitable one the character of progeny becomes changed more or less, according to his prepotency and suitability for the work desired. Skilful breeders, by the use of rams, have been able to mould the forms of their lambs almost at will. Great Britain's pastoral wealth effected by these agencies has become the world's envy, and numerous cargoes of rams leave our ports every year for the European Continent as well as for the more distant regions of North and South America, Australasia, &c. Some highly important ram auctions will take place this week, and henceforth throughout August and September, and for mountain flocks far into October. There will be ram auctions every week The season has had a truly marvellous commencement, may it have a propitious continuation and a satisfactory course of results to the end.

Mr. George Judd,
Cocum, Barton Stacey, R.S.O., Hants.
Breeder of Hampshire Downs.

Mr. George Adams,
Faringdon, Berks.
Breeder of Oxford Downs.

Mr. H. W. Stilgoe,
Adderbury, Banbury.
Breeder of Oxford Downs.

Mr. E. Gibson Heslop,
Langton, Gainford, Darlington.
Breeder of Oxford Downs.

Mr. E. Horseman,
Richmond, Yorks.
Breeder of Wensleydale Sheep.

Mr. David Buttar,
Corston, Coupar Angus, N.B.
Breeder of Shropshire Sheep.

Wool Preparation for Sale.

The breezy discussion which ensued at the conference of the National Sheep Breeders' Association at Derby, will perhaps be productive of good, but chiefly in a way different from what the reader of the paper supposed. The large flockowners who joined in it repudiated the charges seemingly thrown out that British producers of wool generally are neglectful of taking good care in clipping and tying up fleeces to have the latter free of extraneous matter.

The advice that shearing should take place on a cleanly swept floor seems superfluous. This was what was scrupulously attended to half a century ago, and, indeed, as long past as the oldest dweller amid flocks in country districts can remember. More than this, octogenarians who remember the sheep-shearing of their childhood confirming this will also state that a broom was invariably kept at the shearing-floor to keep it perfectly clean during the operation. In fact, a great deal more than this might be testified to proving that sheep farmers have always been accustomed to employ every possible means to produce clean fleeces. Consequently when Mr. Hollings stated that "preparing wool for market as their grandfathers did will not do in these days," he must have had in his mind something entirely different. But if he meant sorting, that is an operation farmers can scarcely be expected to undertake.

Mr. T. Casswell declared this emphatically. They tied up their fleeces as free from dirt and other adulterants as possible, leaving the sorting to the manufacturers or the middlemen through whose hands the wool passed.

It was said that the charges in the paper were not directed against the progressive farmers who belong to the National Sheep Breeders' Association, or those who attend shows and move with the times, but to the stay-at-home men, the non-progressists.

And Mr. Hollings, in his reply to his critics, contended that there are "thousands of English farmers who prepare their wool for market in a way far different from what they ought to do."

If this be so, the inference to be drawn would naturally be that they would be unlikely to be influenced by a paper read before an association they take no interest in, and whose proceedings they seldom, if ever, become acquainted with.

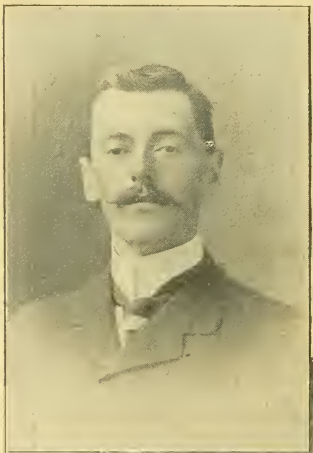
Unless wool manufacturers believe it to be the duty of the association to educate the lower classes of the flock-owners who do not belong to it, there would seem to be very little use in bringing the evil complained of before that body. It must rather be regarded as one only to be remedied in the trade channel. There would appear to be something radically wrong in the traffic system wool passes through between the producer and the manufacturer.

In the times of our grandfathers the local wool-staplers knew the farmers among those they dealt with who took pains with their wool to offer it in a cleanly proper state. If offered wool by those not previously dealt with, or by producers whose fleeces had before been found carelessly or badly prepared, examination would take place previous to purchase. If there are now thousands of this class it is only because modern trade customs are so defective that those who, like Mr. Kidner and Mr. Casswell, take pains with their wool, get no more for it than the slovens and careless who keep mongrel flocks and whose management is the reverse of good.

Holding up the practices of Colonial farmers as an example to English ones was uncalled for, the circumstances being so entirely diverse. If the home farmer happens to own two flocks of different kinds of sheep, common-sense would cause him to keep their fleeces apart to be offered for sale in different lots.

Small farmers who have no permanent flocks and buy sheep from hand to mouth are only those likely to mix different sorts of fleeces together. But there were few of these present at the reading of the paper, nor is at all likely to come under the notice of many of them.

Mr. C. E. HOWARD,
Nocton Rise Lincoln



Leicester Ewes and Lambs. Owner and Breeder: Mr. G. E. Ward, Stanthorn, Middlewich, Cheshire.

Two-shear Lincoln Ram. First Prize and Reserve Champion at the Royal Show, Derby.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Volume three of the South Devon Flock Book, recently issued, gives striking evidence of the success which has attended the efforts of the South Devon Flock Book Association, and seeing the hearty co-operation of flock-masters they have received, the association may be expected to still further progress. The flock book, which is on similar lines to flock books of other breeds, contains details of rams Nos. 1673 to 2569, ewes Nos. 1 to 40, and flocks Nos. 1 to 216. Applications for the volume should be addressed to the secretary and editor, Mr. W. W. Chapman, Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

The eighteenth volume of the Oxford Down Flock Book has now been issued, and is on similar lines to the previous volume, containing as it does useful information to all breeders of Oxford Downs. The rams entered are from Nos. 4504 to 4948, and ewes Nos. 1617 to 1707. It is issued by the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association, of which Mr. Howard Sammons, 11, Queen Street, Oxford, is the secretary.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY NOTES.

There was a very representative display of agricultural implements and machinery at the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show at Peebles last week. The directors of the society had to face the same difficulty as at Glasgow last year—namely, exigencies of space compelling them to rigidly enforce the regulation as to the exclusion from the implement department of appliances which are not directly related to the work of the farm. Manufacturers also, for the same reason, had to limit their displays. In the result, however, the exhibition did not in any way suffer, rather was it made more compact a no mean advantage to the visitor—and it proved as attractive on any previous occasion.

In all, 1,658 entries were catalogued, a smaller aggregate than at Glasgow last year, but it compared favourably with previous shows in the south-eastern district. Indeed, of the eight exhibitions which have been held in the Borderland the number has been exceeded only twice, at Truro in 1872 and in 1898, when the numbers respectively were 1,777 and 1,933. All the leading Scottish firms were well represented, while manufacturers on this side of the Border again took the opportunity of bringing the latest results of their ingenuity before Scottish farmers. The number of individual exhibitors was about the same as last year over 190—against over 200 at Perth, and their stands occupied nearly 5,000 ft. of shedding the same as at Glasgow last year, or a decrease of about 1,000 ft. from the previous year. The society usually arrange for a series of trials of some selected class of machine; but this year there was no competition of the kind.

Sheep-Farmers' Root and Fodder Crops.

Sheep farming has undergone very considerable revival in many parts of England during the past two years, and fortunately prospects just now are altogether favourable to flock extension.

A tolerably reliable opinion can be formed at the middle of July on root crop prospects. At least, so far as success in getting a plant is concerned, which must be accounted a very considerable factor, the estimate is altogether assuring. Seldom have reports from all parts of the kingdom afforded more favourable statements in regard to this. The late rains have had marvellously beneficial influences wherever the issue was previously at all doubtful. Mangel and early-sown swedes have during the past week been making extraordinarily rapid growth, and later-sown turnips have escaped fly ravages satisfactorily.

Complaints, it is true, have come from some districts of light hay crops, but with a grassy autumn it may be possible to make up this shortage by conversion of surplus aftermath to silage. Some farmers strive to make hay of it, with the result of oftener stacking spoilt fodder than good. Adoption of the ensilage system would be the wiser course, as being perfectly reliable, especially if the grass be made pies of and clamped. The same course should be invariably adopted with surplus green crops, such as vetches and trifolium, which make indifferent hay but excellent silage.

The recent rains have also favoured plantings of young kale seedlings where trifolium or vetches have been folded off and the land replonghed for a second crop. This up to a recent period was almost invariably turnips, but by raising a nursery-bed of young kale to plant into such lands, more reliable and heavier crops have been obtained, especially after the second week of the present month. But the character of the soil itself makes a great difference as to this, as well as for substituting other crops for turnips and swedes at any time.

On some soils turnips fail far oftener than on others. For late croppings after the middle of July, however, it would be advisable on land generally to plant seedlings rather than sow seed; and kale seedlings have always been found to succeed better than any others. When kale culture was new to most farmers, some thirty years since, and the late Mr. R. Russell read a paper thereon the Farmers' Club, one well-known authority declared that the plant, according to description, was the most accommodating one ever known. However this may be, it is certainly the most available to farmers for transplanting.

One of the greatest cares root growers have been having lately, and which just now presses rather severely, is that of singling out young plants before they get too big in their rows. A considerable proportion of the work has come pressingly in the haymaking season, and only trained, experienced labourers are qualified to perform it. The latter often demand a high price per acre for doing it, and when the plants grow rapidly and large breadths await the singling process, the operation will scarcely brook delay, as the bigger the plants get the more difficult does the task become. Nor is this the entire trouble, for if bulbous root plants are not thinned in proper time and effectually, their bulbing becomes seriously impaired.

Kale is stated to have accommodated some sheep farmers even in coping with this difficulty. Experience has proved, it is stated, that if the seed is drilled in April or May into the land to bear the crop, the latter can be grown successfully without any hand singling whatever. The only plant thinning required, apparently, is that of drawing a light pair of harrows across the rows when the plants are quite young and the land is in proper condition for the operation.

Lagos Agricultural Show.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a communication from Mr. C. A. Birtwistle, Commercial Intelligence officer for Southern Nigeria, who is at present in this country, with regard to the agricultural show which is to be held in Lagos in November next. Mr. Birtwistle, who is also the manager of the show, calls attention to the fact that the steamship companies will carry exhibits freight free.

The necessary shipping forms may be had on application to the Commercial Intelligence officer for Southern Nigeria, care of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., up to July 31. Copies may also be obtained at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Exhibits of implements or machinery must be in the hands of the shipping companies at Liverpool or Hamburg not later than September 25.

Guardians and their Pigs.—The Nottingham Board of Guardians and the Local Government Board are at loggerheads concerning the keeping of pigs at the workhouse. Already the guardians have about 100 pigs, but this number is insufficient to consume the large quantity of waste food and refuse from the land under cultivation. Application having been made to the Local Government Board for permission to provide another run, that authority has replied refusing the request, and suggesting that the guardians might turn their attention to the reduction of the quantity of waste food. The matter is to be further pursued by the farm committee.

Sheep Notes and Jottings.

Weather has been severe on sheep keep in many districts during the past week, and little as there seemed to a possibility of it a fortnight ago, rain is anxiously looked for for the seeds and root crops in places. The July sun is very scorching, and it works a long day, so that when once the land loses moisture its influence is great, and a good general rain now on the eve of harvest would be much appreciated. The effect of the drought has not been without its influence on the sheep trade, and badly as sheep are wanted prices have given way in places to some slight extent—more in the case of ewes where a spring supply of food will be needed than for lambs for fattening during winter, for which there is a reasonably safe amount of food visible. Yet apart from the food supply, ewes must be sound buying so far as the likelihood of a demand for mutton and wool in the future demand.

The dry weather has made it necessary to think of autumn sown catch crops. As a rule, there does not look to be much anxiety as to the supply of autumn food, but there is that critical period between roots and grass in the spring to be provided for. At the same time, the value of the sheep as a means of keeping up the fertility of the farm can never properly be lost sight of, and the early-sown catch crops to provide autumn sheep keep and conserve much plant food which otherwise would be washed out of the land by the winter rains, and at the same time do much towards keeping the land clean. They also enable the swedes, which are very indigestible and liable to scour the sheep when fed too young, to become properly matured. Such mustard and white turnips as can be got in now and during the next few weeks are more valuable to the flockmaster than might appear on casual observation.

A very satisfactory feature in connection with this season's successful sheep sales is that although there is such a strong invasion by foreign purchasers, home breeders only yield to them when specially good animals are under the hammer, when the full value has been reached. The strong bidding of Messrs. Dean for Mr. Dudding's record-making ram is a case in point; but it is only one of many. There seems to be a feeling among breeders that they have got the breed, they have got the sheep, and they've got the money too, and they mean to maintain the supremacy of the flocks unless they are exceptionally pressed. The world knows the position of the British flockmaster, and so long as the present attitude of flockmasters is sustained there is no fear of our breeds deteriorating.

In respect to the exportation of sheep we can better afford to let an occasional superlative ram go than part with our best ewes. Such a ram can work wonders on a flock abroad, and can scarcely be bought too dearly, for it can influence a vast number of

The pen of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs with which Mr. Cary Coles, Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury, won the 25-Guinea Challenge Cup at Salisbury Fair on July 16, 1906. Inset is a portrait of Mr. Cary Coles.

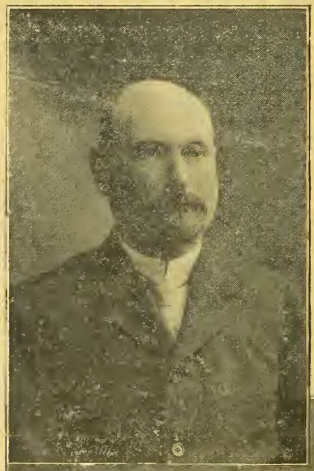
animals immediately and in the future; and no one would grudge the purchaser any success he achieved through it; but it is important to retain ewes which can produce equally good rams as those which leave the country. It is doubtful if much harm has ever been done by parting with males; but if we look for an instance where the exportation of females has wrought unmistakable and lasting harm, one has only to refer to the sale of Irish Hunter brood mares. Foreign governments recognise the importance of the dam, and bought for many years all they could lay hands on which showed special merit, and rare good bargains they made. The endeavour to breed up a stock of mares such as existed years ago has been by no means too satisfactory, although both skill and money have been systematically expended to accomplish it. It is open to question if some of our good ewes are not sold too cheaply. A good ewe may be the foundation of an excellent flock in the future. It is hard to refuse a paying price for a lot of ewes, especially when the price is in advance of what could be made to home purchasers; but the ewe is the mother of the ram, and in our mind many of those who purchase ewes for other countries often get very fine bargains.

The shepherd's life is ordinarily one in which much bad weather and rough work over long hours have to be faced, but no class of labourer grumbles less at his lot. The prize for the shepherd who has been longest in that capacity in Lincolnshire has been won by a man with the creditable record of forty-one years. Doubtless the country can find a vast number who have far longer records, as "once a shepherd, always a shepherd," holds good more certainly that most axioms. Whether master or man, one who has once gained a liking for sheep rarely loses it; but shepherds in the past have generally learned to love being among sheep when they were very young, and town attractions are not strong enough to draw them away. What will happen in the future is difficult to say; but undoubtedly long schooling at the Board School makes many bad clerks out of stuff that might have been developed into excellent shepherds.

Southdown Shearling Ewes. Winners of many prizes this year, including First and Champion at the Norfolk Show. The property of Mr. J. Colman, Gatton Park, Surrey.

Southdown Rams. Prize winners at several Shows, and sold by their breeder, Mr. J. Colman, Gatton Park, Surrey, to go to Chili.

Mr. W. T. GARNE,
Aldsworth, Northleach, R.S.O.



Cotswold Shearling Ram. First Prize at the Royal Show, 1905.

The Hampshire Down sales have had a good send off, and with the prospect of a big root crop in spite of a check in growth in some districts there is likelihood of a keen trade throughout the season. With the foreigner busy with high-class sheep, some specially high prices are likely to be recorded. If the South Americans make Guernsey a slaughtering depôt, the Down breeds will prove more attractive to them than they have been. Other countries have appreciated their value for a longer period, and are increasing their demand.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

The fair held at Boyle, co. Roscommon, on Wednesday, was a small one. Three-year-old cattle were bought up at good prices, but two-year-olds were not in so good demand. Springers sold well, whilst lambs met a ready sale. Prices: Calves, 1st class, £2 10s. to £2 16s. 8d.; 2nd class, £2 5s. to £2 7s. 6d; yearlings, 1st class, £8 5s. to £8 10s; 2nd class, £5 15s. to £7; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 10s. to £12; 2nd class, £8 to £10; three-year-olds, 1st class, £15; 2nd class, £12 to £12 10s; Springers, 1st class, £17 10s. to £21 10s; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £15. Lambs, 1st class (170), £1 12s. to £1 17s. 6d.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Lord Rothschild's Hampshire Downs.

Messrs. W. Brown and Co. sold at Tring on the 20th inst. 65 ram lambs, 3 shearlings, and 74 ewes from Lord Rothschild's famous flock. Over 200 visitors attended the sale, many coming from a distance (three buyers from South America being present), and throughout the sale there was no lack of biddings, every lot being cleared. Never has a more even, good charactered lot of sheep been offered from this flock. The sale started with 3 lambs to be let for six weeks, the first sired by Stonehenge (bred by Mr. C. Coles), a grand, lengthy sheep, with excellent wool, was secured by Mr. J. Flower, Chilmark, at 60 guineas; number two, sire Friend at Court (bred by Mr. Flower) made 36 guineas, to Mr. Caire; and number three, by Stonehenge, went to Mr. Holmes at 32 guineas. Amongst the sale lambs one went to Mr. Holmen at 42 guineas, one to Mr. Thompson Woodperry at 42 guineas, one to Mr. Welch at 37 guineas, one to Mr. J. G. Williams at 23 guineas, one to Mr. Hardy Pearce at 18 guineas, Mr. Crosland buying at 16 guineas. Major Porteous, for the agricultural flock, took 15 lambs at an average of 10 guineas each; others made from this down to 6½ guineas, every lamb offered being cleared at the satisfactory average of £14 each, and £14 9s. 4d. average for the three let lambs. Three shearlings made 13 guineas, 12 guineas, and 10½ guineas. The ewes were not many in number, and not very forward in condition, and comprised 28 two tooths, which made from 64s. to 76s.; 11 four tooths, 69s. and 81s.; 11 six tooths, 58s. to 61s; and 24 draft ewes, 47s. to 58s.

Mr. T. F. Buxton's Hampshire Downs.

A large company of breeders put in an appearance at Waters' Place, Ware, Herts, on Monday, for the sale of a choice selection from Mr. T. F. Buxton's well-known flock of Hampshire Downs. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence were the auctioneers, and they had no difficulty in disposing of the various lots, for all were brought out in the best of condition and were of the highest quality. The proceedings commenced with the letting of seven ram lambs, of which the Marquis of Winchester took one at 105 guineas; Mr. J. Flower one at 75 guineas; Mr. H. C. Stephens another at 50 guineas; Sir W. G. Pearce one at 32 guineas; and the Hon. D. P. Bouverie another at 28 guineas, whilst Mr. J. A. Keith Falconer got the other for but 11 guineas.

The ram lambs, which numbered seventy-two, were then disposed of at prices ranging from 8½ guineas to 23 guineas, the average working out at £13 11s. per head. Nine shearling rams made from 7½ guineas to 11 guineas each, or an average of £9 8s., and 120 ewes sold as follows:—Shearling ewes 64s. to 78s., two-shear ewes, 55s. to 62s., three-shear ewes, 62s. to 64s.; draft ewes, 56s. to 76s.; the average of the whole being 65s. 6d.

The Broughton Hampshire Downs.

Messrs. Berry Bros. and Bagshaw, of Kettering, on Tuesday brought under the hammer forty-five first-class pedigree Hampshire Down ram lambs and twenty ewe lambs from Mr. W. Shalford James's well-known Broughton Lodge, Kettering. There was a good attendance, and sale prices ranging from 4 to 10 guineas, the average per head being 6 guineas.

Bridport.

At this Dorsetshire fair held on Wednesday the number of sheep penned fell rather below the average of previous years, and trade was rather slow at about late rates. Down ewes ranged from about 42s. to 46s. 6d.; Down and cross-bred lambs, 27s. to 32s. 6d.; horn couples and cross-bred lambs, 48s. to 55s.; fat ewes, 43s. to 47s.; fat lambs, 26s. 6d. to 33s.

Exeter.

At Exeter Cattle Market on the 20th inst. Messrs. J. Risdon and Son disposed of about forty pedigree Devon Longwool rams at satisfactory prices. Twelve from Mrs. M. L. Thorne's flock at Curdon, Williton, made from 5½ to 13 guineas; Mr. F. White, Torweston, Williton, got 20 guineas for one, 13½ guineas for another, and sold others from 7½ to 13 guineas; seven from Mr. R. D. Hancock's flock, Taunton, made up to 12 guineas; Mr. Skinner's shearling rams made 19½, 13, 9½, 9, and 6 guineas, and those from Mr. W. Brent's flock made up to 7½ guineas.

Harleston.

Harleston lamb sale was held on Monday, when Messrs. G. Durrant and Sons brought under the hammer something like 5,000 sheep and lambs. Trade was very fast indeed, in fact, taken all round, the best of the season. The top figure for Suffolk lambs was 52s. (for 50 ear marked ewe), made by Mr. J. B. Dimmock, who sent a consignment of 495. Mr. A. R. Todd had 500 first-cross, and came second with these in the catalogue. The fastest trade came directly his big lot had been sold, otherwise his best forty ewe lambs would in all probability have reached a higher figure than 39s. 6d., which tied with forty-four from Mr. F. Snelling, both, however, being exceeded.

Leicester Shearling Ram Property of Messrs Simpson, Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, Yorks.

This Shropshire Ram won the First Prize for two shear rams of the breed at the Royal Dublin Society's Sheep Show last year. Our photo, however, shows it as a shearling ram. It is the property of Mr. R. F. H. White, Aghavoe Grange, Ballaeolla, Abbeyleix.

Mr. T. S. MINTON, Montford, Shrewsbury.

Shropshire Ewe Lambs.

One hundred five-months'-old and four six-months'-old Oxford Down Ram Lambs, bred by Mr. J. H. Large, Crudwell, Malmesby.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Bury St. Edmunds.

At their annual Bury St. Edmunds sale Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons disposed of numerous consignments of English wool, comprising about 15,000 fleeces from some of the leading flocks in the neighbourhood. Some Southdown wool from the Home Farm of the Duke of Grafton made the top price—14¾d. per lb. Some similar hogget wool, also consigned by his Grace, fetched 14½d. Southdown ewe wool from the Saxham Farm of the Marquis of Bristol, 14½d.; Earl Cadogan's Southdown hogget wool, from the Home Farm, Culford, went up to 13¾d., similar prices being realised by others. An average of wool classified showed that washed wool included Southdown hogget, which fetched from 14¾d. to 13¾d. per lb.; Southdown ewe, 14¼d. to 13½d.; half-bred hogget, 14d. to 13½d.; half-bred ewe, 13½d.; black-faced hogget, 13¾d. to 13d.; black-faced ewe, 13¾d. to 12¾d. Unwashed wool: Half-bred ewe and hogget, 10d. to 9d.; black-faced ewe, 9½d. to 8¾d.; black-faced hogget, 9½d. to 8¾d.

Hawick.

The old-established wool fair at Hawick, as usual, attracted a very large company of buyers from all parts. Farmers were in expectation of a substantial advance on last year's prices, and as buyers were not inclined to give this, the day was far advanced before any transactions took place, but eventually a large number of clips changed hands, at an advance on last year's prices. A number of Cheviot clips were sold at an advance of 1d., 1½d., and, in one or two instances, 1¾d. per lb., the prices ranging from 27s. to 28s., with some at 28s. 6d., the general rise being from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per stone, the advance which this class made last year being from 4s. 6d. to 5s. per stone.

There was not much done in half-bred wool, but where business was transacted prices showed an advance from last year of about 2s. per stone, the price for half-bred ewe wool being 26s., and half-bred hogg 28s. A half-bred clip with a third of hogg in it was sold at 27s. The advance last year in this class was also about 2s. per stone. There was little doing in black-faced clips, but those transactions which were revealed showed a rise also of 2s. per stone, up to 17s., the advance in this department last season having been 1s. per stone.

Ipswich.

About 8,000 fleeces were offered at the annual wool sale held at Ipswich on the 20th inst. by Messrs. Bond and Sons. The number was rather less than usual, owing to the fact that because of the dry season the growers were enabled to get it into the June sale, which then totalled some 40,000 fleeces. There was a fairly good trade, but the prices realised showed a general reduction of 1d. to 1½d. per lb., which is quite in accordance with the market fluctuations. The highest price realised was 14d. per lb. for a sheet of Southdown ewe, consigned by Mr. H. Squirl Dawson. Black-faced hogget, black-faced ewe, and half-bred hogget all touched 13¾d.

The price for unwashed wool fell at the same rate as compared with the June sale; the top price realised was 10½d. for Southdown lambs from Mr. K. M. Clark, for half-bred hogget from Mr. G. J. Buxton, and black-faced hogget from Mr. E. J. Keeble. Black-faced ewe, unwashed, fetched from 10d. to 8d., and half-bred ewe 9½d. to 9d.

PUMPING MACHINERY

is always required amongst the class of readers who regularly take the "Mark Lane Express"—the larger farmers and estate owners.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Royal Veterinary College.

In presenting the report at the annual meeting of the Royal Veterinary College held on Monday, Sir Nigel Kingscote, Chairman of the Governors, said that although they might congratulate themselves on the fact that a larger percentage of students had passed the examinations, they had to regret that there were fewer students in the college. They could hardly account for this, but it was probable that both Dublin and Liverpool had taken students away from them. Beyond this, many young men who had intended to follow the veterinary profession, in view of the mechanical machines which were now going about in such numbers, thought they had better turn their attention to them. No doubt many were afraid that the motor would take the place of the horse, but he trusted that this would not be the case.

As to the work of the college, there had been a decrease in horses, but an increase in dogs and cats, and there had been 11,376 gratuitous inspections. They had to report a decrease in subscriptions, but in response to an appeal which they had made they had received an intimation from the Board of Agriculture that the Lords of the Treasury had agreed to provide £800 for the further extension of the teaching staff. This would help them to meet the requirements of the University of London, with which they were shortly to be affiliated. In this connection they had sent out a special appeal, but, with two exceptions, the response had been very poor. Messrs. Elliman had sent a donation of £500, and promised £100 a year, and Spratts (Limited) 100 guineas.

Lord Coventry seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously.

Sheep with Foot Rot.

Can someone help me with advice as to best way to get rid of foot rot in a flock of ewes and lambs?—X. L.

Answer: Your manner of expressing your requirement suggests the disease indigenous to the soil, or that you farm land that, to use a common, if incorrect, expression, is subject to foot rot. These cases are difficult to deal with, and the complete eradication of the contagious form of foot rot on stiff, wet land is anything but easy. With reference to individual treatment, there are a great many agents available for dressing the feet, but most of them are powerful caustics, and between

Mr E. HARRISON,
Gainford, Darlington.

Leicester Ram. Winner of First Prize at the Yorkshire Show, 1905.

these and the injudicious use of the knife, the sheep are subjected to a great deal of unnecessary suffering. We have found a mixture of equal parts of butyr of antimony and aloctic tincture of myrrh quite as effectual, and much less painful to the animal, as the strong mineral acids. The feet should be carefully examined, if necessary poulticed, and all loose and decayed horn carefully removed. Nothing that is sound should be be cut away, as denuding the foot of its horn encourages fungoid growth. The terchloride of antimony dressing should be applied with a feather or small brush. Dry lying is essential to quick recovery from foot rot. When the disease is not very bad, and as a preventive on farms where the disease is rife, a kind of wholesale treatment is practised—the sheep being driven through a shallow trough containing an astringent solution—arsenic or sulphate of copper—but in all cases of actual disease the feet require individual attention in the matter of paring and evacuating imprisoned matter.

Horse with Bad Forefeet.

I have an eight-year-old horse in sound condition, but he has very bad forefeet under him. I have tried cow-dung, but they do not look to improve any. He had the inflammation in them last summer.

Answer: "A horse in sound condition that has very bad forefeet under him" seems a bit of a paradox, for the generally received opinion is that the measure of a horse's soundness is the soundness of his feet. You do not say what is the condition of the feet, or in what respect they are "bad," but the statement that he "had the inflammation in them last summer," suggests that you have to deal with that common sequel to acute laminitis—dropped soles and brittle walls. If this be so, it is not a matter for surprise that you have to record that "they do not look to improve," as the result of the trial of cow-dung. It would have been more surprising if they had improved. We cannot here go into the changes of the foot structure that lead up to flat or convex soles following laminitis, but they are changes that are permanent, and for all practical purposes it may be said that the condition is *incurable*. Something may, however, be done to prevent the changes that have taken place becoming aggravated, and to improve the going by special shoeing.

What are Lungs?

I should feel much obliged if you would tell me what the lungs of a pig really are—if they are what the butchers commonly call lights or not—to settle the dispute between me and a friend, and oblige.—FARMER.

Answer: Lungs and lights are synonymous terms, or rather "lights" is a name applied not only by butchers, but their customers as well, to the lungs, which are the organs of respiration. Probably the name arose from the extreme elasticity, buoyancy, and lightness of the lungs as compared with other organs in the body, such as the heart, liver, and kidneys, whose structure is dense and heavy. The lungs consist of an infinite number of little cells, each not larger than a millet seed, fixed upon foot stalks, each foot stalk being a tube, which is a branch of the windpipe. These cells are filled with air. Even when the lungs are empty these cells always contain a considerable quantity of air—called the residual air—and they are therefore never entirely collapsed, and always float in water.

"Fly" or "Maggot" in Sheep.

(Concluded from page 91.)

According to Steel ("Diseases of Sheep"), fish oil smeared over the fleece is a deterrent to the fly, but he carefully points out that it gives to the wool a peculiar smell, which it is difficult to get rid of, and makes the sheep unpleasant to handle. He says:—"A few drops sprinkled on the animal in May will protect it for a whole season," but it would be better to trust to a reliable dip.

What constitutes a good dip is a point on which opinions may differ, and it must be left to the flockmaster, or his shepherd, to decide as to what dip they will use; but it may be pointed out that carbolic dips, whatever their merits as vermin destroyers, are valueless for this purpose, because they are too evanescent. To be efficient and lasting it is necessary that the dip should be poisonous, and contain sulphur as an indispensable ingredient, and such a dip, by remaining in the fleece, will, if employed in the early part of the season, confer immunity from fly attacks to a surprising extent, as well as prevent the development of the larvæ, which are hatched from the eggs into a poisoned medium.

Sprinkling is very much akin to dipping, a solution of the same material being used. It is practised when it is not convenient to set up a regular bath for dipping each sheep individually. In sprinkling, sheep are penned as close together as possible, and the solution applied to the fleece by means of a watering-can with rose attachment. Remedial measures are very simple, and when a sheep is found to be "struck," the essentials are to destroy the maggots and keep the wound clean and aseptic. Some of the agents employed are unnecessarily drastic.

The Board of Agriculture recommend that the maggots "should be picked or rubbed off, or where they have got to work the wool may be shorn a little, the affected parts being dressed with a mixture of turpentine and rape oil in equal parts, or with dilute paraffin oil, finishing off with a dusting of sulphur."

Some shepherds use what they call a "fly-stone"—a lump of perchloride of mercury—which they rub among the maggots. There is no doubt about its killing them—it would kill half the parish—but it is unnecessarily severe, and a milder and equally efficient dressing is:—Perchloride of mercury, 1 drachm; hydrochloric acid, 1 drachm; spirits of tar, 2 drachms; oil of turpentine, 1 oz; boiling water to 8 oz. This can be carried in the pocket. On finding a "struck" sheep, the wool should be clipped from over and around the part affected, and a little of the dressing poured in among the maggots, care being taken to involve the whole of them.

A wooden skewer or piece of pointed hard wood is useful for dislodging the larvæ.

The isolation of "struck" sheep is desirable, but is rarely practicable without considerable interference with the routine management of the flock. M.R.C.V.S

Water Finding.—Whatever may be the views of scoffers of the water finder, they are certainly not shared by the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society, for at their recent show they awarded one of their silver medals as an award of special merit in the discovery of springs of water for the benefit of agriculture to Mr. B. Tompkins, of Woolley Manor, Huntingdon, an expert water finder and author of "The Theory of Water Finding." This is the first occasion on which a medal has been awarded to a water finder by an agricultural society or other public body, and Mr. Tompkins is naturally highly pleased with such a distinctive honour. It may be mentioned that there were over twenty competitors in this class of various inventions and exhibits for use in agriculture, but the three judges considered Mr. Tompkins's of the greatest utility and benefit to have discovered the power and ability to discover springs of water underground for pure water supplies.

Mr OWEN PRICE.
Nantyrharn Cray, Brecon.

Welsh Mountain Shearling Ewes. Winners of First Prize at the Royal Show, Derby, 1906.

Welsh Mountain Ram, Twm or Nant II. First Prize at the Royal Show, 1906. Property of Mr. Owen Price.

Champion Border Leicester Ram. Exhibited and bred by Mr. David Hume, Barrelwell, Brechin, N.B. Sold to the Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., for £75.

Champion Border Leicester Ram. Bred by Mr. David Hume, Barrelwell Brechin, N.B. Sold for New Zealand.

Saxmundham Sheep Fair.

Messrs. Flick and Son's thirty-ninth annual lamb sale at Saxmundham took place on the 20th inst., when there was a catalogue of about 8,000 lambs and ewes from 35 consignors, and including fourteen registered flocks of the Suffolk breed. The sale was very largely attended and trade was good throughout at rates similar to those prevailing at Harleston. Mr. Tyrrell's first cross averaged close upon 41s., and 50 picked ewes brought the unusual figure of 47s. 6d., at which they went to Mr. Robert Minter, of Huntingfield. Of the Suffolk lambs, a pen of ewes from Mr. Grenville's Exors. made the top price of the day, 53s. 6d., and the average was 40s. 4d; Mr. Kenneth Clark coming next with a pen at 51s., and Mr. Harry Fulcher third at 50s.

Good Prices for Hackneys.

Fifty-four pedigree Hackneys and ponies, the property of Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington, were sold by auction recently for a total of 3,019 guineas. The feature of the sale was a pair of harness mares, Terrington Virago and Vera, which Mr. F. S. Pearce, of New York, secured for 350 guineas. Mr. Kerr, of Rickmansworth, gave 120 guineas for Terrington Victory, 110 guineas for Tissington Hall Mark, and 110 guineas for Terrington Josephus, whilst Mr. Smith, of Birmingham, paid 100 guineas for Terrington Divinity.

Motor Car Dust Nuisance.

The Royal Commission on Motor Cars has now issued its report, and it has naturally been the sole topic of conversation amongst all users of motors and others. To our readers, perhaps, the most important and interesting part of the report is that in connection with the dust nuisance, to which the Commission devoted much attention. They do not think that the dust nuisance can be much cured by any alteration in the design of cars. It is the speed above ten miles that is the trouble, and they do not feel able to recommend that the production of dust should be made a statutory offence; it would be too difficult and uncertain. Their conclusion really is that as motor cars are here and must increase, the question must be faced by a general improvement of the roads. They think that British roads are not good as a whole, and soft stone is far too freely used, and no proper binding material is employed. Generally speaking, they say the evidence suggests that the best type of macadam will probably be found to make the most effective and economical road for all kinds of traffic, including both heavy and light motor cars. Such roads should be made with solid foundations and surfaced with granite or similar hard stone, the binding material being of screened gravel or chippings of the stone used and being properly rolled in.

When provision had to be made for exceptionally heavy traffic the system of armouring a metalled road surface with stone blocks known in Liverpool as random setts is, in the commissioners' opinion, well worthy of careful consideration by road authorities. In roads and villages tarring, though expensive, would not be too expensive for an effective remedy.

The commission recognise the financial difficulty, and their proposal is that the revenue from taxation of cars (they refuse to recommend allotting fines for this purpose) should be used for improvement, not for maintenance of roads, should be collected and administered by a central department, and should not be for main roads alone, but for any important road of through communication. It is with the object of raising more money for this purpose that they recommend a revised scale of licence duties.

Mr. R. F. H. WHITE,
Aghavoe, Ballacolla, Abbeyleix, Queen's County.

Shropshire Shearling Rams. Winners of the Challenge Cup for the best three Shearling Rams, and Champion Challenge Cup for best group of Shropshire Sheep, at the Royal Dublin Show, 1905.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

CAPTON HERD.—Noted for size, flesh, milk, quality, and symmetry combined; colour dark red, with robust constitutions. 100 for Sale. Exported to all parts of the world. Bulls and Heifers of this Herd always on Sale. A. BOWERMAN, Capton, Williton, Taunton.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

FOR SALE.—Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Eight to ten guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTER, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export. Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.)*.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder of Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

BORDER LEICESTERS.—The famous Border Leicester flock at Barrelwell, Brechin, N.B., has won the Championship of the Highland and Agricultural Society on six occasions, besides immense numbers of prizes at the Royal and other Shows. Sales of Rams and Gimmers at Kelso, Edinburgh, and Perth in September. Every facility afforded to Colonial and Foreign buyers.—DAVID HUME, Barrelwell, Brechin, N.B.

GALALAW (late MELLENDEAN).—Border Leicesters. Through long and careful breeding have inherent the best qualities of the breed; style, symmetry, pure colours, and good wool. Sales in September at Edinburgh and Kelso Ram Sales, and by private treaty at any time.—Messrs. SMITH, Galalaw, Kelso, N.B.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners, unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes won at the **Royal, Highland, Bath and West**, and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U S A International Exposition, 1904**, breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and also **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

On the initiative of Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P., and Mr. George Nicholls, M.P., a movement has been started to form an agricultural labourers' organisation in the Eastern Counties in order to aid its members in efforts for better housing, allotments, small holdings, and various social reforms. The first meeting was held on the 20th inst., North Walsham, when a provisional committee was appointed, and it was decided to start the union in the autumn. An appeal will be made to the trades unions for financial assistance.

Mr. J. P. Haliett, Sherford, Plymouth. Breeder of South Devon Sheep.

Mr. E. F. JORDAN, Eastburn, Driffield.

Leicester Shearling Ram, Royal Derby First Prize at the Royal Show, Derby, 1906.

Leicester Shearling Ram, Park Royal. First Prize at Royal, Bath and West, and Yorkshire Shows, 1905. Property of Mr. E. F. Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and													
Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—		—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Spraying Potatoes.

Now is the time that the development of disease in the growing potato plants should be hindered or at least kept in check by spraying, and, as prevention is better than cure, it is best to begin the spraying operations before symptoms of the complaint become apparent.

The Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute conducted a set of field trials last year in order

1. To determine the effect of Bordeaux mixture and solutions of sulphate of ammonia respectively in preventing disease

2. To see what effect the different dressings had on the total crop.

To ascertain which gives the best result—one, two, or three dressings.

The trials with the solution of sulphate of ammonia proved to be a failure; it became evident that the solution increased rather than diminished the disease, for those plots which were treated dropped the leaves and haulms, in consequence of disease, much earlier than the rest of the field. On lifting it was found that the amount of disease increased with the number of dressings. This treatment, therefore, cannot be recommended as a preventive of disease, as it fosters the enemy by feeding it, and, as a consequence, reduces the crop.

Solution of Sulphate of Ammonia.

The application of Bordeaux mixture, on the other hand, proved, as might be expected from previous experience, effectual in reducing the amount of disease and increasing the yield, and results generally justify its application being recommended, provided the details of mixing are carefully attended to.

Bordeaux Mixture.

It is found that three times spraying, at intervals, gives better results than either one or two applications.

The spraying mixtures were applied first on July 28, second on August 11, and third on September 7. The yield from the

	Per acre £	s.	d.
Thrice-sprayed plot was valued at	19	9	3
Twice-sprayed plot was valued at	18	13	0
Once-sprayed plot was valued at ...	18	9	8
Unsprayed plot was valued at	18	1	0

Calculated at 50s. per ton for large tubers, and 20s. per ton for small and diseased.

The first dressing had apparently little effect in preserving the haulms, but the plots that received the second and third dressings kept green fully eighteen days longer than the rest of the field; this was very marked and could be seen from a considerable distance. Stress is laid on the necessity of preparing the mixture with care as follows:—

3 lbs. of copper sulphate (blue vitriol) were dissolved in 12½ gallons of water in a wooden vessel—iron will not do—and 2½ lbs. of freshly burnt lime were slaked in another 12½ gallons of water. The solutions were poured, both at the same time—and this is very essential—into a third receptacle made of wood. The resulting solution, after well stirring, had a steel knife blade immersed in it for one minute; if no copper was deposited on the blade during immersion, the solution was considered fit for use; if copper happened to be deposited, more lime was added until no deposit of copper formed. After straining well, and repeated stirring, the solution was applied, by means of a Knapsack Sprayer, at the rate of 40 to 80 gallons per acre, according to the size of the haulms, on a calm day.

Prepartion of Mixture.

It is calculated that of the quantity of water which falls in the form of rain, 1 in. is equal to about 100 tons to the acre, each ton being about 224 gallons.

The Diamond-Back Moth.

It is reported that this unwelcome visitor has made its appearance in Norfolk, where it has already done considerable damage. Farmers should examine their turnip fields at once and take the necessary steps to protect their crops. The Board of Agriculture call attention to the importance of prompt action in this matter, and will send on application, free of charge and post free, copies of their leaflet giving a description of the insect, with the suggested remedies and methods of prevention. It may be mentioned that letters of application should be addressed to the Intelligence Branch, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W., and need not be stamped.

Quality of Feeding Stuffs and Chemical Manures.

At the recent meeting of the council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, the analyst of the society presented his half-yearly report, in the course of which he stated that one of the samples of linseed cakes which he analysed contained an unusually large proportion of oil, viz., 17·1 per cent. In view of the statement that mineral oil is sometimes substituted for the original linseed oil, the extracted oil was examined and proved to be free from adulteration. Among the phosphates and bone manures was a sample of tillage sold at £11 5s. per ton, whereas his valuation showed that it was not worth more than £6 10s. Another sample had been sold as dissolved bones; the analysis showed it to be superphosphate of lime. In three of the examinations for poisons, the poisonous alkaloid strychnine was found to be present. Twenty-eight of the forty-seven waters analysed were bad and unfit for use, three were doubtful, and sixteen were reported to be of good quality.

Fertiliser Material Imported from Jan. 1 to June 30, 1906.

	1905 Tons	1906 tons	1905 value	1906 value
Bones	19,885	20,071	£88,299	£92,471
Guano	12,155	13,094	£61,170	£68,854
Nitrate of soda	58,940	62,097	£637,389	£664,722
Phosphate	190,851	241,396	£269,888	£360,614

A Visit to Hadlow Experimental Station.

A small company of gentlemen spent a pleasant day last Tuesday in a visit of inspection round the experimental grounds at Hadlow (Kent), and were fortunate in having as guides on the occasion Dr. Dyer and Mr. Shrivell.

These experiments were begun about eleven years ago with the principal object of investigating whether the large quantities of purchased stable-manure generally used by hop growers and market gardeners could not be reduced without prejudice to the yields obtained, and how far a portion of the dung could be profitably supplemented by artificial manures.

Market gardeners very commonly use 25 tons, and occasionally as much as 50 tons stable manure per acre, involving an excessive expenditure, and it was felt that it would be doing the grower a great service, if it could be demonstrated, that a great part of this heavy outlay could be avoided.

The experiments have been made with nearly every kind of market garden crop, and have been arranged to contrast the effect of dressings of 25 tons of dung against a moderate dressing of 12½ tons supplemented by artificials, and against artificials alone.

The growth of the crops on the various plots at the present time, owing to the cold spring and the long drought, is not sufficiently advanced to enable any definite inference to be drawn, but so far as an opinion can be provisionally formed, the results seem to confirm the conclusions arrived at from the experiments of previous seasons, which, as want of space precludes us from giving details, may be summarised by the statement that the best results are in the average obtained by the use of a moderate dressing of 12½ tons of stable manure, supplemented by an application of nitrogen and phosphate, and it is also important to give potash to some of the crops. Market gardeners who have not yet studied the report of Dr. Dyer and Mr. Shrivell on "The Manuring of Market Garden Crops" should get it and read it carefully before deciding on the treatment of their crops next season.

The hop plots have suffered in common with the hops throughout the county. and will produce a small crop, but the best yield will apparently again be obtained from the plot dressed with a small quantity of stable manure supplemented with phosphate, potash, and 8 cwt. of nitrate of soda, applied in successive dressings from January to May. The hop-growing trials are becoming a feature, as many hop-growers visit the station to see the progress of the plants, and guided by the striking results obtained in previous seasons, are now lessening the applications of dung and other bulky manures, and using more freely nitrate of soda with results of a satisfactory character.

This season, for the first time, the experiments include trials on grass for hay. Almost adjoining the station there is a field of nearly 70 acres of grass, and by an arrangement with the owner an acre has been portioned off for the experiments. This acre has been divided up into plots to test the effect of dressings of phosphate, phosphate and potash, and phosphate, potash, and nitrate. When the field was visited the hay had been recently cut and the yield of each plot piled up in a separate cock. The extra yield on the plot that got the complete manure was quite striking, and seemed double the size of the yield on the plot that received no manure. The latter was estimated at about 15 cwt. to the acre against 30 cwt. for the complete manure, making a difference in value of about 45s. per acre, or a net profit, after deducting the cost of the manure of 20s. per acre. One could not help reflecting how greatly it would be to the advantage of farmers if they would study such results and put into practice the obvious lessons.

Experiments with Calcium Cyanamide.

To this month's issue of the *Journal of the Board of Agriculture* Mr. A. D. Hall, director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, contributes an article on the results of experiments made by him last season with this new form of fertiliser.

Calcium cyanamide, or lime-nitrogen (Kalkstickstoff), seems likely to have a practical interest before long, as it will possibly be offered in this country on a commercial scale during next season. Last winter and spring the German National Society of Agriculture supplied many of their members who desired to make trials with small parcels at the price of £11 per ton on the basis of 19 per cent. nitrogen, so that the unit of fertilising ingredient in it was substantially cheaper than in sulphate of ammonia. As it was tried by a great many farmers, there will be, before next season, information of the results obtained in farming practice. Meanwhile, the report of Mr. Hall will be read with interest. The material supplied to Rothamsted by the Cyanid Gesellschaft of Berlin was a fine black powder, which yielded on analysis 20·3 per cent. nitrogen, being thus only a trifle poorer in nitrogen than ordinary sulphate of ammonia, which contains about 20·5 per cent. In all cases it was compared with sulphate of ammonia, the trial plots being also supplied with phosphate and potash, so as to provide a complete manure, and make the test between the nitrogen in the cyanamide and an sulphate of ammonia a fair one.

The trials were made in barley and mangels, and taking the results together, as well as those obtained in 1904, it is clear that the nitrogen in calcium cyanamide is practically of the same value as that in sulphate of ammonia. There is a slight balance of evidence in favour of the sulphate of ammonia, chiefly manifested in the early stages of the growth of the crop, probably because the cyanamide is a little slower in coming into action, but the differences in the results are small and within the range of errors of experiment. Again, the Rothamsted soil is fairly well supplied with carbonate of lime, hence the sulphate of ammonia can exert its proper action, while no benefit is derived from the carbonate of lime which is produced in the soil from the cyanamide. Calcium cyanamide is decomposed within the soil into ammonia and calcium carbonate, 1 cwt. of cyanamide giving rise to at least 140 lb. of carbonate of lime. On many soils, particularly the clays and peaty soils, for which sulphate of ammonia is an unsuitable manure because it behaves like an acid, this carbonate of lime would be of value and should be counted to the credit of cyanamide as a manure.

Results.

The chief practical drawback to the use of cyanamide lies in the fact that it cannot be mixed with manures like superphosphate, but must be sown separately and scuffled into the soil some days before the seed is sown.

We hope that before another season begins this new material will be available in this country, but if not, we would suggest that the Royal Agricultural Society imitate the example of the German Society and arrange to place small quantities for trial purposes at cost price at the disposal of their members.

The quality of permanent pastures, writes Sibson, varies to a greater extent than any other kind of cultivated land; while some districts are remarkable for the richness and luxuriance of their grass land, in others the natural pasture is so poor and scanty as to afford little subsistence to the animals kept upon it, but such poor pasture can be greatly improved by treatment, especially by the application of suitable fertilisers.

Humus and Soil Fertility.

The following is a summary of the relation of humus to soil fertility, as given in the U.S. Year Book of Agriculture :—

1. The decline in the crop-producing power of many soils is due to a loss of the partially decomposed animal and vegetable matters known as humus.

2. The humus of the soil is decreased by the continuous cultivation of grain, cotton, potatoes, or any crop with which the land is kept constantly under the plough without the addition of any humus-forming materials.

3. The loss of humus involves a loss of the nitrogen, which is one of the elements composing humus. The loss of nitrogen from the soil is not always due simply to the nitrogen removed by the crop, but is frequently caused by waste of the humus by improper methods and systems of cultivation.

4. The humus of the soil is increased by the use of well-prepared farm manures, and by a systematic rotation of crops in which grasses, or preferably clover, form an important part.

5. The loss of humus from the soil results in decreasing its power of storing up and properly supplying crops with water. Soils with a liberal amount of humus are capable of more effectually withstanding drought than similar soils with less humus. In arid regions the loss of humus from the soil is more serious than in the regions of continuous summer rains.

6. In sandy soils the loss of humus is most severely felt. In poorly drained soils, where there is a deficiency of lime, potash and other similar materials, the humus may form sour mould, but this can usually be corrected by a dressing of lime, marl, or wood ashes.

7. Humus-forming materials, like the decaying animal and vegetable matters in farm manures, have the power of combining with the potash and phosphoric acid of the soil to form humates which are readily assimilated by plants when acted upon by the proper soil organism. These humates thus increase to a marked extent the available plant food of the soil.

8. Farm manures and other humus-forming materials are not only valuable for the elements of fertility which they contain, but also for the power of making the inert material of the soil more available to plants.

9. In soil where there is a good stock of reserve materials, it is cheaper to cultivate fertility through the agency of humus than it is to purchase it in the form of commercial fertilisers.

According to the report of the Analytical Department of the Midland Agricultural Institute for 1905—

Refuse materials often well repay the cost of analysis. In several cases analyses of samples have shown the worthlessness of the bulk, whereas on the other hand some waste materials have been shown to be exceedingly valuable as manures.

A sample of nitrate of soda contained 93·44 per cent. with a guarantee of 95 per cent. There is also further evidence that nitrates of lower quality are now on sale in the Midlands.

A new feature this year is the introduction of sixpenny tests for fat in milk. These tests are made by a reliable mechanical apparatus (The Gerber Milk Tester), and though not a chemical analysis, the results are quite trustworthy. The reports can be sent by return of post, and much benefit has been derived by farmers who have made use of the tests. The practical bearing of many points of interest have been brought up by these tests.

The difference in quality between the nights' and mornings' milk, which has been shown to be largely due to the length of the interval between milkings, is a serious source of trouble to some farmers.

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Send Size and P.O. Illus. Catalogue Free.
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LEARNER'S PATENT FOOT-ROT CURE
Guaranteed to cure & leave the Hoof soft & pliable.
TINS 3/- & 1/6 EACH. POST FREE.
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FINEST OIL-ENGINE OIL,
1s. 9d. per gallon.
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Best Refined Charcoal-Filtered Cylinder Oil, 2s. per gallon.
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All Carriage Paid for Cash.
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WHITEWAY'S PURE DEVONSHIRE CYDERS.
The most thirst-quenching and healthful drink of all. Special HARVEST brand, 1½ galls., 12/-, 28 galls., 22/6, 60 galls., 45/-, (cash with order). Carriage paid, cask returnable.
WHITEWAY'S, Whimple, DEVON.

NO CURE! NO PAY!!
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G. F. DAWES'
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Leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep. Trial Pot Free from the Manufactory.
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THE "BIBBY" CAKE IN THE FORM OF "CAKETTES."

"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

Sole Manufacturers—
J. BIBBY & SONS
EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
LIVERPOOL.

Appointed by Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

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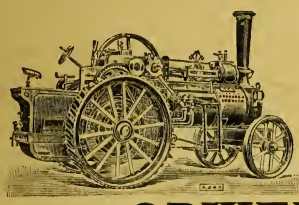

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These Engines are well proportioned, simple, and easy to manage, and are suitable for drawing and working Thrashing Machinery, for Steam Cultivation, Sawing, Pumping, &c.

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These Machines produce a perfectly uniform sample of full-size grain, free from tail corn, and make all the usual separations in the most perfect manner.

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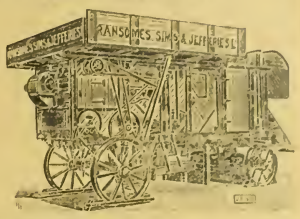


ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

August Bank Holiday.

In consequence of Monday next being a Bank Holiday, the MARK LANE EXPRESS will be published on SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4.

All communications for that issue, whether for the Editor or Orders for Advertisements, should reach the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C., as early in the week as possible, and in any case not later than by first post on FRIDAY MORNING.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

JULY 30, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

LIVE STOCK TO ACREAGE AND POPULATION.

In his preface to the complete volume of the Agricultural Returns for 1905, recently published, Major Cragie treats on an interesting subject by making a comparison of the numbers of live stock to acreage and population, or, in other words, the cattle and sheep fourteen different European countries have to every 1,000 acres, and the number of persons to each 1,000 acres. Belgium and Holland possess denser populations than the United Kingdom, and have more cattle but considerably less sheep. The statement is made that with scarcely an exception the number of cattle corresponds to the density of populations. Thus, while the United Kingdom can boast of 558 persons and 150 cattle to 1,000 acres, Belgium has 972 of the former and 245 of the latter; Holland, 685 and 210; Germany, 424 and 145; Austria, 360 and 128; France, 300 and 168; Switzerland, 346 and 135; and Denmark, 269 and 194. The British Isles very much exceed the other countries in numbers of sheep, the count being 374 to every 1,000 acres, whereas Germany owns only 59. Of the countries named, France has the nearest approach to our quotient, this being 137. Apparently there have been heavy losses in the flocks of the continental nations to partly account for these discrepancies.

In another place Major Cragie gives the proportions of the principal crops grown on every thousand acres in the different European countries, by analysing which we perceive one principal reason for our supremacy in sheep returns. In the British Isles 125 are appropriated to roots, but in Germany only 46, and in France 38, no European country comparing with the United Kingdom except Belgium, which, according to the statement given, stands highest as a root-growing country, 200 being the figure set down, which would be a fifth part of the entire arable area. If, however, the acres which grow beet for the sugar factories be deducted, the roots grown in Belgium for stock-feeding would probably not exceed our own. In 1904 the Belgian root acreage had the following division:—Turnips 355,314 acres, mangels 147,346, carrots 32,851, sugar-beet 109,426.

Potatoes are no doubt grown more largely for stock on the Continent than in this country, and it may be of interest to add some statistics in reference to them. While in the United Kingdom 66 acres to every 1,000 are grown, in Germany the proportion is 126, in France 57, in Austria 102, in Belgium 117, and in Holland 170. If these figures are reliable, the Dutch are more extensive potato growers than the Germans. There was a strong movement two years since for extending the culture of the esculent in this country.

Whether Major Craigie had this in mind or not does not appear in his suggestion to the British agriculturist of making a closer comparison between the agricultural position of the German Empire and our own. But apparently we already grow enough potatoes for the edible wants of our population, and the speculations of theorists consequently rest solely on the profits to accrue by extending the culture to the heavier-cropping, coarser kinds only available for stock-feeding or distilling purposes.

FARM MACHINERY and IMPLEMENTS have for so long been closely identified with the "Mark Lane Express," that the Journal's position as a means of bringing Maker, Agent, and Customer together is unique.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Delay on the Railway: Farmer's Successful Claim.

At Lynn County Court last week Richard Allen, a fruit grower, St. Germans, Norfolk, sued the Great Northern Railway Company for £5, damage to cabbage plants. The plaintiff's case was that he sent 30,000 cabbage plants from Swineshead to King's Lynn on September 11 last, and they did not arrive until the 14th, when they were spoiled.

The plants were consigned at owner's risk, and the company's solicitor contended that such delay as there had been was unavoidable, the size of the consignment not warranting the provision of a special through truck. The plants were sent off from Swineshead at 5 p.m., and delays at Boston and Spalding were due to transhipment, the plants arriving at Lynn at midnight the following day.

Judge Willis, K.C., held that there had been wilful misconduct on the part of the company. As they stated nothing to the contrary, he must hold that they had undertaken to forward the goods within a reasonable time. The delay complained of was not caused by accident or by neglect, but was caused intentionally by the company. Having regard to their obligations to deliver the goods within a reasonable time, they had caused such a delay as to destroy the life and worth of the plants. Judgment would be given for the plaintiff for £4 and costs.

Polluted Water.

What remedy have I in a case where the water provided for my cattle to drink is polluted by my neighbour's sewage? What is the proper way to proceed in the matter?—R.

[Probably the best way to proceed is to place the matter in the hands of a solicitor, and see if you can abate the nuisance by the aid of a solicitor's letter or two. He would probably advise you in case of your then being unsuccessful, to apply for an injunction to prevent the person who is polluting your water from continuing to pollute it. This, no doubt, would be by action in the County Court. At the same time you would claim nominal damages. You have only very generally stated the facts that your water is polluted, but you have not given me any information or details to enable me to judge whether your neighbour has any prescriptive rights in the matter.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Chester Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor reports upon the above as follows:—There was a pitch of 50 tons; good attendance of buyers. Though the prices of last week were maintained, the tone was hardly as good. Prices:—Best, 63s. to 67s. 6d.; medium, 58s. to 62s.; lower grades down to 55s. All cleared.

Death from Anthrax.—An inquest was held at Portsmouth on Wednesday afternoon on William Robert Lipscombe, journeyman butcher, who was found to have died from anthrax. He was not a slaughterer, and how he contracted the disease is a mystery. His employer's son has also been ill from anthrax, but is making a good recovery. The doctor stated that this disease did not often occur in the south of England, and he had never known a case before in Portsmouth.

Notes of the Week.

Mr. Drysdale, of Haddington, told the Railway Rates Committee that the charge for fresh meat from Glasgow to London was 70s. per ton, and on frozen meat 45s. per ton.

A single concrete case like this is conclusive proof of preferential railway rate, and should be vigorously taken up by the Board of Agriculture.

Sir Edward Strachey, representing the Board of Agriculture, does not agree that the farmers have nothing to complain of in the matter of railway rates.

We suggest that all farmers suffering from unfair treatment in this matter should send full particulars to the Board.

In this instance it will not be necessary for the Board to consult that terrible bogey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, before taking action.

The hop crop, as seen during a drive round Tonbridge, seems to be in a parlous condition.

Delayed in its growth by the cold spring, attacked by fly and lice, it is past praying for.

The worst crop for thirty years, said an old hop grower.

The expense of the continual washings is enormous. The planter said that his crop would cost him over £60 per acre, and the yield will be not more than 8 cwt. per acre.

And yet it is not improbable that the financial result will be more satisfactory than last year when he grew 20 cwt. to the acre.

It is a paradoxical crop to cultivate; but there is a fascination about it that the Kentish hop grower cannot resist.

The Russian Duma has been dissolved by the acidity of the Government, but, like superphosphate, it will revert to an insoluble condition, and will continue to fertilise the popular growth of discontent.

That remark is not out of place in an agricultural paper, because it is the neglect of agrarian grievances which has led in a great measure to the present lamentable position.

It illustrates the fact which no Government should overlook—that the bedrock of a country's internal happiness rests on contented agricultural classes.

Mr. Jesse Collings, the apostle of "three acres and a cow," has written a book on "Land Reform," which is an interesting contribution to a most difficult problem.

He advocates measures which, in his opinion, would result in the resurrection of the old yeoman class and the peasant proprietor.

The peasant proprietors of France are the foundation of the remarkable prosperity of that country. It was their savings that paid off the enormous indemnity paid to Germany after the disastrous war of 1870.

Wellington said that the battle of Waterloo was won on the cricket fields of Eton and other public schools. It would probably be more true to say that the victories of the Peninsular War ending in Waterloo were won by the muscles and stamina of the sons of British yeomen and hardy British peasants.

The increase and maintenance of such men is a consummation devoutly to be wished, but it is not possible under the existing fiscal system.

The French and Belgian small holders would be soon starved out in this country. No doubt they work hard and live sparingly, but the source of their success is the protection afforded them by their Government.

Small holdings in this country near to towns can exist, but if created on a large scale scattered over the country in districts away from towns where land is cheaper, they could not make a permanent living under the system of free imports.

We can keep on tinkering with land reform and express a sentimental sympathy with the idea, but without a radical change it is simply a waste of energy.

In another manner, the cry of "Back to the land" is taking a novel and burlesque turn—parties of the unemployed have become land grabbers of waste plots of land in the neighbourhood of Manchester, London, and Bradford.

It is said they intend to also capture a part of the historic forest of Epping.

That some of them belong to the rough element of society is shown by the fact that one man threw a piece of bacon in another man's face, and afterwards bombarded with bricks the other men who were quietly eating in their tent.

They are now engaged in reaping a fine harvest by the sale of picture postcards illustrating their camp.

That is probably the only crop they will get, and won't last long. Earning their bread by the sweat of their brows is a proceeding many of them don't seem to appreciate.

"Refuse may be shot here" is the idea which foreigners have of this country.

Growers and producers should take energetic measures through their associations to instruct the public as to the purity and greater wholesomeness of home products.

The West Indian Committee, with the meritorious object of protecting the interests of West Indian cane sugar, prosecute any tradesman selling beetroot sugar as cane sugar.

And they are disseminating, by means of appropriate literature, information about the superior quality of their goods.

Our home-grown products should be similarly pushed against inferior importations.

In a novel, "Frankenstein," widely read some years ago, a scientific man made a mechanical giant, and succeeded in inspiring it with life.

The monster, docile at first, soon developed qualities which made it an object of hatred and fear.

When last seen it was chasing its unhappy maker towards the confines of the North Pole.

So, it seems to me, will the Liberal creation, Free Trade, unless kept under control, eventually drive the party, whose perception of it at present takes such exaggerated forms, into the cold shades of oblivion.

It is not necessary to be a whole-hog—to use an inelegant but expressive phrase—protectionist to hold this view, because it will be shared by any man willing to consider on their merits questions as they arise.

For instance, it is under the ægis of this artificial giant that efforts are being made to promote arrangements which might spread disease among our stock.

Or, take another case. There are now several infant agricultural industries struggling into life, but this monster threatens to strangle them.

Consider the sugar beet industry. Unless the hands of the creature can be kept from smashing up the Brussels Convention, it will certainly be crushed out of existence almost directly after birth.

The Earl of Crewe stated the other day in the House of Lords that sugar beet growing had already "entered the sphere of commerce" in this country. Has a ton of home-made beet sugar been sold commercially?

His statement might, perhaps, be characterised as a terminological, &c.

Then there is tobacco cultivation in Ireland. The experiments have made most satisfactory progress.

It is demonstrated clearly that the soil and climate are suitable.

But can the infant industry in the first stages hope to meet with success the competition of America and the East Indies?

Directly it shows signs of entering the commercial stage the monster will crush it out of existence.

Is there no *via media* between being a hide-bound protectionist or a slave of this creation labelled "Free Trade"?

Young industries, like young people, should be encouraged and helped until able to stand alone.

Then later on they add stability, employment, wealth, and comfort to the position of the country or parent who had the power and wisdom to give them a start in life.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JULY 31. — Cliffe Agricultural Show—Abergavenny Fair—Alfreton Horse Fair—Horse Sales at Wrexham and Colwyn Bay—Sheep Sale at Salisbury—Mr. Pateson's Lecture on Plant Breeding, 10.30 a.m., Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square—Guisborough Wool Fair—Preston Cheese Fair—Linton Sheep Fair—Uttoxeter Fair—Market Harborough Agricultural Fair—Alford Sheep and Lamb Fair—Entries close for the Wisbech Show.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1. — Agricultural Shows at Whitchurch, Darlington, Bridlington, and Adlington-by-Macclesfield—Joint Agricultural and Horticultural Show at Wadebridge—Great Annual Sale of Southdown Sheep at Chichester—Hackney Sale at Monmouth—Oxfordshire Down Ram Sale at Upper Winchendon, near Aylesbury—Suffolk Sheep Sale at Ipswich—Potato Lifting Experiments at Marks Tey—Barnard Castle, Clitheroe, and Oswestry Agricultural Fairs.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2.—Alford Horse and Foal Show—Wooler Agricultural Show (for Glendale)—Buckingham Agricultural Show at Aylesbury—Pembroke Agricultural Show at Haverford West—First day of the Lancaster Show at Lancaster—Chalk's Ram Sale at Cambridge—Chapman's Ram Sale at Totnes—Ram Sale at Sutton Scotney—Sale of Guernsey Cattle at Bargate—Banquet of the Plant Breeding Conference—Accrington, Doncaster, and Newark Agricultural Fairs.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3.—Second day of the Show at Lancaster—Ayton Show—Hampshire Down Sheep Sale at Winterbourne Stoke—Shrewsbury Great Market—Suffolk Sheep Sale, Melton, Suffolk—Sheep dog Trials at Plas-yn-Vlyod (Vale of Llangollen)—The International Conference on Plant Breeding visits Kew and Gunnersbury—Redruth and Stockport Agricultural Fairs.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4.—Lancaster Show, third day—Padtham Show—Blandford Agricultural Fair—Many cheap trains (for the Bank Holiday) with tickets available till Tuesday should be noted by those wishing to visit the Agricultural Shows of Monday—Buckingham Fair—Entries close for Wensleydale Agricultural Show.

MONDAY, AUGUST 6.—Bank Holiday: All Corn Markets closed—"The Baltic" closed—Last day of the Lancaster Show—Hereford Great Horse Show—Horse Shows at Berkeley, Lydford, Stamford, Huby (Yorkshire), Kingston-on-Soar, South Brent, Tutbury, Wisbech, and Waltham Cross—Agricultural Shows at Ludlow, Lutterworth, Clumber Park (Notts), Durdham Down (Glos.), and Hexham—Large Fairs at Abingdon, Bicester, Boston, Dorchester, Northampton, and Trowbridge—Entries close for Bognor Horse Show.

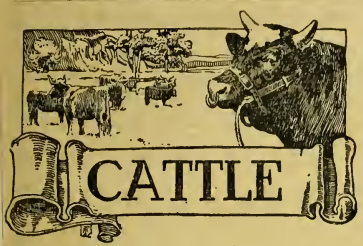
TUESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Show, at Welbeck—Chepstow Show—Compton Stud Show at Templecombe—Hampshire Down Sheep Sale at Salisbury—Hackney Sale at Market Weighton—Trowbridge Great Fair, second day—Derby Cheese Fair—Entries close for Cheshire Agricultural Show at Chester.

ADVERTISEMENTS received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

Agricultural Education in Lancashire.

The Lancashire County Council offers free education to farmers' sons and daughters and others engaged or likely to be engaged in agricultural pursuits who are residents of the administrative county of Lancaster, and in addition makes an allowance in aid of board and lodgings in Preston, or for travelling expenses thereto. The classes are held at the Harris Institute, Preston, and the session lasts from about the last week in September to the end of April in each year.

Education, with board and lodging, is given in butter-making and cheese-making, milk sterilisation and bread-making, and poultry keeping, free of cost, to students attending the dairy school at the County Council Farm, Hutton, near Preston. Instruction in butter-making and cheese-making is given where required in the county free of cost. Lectures and advice are given in agriculture, horticulture, beekeeping, and poultry keeping, whilst valuable scholarships and exhibitions are offered annually. Full particulars may be obtained from the Director of Education, County Offices, Preston.



Notes and Jottings.

The rains of the past week appear to have been very partial. In some districts, notably parts of Northamptonshire and adjoining districts, the grass feed has become very short during the last few days and the ground presenting quite a parched and burned appearance. This, together with the plague of flies, which have inflicted the greatest torture upon all kinds of cattle out in the fields, must have had a very prejudicial effect upon both the yield of milk and the growth and progress of the young cattle and fatting beasts in those parts. Travelling last week through some good tillage and mixed farming lands, the more than usual fields and parts of fields set apart for the growth of green fodder now being cut, gave very material evidence of the value at a time like the present of a good cut of spring sown tares, or where the soil is suitable, that succulent and durable plant lucerne.

In some parts of Ireland there appears to have been a wasting disease rather busy amongst young cattle of from ten to eighteen months old that has caused investigation to be made into the causes, and possible remedies of and for the disease. Such a disease is not by any means uncommon in England, though it seldom assumes the form of an epidemic, usually satisfying its ravages by causing the death of one or two yearlings, perhaps, out of a rear of fifteen or twenty animals. We cordially endorse at least one of the preventive remedies suggested by the Dublin authorities, that of dressing the grass land upon which these young stock have to be grazed with a good dressing of lime—say, three tons per acre.

The complaint referred to has also, in the writer's experience, been much minimised, and in many cases prevented altogether by herding the calves of the first year and up to Midsummer of their second year upon first or second year's seeds. By doing this there is no danger of their picking up any ill effects that may have been left upon the land by the cattle grazed there the previous year, and whilst the animals are so young they are certainly much more liable to become affected by things that you do not want than when their constitutions have strengthened and their stomachs enabled to stand older and richer grass, and to withstand with impunity any slight infection that may have been left from the previous grazing.

Lime as a dressing for pastures has the greatest possible sweetening effect upon the herbage, cattle after a dressing of this will eat of the fields to the very roots, invariably doing better upon land that has been so dressed than upon fields that remain sour and coarse, and when cattle of any age appreciate their pasture so as to keep it eaten off evenly and pretty close (not to starvation), they invariably thrive and grow amazingly, and whilst their rapid growth and thrift going on, disease of any kind has much less chance of obtaining a footing, the constitution being strengthened so very much by the thriving that the suitable pastures have brought about.

There is one other matter that is more often than not a fruitful source of the disease referred to above, and that is the allowing the calves during their first year to have received a check in their growth by having perhaps during the summer changed them from a pasture that suited them to one that they did not thrive upon as well; this changing frequently has to be done from force of circumstances, such as shortness of keep or otherwise, and it is often difficult to keep the young stock at the proper level, it also frequently happens that in the winter season the root supply will run short, and they have to be put upon curtailed rations of these. An easy way of preventing this is by substituting a small quantity of cake or meal for the lessened root supply. Every effort ought to be made, at whatever cost, to prevent shrinkage, at this early age, or this wasting is pretty certain to give trouble.

The Sussex breed of cattle has made very rapid strides in recent years both as regards the matters of symmetry and also early maturity, two qualifications that very generally go hand-in-hand. The stronghold of the breed—its natural county — lies rather at an extreme portion of the country, away from what may be called the farmer's beaten track, that little is seen or heard of these beasts by the general stock-breeding public except on the occasions of the Smithfield and Royal shows, when the classes open to them are most frequently about as attractive in appearance, and so far as development for age and quality of beef, about as good as anything in the shows mentioned. If the Sussex Cattle Society has funds at its disposal it might do worse than offer an attractive sum for prizes at the Birmingham Christmas Show. That show is visited by a very great number of feeders of cattle each year, and the classes would prove an additional attraction and help the show society as well as probably by introducing the breed to feeders of the Midlands, be the means of many droves of steers being purchased for feeding in those parts, and so help business in every way.

This beautiful breed of cattle are said to have made a most attractive display at their own county show at Brighton the other week, and travelling through their district recently, the herds, as seen from the railway, mostly appeared in very good condition. Like some or most of the other beef breeds, these cattle are not quite satisfactory at the pail, and in common with the other like breeds would benefit much in value were their patrons to pay a little more attention to the lacteal product. We do not suggest any going to the other extreme, but simply to breed with the object of producing neat and square udders of a capacity that would turn out eight to ten quarts a day for a few weeks when freshly calved and well fed.

The recommendations given in the milk and food preservatives inquiry is quite open to considerable questioning as to the use of these preservatives being necessarily so restricted. Speaking from personal experience, we have upon occasions found that the additions of some preservative to the new or skimmed milk given to calves being of the greatest possible benefit when an attack of scour has been troublesome. Of course, to make such use of the articles would not be offering the food for sale to the public, and therefore the user would not be liable to prosecution, at the same time material that has proved so beneficial to calves of a few days old one would scarcely think could be very harmful to human beings. The evidence of large dairymen, whose extensive business will pay for any expensive and extravagant means for cooling and storing milk and butter is one thing; but the small farmer and consumer, whose business will not run to these expensive methods of preserving these perishable articles, are very differently placed.

The adulteration of butter and substitution of other mixtures for pure butter is a matter that we have for many years pointed out as demanding most urgent and strict attention. There is no doubt that were many of these mixtures looked into and their manufacture noted and made public, the recent tinned-meat scare would pretty nearly find a parallel. Pure and good fresh butter, the medical profession to-day declare to be one of the mott wholesome foods we have, and therefore nourishing; but depend upon it, many of the substitutes would be far from giving such results, and the manufacture and sale of these articles has had such a deterrent effect upon butter-dairying by lowering the price that very few farmers in England with herds of any extent care to follow that branch of the dairying industry.

The meat markets appear to be more variable this year than usual as regards prices obtainable; why this should be is rather difficult to see, for whilst in some districts sellers express their ability to obtain 7d. per lb. for good beef, sinking the offal, others within say, 100 miles by rail, are unable to get more than from 6d. to 6½d. on the ninety stone bullock, 1d. a lb. on the carcase means 3lb. per head upon the beast, and this means going a long way towards making either profit or loss. Dealers as a rule reduce these variations to practically nothing beyond the cost of transit from the cheap to the dear market, but for some reason or other the variation appears to be greater than it used to be between markets in one part of the country and those in another neighbourhood. Whether the weighing machine accounts for any of this alteration is not known, but it is quite possible that the loss in weight during transit is now taken into account, and the dealers, probably, have to take a lesser profit, or that their profit has to be made by charging a higher price per pound than when they used to buy and sell by hand, as it is termed, when the allowance to cover costs and profit was anywhere between 5s. and 25s. per head.

ALL MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES of FARMING NECESSITIES certainly find a Ready Sale when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express." The charge is very moderate, and consistent with the profit such small goods yield.

Sale of Mr. D. Arkell's Shorthorns.

The entire herd of Shorthorns belonging to Mr Daniel Arkell, of Butler's Court, Lechlade, Gloucestershire, was sold by auction on Tuesday, Mr Thornton, of the firm of Messrs. Thornton and Co., acting as auctioneers. Favoured by a hot, fine day, large crowds of breeders and neighbouring farmers assembled to witness the sale, and were entertained to luncheon before the proceedings commenced with true Gloucestershire hospitality.

The herd was of very long standing, as it has been in existence since 1872, and is descended from animals purchased from Mr. Arkell's father, who kept a herd at Dudgrove as long ago as 1841. The stock was in a healthy, regular breeding state, and although not got up for sale was in nice condition, and most of the cows showed square, well-shaped udders, and had strong rich-coloured calves running with them. Most of the herd consisted of the Frost family, the original cow of which was brought down from Yorkshire by Messrs. Strickland and bought by Mr. Arkell's father at Apperley Court, Tewkesbury, in 1848. The remainder of the herd were of the Pye tribe bred for many years by Messrs. Garne and the Lady Dennisons which came from Lord Sherborne.

The prices were even and good, the highest being 140 guineas given by Mr. Samuel Sanday for Frost 108th, a fine red cow by Royal Oak. Mr. E. S. Godsell gave 135 guineas for Frost 95th by Mr. Garne's Roan Wrestler, and her roan bull calf, a month old, goes to Mrs. Fox for 38 guineas. The sale started well, for several of the old cows made up to 50 guineas, one going at that price to Mr. Lough, Ireland, and another to Mr. F. Phillips in the county. Frost 86th was selected by Mr. W. Hipwell, of Bedfordshire; this was a large-framed fine cow, and a red two-year-old heifer of the same tribe went to the same buyer. The first Pye cow, Princess of Fashion 7th, was bought by Mr. E. W. Bishop, who also gave 50 guineas for a red red Frost yearling. Frost 116th and her red bull calf went to Mr. J. H. Yeomans at 80 guineas the pair, with a roan three-year-old at 85 guineas. Mr. W. T. Garne did well for some of the best lots, among them being Lady Dennison 38th, 145 guineas; Frost 124th, 48 guineas; and Primrose 19th, a grand white heifer, 41 guineas. Sir R. P. Cooper paid 88 guineas for the roan two-year-old Frost 130th, and others of this age went to Mr. H. Wilson, 57 guineas; H. Webb, 46 guineas, and Mr. J. N. Attwater, 40 guineas. The top figure in the yearlings was given by Mr. S. Sanday, a red Frost making 85 guineas; Mr. F. Phillips, Mr. Rots, and Sir A. Henderson, Bart., also got good ones of this age.

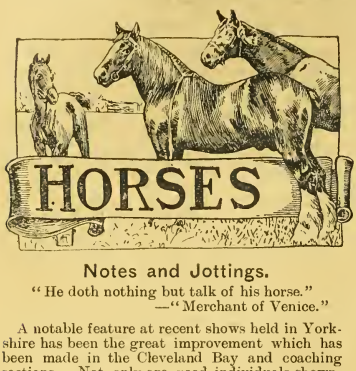
The bull in service was Mr. A. Hiscock's Dorset Hero, and he must be cheap at the 50 guineas he realised to Dr. Malbran. Mr. Thompson got a pair of good bulls at 60 guineas and 52 guineas, and one was bought for Portugal at 43 guineas. The capital average of £52 18s. 10d. was realised for the fifty-eight head, the total of the sale being £3,070 14s. 6d.

Aspatria Agricultural College.

In presenting the prizes at the Aspatria (Cumberland) Agricultural College, Mr. G. Langridge, president of the Surveyors' Institution, stated that the science of agriculture and its companion subjects of forestry and land agency still held many secrets for the good of mankind yet to be revealed. Of some they had faint clues to follow up, and others yet lay hidden. Agriculture in England had been passing through a stage of deep depression. The clouds had not yet rolled away. Changed circumstances required change of practice, with the requisite knowledge to make these changes on the right lines and to avoid serious mistakes.

The late Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bart, M.P., one of the founders of the College thirty-two years ago, and its first president, had promised to take the chair, and his place was taken by the new baronet, who has consented to succeed his late father as president.

In his annual report the principal, Mr. J. Smith Hill, stated that though not characterised by any specially brilliant achievement, the report was a record of steady, honest, solid work on the whole. Farming and the management of land were perhaps, occupations not so attractive as other careers to the boy who carried off many prizes at school; to engage in the former there must be a decided bias towards a country life. It was therefore gratifying to find, specially as was the case this year, that an agricultural course brought out, in several instances, powers lying latent during their school careers, which had not caused the possessors of them to appear specially among prize winners, or to figure successfully at examinations while at school. The trainer of youth gained renewed encouragement in his work in meeting with such cases and with the recognition which they generally brought.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

A notable feature at recent shows held in Yorkshire has been the great improvement which has been made in the Cleveland Bay and coaching sections. Not only are good individuals shown, but the classes are much better filled than they have been for some years. At Escrick there was quite a good show, there being thirty-three entries in half a dozen classes. At Malton matters were still more satisfactory, for there were thirty-one entries in four classes, and it was quite like old times to see a class of thirteen three-year-olds in the ring. The brood mare class was the only weak one at Malton, the number entered being only five. But they were all mares that have won in good company, and the probability is that other judges would place them very differently to the way in which they were placed at Malton, so close are they together.

This is very encouraging, for there is not much doubt that Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach Horses had a very narrow escape of being "bred out" a few years ago, and if it had not been for the Cleveland Bay breeders, of whom a few are "purists" of the strictest, there would in all probability have been but few of these fine old breeds in existence. For unfortunately for the Cleveland Bay and the Yorkshire Coach Horse, they cross so well with other breeds that the cross-breds, as geldings, are worth more than pure-bred ones. The Hackney cross was used to a considerable extent by many breeders, and a few years ago in classes which even for coaching horses, geldings by Hackney sires were shown and took prizes. This was, of course, very damaging to the breed, for it discouraged the man who was sticking to the pure breed. Judges said they were placed in a difficult position, as the only safe way of judging was to go for the greatest value. However, happily there is not so much of this as there used to be, and at important shows, such as the Yorkshire, there is care taken to prevent cross-breds being shown as coaching horses.

That there is any great impetus likely to be given to the foreign trade in these breeds does not appear very likely just at present. At the same time, the old axiom holds good that there is always a market for a good horse, and I have seen some geldings lately that have brought a profitable figure. Whether there is a little more demand at home, and whether that has encouraged breeders, I cannot say. No one talks much of improved trade, and inquiries elicit the quoting of the axiom alluded to above. But whatever the reason, there have certainly been more Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coaching Horses bred lately, and they are very good ones, too, which is quite as much to the purpose.

Cleveland Bay breeders in one respect are like the Arabs. They think a great deal of their mares, and, in a way, trace their pedigree back through them for generations. And the keen breeders have mares of all ages, and are careful not to sell any until they are able to keep "some of the old mare's blood." A colt they do not count as belonging to the strain. An instance of this kind came to my notice only a week ago. I was going round the country, and at a farmhouse I called at I saw a fine lot of Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach Horses. When I came to make inquiries, I found there were seven mares or fillies, all descended from one old mare, and there were four generations of them. When the mare that is at the head of the stud now had her first foal—a filly—the owner refused 30 guineas for it; not a very bad price for a filly foal. He has that fillly—she is a brood mare now and has had several foals, and there is a foal and a yearling from one of her daughters—yet, and has never regretted that he did not sell her. His land is worked by his Cleveland mares, and though it is not stiff clay the soil is of a strong nature.

During a trip I took in the dales in North-East Yorkshire last week, I saw several of these small studs of Cleveland Bays and coaching horses, or, rather mares, and in every case they were working on the land quite as well as the heavy horses. And in almost every case I saw the mother with her daughters and granddaughters on the same farm. "It's mares we want, we can breed anything from them," was the remark which one enthusiast made.

There is one respect in which the Cleveland Bay and the Yorkshire Coach Horse have made wonderful improvement during the last few years. It used to be urged by critics of the breeds that they were low on the back, and light in the loins and back ribs, and they frequently were found with upright and loaded shoulders. There is no doubt that there was some exaggeration in the criticism, but, at the same time, there was certainly some foundation for it. Now, however, these characteristics have in a great measure disappeared, and most of those that I saw during my tour had well-placed shoulders, were short on the back, but long underneath, whilst they had that length and elegance of quarters for which the Cleveland Bay and Yorkshire Coach Horse are so distinguished.

The story is told of a skeleton of a horse having been discovered in the fossil beds of Wyoming. It is said to be 30 ft. long and 30 ft. in height, to have herbivorous grinders slightly decayed. One is instinctively reminded of Mark Twain's famous fossil man when one reads of the dimensions of this tremendous horse. But it did not require the discovery of a skeleton like this to show that the modern horse was descended from a small prehistoric animal, as some writers in the daily papers seem to think. It has been abundantly proved by Professors Ridgeway and Cossar Ewart that there were seven or eight different species of horses in prehistoric times, but they never came across in the course of their investigations with such a "four square" skelcton as that which has found an appropriate resting place in America.

The *laudator temporis Acti*, like black care, ever sits behind the horseman, and almost ever since men began to write about horses they have been given to praise those of a byegone day, and to depreciate their own. Writers of the present day tell of the glories of the early years of the nineteenth century. And early in the nineteenth century we find a writer in an elaborate work "On the past and present state of horses" criticising contemporary methods with no unsparing hand, and the editor of an important sporting review bringing all the weight of his influence to bear in favour of the author's contentions.

Here is a sentence which might have been written any day within the last four or five years. "Farmers cannot breed saddle horses without the help of the racer, and yet over this animal they have no control. As may be expected, the offspring displays many of the bad characteristics of the parents. Hence farmers will not enter largely into the breeding of saddle horses; they consider it subordinate to every other business of the farm, because they have no reliance upon the racehorse's offspring; and they pay little attention to a matter which produces a precarious return."

The curious thing is that writers in this strain always speak well of the state of things which prevailed a few years before the time they wrote. The modern bewailer of the decadence of our horses talks of the glories of the sixties and the seventies; in the sixties and seventies they talked of the glories of the thirties, and so on. All which, I think, goes to prove that the critical comparisons are simply a matter of perspective, so to speak. In all probability, in forty years' time writers will be found who will praise the horses that existed at the beginning of the twentieth century to the disadvantage of contemporary horses.

At the same time, there are plenty of farmers who are breeding saddle horses in these degenerate days. In Yorkshire and in Hertfordshire last week there were classes for hunting brood mares owned by tenant farmers. In the one case a mare that was second in the open class could not get higher than reserve in the tenant farmers' class, and in the other both prizes were won by one mare. So there is hope yet.

THE LOOKER-ON.

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The Walton Hall Hackneys.

As has been the case at the other periodical sales of Hackneys and ponies from Sir Gilbert Greenall's well-known studs, that held last week attracted a very large company of breeders from all parts, and a most satisfactory sale resulted. Mr. W. Bainbridge was the auctioneer, and he brought under the hammer close on sixty first-class animals, most of them the produce of Goldfinder, Copper King, Mathias, and Sir Horace. How good a lot they were may be gathered from the fact that, with two exceptions, the whole of last year's pony and Hackney colts were offered. The yearlings included nine by Goldfinder VI., four by Mathias, and others by Copper King, Administrator, Caxton, His Majesty, Snorter, Sir Horace, Magpie's Danegelt, and Clifton III. Some well-known stallions were also offered, these including Lord Drewton II. by Gentleman John, who realised 90 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. Beernaerts, Ghent, and Caxton by Fireaway, who was secured cheaply by Mr. Morris, Buenos Ayres, he only paying 50 guineas.

The top figure of the sale for a single animal was 120 guineas, which sum Mr. Kerr, Rickmansworth, gave for the three-year-old gelding, Terrington Victory; in fact, the three-year-old geldings were the pick of the sale, and realised good prices. Mr. Kerr also gave 110 and 100 guineas for Tissington Hall Mark and Terrington Josephus respectively; Mr. H. Frank, New York, gave 90 guineas for Tissington Contest; and other three-year-old geldings sold up to 87 guineas. The best of the harness mares, &c., were Terrington Virago and Vera, sold as a pair. Competition for them was particularly keen, and it was not until he bid 350 guineas that they were knocked down to Mr. F. S. Pearce, New York. Mr. Smith, Birmingham, gave top price for three-year-old fillies—namely, 100 guineas, for Terrington Divinity; whilst the best figure for yearling colts and fillies was 86 guineas, this amount being paid by Mr. Gemmel, Ayr, for Terrington Macbeth. The youngsters sold well, the majority going at prices well over 45 guineas; and the result was that a fine total of 3,019 guineas was the outcome of the sale, no fewer than fifty-four out of the fifty-seven animals offered finding purchasers.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 21, 1906:—

Period.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Rabies. Cases Continued. Dogs.	Rabies. Cases Continued. Other Animals.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended July 21, 1906	16	12	...	...	53	34	...	...	2	18	103
Corresponding week in 1905	16	13	...	...	43	27	...	...	3	29	127
Corresponding week in 1904	20	18	...	...	59	33	...	...	...	15	62
Corresponding week in 1903	18	13	...	...	64	44	...	...	3	27	302
Total for 29 weeks in 1906	828	556	...	...	1,226	651	...	...	292	701	3,863
Corresponding period in 1905	866	578	...	...	1,210	691	...	...	646	492	2,278
Corresponding period in 1904	876	575	...	...	1,578	862	...	...	1,078	875	4,197
Corresponding period in 1903	725	470	...	...	1,318	800	...	...	1,103	960	4,755

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

At the annual meeting of the Waterloo Cake Company, Hull, held on Tuesday, a dividend for the fifth year in succession at the rate of 7½ per cent. (free of income tax) was declared, £2,000 was written off to reserve, and £1,821 carried forward.

Sale of the Ruddington Pigs.

Large Whites.

The entire herd of Large White pigs, bred for so many years at Ruddington by the late Mr. Philo L. Mills, was sold by auction on Wednesday last by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., at the Home Farm, near Nottingham. A large company assembled, among them being representatives of North and South America, Germany, Hungary, and many well-known English and Scottish breeders. Like all the stock on the farm, the pigs were in excellent condition, and a brisk sale was experienced. Mr. W. Wallace gave the highest price, viz., 37 guineas, for the three-year-old sow Miss Hollingworth 180th, and Mr. M. Marshall 27 guineas for Empress Elect, both of which go across the border. Mr. H. R. Hankins paid 28 guineas for the fine prize boar Breastplate, and 31 guineas for a sow Miss Hollingworth 157th, to go to Germany with several others at good prices. Some capital purchases were also made for the Argentine. Altogether the sale was most satisfactory, an all round average of £9 5s. being obtained for the 157 pigs catalogued.

Berkshires.

The choice herd of Berkshire pigs were sold on the following day, to the Large Whites by Messrs. Thornton and Co. There was again a good company, many distinguished breeders being represented. The pigs were brought out in excellent condition by the old pigman Button, and a most satisfactory sale resulted. Lord Carnarvon's agent paid 19 guineas for the fine old sow Honedrop, Mr. R. W. Hudson 30 guineas for one of the Ruddington Pattie's, and Mr. C. H. Berners 21 guineas for her own sister. The Hon. Claud Portman secured several good lots to go to Godicote, among them being Crown Gem 2nd, a stylish gilt, at 15 guineas. Among other principal purchasers were Lord Middleton, Lord Polwarth, Sir Thomas Gooch, General Wrend, Mr. J. R. Brown, Mr. G. J. Chetwynd, and Mr. T. N. Parr. The sale resulted in an all-round average of £9 0s. 6d., many of the later lots being very young.

Northern Notes.

ANY movement, however humble it may be, which has for its object the knitting together of the units which go to make up the world of agriculture, is deserving of hearty recognition. Landlords and parsons might do a great deal more than is attempted in fostering amongst villagers a love for the surroundings in which they were born. Our county councils have done something on the lines we suggest by promoting lectures on horticulture and dairying, by the setting up of experimental farms, and by offering scholarships tenable at agricultural colleges. Something is accomplished when the people are asked to rely somewhat upon their own efforts; self-help is an ideal that needs to be inculcated. Where this is done in the villages, a ready response is the result. Just such a society as we have conjured up exists at the village of Kitham (once a market town), in the east of Yorkshire. A fifth annual show has just been held there by a society established by a former vicar for encouraging amongst the cottagers allotment cultivation, dairying, poultry rearing, and home industries.

THE villagers of this populous parish are well off with regard to allotment land, there being set apart from 100 to 150 acres of excellent tillage, let in small plots up to ten acres by two landowners at a reasonable rent. A settled interest is thereby established, and the tenants are placed in easier circumstances than are other labourers where allotments are not provided. Floral culture is also encouraged, as well as fruit and vegetable growing. Plain cookery and the making of confectionery are included in the prize schedule; while the specimens of industry worked by juveniles were a pleasure to behold. One could not but reflect upon the future of the industrious youths of Kilham, and predict for the women folk happy homes and contented husbands.

A WRITER in a northern paper gives a hint how we may usefully employ orphan and other children who are committed to the care of orphanages and other homes, instead of sending them out of the country to pick up the elements of farming. They may be taught equally well at home to become good and useful citizens if available land could only be purchased on suitable terms. At any rate, no difficulties ought to be experienced in the acquisition of training centres. Such places, it is suggested, might be found in many parts of the country where corn growing is unprofitable, and they could easily be made the medium for imparting horticultural and agricultural knowledge to stalwart members of both sexes. The college at Swanley, in Kent, is a notable example of what women can do under proper guidance as agriculturists and gardeners. Women will in the time to come be able to supplant men now filling posts as head gardeners. They may also provide the brains on our farmsteads.

THE police in the north are busy giving warning to farmers and graziers in the matter of the sheep-dipping orders. Such like duties are pressing hardly upon rural police, coming as they do on top of the swine fever order work. Soon the poor police officers will hardly have any time on their hands in which to perform their ordinary duties, and the game preserves will be left entirely to the care of the "keepers." The North Riding of Yorkshire is a sheep-dipping area; the East Riding is not in the schedule. It is not anticipated that there will be anything like the difficulty experienced in carrying out the sheep-dipping orders as there is in connection with the swine fever orders, which are of so complicated a nature as to have drawn from a representative of a county council in the north the frank admission that the administrators of the orders themselves are not infrequently perplexed as to whether they rightly interpret them, or otherwise. When officials are in a dilemma, what shortcomings may not the poor layman be innocently guilty of?

A RUMOUR referred to in this column a fortnight since as to the probable sale of portions of two Yorkshire estates, has since crystallised into fact. I had previously good authority for the statement. Now it appears to be settled that in September the outlying portions of the Londesborough and Seamer estates, which extend to over 13,000 acres, and yield a rent roll of nearly £12,000 per annum, are to be offered by auction. Not so long since a lot of the Earl's property in the business portions of the town of Selby were disposed of by auction. The other estate, portions of which have, it is said, been offered to the sitting tenants, is that of the Viscount Downe. The estate is a very large one, and includes some of the best-farmed land in East and North Yorkshire. Lord Downe recently practically rebuilt Wykeham Abbey, his place a few miles distant from Scarborough, at great cost, and this, the family seat, contains many valuable portraits by old masters. His lordship entertained Earl Roberts there since its completion. Lady Downe has a magnificent rose garden at Wykeham.

THE situation agriculturally in the North is, generally speaking, favourable. Heavy crops of hay are now secured, for the most part in the best of condition. A heavy thunderstorm on Monday "laid" some of the heavy fields of oats as if a "slape" roller had passed over the corn. The rain accompanying the thunderclaps and forked lightning was very searching, and has done immense good to root crops, which are developing well after a somewhat precarious start. Here and there one hears of the irrepressible finger-and-toe. A Wold farmer assured me that more rain fell in his neighbourhood during the storm in forty-five minutes than in the previous two months. Some oats will be ready for cutting by August 1. The same farmer calculated that the corn crops were one-fifth better than last year. The wheats flowered imperfectly, he says, and "yellow maggots" are attacking the ears, causing, as last year, a deficiency of grain. The vagaries of the climate up here are extraordinary. A West Yorkshire friend wrote only this week on an invitation: "Bring all kinds of clothing with you, as yesterday one would have been all but suffocated with the Biblical fig leaf, and to-day we can almost persuade ourselves to the belief that we hear the heavenly angels singing the Christmas hymn!"

July 27, 1906.

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DAIRY.

How Sweden Deals with the Butter Question.

In connection with the report of the Butter Committee, which has already been dealt with in our columns, the notes on the Swedish Margarine Law which appear in the June number of the Journal of the Board of Agriculture afford particularly interesting reading. In the new law dealing with margarine, which came into force on May 1 last in Sweden, margarine and margarine cheese are defined as substances resembling butter and cheese respectively which contain fat not derived from milk; and artificial fats (for human consumption) as substances which contain fat other than swine-fat. The Act does not apply to unadulterated fats of animals or plants when they are sold under a designation which clearly indicates their origin.

Sesame oil must be added to margarine during the process of manufacture in the proportion of at least 10 per cent. of the fats or oils employed. The proportion is at least 5 per cent. in the case of margarine cheese. The percentage is calculated apart from the amount of sesame oil which is added.

Persons who manufacture butter or cheese for sale are not allowed to manufacture margarine or margarine cheese on the same premises, and it is forbidden to keep margarine, or the fats employed in its manufacture, on premises where butter is made, packed, or stored for export.

Any person desirous of manufacturing margarine or margarine cheese otherwise than for his own household must inform the authorities. The factory is placed under the control of a Government inspector, who sees that the regulations are properly carried out, and that only good and wholesome materials are used and produced, according to the direction of the Academy of Medicine. The inspector has access at all times to premises where the goods are made and stored, and he is bound to respect trade secrets. He receives a fee which is paid in advance by the manufacturer to the local authority, who determine the amount according to the size of the factory and other circumstances. If the manufacturer allows the payment to fall into arrear, the authorities have power to stop work at the factory until the arrears are paid. If the inspector resides more than two kilometres from the factory he can also claim travelling expenses.

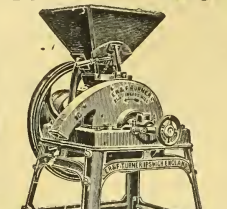
Persons who, except for consumption in their own households, manufacture or trade in margarine, must keep it in vessels which are either quadrangular, or of such an oval form that the length is at least half as much again as the breadth. The words "margarine," or "artificial fats," as the case may be, must be clearly branded, or otherwise durably imprinted on the base, top, and sides of the receptacle, in letters at least 3 centimetres high, together with the name of the manufacturer, or of the importer if the article has been imported. In the retail trade the goods may be exposed for sale in smaller quantities, but they must have a clearly visible label with the proper designation. Margarine cheese must have the words "margarine cheese" impressed upon each surface in letters at least 3 centimetres high, as well as the name of the dairy where it was produced; and the exterior must also be coloured with Orleans red or some other non-poisonous dark red colour.

The above regulations concerning packing, colouring, &c., apply equally to imported and exported goods. If the goods are not offered for sale in vessels of the prescribed form, they must be delivered in a wrapper bearing the words "Margarine," &c., in clear type. Shops, markets, booths, vehicles, &c., where such goods are on sale must also have a clearly visible notice indicating the fact, and in all commercial papers such goods must be specified under their proper designation.

Imported goods, declared at the Custom House to be margarine, &c., if not packed according to the regulations, cannot be removed until they are properly shaped and packed by the importer. Margarine which is imported must be marked as of foreign manufacture unless its Swedish origin is proved. Imported and exported margarine or margarine cheese must contain the legal amount of sesame oil, which must be duly declared and attested. If imported or exported goods which are not declared as margarine, &c., are nevertheless suspected, or if the regulations are not followed, the Customs officers must immediately inform the local authorities, who will cause a sample to be taken for examination, after payment of the duty. The cost of analysis is paid by the State unless the goods are adulterated, in which case the owner pays. Samples of margarine and margarine cheese may also be taken generally by various officials.

Contravention of the regulations is punishable by fines, confiscation of goods, notices in local newspapers at the defendants' expense, or by imprisonment.

THE 'INKOOS' MILL



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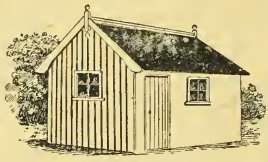

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Works and Stock of Timber cover 6 acres.

The Dogs Bill. In the House of Commons on Tuesday the Dogs Bill, as amended by the Standing Committee, was considered. Lord R. Cecil moved that the owner of a dog should be liable in damages for any injury done by that dog. Sir E. Strachey having explained that the amendment was beyond the scope of the Bill, it was withdrawn. Some discussion ranged round a proposal by Mr. Keir Hardie to remove from the owner of a dog the onus of proving its innocence. Sir E. Strachey and Lord Helmsley opposed the amendment, which Mr. Keir Hardie eventually withdrew. An amendment by Mr. H. Marks that the expression "cattle" should include turkeys, ducks, and geese was rejected by 203 to 31. A motion by Sir F. Banbury to omit the words preventing dogs chasing sheep was withdrawn, and the Bill was read a third time.

The Proposed Regulations for England.

A comparison of the above with the Butter Committee's recommendations should prove interesting to all connected with the butter trade, and we therefore give below the committee's recommendations in full:—

1. That inspectors of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland should have power to enter any premises where they have reasonable grounds for believing that butter is made, blended, reworked, treated by any process, adulterated, or stored.

2. That premises where butter is blended, or reworked, or treated by any process, or where abnormal butter is habitually produced shall be registered with the local authority of the district as a butter factory.

3. That no fat other than butter fat, and no vegetable or other oils, nor any substance capable of being used as an adulterant of butter, should be brought into or stored or be allowed to be in any registered butter factory.

4. That no substance be added to butter whereby the percentage of moisture in the butter is increased.

5. That the addition to butter at any stage of the process of manufacture of any fat not derived from milk be expressly and directly prohibited.

6. That margarine when sold by retail should be handed to the purchaser in a wrapper on which the word "Margarine" shall be printed in black, solid capital letters, not less than half-inch square, and if more than one wrapper is applied to the margarine, the word "Margarine" shall be printed as above on the inner wrapper; that no fancy name or description should be permitted which refers to butter or anything connected with the dairy industry; that the outside wrapper as well as the inside wrapper should contain nothing but the word "Margarine" in type as aforesaid; and if any fancy name is printed on any other wrapper the word "Margarine" should be suffixed or affixed to the fancy name in letters of the same size, colour, and type as those in which the fancy name is printed.

7. That no margarine made in any margarine factory shall, when the process of manufacture is complete, contain more than 16 per cent. of water, and no margarine shall be imported containing more than 16 per cent. of moisture.

8. That premises where margarine is re-worked or submitted to any process shall be registered as margarine factories.

9. That sub-section 3 of section 20 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act (1899) be amended so as to provide that a warranty or invoice given by a person resident outside the United Kingdom shall not be available as a defence to any proceedings under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

10. That penalties for the importation of adulterated butter should be proportionate to the magnitude of the consignment.

11. That all practicable steps should be taken to bring about international agreements as to the prevention of adulteration.

12. That section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act (1899) should be amended so as to give the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland power to fix standards for curd and to give the Local Government Board power to fix standards for preservatives.

13. That the Department of Agriculture for Ireland should have power to take proceedings under the Merchandise Marks Act.

14. That nothing should be sold under the name of butter which contains more than 16 per cent. of moisture.

15. That substances other than butter (not being margarine) containing butter fat should be sold with a limit of 24 per cent. of moisture under a name approved by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, provided that such name should not be calculated to prejudice the sale of the article.

16. That such substances when sold by retail should be delivered to the purchaser in a wrapper approved by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries containing a description of the natural substance, and quality of the article, and, as far as possible, under the same conditions as apply to the sale of margarine

17. That the provisions of the Margarine Act of 1887 as amended by the Sale of Food and Drugs Act (1899) should apply to all such substances.

18. Inspectors acting under the special direction of the local authority should have power to enter butter factories to inspect any process and to take samples.

19. That butter having been treated by any process shall not be allowed to be replaced in the original packages.

Best Sporting Powder is Normal.—The new illustrated catalogue proves this, copy of which, as well as gratis samples, will be sent to all sportsmen on application to THE NORMAL POWDER AND AMMUNITION CO., LTD., Renter's Lane Hendon, London, N.W.—[ADVT.]

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Exclusive Reports.

Hunts. (South). THE weather of late has been dull and cool, not altogether unsuitable for the growing crops, if the haymakers would have preferred a little more sun, although, in the opinion of the writer, a great proportion of the hay now ungathered has already had most of its feeding qualities converted into fibre and seed. There is still a good deal of brown seedy stuff, nicknamed grass, to cut. The owners have made a terrible mistake in leaving the bents in the vain hope that the bottom grass would grow after the rain of a fortnight since. At present the quantity of hay is less than it would have been if the grass had been cut at the proper time, and the quality is very decidedly disimproved. A stroll through the growing corn leaves a favourable impression; it is true that the wheat shows that the blossoming period was not good, but the ears are large, so that each ear may give an average number of kernels. Barley will prove to be over an average in quantity, but just what the quality will be remains to the future. Hay is about two-thirds of a crop. Roots growing well.

Hampshire (Kingston). WHEAT in this district not much sown, and what there is I do not think will be average crop. Barley and oats are about the same. The crop varies considerably, some being very good and some very bad; on the whole not quite average crop. Clover or field hay mostly light. Water meadows good. Dry meadows very light crop. Mangels are fairly good, plant growing very fast, whilst swedes are a good plant and doing well. Cattle and sheep are healthy, and doing well.

Wiltshire (Devizes). THE writer of the Wiltshire Survey, which appeared in our issue of July 16, points out a printer's error which crept into his remarks. He was made to say that "I only saw 2,003 pieces of wheat up to the full average," whereas it should have been "two or three pieces." The mistake was an obvious one, for few would suppose that our correspondent would look at 2,003 and be so precise as to the odd three. In pointing out the error our correspondent adds a few remarks about present conditions of farming in his district. He says:—"Since my last we have had a few refreshing showers—I mean neither heavy or continuous—and so I take it the hay crop may be called *safe*, with the crops, taken all round, something under average; but, as *usual*, quality good where cut early. The barley seems to me to be still improving.

Cumberland (Mid.). AFTER a cold and most unfriendly May, which seriously retarded the preparation of strong land for green crop, we were favoured with a month of most genial weather, which quickly carried out the old proverb of soon putting all things in tune and produced abundance of grass in all directions, a considerable quantity of which has now been cut and converted into hay and secured in splendid condition. Meadows are now being cut, and are equally as heavy as the seeds that are now chiefly secured. The light and dry land farmers have once more had a great advantage over their strong land rivals. May, though cold and showery, was not so seriously wet as to prevent the sowing of mangels and swedes, so that owing to the extremely suitable weather in June pushed the early sown turnips into rough leaf and ready for thinning weeks before the late sown braided above the drills, and the succeeding hot weather suspended their growth. We have had a little rain which will set them at liberty, and there is yet time for the green crop to be a bountiful one all round. The corn crop (oats), almost the only grain cultivated, is very irregular. There are some very promising crops and others very indifferent, and, strange to say, on some of the best land there is the worst prospect, but taking prospects all round so far they are above an average, and the empty barns are almost certain to be all well filled.

Warwick. CROPS of corn, as a rule, look well, having been much benefited by recent rains. Wheats vary very much, as while some crops appear to be thin, others are very good. Oats, too, will be much better than they promised some time back. A good root crop is now practically assured, and altogether this year promises to be a better one for farmers.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE SHOW AT LANCASTER.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, whose show takes place at Lancaster on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday next, has made enormous strides during the past few years, and the good work it is doing is known far beyond the borders of the County Palantine. The society has, and is, endeavouring to still further work in closer union with the district societies of Lancashire, and one of the most prominent workers in this cause has been Mr. Edward Bohane, the popular secretary of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society. Thanks to his and his associates' work the district societies have by the system of amalgamation helped one another considerably in contracts, &c., and the county society has been brought into closer sympathetic touch with their work. But, apart from this, the county society has this year decided to adopt an entirely new feature in visiting Lancaster. The well-known district society—the Lancaster Agricultural Society—having withheld its show and joined hands with the local committee in making the visit popular, the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society resolved to hold on the last day of the show what will be practically a replica of the Lancaster District Show, when £235 will be offered in prizes for all classes of live stock limited to a radius of fifteen miles of the Town Hall, Lancaster. This schedule has been drawn up with the help of the Lancaster Agricultural Society, and the prizes are an increase on what has been usually offered at the Lancaster Show. The result of this movement is already evident from the way in which subscribers to the local show have joined hands with the local committee and working enthusiastically to ensure a successful visit.

Last year, it will be remembered, the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society undertook the fitting up of their own showyard for the first time. The improvement in the stability of the erections and the general all round appearance of the showyard won for them the commendation of the exhibitors, members, and public, and when everything was settled up they found that they had saved a matter of over £1,200 on the year in this department alone. This enabled the society to close the year's workings with a handsome balance, although the weather was unfortunately very inclement during the period of the show. In doing their own erecting, four-fifths of the labour employed was local labour, and the whole of the timber was bought locally, and although this year Lancaster is not such a timber-importing district, the society have placed the contract for the supply with a local firm, and this again spells popularity.

Having succeeded in the fitting up, the society have, this year for the first time, attempted to solve what is one of the greatest difficulties at any agricultural show—viz., the catering question, and the whole of the catering throughout the show-

Mr. EDWARD BOHANE,
Secretary of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society.

yard will be undertaken by the society's staff. This is to be far and away the greatest project yet entered upon by them, and to give some slight idea, it involves the engagement of a staff for this department alone during the show of 250 hands. Their ambition is to give what may be tersely described as "better meat and drink" at a more reasonable cost, and particular attention will be paid to exhibitors.

In 1904 Mr. Bohane produced a scheme of children's essay and drawing competitions in connection with the district then visited by the society, and it has been continued annually with remarkable success. No fewer than 23,000 last year competed, and again at Lancaster the scheme has been taken up, and at the present time in every school within thirty miles of Lancaster children are endeavouring to give on paper an idea of their capabilities and interest in natural history subjects. These ideas will be exhibited in a gallery at the showyard. The society have received numerous applications for particulars of this scheme, and it must be a personal pleasure to Mr. Bohane to feel that this year nearly forty societies in the United Kingdom are having similar competitions.

A new feature this year will be an amateur judging competition, limited to young men not exceeding twenty-five years of age, who have never judged at any show or sale. Two sections have been provided, one for cattle and the other for heavy horses, and this will take place in connection with the local show classes on the fourth day. Already the society are assured that the venture will be a great success, and the system of points arranged will secure the awards being made to the best all-round competitors.

In addition there will be a military tournament on two days, and the engagement of the full band of the Royal Marines to attract the man in the street, and altogether with a prize list of £3,100 in cash prizes, besides £1,000 in challenge cups, &c., will be sufficient testimony that as a society the Royal Lancashire is determined to endeavour to keep in the forefront in furthering the best interests of agriculture and all that appertains to it, particularly in the county it represents.

Details as to the entries have now been made public, and these show in a most striking manner the progress of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society since it last visited Lancaster—eighteen years ago. This year there are 3,369 entries, whereas at the last Lancashire show the number was but 1,510. The average for the last five shows is 3,061, so that this year there is again substantial growth. This increase is marked in nearly all the important classes, as shown by the following list:—Cattle 258 entries, compared with 249, the average for the last five years; light horses 363, compared with 351; heavy horses 88, against 122; sheep 127, against 92; pigs 178, against 130; cheese 95, against 76; butter 155, against 130; honey 93, against 120; poultry 344, against 371; eggs 49, against 31; local exhibits 360, against 179; implement stands 231, against 225. Confident anticipations have been expressed that the 1906 show will eclipse its predecessors in excellence, and all that is needed to make the event a complete success is fine weather, which we sincerely hope will be favoured the society.

SHOW GOSSIP.

No fewer than 1,062 entries have been received for the Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society's Show on Tuesday, August 7, horses numbering 302, cattle 67, sheep 154, and pigs 30, whilst in the other sections the totals are—wool 23, butter 18, eggs 30, cheese 10, shepherd dogs 28, shoeing smiths 20, poultry 179, long service 9, employees' poultry, &c., 183. It will be seen that the exhibition is a most varied one, and provides continuous attractions for the visitor. In addition to the above interesting items of an altogether interesting show, there will be an horticultural show, consisting of fifty classes for all kinds of garden produce, for workmen on the estate; a parade of the Duke of Portland's thoroughbred stock at Hunciecroft Paddocks, at close of show; demonstrations at intervals during the day by Miss Rowland, of the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston, of butter making, milk testing, cream separating, &c.; lectures on bee-keeping by Messrs. Pugh and Scattergood, of the British and North Notts Bee-keepers' Association; and bands of the 4th Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters and Creswell Colliery Boys' Brigade. Special trains will be run by the Midland, Great Central, Great Northern and L.D. and E.C. railway companies from the principal towns in the Midland counties, and it is safe to assert that the attendance will, providing weather is favourable, be on the usual big scale seen at Welbeck.

Owing to the increasing popularity of the Birmingham Autumnal Shorthorn Show and Sale, as evidenced by the large number of animals entered at the past shows, it has been decided by the council of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society to extend the show and sale this year to two days, viz., September 5 and 6. An important alteration has been made in the classification, there now being three classes for bulls, with prizes in each class, instead of only one as formerly. The four classes for females remain as before. In the whole seven classes there are seventeen prizes offered, ranging from £15 to £3. The entries close on Thursday, August 9, and prize lists and entry forms may be had from the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

The Highland and Agricultural Society, it is believed, will for the first time in the history of their Border shows be able to record a balance on the right side as the result of the exhibition at Peebles. The attendances, all things considered, were exceptionally good, except on the last day, when rain and the early closing of the show (four o'clock) were the cause of the small takings. The result of the four days' show was £2,574 3s. 7d., as compared with £2,191 16s. 8d. at Kelso in 1898. This is the year on which a fair comparison can be made, and it speaks well for Peebles, but the totals are naturally very short of the takings at more popular centres. For instance, at Glasgow last year the takings were £4,453 18s. 1d., and at Perth in 1904 £4,990 1s. 8d., whilst at Edinburgh in 1899 they realised £10,222 11s. However, the Peebles folk are to be congratulated on the success of their first Highland Show, and it is hardly likely to be their last.

At a meeting of the Local Committee of the Yorkshire Agricultural Show, held at Middlesbrough last week, it was announced that the £1,800 which has to be raised by local subscriptions has been almost obtained, and that within a day or two the full amount will in all probability have been received. The entries of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs number 930, against 867 last year. During the past five years the entries have averaged 826.

Tring Agricultural Show, which has endeared itself to all classes as a show, although agricultural in its bearing, and making this its main point, has so many attractions apart from the main object that all the countryside put down the fixture for Thursday, August 9, as one not to be missed. This year none of the salient points are absent, and many others are introduced, so that the frequent figure of speech, "the same old show," does not apply to Tring. The King, as patron, still shows his appreciation of the show by sending entries. The milk and butter tests will be held as usual, an entry of 100 having been secured, and which is well backed up by good entries in nearly all the other sections.

The famous sheep dog trials will be as interesting as ever, a good entry having been made, and, as a good sound authority has said, "they are second only to the great Llangollen trials." The entries in the open harness classes are excellent, and will bring together a grand lot of horses. Seeing that £1,500 is given in prizes (a large sum for a one-day show), it is not to be wondered at that such an excellent entry has been obtained in all sections. The secretary, Mr. F. J. Brown, Tring, is always ready to give prospective visitors any information, and a post card sent to him will bring a programme setting out the full details of this the most interesting one-day show.

The Loughborough Agricultural Association offer upwards of £360 in prizes for competition at their sixty-eighth annual show, to be held on Wednesday, September 29, at Southfield, Loughborough. The money is well spread over the various sections, which include classes for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, dairy and farm produce, poultry, &c., whilst among the most popular features are the awards to labourers in husbandry and long service, and shepherds who have reared the greatest number of lambs. Entries for the show close on Thursday, August 30, but entries at double fees will be received up to Tuesday, September 4. The secretary is Mr. F. W. German, Cattle Market, Loughborough.

With its fine connection amongst Live Stock Owners, the "Mark Lane Express" is undoubtedly ONE of the BEST MEDIA for the Disposal of Pedigree Live Stock, either by Public Auction or Private Treaty.

The Journal goes directly into the hands of likely purchasers at home and abroad.

Midland Notes.

FARMERS are complaining again of the inconvenient and inelastic regulations of education authorities, who insist on keeping boys of under fourteen years of age at school until the arrival of the regular holidays. During such days of muggy and almost tropical heat as we have had lately, it is hard to believe that much serviceable work is done in the close and stuffy classrooms of the village schools; and beyond any doubt the lads who are intended for a country life would have been happier and more usefully employed in the hayfields, learning there something of the management of animals by leading the horses from field to stack, and economising labour at a time when every hand is valuable.

TO be frank, it must be admitted that there is also something to be said for the school authorities. One is reminded of their difficulties by recent prosecutions of parents in the Black Country in respect to children taken or sent into the county to pick peas and fruit. During last year no fewer than 2,200 left Dudley alone for the hop-picking, and the committee has rearranged the holidays this year in order to enable them to go hopping without missing school. But, evidently, it is impossible to suit everybody, and Mr. J. M. Wynne, the secretary of the Dudley Education Committee, spoke no more than the truth when he declared that if the children were to be allowed to indulge in all the rural occupations some parents would put them to, they would be away from school from May to October. In the villages the difficulties are less, and might generally be overcome if there were the will to do it. The by-law in many districts which enables children to leave school at twelve years on passing certain not too hard examinations works well wherever it has been tried, and, has apparently the sympathy of the Board of Education If this were put into force universally it would do much to relieve the situation and give our youngsters a chance to learn something of the work of their lives at an early and receptive age.

NOT many of the model cottages displayed at recent exhibitions commend themselves as particularly well adapted to the needs of rural landowners and labourers, nor can one look with confidence for anything more practically useful from the competition whose terms have just been announced by Miss Edith Bradley, late of the Lady Warwick College at Studley Castle, and now warden of the Women's Horticultural Instruction Centre at Providence House, Bredon's Norton. With a view to putting up some model cottages on her estate, it seems, Miss Z M. Woodhull (for whom Miss Bradley is acting) offers two prizes. One, however, is for detached cottages, in brick or stone, to cost £300 to £400, site being given; the other for a pair of cottages to cost from £500 to £600. Each is to contain three bedrooms and bathroom, living room and parlour, kitchen, scullery and offices, so that the workpeople—if workpeople they be—who inhabit them will be well provided for. But, then, so they should be at the money. There is at least one London firm of high repute prepared to build and furnish a "week-end" cottage for people who are used to comfort and refinement for less money than is to be laid out on these detached dwellings. "Is to be," I say, because it is a condition of the competition that cottages upon the approved plans must be put up on the estate within six months after the Agricultural Market Gardeners' and Cottagers' Show at Bredon's Norton on August 21, at which the miniature models in wood or plaster are to be exhibited.

FARMERS in the Coventry district will wish good fortune to the petition which is being sent to the Town Council anent the present unsatisfactory corn market arrangements. Perhaps the closing of the old market was inevitable, and no doubt it may be a more profitable possession to the corporation when diverted to its proposed new purpose. But the relegation of local grain sales to so unsuitable a building as the King's Hall in Vicar Lane is much regretted, and apart from the inconvenience involved is felt to be hardly worthy of the city of the three spires, whose market dates back into Saxon days and ranks among the oldest in the kingdom. In the circumstances there is ground for hoping that the Corporation may see its way to building a new market; and if that is to be done local farmers would like to see the work put in hand as speedily as possible.

MR. JAMES'S sale at Kettering on Tuesday attracted some amount of newspaper comment from the fact that while the county is Northampton the cattle were Aberdeen-Angus and the sheep Hampshires, which it is not usual to find so far north. But it is the tendency of the day for pure breeds once confined to special areas to find their way to new localities, sometimes far from their original homes. If, for instance, the Hampshire is moving north the hardy Cheviot sheep are coming south, being now bought in Scotland in the autumn by not a few farmers, who find them fatten quickly and cheaply in the milder conditions of the English winter, and can sell them profitably as young fat mutton after the wool clip has been taken in the spring. Then, again, to how many new districts has the comparatively new Shropshire breed penetrated? And the new Oxford Down Flock Book just to hand bears witness that this capital Midland variety is known now far afield. Oxfords, indeed, are kept to-day in the Lake country, in Lancashire and Yorkshire, in Wilts, South Wales, Cornwall, Scotland, Ireland, and France. Mr. A. J. Balfour, M.P., is, by the way, among the Scotch adherents of the breed, which seems to enjoy a good name wherever it has penetrated.

WE have had another hot and droughty week. If there has been any rain it has been purely local, and the roots are languishing, excepting mangels, which seem to revel in the heat. Unless showers come barley of high quality will be scarce, and oats are generally backward for want of moisture. One hears of failure of wells and springs in many parts, especially on the Nottingham side, where the rainfall has been very small this season.

July 26, 1906.

SHOWS.

Tiverton.

Beautiful weather favoured the show of the Tiverton Agricultural Society held on Thursday, and it proved most successful. The total entries numbered 1,012, compared with 786 last year, and a little over 800 in 1904. The open classes for Devons contained some of the best cattle and sheep in the country. In the Shire horse class there was a slight falling off in numbers as compared with last year, but the local hunting classes were well filled. In the cattle and sheep classes there was also a big advance. There were about a hundred exhibits more than last year in the dead poultry show, the increase being due to better prizes.

Newport.

The seventeenth annual exhibition of the Newport and District Agricultural Society took place in the Victoria Park, Newport, on Thursday, in brilliant weather, and was one of the most successful ever held by the society. The increased public support must have been very gratifying to the committee. The entries compared very favourably with previous years. There was a slight falling off in the entries of horses, but this was more than compensated for by the improvement in the quality of the animals shown. No pigs were exhibited in consequence of the Swine Fever Orders. The entries of cattle and sheep were satisfactory, and some of the animals shown would have probably held their own in a larger exhibition. One of the strongest sections in the whole show was that devoted to honey. Butter was also of fairly good quality.

Thorney Foal.

The annual show of Shire foals at Thorney took place on Thursday in splendid weather, and was a great success from all points of view, and particularly as regards the display of stock. It was the seventeenth of the series, and, without doubt, was the best of the lot. The entries were considerably in advance of last year—141 compared with 119—and there was a consensus of opinion that the yearling class, at any rate, was without parallel in the society's history, and that it was not beaten at Peterborough. Other classes were also good, and the society is to be congratulated on its success and continued progress.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, Park Vale Road, Middlesbrough, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 8, 9, and 10, 1906.

Stock and Implements, &c., Jumping Competitions, Military Tournament, Band.

Admission:—Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 2/6; Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1/-; Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 1/-; Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1/-. Season Tickets, 10/6 each. Reserved Seats on Grand Stand, 5/- each.

JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW at WOLSINGHAM, On WEDNESDAY, August 15 1906. Upwards of £1,000 given in Prizes for Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Leaping, Milking Demonstrations, Implements and Harness, Sheep Dog Trials, Dogs, Pigeons, Poultry, Rabbits, Butter, Eggs, &c.

Entries close Monday, July, 30, 1906.

Prize Schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, &c., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Proctor, Esq., Flass House, Durham.

Prize Schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c., on application to the Secretary,

WM. CHRYSTAL, Houghton-le-Spring.

BIRMINGHAM SHORTHORN SHOW and SALE.

The SIXTIETH EXHIBITION and SALE will be held on SEPTEMBER 5 and 6.

£125 in Prizes—viz., £55 for Females in four classes and £70 for Bulls in three classes.

Entries close August 9.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.
Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

BATH HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 5 and 6, 1906. Nearly £700 in Prizes.

Great Jumping Competitions.

Entries close August 18

Schedules and all particulars to be obtained of—

LEWIS C. MUNDY, Secretary.
41, Milsom Street, Bath.

HARROGATE AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

President: HY. WILLIAMS, ESQ., J.P. will be held

On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906.

About £500 in Prizes. Schedules now ready. G. SAVILLE,
Park View, Harrogate.

MID SOMERSET AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

SHEPTON MALLET, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4. West of England Cider Show, Nov. 2. £650 in Prizes and £250 Cash Specials. Entries close August 17.—Schedules, &c., of the Secretary,

Shepton Mallet. W. OZZARD.

ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Agricultural Department.

President—W. DURET AUBIN, Esq.

SUMMER SHOW of Bulls, Cows, Heifers, Horses, &c., at Springfield Grounds, Jersey, AUGUST 22 and 23, 1906. JOHN A PERREE, Secretary.

WELBECK TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1906.

1062 ENTRIES.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

President: Leopold Salomons, Esq., J.P.

THE ANNUAL HORSE AND CATTLE SHOW will be held in Stoke Park, Guildford, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1906.

Prizes, value £600 will be offered.

The Entries close SATURDAY, AUGUST 11.

GEORGE ENTICKNAP, Secretary.
Bridge Street, Guildford.

THE CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The 73rd ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Redcar on AUGUST 24, 1906.

Over £400 Prize Money.

Entries Close August 15.

Schedules from—THOS TURNER, Sec., Lazenby Eston, R.S.O., Yorks.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SHOW,

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1906,

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WHITWORTH (Lancashire) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY SATURDAY, AUGUST 11. Judges: Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, J. Hutchence, Esq., J. Thompson, Esq., J.P., G. Dewhurst, Esq., and F. Metcalf, Esq Dog entries close August 6, other exhibits August 7. Schedules—E. A. STOTT, 561, Market Street, Whitworth.

THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS SHOW.

Having the advantage to be held year after year on the same ground, being so loyally supported by the neighbouring nobility and gentry, and managed and controlled by a thoroughly practical council, there is no room for surprise at the continued success of this important annual show. This year's fixture took place on Thursday and Friday last under most favourable circumstances, and this year's president, Lord Leconfield, will have the satisfaction of being able to look back upon the work of his first year's presidency of this society as being one of pronounced success.

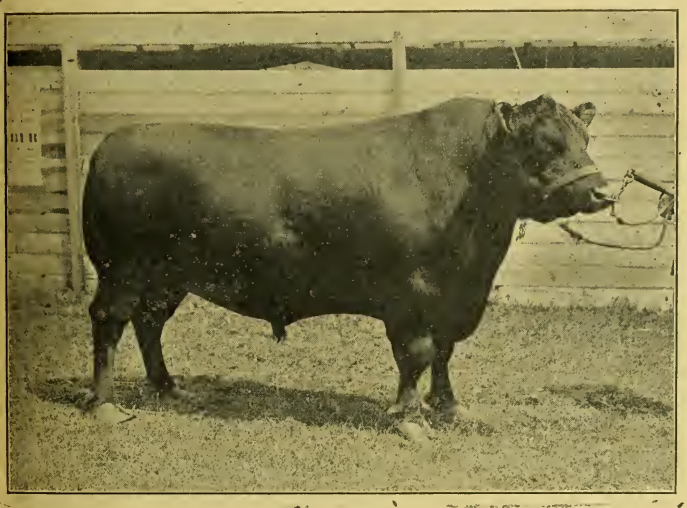
Taking the show as a whole, there did not appear to us a single department in which there was other indication than success. The entry and display of agricultural implements as well as those interesting displays made by seedsmen and vendors of cattle food, cake, medicines, &c., were very attractive, and for a show of this description much above the average. Our space does not allow of any descriptive account of any particular stand, but we may mention that the more local industry—hop and fruit growing—was well represented in this display by many of the most recent and up-to-date machines for spraying, washing, &c, some of these being exhibited in the section for machinery in motion.

The poultry section was a notable success, and we were pleased to note that the interest taken by the general public in this excellent section of the show was very noticeable. It is well that this is the case, because it indicates there is being given to show to the public what the breed was really capable of achieving under proper management and control. A comparison with the entry at the 1887 show and that held this week clearly indicates the noticeable improvement made since the Flock Book Society came into existence and secured the united co-operation of the principle breeders of this breed of sheep, now in demand for so very many of the leading importing countries.

It may be urged that the foregoing remarks are not strictly applicable to a report of this or any show; but, on the other hand, had it not been for these annual exhibitions, at which opportunity was given those who were engaged in the work of improvement noted above to show their neighbours the result of their work, it is quite certain that the general improvement that has been brought into effect would not have been accomplished.

Horses.

The Shire horse classes were as good as we have ever seen them, a real good one, amongst which there were several of very outstanding merit. Notably amongst these were that fine upstanding two year-old colt Shustoke Monarch, that won first in its class and Lord Leconfield's Challenge Cup for best Shire for Mr. R. W. Hudson; Mr. L. Salomon's Norbury Menestrel, second as a two-year-old and the rn for the Challenge Cup; Childwick Young, first in the Brood mare class that won the Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal for Mr. Salomons; and Marden Fun, second in the same class that won the rn for the Gold Medal for Mr. T. Jones. In addition to these there were several other very good animals, such as Marden Conqueror, that won for Mr. W. Grunwell in the Old Stallion class; Westby Regent second in the same class, for the Marquis Camden; Mr. Max Michaelis' winning yearling colt King of Tandridge. In the Mare and Filly classes which were equally good amongst the winners, in addition to the medal winners were Buscot Chloris for Mr. L. Salomons, first as a barren mare; Pailton Sorais, first as a three year-old, from Mr Max Michaelis, whose Alexandra of Tandridge was first as a two year old; and Mr. L. Salomon's Norbury Surprise, first in the yearling class. The tenant farmers' classes were well supported, and it was in these classes that the notable improvement in the merit of the agricultural horses of the district was so noticeable. Messrs. T Jones, of Goldstone; E. Neve, of Chart Sutton; W. Wood, Eridbridge; and J. G Wright, Appledore, were the principal winners.



Aberdeen-Angus Bull, Lord Fearless First Prize and Champion at the Tunbridge Wells Show last week. The property of Mr. W. S. James, Brought in Lodge, Kettering; Bred by Sir G. M. Grant, Ballindalloch.

in this district very considerable attention to this important section of the farmers' business. Probably there is none in which there exists at the present time greater need of improvement than in the poultry of the farm. Generally speaking, this section does not secure that position in the management of the farm it should, and we consider in giving such prominence to it at their annual show the Tunbridge Wells Society is doing good work on behalf of the agricultural industry in their district. All agree that much more ought to be done in connection with the poultry industry on our farms, and hence such exhibitions as those seen at Tunbridge Wells this year are most valuable and instructive. On our way to the show ground an old acquaintance of the writer called to mind our first joint visit to this show, namely, in 1887 and remarked upon the numerous changes that had taken place during the period between that date and the present time. Referring to the show he said, to what do you attribute the notable improvement in the agricultural horses, and the Kent Romney Marsh Sheep? The reply was an easy one, for at the period of the writer's first visit the full value of the Shire Horse for agricultural purposes had not been realised in the district nor had that great benefit given to the agriculturists by the magnificent manner in which many of the leading landowners in securing for their respective districts the services of reliable and sound Shire stallions had time to prove its value. Then in respect to the Romney Marsh sheep this was then a breed practically unknown outside its own district, with no organisation to push its interests, and hence few, if any, efforts were made

prize, Mr. R. J. Balston's Grand Duke of Ruddington 9th, a choicely-bred and valuable bull. The cow and heifer classes were most typical of the breed, and the winning specimens were most meritorious. Mr. J. Colman's entries were well to the fore. Hawthorn Flower and Diana 27th were first and second in the cow class, and Snow Queen second in the two year olds, in which class Mr. R. W. Hudson's Maisie 2nd took first honours. The yearlings were a handsome lot, notably that grand young heifer Silver Streak, that won first honours for Mr. H. S. Leon. The contest for best group of four Shorthorns entered in the foregoing classes was an interesting one, Mr. Colman's group taking the cup.

The Sussex cattle—a breed largely kept in the society's district—were represented by one of the best entries we have seen of this breed at this show for some considerable time The high value of these cattle for beef production is well known amongst those who have tested its capabilities in this direction, and also, as is shown by the Smithfield Show results, and yet, strange to say, few, very few indeed, are exported. Lord Leconfield, this year's President, gave a handsome challenge cup for the best bull in these classes. This was won by Mr. E. E. Braby's Lord of Dungewick 5th, first prize two-year-old bull, quite one of the best of its age we have seen for some time. The Earl of Derby's grand old stud bull, very typical of its breed, being rn for this honour and first in its class. Mr. Braby's herd also provided the second winner in the two-year-old class, Mr. A. J. Hickman's Prince of Dungewick 5th. The Earl Winterton's herd has been most successful at this year's show, and deservedly so, for its exhibits have been of sterling quality. Shillinglee Gold 2nd was first in the yearling bull class, Sunlight 5th in the three-year-old cows or heifers, and Sunlight 7th in the two year-old class. The Earl of Derby's grand cow, Fancy, was winner of the special for best cow or heifer, and Mr. Saillard's Bewbush Evelyn wonfirst in a very capital class of yearling heifers, in which Mr. W. F. Winch's Tilsden Jessie took second honours.

The entry of the Aberdeen-Angus was not a large one, but its merit was very choice, Mr. W. S. James' Lord Fearless, winner in the old bull class, Mr. G Drummond's Ebiniser taking second honours won the championship prize as best animal in these classes. Mr. J. H. Bridges had a real good lot of bulls, cows, and heifers forward, and he won first for young bulls, first for cows with Barbarian, to which the rn for champion went, and also first in the two year-old heifer class, and second for yearling heifers. Here Sir G. Cooper, won with Evera, a beautiful heifer, and the same exhibitor was second in the yearling bull class with Justice of Horsley.

A grand entry of Jerseys were present, the slightly reduced numbers adding materially to the high average of merit. The best bull and winner of the Wadhurst Challenge Cup was that capital two-year-old Aurifer, first in its class, owned by Mr. W. Buckley Roderick, Captain Gisbourne's Glorious Lad, first in the old bull class, taking in. Mr. A. Miller Hallett, who had a nice lot of animals present, including some good females, won with Affiston's Pride, first in the yearling bull class. Lady de Rothschild was winner of first and second for cows with Whitewood 5th and 4th. Mr. Miller Hallett, in the three-year-old heifers, won first with Tapon's Bluebell, whilst in the two-year-old and yearling class the winners were those beautiful and symmetrical animals owned by Bishop Fisher (Burgh Snowflake) and Sir E. Stern's Dora.

The Guernsey breed had one of the best entries we have seen at this show for some few years, the merit was high in each class, and competition very keen. For cows Mr. E. A. Hambro won first and third, Mr. F. Hargreaves taking the second place. In the three-year old class Hayes Imperial, another from Mr. E. A. Hambro's herd was first, and the same owner led in the yearling class with Hayes Montrose 2nd. The winning two year-old was Mr. J. P. Morgan's Cranford Maid of the Milk, a most promising heifer. In the bull classes Mr. H. Fitzwalter, Plumstre, was to the fore, taking first honours in each class with real typical bulls.

The Kerry entry was a small one, Mr. T. Waite was the winner.

The Dexters made a thoroughly good entry, but the competition was somewhat limited. The Duchess of Devonshire was leading winner in the female classes with animals of high merit, and Messrs. A F. Perkins and B de Berteda to divided the honours in the bull classes, the latter breeder was also successful for cows and heifers.

There was a capital entry in the butter test classes, in which there was a very large entry indeed, numbering in the three classes thirty-eight cows.

Sheep.

The sheep section was one full of particularly the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep classes, one of which, that for ram lambs, contained no less than twenty-seven entries. An instance occurred in the award of the champion prize in this section that has not often been recorded. The judge, Mr. A. Amos, was interested in the ram lambs, having purchased one of the exhibit; therefore

Mr. Collard was asked to adjudicate upon this and the champion prize for males. When, however, the rams were paraded for the award, the second prize winners in the class were put in line with the prize winners, and Mr. Collard found to award the championship would, in effect, be to alter a previous judgment of his, he after consultation with Mr. Amos left the matter to Mr. W. E. Long, who awarded the champion prize to the second prize two-shear ram owned by Mr. W. Millen, and the rn to the first prize two-shear ram owned by Mr. H. Ridgen, and the result was a protest, which on being considered by the council was decided in Mr. Ridgen's favour, who thus won first in the two-shear ram class and champion honours, leaving Mr. W. Millen second in the two-shear ram class and rn for champion. Mr. Millen was notably successful in the other class with sheep of striking good merit for he won first for yearling rams, first and second for yearling ewes, first, second and rn for ram lambs, and first and third for ewe lambs. Mr. H. Rigden was second for ewe lambs, and Mr. J. B. Palmer third for ram lambs. Amongst the other winners were Messrs. F. Neame, C. File, J. E. Quested, H. Walters, &c.

The South Down entry was not so good as in some former years, but the merit was good. Mr. J. Coleman was the most successful exhibitor, for, in addition to his class prizes, he also won the Coleman Group prize for best group, the Southdown Society's medal for best male, and the Blythwood bowl for best Southdown male or female. The Duke of Devonshire's notably fine pen of ewes won the medal for best pen of females, and a grand yearling ram won first for Mr. W. M. Cazalet. Lieut.-Col. W. W. Hammond had a specially good lot of sheep present, but the judge did not appreciate their merit so highly as was the case at the East Kent show, where they won a large proportion of the principal awards.

The competition in the wool classes was not large, but the quality was good.

Goats secured a large entry, and quite an interest was displayed in these classes, which were most interesting.

Light Horses.

The hunter classes, and those for the hackney's, riding and driving horses, and other ring display classes, were as large as usual, and the competitions all through were notably keen. The manner in which the grand stand was filled, and the crowded attendance all round the large horse ring, showed most distinctly how much the society's receipts are dependent upon these ring displays, which here, as at most of the county shows, are one of the main sources of revenue.

Malton.

The show of the Malton Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, and like so many other shows this year suffered through clashing with other fixtures near at hand. The entries totalled only 325 as compared with 370 in 1905 and 429 in 1904, horses—the feature of the show—alone showing a decrease of over 50 when compared with last year, whilst the total was 115 less than in 1904. Horses last week numbered 230, cattle 55—an increase compared with the last few years—and sheep 40. The falling off was much to be regretted, and the society should see what they can do to prevent it in future years, for decreases have been the rule rather than the exception of late.

Of the eight classes in the Hackney section five contained only a very small number of entries, the actual figures being seventeen amongst them. The other three made up a fairly good show, but it was noticeable that nearly all the animals exhibited were locally bred. Messrs. T. and A. Hall, of Copmanthorpe Grange, figured well in the prize list, taking the first in the yearling colt or filly class with a smart colt by St. Thomas, and the first in the stallion class, three-year-old and upwards, with the same sire. Mr. Arthur Hall, from the same address, with his chesnut, Copmanthorpe, secured the premier award in the two-year-old entire colt class, whilst Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Adbolton, Notts, had the class for brood mare and foal practically to himself. The principal award for gentlemen's hack, over 14 hands 2 in. high, was awarded to Authority, a bay gelding, six years old by Ganymede, bred and exhibited by Mr. S. R. Tennant, of Wold House, Driffield, whose name figured several times in the catalogue.

Hunters showed up better than did the Hackneys, though the schedule did not seem to have appealed with much success to distant breeders. Local exhibitors were, however, well represented. The quality of the animals was good, especially the youngsters and the light-weight carriers. Lord Middleton's beautiful filly Modena, which filled the pride of place at the Royal and Driffield, had to take a secondary position to Mr. Rickaby's filly, Miss Moorethorpe, which certainly is a most attractive animal. His lordship, however, was successful in carrying off premier award in the brood mare and foal class with Scornful, an aged mare by Gordon, with a brown filly foal by Red Eagle. The president's prize for four-year-old gelding or mare was a gift for Splasher, now owned by Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Great Bowden, Market Harborough. Special praise was given by the judges to the three-year-olds, which, though few in number, were exceedingly fine animals. The weight-carrying five-year-olds made a good show in the ring, the class having well filled. Here the prizes went to Mr. Brown, of Slingsby, Mr. Simpson Hinchcliffe, of Harrogate, and Lady Grant Lawson, in the order named. The five-year-old geldings or mares up to 13 stone received special commendation, and although comparatively unknown, will most probably be heard of in the future. Mr. Richardson, of Salton Grange, Mr. Brown, of Slingsby, and Mr. John Lett were the owners of the animals that secured the coveted positions

The four classes provided for coach horses were well filled; especially was this the case with the three-year-olds. The young stock were a most promising lot, and attracted a good deal of attention in the ring. Mr. George Grandage, of Moor Croft, Yeadon, was successful in receiving the first prize in three of the four classes in this section—namely, with a yearling colt by Star of Yorkshire, with a two-year-old bay filly by Beacon Prince, and with a four-year-old bay, Woodland Briar. Mr. Lett's exhibit, which was second at the Royal this year, had again to be content in the three-year-old class with a second place, the judges giving preference to a brown gelding shown by Mr. Bert Kitching, of Pickering, which made its *début* in the show ring.

Though not very numerous, the exhibits of agricultural horses were most commendable, and favoured the conviction that heavy breeding is still well studied in this part of the country. Mr. J. A. Coulson, of Watton Abbey, secured the first award for gelding four years old and upwards with a powerful roan, which won premier honours at Driffield, and more recently at the Brough Show. In company with a bay mare bred by the exhibitor, the gelding won the first prize in the class for pairs of agricultural horses.

Shorthorn cattle made one of the best displays of the show, the quality all round being high class. In the old bull class Mr. Alfred A. Haley had an easy win with Sir George, a grand, massive roan by Abbotsford. There were twelve yearling bulls, and they were very meritorious. Captain Clive Behrens was the most successful exhibitor with Hartgrange Marquis, a big, heavy roan, full of Shorthorn character, and of good colour. The

NORTHUMBERLAND SHOW AT NEWCASTLE.

The feature of the cattle department was the display of Shorthorns, which was certainly the best ever seen here. The old bull class was headed by Mr. F. Millar, of Birkenhead, with his well known Linksfield Champion (champion at Dublin), and Sir R. P. Cooper's Meteor had to be content, as at the Royal Show, with the second position. Two-year-old bulls were also a grand class, and there was close competition between Lord Polwarth's British Renown, a finely developed youngster which was highly commended at the Royal, and Royal Ensign, belonging to Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford, which was third at the Royal. Eventually the judgment at the big show was reversed, and Royal Ensign was placed second to British Renown. With four bulls entered, the Duke of Northumberland gained one first. This was in the yearling class, which was headed by Alnwick Favourite, which was also adjudged to be the best bull in the show from the county of Northumberland. Mr. William Bell, of Alnwick, who was second to his Grace, gained a similar distinction for tenant farmers' animals. The female classes were also well filled. Two of them were headed by Mr. Harrison and one by Mr. Bell, and Mr. Harrison's successes in the classes made him practically certain of the group prize which is awarded to the owner of the best four animals in the section.

The show of Aberdeen Angus was disappointing as regards numbers, only twenty-five entries being received, but the quality was good. Mr. W. B. Greenfield, of Haynes Park, Bedford, and Mr. T. H. Bainbridge, of Felton, divided the honours between them. With Darling of Haynes II., which was female champion at the Royal, Mr. Greenfield headed the cow class, and also won the special prizes for the cow and the best animal in the section. He also took the group prize. Mr. Bainbridge's Elandslaagte was adjudicated the best bull, beating Mr. Greenfield's Royal winner, Gay Boy of Danesfield. There was a very small entry of Galloway cattle, Mr. R. Graham, of Auchengarsel, sending all the animals but one—a bull, with which Messrs. Raine won the second prize. Mr. Graham naturally took all the other prizes.

Sheep came next in the catalogue, and they made a good show, Border Leicesters predominating, and these gave the judges a difficult task. The ram classes were headed by Messrs. J. and J. R. C. Smith, of Kelso, who also won the ewe and ewe lamb classes. Cheviots, in which Mr. Jacob Robson was the chief winner, ran the Leicesters very close, and there was also a good display of black-faced mountain sheep, in which section Mr. John Robson took all the premier awards. Cross-breds were few in numbers, but there were two good classes of Oxford Down lambs.

Compared with the last Newcastle show, there was an increase in the number of agricultural horses, though they were fifteen fewer than last year at Berwick. A finer lot it would be hard to get together, and all round there was nothing but praise for them. It was especially gratifying to note the splendid display of brood mares and foals. The first prize in this class was taken by Mr. W. M. Wood, of Carlisle, with Cedric Princess, a well-known winner and a dam of the very best type. Her foal, however, failed to get placed. The Seaham Harbour Stud, who were second in this class, came to the front in the brood mare class with Kitty Everard, a stylish brown bred by Lord Londonderry. Four-year-old geldings or mares under 16·2 hands made only a medium class, out of which a thick heavy bay, shown by Mr. J. Johnson, of Hexham, stood out a clear winner. The class for animals over 16.2 hands was, on the other hand, an exceptionally good class, containing some horses of the best type. All three prizes went to Mr. Fenwick Wilson, of Marden, Whiteley Bay. A good, straight-going horse, shown by Mr. W. C. Bowe, of Innerwicke, headed a strong class of three-year-old geldings, but he was run very close by Messrs. T. Smith and Sons' Harry, which won in its class last year. A moderate class of three-year-old fillies was won by the Seaham Harbour Stud, who also took the group prize with four first prize winners.

The light horses, on the whole, made a good show, but some of the classes might have been better filled. They varied considerably in quality, and the clashing of the show with one or two other important fixtures with attractions for Hunter breeders had something to do with limiting the competition. The local exhibits were especially good, and made up for the non-appearance of animals from a distance that under other circumstances might have been entered. With Lady Mombray, a finely-formed brown mare full of quality, Mr. Andrew Rutherford, of Haydon Bridge, carried off the gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, and also the first prize in its class. The three-year-olds, both geldings and fillies, comprised some promising performers, the entries in these classes, as also in the two-year-olds, coming principally from the county. As a whole, the class for hunters up to 13½ stone was poor. Mr. Henry Kidd, of Melrose, took the first two prizes with a mare and a gelding respectively which have done a lot of winning in the north. The heavy-weight class was much better, and contained at least four or five hunters of the finest type. There was no doubt about the winner, as Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, showed his famous bay gelding Whiskey, whose long series of successes was topped by a first at the Royal. The four-year-old Hunter class was a close thing between a gelding shown by Messrs. T. and H. Ward and Barley Sugar, a beautiful chesnut gelding belonging to Mr. Henry Watson, of Longbenton. The latter showed the best quality, but after a long consultation the judges placed the former first on account of its very fine going.

There were several interesting classes of Hackneys, the section being stronger than at the last Newcastle show. Adbolton Rosina, the well-known mare of Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Nottingham, was first in the brood mare class, beating Paddock Queen, which won a third for Messrs. Cockayne Bros., of Sheffield, at the Royal. Paddock Queen's foal, however, was first in its class, whilst Adbolton Rosina's offspring was unplaced. The three year-old class attracted only two entries, but there was good competition amongst the two-year-olds, Mr. A. W. Hickling winning with a fine specimen of the Rosador strain. Mr. John Robinson, of Harrogate, won the first two prizes in the class for Hackneys over 15 hands. Coronation Flower, a stylish mare by His Majesty, with elegant action, was placed first, with Champion Mornington Cannon second. Mr. Thomas Boddy, of West Auckland, secured the award in the 14 hands class with Woodhatch Connaught Queen, an attractive chesnut mare by Garton Duke of Connaught. The pony classes brought out some pretty little roadsters, the most noticeable being the well-known Fernichurst Fortuna of Mr. George Waud, of Baildon. The leaping competitions as usual proved most attractive, as did the displays of dogs and cats, whilst the flower show was quite a feature of the exhibition.

VETERINARY PREPARATIONS,

Small Articles of a Portable Character, sell readily when brought regularly before the readers of the "Mark Lane Express."

winning bull calves, of good breeding and type, came from Birdshall House and Highfield. Captain Behrens's Daisy Clifford and Lord Middleton's Birdsall Duchess 5th competed among the cows, and were placed in the order named. For yearling heifers Mr. Haley scored with Whitehall Millicent, whilst the heifer calves were headed by Mr. Hall's Settrington Fairplay.

The sheep display was an average one. Only two animals were entered in the shearling Leicester ram class. These were from the flock of Messrs. Simpson, of Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, and as a matter of course they received the prizes. The Lincoln Longwools were a much better class, and the number of entries is indicative of the growing popularity of this heavier type of sheep. The first prize for shearling rams was awarded to a massive sheep, belonging to Mr. J. M. Strickland, of Warren House, Brandsby, Mr. Haley, of Whitewall, having second honors placed to his credit with a well-formed tup which was commended at the Royal. The same exhibitor was successful in the two remaining classes, taking the first prizes for the pen of three gimmer lambs.

CUMBERLAND SHOW.

The annual show of the Cumberland Agricultural Society, held at Carlisle on the 21st inst., was an all-round success, for the entries were numerous and good, the weather fine, and the attendance of visitors a record one—what more can a society desire? Following so close on the Peebles show, a good many animals came from there direct to Carlisle, whilst there were also several animals that had done well at the Royal and London spring horse shows; so that the quality of the stock can well be imagined.

The heavy horses were more of the Clydesdale than the Shire horse type—lacking the substance of the latter, but showing plenty of stamina, and well suited to the requirements of this hilly part of the country. The Royal champion brood mare, Cedric Princess, by Baron's Pride, was sent by Mr. W. M. Wood, of Draw Dykes Castle, and in a very good class she had no difficulty in asserting her supremacy. Another winner was Mr. George Hodgson's King Harry. Last year he was invincible, and now he not only won his class prize (where he had little competition to face), but got the challenge plate as the best male in the agricultural horse section. His strongest challenger here was Messrs. D. and J. Curr's entire yearling colt, sired by Hiawatha.

Light horses showed a distinct improvement upon previous years. The young classes of hunters were filled by an exceptionally promising lot. The best of the brood mares was found in Mr. John S. Rigg's Tyng a-Lyng, from Appleby - a typical hunter brood mare, and still looking well in spite of her eighteen years. The second prize winner—owned by Mr. R. Holliday, of Carlisle—is the dam of a two-year-old brown gelding, Gilnockie, belonging to Mr. Lewis Beattie, of Canonbie, that won a first at the Highland the other day and was second for the championship. He was now beaten by Mr. Michael Young's chestnut Adonis by Lord Garvagh—a nice, well-made horse that has had a winning record in Ireland. In addition he gained the champion silver medal for the best hunter colt or gelding foaled in 1903, 1904, or 1905. In a choice class of three-year-old hunters the winner, the property of Mr. Joseph James, of Outerbridge Mill, was a beautiful type of a 13-stone hunter. There was a good muster of four-year-olds, and here the first winner was Forethought, a grey owned by Mr. Henry Kidd, of Melrose, and a Pinchinthorpe representative—an old showyard hero—was second. A strong rival was Mr. J. S. Rigg's Cousin Job, who, in the opinion of many ring-side critics, was entitled to something more substantial than the reserve number. In the light-weight class the same winners retained their positions. Rosebud is probably as fine a galloper as can be seen in a showyard ring, but though she appeared to be rather short in condition, she succeeded in defeating a Highland winner. The local class was an exceptionally good one, Mr. Rigg being awarded first honours for Myrna, a foal full of substance and quality.

There was keen competition in most of the Hackney and Harness classes. Mr. E. D. McNaughton, of Milnthorpe, was very successful with his Ariel, who boasts of Royal Denmark for sire, and who, besides winning three first prizes, secured the challenge bowl for the best gelding or filly in the Hunter, Harness, and Hackney classes from one to three years old. Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Adbolton, Nottingham, obtained the Harness Horse Stud Book medal with a well-known winner; and Mr. J. Varty, of Lincoln, got the bronze championship medal for his pony, Lincoln Squire, which won at Islington in the spring.

As was only to be expected, the show of Shorthorns was a very fine one, both bulls and the females being of very high-class quality. Of the bulls two years old and upwards the best was show by Mr. J. C. Toppin, of Musgrave Hall, Penrith. This was Moonstone, three years and two months old, and the winner of numerous prizes before he came from South Wales into the possession of his present owner. He is a big, level bull, a son of Moonlight, and half-brother to Meteor, the champion at the Highland Show. Yearling bulls were a grand group; the winner was May Duke, fourteen months old, possessing beautiful quality; he was bought at the Birmingham sales by Mr. John Gill, of Stainton. He also won the Shorthorn Society's prize for bulls calved in 1905 (open to the county of Cumberland), and the Tenant Farmers' prize. The silver championship medal for the best Shorthorn bull under twelve months old went to Mr. John Nelson, of Mungrisdale. There was a nice show of Galloways. The Countess of Carlisle took first prize with a young bull that won at the Highland, and was second at the Royal, the other principal prize winners including Mr. James Wilson, Tundergarth Mains; Mr. T. Graham, Marchfield; and Mr. A. H. Fox-Brockbank, Kirksanton.

Sheep showed a marked improvement on last year. There was an especially good show of Border Leicesters and Black-faced sheep. Mr. James Fleming, of Rigg, with a ram, carried off the champion silver cup for Border Leicesters, and a champion medal for the best exhibit in the sheep classes. Pigs were few in number but of good quality.

Agricultural Imports.

An account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 21, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

		1905.	1906.
Oxen, cows, &c....	Number	10,872	9,623
Sheep and lambs ...	,,	935	1,084
Swine	,,	—	—
Horses	,,	196	487
Beef	Cwt.	70,095	59,529
Mutton	,,	68,384	81,261
Pork	,,	4,040	2,997
Bacon	,,	114,058	94,259
Beef	,,	3,876	2,940
Hams	,,	35,557	33,673
Pork	,,	5,883	6,882
Meat, salted or fresh ...	,,	8,715	7,216
Meat, preserved ...	,,	9,387	9,189
Butter	,,	89,528	78,918
Margarine	,,	17,367	19,262
Cheese	,,	91,131	57,579
Milk, fresh	,,	45	—
Milk, cream	,,	95	76
Milk, condensed ...	,,	14,522	17,074
Milk, preserved ...	,,	53	23
Eggs ... Great	Hundreds	330,390	336,511
Poultry	Value £	2,833	3,711
Lard	Cwt.	35,014	35,831
Wheat	,,	2,658,000	1,851,800
Wheat Meal and Flour ...	,,	158,900	219,400
Barley	,,	76,100	29,500
Oats	,,	495,800	271,400
Peas	,,	41,921	28,810
Beans	,,	18,120	1,500
Maize or Indian Corn	,,	612,700	717,900
Apples	,,	14,339	16,507
Hay	Tons.	2,951	5,210
Straw	,,	1,246	1,203
Moss Litter	,,	1,409	1,281
Hops	Cwt.	122	3,606

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
July 31	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Sheep	Market House, Salisbury	Mr. J. Dean and Sir Alex. Henderson.
31	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Crewe	Horses	Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay, North Wales	Messrs. John Jones and Sons.
31 & August 1 & 2	Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Harness Horses and Matched Pairs	North Wales Repository, Wrexham	Various.
August 1	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Hackney Horses	Amberly Court, Monmouth	Mr. W. R. Lysaght and Rt. Hon. F. Wrench.
*1	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, Bicester	Oxford Down Shearling Rams	Upper Winchendon, near Aylesbury.	Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell.
1	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Hampshire Down Sheep	Ilsley Fair	Sir W. G. Pearce and Hon. D. P. Bouverie.
*1 & 2	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons Ipswich,	Suffolk Sheep	Gippeswyke Park, Ipswich.	Various.
*2	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Guernsey Cattle	Burgate, Godalming, Surrey	Col. Shakerley and Mr. E. A. Hambro.
*2	Messrs. Chalk, Cambridge	Hampshire Down Sheep	Cambridge	Mr. Lambert.
2	Messrs. J. Harris and Son, Winchester	Hampshire Ram Lambs	Cocum Farm, nr. Micheldever	Mr. G. Judd.
2	———	South Devon Rams	Totnes	Members of Southdown Sheep Society.
*3	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Hampshire Down Sheep	Manor Farm, Winterbourne, Stoke	Mr. Carey Coles.
3	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury	Store Stock	Shrewsbury Cattle Market	Various.
3	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons	Suffolk Sheep	Sutton, near Melton Station	Various.
*3	Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs, Ashford	Kent and Half-bred Sheep	Ashford	Various.
7	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Hampshire Down Sheep	Market House, Salisbury	Mr. Dibben.
7	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackney Horses	Londesborough Stud, Market Weighton	Mr. R. Whitworth.
7	Mr. J. W. Taylor, Cheltenham	Oxford Down and Cotswold Rams	Cirencester Fair	Various.
7	Mr. A. F. Hobbs	Oxford Down Shearling Rams	Cirencester Fair	Mr. J. T. Hobbs.

* Further details appear in our advertisement columns.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Referees and Breed Societies.

SIR,—I had the pleasure of visiting the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's show at Gainsborough on Wednesday last, and an incident which came under my notice during the judging of Shires struck me as being one which must, if repeated, cause discontented exhibitors and friction between members of one society and another.

The society were fortunate in having Messrs. James Whinnerah and W. H Potter as judges of this section, and, but for the incident I speak of, were equally fortunate in having Mr. C. W. Tindall and Mr. T. W. Dean as acting stewards, for they have always struck me as being gentlemen of such ripe experience as to be relied on to "rise" to any occasion. Nevertheless, on Wednesday I felt keenly disappointed on seeing them "fall" instead of "rise," when a little tact would have saved the situation and have prevented the little incident of which I will now speak.

In the two-year-old filly class the judges failed to agree, and asked for the society's appointed referee to be called in. Unfortunately this gentleman was not at hand, and Mr. F. W. Buttle, the celebrated Hackney breeder, of Kirkburn Manor, Driffield, was brought to settle the matter, which he did to the entire satisfaction of many well-known Shire horsemen who happened to be interested spectators at the time. Thus Mr. Buttle ably acquitted himself, and perhaps you may think that I might very safely let the matter end with his decision; but that is not the point I wish to raise.

What I want to lay before you is this. Both Mr. Tindall and Mr. Dean are members of the Shire Horse Society, yet we have both of them seeking the ruling in a matter of this kind of an exponent of another breed of horses quite opposite to those he was put to decide between practically non-interested in Shires, and, above all, not even a member of the Shire Horse Society, in preference to that of men at the ringside who are not only members of the society, but are looked upon to day as being its strongest supporters and best judges of the breed about us.

One may be excused for wondering what either of the stewards will say if their historic action ever repeats itself. But, of course, their opinion on such matters as these must be quite different to my own, and they will naturally feel honoured by the repetition. All the same, I put it to them. Have they ever heard of a Shire horse judge being called in to adjudicate in a Hackney dispute?

Before closing I hope you will allow me to say that if one word of mine appears in any way disrespectful to Mr. Buttle, I am extremely sorry, and I only hope he will take this in the way I have given it, for I have no wish to create ill feeling

I only ask, and I feel sure you will agree, that in all such cases as these preference should be given to members of the Shire Horse Society.

Thanking you in anticipation for space in next issue Yours faithfully,

July 24, 1906. A MEMBER OF THE S.H.S.

Fertiliser Manufacturers and Agricultural Shows.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of July 2 a very interesting article headed "Fertilisers at the Royal Agricultural Show," in which you lamented that fertilisers were almost omitted from representation at the Royal Show.

May I ask you to be kind enough to advise your readers that, at the forthcoming agricultural show at Bredon's Norton, on August 21, we are most anxious to have a representative exhibit of fertilisers and feeding stuffs? We will gladly allot space to any firms willing to send samples with explanatory charts, diagrams, and printed matter of any description; they can either have them sold afterwards at the auction (which is forming an essential part of the show), when the value will be returned to the exhibitors less 10 per cent., or an arrangement can be made with the Mercia Agricultural Association, Ltd., to become agents for the same on trade terms.

I feel sure that, if you are good enough to call the attention of your readers to this development, we shall have a very good exhibit of fertilisers and feeding stuffs, and this will greatly aid us in making our district show of distinctly educational value.—I beg to remain yours very truly,

EDITH BRADLEY, Hon. Secretary.

Providence House, Bredon's Norton.

July 24, 1906.

Liquid Manure.

SIR,—I read with interest your remarks on page 79 about liquid manure I imagine only applicable to *gardens*. I may say that for many years I drilled fifty acres roots with the liquid manure drill, and always with good results; in fact, the inventor of the liquid manure drill was an old friend of mine, who died only about three years since, and I can also say that I saw his very first attempt at using it. I think it was something like fifty years since, and it certainly was the case that the better the season the better the results.

Devizes, July 24, 1906. W. F.

Combination Wanted—But in what Form?

SIR,—To organise the farmers into co-operative societies—viz., agricultural trading societies—does not succeed only with a small few isolated cases. Several of our small trading societies are doing nothing. We here had a society, but have cancelled the registration. The scheme also of association farming failed.

If we could in some way combine it would be a great help to the ordinary tenant farmer, but it must be in some other form than that taught by the Agricultural Organisation Society of Dacre Street, Westminster.—Yours sincerely,

The Fields, E. HANCOCK.

Southam, S.O., July 22, 1906.

Half-Holidays for Farm Labourers.

SIR,—All due respect to your correspondent "Red Rose," who is doubtless a well-meaning man and actuated by a laudable desire to benefit agriculture and the farm labourer; but will these very desirable objects be effected by advocating impossible weekly half-holidays for the labourer, and representing his employment as a continual dull, monotonous grind?

In my opinion it would be easier effected by solving the problem so neatly put forward by "Another Rose."

I adhere to my contention that the farm labourer in a regular situation, wet or dry, is equally as well off, if not better, than the high-priced wage-earners in other vocations, who are obliged, either by slackness of trade, or regulations of trade unionism, to remain idle nearly half their time.

Why sons of farm labourers do not follow in the occupation of their fathers is to a great extent due to the derisive taunts and jeers to which the young labourer and his occupation are subjected by earners of the big wage, and he is thus led away in his inexperience, and learnt to despise the honourable and noble occupation of his father; and I would add that the painting of his work in such doleful colours does not tend to improve matters, but, on the contrary, makes him feel that he is a very ill-used individual. Better treat him as a man, and appeal to his self-respect and intelligence, than to subject him to uncalled-for patronage and pity, bearing in mind that it was mainly from such material that furnished the great Duke with the grit which enabled him to win Waterloo.

I would also add that the agricultural Jack is by no means the dull boy that exists in the imagination of "Red Rose" and his sympathisers.—Yours respectfully, WHITE ROSE.

July 19, 1906.

SIR,—In reply to "Another Rose," page 70, it was only natural that the argument should crop up as to who should feed and attend to the live-stock on a farm on the weekly half holiday, and doubtless this presents a difficulty; but is it insurmountable? Even a modification by which men should take turn and turn about would be a boon to the labourer, even if he did not get his half-holiday weekly but fortnightly. "Another Rose" argues that farm labourers do not work from choice, but from necessity, and would not work at all if they could live comfortably without doing so. Just so, and there are a few other people in the world (perhaps including "Another Rose") to whom the same argument might be applicable; but this is not the point just now, nor does it prevent the farm labourer from leaving his occupation for another if the chance crops up in which the pay is better and the hours of labour less tedious The sole object of my argument is to bring the position of the farm labourer more into line with the labouring fraternity in other occupations, so that he will have fewer inducements for leaving the land. Of course, if agriculture is not in a position to do anything more for the labourer, things must go on as they are, and we shall continue to have the doubtful satisfaction of seeing the best, most intellectual, and sturdiest of the labouring fraternity leave the land for the sake of occupations offering better prospects and more freedom. RED ROSE.

July 23, 1906.

The "Mark Lane Express" is a

SPLENDID MEDIUM

for the Disposal of all kinds of Farm Seeds and Plants.

British Possessions

beyond the Seas

AND THEIR

London Representatives.

NOVA SCOTIA

Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, Mr. JOHN HOWARD, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Occupation for Farmers' Sons.

SIR,—Nothing is more desirable than to see a farmer's son following in the footsteps of his father and becoming tenant of the holding which the latter occupied when he has done with it. This order of things is good for both landlord, tenant, and the district at large, and it exists on more than one estate. This kind of thing is most excellent for all parties concerned, provided the farmer has only one son, or, on the other hand, plenty of capital, but it is a different thing when a man has three or four sons all brought up on the homestead and not much money. Numerous cases could be recorded of farmers bringing up three or four sons to work at home. They perhaps receive no regular wages, but father provides them with the money they require, and naturally their scope for gaining experience of the world is limited. All goes on well for a time, the lads grow into men, and through most of the work being done by members of the family, the farm is worked economically and comfortably. But the day comes when death snatches away the head, leaving perhaps a widow to be provided for, and when the estate comes to be divided there is little enough for each individual member. What are the sons to do then? Farming is their occupation, but they are without the capital to take farms, and their position is not an enviable one. Perhaps they help to crowd still more the already overcrowded ranks of farm bailiffs; they may content themselves as farm labourers, but that is a come-down; they may emigrate, or drift out of farming altogether and take up some other occupation. Whatever they do, however, they are handicapped, and this is no fanciful picture but a hard fact, as many farmers' sons can testify. What I contend is, that a man with limited capital and a big family should hesitate and look into the future before he decides to bring up all his boys to work on the homestead.—LUX.

The Filgrove Schools.

The following letter from Earl Carrington, the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, has been received by Mr. Robinson, of Filgrove, Newport Pagnell:—

"Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

"4, Whitehall Place, S.W.

"July 13, 1906.

"DEAR MR ROBINSON,—I am very pleased that the Board of Education have been able to grant the request that the Board of Agriculture made according to your desire—and that the schools at Filgrove were re opened according to their instructions under date of July 3.

"It seems a very hard case that little children should be compelled to walk so long a distance daily to school.—Yours very truly,

"CARRINGTON."

The countryside owes you a debt of gratitude for bringing these facts under the notice of the Government.

The Agricultural Holdings Act.

Two appeals by the Duke of Northumberland against arbitration awards under the Agricultural Holdings Act were heard at Newcastle County Court on Thursday. In the first case, William G. McFarlane and William McFarlane, tenants of several acres of land, had been awarded £46. It was contended for the Duke of Northumberland that part of the land had been treated as a nursery, and not as a market garden, and that, therefore, there was no claim. For the McFarlanes it was submitted that the land had been a market garden for thirty years or more.

In the second case William Stevenson had received the award. He was a strawberry gardener, which, it was contended, was not market gardening.

His Honour decided that growing strawberries was market gardening, and allowed the award to stand, less £22 18s. In the McFarlane case his Honour also held that fruit growing was market gardening, but he reserved his decision until he considered whether the tenant was entitled to compensation under the Act.

What is the Outlook?

St. James's day has come and gone, and the critical moment of the season, according to ancient tradition, having passed, we should be able to express a definite reply to our query, *Tot homines, tot sententiæ*, and in this matter, as in most others, opinions vary. Our experience this year is exceptional. We have hop-growing weather, with plenty of sunshine that usually helps the development of the crop, and banishes all hindrances. But we are completely at fault this time, as reports, which are so consistent that we cannot question them, continue to disturb all our calculations.

A circular issued by a leading merchant firm at the beginning of this week says:—"There has been no material improvement in the prospects in England. The plantations that have been thoroughly well washed and cultivated, though slack of bine, promise a fair average yield, but a large acreage in all districts has been neglected, and consequently only small crops can be obtained."

Looking at further details which have come to hand, I think we must conclude that the position is most unsatisfactory from the point of view of quantity, and may almost say that gloom is now taking the place of hope. There is hardly a single district in which the futility of the labour and cost of washing has not been proved, as the blight remains unconquered almost everywhere. The sunshine is hastening the development of the burr, and washing will now be discontinued, so that the harvest is in great danger. But yet there are some experts in the Borough who refuse to accept the facts that appear to be unquestionable to others, therefore, debates are frequently warm, and the impartial observer is much worried. Perhaps the safest test is the state of the market, and this certainly confirms my view, that the crop will be a poor one as a whole.

In addition to vermin, the weather seems to encouraging the spread of mould, and if this pest be further developed, the result must be fatal to any faint hopes of recovery. Even supposing that by the help of favourable weather during the next month, some improvement may be accomplished, there can be no more increase of strength in the bine, which is everywhere so weak that a full fruitage is beyond the range of possibility.

From the Continent I hear that the plantations have suffered from variations of temperature, the days being hot and stuffy and the nights cold, even to the extent of occasional frosts. Vermin is also persistent, and even in Bohemia, where the recent condition appeared to be favourable, it has now changed for the worse. The Belgian grounds are in a very poor way, and the crop prospects are getting more doubtful. Similar reports come from Alsace and other German districts, and also from Burgundy and the North of France.

America stands out as the exception this year, a letter received this week stating that the recent hot weather, assisted by spraying, had cleared the vermin away throughout the whole of the hop-growing states. The vines are throwing out strong arms, and every indication points to an immense yield in all districts, this being now estimated at the record quantity of 340,000 to 350,000 bales.

The Markets.

LONDON.—The trade is active, and prices have advanced further. The principal business is being done in local stocks, as the few growers who are holding have withdrawn from the market, being confident of better values following upon the assured deficiency of the coming crop. Hops of fairly good quality are now worth 75s. to 80s., these figures showing an improvement of at least 20s. since the alarm was first aroused. The week closes in strength, and with an upward tendency.

NUREMBERG.—Advanced values of 15s. to 20s. for medium qualities and 10s. to 15s. for better sorts have been established. At these prices a large trade is being done, the business being far in excess of the average at this period of the season. The present currency is approximately 35s. to 45s. for commonest, 50s. to 60s. for mediums, 60s. to 70s. for good mediums, and 75s. to 90s. for best.

BRUSSELS.—There is a strong and constant demand for 1905's, and sales are made at 67½ to 70 frs. values having more than doubled within the past two months. The news from the plantations is stirring up speculation in the coming crop, and Alosts are now quoted at 130 francs, and Pops at 125 francs for October-November delivery. Belgium has imported, principally from Germany, about 18,200 cwt. of hops during the past six months, this being much in excess of her imports during the same period of 1905. Belgian exports during the same months amounted to about 10,000 cwt, her chief customers being England and France.

AMERICA.—The trade is quiet, being apparently unaffected by the unfavourable crop reports from Europe. The large dealers, brewers, and speculators cannot be aroused to take interest in the 1906 crop as yet, so far as local business is concerned, but operators who are agents for English firms have contracted heavily at 10 to 11 cents. These transactions throw some light on the views held by important English houses, indicating their expectations of strength in the market when new hops come forward.

Saccharomyces Thermantitonum.

These formidable words will doubtless be incomprehensible by the majority of my readers. Let me explain. They literally mean, "Heat resisting ferment," and are applicable to a discovery of Messrs. Johnson and Hare, of a specific germ obtained from the eucalyptus plant, which ferments at a high temperature, and therefore introduces into the brewing industry a new element whereby many advantages are apparently secured. My introduction to this novel process took place a few days ago, when I was invited to meet a number of Belgian brewers, who had journeyed to England for the express purpose of investigating its results at a model brewery, which has been for some time in operation at Norbury, near Croydon. I found about sixty brewers busily engaged in sampling beers from various casks, each of which was labelled with the materials of which its contents were composed. There were Pilsener and Munich, pale ale and stout, and it is satisfactory to be assured that they were all brewed from malt and hops, without any chemical additions. The tastings were sufficiently copious to demonstrate the satisfaction of the tasters as to the quality of the products. Their comments, volubly expressed in French and Flemish, were entirely favourable, and I have pleasure in adding my testimony to the excellence of the beverages supplied. The inventors of the process have proved in actual practice that, by the use of this ferment they can produce beer without coolers or refrigerators, that the wort can be cooled without coming in contact with the germs existing in the atmosphere, that the production of the finished beer is hastened, with improvement in its keeping quality and stability, economies being effected in every stage, and that consequently the total cost is reduced and profits are improved.

But my readers will wonder why I have occupied space in noticing an invention, the main object of which seems to be to assist brewers who are so well able to take good care of themselves. My chief anxiety in this matter was to ascertain how far the interests of the hop-growing industry were likely to be affected. In one respect it may possibly be advantageous to us, as if light beer can by this means be produced in tropical climates, where brewing is now impracticable, a larger demand for hops may arise. In such regions, thirst is hardly ever quenched, and Europeans who are compelled to dwell in hot climates pay high prices for imported beers, which are not infrequently far from palatable. The new process, therefore, promises to help us in this respect. But when we look at the question from another point of view, I can hardly be enthusiastic, inasmuch as any process which lessens the time required for the maturing of beer is usually accompanied by a reduction of the quantity of hops necessary for its preservation. Should English brewers take up this invention, and find that it fulfils its promises, I fear that it may tell against the hop grower, in diminishing the demand for his produce. To be forewarned is to be forearmed, and it is desirable that we should all be awake to future possibilities, as it is impossible to retard the progress of science. I trust, therefore, that while the product with the unpronounceable name may be successful and beneficial to the consumers of beer, our hop growers may share in its advancement, and still find good outlet for their growths at remunerative prices.

FARMS

never remain unlet when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express."

The charge is Sixpence per Line per Insertion.

The Board of Agriculture's Harvest.

In the course of a speech delivered at a meeting of the Highland and Agricultural Society, held at Peebles during the show, Sir Thomas Elliott said he wished that either the president of the Board of Agriculture or Sir Edward Strachey, who looked after their interests in the House of Commons, could have been present, for he felt sure it would have done them good to see the fellowship that existed amongst farmers on that side of the Tweed. As a fact, however, they were both doing a bit of harvesting at Westminster. They were looking after a little crop of Bills designed for the welfare of the farming industry. They might not be big measures; but they would do something to remove grievances under which farmers at present suffered.

There was the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Bill. It was hoped that that Bill without doing any injury to the trade would be a great benefit to farmers in seeing that they got value for their money in manures. Then there was the Dogs Bill, the object of which was to put a stop as far as possible to sheep worrying. It might not altogether do away with the sheep-worrying dog, but it would help local authorities to deal with the grievance.

Again there was the measure relating to the use of open spaces that might be used for purposes of recreation grounds for the people's use and enjoyment. And last, but not least, there was the Adulteration of Butter Bill. The task of preventing the adulteration of butter that came from abroad was an arduous one, but the Department had tackled it in real earnest, and he hoped successfully.

NON-POISONOUS.

"SPIMO"

NON-POISONOUS.

HOP and FRUIT TREE WASH.

A SAFE, COMPLETE AND EFFECTIVE WASH.

Kills Aphis, Fly, Red Spider, Mould or Mildew, Caterpillars, American Blight, etc.

Does not clog horse washers, but acts as a lubricant.

"Spimo" Improved is a COMPLETE WASH for ALL PURPOSES.

Ready at a Moment's Notice. It is in fact THE THING that is WANTED.

Full Particulars from—

E. A. WHITE, LTD.

MANUFACTURERS,

PADDOCK WOOD, KENT.

TO HOP GROWERS.

If you have not received our Illustrated Pamphlet on

"HOP DRYING BY SCIENTIFIC METHODS,"

Please write us for a free copy.

WE are STILL to the FRONT.

JONES & ATTWOOD,

Heating Specialists,

STOURBRIDGE.

AUCTION SALES ANNOUNCEMENTS.

SLEAFORD 17TH ANNUAL BREEDING SHEEP SALE,
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1906.
4,000 Registered Lincoln Theaves and Ewes.
250 Pedigree Lincoln Long Wool Rams
HINCKS, EARL & LAWRENCE,
Auctioneers,
Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

THURSDAY NEXT.

THE 21st ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of
80 GRAND PURE-BRED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS from
Mr. LAMBERT'S
Old-established Registered Flock
Will take place in a Field adjoining the Cattle Market, at
CAMBRIDGE,
On THURSDAY NEXT, AUG. 2, 1906, at 2 o'clock.
Messrs. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge, and Linton, of whom Catalogues may be obtained.

HEREFORD SHEEP MARKET, 1906.

A. & D. EDWARDS will hold their ANNUAL SALE of Stock EWES and RAMS as under:—
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.
" SEPTEMBER 5.
" " 19.
Commencing each day with Rams at 12, Ewes at 2 p.m.
Early entries requested to secure good places in the sales.
A. & D. EDWARDS,
Auctioneers,
Corn Exchange Offices,
Leominster.

OXFORD DOWNS.

THE ROYAL PRIZE FARM FLOCK RAM LAMBS will be SOLD BY AUCTION at
OXFORD RAM FAIR, AUG. 8
The lambs are big, dark in colour, with plenty of wool, and have taken Seven First Prizes this season.
Inspection Invited.
GEORGE ADAMS,
Wadley House
Faringdon, Berks.

IMPORTANT SALE, about the end of August, of 35 Hackney Harness Ponies, Brood Mares and Young Stock, the property of W. WARD-HARGRAVE, Esq., Norahans Rusper, Sussex. Particulars later.

AN AGRICULTURAL OPPORTUNITY, SUFFOLK.
Midway between Clare and Cavendish Stations G.E. Railway, one of the best Farmed Estates in the County, known as Houghton Hall.
Comprising about 530 Acres of fertile deep staple soil, with a commodious old fashioned Residence, four Cottages, and ample and convenient Buildings, for several years in the occupation of the late Mr. Robert Allen, and now farmed by his Executors, being well known for its high yield of Corn and other Crops, particularly for its fine growth of Malting Barley.
TO BE SOLD by AUCTION at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Sudbury, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, at 4.30 p.m. by Messrs. BOARDMAN & OLIVER, in one Lot.
Particulars with Plan and Condition of Sale, may be had of the Home Counties Estate Offices, 10, Adam St., Strand, W.C., also of Messrs Holmes, Lear & Bellam, of Littlehampton, Sussex and of the Auctioneers, Haverhill, Suffolk.

AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Elland-mau, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP.—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

Highly Important Forthcoming Sales of pure-bred Southdown Sheep on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, AUGUST 8 and 9.

SUMMERSBURY,
SHALFORD, GUILDFORD.

One mile from Framley Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway; half a mile from Shalford Station, S.E. Railway; two and a half miles from Guildford, L. & S.W., L.B. & S.C., and S.E. Railways. UNRESERVED SALE OF THE WHOLE OF MR. EDWIN ELLIS'S PRIZE-WINNING PEDIGREE SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (registered and trade-marked. Reg. No. 12). — On WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8 next, Messrs.

STRIDE AND SON (in conjunction with Stride, Son, and Ellis, of Guildford) beg to announce that they are in receipt of instructions from Edwin Ellis, Esq., who is giving up sheep breeding, to Sell by Auction, WITHOUT RESERVE, at Summersbury, on the above date, the whole of his famous Southdown Flock (which has taken over £4,000 IN PRIZES at the Principal Shows, both in England and abroad, during the last twenty years), comprising about—

630 HEAD, in ages, as follows:—
120 SHEARLING EWES.
60 FOUR-TEETH EWES.
38 SIX TEETH EWES.
63 FULL-MOUTH EWES.
65 DRAFT EWES.
30 OVER-AGE EWES.
140 EWE LAMBS.
36 Grand SHEARLING and FOUR-TEETH RAMS (including many Prize Winners) and
65 RAM LAMBS.

The Summersbury Flock was established in the year 1879 by the purchase of carefully selected ewes from the Flock of Messrs. Botting, where the old Rigden blood had been freely used, and which had also been replenished by some of Mr. Colman's best rams and ewes.

At the dispersal of Lord Walsingham's noted Flock in 1885 many of the choicest ewes were purchased at prices as high as 12 to 15 guineas per head, together with the two rams "Merton" and "Ripon," one costing 105 guineas and the other 45 guineas. Many of the best Southdowns now in existence trace back to one or other of these two famous sheep.

Whenever a change of blood has been thought desirable some of the best Flocks have been drawn upon, and in one case a ram was obtained from Mr. Henry Webb at the price of 140 guineas.

In 1885 Mr. Ellis first sent specimens of his Flock to the leading showyards, and then commenced that wonderful record of success which has probably never been excelled, if indeed it has been equalled, in the annals of the Southdown or any other breed. Not only at the Royal, the Royal Counties, the Bath and West, and other English Shows, but also at the great exhibitions of the United States of America, Canada, France and other countries have the Summersbury Sheep time and time again met with the most striking success often forming one of the most notable features of the live stock classes, and in more than one season securing a larger number of First and Champion prizes than all the other exhibits of the breed added together.

Every sheep in the Flock is included in this Sale, and every lot WILL BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER WITHOUT RESERVE.

No sheep will be exhibited this season or will be sold before the Sale.

The Flock is open to inspection at any time by appointment with Edwin Ellis, Esq., Summersbury, Shalford, Guildford.

Luncheon (by ticket) at 12.30. Sale to commence punctually at 1.30. Commissions carefully executed.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, East Street, Chichester, Sussex; or of Messrs. STRIDE, SON & ELLIS, 108, High Street, Guildford.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(The great centre for the sale of Southdown Sheep).
Great Annual Prize Show and Sale of pure-bred Registered Southdown Sheep, Thursday, August 9 next (the day after the sale of Mr Edwin Ellis's famous Southdown Flock at Summersbury, Guildford).—Messrs.

STRIDE & SON beg to announce that this important great annual AUCTION SALE, which is held in the Market Chichester, will comprise about
480 SOUTHDOWN SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS
(from many of the best breeders),
6,000 SOUTHDOWN EWES,
including a grand entry of SHEARLING, REGULAR DRAFT and DRAFT EWES, and many lots of four-teeth and six-teeth Ewes.

The Auctioneers beg to call special attention to this year's sale, which will consist of the largest and best selection of pure-bred Southdown Rams, Ram Lambs, and Ewes to be sold anywhere this season. *First Edition Catalogues on application.*

Judging at 9 o'clock. Sales punctually at 10 o'clock. Commissions carefully executed.

Buyers arriving at Chichester overnight will find "The Dolphin" a convenient and comfortable hotel to stay at, and the Auctioneers will be glad to book rooms.

Auction Offices, East Street, Chichester.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR, AUGUST 8, 1906.

286 well-bred HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and RAMS, from the well-known and registered flocks of
J. Thomson, Esq., Woodperry;
Sir A. Henderson, Bart., Buscot;
W. A. L. Cripps, Esq., Shifford;
B. Hanbury, Esq., Kineton;
R. L. Olney, Esq., Herne;
A. C. Hall, Esq., Great Rollright;
Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., Chilton Lodge;
Hon. D. P. Bouverie, Coleshill;
A. Dore, Esq., Shilton;
Will be SOLD by AUCTION, at the above Fair, by
FRANKLIN and GALE, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1906, commencing at 10.30 a.m. punctually.
Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, Wallingford, Reading, and Oxford

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR, AUGUST 8, 1906.

ANNUAL SALE OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP.

FRANKLIN and GALE will SELL by AUCTION, at the above Fair, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1906, 950 STOCK EWES, 2 TOOTH EWES and STORE LAMBS, being the usual annual drafts from old-established and registered flocks.
Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, Wallingford, Reading, and Oxford.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR.

DISPERSAL SALE OF THE RENOWNED SHIFFORD FLOCK OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP.

FRANKLIN & GALE are favoured with instructions from W. A. L. Cripps, Esq. who is retiring farming, to sell by auction in Messrs. Morrell's Close at the above Fair, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1906 the Highly-celebrated and Registered Hampshire Down Flock, consisting of
160 STOCK EWES,
80 CHOICE 2-TOOTH EWES,
60 MATCHING EWE LAMBS, and
42 RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

Catalogues may be had of Mr. CRIPPS, Shifford Manor, Bampton, Oxon; or of the Auctioneers, Wallingford, Reading, and Oxford.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1906.

JAMES W. TAYLER will SELL by AUCTION, in this Fair, 20 capital OXFORD DOWN RAM LAMBS from James Horlick, Esq., Cowley Manor.
Offices: Cold Aston, Cheltenham.

FIXTURES FOR 1906.

MESSRS. PAXTON & HOLIDAY beg to announce the following important Sales of OXFORD DOWN RAMS, RAM LAMBS, EWES and THEAVES:—
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1.—Upper Winchendon, near Aylesbury, Bucks. The Forty-ninth Annual Sale of about 60 OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS from the celebrated Registered Flock of Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4.—Bicester Summer Fair. About 3,000 EWES, THEAVES AND LAMBS AND RAM LAMBS, being drafts from the principal Oxford Down Flocks in the neighbourhood.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8.—Oxford Great Ram Fair. About 300 OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS AND RAM LAMBS, and 100 OXFORD DOWN EWES AND THEAVES from well-known Registered Flocks.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 30.—Banbury Ram Fair. OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS from the Registered Flocks.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Hempton Green, Norfolk. OXFORD DOWN RAM LAMBS from the noted Flock of Mr. George Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Faringdon.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—Northampton Ram Fair. About 200 SHEARLING RAMS AND RAM LAMBS, consigned from the Flocks of the principal Oxford Down Breeders.

The Sheep may be seen by arrangements with the respective owners, from whom Catalogues may be had; or from the AUCTIONEERS, Bicester, Banbury and Chipping Norton.

CIRENCESTER RAM FAIR,
AUGUST 7, 1906.

Mr. James T. Hobbs' Maisey Hampton Flock.

A. F. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, in a Field adjoining the Cattle Market, at 12 o'clock, about 60 GRAND PURE-BRED OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of James T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire. This being the 46th Annual Sale.

The Rams being sold this year are of usual excellence, dark in colour, good wool, and of great size.

First prizes have been won this season at the following Shows:—Oxfordshire Bath and West, Royal Counties, Royal Agricultural Society of England, and Highland; also Birmingham and Smithfield.

A Brake will leave Fairford Station for Cirencester at 10.18 a.m., returning to meet the 6.35 p.m. train. A train will leave Paddington at 9 a.m., arriving at Cirencester at 11.30 a.m.

LAZONBY AUCTION MART.
15 miles from Carlisle, on Midland Railway.

GREAT LAMB SALES for Autumn, 1906:—
Wednesday, August 29, 5,500 Lambs.
Friday, September 7, 8,000 Lambs.
Wednesday September 12, 8,000 Lambs.
Wednesday September 19, 6,000 Lambs.
Thursday, September 20, 4,000 Breeding Sheep.
Thursday, September 27, 7,000 Sheep and Lambs
(The above are last year's numbers.)

Full particulars and Catalogues from the Proprietor, Mr. JOHN KIDD, 17, Devonshire Street, Penrith.

CIRENCESTER AUGUST RAM FAIR,
TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1906.

JAMES W. TAYLER will SELL by AUCTION, in this Fair, about 80 grand OXFORD DOWN and COTSWOLD SHEARLINGS and RAM LAMBS from James Horlick, Esq., Messrs. Charles Barton, William Houlton, and others.
Offices: Cold Aston, Cheltenham.

AUCTION SALES ANNOUNCEMENTS.

HANTS.
THE GRANGE ESTATE.

Important Sale of Registered Hampshire Down Flock of 880 EWES and LAMBS,—Messrs.

JAMES HARRIS and SON are favoured with instructions from the Right Hon. Lord Ashburton to SELL by AUCTION, on the Fair Ground at Alresford, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1906, the whole of his Swarraton Farm Registered FLOCK of HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, comprising 650 EWES of regular ages and EWE LAMBS, together with 230 young EWES from his Chilton and Candover Flocks.

The total will comprise:—
245 Two-Tooth EWES,
205 Four-Tooth EWES,
190 Six-tooth EWES,
80 Full-Mouth EWES,
160 EWE LAMBS.

The Flocks from Lord Ashburton's Farms are well known to all Hampshire Down Flock Masters. They have never been exhibited in the Show Yards, but the annual drafts of Full-Mouth Ewes and Wether Lambs which have for many years been regularly sold by auction at Overton and Alresford Fairs have invariably realised the highest prices in those Fairs.

They have also been very successful in the Hampshire Down Flock Prize Competition, taking the leading prizes.

The Sheep now offered for sale are bred on the careful lines which have produced the above results.

They are offered in Stock order only.

Luncheon (by ticket) at one o'clock and Sale immediately after.

Catalogues of the Farm Bailiff, Mr. TERRILL, Brown Candover, Alresford; or of the AUCTIONEERS, Winchester.

The best All-round Sale of Breeding and Feeding Sheep in the Midlands.

KIDDERMINSTER GREAT ANNUAL SALE,
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1906.

5,550 SHEEP and LAMBS.
250 Oxford, Hampshire and Shropshire Rams and Ram Lambs.
3,300 Shropshire, Kerry and Clun Ewes.
2,000 Store Wethers and Store Lambs.

NOCK & JOSELAND,
Auctioneers,
Kidderminster and Wolverhampton.

KENT.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE, ASHFORD.

Close to the S.E. & C.R. trucking siding, where a large supply of trucks will be on hand, and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.—Messrs.

W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above SALE in the Cattle Market Field on FRIDAY, AUG. 3, 1906.

11,600 KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS,
from the best flocks in the district, including—
6,037 Kent Ewe and Wether Lambs,
5,423 Half-bred Lambs,
120 3-lamb Ewes,
20 Ewe Tegs.

Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock. Luncheon provided.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

SUSSEX.—LINDFIELD and LEWES SHEEP FAIRS.

To Flock Masters, Flock Breeders, and others interested in the noted breed of Southdown Sheep.

THESE GREAT FAIRS will be held on AUGUST 8, 1906, at LINDFIELD, one and a half miles from the first-class Station of HAYWARDS HEATH, on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

And at the County Town of Sussex, LEWES, on SEPTEMBER 21, 1906, about one mile from LEWES STATION, on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

The Stations are within 1 hour and 1¼ hours from London.

Sheep penned, including Ewes, Lambs, and Rams, at LINDFIELD, 13,000; [illegible]

At LEWES, 18,000.

IPSWICH.
ANNUAL SALE OF SUFFOLK SHEEP.

ROBERT BOND & SONS (in conjunction with the Secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society) will SELL by AUCTION, at Gippeswyk Park, near the Railway Station, on WEDNESDAY next, AUGUST 1, at 12 noon,
2,000 excellent Suffolk Shearling and other Ewes and Ewe Lambs, registered, or eligible for registration.

THURSDAY next, AUGUST 2, at 10.30 a.m.,
300 Grand Suffolk Rams, registered, or eligible for registration, from the noted breeders of the district. Included in this Sale are consignments from large prize-winners at the Royal and County Shows, and in point of breeding and quality this will be the finest collection of pure Suffolk Sheep seen together this season.

Catalogues forwarded on application to Messrs. ROBERT BOND & SONS, Old Bank House, Ipswich, Suffolk, who will execute commissions for those unable to attend.

IMPORTANT SHEEP SALES BY MESSRS. FRANKLIN & JONES, AUGUST 8 and 9, 1906.

At Oxford Great Ram Fair, Wednesday, August 8.—194 Grand OXFORDSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and SHEARLING RAMS from the pure-bred flocks of Mr. A. H. Wilsdon, Mr W. Arkell, Rev. C. R. Powys, Mr. J. Worley's Exors., and others.

Also upwards of 1,500 HAMPSHIRE DOWN and OXFORDSHIRE DOWN DRAFT EWES, THEAVES and STORE LAMBS from many old-established and well-known flocks in the locality.

At Manor Farm, Brize Norton, Oxon, Thursday, August 9.—Important dispersal Sale of the pure-bred OXFORDSHIRE DOWN FLOCK of the late Mr. John Worley, comprising
120 GRAND RAM LAMBS,
6 RAMS (their sires),
245 EWES and THEAVES, and
110 EWE LAMBS.

Catalogues, with pedigrees and further information, may be obtained of Messrs. FRANKLIN & JONES, Auctioneers, Frewin Court, Oxford.

THE
LECONFIELD LINCOLN LONG-WOOL RAMS,
No. 38 IN FLOCK BOOK.

MESSRS.

SUGDON and PEARCE-BROWN have received instructions from Mr. Robert Fisher to SELL by AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906, 80 SHEARLING RAMS from the above Registered Flock; when Mr. Fisher will be glad to see his friends.

Sale after 1 o'clock luncheon.

Conveyances will meet the trains at Beverley and Arram Stations.

Auctioneers' Office,
Market Place, Beverley.

HAWICK AUCTION MART (one hour's run from Carlisle). 120,000 LAMBS of all classes and 40,000 EWES and FEEDING SHEEP will be SOLD during AUGUST, SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER. Dates of Sales, special railway rates and full particulars sent on application. Commissions carefully executed.—ANDREW OLIVER & SON, Auctioneers, Hawick, N.B.

BROMSGROVE GREAT ANNUAL SHEEP SALE (one of the largest in Worcestershire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5, 1906.

NOTE.—The supply of Breeding Ewes and Store Sheep in this district is very small, and Breeders and Flock Masters would do well to truck to Bromsgrove, as a grand trade is expected. Good keeping found.

COTTON & CHAPPELL,
Auctioneers.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

FERRING GRANGE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION on FRIDAY, AUGUST 17 (1.30 p.m.), at East Ferring Farm, half a mile from Goring Station, L.B. & S.C.R., Mr. E. Henty's entire prize-winning flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, comprising 250 Shearling and older Ewes, 120 Ewe Lambs, 20 Rams, and 35 Ram Lambs.

COCKFIELD HALL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION on FRIDAY, AUGUST 24 (12 noon), at Cockfield Hall, adjoining Cockfield Station, Mr. F. H. Jennings' old-established flock of pure-bred SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and herd of BERKSHIRE PIGS, comprising about 300 Ewes, 100 Ewe Lambs, and 20 Rams and Ram Lambs, and 70 Berkshire Sows, Gilts and Boars.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Sq., London, W., who will execute commissions.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1906.

THE MANOR FARM, WINTERBOURNE STOKE, WILTS,

Four miles from Wishford Station, six from Wilton, and nine from Salisbury.—Messrs.

WATERS and RAWLENCE are instructed by Mr. Cary Coles to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on Friday, August 3, 1906, 99 RAM LAMBS & 1 SHEARLING, from his Highly-bred Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.

For many years it has been with the greatest confidence that the Auctioneers have extolled the many merits of the Winterbourne Stoke Flock. The excellent sale last year will be remembered for the keen competition and individual record prices then realised, and Messrs. W. & R. have no hesitation in saying that Mr. Coles will again place before the public a selection of Ram Lambs that, if possible, will eclipse those of last season, and which should readily command the attention of all Breeders either for Home or Foreign Service.

N.B.—At the great Show at Salisbury on July 16, Mr. Coles won the First Prize and Challenge Cup for the best Pen of Eight Ram Lambs, and also the First Prize for a similar pen of Ewe Lambs, a feat which, we believe, has never before been accomplished by any breeder.

Luncheon at 12.30 and Sale after.

Conveyances will meet the trains until mid-day at Salisbury, Wilton, and Wishford.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Canal, Salisbury.

ILSLEY FAIR.—AUGUST 1, 1906.

Two miles from Compton Station, G.W.R.

THE CHILTON LODGE FLOCK.

MESSRS. WATERS AND RAWLENCE are instructed to LET and SELL by AUCTION, in Mr. Stevens' Close at the above Fair, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1906, at 10.30 o'clock

60 SUPERIOR RAM LAMBS, and 3 SHEARLINGS, from the well-bred Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK of Sir W. G. PEARCE, Bart., Chilton Lodge, Hungerford.

This sale was originally fixed for August 6, at Newbury, but on account of that day clashing with other important fixtures it has been decided to hold it at Ilsley Fair, as heretofore, when a consignment of sires of exceptional size, quality, and high breeding will be placed before the public, and such as should demand the widest possible attention from Breeders generally.

Catalogues of Mr. J. B. HARDING, Estate Office, Chilton Lodge, Hungerford, and the AUCTIONEERS, Canal, Salisbury.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows.—

THURSDAY NEXT, AUGUST 2.—Col. H. W. Shakerley's and Mr. Hambro's GUERNSEYS, at Burgate, Godalming.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.—Mr. E. Henty's entire prize SOUTHDOWN FLOCK at Ferring, Worthing, Sussex.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—Mr. F. H. Jennings' entire Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and Herd of BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's DEXTER CATTLE and BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.—The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Feversham's SHORTHORNS, at Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—The late Mr. J. P. Cross' SHORTHORNS, at Catthorpe Towers, Rugby.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.—Mr. C. Howard Taylor's Stud of POLO PONIES, at Middlewood Hall, Barnsley, Yorks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. H. J. Verner's and Mr. J. Atkinson's entire Herds of SHORTHORNS, at Churchill, Moy, Co. Armagh.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. W. J. Chick's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Stratton, Dorchester.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—The Right Hon. Lord Amherst's RED POLLS, at Didlington, Brandon, Norfolk.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. W. D. Cruddas' Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Haughton Castle, Humshaugh, Northumberland.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Lilford's SHORTHORNS at Lilford, Oundle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—Sale of SHORTHORNS at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.—The late Sir Wilfrid Lawson's SHORTHORNS, at Brayton, Carlisle.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3.—Mr. John Graves' SHORTHORNS, at Hesket Hall, Wigton, Cumberland.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. H. Shore's JERSEYS, at Whatley House, Frome, Somerset.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. R. W. Hobbs' SHORTHORNS, at Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19.—Sale of SHORTHORNS at York.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

SELSEY, near CHICHESTER.

Sale of the well-known PAGHAM HARBOUR SOUTHDOWN FLOCK.—Messrs.

WYATT & SON have received instructions to SELL by AUCTION in AUGUST the above well-known flock, consisting of 370 EWES, 400 LAMBS, and 30 RAMS.

Auction and Estate Offices,
East Street, Chichester.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1906.

LEWES, SUSSEX.
SECOND ANNUAL SALE OF SOUTHDOWN RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.

MR. J. R. THORNTON begs to announce that he will hold the above sale in the Field adjoining the LEWES CATTLE MARKET on

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1906, at 2 O'CLOCK.

Present entries comprise about 40 GRAND SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS from the well-known Southdown Flocks of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, Messrs. Allan Cooper, A. Heasman, A. G. Paul, G. S. Harris, and others.

Further entries are solicited, so that they may be properly advertised, and should be sent to the AUCTIONEER, at his Office, 173, High Street, Lewes.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE SIR WALTER FRANCIS HELY-HUTCHINSON,

Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, etc., etc., etc.

WHEREAS it has been shown to me to be expedient to alter and amend the Regulations, promulgated by Proclamation No. 75, bearing date the 21st day of April, 1900, providing for the examination and quarantine for the disease known as Tuberculosis of cattle introduced into this Colony from any country overseas other than the Colony of Natal:

Now, therefore, under and by virtue of the powers and authorities in me vested by the seventh section of the Act, No. 27 of 1898, intituled the "Animal Diseases Act, 1898," I do hereby proclaim, declare and make known that the Regulations contained in the subjoined Schedule shall be the Regulations for the examination and quarantine of cattle which may be introduced into this Colony from any country overseas other than the Colony of Natal, and shall have force and effect from and after the 1st July, 1906, in lieu of those promulgated by the aforesaid Proclamation No. 75 of 1900, which is hereby superseded and repealed.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given under my Hand and the Public Seal of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, this 5th day of May, 1906.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Governor.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor in Council
ARTHUR J. FULLER.

No. 156, 1906.

Schedule to the foregoing Proclamation.

1. The word "Cattle" in these Regulations shall be taken to mean and include all animals of the bovine tribe.

2. All cattle, save as hereafter excepted, shall upon arrival at any Port of this Colony from any country whatsoever overseas be liable to be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the test, known as the tuberculin test, before being allowed to land.

It will, however, be within the discretion of the Veterinary Officer aforesaid to accept the certificate of any duly qualified Veterinary Surgeon of the country from which such animals have been brought, supported by a record of temperature reactions, to the effect that such cattle were submitted to the tuberculin test immediately before being embarked and had given no indication of the presence of tuberculosis.

3. In the absence of a satisfactory certificate as aforesaid the cattle shall be removed to place provided by the Government or by the owners subject to the approval of the Inspecting Officer for quarantine purposes, and shall be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the necessary testing by tuberculin to ascertain whether they are or are not affected with tuberculosis.

4. In the event of the test indicating the existence of tuberculosis, the animals shall not be removed alive from the quarantine station, but shall be destroyed there, and the owner shall be allowed to deal with the carcases as he may think fit, provided, however, that the flesh shall not be used for human consumption unless the said officer shall give a certificate that it is fit for that purpose.

5. All expenses of inspection, quarantine, testing, destruction and otherwise shall be borne by the owner of such cattle.

6. The foregoing Regulations shall not apply to cattle entering by sea from the Colony of Natal, so long as similar regulations remain in force in that Colony, nor shall they apply to cattle imported solely for purposes of slaughter, provided that, before being landed, they shall be inspected by the Government Veterinary Surgeon and declared to the best of his belief to be not unfit for human consumption, and the owners or importer shall sign and deliver to such officer an undertaking to the effect that none of such animals shall be used or disposed of for any other purpose than for *immediate* slaughter for food.

Mark Lane Express

SCALE OF ADVERTISEMENT CHARGES—ORDINARY POSITION.
PER INCH, SINGLE COLUMN:

1 insertion	8/-
6 insertions at	7/- each.
13 ,, ,, ...	6/- ,,
26 ,, ,, ...	5/- ,,
52 ,, ,, ...	4/- ,,

☞ Small Advertisements in body type of Farms to Let, Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Secondhand Implements, Machinery, and Agencies, &c. (under classified headings), are charged at the rate of Sixpence per line.

Society Announcements, Auction Sales, at the rate of 6/- per inch.

Paragraph Advertisements at foot of reading matter, One Shilling per line per insertion.

Situations Vacant and Wanted, three words a penny when accompanied by remittance.

Publishing Offices: 3, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets: 12ft. by 9ft., 12s; 15ft. by 9ft., 15s; and so on to any size at 1s per square yard, with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt. Cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

WATER TANKS for storing water, will hold 400 gallons, wrought iron manhole at top, weight 476lbs., size 4ft. 3 ins. square, £3 15s. each; Iron Corn Bins, hold 25 gallons airtight lids, 6s. each; Galvanised Iron Mangers, hold 8 gallons, 4s. each; any of the above carriage paid.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

STRAWBERRY Netting.—Small mesh; keeps out the smallest birds; oiled and dressed; will not rot if left out in all weathers; 100 yds. by 1 yd. wide, 4s.; by 2 yds. wide, 8s.; by 3 yds. 12s. and so on up to any width; carriage paid on orders over 5s.; cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Net Works, Rye.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent. phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

THE SCOUR SPECIFIC.—The never-failing cure for White Scour in Calves and Scour in Cattle Calves, sheep, &c. Post free 2/9 and 5/, used by State Agricultural College, Quebec, Canada. Anti-Saw-Horn, guaranteed to prevent Horns from growing on young Calves. Post free 1/3 (sufficient for 15) from A. H. JONES, M.P.S.I., Chemist, Doneraile, co. Cork.

PALATINE CAKES and MEALS are thoroughly reliable. Kindly inspect Samples at Royal Laneashire Show, Stand 87 (near large Horse Ring).—THE PALATINE OIL MILL, Liverpool.

WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS. Packets, 7 Powders, 7d.; 16, 1s. 2d.; boxes, 48, 3s.; 144 48s., all post free.—STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough.

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The Winter Session will commence on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, when the Chair will be taken by the Right Hon. the Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G., President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Introductory Address delivered by Prof. Woodruff, M.R.C.V.S., at 12 o'clock.
An Examination in General Knowledge will be held at the Royal Veterinary College, Camden Town, N.W., by the Educational Institute of Scotland, on September 6, 7, and 8.
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Session commences September 24, 1906.

Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

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LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 1906.

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The Report of the Royal Lancashire Show and The Week's Sheep Sales will be found in our Market Supplement.

Seasonable Topics.

August. ONCE more we are in August, the crowning month of summer, when everyone who can rushes away from business to enjoy the delights of holiday time. We do not blame the holiday-making world, because it is good for everyone to have change and relaxation at times, though we are aware that much of this is denied to the majority of the agricultural fraternity. With the passing of August we have to face the fact that the summer is wearing its way to the end. There is an aspect of ripening to harvest about the country in general, and each day the shadows gather in a little earlier than they did the evening previous. That fresh green-ness which was so refreshing over woodland and meadow a month or six weeks' ago has passed away, and somewhat bare aftermaths point to the end of the hay harvest. Still, August is a glorious month, and, while the holiday makers rejoice in it, we all must make the best of it, because with its departure the back of the summer will assuredly be broken.

The Advent of the Corn Harvest. OATS have made rapid progress towards ripening during the past few weeks, and the shocks standing in many fields remind one that the corn harvest has begun. According to different reports the straw does not appear to be very long, generally speaking, though in several cases that have come before our notice where the treatment was liberal, oats have grown to more than the average height and the heads are bright and clean. There has been little or no respite this year between the finishing up of haymaking and commencing on the corn, and before July was ended we saw haymaking going on in one field and oats being cut in another just over the hedge. Speaking generally, corn looks well, though in districts visited by storms it is badly laid in places. Barley growers are anticipating that they will have some good samples for the brewer this season, but the pity of it is that the average beer drinker has no means of knowing whether his liquor has had any acquaintance with barley at all. Surely the power of chemicals is magic in these days, and the farmer suffers in consequence.

Amusement at Agricultural Shows. IN the cattle, implements, and other things to be seen at any agricultural show, the farmer visitor finds plenty to amuse and interest him, but the fact remains that shows can hardly be run successfully without the nimble shilling of the man in the street who soon tires of staring into pens of animals and studying machinery that he knows little or nothing about, and consequently his amusement has to be catered for as well as that of the farmer. A really good band of music goes a long way in this direction, and as feats of horsemanship appeal to Englishmen of every occupation, the driving and jumping ring provides a centre of attraction. Jumping and driving, however, are now such matter-of-course items of the agricultural show programme, that the novelty of these competitions has departed, and the thing is to find something fresh. We do not want to turn the showyard into anything approaching a pleasure fair nor lessen the purely agricultural side of it one whit, but so long as the gate is not entirely independent of the man who is not particularly interested in agriculture, provision has to be made for his amusement.

Parading Stock at Shows. WE think the Highland Agricultural Society has acted wisely in doing away with the regulation that no owner or exhibitor should parade his stock in the show ring. The object of the rule was apparently to keep the judges' mind quite free from prejudice in favour of any particular owner that the judges might happen to know. Doubtless the rule was made in the best of faith, but it also cast some reflection on the integrity of the judges, who, as a class, have a desire to award the prizes to the best animals, quite irrespective of ownership. Again, there can be no doubt that certain animals that are sent from show to show get to be known, no matter who parades them in the ring. A rule like the above falls particularly hard on a tenant farmer who may be put to the expense of having to take an extra man to the show to perform a little task that he could do better himself, and in view of this and other points we congratulate the Highland Society on abolishing the regulation.

Village Flower Shows. DURING the early weeks of August hundreds of tents are erected in as many rural villages in England, and hundreds of cottage gardeners compete with each other on the exhibition table with the products of gardens and allotments. It is an interesting sight to see a sturdy agricultural labourer staging his vegetables on the morning of the show, and no one but himself knows how many hours of labour before six o'clock in the morning and after six in the evening the production of these specimens have meant to him. It is a still more goodly sight to see our friend after the judging is over with a half-inch stump of lead pencil figuring down on the margin of his well-thumbed schedule the amount of his winnings. All the labour and the trouble are forgotten, however, in the evening when the lowly exhibitor steps up to the raised platform to receive his prize, touches his forelock by the way of thanks, and falls back to receive the congratulations of his friends. Without arguing the matter, we contend that no object is more worthy than that which encourages a taste for gardening amongst the rural labouring fraternity.

Motors and Veterinary Surgeons. IN a recent issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS a correspondent was deploring the increase in motor traffic on the grounds that it is cutting down the trade in hay and straw considerably. This is certainly not encouraging to the farmer; but in the same issue there was given an expression of opinion of an ex-president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons to the effect that whereas before the introduction of motor cars and 'busses there were 6,000 veterinary surgeons in regular employment in London alone, in three years there will not be employment for 300. These matters call for grave consideration. Motor traffic is robbing farmers of an item of trade, but it is taking the living of veterinary surgeons, which is far more serious. Look at the matter how one will, there can be little doubt that motors have come to stay, and to what extent they will take the place of horseflesh remains to be seen. On the other hand, of course, the introduction of the motor has led to the establishment of a new industry, and the man who is thinking of bringing up his son as a veterinary surgeon, would do well to consider whether it would not be wiser to make a mechanic of him.

The Apple Crop. APPLES are now swelling on the trees in the farm orchards in the West Country, and one can form some estimate of the prospects of the crop. At one time it looked as though we were going to have a bumping crop of apples to make up for the shortage of pears and plums, but insect pests and easterly winds in the spring have left their mark in more than one orchard. In spite of failures here and there, however, there are plenty of apples in many of the orchards in the west, which means that there will be plenty of work for the cider-mills later on. A good, old-fashioned English beverage is cider, but the genuine cider-maker, like the men who grow malt and hops for beer, suffer considerably through the sale of the adulterated stuff which is made and sold to the public under the name of cider. If people like to drink a liquor made out of mysterious chemicals, which may or may not be wholesome, that is their look out; but they certainly ought not to do it under the impression that they are consuming the pure juice of the apple, and

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this is where the West Country cider-maker needs legislation to protect him.

Trouble with Potatoes.

THE other day we were called in to inspect a field of potatoes, composed of one acre of Duke of York, one acre of British Queen, and one acre of the Factor. The last two varieties looked excellent, and promised well for a good crop, but the former were an absolute failure. Only here and there was a well-grown plant, and for the most part the stems were thin and spindling, the leaves small and curled, and when the roots were lifted the old seed tubers were found as sound and firm as the day they were planted, with two or three marble-like specimens attached to the root-stems. Of course it was a bad case of the "leaf-curl" disease, about which a good deal has been heard of late, and a very important question is how to protect one's self against it. We know Duke of York is a good early potato, and the seed in this case was bought fresh for the land. It was picked seed, and there was apparently nothing wrong with it when planted, but the crop will not pay for the seed, to say nothing about labour. It seems to us that this peculiar disease in potatoes is getting to be a matter for grave concern.

Land Grabbing.

THE action of the bands of unemployed who have taken possession of bare pieces of land in different places is providing a considerable amount of copy for the daily press, and it remains to be seen what the outcome of the whole affair will be. But land grabbing is not confined to the unemployed in towns, because it also exists in the country and to the detriment of agriculture. Of course the term may not be permissible because in the latter case the land is bought and paid for, but it is grabbing nevertheless on the part of people with money who have already got more land than they want or can manage properly. We have spoken before against the growing custom of buying land and grouping farms, which is nothing more or less than grabbing, and is detrimental to the agricultural interests of rural districts. It is the splitting up of large ownership rather than further monopoly that is really wanted, and when one sees the slipshod methods of farming adopted on some big estates the need of this is all the more apparent.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

A Great Duty for Authority.

What will the Board of Agriculture do? What will the Board of Trade do? What will the Local Government Board do? For, I opine, that all these executive authorities are concerned over the secret conspiring effort by which Argentine meat traders, acting in conjunction with money-grubbers on the Stock Exchange, propose, despite the nation's regulations, to evade the law preventing the landing of slaughtered animals from the Argentine into Great Britain. If all that is required is to build big abattoirs in Alderney and there to kill the Argentinian animals, in order to be able to import into this country, then the law and the nation's power becomes worse than asininely ludicrous. Mind, too, the live animals when they are landed in the islands may become a fecund source of foot-and-mouth disease, whose importation into the motherland would be attended with little difficulty. The whole business is, indeed, environed with the menace of a grim danger to the herds and flocks and farmers of this country. It must be interrupted, never mind how deep the chagrin of the Stock Exchange men at their deprivation of an anticipated profit. Their mouths may have watered at the prospect their cupidity may have opened out. Let their pleasure be arrested at once—let it stop at the anticipation. Frankly, I think we can trust the powers that be. Earl Carrington is not only a practical minded man, but is himself a farmer. Mr. John Burns has shown that he intends to be a rigorous enemy of the loathsome in our food supplies. This is a sufficient assurance that they will not allow a great danger to be invoked in order that the disciples of Mammon may put undesirable pelf in their purse!

The Misapprehension of Mr. Haldane.

It seems to me that Mr. Haldane does not altogether regard the question of the meat-supply of the British Army from the right stand-point. "It is so little," quotes he in effect; "the sum involved is so small, the profit must be so infinitesimal that it is not worth considering." We need not argue the question of Protection or Free Trade—it has no part in this scene. The fact, however, that the British Army, which is maintained out of British taxes, should, in its food necessities, provide profit, not for the British food-producer, but for the foreign food-producer, is an anomaly. If it be just to make the British Army a source of profit to the foreigner who may by and bye be our foe, it is also wise to call that Army into existence not so much for the defence of the British Islands as for the advantage of the foreigner. If it is wise to benefit the foreigner through his pocket by means of our great national military machine, it is right to benefit him in the more dramatic fashion, to make the British Army an instrument of his weal rather than of our own. And the anomaly becomes more grotesque when it is confessed that much of this foreign meat actually masquerades as English, Scottish, or Irish. Only a little trade, forsooth! Small or big, the principle that the British Army should be supplied from British sources must not be relinquished. The holy principle that "we must not buy in the cheapest market" is not so much at stake as is a fraud. Foreign meat is palmed off as the real article to our hurt!

Who will succeed Sir F. Peel?

More than once in this column emphasis has been placed upon the fact that the successor to Sir Frederick Peel on the Railway Commission should be a man of similar distinction, who, as did Sir Frederick, possesses some appreciation of the peculiar position of the agrarian interest and of its vital concern in a just and fair policy in connection with railway rates. The appointment cannot be much longer delayed, and it is well to consider the type of man on whom the eye of the executive authority may have alighted. Human nature, and particularly political human nature, being what it is, it is wise to assume that the gentleman thus honoured will have some political affinity to the Administration. We have, however, a right to expect, after the self-laudatory pæans which the Government has passed upon its own immaculate purpose, that the selected personage will possess the judicial temperament, be something, indeed, more than a mere partisan instrument. We have also the right to demand that he shall have some direct and sympathetic knowledge of the rural problem; and it will not be out of place if he have some appreciation of the intricacies of local government. Withal, he will not be the less commended to us if he bear a name (like unto that of Sir Frederick Peel) already honourably known in the field of public administration. The judicial and the commercial elements are already represented on this Commission; we require a man in sympathy with an interest as vitally concerned as either the law or commerce.

The Type of Man Needed.

I admit that here is a conjunction of qualities which it may be difficult to find centred in one man. The fact that they should have been centred in Sir Frederick Peel shows, however, that there be men who answer to this high standard of requirement. Frankly, the type of man I should like to see associated with the Commission is provided in the personality of the Right Hon. Sir Walter Foster, M.P. Whether Sir Walter would accept the position is another matter, but he has the equipment which would make him an eminent success in it. First of all, he is a man of the highest personal and Parliamentary distinction. He has already achieved a national eminence in the professional sphere. He holds, it is true, very strong and decided views, but he associates with them a courteous appreciation of the motives of his antagonists, and he never permits them to be warped by a jaundiced personal prejudice. In other words, though a strong politician he has what is most required in this position, the judicial temperament. Then, there are few men who have studied the problem of local government who do not comprehend the grasp of its intricacies which he revealed when he held the office of Secretary of the Local Government Board, and who are not aware of his sedulous anxiety, his perseverig personal investigations, and his admirable forethought. Perhaps in no political sphere has Sir Walter a greater distinction than in that of land reform. He is no mere intransigeant, but he has clear, bold ideals which he seeks to embody in law—a fact which presupposes and illustrates a warm-hearted sympathy with the farming class. This is the type of man we now require—such a man as we are persuaded would both lend distinction to a distinguished position and carry on the admirable tradition associated with the name of Sir Frederick Peel.

Why Lord Loreburn is Unpopular with his Friends.

The real meaning of the interrogations of the Premier in regard to the Liberal appointments to the magistracy is that Lord Loreburn has woefully disappointed his erstwhile associates. The political past of the Lord Chancellor—his close association with the left wing of Liberalism, his inflexible fidelity to the Radical ideal, his abhorrence of all that was assumed to be Toryism, and the imagined readiness on his part to adopt the *rôle* of a modern day Hampden—had opened out pleasing fascinating visions to many a Radical. He had in fancy perceived this ermined "Bob Reid"—thus he always spoke in other days of the then ex-Attorney-General—grasping the county Tory magistracy by the throat, and holding it still the while he invited on to the bench a counter-balancing Liberal and Labour element. These Radicals had in their picturesque imaginativeness become, in not a few instances, self-persuaded that the invitation would be specially addressed to themselves. And the Lords-Lieutenant and the qualifying conditions necessary for the position? Well, the latter the Lord Chancellor would peremptorily abolish, and the Lords-Lieutenant he would disregard, just as Lord Herschell disregarded them. Lord Loreburn has done neither. He has actually gone out of his way to disavow the intention of promoting a man to the magisterial bench just because he happened to be a political enthusiast or had bitter antagonistic views towards the squirearchy, or imagined that the preponderating body of Tories on the county bench reflected their faith in their judgments. It is, of course, the fact that Tories do preponderate on the county bench. It is an inevitable incident both of the exacted conditions and of the social character of the counties. Lord Loreburn, however, has shown that he is not going to outrage decency by inviting every Jack, Tom, and Harry to the position because he happens to be a Radical. The man should not, of course, be kept off because he is a Radical, but he should not inevitably be put on because of his faith. Hence this fuming, hence the fact that Lord Loreburn is no longer affectionately regarded as "dear old Bob Reid," which, perhaps, his lordship does not altogether regard as a serious punishment!

Mr. Robert Cock, F.R.H.S., horticultural lecturer and instructor in gardening and bee-keeping for the Staffordshire County Council, died at his residence in Stafford on Sunday last. He was a familiar figure in the rural districts of Staffordshire, and was very enthusiastic in that particular branch of his work which brought him into contact with the elementary school children, to whom he taught practical gardening after school hours.

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SHOWS.

Herts.

The Herts Agricultural Society has every reason to be gratified with the result of their show at Hatfield, for it was an all-round success, and certainly one of the best on record. And this is as it should have been, for the society is a most enterprising one, worthy of support, and it is due to their untiring efforts that the show ranks amongst the best of our one-day agricultural shows. Local agriculturists give the society whole-hearted support, and those in other counties are well represented in the open classes, so that the entries assume big proportions. This year they totalled no fewer than 1,451, the highest number attained since 1899, when the total was 1,543, but the record number is 1,589, which was secured in 1896. In only one department was a decrease shown this year, and that, unfortunately, was in one of the most important sections, namely, agricultural horses, which touched a point lower than for many years. There were 161 entries against 174 last year, but the section has fluctuated considerably during the past seventeen years, the totals ranging from 174 to 291. In striking contrast, the nags were more numerous by 46 than last year, and within ten of the satisfactory figures of 1901, when they were represented by 237 entries. In the cattle classes, there was an advance of 32 upon last year's figures, Shorthorns numbering 134 and Channel Island cattle 74. Seventy-two sheep were entered, as compared with 70 last year, and 50 pigs against 47 at the previous show. Such a good show deserved a large attendance, and it is satisfactory to be able to report a record in this respect.

Mr. W. Millen's First Prize and Champion Kentish Ram at the Tunbridge Wells Show.

Mr. G. T. Inman's Berkshire Boar Highmoor Mikado. First Prize at the Royal Lancashire Show.

Agricultural horses occupied the premier position in the catalogue, and though there was a decrease in numbers the same cannot be said of the quality, which was all round high class.

The Aldenham Challenge Cup was secured by Mr. E. Pigg with his Brothertoft First Lady, which was placed second reserve for the President's Champion Cup, as well as for the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, having also gained first prizes in four of the classes in which she was exhibited. Mr. E. E. Pearson carried off the Shire Horse Society's silver medal with his smart yearling filly, Brickendon Pandora, which was placed at the head of her class in good company, while Mr. J. Lloyd's Challenge Cup for the best gelding under six years of age was secured by Mr. D. Crawford's Jolly, who, with Charlie, shared the honour of first prize in the class for pairs of geldings. The President's Champion Cup, offered to tenant farmers, was awarded to Mr. W. Hammond for his Catteral Black Prince, an entire colt of considerable promise, which was certainly fortunate in being placed above. Mr. Clement Keevil's Blagdon Beauty reserved for the championship.

Hunters made a good show in most of the classes, particularly that for foals, which gave the judge some considerable trouble. The lightweights were more numerous than the heavyweights, but were hardly so good in quality. The Hunters Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly went to Capt. W. P. Jeffcock's Harpenden Common, and silver medals of the Imperial Hunter Stud Book Society were awarded to the same filly, as well as to Mr. H. Arnold's chesnut brood mare by Surefoot, Mr. C. F. Sibley's Union Jack, and Mr. A. Cory Wright's Ebony. The harness classes, taking them all round, may be described as only fair, although there were one or two good horses in each class. Entries were rather short, in consequence, no doubt, of the fact that some of the usual habitués of this show were competing at Tunbridge Wells, whilst the animals entered in the riding classes were of a very mixed description. The jumping contest excited the usual interest among the spectators, who witnessed some good performances.

Our report of the Royal Lancashire Show will be found in the Market Supplement.

It was generally conceded that the show of Shorthorns was one of the best seen at the Herts show, and certainly better than any previous at Hatfield. Mr. C. E. Wodehouse was again a leading exhibitor with members of his Woolmers Herd, winning the first in the open cow class with Violet 3rd, first in the yearling heifer class with Corisande 17th, first in the family class for cow and two of her offspring, and first in the old bull class with Chewton Victor 5th, a grand beast of great substance and quality, which also carried off Lord Mount Stephen's Challenge Cup. Mr. C. F. Raphael was represented by several animals of excellent stamp, and was, as usual, a leading prize-taker. His Shenley Victor was singled out from distinguished company for Mrs. Thornton's Challenge Cup for the best Shorthorn bull entered in Coates's Herd Book, and the same animal was reserved for Lord Mount Stephen's Challenge Cup for the best Shorthorn in the show, while his Belle of Boyne 15th carried off Mr. R. Barclay's Challenge Cup. Mr. W. Jack-on's Lady Olga being reserved both for that trophy and for the President's Champion Cup. The last-named cup went to Mr. Jackson for an exhibit of fine symmetry in Waterloo Duchess, and his Sportsman was reserved for Mrs. Thornton's cup, of which he was the holder. The president (Viscount Enfield), Lord Rothschild, and Sir R. P Cooper were also among the winners of the leading prizes.

The dairy cattle, generally speaking, were good, as were the pure-bred and cross-bred cattle, judged from a dairyman's point of view, whilst Channel Island cattle were well represented, and here Lord Rothschild, as usual, attained a large measure of success with the representatives of his well-known herd. With his Oxford Snowdrop he won the Blythwood Champion Bowl, whilst last year he won the trophy outright. The first prizes in every class, save two, were awarded to his exhibits, and in the other cases Dr. H. Corner and Sir James Blyth were the successful competitors.

Sheep, like the cattle, showed a noticeable improvement, both Hampshire Downs and Southdowns being well represented. Quite the feature of the former section was a pen of three ewe lambs which were exhibited by Mr. T. F. Buxton. They were excellent, and were deservedly given the first, second, and third prizes respectively, and also the Hampshire Down Sheepbreeders' Association's champion prize for the best pen of Hampshire Down lambs.

Pigs, too, were another highly creditable lot. Berkshires were *the* breed, and many excellent animals were forward in the numerous classes. The best class of the lot was that for Berkshire sows farrowed in 1905, in pig or with litter of pigs; there were, it is true, only five entries, but all were typical specimens, and Mr. A. D. Acland did well to secure first prize. His exhibit was a magnificent sow in the pink of condition, and well deserved her other award, namely the championship of the Berkshire pig classes.

Other features of an altogether interesting show were shepherd dogs, poultry, pigeons, and butter, although the last-named was somewhat disappointing. A military tournament, however, was quite the feature of the show with many of the visitors.

Exeter Horse.

The Devon and Exeter Horse Society's show at Exeter on the 27th ult. was a most successful one, the entries being good, the weather capital, and the attendance most satisfactory. There was a slight variation in the classes, the principal being that park hacks were not included this year, giving way to a class for heavy weight cobs, which drew a capital entry; in fact, the entries all round are a better percentage than last year, though the aggregate was slightly less. The reason for this is that there were one or two fewer classes. The grand total was 235 entries in thirty-four classes. About £300 was offered in prizes, and, as usual, the Hunter and Hackney Improvement Societies gave medals. The quality of the exhibits was exceptionally good, the Hunter classes drawing some remarkably fine animals, many of which were well-known winners. Hacks and cobs, too, were very strongly represented, and though the agricultural classes were not very largely filled, they comprised some typical horses. The driving classes were quite a feature of the show, and seldom has there been keener competition, whilst the jumping, trotting, and pacing competitions were watched with keen interest.

Burton Horse.

Brilliant weather favoured the show of the Burton and District Shire Horse Society, and had a beneficial effect on the "gate," the attendance being very large. The entries were, however, slightly down as compared with those of last year, owing very largely to the close proximity of the Royal Show at Derby. There were nineteen classes, and the majority were well filled, and some first animals were forward. The colt foals were particularly strong, as were also the two and three-year-old geldings. The special awards were won as follows:—The President's Cup, for the best foal, by Mr. F. Farnsworth, Hinckley; the Gretton Cup, for yearling or two or three-year-old Shire filly, Mr. Orme, Etwall; the Bass Cup, for best foal (open), Earl Egerton of Tatton; Desford Challenge Cup, for Shire brood mare, Mr. F. Farnsworth; Challenge Cup, for yearling filly, Mr. Orme; the Shire Horse Society's gold medal, Sir P. A. Muntz, Bart.

Shirley Horse.

The enterprise of the Shirley (near Birmingham) Horse Society in increasing their prize fund to £250 odd was duly rewarded as it deserved to be with a marked increase of entries; in fact, they created a record, and this in the thirteenth year of the show, should make the superstitious think. There was a representative collection of agricultural horses—a distinct advance upon last year's exhibits—and most of them were of county class. The Hunters and light horses generally were never better represented at Shirley, including, as they did, many animals which have been distinguished at the Royal and the county shows, whilst the farmers residing within the limits of the North Warwickshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Atherstone, Albrighton, and South Staffordshire Hunts entered a number of capital animals. The jumping classes were well filled, and with the spectators these competitions were amongst the most popular features of the show.

Reuben Pratt, who has worked on one farm for seventy-four years, has been awarded a prize for long service by the Herts Agricultural Society.

SHOW GOSSIP.

It is hardly necessary to call further attention to the show to be held at Tring Park on Thursday next the 9th, but as the event is of such wide-spread interest and the show has so many special features, we feel that a reminder is not out of place. The showground is in excellent order, and many of the cows in the milk and butter tests are already on the spot. There are special and ordinary trains from Euston at convenient times for cross-country visitors, and Rugby, Northampton, and Bletchley are all specially linked up with special trains. Given a fine day we may even expect last year's record of 20,000 visitors exceeded.

The Airedale Agricultural Society have issued the prize schedule for their fortieth annual show, which will take place on Wednesday, August 29. It is as usual a comprehensive one, providing classes for horses, cattle, sheep, poultry, pigeons, dressed fowls, eggs, butter, rabbits, cats, cavies, &c. Fairly good prizes are offered in all classes, and, in addition, there are numerous specials, so that another good entry should be received. Entries close on Saturday, August 25, with the Secretary, Mr. B. Bartle, Myrtle Place, Bingley.

The schedules have now been issued for the great Brewers' Exhibition, held annually at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. The date of this year's fixture—the 28th—is October 20 to 25, and as usual some valuable prizes are offered for competition in classes for malting and seed barley. The schedule is on similar lines to last year's, but there is one alteration to which particular attention may be drawn, and that is, that separate classes are now provided for Chevalier varieties and Goldthorpe, or any other varieties except Chevalier. The special awards are as valuable and as numerous as ever, and the 1906 exhibition should in no way fall below that of 1905. All official announcements will appear in our columns from time to time. Entries close on October 3 with Messrs. Dale, Reynolds and Co., Limited, 46, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Nearly £700 is offered in prizes for competition at the annual Bath Horse Show, to be held this year on September 5 and 6. This fixture is as popular as ever with horse-breeders, and shows no signs of falling off as a big event of the season in the country, so that the forthcoming show should be as good as former ones, for the usual liberal prizes are offered, and the classes are practically the same. Following in the footsteps of other societies, a sale has been decided upon in connection with the show, and this will take place on the second day. Entries for the show close on Saturday, the 18th inst. Mr. L. C. Mundy, 41, Mesom Street, Bath, is the secretary.

The Northumberland Agricultural Society's recent show at Newcastle proved a record success, the sum taken on the three days being no less than £2,053 6s. 6d., the largest amount ever taken at this society's show. The society certainly deserved this result, for they worked hard to secure it, as also did the local townspeople, but they were certainly fortunate in having three such glorious days for the event, and without doubt the clerk of the weather did as much as anybody to ensure the financial success of one of the best shows held by the society.

A feature of the prize list of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society is the offer of over £200 in cash as special prizes by the Molassine Company, Limited, 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C., to users of Molassine meal. In the Molassine classes there is a £30 first prize for cheddar cheese and other handsome cash prizes for dairy cattle, fat stock, poultry, horses, as well as a butter class, and a record number of entries in these classes is anticipated.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. H. W. WOODS,
Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society.

The Dr. Fream Memorial.

A meeting of the sub-committee of the Dr. Fream Memorial was held on Monday afternoon last, the 30th ult., at the Farmers' Club, 2, Whitehall Court, under the chairmanship of Mr. Martin J. Sutton. The hon. secretary, Mr. G. F. Strawson, reported very satisfactory progress had been made, and that 120 gentlemen had already joined the committee under the presidency of the Earl of Jersey, P.C. Sir Geo Barham, the hon. treasurer, reported the receipt of many subscriptions, large and small, as well as promises of financial support from all parts of the kingdom. The first meeting of the general committee will take place in October, during the London Dairy Show week.

Meanwhile the hon. secretary will be pleased to receive the names and addresses of any gentlemen wishing to join the committee and any promises of subscriptions, which should be addressed to Mr. G. F. Strawson, "Dr. Fream Memorial Committee," 71a, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

The Motor Dust Nuisance.

At a cost of £2,000 the Surrey County Council has made a number of experiments with a view of abating the motor dust nuisance, but, on the whole, they have not been satisfactory. The county surveyor in his report states that tarmac, aconia, and tarring the roads had been tried, and the last appeared to be the best and most economical method so far discovered of abating the dust, but even in that the surface of the tarred lengths was apt to lift up in the winter after rain and frost, making the roads, if the treatment was extended, liable to become most unpleasant for wheeled traffic during bad weather in the autumn. "I think roads through the country, such as the Portsmouth road," adds the surveyor, "will soon become locomotive tracks, and apart from the intolerable nuisance caused by dust, the roads will be unsafe for tee cars themselves, and absolutely dangerous for every other kind of traffic.

The Farnham Rural Council have also carried out tarring experiments, and consider them so satisfactory that at a recent meeting it was suggested that the whole of the roads in their district—180 miles—should be treated with a dust preventive. It was, however, pointed out that this would involve an expenditure of £11,000, and in view of such heavy cost it was decided not to carry out the suggestion, but to send a circular letter to all the councils in the county of Surrey asking if they would be willing to join in a conference, or would give expression to their opinions as to the best remedies to adopt to abate the nuisance.

In the course of a speech at Harper Adams Agricultural College last week, Mr Jesse Collings said he considered that whatever Government was in power more monetary help ought to be given to agriculture. He was of opinion that the £136,000 was a beggarly sum to devote to what to his mind was the most important industry of their country, and one upon which depended every other success or failure. He considered farmers as a class were largely to blame for this state of things. They would probably have noticed how farmers' questions were put off for anything, because farmers were looked upon as a long-suffering class of individuals. Chambers of agriculture should be as persistent in their demands as the Irish were—they got what they wanted, and refused to be put off.

With its fine connection amongst Live Stock Owners, the "Mark Lane Express" is undoubtedly ONE of the BEST MEDIA for the Disposal of Pedigree Live Stock, either by Public Auction or Private Treaty.

The Journal goes directly into the hands of likely purchasers at home and abroad.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, Park Vale Road, Middlesbrough, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 8, 9, and 10, 1906.

Stock and Implements, &c., Jumping Competitions, Military Tournament, Band.

Admission:—Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 2/6; Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., 1/-; Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 1/-; Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1/-. Season Tickets, 10/6 each. Reserved Seats on Grand Stand, 5/- each.

JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary.

BUXTON HORSE SHOW, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1906.

President:

The Rt. Hon. THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY.

Over £300 in Prizes, including Challenge Cups and Gold and Silver Medals. Fifty-guinea Challenge Cup for Best Hunter. Entries close Thursday, August 16, 1906. Military Exhibitions by Cheshire and Derbyshire Yeomanry. Entry forms and all particulars from HAMPSON BROS., Secretaries, 3, The Quadrant, Buxton.

ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Agricultural Department.

President—W. DURET AUBIN, Esq.

SUMMER SHOW of Bulls, Cows, Heifers, Horses, &c., at Springfield Grounds, Jersey, AUGUST 22 and 23, 1906. JOHN A. PERREE, Secretary.

CHILTERN HILLS & SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.—The 17th ANNUAL SHOW will be held at HIGH WYCOMBE on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1906. OPEN CLASSES for Shire Horses, Hunters, Jumping and Driving, Shorthorns, Jerseys, Butter and Honey.—For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to JOSEPH BLISS, Secretary, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

WHITWORTH (Lancashire) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11. Judges: Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, J. Hutchence, Esq., J. Thompson, Esq., J.P., G. Dewhurst, Esq., and F. Metcalf, Esq. Dog entries close August 6, other exhibits August 7. Schedules.—E. A. STOTT, 561, Market Street, Whitworth.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

President: Leopold Salomons, Esq., J.P.

THE ANNUAL HORSE AND CATTLE SHOW will be held in Stoke Park, Guildford, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1906.

Prizes, value £600 will be offered.

The Entries close SATURDAY, AUGUST 11.

GEORGE ENTICKNAP, Secretary.
Bridge Street, Guildford.

BATH HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 5 and 6, 1906. Nearly £700 in Prizes.

Great Jumping Competitions.

Entries close August 18.

Schedules and all particulars to be obtained of—

LEWIS C. MUNDY, Secretary.
41, Milsom Street, Bath.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY. STUD BOOK, VOL. XXIX.

ENTRIES at Ordinary Fees close on 31st inst. Forms and all information from

ARCH. MACNEILAGE, Secretary.
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SHOW, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1906, TRING PARK, TRING (L.&N.W.Ry.)

£1,500 PRIZES. ONE DAY'S SHOW,

FAMOUS SHEEP DOG TRIALS, 20 ENTRIES.

The largest and most comprehensive display of Dairy Cattle in the Tests held during the year.

All sections of Stock well represented.

Harness Horses, Tandems, Pairs, Ponies, &c.

Special trains from London and other stations on the system.

Programme sent on application to—

F. J. BROWN, Secretary.

Tring.

HAY HORSE SHOW, September 20, 1906. Entries close on September 6; double fees September 12.—REECE MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

THE GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW AT MIDDLESBOROUGH.

Given fine weather, the show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society at Middlesbrough this week should be one of the most successful of the long series, for the entries are above the average for the past five years in every section, whilst the townspeople have entered most enthusiastically into the proceedings, and it will not be their fault if the show be not a success. Neither have the society itself left any stone unturned, so that if not earned, the success will be deserved. The prize fund, for instance, is the magnificent one of £2,278 10s., as compared with £2,060 15s. at Hull, and £2,041 1s., the average for the last five years, and this has drawn 1,196 entries, of which 930 are live stock. The gross total is 99 more than at Hull in 1905, when 1,097 entries were received, live stock then numbering 867, while the respective totals of the last five years' average are 1,074 and 444. The following table will show at a glance how this year's entries in the various sections compare with 1905, and the past five years' average:—

Cattle.	1906.	1905.	Five Yrs. Average.
Shorthorns	141	106	116
Dairy	44	39	35
Jersey	16	30	34
Aberdeen-Angus	22	28	28
Total	223	203	213
Sheep—			
Leicester	33	37	30
Lincoln	48	45	36
Wensleydale	27	26	30
Black-faced Scotch Mountain	19	14	16
Total	127	122	112
			1903-5
Pigs	97	99	95
Horses—			
Thoroughbreds and Hunters	159	162	155
Hacknevs	54	97	82
Cobs and Ponies	19	14	21
Cleveland Bays	26	12	16
Yorks. Coach Horses	50	44	58
Shire	48	47	47
Agricultural	6	—	—
Polo Ponies	16	6	—
Harness Horses	26	29	22
Jumpi'g Competit'ns	41	32	43
Total	445	443	444
Local Classes	38	—	—
Total for Live Stk.	930	867	826
Cheese	47	34	36
Hives, Honey, &c.	85	57	54
Horse Shoeing	107	113	132
Butter-Making	27	26	26
Aggregate	1196	1097	1074

Turning to the implement department, there is a large decrease in the number of entries to be noted which is attributable to the fact that Middlesbrough is in a remote corner of the county, and also to the enormous exhibition at the Royal Show at Derby. Some satisfaction, however, comes from a close examination of the statistics available, for the shedding containing the machinery in motion, gas and oil engines, &c., will have a frontage of 1,274 ft., as compared with 1,316 at Hull, and 1,330 the average for the last five years. The open space allotted for implements, carts, carriages, rustic houses, greenhouses, building material, &c., only covers 793 square yards, as against 1,730 yards last year, which was a record, and 1,118 yards the five years' average.

The showyard is about 1½ miles from the railway station, and may be reached by riding in the Linthorpe electric car to the entrance of Albert Park, and then a six or eight minutes' walk through that charming recreation ground, or by chartering a conveyance and driving along Marton Road and Park Vale Road.

The main entrance is formed of the picturesque wooden structure with which visitors are familiar, but the shape and contour of the ground has necessitated a departure from traditional lines. It is a peculiar site of forty acres, but it has been turned to the best advantage.

The principal implement shedding is to the left of the entrance, and access to the stock-yard is obtained by means of the main avenue, which goes by a couple of bridges across a stream. After a short walk there is a sharp turn to the right, and you are at once at the block of buildings forming the education department, which will represent some of the work of the University of Leeds, Oxford University, the Board of Agriculture, the Midland Dairy Institute, and the Middlesbrough Education Committee, as well as comprise dairy and poultry exhibitions. This extension is a step which will no doubt be thoroughly appreciated. Near to are the various dining rooms and the council room.

From the educational and catering departments the main avenue turns to the left, the walk to the centre of the grand stand being over more or less broken ground, which is not adapted for the erection of shedding. Owing to the hilly nature of the site the bulk of the stock is housed on the lower ground adjoining the east and west boundaries. The stock entrance is off the Marton Road. The sheep pens are on the right, and the cattle stalls and pig pens on the left. The shedding then follows round the boundary of the site, with the exception of some of the horse shedding, which it has been found possible to erect on the hill. As usual, the horse and cattle judging rings are grouped well together near the grand stand, which is at the south end of the site.

An attractive programme has been drawn up for the three days, all the usual popular features being retained, whilst a new attraction in the shape of a tournament by the 18th (Princess Victoria Mary of Wales's Own) Hussars is provided for the last day. The charge for admission is 1s. on each day except from 9 to 5 p.m. on the first day, when the fee is 2s. 6d. During that time practically the whole of the judging will be accomplished, so that the extra charge is perhaps justified by the extra attraction.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Half-Holidays for Farm Labourers.

Sir,—In answer to the reply of "Red Rose" to my former letter on the above subject, I do not consider that his suggestion of farm labourers taking their weekly half-holiday once a fortnight to be any solution of the problem which I put forward therein.

By expressing his agreement that farm labourers work from necessity and not from choice, he evidently understood my words to mean likewise, but if he will read my letter again he will find that I referred to those men who have left the land because they do not like the continuous attention required by farming. He is also quite wrong in including myself amongst those who work from necessity and not from choice, because for a quarter of a century I have worked on a farm from choice, and the fact that two years ago I met with an accident that incapacitated me from doing any work at all, and can still manage to live comfortably, proves it.

The exodus of farm labourers to the towns, which was so general a few years ago, has lately been almost entirely stopped, because the town has no work to offer them, and if a farmer now advertises for a labourer, he will find that many who have left the country will be only too glad to return to the farm with all its disadvantages.

So far as this district is concerned, I can fully endorse the contention of "White Rose" that the farm labourer is as well, if not better, off than labourers in other vocations. Wages here are 18s. per week all the year round, with cottage and garden rent free, extra pay for overtime during the harvest, besides beer then and at all other times of the year when any extra work is on hand, and always a pint a day at the most ordinary work, even on wet days, when they are under cover, sharpening thatch-pegs or some other such trivial work.

They also have land on the farm provided to grow sufficient potatoes to last them all the year, and in quite frequent cases enough grass land is provided at a nominal rent for them to keep a cow, with the advantage of having their master's team, free, to get their bit of hay, draw coals, and do any other little jobs that they require a horse and cart to do.

I know several men who from these small beginnings are now farmers themselves on a comparatively large scale. So that I do not think the case of the farm labourer can be quite so devoid of hope or prospect as "Red Rose" would have us believe.

And I can prove the truth of all the statements contained in the above letter.—Yours truly,

August 1, 1906. Another Rose.

Sir,—In the first place let me thank "White Rose" for his courteous reply to my letter, and also for crediting me with a desire to benefit agriculture and the farm labourer. I can assure your correspondent that the above is my sole object in taking the stand I do in the present controversy, because I believe that by improving the condition of the farm labourer we shall have a better class of workers on the land, and farmers will reap the benefit. I am afraid "White Rose" has got a mere fanciful idea as to the reason why sons of farm labourers do not follow in the honourable occupation of their fathers, and my opinion is that they would not care "tuppence" for the jibes and sneers of anybody if farm labour could offer them better wages, some recreation, and a prospect for the future. In almost every other occupation an energetic young fellow has a chance to rise; but where is the scope for the farm labourer?

Let the door be unlocked which keeps such a grip on the land, and let the labourer see that there is a chance of getting a holding of his own, and he will have more inducement to stick to the occupation of his fathers. There is no need to paint the work of the labourer in doleful colours, because facts speak for themselves, and I take this argument on the part of "White Rose" to be the weakest point in his letter. I maintain that it is the grit of the labouring fraternity which helped the Great Duke to win Waterloo, that has also prompted so many of the best of them to give up the occupation of their fathers for the sake of emigration and other means of livelihood offering better prospects. Unfortunately agriculture has never shown a marked desire to help the labourer, and even in the palmy days of farming, when corn and wool and other products were fetching prices which we should like to see now, the poor labourer had to be contented with his paltry 9s. a week, and his condition was little better than that of a galley slave. I have no wish to patronise or pity the farm labourer, and it is because I treat him as a man that I advocate giving him the same privileges that are enjoyed by workers in other occupations. Red Rose.

August 2, 1906.

A Medley.

Sir,—Not the least interesting page in the issue of the Mark Lane Express for July 23 was that devoted to correspondence, as it contained a number of letters of general importance, written apparently by individuals who feel strongly about the various matters discussed.

"M. or N." set out to write about teaching agriculture, and finished up with a gentle dig at land agents and their ways. Not being a land agent, I have no intention of taking up the cudgels on their behalf, but surely some member of the fraternity will have a word to say in defence.

I do most emphatically agree, however, with "M. or N.'s" remarks about the deplorable custom of large landowners buying estates which they do not live on, and throwing farms together in a manner that is very detrimental to the welfare of the district. The big absent proprietor is not much good to agriculture, and I am sure that if estates were smaller, and landlords lived on them and took an interest in their farms, agriculture would be in much better condition than it is now. It is claimed as a right that a man may do what he likes with his own. Just so, but land is an exception, because in spite of individual ownership it really belongs to the nation.

"F. A. H." in his letter on agricultural depression throws a new light on this ever importation question. We are suffering from over-production, he argues, and if the supply of commodities were reduced prices would be raised and farmers would be able to pay as good wages as skilled workmen obtain in other trades. This sounds reasonable enough in theory, but if the workers had to pay more for the necessities of life, I do not quite see how they would be much better off even if wages were increased. However, I shall look with interest for "F. A. H.'s" promised letter on the subject.

Oh dear, this education question! Whenever will it be settled satisfactorily? "Worcester" (page 105) sighs for an education system that will show true appreciation of the needs of the village. Just so, and we all look for that "really practical rural curriculum" which seems so long in coming, but in fairness to education authorities it must be said that there are villages which will not have it when it is offered to them. I could mention several instances now where it is desired to take practical gardening as a subject in village schools, but nothing can be done in the matter for the simple reason that no land can be obtained for the purpose. Yet in every case the district is purely agricultural, and there is land in abundance. Still, no one can spare a bit for a school garden, in spite of the fact that the authorities are prepared to pay well for it, and all the while there are grumbles about the need of a rural curriculum.

J. H. certainly takes a very pessimistic view of the farming outlook, but I hope things will not turn out so bad as he anticipates in spite of the motors. Years ago, when railways were established, it was prophesied that they would ruin farmers, but where would the farmer be now without railways? Perhaps the day will come when he will be equally dependent on motors. Lex.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

An Insecticide Case.

A case of some interest to market gardeners and farmers was recently tried at the Shoreditch County Court, when a nurseryman was sued by Messrs. Adams, Webster and Co., Ltd., of the Manor Chemical Works, Hackney, London, for the sum of £4, representing the value of goods supplied.

The plaintiffs' case was to the effect that they supplied a special chemical fly exterminator, and sold the defendant two tons of it at an agreed price of £2 a ton. Mr. Cripps, for the defendant, said that there was no denial of the order or delivery, but the defence was a breach of warranty, as instead of exterminating the flies the whole of the crop was eaten up by them, entailing a loss of £25. No counterclaim had, however, been entered.

Mr. Sieberg, travellor for the plaintiffs, said that he sold the stuff to the defendant.—Mr. Cripps: You showed your printed circular on which were a number of unsolicited testimonials?—Witness: I was supplied with that by the firm. Mr. Cripps: And are the testimonials true?—Witness: I suppose so. Mr. Cripps: But cannot you say? Have you not seen them?—Witness: I was told that they could be seen by any customer at the offices of the company. Mr. Cripps: Are they like the general run of unsolicited testimonials, liable to be very seriously questioned at times?—Witness: I can only say they are printed as a list of testimonials. Mr. Cripps: Did you believe that this chemical fly exterminator would do what was suggested?—Witness: I was told so. Mr. Cripps: Now, of what is it composed?—let us have this dread secret?—Witness: I am to answer this question, I suppose, your Honour? His Honour: I think if it is a secret chemical manufacture the witness would be quite right in not disclosing what it is composed of, although of course he is naturally at liberty to do so if he likes.—Witness: Oh, I don't mind. Mr. Cripps: I should like to press for it.—Witness (laughing): Well, it consists of soot, gas lime, and cinder ashes. Mr. Cripps: And this is the composition of this wonderful fly exterminator!

The defendant was called, and said that he had tried it every way, but it was of no use. Judge Smyly said that before giving a verdict he would hear the evidence of the defendant in a second case, Mr. A. H. Maxwell, of College Farm, Enfield Wash, who was also being sued for £4. This gentleman said that he had lost an entire crop through using the stuff, entailing a loss to him of £125. Two pounds a ton was nothing to farmers to pay for a good insect exterminator; in fact, it would be cheap to them at £20 a ton if anyone could produce an article that would do as it was suggested it would. He was going to use lime in future. A verdict was returned for the defendants.

Fertiliser Distributing Scales.

When applying concentrated artificial manures, it is most important that the manure should be evenly distributed over the soil, and a method which would ensure this being done should prove of service to farmers. Messrs. John Austin and Son, of Allscot, Wellington, Salop, have sent a circular of their Fertiliser Distributing Scales, which are intended to help the agriculturist to apply accurately any desired weight per acre of artificial manure.

Lime soils of all descriptions are particularly adapted for the growth of leguminous crops, such as clover, peas, sainfoin, &c. Sainfoin is particularly suitable for thin soils resting on limestone rocks, since it has the power of sending its roots to great distances, and extracting and bringing to the surface the fertilising material.

Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Bill.

The Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Bill passed the ordeal of the third reading in the House of Commons without further debate, and has already been read a second time in the House of Lords, so that there is now a reasonable prospect of this useful measure becoming law before the present session closes.

Feeding Stuffs.

According to the analytical report of the Midland Agricultural Institute on feeding stuffs:—

The percentage of water in some linseed cakes is higher than it used to be; this is brought about by pressing water into the cakes. One sample sent in December contained as much as 15·75 per cent. of water, while many contained over 14 per cent.

Apart from the fact that one cannot afford to buy water at £7 per ton, this two or three per cent. of added water will injure the keeping properties of the cake. The remedy rests with the buyer, who would do well to insist that a reduction in the price be made when the cake contains more water than usual.

The objectionable so-called guarantee of 95 per cent. pure is still made to cover undesirable impurities, such as spurry, corn cockle, &c. Buyers should bear in mind that as this guarantee cannot be verified, it is a statement of no use to the buyer, except that it informs him that the cake is not pure. Fortunately, however, most cakes that have been sent for analysis were pure and clean, and the 95 per cent. guarantee was only a reflection on them.

The cotton cakes were pure, and generally made from Egyptian seed. The Bombay seed, Niger seed, and other substances, which would not fetch a high price in their own names, frequently find their way into feeding cakes, compound cakes, and meals.

One feeding cake was so acid that the stock would not eat it. It was probably made from some partly fermented material, and contained among other components Niger and Bombay seed.

In more than one case death of pigs was found to be due to the presence of castor-oil seeds found in the meals on which they were fed

Report of the Principal Government Chemist.

This document, dealing with the year which closed on March 31 last, contains details of considerable interest to farmers. The number of samples analysed for the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries was 2,590, made up as follows :—

Imported butter	1,875
,, margarine...	92
,, cheese	88
,, milk	50
,, ,, condensed	131
,, cream	83
Sheep dips	221
Miscellaneous...	50
	2,590

Butter.—Of the imported butter samples, 937 were found to contain boron preservative, and 617 contained added colouring matter. It is satisfactory to note that with the accumulation of more analytical data, and with the advantage of other aids not formerly available, it has been found possible, in spite of the absence of legal limits, to detect admixtures of other fats with butter in a considerable number of cases, and to prove the adulteration to the satisfaction of the magistrates. In some instances, not only was the butter adulterated with foreign fat, but the quantity of water in the butter was greater than is allowed by the Sale of Butter Regulations.

In seventy-one cases, where the butter was found to be sophisticated the results were submitted to the Board of Customs for consideration, with a view to legal proceedings being taken by that Department against the importers. Convictions have, so far, been obtained and penalties imposed in thirteen cases. The remainder are still *sub judice*, with the exception of a few cases which, for various reasons—as, for example, where two or more samples referred to the same importation—were not proceeded with

The proportion of samples of butter containing boron preservative is practically the same as in the previous year. Those containing added colouring matter show a diminution in number.

Margarine.—There is good reason to believe that a notable amount of butter-adulteration takes place in this country, the substances employed for fraudulent addition to butter being, amongst others, fats such as are imported in quantity for the manufacture of confectionery, or as constituents of shop margarine. These last-mentioned usages are, of course, quite legitimate; but there is no doubt that the fats in question are in some cases fraudulently mixed with butter.

To assist in tracing the destination of imported margarine, and to guard against the diversion of this substance into improper channels, the Legislature has enacted that all packages of margarine imported into the United Kingdom shall be conspicuously marked "Margarine." During the past year a number of samples of the fats referred to have been submitted by the Customs in order to ascertain whether, having regard to their composition and properties, the fats in question came within the legal definition of margarine, and ought, consequently, to be so marked. Ninety-two such samples were examined, and in the case of fifty-nine the article proved to be, in our opinion, margarine. Proceedings were instituted by the Customs Department to ensure that the substances should be properly marked in future. Generally these proceedings were successful in their object, but in the case of two of the fats the magistrates decided that the substances were not, legally, margarine, apparently on the ground that to come within the legal definition the article must so closely simulate butter as to be indistinguishable therefrom except by analysis.

Cheese.—Of the 88 samples of cheese examined, 44 were imported from Holland, 22 from Canada, 15 from the United States (two being indicated as Canadian produce), 5 from France, and 2 from Belgium. Ten samples were "skim-milk" cheese, containing in one instance only 3·3 per cent. of fat. All these ten samples came from Holland.

Milk.—Thirty-one of the samples shown as "condensed" milk were "milk powder" or "dried milk," and in one instance the goods were described as "humanised" condensed milk. In twenty cases the condensed product was found to have been prepared from milk deficient in fat, or from skim milk, without the packages being marked to this effect. In certain of these cases proceedings were instituted against the importers by the Commissioners of Customs, and penalties were imposed.

Of uncondensed milk, a smaller number of samples are described as fresh, and a much larger number as "sterilised" than was the case last year. Four of the samples were found to be deficient in fat, and in six other instances the milk was not entirely satisfactory; these were reported to the Commissioners of Customs, who initiated legal proceedings in such cases as seemed to demand this step.

Four of the samples forwarded as "cream" were shown by the analyses to be merely condensed milk. In the true cream the percentage of fat was found to range from 24·7 to 57·9 per cent., and most of the samples contained boron preservative. Some of the specimens of cream had been thickened by the addition of gelatin, and proceedings were instituted by the Commissioners of Customs against the importers. Technical legal objections were, however, raised at the hearing of the cases, and these objections were upheld except in one instance, where the points are still *sub judice*.

Sheep Dips.—As mentioned in the last yearly report, it has been necessary to analyse sheep dips submitted by manufacturers to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, in order that the Board might be advised what articles, having regard to the dipping tests made by the Departmental Committee, might possess a *primâ facie* claim to be included in the official schedule as efficient preparations. During the year, 221 such products have been analysed and reported on, twelve of these coming from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. In the great majority of cases the chemical constituents of the dips were found to be, in fact, substantially what they were stated to be.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.—Under the provisions of the Act of 1893, five samples of fertilisers and two of feeding stuffs were referred to the principal analyst for analysis. The former comprised three samples of prepared bones, and one of ground phosphate; three of these contained, as alleged, less phosphate than had been guaranteed; the third was not deficient in phosphates. The remaining fertiliser was ammonium sulphate, said to be deficient in ammonia, but which we found fully equal to the guarantee. In the case of the two feeding stuffs, one was stated to contain less than the specified percentages of oil and albuminoids, and this we found to be so; the other was a feeding cake with which the buyer was not satisfied, but which our analysis proved to be genuine cottonseed cake.

Arsenic.—1,533 samples of beer, wort, and materials used by brewers have been tested for the presence of arsenic. Of these, seventy-nine samples were found to contain it in excess of the limits given by the Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning—namely, the equivalent of one-hundredth of a grain of arsenious oxide per pound in the case of solids, or per gallon in the case of liquids.

Of the 226 samples of malt examined, twenty exceeded the limit; the highest amount found was one-thirtieth of a grain per pound. Of 737 samples of glucose, invert sugar, caramel, &c., only one contained more than one-hundredth of a grain per pound—namely, a sample of caramel which was found to contain one-fiftieth of a grain. The highest amount found in any sample of wort or beer was one-twentieth of a grain per gallon. The highest amount found in any sample was one-tenth of a grain per pound, this quantity being present in an article intended for flavouring stout.

The chief use of fertilisers is to supply plant food. It is good farming to make the most of the natural resources of the soil and of the manures produced on the farm, and to depend upon artificial fertilisers only to furnish what more is needed. It is not good economy to pay high prices for materials which the soil may itself yield, but it is good economy to supply the lacking ones in the cheapest way

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Many of our Customers have won 1st Prizes for Milk Yield and Butter Tests at various shows, including the Royal this year. If you are to secure the best results, you must use the best Cake as well as the best Cow. The combination pays.

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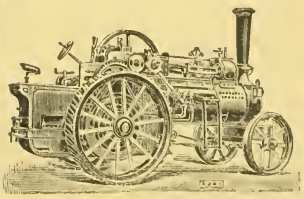

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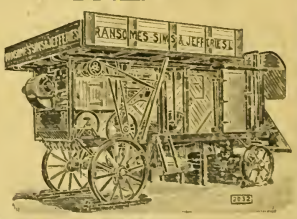

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AUGUST 6, 1906.

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Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

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GREEN PEAS AS A FIELD CROP.

Some farmers having a railway station within easy reach, from which they can send green peas to the metropolis or a large town, raise several acres yearly for that object, and in some seasons realise profitable returns by so doing. But in drought summers the pickings are small, and the returns fail to compensate for seed and labour. Large farmers seldom care to add this to their big enterprises, but there are a host of smaller ones always ready and eager to engage in it, their enterprises being often gilded with golden anticipations. The crop has much to recommend it owing to the short period it requires to occupy the ground. Whether it fail or succeed, a second crop of some kind or other can be grown in autumn after it. Moreover, it does not require heavy dressings of manure, for being of the leguminous species, which are admitted by the agricultural chemists to supply themselves with nitrogen from the air by nodules at their roots, the food required from the soil is solely of a mineral nature, and the quantity actually extracted is by no means large.

Half a century since the most unlettered farmers found that peas could be grown cheaper than almost anything else, and that they generally left the land better than they found it, even although no manure was applied to grow them. Our great-grandfathers before the railway age were not accustomed to grow green peas for marketing in their fields, the common dun-coloured late kinds, which were ripened that their grain might serve for stock feeding, being chiefly produced.

The green pea season is just passed at its meridian, for market rates are at their lowest during July, but it is of little use for farmers to strive to compete with market gardeners for the early trade and best prices, or to grow in open fields the wrinkled high quality sorts. They must be content to have their returns in July with the hardy round sorts. Nevertheless, there is immense variety even in these. Our leading seedsmen by the arts of cross-fertilisation and selection, have thoroughly revolutionised edible peas. The vigorous growing tall sorts by crossing with dwarfs have been shortened from a foot to a foot and half in height, and their loss in stalks and leaves have been made up in pods. The field grower should take pains, therefore, to select not only the hardiest adapted for his particular soil and climate, but the most productive member of the class. For instance, Prince of Wales used to be a very famous field pea for green-pod picking, but almost every seedsman has now his improved Prince of Wales, and the members of the family all bearing this name differ amazingly.

As to methods of culture, several kinds of dual cropping have been recommended, chiefly that the peas may have the advantage of more sunshine and air by the rows being at a greater distance apart from one another. Some market gardeners grow their earliest field potatoes between rows of peas, to the advantage of both, for the peas shelter the potatoes from April and May frosts. Another kind of dual cropping, far better adapted to the farm, is that of seeding peas and beans together in rows wide enough for the intervals to be horse-hoed. The beans not only shelter the peas from frost, but serve as stickers for them. Instead of trailing on the ground they climb up and twine themselves round the stalks of their stouter neighbours, and their affluence of bloom when afforded this advantage is sufficient indication how pre-eminently beneficial the increased sun and air derived has proved to them. But there are other benefits. The intervals can be horse-hoed and stirred as often as seems expedient, and on the last operation of the kind taking place the seed either of kale or turnips may be sown, that after the green pea pods have been picked and the bean crop has ripened and been harvested there will be found still another to occupy the land. Horse-hoeing would now take place where the peas and beans had been grown, which would in late autumn and winter serve as the intervals for the growing kale or turnips. Even this, if properly thinned, might produce a considerable amount of sheep-keep the following spring.

Agricultural Instruction at Armstrong College.

From the Armstrong College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has come a prospectus of the Agricultural Department for the session 1906-7, and it shows that a very comprehensive scheme is carried out here, all branches of our greatest industry receiving attention

The Agricultural Department, which was formed in 1892, is subsidised by the Board of Agriculture and by the Education Committees of the four northern County Councils, and is under the direction of Professor Douglas A. Gilchrist, M.Sc., F.R.S.E. Cockle Park, the Northumberland County Council experimental station is worked in connection with the department. The station extends to about 400 acres, and the extensive experiments on land and live stock carried out there are of great practical value in the agricultural teaching.

The Durham County Council dairy station is at Offerton Hall, a dairy farm of nearly 600 acres, where about sixty milch cows are kept. A special laboratory and the entire use of a byre for ten cows are available for daily research work, and this farm is of great service to the college for instruction in dairy farming

By an arrangement with H.M. Office of Woods, the Chopwell Woods, which extend to about 900 acres and are within a few miles of Newcastle are now placed under the control of the college, and are of great value in connection with the courses in forestry.

The courses of instruction include agriculture, forestry, estate management and dairy farming, in connection with which scholarships are offered by the four northern county councils and by the Surveyors' Institution, while many of the college scholarships are open to agricultural students. The tuition fees (composition) vary from £10 for a winter's course of instruction in agriculture to £20 a session for the degree course.

Past degree students are now, it may be added, in good positions in all parts of the British Empire and over eighty former students of the department are now engaged in practical farming in the north of England.

After the sale of the late Mr. Philo L. Mills' Yorkshire Large White breed at Ruddington (reported in our last issue) Mr. W. B Wallace, Broomhouse, Corstorphine, visited the Stoke Farm herd of the Corporation of Nottingham, and purchased of Mr. A. A. Avis a very good young boar by the famous stock boar Nottingham Ben 9219. No doubt this pig will be heard of again.

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Weather, Crops and Stock.

Exclusive Reports.

North Lincolnshire. THE season of 1906 was propitious for getting in the spring corn, and it came up well, both it and the wheat progressing famously until the excessive drought damaged somewhat the oats and barley; but except on the extremely thin lands the wheat liked the sunshine, and will yield well, I think; in certain fields it is a little thin, and a few were ploughed up. Nothing is cut here, but several will begin on an odd field to-morrow. Roots went in well, but the fly got some swedes, which had been pitched with white sorts, and they look well. Early turnips for sheep romped away at first, but now they are burned much and are prematurely ripening, which will curtail the supply, and at a time when lambs so much require a start. Miserable and small are the hay and clover stacks, but never get so well; the aftermaths are conspicuous by their absence. Mangolds and cabbages look well after their two doses of nitrate, and should be a big crop. Potatoes have looked well up to now, but the drought has caught them, and they will super-tuberate if much rain comes, without which they must be a small crop. Dates and Edwards seem the order of the day, no others being much inquired for.

Wilts, Hants, and Dorset. THE *Salisbury Journal* of July 28 contains the annual reports on the harvest prospects and the condition of agriculture in Wilts, Hants, and Dorset, and from these give the idea that on the whole the season is very favourable, and promises to be the best for some years past. The sunshine and hot weather of the past two months have done much to counteract the backward and cold spring, whilst the rain storms which have been experienced in many parts of the district have had a very beneficial effect on the crops. The season, however, is a little later than last year, and harvest is not likely to be general until the second week in August. Of cereals, wheat, although not so heavy as last year, is likely to give a fair average yield. One or two correspondents speak of a slight blight, but on the whole the crop at present is very free from disease

Barley is likely to be a good crop, and better than last year, the majority of correspondents describing the yield as average or over average. Of the quality of the grain it is too soon to speak with confidence, so much depending on the conditions under which barley ripens. Oats again appear to be the poorest of the cereals, but on the whole are better than last year; whilst a few correspondents speak of a heavy yield. In one or two cases the crop has suffered from wireworm; but the complaints of disease with regard to cereals generally are exceptionally few.

The crop of hay is not so heavy as last year, and in very many cases is spoken of as light. Although less in bulk, in almost every instance the quality is good; and, thanks to the fine weather which prevailed at the haymaking season, the whole has has been well secured.

The reports with regard to the roots are of a very promising character. In a few cases the plant is patchy, and in some instances had to be resown; but the recent rains have considerably benefited the crop, which, generally speaking, is an excellent plant, clean, and free from fly. A little more rain would still more improve the crop, which is likely to be one of the heaviest for many years past.

Nottinghamshire. GRAIN crops are rather badly laid in parts of South Notts, where the cutting of wheat and barley should have begun by the end of the week. Round Nottingham wheat is generally over average; barley under average everywhere where not sown in good time. On the strong soils of the north of the county wheat has done better than on the lighter fields; barley and oats here are unusually variable, and the oats on light friable soils especially disappointing. Winter oats are generally better than those sown in spring, and reach or exceed a full average. Hay was a short crop everywhere, but especially in the higher lands, where one hears of a third to half an ordinary yield being stored. The slow growth of eddishes in the recent droughty weather makes the profitable management of the growing lambs a matter of unusual difficulty; but the mangels promise abundant fodder in due season, and swedes and turnips are by no means the failures in the southern districts that they are in the north.

Notes of the Week.

Lincoln is the venue for next year's Royal Show, and the society is to be congratulated upon its decision in accepting the invitation.

Lincolnshire is essentially an agricultural county, and the geographical position of Lincoln places the city within easy reach from many thickly-populated townships.

From what we hear, the ground offered to the society by the corporation is in every respects most suitable for the purpose.

And with the Great Northern, Midland, Great Eastern and Great Central running direct to Lincoln, the railway accommodation should be good.

These two important factors—a good site and good railway facilities—must always have great weight with the Council of the R.A.S.E. in coming to a decision.

Thus it was that Ipswich, through whose Mayor, the Corporation, and County of Suffolk sent such a cordial invitation, was placed at a disadvantage.

With that whole-hearted support likely to be accorded the society, it may be hopefully anticipated that the "Royal" at Lincoln, will prove as successful as the "Royal" at Derby.

This expression the MARK LANE EXPRESS feels voices the wishes of all interested in agriculture, and the work of the R.A. Society in particular.

The Newcastle City Council had under consideration the advisability of asking the Royal Agricultural Society to hold their show at Newcastle next year, but after hearing the pros and cons, referred the matter to their Finance Committee, with a view to issuing an invitation for 1908.

The MARK LANE EXPRESS must take some credit to itself over this, as it was in this column the suggestion was first mooted.

Let us hope that Newcastle will be visited—1908 or 1909.

Begin at once a movement to amalgamate all the adjacent county shows on both sides of the Border.

A mammoth show would result that would beat all records. Imagine the Royal prizes, and in addition a local county show on every day in the Royal showyard.

The idea is only crude, but it is a suggestion that could be worked into a glorious success.

The 1909 show is also being looked after, for the Blackpool Town Council have decided to invite the society to hold their show in that borough in the year named, and a specially strong sub-committee has been appointed to carry out the detail work, with the Mayor as the chairman. It is recalled that three or four years ago, when there was a prospect of a similar invitation being accepted, a subscription list reached £2,000 within a week.

The resignation by Dr. Somerville of his position on the permanent staff in the Board of Agriculture will be a matter of general regret.

For a number of years he has done good work in the Educational Department of the Board.

He represents in a marked degree practice and science, and the leaflets issued by his department have been distinguished by a degree of lucidity which is not always a prominent feature in official publications.

The retirement of Major Craigie is also a serious loss to the Board of Agriculture. He had been assistant secretary since 1897, and probably knows more of British agricultural statistics than anyone else.

But, to employ a phrase very popular just now, *la duma est morte vive la duma*, which may be taken to signify that, Major Craigie having retired, his place is taken by another good man.

ALL MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES of FARMING NECESSITIES certainly find a Ready Sale when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express." The charge is very moderate, and consistent with the profit such small goods yield.

The appearance of the prize sheet of the Smithfield Christmas show is a reminder that the summer is now on the wane.

Our thoughts are carried from the contemplation of cool salads and iced drinks to Christmas fare and the comforts of a bright fire.

There is an enormous consumption in this country of condensed milk. It is so convenient to mix a couple of teaspoonfuls with water for the baby.

But do the mothers and nurses realise the poor diet they are, in many cases, giving to their little ones?

The Government analyst reports that many of the samples were found to be prepared from milk deficient in fat, or from skim milk, without the packages being marked to that effect.

Some of the imported cream was shown to be merely condensed milk, and other samples had been thickened by the addition of gelatin. Most of the samples contained boron preservative.

Now is the time to rub all these facts into the minds of the public. The Chicago scandals have arrested attention, so that the ordinary housekeeper is in a frame of mind more impressionable than usual.

Advantage should be taken of the opportunity to advocate the greater use of British produce.

It may be thought that there is too much iteration on this subject in these notes.

It is, some of our readers may say, commented on *ad nauseam*.

Nauseam is a suitable word; the details of the imported food are often nauseating.

I feel that the foreign food fraud should be kept in the forefront of public opinion.

Quite as much in the interest of British consumers as British producers.

There were a good many German agriculturists at the Royal Show at Derby.

One of them writes to the *Journal* of the German National Agricultural Society that he was much impressed by the enthusiasm of the general body of visitors.

It seemed to him a clear indication of the pleasure produced by the presence of the show once more in the provinces.

And a sign that the Royal has not lost its hold in agricultural circles, in spite of the difficulties through which it has passed.

Is the Argentine to be permitted to send live cattle to Alderney?

There is an illuminating article on the subject in last Tuesday's *Times*.

The farm labourers in an important agricultural district of France have been indulging in a "strike."

Wandering bands of labourers, with a red flag in front, and encouraged by the beating of a drum, have been scouring the country.

The carters and cowherds receive £44 a year, the shepherds £4 8s. a month, and the day labourers 2s. 8d. per day, but, like Oliver Twist, they want more.

And so they march and sing "Aux armes Citoyens" in the good old revolutionary style.

"The romance of the rabbit." This is not the title of a novel, but is descriptive of a phase of Australian animal life.

Casually introduced from this country into the colony, it has become the terror of the stock farmer and the tiller of the soil.

But now it is being recognised that the prolific bunny contains elements of commercial success.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7.—Welbeck Agricultural Tenants' Show at Welbeck—Chepstow Show—Compton Stud Show at Templecombe, first day—Hampshire Down Sheep Sale at Salisbury—Hackney Sale at Market Weighton—Trowbridge Great Fair, second day—Derby Cheese Fair—Entries close for Agricultural Show at Chester—Cirencester Fair—Special Sheep and Ram Sales at Cirencester.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8.—Erdington Horse Show—Yorkshire Show at Middlesbrough, first day—Brize Norton Sale of Oxfordshire Down Sheep and Rams, first day—Oxford Great Ram Fair—Strides Sale of South-cowns at Guildford—Dunstable Great Fair—Compton Stud Show at Templecombe, 2nd day—Aberystwith Show, first day—Entries close for the Blackpool Show—Pickering Agricultural and Floral Show.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9.—Tring Agricultural Show—Keele Agricultural Show—Market Bosworth Show—Denbigh Show—Middlesbrough Show, second day—Brize Norton Sale, second day—Chichester Market: Sale of the Duke of Richmond's Southdowns—Aberystwith Show, second day—Isle of Man Show at Ramsey—Madresfield Agricultural Show—Crewe Horse Sale, first day—Brendon Hill Sale of Exmoor and Somerset Sheep—Lyndhurst Pony Fair—Entries close for the Ulverston Show, for the Penistone Show, and for the Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10.—Middlesbrough Show, third day—Crewe Horse Sale, second day Pedigree Sussex Cattle Sale at Petworth; the Earl of Winterton's Herd—Loughborough Cattle Fair—Entries close for Penrith Show.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11.—Warminster Cattle and Cheese Fair—Whitworth Show—Agricultural Fair at Newton, Lancashire—Entries close for Lytham Show, for Holmfirth Show, and for Castleton Show.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13.—Britford Great Sheep Fair—Bridgnorth Sheep Fair—Carmarthen Horse Fair—Dudley Horse and Pig Fair—Fressham, Hailsham and Glastonbury Agricultural Fairs—Ludlow Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair—Macclesfield Horse, Cattle, and Hiring Fair—Stowmarket Lamb Fair—Entries close for the Bakewell Show—First Day of the Horncastle Horse Week.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14.—Ipswich Horse Sale—Slough Horse Sale—Cattle Sales at Leominster, Denbigh, Haverfordwest, Hay, Haslingden, and Penrith—Sheep Sales at Ashburton and Hay—Entries close for the Redcar Show—Pig Sales at Hay and Haslingden—Horse Sale at Denbigh—Second Day of the Horncastle Horse Week.

REPLY TO CORRESPONDENT.—The term "Agricultural Fair" means that horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs are all customarily sold thereat. The term "Great Fair" does not by any means necessarily imply that the fair so named is bigger than other fairs held elsewhere that day. The reference is always to other fairs held at the same place.

So that Australia is becoming divided into two camps. One side want to do away with bunny by every means, and the other, thinking of the sale of tinned rabbit and skins, desire to encourage its breeding.

The innocent little animal has become one of the burning political questions of the day. Little causes lead to great events!

Essex Farmers in Scotland.

A party of about thirty practical Essex agriculturists recently had a most interesting tour in Scotland extending over about ten days, during which they must have gathered many useful hints. Further, at no time did the weather interfere with the tourists' comfort or upset arrangements, so that the organiser, Mr. B. W. Bull, Agricultural Instructor of the County Technical Laboratories, Chelmsford, must have been particularly gratified with the complete success of the tour.

The Scottish methods necessarily differ in many points from those in use in Essex, and although several of the methods obtaining in Scotland could not be adopted advantageously and profitably by the visitors in their districts, this circumstance had no detractive influence on the interest manifested throughout the tour. Amongst the farms included in the itinerary were such famous stock-raising grounds as Coynachie, Culisse, Allanfearn, Rosehaugh, and several of the holdings on the Ardross estate. In East Lothian they inspected the best examples of arable land, whilst in the west dairying and market gardening were the chief studies.

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised, there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

Notes and Jottings.

THE hot close summer weather that is still with us is very trying to all kinds of live stock, and not less trying to their owners, many of whom on the thin soils of the country that burn so quickly are at their wits end to know how to keep matters progressing. The abatement of milk and butter has been very rapid and great during the past fortnight and there will be but little chance of getting it back again now with the cows that have been in milk since the spring. While there has been a good supply of green food available to mow and give the cows, either in the byres or on the pastures, the abatement has been much less and the animals maintain their condition much better, so that the gain upon seeing to it that a supply of this kind of food is provided is doubly advantageous.

WHERE there are new milched cows coming in every care should be taken to see that they have an abundance of milk-producing food. It is very short-sighted policy to allow them, even if they will do it, to keep a good milk yield on nothing but such pastures as are available at the present time on the dry lands of the country. Where there is no supply of green food available probably the next best and cheapest substitute is brewers' grains. Where these can be obtained fresh from the breweries they are very helpful both to condition and milk yield, and at a very moderate cost, and where they cannot be obtained fresh the dried grains form a very acceptable change when steeped in boiling water for a time before using, and these can always be obtained whether near the breweries or far away.

WITH the fatting beasts probably the best aid upon short, dry pastures is cake of some kind or other, and where a little green food can be had a very small quantity of cake will be necessary to enable a steady gain of weight to continue. If no green food is available, and more bulk than the cake will make is needed, a very cheap and excellent help will be found in a little cut hay moistened with a small quantity of molasses dissolved in hot water, and with this add three pounds per beast per day of cottonseed cake and two pounds of locust beans. The mixture works well in practice, and it is much better than allowing the fatting stock to lose time, and consequently lack of ripeness when selling time arrives.

FROM the various agricultural and stock papers, as well as in conversation when travelling, one finds that that wretched and ruinous pest, hoose or husk in calves and young stock, is busier than usual, and in many cases playing sad havoc with the year's pen of calves. When once the epidemic gets hold it is very difficult to deal with, and very often every attempt to effect a cure is entirely fruitless. When the first cough is heard is none too soon to begin treatment, a day must not be lost; and there are many drinks advertised that are beneficial, and, indeed, effect a cure at this early stage; possibly if these drinks were used as a preventive before the complaint makes its appearance, they might assist in warding it off. Either such drinks as are referred to, however, or some similar ones from the veterinary, should be obtained.

THE breeder, however, who is troubled with this disease in his herd must use every effort to keep up the strength of the animals, and nothing is better for this purpose than the best quality of linseed cake so long as they will eat it, it has a soothing effect upon the bowels, as well as being most nourishing, and is altogether a great help. The cough tha causes the trouble and loss arises from the presence of a very small threadlike worm that finds a home in the windpipe and the air vessels of the lungs, and appears to increase very rapidly when once it has become established. After being drenched we have sometimes seen calves dislodge such quantities of the worms as to appear almost like a small ball of white cotton.

IN addition to the linseed cake advised as being of great assistance in keeping up the strength, a little sweet green hay is very suitable, and they should have access to a little fresh grass that has not been grazed by cattle previously if possible, but on no account should they be turned on aftermath, at least that has been the experience of the writer more than once. Another very important matter is the water they are drinking, this should by all means be from a running stream, or otherwise they should be watered with pails and the utensils swilled out after each calf has drunk. Troughs are a terrible source of infection in this as well as in many other diseases. The area in a trough is almost invariably so small that the animals drinking after each other are certain to take up what they ought not to do.

I BELIEVE that in the case of tuberculosis the infection is communicated more quickly and certainly from the drinking-trough than from any other source, and there cannot be sounder advice given with regard to any disease than to see that sound animals are not allowed to drink from the same water after diseased ones, unless it be at a rapid running stream, where all microbes or bacilli are washed away down stream forthwith. The water, too, it is needless to say, should be strictly pure. In the present day there are such numbers of sewage farms, especially in all thickly populated neighbourhoods, that many streams are much affected by the effluent from them, which, though considerably purified in ordinary times, often flows in its crude state at the time of thunder rains.

THE American markets for beef appear to be in a fairly satisfactory condition, especially for the better class of cattle, which are in good demand at prices that are leaving a fair margin of profit, and the reported future prospects point to a continuation of this brighter state of things. In England the profits on the heifers are certainly not high by any means, especially in some districts. The demand for light-weight cattle is not at a paying price. Your butcher says, "I want small joints through this excessively hot weather," but what is he willing to pay. The 70 stone steer or heifer that cuts this neat small joint that is spoken of realises about £14 10s. in the auction, where does the profit of such size come in? Neither breeder or feeder can find it.

EXPORTERS seem still to be busy amongst the white faces, and a few more Angus are also finding their way to other lands, but we still hear little of the exporting of any other breeds. The Galloway and Highlander one seldom hears of being taken abroad, and Red Polls, Sussex, and Devons are also amongst the breeds that do not find many friends abroad who are desirous of buying new blood or of testing the abilities of these breeds to make a profit in their countries. As we intimated last week, it would not be energy wasted if some means were taken to place representatives of these breeds before foreign buyers much more frequently than is done at present, and we trust some effort will be made to do so.

IT has been proved over and over again in England that in many parts of the country some one of our breeds pays much better than any other, and there is no doubt the same experience would be proved in other countries. Then it often happens that upon the same farm cattle are required for widely-different purposes and for different grades of feed. For the best and stoutest feeding the Shorthorn has, and probably will continue to have, the pre eminence the world over, but upon large holdings it is not often that the whole of the land, even if assisted with artificial feeding, will be found good enough for the larger breed. At such times the Scotch or Devons are found to be admirably suited to the weaker pastures.

SHORTHORN BULL, "JEWELLER."

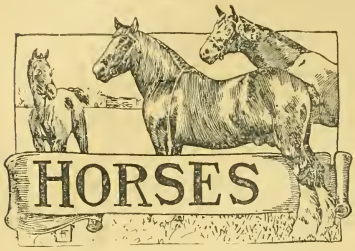
This three year-old bull was bred by Mr. T. R. Wilkins, The Grove, Longton, Preston, is a winner of many prizes, and has been sold to Mr. F. Miller, for exportation to South America.

VETERINARY.

Dog Tick.

Please examine insect enclosed, and inform me in your correspondence column what it is? It was found on the head of a Yorkshire terrier, and made a wound. What should be used to disinfect?—M. G.

Answer: The "insect" sent for identification very much alive and quite active—is a splendid example of the Ixodes ricinus, the common or dog tick; indeed, we have rarely seen a finer specimen. Did you note the beautiful lavender colour? It is not stated whether or not the dog harbours any more, but a search should be made, to see that no more specimens are attached to the skin. Sporting dogs, on whom the insect is most commonly met with, often harbour them in considerable numbers. If "what should be used to disinfect?" applies to the wound on the head, caused by the removal of the tick, there will be no need to do anything—it will have disappeared long before you see this reply. If it refers to the removal of other ticks, we cannot do better than quote you Neumann's account of the method of dealing with them. He says ("Parasites and Parasitic Diseases of the Domesticated Animals"):—"Animals do not appear to notice the presence of these parasites; the quantity of blood they extract is not sufficient to injure their health, and the wound they leave after they fall off heals quickly and spontaneously. Nevertheless, it is advisable to immediately remove all ticks from dogs, which have brought them in from hunting, as the fecundated female, falling on the floor of the kennel, there brings forth a population of parasites which may be very troublesome to get rid of. The ticks may be removed by gentle, gradually-increasing traction, the pain caused to the dog being insignificant. When the tick has been too forcibly withdrawn, it is often ruptured, and the rostrum remains in the wound, but is eliminated therefrom in a few days by a process of suppuration. It is, therefore, the best plan to compel the parasite to drop off by touching it with a drop of benzine, petroleum, or oil of turpentine. When the kennel is infested with ticks, it may be freed from them by washing it out with boiling water, which should be applied to every corner, and especially the ceiling, which these insects prefer." We generally get rid of ticks by pulling them off, and dropping them into a vessel containing paraffin oil or turpentine.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

A LETTER in the *Field* on the colour of horses certainly raises some very interesting questions. The writer suggests that the reason of the increase of chesnut horses may be due, not to the fact that chesnut is the fashionable colour, but to the fact that the kind of work in most demand at present is best done by horses of that colour. He divides colour into three classes:—(1) Greys and blacks, which he says are noted for stamina; they are not famous for their speed, but they can go on for ever. (2) Chesnuts, which he says are distinguished for their speed and their excitable temperaments, and (3) bays and browns, whose qualities, according to the writer, lie between those of the other colours, the bays favouring more the chesnuts and the browns favouring the blacks more in disposition. He holds also that with the disappearance of four mile heats black and grey racehorses began to decrease rapidly, whilst with the introduction of short distance racing chesnuts increased. The writer then goes on to say that Shire horses and Clydesdales are more bred for size, knee action, and energy than for endurance, and asks if it is surprising to find so many chesnuts amongst Hackneys, as no breed is so distinguished for excitability and lack of staying power.

THE theory is a very ingenious one, but when we come to examine it closely, we find that there is a great deal we have to take on trust. For example, it is quite as likely that the prepotency of a stallion has quite as much to do with the colour of his stock as anything, and certainly there have been both grey and black horses that have been remarkably speedy as well as chesnut horses that have been great stayers, whilst some of the stoutest of our horses have been bays. Indeed, it is frequently claimed for Arabs that they are possessed of more endurance than any other breed, and whether this is the case or not, it is generally admitted that they are distinguished for their stamina. But there are no black Arabs, not many grey ones, and bay is the predominating colour.

THEN, again, it is rather begging the question to say that Hackneys are the most excitable, and have the least endurance of any of our breeds of horses. There are plenty of Hackneys which cannot go a long journey with comfort to themselves, but then, again, there are plenty that can, and I have, within the last few weeks, sat behind more than one Hackney that was a very desirable harness horse, merely taking into consideration the question of getting over the ground. Perhaps the lack of stamina, with which some horses are troubled, and the prevalence of gaudily-marked chesnuts proceed from the same cause—the craze for extravagant and forced action. It stands to reason that a horse that is highly trained, that is a horse that is taught the knee and curb chain business, and that perhaps is a little short of shoulder action, must tire. High stepping is necessarily tiring, there is a great expenditure of force for very little progressive result. Then, again, many of the fashionable steppers—prize-winners—have been chesnuts. Hence the number of chesnut Hackneys is easily accounted for, whilst the expenditure of unnecessary force in the action is quite sufficient to account for the lack of stamina shown by some of the breed. And with relation to this lack of stamina I would point out that many of the stoutest Hackneys I have known have been chesnuts.

THE argument about Shire horses and Clydesdales falls to the ground at once, for though there are a few chesnut Shire horses, I do not remember ever to have seen a chesnut Clydesdale, and chesnut Shire horses are few and far between. If we take the catalogue of the last Shire Horse Show in London we find that out of 203 stallions shown in the classes for yearlings, two-year-olds, and three-year-olds there were only eight chesnuts. There were four greys and fourteen blacks, so the "endurance" coloured horses were more than twice as many more than the "energetic" coloured ones. Of roans there was one, of browns there were fifty, and of bays 125. If these figures represent the average colour of the Shire horse as they do the average colour of the best of them, the argument about chesnuts falls to the ground at once. Then again in the question of temperament, the Suffolk Punch, who is always a chesnut, requires consideration. I have had little experience with the Suffolk Punch, but from the little I have had I should say they were the steadiest and most docile of drought horses. It has been said of them that for a steady pull they cannot be beaten, and that "they would pull against a standing tree." An excitable, nervous, energetic horse would scarcely do this.

OUR ancestors had their own opinions about the colour of horses, and it is interesting to refer to them when the question of colour is being discussed. Gervase Markham, who was the most indefatigable collector of fact and fiction concerning all our live stock, has it that "the best colours are brown bay, daple gray, round, bright bay, blacke with a neare white foot behind, white far foot before, white rache, or white star, chesnut or sorrel with any of those marks, or dun with a black list." Charles Etienne and Jean Liebault in their curious book, "Maison Rustique," which was translated by an English doctor, and published in 1600, give the colours which a stallion should possess in the following order, viz.:—"Bay, browne, red, dapple-grey, watchet or mouse colour, which is a certaine note of an active and courageous horse." From this it will be seen that these eminent French writers held chesnut in nearly the same estimation as bay and brown, and they did not mention black at all.

LEONARD MASCALL, in his book "The Government of all Cattell," printed in 1605, has the same opinion as the French writers quoted above as to the value of the Browne Bay, which, he says, is counted the best colour for a horse. Next to him he puts the "Sad Sorrell with flaxen mane and tail," but he curiously enough insists on a wall eye and a black hoof. Dapple grey comes next in his estimation, and then the flea bitten, and he says having "black eine, black hoofes, then is he like to labour and dure long time." The "duane horse with a blacke list on the backe" comes next in the category, with the recommendation "that he is like for to do well." The white horse, he says, is "commonly of long life, but he has a nise and tender body, and dangerous to keepe; for if he be not well cherished and cleane kept, he will soon alter and decay."

FOR the mouse dunne he has a good word, and then in rotation comes the black horse, who is likely to do well if he have "a white in the forehead, or a white feather on his nose, or else the further foot white behinde." It is curious to compare Markham and Mascall on this point of white markings on a black horse, and probably Markham appropriated what Mascall had written on the subject. It was a way he had, but then if he had copied Mascall in one particular he would most likely have copied him in another, and it will be noticed that Markham puts the chesnut a long way back in the list, and also that he has nothing to say about the whole coloured black horse and the iron-grey—colours which the writer in the *Field* associates with staying.

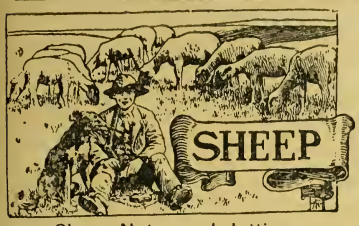
ABOUT these Mascall has a good deal to say. "The cole-blacke, having no white spot on him (as some horse-maisters say), is perillous to keepe; for if he continue long to a man, it is marvell if he drowne him not, or hurt him by some other way, or else the horse to come to small profit." So evidently in the time of James I. black horses were not in very good repute. Nor has Mascall anything to say in favour of the iron-grey. "Next him," says he, "is the yron gray, which is counted the worst colour, for the yron gray horses are commonly faint to labour and ill at all assaies, for although he be faire of bodie, he may in no wise away with any great labour." It is curious that what our twentieth century writer considers one of the stoutest of horses the seventeenth century writer speaks of as of no account. Other colours are spoken of in a few words "As for other colours, skewde or spotted horse, some chance to be good and some bad, wherefore there is no certaintie in them, but if the sire be good, the other may follow." And after all, the proverb that a good horse cannot be a bad colour has much to recommend it, and the only colour I should avoid, personally, is the washy chesnut, which, so far as my experience goes, never quite stands the pinch, however good the horse may be. But some of the stoutest and hardest horses I have ever known have been chesnut, either red or liver, and I have never noticed any difference in the way of stoutness between the two colours. I have also had some very hardy bay horses, and if I had to say which was the best and hardest horse I had ever ridden, I should be hard put to it whether to name a red chesnut or a bay. Both were fast, and both could stay for a week. And both were excitable, energetic horses, one of them being a grandson of the Flying Dutchman, and the other a great grandson of Parmisan—was quite sufficient to account for it. And I may say that all the good weight carriers I have known have been irritable and energetic. This, however, has nothing to do with colour, which is an interesting subject, and which may be a more important one than appears on the face of it, especially that branch of it which deals with heredity.

THE LOOKER-ON.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER
August				
7	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Sheep	Market House, Salisbury	Mr. Dibben.
7	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Hackney Horses	Londesborough Stud, Market Weighton	Mr. R. Wainworth.
7	Mr. J. W. Tayler, Cheltenham	Oxford Down & Cotswold Rams	Cirencester Fair	Various.
7	Mr. A. F. Hobbs	Oxford Down Shearling Rams	Cirencester Fair	Mr. J. T. Hobbs.
8	Messrs. Stride and Son, Chichester	Southdown Sheep	Summersbury, Shalford, Guildford	Mr. E. Ellis.
8	Messrs. Franklin and Gale, Wallingford	Oxford Down Sheep	Oxford Ram Fair	Various.
8	Messrs. Berry Bros. and Bagshaw Kettering	Hampshire Down Sheep	Oxford Ram Fair	Mr. W. Shatford James.
8	Messrs. Paxton and Holliday, Bicester.	Oxford Down Sheep	Oxford Ram Fair	Various.
8	Mr. J. W. Tayler	Oxford Down Ram Lambs	Oxford Ram Fair	Mr. J. Horlick.
8	Messrs. Franklin and Jones, Oxford	Oxford Down Rams and Ram Lambs	Oxford Ram Fair	Various.
8	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck	Horses	Peterborough	Various.
*8		Southdown Sheep	Lindfield Fair	Various.
*8	Messrs. J. Harris and Son, Winchester	Hampshire Down Sheep	Basingstoke	Mr. W. M. Harris.
9	Messrs. J. Harris and Son	Hampshire Down Sheep	Alresford	Lord Ashburton.
9	Messrs. Franklin and Jones	Oxford Down Sheep	Brize Norton, Oxon	Late Mr. J. Worley.
*8 & 9	Messrs. Stride and Son	Southdown Sheep	Chichester	Various.
9 & 10	Messrs. Manley and Sons, Ltd., Crewe	Horses	Crewe Horse Repository	Various.
*9	Messrs. Hobgen Bros.	Southdown Rams	Chichester Cattle Market	Various.
*9	Mr. Gavin Low	Store Cattle	Auction Mart, Dublin	Various.
10	Messrs. King and Chasemore, Horsham	Sussex Cattle	Shillinghee Park, Petworth	Earl Winterton and Mr. J. R. Barker.

* Further details appear in our advertisement columns.



Sheep Notes and Jottings.

WEATHER which has been favourable to the hastening of harvest has been less favourable to the development of sheep-keep, and it is to be hoped that very shortly in those districts in which the corn harvest has begun there will be sufficient rain to stop cutting for a few days, or there may be a more serious check to the autumn and winter food and fodder supply than is desirable. Wet weather at the beginning of harvest does little harm to the corn crop unless it bashes it down. It is when it is cut and matured, and ready to grow at small provocation that loss comes; and very little loss in quality occurs during the early part of harvest. It is the wet carting time that has to be feared If wet holds off long there is fear that it may be delayed until the corn is in a dangerous condition, and where green crops will have lost ground they are not likely to make up. Roots and young seeds require rain where there have not been something more than slight local showers, and with the yearling seeds drying off the keep for the next few weeks is getting shorter daily.

AS mentioned last week, there is likelihood of the need of any extra help that can be obtained from the early sown autumn catch crops to produce autumn sheep feed, and with such hot weather it becomes more necessary to provide it whilst each day shortens the visible food supply. Some districts, however, are more fortunate in their rainfall, and there is less urgency in respect to them.

REPORTS from manufacturing centres are not unfavourable to the wool grower. Trade has steadied in the country districts, and buying is not keen in all the centres. Yet it is sufficiently strong to show a sound demand. Buyers have not launched out in a speculative manner, but the least that can be said is that there is little likelihood of prices receding. Americans are not buying in a highly speculative manner, but they are buying consistently, and from all accounts are likely to have to buy freely for a long time; so that there are no apparent signs of the trade declining. There is, moreover, an inner feeling that prices will strengthen, and holders need not have to give way now that they have felt the market during the last few weeks and realised how they stand. It took some courage to stand out against the reservation on the part of buyers, but now the situation is guaged there is good reason to believe that growers have not held on in error. A giving way during this period would have brought the market lower than the supply warranted, and now it is not likely that any wool will be sold below its value. The seller stands in rather the stronger position at present, even though prices may not become sensationally high. Harvest wages may cause some holders to take a price which is against their opinion as to the trade, and this may keep prices in check for a time, but apparently only temporarily.

SHEEP sales are going on well, as is not unusual in hot weather. Sheep trade has been a little slow in some markets, and the shifting of the population bent on the summer holidays disturbs the local demand in many places; but with best Downs up to 5s. 8d. per stone, and 10-stone half-breds at 5s. 4d. in the London market, there is nothing to grumble at. It is not unreasonable to expect a dragging trade for breeds which run to a considerable amount of fat, for it takes a keen appetite to face it with temperature around the eighties. On the whole, it is satisfactory that the trade keeps so good at this season. Lamb is in greater demand, partly from shortened supply, and partly from the fact that it is more in keeping with the desires of a jaded appetite.

THE prospects of the sheep farmer are good enough to make the ram sales go well; and the good opening to the season has been well maintained. It is difficult for a man to have to see most of the animals he marked on his catalogue go for a higher price than he feels justified in giving; though it may be a gratification to him that his judgment has not erred. Those which come his way are often those which have some blemish he may have overlooked; so long as he wants an animal for crossing, minor blemishes, such as would be dangerous in a highly pure-bred flock, are not necessarily so for him, and it is among such as these that the best bargains are made, though they cannot be looked to to maintain a true type. It is quite the thick of the Down ram season, with Bintford fair on the 13th, which is the zenith of the Hampshire sales; and Chichester sale on the 9th, following Mr. Ellis, of Summersbury's flock sale on the 8th, marks the Southdown season. The Oxford ram sale of Oxford Downs, also on the 8th, is a strong centre, but some of the sales come later to suit the convenience of cross-breeders, who do not mate so early as the pure breeders.

IT is always well to grow a crop which, failing its first intention, may be profitably utilised for another. This is a strong argument in favour of developing the sugar beet industry, for beet, which is only a mangel of lighter bulk but of higher feeding value, is a very suitable sheep food. Evidently the Sleaford people mean to go through with their project of establishing a factory. It would probably induce more farmers to support the new industry if they recognised that there need be no such thing as a dead loss on the crop, and that they are not thoroughly dependent upon the factory. The hauling of mangels, even on a farm, is an expensive matter, and it is a point in the favour of beet that one ton may contain more feeding matter than two tons of mangels.

Sale of Longhorns.

The draft sale of pedigree Longhorn cattle, belonging to Lord Gerard, held at Eastwell Park, Kent, attracted a good company of buyers, but prices were not particularly high, although considered satisfactory. Messrs. Lythall and Walters were the auctioneers, and the following were the chief sales:—Cows: Dido, Baroness Kinloss, 25 guineas; Cowslip and b.c., Mr. R. T. Bowers, 33 guineas; Countess of Stowe, Mr. J. Riley, 28 guineas; Coronation Lucy and b.c., Mr. J Riley, 36 guineas; Lady Emily and b.c., Mr. W. F. Garland, 51 guineas. Heifers: Bentley Susan, Mr. W. L. Riley, 21 guineas; Ethel of Eastwell, Mr. J. Riley, 22 guineas; Bentley Brindle, Baroness Kinloss, 20 guineas; Posy, Mr. J. Riley, 23 guineas. Bulls: Eastwell Elegant, Mr. H. Leney, 16 guineas; Eastwell Emblem, Mr. Swinnerton, 17 guineas. The steers and cross-breds sold at up to 20 guineas each.

Suffolk Horse Society's Sale.

The eleventh annual sale of Suffolk horses at Ipswich, held under the auspices of the Suffolk Horse Society, took place on Monday, and proved one of the largest and most successful yet held—a result no doubt largely due to the fact that the famous Bentley stud was included in the catalogue. These animals being so well known naturally attracted numerous breeders, but the other animals entered were also high-class specimens of the breed, and altogether the society must have been largely gratified by the excellent entry, the large attendance of buyers, and the good prices realised.

Mr. Alfred Preston and Mr. F Smith, secretary of the Suffolk Horse Society, were the auctioneers, and they had no difficulty in getting bids, for competition was keen, and all the lots were quickly disposed of at good prices The best figure of the day was 160 guineas, which the president of the society, Sir Cuthbert Quiller, Bart., gave for the stallion Bentley War Cry, by Bentley Warrior. Sir Cuthbert also gave 150 guineas for the famous mare Bentley Duchess by Border Minstrel (the only animal on which a reserve was put), and 125 guineas for the brood mare Perfect; whilst Mr. Gough gave 150 guineas for Bentley Cornet, a very fine stallion by Hewitts Mars, and Mr. A. J. Smith 106 guineas for the mare Bentley Cheer, foaled in 1901, and by Lord John. These were all the three figure prices recorded, but one or two others came very near that figure, mares making up to 76 guineas, three-year-old fillies 60 guineas, two-year-old fillies 64 guineas, stallions up to 90 guineas, geldings up to 52 guineas, and foals to 24 guineas. The Bentley animals made the average of a little over £55 5s. for fifty-three animals, which, considering that many foals were included, is a remarkably good one.

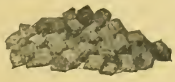
THE WEEK'S SHEEP SALES.

Our reports of the week's Sheep Sales will be found in our Market Supplement.

SITUATIONS WANTED and VACANT.

Those to whom this column appeals, if identified in some way with agriculture, will have no difficulty in obtaining employment or filling a vacancy if their requirements are advertised in the "Mark Lane Express," which is best done under a nom de plume, and addressed to this office. The charge is only a penny for every three words, but the cash must be remitted at the time of ordering the advertisement.

THE
'BIBBY' CAKE
IN THE FORM OF
'CAKETTES.'



"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the 'Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: 'I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

Sole Manufacturers—
J. BIBBY & SONS,
EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
LIVERPOOL.

SOCIETIES.

R.A.S.E.: Next Year's Show.

The last monthly meeting of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society before the autumn recess was held on Wednesday at 13, Hanover Square, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (president) in the chair, when three governors and 151 new members were elected.

LINCOLN OR IPSWICH.

The most important business before the council was the selection of a place at which the so iety's meeting of 1907 should be held. Invitations had been received from the towns of Ipswich and Lincoln, and a committee of inspection which had visited both places, reported on the sites which could be placed at the disposal of the society at each town.

Deputations from both towns attended, that from Ipswich consisting of the mayor, the Earl of Stradbroke, Mr. Pretyman, Mr. Herman Biddell, Mr. Paul, Mr. Gooday (general manager of the Great Eastern Railway Company), and Mr. W. Bantoft (town clerk). The Lincoln deputation, who were introduced by the Earl of Yarborough, were the mayor, Mr. C W. Pennell, Mr. W. Frankish, and Mr. W. T. Page, jun. (deputy town clerk).

The claims of Ipswich were supported by the mayor, Lord Stradbroke, Mr. Pretyman, and Mr. Herman Biddell, and those of Lincoln by the Earl of Yarborough and the mayor. A long debate ensued, and eventually Mr. Adeane, in moving that the invitation from the authorities of Ipswich to hold the show of 1907 in that town should be accepted, pointed out that in doing so the society would be visiting an absolutely distinct part of England to that visited in the previous year, and the mayor was prepared to give a guarantee that the soc ety should not incur any loss if they went to Ipswich. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Richardson Carr.

IPSWICH CHOSEN.

Mr. William Harrison moved as an amendment that the show of 1907 should be held at Lincoln, and said that he would be ungenerous if he did not recognise th t Ipswich had come forward when they were in want of a site. He was of opinion that in considering the question they must put sentiment on one side The facilities which Lincoln offered were much superior to those obtainable at Ipswich, and he had no doubt that Lincoln had the better of the two sites offered, and would suit the society s purpose admirably.

Sir Gilbert Greenall, in seconding the amendment, endorsed what Mr. Harrison had said, and was of opinion that in holding the show at Lincoln the society would tap an entirely different district from Derby. On a show of hands it was decided by twenty-seven votes to eleven that the invitation to hold the show of 1907 at Lincoln should be accepted. It was decided to hold the Lincoln Show in the week commencing June 24, 1907.

Sir Nigel Kingscote, in presenting the report of the joint meeting of the Finance and House Committees, explained that as the Harewood House debenture holders had approved of the council's proposals for the disposal of the house, it had been decided to acquire the lease of 16, Bedford Square, for the offices of the Society.

Other business having been transacted, the council adjourned over the autumn recess until Wednesday, November 7 next.

Bath and West.

A meeting of the council of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society was held in London on Tuesday, the Marquess of Bath in the chair, when one life and seven ordinary members were elected.

A communication was read from Lieut.-Colonel Sir Arthur Bigge, K.C.B., stating that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales had received the intimation of his election as president of the society for the year 1906-7 with much satisfaction.

Special Resolutions. The secretary formally reported the death of Mr. F. G. Farwell, a member of council for the Central Division, a steward of arts and also of cider, and chairman of the Science and Art Committee; and also of Sir G. T. Brown, C.B., who had been the society's veterinary inspector since 1864, and resolutions of regret and sympathy with their relatives were passed.

The finance committee recommended that, in view of the special strain upon the resources of the Swindon Victoria Hospital, caused by the tram accident during the show week, the society make a donation of twenty guineas to the funds of that institution, and it was carried.

NEWPORT SHOW.

Captain the Hon. J. C. Best, on behalf of the show dates committee, reported that the committee recommended that the 1907 exhibition at Newport be opened on Wednesday, June 5, and closed on Monday, June 10. These dates had been approved by His Royal Highness the president, and were also considered to be the most suitable by representatives of the town and district embraced by the show.

On the motion of Captain Best, seconded by Mr. Edwards, the report was adopted.

SWINDON SHOW.

The following resolution, unanimously passed at a meeting of the Corporation of Swindon, was read:—"That the Corporation express to the president (Lord Radnor), the council and the members of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, their most cordial appreciation of their recent visit to Swindon, and of the great and good work they are doing, and trust that the society will experience continued and increasing success; also that the Corporation will be extremely glad to again welcome them to Swindon."

The Chairman moved, and Colonel the Hon. C. Byng seconded, that the cordial thanks of the council be conveyed to the Corporation, together with an assurance that the council highly appreciate the kindly feeling expressed in the resolution.

DAIRY CONGRESS.

A communication was read from the Consul General of the Netherlands, inviting the society to appoint a representative to act on the British committee for the purpose of insuring that the dairying interest shall be properly represented at the Third International Dairy Congress to be held at the Hague in September, 1907, and it was resolved to ask Mr. G. E. Lloyd Baker to act in this capacity.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

Sir C. T. D. Acland, as chairman of the Experiments and Education Committee, reported that the committee had had under consideration a draft scheme submitted by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, for the establishment of a National Council of Agricultural Research, and that, after carefully considering it, the committee unanimously resolved that, although a purely consultative committee might with advantage be appointed by the Board of Agriculture to promote co ordination of experiments, the committee does not see its way to recommend the Society's Council to support the suggestion for the appointment of the proposed council, as it considers that the Board of Agriculture should remain in immediate touch with the various bodies engaged in experiments throughout the country, and that money granted by the State for agricultural research ought to be distributed by a State department.

On the motion of Sir C T. D. Acland, seconded by Mr. Story Maskelyne, F.R.S., this recommendation was unanimously adopted.

Smithfield Club.

Mr. James Hornsby, president-elect, occupied the chair at the last council meeting of the Smithfield Club, at which it was announced that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, president of the club, had graciously presented the magnificent challenge cup for sheep which was on view, to replace the cup won outright at the late show, and on the motion of Earl Winterton, seconded by Mr. J. Cridlan, it was unanimously resolved that the thanks of the council be conveyed to his Royal Highness, the president, for his gracious gift.

A letter was read from the Butchers' Company, of London, offering a challenge cup for the best pig carcase, to replace the cup won outright at the last show, and on the motion of the Chairman a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the Butchers' Company.

The Chairman then said it was his painful duty to report the deaths of three valued colleagues on that council in Mr. A. F. Milton Druce, Mr. H. D. Marshall, Mr. James Biggar, and Sir G. Brown, and after referring to the valuable service of each, it was agreed to send letters of condolence and sympathy to their families

Earl Winterton reported that the stock prize committee had selected judges for the forthcoming show, with reserve judges in case any of the gentlemen selected were unable to act, such list to be published when all the judges had signified their acceptance, and this report was adopted.

Mr. J. G. Barford reported that the rules and regulations and form of application for space at the forthcoming show had been considered and passed by the committee.

Mr Sanders Spencer reported the arrangements which had been made for the work of the carcase competition at the forthcoming show, which was agreed to; whilst a letter was read from the Polled Cattle Society with reference to the conditions of entry applying to the Aberdeen-Angus cattle at the club's show, and after some discussion it was referred to the next meeting of the council.

Circular letters were read from the Irish Cattle Traders' and Stockowners' Association with reference to foreign meat for the Army and foreign forage for troop horses, and asking the club to join a deputation to the Minister of War on the subject, but the council decided to take no action thereon.

Finally it was resolved to petition the railway companies in favour of a reduction of fares to members of the club visiting the club's show, and the council adjourned till November 7.

SHOWS.

Sedgefield.

The Sedgefield Agricultural Society seem to be having a turn of bad luck, for their show in West Park, Sedgefield, on the 28th ult. was nothing like so successful as in other years. In the first place the entries were only 429 as against 652 last year; and, secoudly, although the weather was perfect, the attendance was disappointing when it is considered that the show was held in the centre of a big agricultural district. The cattle classes were larger in number, but every other section of the show was smaller, dogs, poultry, and farm produce especially showing a substantial decline. In point of quality the exhibits were admirable, and the show as a whole was unquestionably a creditable one for a district exhibition.

Whalley.

Showery weather somewhat spoiled the attendance at the show of the Whalley Agricultural Association, held on the 28th ult., but notwithstanding this there was a remarkably good gate. That the society, which was established as far back as 1810, is still going strong was proved by the entries, which totalled no fewer than 1,246, and made a record, being over 150 more than in any previous year. Quality, too, was of a very high standard, and the members of the society are to be congratulated on providing such an interesting show; they certainly deserved better weather.

Meltham.

The Meltham and District Agricultural Society were not altogether fortunate as regards the weather for their fifteenth annual show, held on the 28th ult., for although it was beautifully fine at the outset, showers of rain fell later in the day and had a bad effect on the attendance, which, whilst the weather remained fine was very good, but naturally dwindled when rain made its unfortunate appearance. Over 600 entries were received for the show, which for a local exhibition was a highly creditable one, there being a very good display of horses, and also fair shows of cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, pigeons and dogs.

Beamish.

For their thirty-seventh annual show near Lanchester, on Wednesday, the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society received the record entry of 734, divided as follows:—Horses, 203; sheep, 28; cattle, 14; butter, 9; dressed fowl, 1; horse-shoeing, 11; eggs, 8; poultry, 114; pigeons, 164; rabbits, 97; dogs, 83; and implement stands, 2. The largest increases were in the horses and rabbits. Amongst the horses the draught animals were an excellent show, and included winners at both the Royal and Northumberland county shows. The brood mares, both open and for tenant farmers, were a splendid lot; while the hunters and leapers fully maintained the reputation of the society Cattle, though small in numbers, were of the best quality, and sheep made a fairly good display, whilst the poultry department was considered to be the best seen at this show.

Darlington.

The South Durham and North Yorks Horse and Dog Show at Darlington took place on Wednesday for the forty-seventh time, and was favoured with fine weather and a large attendance, but the entries, though they numbered 1,220, were disappointing from the fact that there was once more a decrease in the number of horses shown. This section of the show has been on the decline ever since 1898, when the total was 480, whilst this year it was but 205 or twenty-three less than last year. The chief reason of this decline is, we think, the smallness of the prizes offered as compared with many other societies, and the consequence is they fail to attract breeders other than local or county ones. No fewer than six classes had to be cancelled, and the society would do well to see whether they cannot once again draw the respectable entries of other years. The quality of the horses, however, was good, and to some extent made up for the smallness of numbers. Cattle introduced last year were a highly creditable display of about fifty, or twelve more than last year; whilst dogs, which were not quite so numerous as in 1905, upheld the big reputation of this show.

Alnwick July fair for horses and cattle was held on Tuesday, when there was a good offer of horses, with a buoyant inquiry for the better qualities. Good draught horses sold up to £65, useful cab and harness horses £15 to £25; ponies, £5 to £15. In the cattle market there was a large offer of two-year-old grazing heifers of a good class, which sold up to £12 10s., and lean cattle from £8 10s. to £10 10s.

VETERINARY PREPARATIONS, and Small Articles of a Portable Character, sell readily when brought regularly before the readers of the "Mark Lane Express."

Early Potato Show and Inspection of Trials at Marks Tev, Essex.

A goodly muster of potato enthusiasts assembled on Wednesday at the seed farm of Messrs. Dobbie and Co., the well-known growers of Rothesay, Scotland, who some two years ago acquired some sixty acres in this part of Essex for seed growing. The company was hospitably received by Mr. Alexander Burnie, from Rothesay, Mr. W. Cuthbertson, resident partner at Marks Tey, and Mr. Thomas A. Scarlett, the well-known seed potato expert of Edinburgh, who collectively organised and conducted the show and trials. Doubtless the attendance would have been much larger had not the fixture coincided with the International Conference held the same day at Westminster of experts on the subject of hybridising. As it was, however, we observed present, in addition to tho·e mentioned, Messrs G. F. Strawson (London), J. Walker (Thame), W. Deal, F.R.H.S. (Kelvedon), Geo. Mitchell (Bradfield), Albert Vincent (Belvidere), Leonard Lee (Leagrave, Luton), Everett (Chappel), Darien (Copford), Henshaw (Cambridge University Farm, Impington), W. H. Adsett (hon. secretary National Potato Society), H. Denyer (Walton-on-Thames), C. E. Pearson (Lowdham, Notts), W. H. Green, Wisbech), Edwin Beckett (Lord Aldenham's Estate, Elstree), and Chas. Foster (Treasurer National Potato Society, and Horticultural Instructor University College, Reading), the two latter acting as judges.

As an early potato show, both in point of entries and quality, it was of the first order. There were some 411 entries, we noticed, from districts as far afield as Dunkeld, Dunbar, co. Down, Wicklow, Devon, Glamorgan, Rugby, Ipswich, and Hawkhurst. The party of inspection was conducted round the farm by Mr. Ireland, and in this connection it was found to be impossible to raise the trial rows on the show day, so Mr. Alexander Dean, V.M H., Kingston-on-Thames, visited Marks Tey on the 27th ult., and superintended the raising and weighing of the varieties on trial.

On April 12, 120 sets of each variety (Scotch seed) were planted, 60 sets in ground manured with farmyard manure at the rate of about 30 tons per acre, and 60 sets in land manured with a good artificial manure at the rate of 8 cwt. per acre. All other conditions were equal.

Subjoined is Mr. Dean's certified report of results:—

Earlies.		Manured with Farmyard Manure. 60 sets.	Artificial Manure 60 sets.
White Rounds—	Epicure	86lb	62
,,	Early Puritan	84	60
,,	Eureka	82	54
,,	Webber's Early	76	47
,,	Alpha	72	52
,,	New Klondyke	72	50
,,	Dalmeny Early	70	50
,,	Milecross Early	68	48
,,	Ensign Baygley	66	52
,,	Harbinger	64	42
Col'red Rounds—	Norotou Beauty	80	64
,,	Eightyfold	64	48
White Kidneys—	Midlothian Early	80	64
,,	Sharpe's Express	76	56
,,	Sir John Llewelyn	76	56
,,	Sharpe's Victor	74	50
,,	Duke of York	74	44
,,	Recorder	64	44
,,	Crampton	64	40
,,	Myatt's Ashleaf	60	48
,,	May Queen	54	36
Col'rd Kidneys—	Beauty of Hebron	64	50
,,	Rouge Royal	62	48
2nd Earlies, W.R.—	Russett Queen	76	64
,, W.K.—	Southern Queen	76	60

Note.—2nd Earlies were not ripe; they would increase in weight by two weeks' longer growth.

We were much struck with the appearance of Milecross Early, but more so with Webber's Early, and we gather Sharpe's Express goes well in the home counties, notably the Bedfordshire district. Given a layer of farmyard stuff, plus a right proportion of artificials, we should look with interest on a future occasion to the yield, one expert present expressing the opinion that farmyard only tends to too much root, but given the other as well, provides sufficient moisture with the better results. Subjoined is the prize list:—

Class 1.—Twelve tubers, "Midlothian Early" (open to all): 1st, Mr. J. Vickery, Eggesford Gardens, Wembworthy; 2nd, Mr. W. Hemmant, Thorney, Peterborough; 3rd, Mr. H E. Bidwell, The Mount, Axminster; 4th, Major Chearnley, Cappoquin, Waterford; 5th, Mr. H. Bishop, gardener to Right Hon. J. Round, Birch, Essex; hc, Mr. J. Gilmore, Hawkhurst, Sussex.

Class 2.—Nine tubers, "Midlothian Early" (professional gardeners only): 1st, Mr. G. Duncan, Merstham, Surrey; 2nd, Mr. J. Vickery, Eggesford Gardens, Wembworthy; 3rd, Mr. J. Gilmore, Hawkhurst, Sussex; 4th, Mr. O'Brien, gardener, Salterbridge, Cappoquin, I.; 5th, Mr. W. R. Hammond, Grovelands, Burgess Hill.

Class 3.—Six tubers "Midlothian Early." Confined to amateurs (who do not employ professional gardeners), cottagers, and allotment holders. 1st, Mr. J. F. Smith, Myrtle Cottage, Hythe, Kent; 2nd, Mr. Thos. King, New Road, Bromham, Chippenham; 3rd, Mr. Jesse Hibberd, Petersfield, Hants; 4th, Mr. J. W. Smith, 12A, Hamilton Place, Parkeston, Essex; 5th, Mr. H. G. Bidwell, The Mount, Axminster.

Class 4.—Six dishes early potatoes (eight tubers in each dish (Gardeners and amateurs.) 1st, Mr. T. King, Bromham, Chippenham; 2nd, Mr. H. Bishop, Birch, Essex; 3rd, Mr. J. Vickery, Eggesford Gardens, Wembworthy.

Class 5.—Three dishes early potatoes (eight tubers in each dish). (Cottagers and allotment holders.) 1st, Mr. J. Holness, Chilworth, Surrey; 2nd, Mr. W. H. Seaton, Whittlesea, Cambridge; 3rd, Mr. S. T. White, Eastleigh, Southampton; 4th, Mr. G. F. Parsons, Warwick.

Class 6. Twelve tubers "Southern Queen." 1st, Mr. J. Greaves, Meriden, near Coventry; 2nd, Mr. Thos. King, Bromham, Chippenham; 3rd, Mr. H. Morgan, Tenbury, Worcester; 4th, Mr. H. Bailey, Irthlingboro', Peterboro'.

Class 7.—Twelve tubers "Dalmeny Early." 1st, Mr. Thos. King, Bromham, Chippenham; 2nd, Mr. J. Vickery, Eggesford Gardens, Wenbworthy; 3rd, Mr. J. Gilmore, Hawkhurst, Sussex; 4th, Mr. J. Hawkes, Newlyn East, Penzance.

Class 8.—Best three dishes of early potatoes (twelve tubers in each dish), grown on wire-worm infested ground with Vaporite): 1st, Major Chearnley, Cappoquin, Waterford; 2nd, Mr. Thos. King, Bromham, Chippenham; 3rd, Mr. J. Gilmore, Hawkhurst, Sussex.

Class 9.—For the best crop of "Midlothian Early": 1st, Gold Medal, Mr. W. Pipe, Nacton, Ipswich (80¼ lbs produced from 1 lb, of seed; 2nd, Silver Medal, Mr. J. Gemmill, Flakefield, Chapelton, Scotland (72 lb. produced from 1 lb. of seed).

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The summer term of this college closed on Wednesday, when the Principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the diplomas, scholarships, and other awards on the successful students. He expressed regret at the loss which the College had sustained during the term by the death of Professor Sir George Brown, C.B., and Dr. Fream, former professors, and at the time of their death honorary professors of the College, Sir George Brown having likewise been external veterinary examiner for the diploma, and having set the paper on the present occasion. He also referred to the death of Mr. Thomas Ankell, one of the founders of the College, and an original member of the Council, as well as an early manager of the College farm. During the term nine students of the College had obtained by examination the professional associateship of the Surveyors' Institution, and for the eleventh time in succession one of them had gained one of the special prizes.

Referring to the competition for the diploma, he testified to the excellent work done. and expressed pleasure that in the subjects of forestry and agricultural botany, which for the first time formed part of the final examination, the candidates had done themselves much credit, Mr. Murray gaining 343 marks out of 400 in forestry.

The external examiners for the diploma were—in practical agriculture. Mr. W. McCrocker, Cheshire; in agricultural chemistry, Dr. J. A. Voelcker, M.A., London; in land surveying and practical engineering, Professor H. Robinson, M.Inst.C.E., London; and in veterinary practice and bacteriology, the late Professor Sir George Brown, C.B., and Mr. W. Hunting, F.R.C.V.S.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

At this fair on Wednesday there was a pitch of 84 tons, against 69 for the corresponding fair last year. Trade opened dull, but quickly recovered, and prices were fairly well maintained. A satisfactory clearance was effected at the following rates:—Best qualities, 60s. to 65s. per cwt.; medium, 55s. to 58s.; lower grades down to 50s. Last year's prices ranged from 58s. down to 48s.

Harvest operations were commenced in South Lincolnshire on Monday, some oats being cut in the Spalding district. A large number of Irishmen have arrived in the Fens ready for the harvest, and as the warm weather is rapidly ripening the crops, operations will soon become general.

Lambing Results in New South Wales.—The autumn and winter lambing amounted this year to 10,376,000, representing 81 per cent, while probable markings are estimated at 9,544,000, representing 74 per cent. The ewes for spring lambing are estimated at 3,168,000. It is calculated that at the end of the year the sheep in New South Wales will number between 45,000,000 and 46,000,000. This is the highest number remembered since 1896.

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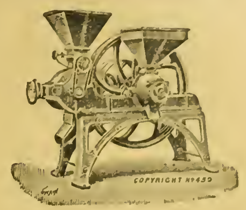

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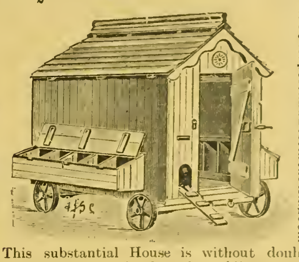

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Registered under "The Companies Acts." Established in 1836.

Capital £8,000,000, in 100,000 shares of £80 each.

REPORT ADOPTED AT THE HALF-YEARLY ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, AUGUST 2, 1906.

WILLIAM GAIR RATHBONE, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Shareholders the Balance Sheet for the half-year ending June 30 last, have to report that, after paying interest to Customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £28,715 0s. 8d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £294,047 8s. 7d. From this sum have been deducted £25,000 transferred to Premises Account, and £50,000 carried to Reserve Fund (raising it to £1,500,000), leaving £219,047 8s. 7d which, with £58,317 14s. 3d. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £277,365 2s. 10d.

The Directors have declared a Dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., which will require £200,00 leaving the sum of £97,365 2s. 10d to be carried to the Profit and Loss New Account.

The Dividend, £2 per Share, free of Income Tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, 13th August.

BALANCE SHEET

Of the London and County Banking Company, Limited, 30th June, 1906.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Capital subscribed £8 000,000, Paid up		2,000,000 0 0
Reserve Fund		1,500,000 0 0
Due by the Bank on Current Deposit, and other Accounts, including provision for Contingencies		43,497,899 17 9
Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Cash, or Securities or Bankers' Guarantees		1,780,359 13 9
Rebate on Bills not due carried to next Account		28,715 0 8
Net Profit for the Half-year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	294,047 8 7	
Transferred to Premises Account	25,000 0 0	
	269,047 8 7	
Carried to Reserve Fund	50,000 0 0	
	219,047 8 7	
Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account	78,317 14 3	297,365 2 10
		£49,104,339 15 0

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash at the Head Office and Branches, and with Bank of England	7,580,818 17 7	
Loans at Call and at Short Notice	2,992,668 17 3	10,573,487 14 10
Investments, viz.:—		
Consols registered and in Certificates (at 87), New 2½ per Cents, and National War Loan (£6,294,491 7s. 11d., of which £343 000 0s. 0d. Consols is lodged for Public Accounts); Canada 4 per Cent. Bonds, and Egyptian 3 per Cent. Bonds, Guaranteed by the British Government	6,657,617 17 9	
India Government Stock and India Government Guaranteed Railway Stocks and Debentures	986,278 13 9	
Metropolitan and other Corporation Stocks, Debenture Bonds, English Railway Debenture Stock and Colonial Bonds	1,694,302 18 11	
Other securities	19,411 17 9	9,357,611 8 2
Discounted Bills Current	7,423,074 18 8	
Advances to Customers at the Head Office and Branches	19,157 7 6 11 6	26,580,871 10 2
Liabilities of Customers for Drafts accepted by the Bank (as per Contra)		1,780,359 13 9
Bank Premises in London and Country, with Fixtures and Fittings	837,009 8 1	
Less amount transferred from Profit and Loss	25 000 0 0	812,009 8 1
		£49,104,339 15 0

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Interest paid to Customers		166,990 14 8
Salaries and all other Expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income Tax on Profits and Salaries, Auditors' and Directors' Remuneration		333,475 14 5
Transferred to the Credit of Premises Account		25,000 0 0
Carried to Reserve Fund		50,000 0 0
Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account		28,715 0 8
Dividend (10 per cent. for the Half-Year	£ 99,000 0 0	
Balance carried forward	9 365 2 10	297,365 2 10
		£901,546 12 7

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Balance brought forward from last Account		78,317 14 3
Gross Profit for the Half-year, after making Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, and including Rebate £32,797 14s. 8d. brought from 31st December last		823,228 18 4
		£901,546 12 7

Examined and audited by us, (Signed) GEORGE J. GOSCHEN, OSWALD MOSELEY, W. G. RATHBONE, STUART PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE, G. J. RODOLPH, Head Office Manager, W. G. GRIBBLE, Country Manager, T. J. CARPENTER, Chief Accountant. } Audit Committee of Directors.

London and County Banking Company Limited, 13th July, 1906.

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with, and we report that we have examined the Balance-Sheet and Profit and Loss Account, dated the 30 th June, 1906, have verified the Cash-Balance at the Bank of England, the Stocks there registered, and the other investments of the Bank. We have also examined the several Books and Vouchers and certified Returns showing the Cash-Balances, Bills and other Amounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and in our opinion the said Balance-Sheet and Profit and Loss Account are properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed) HY. GRANT, THOS. HORWOOD, STUART PLEYDELL-BOUVERIE. } Auditors.

London and County Banking Company Limited, 19th July, 1906

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company at the rate of 10 per cent. for the Half-Year ending 30th June, 1906, will be PAYABLE to the Shareholders either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard Street, or at any of the Company's Branches, on or after Monday, the 13th instant. By order of the Board,

21, Lombard Street, 3rd August, 1906 F. J. BARTHORPE, Secretary.

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THE FARMERS' BUSINESS PAPER] LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1906. [SUBSCRIPTION: 15s. PER ANNUM.

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Seasonable Topics.

The Farming Outlook.

THOUGH the summer is by no means over yet, we have arrived at a period when we may make a survey of the condition of crops in general, and also venture some kind of a forecast as to the outlook for the future. When the time comes for writing the history of 1906 it will be described as being anything but a bad year for farmers. We have had better seasons, of course, but we have also had worse, and, all things considered, we have not a great deal to complain about. Haymaking has been a long time about, and even now it is not quite finished, but although the weather has been somewhat "catchy," it has been good as a whole, and hay crops have turned out a good deal better than we anticipated at one time. Just at one period we feared for the welfare of the roots, but the rain came just in time, and we have the satisfaction of seeing excellent pieces of mangold about. Turnips are not quite so good, as the fly has been troublesome in many places, but corn looks well, and both wheat, oats, and barley should cut good crops. The reaper and binder is now at work in the cornfields, and under the influence of the glorious sunshine straw and ear have changed quickly from green to golden yellow. If fine weather continues there is every prospect of the corn harvest being one of short duration this year.

The Hops.

WHILE writing in a cheerful strain of the farming outlook, we must not overlook the gloomy reports which come from Kent respecting the condition of the hops. Of course, hop culture only affects a small proportion of the farmers in the country, but to those whom it does affect, hops are of very great importance. All through this season the hopgrowers have had to spend money freely on cultivation, knowing all the time that he must do it, or lose his crop altogether. It has been blight, blight, blight and wash, wash, wash until no wonder if the hopgrower has got sick of the whole business—and what is going to be the end of it all? The grower knows only too well what he has had to spend per acre on his hops. What will he get in return? It is too early yet to speak with any degree of certainty about this, but the outlook is ominous, and we have one more illustration before us of the uncertainty of hop culture. Fortunately, growers know all about it, and they possess an optimistic spirit which prompts them to look hopefully for a good season next year, while they make the best of the shortcomings of this.

Insecticides.

MOST farmers and gardeners are acquainted with the individual who calls from time to time to press the sale of some wonderful insect exterminator which is supposed to do extraordinary things in the eradication of common pests. The curious part of it is that in spite of insecticides the pests are not eradicated, but, on the other hand, they increase and multiply. Of course, the depredations of the insects may be checked for the time being, but eradication is another thing altogether, and if that came about what would become of the insecticide business? In our last issue a county court case was reported in which it transpired that a special chemical fly exterminator was a composition of soot, gas lime, and cinder ashes, and for this £2 a ton was charged. If the mixture had served its purpose it would have been cheap at the price, simple as it was, but it would have been just as well to make a commercial commodity of very finely sifted road dust, which is as good as anything to scatter over seedling turnips when they are wet with dew as a preventive of fly.

The Exportation of Pedigree Stock.

THE keen demand on the part of foreign buyers for pedigree bulls raised in this country, and the high prices paid for some of them, have been topics of general discussion of late, and doubts are expressed in some quarters as to the wisdom of sending so many high-class animals out of the country. Money tempts the stock breeder just the same as it does anybody else, and when the foreign buyer comes to this country for stock it would appear as if money is no object to him. For our own part we do not think there is any great danger of the standard of our pedigree stock being deteriorated through the export trade, because, happily, we possess the all essential germ and are not likely to lose it; but at the same time we are not without sympathy for the fears expressed by pessimists in regard to the future. The real value of a bull for breeding purposes can never be estimated until the animal has been tried and proved, and if the foreigner's gold has the power of tempting breeders to part with their best bulls, let something be got out of them before they go. It is easy enough to sell a good bull and comfort yourself that you can get another one just as good, but this is where the doubt comes in, and before sending an animal abroad the breeder should be quite sure that he has got another that can carry on his work. It is quite obvious that if the very best of the stock is sold for export, we shall be short of material at home to keep up the standard, and though we do not fear anything of the kind, we simply voice the fears of some people whose opinions are worthy of consideration.

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Bank Holiday Shows.

RAIN fell in some places on the morning of bank holiday, but as a rule the day was gloriously fine and scorchingly hot. Indeed, it was an ideal bank holiday, and all the world and his wife seemed to enter into the spirit of it. Amongst the numerous attractions provided for holiday-makers, there were a good many agricultural shows on August 6, and, for the most part, they were well attended. Bank holiday shows are mostly of a local character, and they possess an aspect which is quite different to the big events of four or five days' duration. Things are taken very leisurely and seriously at the big county show, and the local magnates have a day to themselves when the price prohibits the attendance of their poorer neighbours. There are none of these class distinctions at the one day bank-holiday show. The big-wigs of the district attend, of course, if only from a sense of duty, and they rub shoulders with the working fraternity to whom bank holiday is a day out, that has to be enjoyed at any cost. But the enthusiasm of the local bank-holiday show is its greatest feature. One feels a personal interest in knowing who has won the prizes because one is acquainted with the prize-winners, and the agricultural side of the whole business is excited by a holiday spirit which does away with any possibility of dulness.

Protection for the Pig-keeper.

JUST at the present moment everyone who buys bacon for breakfast is beginning to realise that there must be a scarcity of pigs somewhere if the price asked for the homely rasher is anything to go by. Just so, and in connection with this matter the pig-feeder is deserving of sympathy. The law says, and rightly so, that the consuming public must be protected, and to stamp out swine fever and other troubles keen inspectors are appointed who do not hesitate to sign the death warrant of the farmer's pigs. In the interests of the public this is as it should be, but is not the producer deserving of protection as well as the consumer? A farmer may get disease amongst his pigs through no fault of his own, but the law which demands the destruction of valuable animals can offer nothing in the way of compensation. Probably the present scarcity of bacon is due in a measure to this state of affairs, and surely in a country like this, where pigs are confiscated in the interests of the public, something could be done to compensate the unfortunate owner.

Sparrows.

THE homely sparrow has been enjoying a time of freedom from persecution of late, but now that the corn is ripe and hosts of twittering brown chirrupers play havoc amongst the oats, both

hands, tongues, and pens of agriculturists are turned once more against sparrows. In the months that have intervened since the birds stole the spring corn and devoured the fruit buds sparrows have been breeding, and, goodness, how they can breed to be sure! We have the families as well as the parents to contend with now, and the only course is shooting and scaring. Fortunately a wise education system, which keeps country lads at school at an age when they might be getting a better education outside, does not prohibit summer holidays about harvest time, and during the vacation the youngsters may be usefully employed in bird tending. The time, however, for keeping the sparrow population within reasonable bounds is in the winter.

Shoeing Competitions.

AT a good many agricultural shows there are competitions for shoeing in which local smiths pit their skill against each other in making and fixing shoes. We take it that competitions of skill in anything connected with agricultural pursuits are good things to encourage, and it is an interesting sight to watch a lot of sturdy smiths in a showyard earnestly engaged in making shoes and manipulating the feet of the horses. There seems to be an impression on the part of some competitors, however, that the most important item of the business is the making of the shoe, and fitting it to the horse's foot is a secondary matter. The other day we watched a man in a shoeing competition who deftly manipulated his iron and made a splendid looking shoe; but he did not pay sufficient attention to the foot of his horse, and when the shoe was fixed the animal went lame. Local smiths, even some with years of experience behind them, are in many cases deficient in points of knowledge respecting the horse's foot, and as most county councils now employ expert farriers to give instruction on these matters, they cannot do better than take advantage of the facilities offered.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Lord Carrington's New Policy.

Earl Carrington will—this I verily believe—accomplish more, in the mild economic revolution on which he is intent, by means of his Crown lands' example than he will by legislation. Even to-day it cannot be said that the small holdings' problem has altogether passed out of the region of experiment. If they are to become an assured and vital part of the agrarian system of this country it will only be as a sequel to the conviction on the part of landlordism that they are remunerative. It is not fair, in days when the commercial spirit is growingly asserting itself in our agrarian areas—this is unavoidable and inevitable, is, in fact, an actual offspring of the characteristic of the age—to expect that landlords should cultivate a method of unbusinesslike philantropy and generosity. Experiments are expensive, and not unseldom ruinous to the individual, and it is thus well that in a matter of this kind they should be undertaken by the nation. This is the meaning of Lord Carrington's resolution. He will, in all probability, provide a desirable object-lesson — this, in fact, the Earl has avowed to be his hope—of the admirable possibilities of the small-holdings' principle, and of its actually being calculated to heighten rather than to depress the value of the land to the owner. Moreover, the scheme should provide useful material upon which to base a logical appreciation of the particular soils most suited to this method of culture.

Why not National Experiments?

May I make a suggestion to the Minister for Agriculture? The Earl has, in all, at his disposal something like 70,000 acres. He meditates largely utilising them for experiments both in a system of cultivation and in economy, for remember that he hopes to be able to convince that generous conditions of tenure are also the most profitable. Why should not a part of these 70,000 acres, a small part of course, be utilised for the purpose of discovering new forms of culture, of widening the scientific area of British agriculture, of adding to its products hitherto unknown fruits? At this moment a good deal of attention is being centred upon the possibility of sugar-beet culture in this country. Whether this can be satisfactorily and remuneratively pursued can only be proved by experiments, the cost of which no individual should be called upon to personally bear. Why should not these be undertaken upon Crown lands under the *ægis* of the Board of Agriculture? Small holdings are not possible with all soils and in all districts. It may be that it will be found unwise to seek to adopt certain of these Crown lands to this purpose. Why should not these lands be utilised for experimental culture? Of course, the class whence comes the small holders is a most desirable one, but it is not the only human element in the rural situation which deserves the State's compassionate consideration.

The Agrarian Work of the Session.

It certainly cannot be said that we have any reason for dissatisfaction with the past session. On the personal side we have every reason for gratification. Earl Carrington has revealed himself to be one of the most sympathetic, receptive, and practical-minded men who ever presided at the Board of Agriculture, a statesman who is not only catholic in his administration, but who has shown a power of initiative and unconventionality of independence which mark him out as one of the most distinctive men in the Ministry. Sir E. Strachey, as the spokesman of the Board in the Commons, has realised all the expectations formed of him; and this is a tribute to his zeal and ability more complimentary than pean or adjectives. What is equally as gratifying is that the output of the Session has included three Acts of definite interest to the rural areas—the Justices' of the Peace Act, the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs' Act, and the Dogs' Act—and that among the measures hung up for the consideration of the autumn session is the Land Tenure Bill. Two of these measures reflect a keen and practical and, I would add, an unanimous anxiety on the part of the farming and rural interest, and if there be some divergence of view as to the necessity of all the clauses of the Justices' of the Peace Act, or as to the wisdom of all the suggestions of the Land Tenure Bill, at least both may be accepted as an evidence of interest and anxiety. Better even an interest and an anxiety that may not be altogether in harmony with rural settlement than a disquieting somnolence and an apathetic indifference. I am not going to say that Codlin's the friend and not Short; but this I will say, that in point of legislative and administrative achievement this session stands out distinctive and eminent in the Parliamentary record of the last decade. The Dogs' Act and the Fertilisers' Act have transformed a promise into a definite legal actuality. No partisan prejudice can disguise this fact.

Is this a Threat?

Does Lord Lansdowne intend a threat? This question possessed me as I read his lordship's reference to the Land Tenure Bill, which he included in his letter to the Conservative Peers in anticipating the autumn session. His definite selection of this measure for specific mention cannot but be ominous. Is it an ill-omen? Does his lordship's reminder that the measure is pregnant with far-reaching effects mean that it will be the duty of the Conservative peers to counteract and checkmate that influence? At all events, this is how it is interpreted in certain Liberal circles, and I have even heard it adduced as an illustration that the House of Lords is so prejudicedly-anti-Liberal as to render it absolutely impossible to secure therein a dispassionate consideration for any Liberal legislative progeny, more particularly when it may also affect the personal interest of their lordships. Personally, I am sorry that the incident should be made the basis of this misinterpretation. Perhaps, however, Lord Lansdowne was not altogether wise in making this the tocsin to sound to duty; but that far-reaching legislative ambitions which vitally affect personal interests can pass the House of Lords the acceptance of the Irish Labourers' Act evidences. I ought, by the way, to have included this measure in those legislative achievements of the session which are of direct significance to the rural areas. In a sense it initiates an economic revolution; and Mr. John Burns has plainly told us that he is not afraid of reproducing it in England and making it a part of our own agrarian economy. But to return to our mutton. Did Lord Lansdowne mean this reference as a menace? If his lordship did, and that menace is realised, he will only have served to give a new force and vitality to the Government's Crofters' Bill, which measure embodies a tenure-scheme of an infinitely more emphatic character than Mr. Agar-Robartes' measure. I see that the Duke of Portland evidently interprets Lord Lansdowne's reference in this sense. Well, better bear the ills we comprehend than invoke those we wot not of. Better the Land Tenure Bill—even from the landlords' point of view—than an English edition of the Scottish measure! And such an English edition would be, I can assure their lordships, infinitely more to the taste of assertive Radicalism!

The Last of a Great Order.

The Duke of Rutland was a relic—an echo of a dim past. There were people who pretended to laugh at the feudal-cum-philanthropic ideals that once possessed him; but at least those ideals were something more than a senseless anxiety to revive an impossible yesterday. They were an attempt to associate with the maintenance of the old order a generous personal sympathy which should make the mansion of the landlord a radiating centre of kindly paternal interest. Feudalism was to be alloyed by the territorialism of benevolent oversight. As if to lend it romance, it was to have also associated with it a religion which should be something warmer than what one of the Duke's own associates described as the "drab coldness of Puritanism." And, strangely enough, one of the incidences of this ideal to-day possesses men whom it would be ridiculous to regard as feudalists or as the advocates of the revival of a dead past—I mean the anxiety to recall the yeoman-class. The Duke's idea was to govern a dependent community—dependent, that is, on the favour of the overlord—by means of the two sentiments of chivalrous sympathy and of readily-accepted allegiance rather than to have the life of that community regulated by the mechanism of a rigid economy, which would be indifferent to personal relations and inherited family traditions. It was a quaint, fragrant, impossible dream, and in its picturesque chivalry epitomised a good, courtly, romantic aristocrat. If, however, his idea was Quixotic, it was nobly Quixotic.

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SITUATIONS WANTED and VACANT.

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At a meeting of the Federation of Dairy Farmers' Associations of Scotland, held at Kilmarnock, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That in the opinion of this federation the administration of the Food and Drugs Act in the case of milk prosecutions is often carried out in a harsh and unfair manner, and this meeting earnestly recommends the various branches to forward to the Board of Agriculture reports of all cases where they think prosecutions have been instituted against persons who were apparently innocent."

Yorkshire Show at Middlesbrough.

The weather was most unfavourable for the Yorkshire Show, which opened at Middlesborough on Wednesday last and continued over the Thursday and Friday. Rain and sea fog on the first day culminated in a heavy thunderstorm, and very soon the showyard was practically deserted. The two following days were also dull and inclement, with heavy soaking rains, so that it is not to be wondered that the attendance was below that of last year. The total receipts for the three days reached £2,739 4s. 6d., as compared with £3,175 2s. 6d. at Hull, and £3,434 4s. 10d. five years' average. The following table shows the attendances on various days:

	1st Day	2nd Day	3rd Day	Total.
1904. Middlesboro' ..	3 024	28,936	10,760	42,722
1905. Hull	4,145	33,487	12,719	49,951
1904. Huddersfield ..	5,998	30,860	16 549	53 407
1903. Sheffield .. .	5.518	34,739	14,635	54,913
19 2. Leeds	8,271	32,747	7.218	48,236
1892. Middlesboro' ..	5,705	40,755	13,230	59,686

The show in other respects was a good one. The prize fund was the magnificent one of £2,278 10s., as compared with £2 060 15s. at Hull, and £2,041 1s., the average for the last five years, and this drew 1,196 entries, of which 930 were live stock. The gross total was ninety-nine more than at Hull in 1905, when 1,097 entries were received, live stock then numbering 867, while the respective totals of the last five years' average are 1,074 and 444.

HORSES.

The county of broad acres, which has for all time been noted for its horse-loving population, has of late years found no little difficulty in keeping pace with some other counties further south; indeed, in heavy horses, there are many shows in the Midlands and the south that far out-distance the Great Yorkshire, and in Hackneys, too, the classes at this great northern festival have little to boast of, but when we come to the Hunter classes, the Cleveland Bay, and Coach horses, it is then that the Yorkshire show has to be reckoned with, and this year, had it not been for these latter sections, it is quite probable that it would have had to be dubbed an indifferent display, more particularly as regards numbers. There are many reasons now why numbers should be a little short of the numbers of years gone by. In the first place, such numbers of shows clash during Bank Holiday week that it is impossible for all to be supported liberally. Then there is the further fact of its being rather late in the season, and many of the animals have tried conclusions more than once, so that owners who are exhibitors of those animals that have been worsted upon many previous occasions feel that they may as well save themselves the chagrin of another defeat as well as the heavy expenses incurred with exhibiting, and which, in the case of the Great Yorkshire this year, would have (for southern breeders) been very heavy, the show being held so far north. However, it is not always that paucity of numbers makes an indifferent show, and it was the case this year, the reduction in numbers being confined almost exclusively to the medium class of horses, and this in all breeds. On this account quality was of a very high standard, and there were several, indeed, many classes in each section which were so even and of such high merit as to give the judges quite enough to do to decide the positions of the competitors, and a number of first-class animals that had been sent up from the south, where they had been in many cases at the head of affairs, found themselves sailing under inferior colours at Middlesborough.

Hunters.

The Hunter section takes precedence in the Yorkshire catalogue, and this was probably the most meritorious one, as well as the most numerous, which is generally the case nowadays. Thoroughbred stallions are first in this division, and these are restricted to having served half-bred mares in the county of York during 1906 at a fee not exceeding 5 guineas, or which shall serve half-bred mares in the county of York during 1907 at a similar fee, the prize not to be paid under the latter condition until fulfilled. Notwithstanding these restrictions, seven entries were catalogued in this class, and some capital stallions were included in their number. The first honour very deservedly fell to the well-known sire Wales, from Lord Middleton's stud, whose progeny were so good as to head the family class at Islington last March, and the number of first-class young Hunters by this sire that one continually meets with at various shows gives ample proof that he is not only deserving his prize from his own personal merit, but also on account of his very great impressiveness as a sire. Another good stallion stood second in Roe O'Neil, and it speaks volumes for the English Thoroughbred when the fine old sire Red Eagle, now nineteen years old, is still sound and able to take a third prize. The two brood mare classes also brought out a number of notable animals, Mr. Swallows Beatrice, Mr. Wilkinson's Laurista, and Mr. Grainger's Lady Greylock, the latter fourteen years old, won the prizes in the heavy-weight class, all of them are roomy mares fit to breed the most valuable class of horses that can be produced. In the light-weight class Mr. Wilkinson's beautiful quality mare, Glasspore, managed to head the list, but Mr. Mullen's very good mare from Surrey, Secret Sign, had to give place to Lord Middleton's Scornful and Clare Girl. In the younger classes of Hunters, which were well filled, a number of well-known colts and fillies were found in the posts of honour; generally, too, there seems a tendency to get more bone in these horses, which will be of advantage so long as their breeding and quality is maintained. The first and second prize yearling colts were both sired by Pax, shown by Mr. Cholmondeley and Mr. Wickham

PRIZE WINNERS AT THE YORKSHIRE SHOW, MIDDLESBROUGH.

1. Sir Walter Gilbey's Hackney Brood Mare, Mitre, by Royal Dangalt, first in the class for Hackney Brood Mare and Foal. 2. Lord Rothschild's Shorthorn Cow, Red Rose 3rd, winner of first prize in the class for Shorthorn Dairy Cow, in milk, four years old and upwards. 3. Mr. G. Grandage's Coaching Filly, Woodland May, first prize for Yorkshire Coach Horse Fillies, two years old. 4. Mr. G. Grandage's Woodland Duke, first prize for Yearling Colts in the Yorkshire Coach Horse Section.

Boynton; and Marioni and Wales were best sires of yearling fillies for Messrs. Rickaby and Lord Middleton. In very strong classes of two-year-old geldings and fillies Mr. Rickaby, Mr. W. B. Swallow, Mr. Heslop, and Mr. John Lett were the chief winners with the get of such famous sires as the Irish horse, Red Prince II., Pantomime, Lifeboat, and Red Eagle.

Three-year-old geldings were a strong entry, but females of this age were weaker in numbers, some of them, no doubt, having found their way to stud purposes. Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Rickaby had the best in these classes, got by Wales and Palmer. In the older classes of Hunters there were a great many Irish-bred animals at the front, Mr. W. Simpson's Silver Thorn, first in the 15 stone class and champion Hunter, being bred in Dundalk and sired by Slievegullion. Some of these made Hunter classes were exceptionally strong, and many animals well worthy of a first prize were perforce left outside the honour list entirely.

Hackneys.

This section, as already intimated, did not fill well in its entirety, though one or two of the classes brought out a good lot. Stallions four years old and upwards mustered five entries, in which Mr. Hill's St. Thomas was first as well as medallist. He is well known, and a fine level mover, and Mr. W. Asbey's Buckthorp Victor managed to score over Sir Walter Gilbey's stylish Kirkburn Sensation, which says a good deal for him. Stallions of two or three years are coupled together, and Mr. Arthur Hall's Copmanthorpe Performer was the best of them, so that Garton Duke of Connaught had the honour of siring the first prize stallions in both classes. Mr. Stephen Cliff's New Gold by Goldfinder VI. was second, beating Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Lad. There were two or three very beautiful mares in the brood class, Sir Walter Gilbey's Mitre, Mr. H. Moore's sweet old mare Lobelia, wearing uncommonly well, and Mr. Cloppison's Bright Dorothy, being the winners. Yearlings of both sexes counted up but a total of nine entries in their two classes. Messrs. Wilstrop's Silver Star, by Royal Denmark was the best of the males, and Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Beeswing, by Royal Danegelt, first in the fillies.

The class for two-year-old geldings was entirely blank, and two-year-old fillies were a short entry of five, Mr. John Beal's Kirkburn Gem, Mr. C. E. Cooke's Lilladora, and Mr. J. R. Brown's Roans Empress were the winners. There were four entries each of three-year-old geldings and fillies, Garton, Duke of Connaught, and Rosador sired the best geldings for Mr. Hall and Mr. Colin Craggie, and Mr. F. W. Buttle's first-prize three-year-old filly, which was also a special prize winner, was sired by Rosador. Boquhan Sunrise was bred by Mr. Mitchell, and gave a capital account of herself in the ring. Mr. Astley's Kirkburn Lily by Cedar King was the next best. Hackneys for saddle up to 15 stone were catalogued to the number of five. Messrs Carr and Co.'s Yapham Molly by Compactor was awarded the first prize, and Mr. Jebson's Yapham Princess by Royal Denmark second; rather a remarkable circumstance that the first and second prizes for heavy-weights should both have been won by mares. In the light-weight class up to 12 stone, Mr. Tenant's well-known horse Authority was accounted the best, and there is no doubt he is well up to the specified weight. Where the conditions of the class are regulated by height, frequent disputes arise as to measurement, but the question of "up to weight" appears to have no regulation order except rule of thumb.

Cobs and Ponies.

Three classes were allotted to this section, which show a total of nineteen entries. There were a number of very fine steppers amongst them, and the winners included some well-known animals. Mr. T. B. Sykes' Fylde Forester, Mr. Jebson's Latest Fashion, and Mr. Rodwell's Holly King, were the winners in the class between 13·2 and 14·2 hands. Mr. Franklin's Grand Duchess Gobang, Mr. John Forbes' Wee McGregor, and Messrs. Carr and Company's Clyde Vale Surprise won in the 12·2 to 13·2 hands class, and the last class which was for ponies suitable for children and not exceeding 12·2 hands, there were two or three exceptionally nice ponies.

Cleveland Bays.

These classes, which numbered four, and contained a total of twenty-six entries, were a very great credit to this northern breed of horses which we have many times mentioned as being worthy of more extended patronage, and it is satisfactory to be able to state that there appears quite an inclination amongst southern breeders of light horses to go in for them. The exhibits were in rather few hands, Mr. George Grandage's Woodland Pride was the best aged stallion, a stylish and capital horse, Mr. F. Wilson Horsfall's Potto Hutton and Mr. John Lett's Billington Reliance following; and in the combined class of two- or three-year-old stallions Mr. Frank H. Sterricker's Radium by that fine old sire Pitch and Toss was first and the winner of Special Challenge Cup, for which Mr. Frank Bateman's Beadlam Fred was reserved. There were two or three especially fine brood mares in their class, Mr. Bateman's Woodland Rose, and Mr. Wilson Horsfall's Lady Salton and Potto Queen were the winners, whilst Mr. Alison's Lady Swan and Mr. George Grandage's Woodland Star were the best in the filly classes.

The sister breed of Yorkshire Coach Horses was also capitally represented. In the adult class of stallions Mr. Sylvester Leaf's Star of Yorkshire was first and also champion, followed by Mr. F. Stericker's Bathurst and Mr. Burton's Willoughby Emperor. The most important in the younger stallions were Mr. Stericker's Granville (reserve medallist) and Mr. Beckett's Bannerman, Mr. Scoby's Beadlam Alfred being third. Brood mares and fillies were also very good, Mr. Grandage's Woodland Briar, Mr. Horsfall's Perseverance, Mr. Elder's Aislaby Winner, Mr. Scoby's Beadlam Beauty, Mr. Grandage's Woodland Mag, Mr. Webster's Harome Belle II. were among the best of them, but the three-year-old produced the champion in Mr. Lett's beautiful filly, Madeline.

Shires.

The Shire classes, though not filling well numerically, at the same time made a very good show, insomuch that there was not even an indifferent animal amongst them; their general quality was both good and uniform. Of the four aged stallions Lord Rothschild's Ringway Harold, a capital built horse, with weight and character, was first, Messrs. Forsham and Sons and Lord Egerton following on. In the two or three-year-old class Lord Egerton's Tatton Dray King, still in good form after his many victories, was first, Lord Rothschild and Mr. Grandage showing capital colts for the other places. The brood mare class was an exceptionally good one, Lord Rothschild's Princess Beryl (London champion) stood first, Mr. Smith Carrington and Mr. Keans being second and third with splendid mares. For yearling colts, a good class, Mr. Dodd's Rustic Friar and Lord Rothschild's Fire King were first and second, two very fine colts; and yearling fillies, a small c'ass, were also good. Two-year-old fillies were very strong, and we need not wish to see better than Lord Egerton's Tatton May Queen, Mr. Jackson's Knottingley May Queen, or Mr. Burton's Sandcliffe Daisy, which won the prizes. Three-year-olds were also very good. The best of these—Lord Rothschild's Belle Cole, Earl Egerton's Dunsmore Nougat, and Mr. Burton's Sandcliffe Flower, to which the prizes were awarded—are all fillies of great power and stamp; and perhaps Lord Middleton's Birdsall Silvern, which was reserved, would be considered by many quite as good as any of them.

Cattle.

The twelve classes of Shorthorns were filled by 141 entries, and although there were a fair number of absentees, it was a better show than at Hull last year. Considerable interest centred in the family group Here the judges found no great difficulty in awarding the prize to Lord Calthorpe, of Elvetham Park, Hampshire, whose roan cow, Sweetheart, nearly six years old, was followed into the ring by two of her offspring, a fine young cream-coloured bull, Elvetham Monarch, born in 1903, and Elvetham Sweetheart, a roan youngster of February last. Sweetheart was also placed first in her class, beating Mr. Geo. Harrison's Ursula Raglan, a somewhat older cow. A point not without its interest here is that Mr. Geo. Harrison paid 300 guineas for one of the offspring, Elvetham Sweetmeat, that came between the two mentioned above. In the two-year-old bull class, Lord Middleton's Illustrious Count, third at the Royal, was placed first, and a Malton exhibitor, Captain Clive Behrens, was awarded second, and Mr. Richard Booth, of Warlaby, Northallerton, third with Viking. Meteor, Sir R. Cooper's white bull, was placed first in the class for bulls above three years. Mr. George Harrison was first in Class 3 (bulls two or three years old) with Royal Ensign; Lord Calthorpe was second, and the Earl of Ancaster third. The Duke of Northumberland, with Alnwick Favourite, a year-old roan, found favour with the judge in the young bull class; Lord Middleton was second, and Mr. J. W. Barnes, of Wigton, third. The Shorthorn Society's county prize of £10 for bull calved in 1905 was secured by Mr. Richard Booth with Viking.

Shorthorn cows were headed by Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart and Mr. George Harrison's Ursula Raglan, third honours going to Mr. William Bell's Ratchcugh Witch. Among pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, four years old, Lord Rothschild won the first and third rosettes with Red Rose 3rd and Moppy Gem 5th, and Mr. George Harrison took the second premium with Rosaline 2nd, which gave 28 lb. of milk in the ring. Two-year-old heifers cannot be said to have been a strong entry, but the quality was in every way up to the mark, and Mr. George Harrison's shapely Towy Princess claimed the premier award, while Mrs. Cass won in the yearling heifer class.

There were only sixteen entries in the Jersey classes, the Blythwood silver challenge bowl, offered for the best cow or heifer in milk, was won by Lord Rothschild's exhibit, in a class where his lordship carried off the three prizes. The bowl winner was third. Having been won three years in succession by Lord Rothschild, the bowl becomes his property. Captain L. G. Gisborne, as well as Lord Rothschild, took a number of awards for Jerseys.

Five classes, containing twenty-two entries, were the exhibits of the Aberdeen-Angus cattle. The champion gold medal of the Polled Cattle Society, offered for the best animal, was secured by a Bedford exhibitor, Mr. W. B. Greenfield, while the silver medal for the best animal of the opposite sex to the animal awarded the prize above was also secured by Mr. Greenfield. Other awards went to Mr. T. H. Bainbridge, Mr. J. J. Cridlan (reserve for the gold medal), and Mr. R. C. Swan.

Sheep.

There was a fair entry of sheep, about equal in numbers to the average, and rather better than at Hull. Four breeds only were represented, these being Leicesters, Lincolns, Wensleydales, and Blackfaced. Among Leicesters, Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, and Mr. Ernest Jordan, of Eastburn, Driffield, practically shared the principal prizes. Mr. Jordan won in the shearling class, while second place was taken by Messrs. J. E. and C. H. Simpson, of Pilmoor House, Hunmanby. With a pen of three shearling rams, which had not been out before, Mr. Jordan got the first prize, and Mr. Harrison second and third, also with novices. In the class of this year's ram lambs, Mr. Harrison came out first and third in the prize list. The second award went to Mr. Jordan. Mr. Jordon was first and second with gimmers, and Mr. Harrison first and third with lambs.

For Lincoln sheep Messrs. R. and W. Wright, of Nocton Heath, took the bulk of the prizes in this section. In the shearling ram class they take first and second. Messrs. Wright also got the first and second awards for pens of three shearling rams, and first and second for three shearling gimmers. The first prize for two-shear rams was given to Mr. Chas. E. Howard, of Nocton Rise, Lincoln. In this class the second place was secured by a big useful ram shown by Mr. Robt. Dixon.

For Wensleydales, Lord Henry Bentinck, of Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, carried off all the principal prizes. His lordship, who took the first and champion prize offered by the Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Association for the best pen of three shearlings long-wool rams, got the white ribbon for this year's ram lamb, and also for pen of three shearling gimmers. The executors of the late Mr. Thomas Willis, of Manor House, Carperby, got the premier award for shearling rams.

The three classes of Black-faced Mountains were filled well. With a well-fleeced two-year-old, Mr. J. Robson, of Newton, came out first in the any age ram class. The same exhibitor was successful with three shearling gimmers, taking first and third prizes.

Pigs.

There was a splendid entry, but the large number of empty pens detracted from the interest. By far the most successful exhibitor in the White Breed classes is Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., who took six first prizes, two seconds, three thirds, and two reserve tickets.

Berkshires were quite up to Yorkshire Show form. The four-year-old boar shown by Mr. G. T. Inman, which has been winning all round, is still unbeaten, although it has two dangerous competitors from Compton Place and Dudley Hill. The young boar from Lord Bolton's farm made a successful first. The Warrington baronet took premier honours with a boar of Middle White breed, beating Holywell Royal Viscount, a Royal winner, which was also reserve for the championship at Derby. In the class for Middle Whites under twelve months Sir Gilbert again took the chief prize, with the Holywell Manor firm second, and in the class for old sows Mr. Leopold C. Paget with Holywell Barbara, which was credited with Royal successes, only secured second place, to the surprise of many. The decision of the judges was in favour of Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Rose 13th. Spencer and Son's Holywell Victoria Duchess, which won at Derby a few weeks ago, was only placed third, as she is now suckling a litter of pigs. Sir Gilbert likewise received the white ticket in the class for white sows under a year old, Messrs. Spencer and Son taking second and third honours. For old Berkshire boars Mr. G. Talfourd Inman, of Henley-on-Thames, easily secured the white ribbon with his massive Highnoor Mikado, which has been winning at many recent shows. The four classes of Tamworth pigs were filled solely by Mr. Robert Ibbotson, the well-known Warwickshire breeder.

Judges.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Arthur S. Gibson, Ruddington, Nottingham; Richard Stratton, The Duffryn, Newport, Mon. Dairy: John Lord, Rylstone, Skipton; Robert Metcalfe, Spruce Gill, Finghall, S.O. Jersey: T. H. Wettman, Rose Hill, Atherstone, Warwickshire. Aberdeen-Angus: Arthur Eggington, H. S., Michael's Road, Bedford.

SHEEP.—Leicester: George England, Rise Grange, Hull; J. J. Meggitnson, Towthorpe, Pimber Station, York. Lincoln: R. C. Bemrose, Frieston Green, Caythorpe, Grantham; Fred Scorer, Nettleham Lodge, Lincoln. Wensleydale Long-Wool: R. B. Wood, Ellington, Masham, S.O. Black-Faced Scotch Mountain: John Craig, Innergeldie, Comrie, Perthshire.

PIGS.—Thos. Daniel, Spring House, Raskelf, Easingwold: J. H. Newland, Estate Office, Romsey, Hants.

HORSES.—Hunters: Eustace Barlow, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk; C. M. Prior, Adstock Manor, Winslow, Bucks; C. W. Lister-Kaye, Osberton, Worksop; W. H. Robson, The Red House, Purton, Wilts. Hacknoys, Cobs and Ponies, and Harness Horses: Arthur E. Evans, Brownyffa, Wrexham; T. D. Reed, Bedford Grange, Driffield. Cleveland Bays, Yorkshire Coach Horses, and Harness Horses: F. P. Baker, Ingmanthorpe Grange, Wetherby; Andrew Moscrop, Thorganby Hall, York. Shire and Agricultural Horses (any breed): William Horrell, Thorney, Peterborough; John Nix, Alfreton, Derbyshire. Polo Ponies: Mr. J. Wormald, Whetherby.

Next Year's Show at Barnsley.

The president of the society (the Marquess of Zetland, K.T.), presided at a meeting of the council, held in the pavilion. The secretary (Mr. J. Maughan) intimated that he had communicated with the Town Clerk of Barnsley, who stated that a deputation had been appointed to wait upon the council, and formally extend the invitation. The Mayor of Barnsley (Counciller Rose) and Alderman Wray attended, and acted as spokesmen. The Mayor, extending the invitation to the council of the society to visit Barnsley, said it would be known to the council that the Yorkshire Show was held at Barnsley twenty-six years ago, and that since that time the population of that town had increased enormously. They had every confidence that if the society visited Barnsley the show would be a success.

Lord Middleton said the Sites Committee were fully satisfied with the site placed at their disposal.

Replying to Mr. G. C. Whitwell, the Mayor of Barnsley, said the local show would not be held next year if the Yorkshire Society decided to visit Barnsley.

The deputation having withdrawn, the Hon. G. E. Lascelles proposed that the invitation of the Barnsley Corporation be accepted. Mr. G. C. Whitwell seconding, said the offer was a most liberal one, and to raise £1,000 was exceedingly good for a small town like Barnsley. The council unanimously decided to accept the invitation, and when this fact was intimated to the Mayor he returned the thanks of the Corporation to the council.

Swine Fever.

A private conference of the Executive Committee of the North, East, and West Ridings of Yorkshire was held in the pavilion under the presidency of Lord Middleton to discuss swine fever. The conference was held at the show for convenience, owing to the fact that the members of the committees would be at the show. The committees will report to their respective councils the result of the conference.

TRING SHOW.

The annual show of the Tring Agricultural Society is perhaps the most important one day fixture of the year, held as it invariably is on the Thursday after August Bank Holiday, it attracts large numbers of visitors. The attendance last week we understand broke all records, reliable estimate showing that there were close on 25,000 visitors. In addition to the usual attractions of agricultural shows there are a number of competitions, including hurdle-making and sheep dog trials, sheep shearing, horse shoeing, &c. The entries showed a decided increase in all classes with the exception of pigs, which showed a slight falling off, as will be seen from the following comparative statement:—

Entries.	1905.	1906.
Light Horses	214 ...	233
Cart Horses	186 ...	206
Shorthorns	94 ...	117
Jerseys	114 ...	107
Sheep	60 ...	61
Pigs	59 ...	54
Milk and Butter Tests ...	85 ...	104

Some excellent animals were seen in the Shire horse classes, and resulted in some keen competition on all sides. His Majesty the King was as usual among the exhibitors in these classes, securing a third prize for a mare foaled previous to 1903. Sir P. A. Muntz was placed first for Aldby Lady Jameson, Dunsmore Picturesque, and a filly foal by Dunsmore Jameson; whilst Mr. Max Michaelis won with Pailton Sorais, Mr. F. Farnsworth with Ratcliffe Conquering King, and a colt foal, and Mr. J. Bradley with Halstead Duchess III. Other prize-winners included the exhibits of Mr. C. Morbey, Sir P. A. Muntz, Mr. M. Michaelis, Mr. W. T. Everard, Mr. E. E. Pearson, Sir A. Henderson, Mr. H. Towgood, Mr. J. Bradley, and Mr. R. W. Hudson. Captain Smith-Neill's challenge cup for the best filly was won by Messrs. Flowers with Beachendon Emerald, the medal being taken by Mr. T. T. D. Fraine's Chartridge Rose. Messrs. Flowers also won the Blundell-Maple Cup with Beachendon Forest Queen, Mr. J. Brandon's Chiltern being reserved. Mr. H. Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia won the Shire Horse Society's medal, for which Dunsmore Picturesque was placed as reserve.

The judges of the hunters, hacks, and jumping were the Hon. A. E. Parker, Derby, and Colonel J. F. Hatfield Harter, Woburn Sands, R.S.O. In these classes the Hunters' Improvement Society offered three silver medals, one for the best Hunter filly, one for the best Hunter mare or gelding of any age, and one for the best Hunter yearling entire colt, by a thoroughbred or registered Hunter sire. In the first class there was no award, and in the third class there were no entries, but for the best Hunter mare or gelding of any age, Mr. G. A. Elliott was the winner, and also gained a reserve. In the class for three-year-olds, Mr. C. F. Sibley, of Harpenden, carried the premier honour. Some very fine animals were shown in the pony classes, the judge being Lady Hope, of Sevenoaks. A medal was offered for the best Shetland brood mare or gelding, and this was won by Mrs. A. J. Beale, of Cudham, Kent, who also carried off a first, second, and third prizes in the class for that breed. The harness horses were judged by Mr. C. E. Cooke, of Bygrave House, near Baldock, and Mr. W. S. Hall, of Norfolk, and were a very smart lot. Two silver medals, offered by the Hackney Horse Society, for the best mare or gelding, and the best Hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal, went to Mr. J. S. Hignet, and Mr. F. Dickinson, of Wheathampstead, respectively, who also took a first in Class 46 for a mare or gelding not exceeding 14·2. In the next class for novice, mare or gelding any height, Mr. F. Dickinson secured first prize.

There was an excellent display of cattle. Among the Shorthorns first prizes were taken by Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Mr. A. D. Acland, Mr. J. G. Williams, Mr. H. S. Leon, and Mr. W. Simmons, several of whom sent cattle that have done well in other showyards this summer. First prizes for Jerseys were taken by Lady de Rothschild, Mr. A. Miller Hallett, the Earl of Rosebery, Mr. J. Joicey, and Captain L. G. Gisborne. The champion prize was awarded to Captain Gisborne's Glorious Lad, to whom Lady de Rothschild's Whitewood V. was placed as reserve. In the open milking test for cows not exceeding 900 lb. live weight Captain J. W. Smith-Neill's wonderful twenty-four-year-old cross-bred Doctor added another to her long list of successes with a yield of 558 lb., the same owner's Jersey Geraldine taking second, Mr. W. B. Roderick's Jersey Goodig Flo third, and Mr. J. H. Smith Barry's Nellie Beresford fourth. In the same class Mr. W. Newman's Aaron was first for tenant farmers. In the class for cows over 900 lb. live weight, Mr. W. P. Vosper's South Devon Primula 2nd, Mr. D. Kelly's Shorthorn Muriel, Dr. Watney's Red Maple, and Lord Rayleigh's Rachel 2nd were the prize-winners. The winners in the butter test classes were Captain Smith-Neill's Geraldine and Mr. R. Barclay's Poppy, both of them Jerseys.

The judges in the sheep classes, Mr. J. H. Guy, Tetsworth, Oxon., and Mr. J. Flower, of Salisbury, had a very unenviable task as a result of keen competition. The challenge cup for the best pen of sheep was won by Mr. R. Barclay, who also gained the reserve. Mr. H. F. Woollatt, of Wheathampstead, secured first and second, and other well-known exhibitors were Lady de Rothschild, Mrs. R. Barclay, the Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, Sir Richard Cooper, and Mr. J. G. Williams.

Pigs were judged by Mr. J. Jefferson, of

CROSS-BRED COW, DOCTOR.

This cow won first prize in the Milking Trials at Tring last week for Captain J. W. Smith Neill. She is now twenty-four years old.

Chester, and Mr. S. Spencer, of St. Ives. The National Pig BPieeders' Association offered two me edals, one for the best sow, and another for the best boar, Mr. T. Henson gaining the medal for the best sow, and Mr. C. J. Tong the medal for the best boar. A champn cup went to Mr. R. E. Horwood, of Tring, and the Hon. A. H. Holland Hibbert, Mr. R. A. Ayre, and Mr. R. E. Horwood were also very successful in this section of the show.

Mr. R. S. Piggin, of Long Eaton, Notts, judged the sheep dog trials. Mr. J. Moses gained a first and two fourth prizes, Mr. T. Dixon second and two thirds, and Mr. Geo. Barcroft a first.

Butter was judged by Mr. Thomas Latham, of Dorchester, Oxon. Amongst the most successful competitors were Mrs. C. McIntosh, Lady de Rothschild, and Mrs. E. Smith-Neill.

The hurdle-making competitions formed an interesting item, the first awards being given to Mr. C. Plater and Mr. T. Austin. In the hurdle-setting competition, Mr. C. Hedges, Mr. J. Barlow, and Mr. J. Burch carried off premier honours.

Border Union.

The pretty little border town of Kelso was crowded to excess on Monday, for there was held the show of the Border Union Agricultural Society, who have a very large following. The entries numbered in all 615, which number is 84 short of that of last year, when a record was obtained, but the number is a good average one. This, together with the usual high standard of excellence and the large attendance of visitors, made the show a complete success. The horse and sheep sections especially contained some outstanding good animals, which had taken prizes at leading shows in the country; and in the cattle classes some exceedingly good cows and heifers were shown.

Welbeck Tenants'.

The show of the Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society is without doubt one of the most pleasing in this country, for it is an example of a large landowner taking a keen interest in the welfare of his tenants; further, it provides unmistakable evidence of the good feeling which exists between the Duke and his tenantry; in fact, a spirit of mutual respect and co-operation pervades the show, the showground is delightful, and all the arrangements are on a generous, in fact a ducal, scale. The show itself, too, is always a large and most interesting one on account of its varied attraction, and it is, therefore, not to be wondered at that it draws visitors from all parts of the country. Indeed, it would be hard to find a more popular one-day show. The show held on Tuesday was in no way behind that of any previous year, despite the fact that a reduction had been made in the prize schedule. As the committee made up their last year's accounts with an adverse balance of about £300, a policy of retrenchment was adopted this year, and instead of prizes amounting to over £700, as last year, this year's prize list only amounted to £524, to which the Duke contributed £300. Nevertheless, the entries totalled 1,062, as against 1,018 last year, and this speaks for itself as to the popularity of the show.

Horses numbered 302, as against 281 last year, and they made a good show, the agricultural section naturally being the feature. The champion cup, given by the Duke for the best animal in the heavy section, was awarded to Mr. Arthur Stretton, of Sibthorpe, Newark, for Lady Xerxes, an eight-year-old chesnut mare, of magnificent size, with a grand set of legs and plenty of feather. It won, as well, the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society. Half-bred horses by a Thoroughbred stallion are very much encouraged by the Duke, and in this section there was an admirable display of useful animals, though some of the classes were scarcely up to previous years. The foals were perhaps the best feature of the section. Two classes for Hackneys and Harness horses were fairly well filled. Entries of cattle were good in numbers, and the quality reached an unusually high standard, whilst sheep made a creditable display. Shepherd dogs, too, were capital, whilst the many other sections all proved attractive to numerous visitors.

Felton and Warkworth.

At the Felton and Warkworth Agricultnral Society's thirteenth annual show, held at Amble on Monday, the entries were not quite so large as at some former shows, but some of the classes were better filled, and, taken as a whole, the show was quite up to the average. The total number of entries was 294, against 289 of the last show held at Amble in 1903; but the entry fell short of last year's show held at Warkworth, the number being 327, which was a record entry for the society. There was a fine show of bulls, while the grazing cattle made quite a feature of the show, some splendid animals being forward, but dairy cattle were only moderate. Sheep made a good display, the classes in this section being well supported, as were also the horse classes, the agricultural animals being some of the best ever seen here. Altogether the show was a highly creditable one to all concerned.

Wem.

Although only in its fourth year, the show of the Wem and District Agricultural Association has made such rapid strides in popularity, thanks mainly to the progressive policy of the society, that it is now a highly creditable show of good quality, and certainly a most interesting one. The society places a Shire horse at the service of its members, and the good result of this was manifest in the classes for Shire horses, which showed a marked improvement on previous years, thus proving that the efforts of the society to induce farmers to produce the best in heavy horses hereabouts, as well as in the Oswestry district and in Montgomeryshire, is rapidly bearing good fruit. A good case in point was the three-months-old bay colt foal of Mr. Charles Frank, of Pentre Perva. The colt is by Nyn Hitchin Duke, the horse hired by the association in 1905. It quite outdistanced the others in the class, and before it left the ring it was sold for £100. Hunters and Hackneys were well represented, and the cattle classes were on the whole strong in numbers and character. The first prize bull in the class for those calved in or prior to 1904 was taken by Mr. E. Powell, Wem, with a long, level, roan Shorthorn, which has the distinction of having been bred by the King. In the Shropshire sheep classes the prize-winners included Mr. Frank Bibby, Mr. S. F. M. Nevett, Mr. Blatherwick, and Mr. Walford. Cheese and butter made good sections, and the cottagers' classes for butter, dressed poultry and eggs, brought a large number of entries. Further, there were interesting shoeing competitions and a good show of dogs. It is satisfactory to be able to state that the gate receipts showed an improvement on last year, the total being £74, as against £67 in 1905, and this should encourage the society to proceed with their present enlightened policy.

Clumber.

The annual show of the Duke of Newcastle's Estate Tenants' Agricultural Society at Clumber took place on Monday, when the entries (563) created a record, and the quality all round showed a great improvement, particularly in horses and cattle. The attendance of visitors was also larger than ever, and the show was the most successful of the series from every point of view. The Duke and Duchess of Newcastle once again showed their great interest in the show and agriculture by contributing handsomely to the prize schedule—a sum of over £250 was offered in prizes—and also brought a large and distinguished company to the showyard.

Royal and Central Bucks.

The show of the Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Association, held at Aylesbury, was a good one all round, and deserved a better patronage than it received, and would doubtless have been more largely attended had the fixture not clashed with other attractions. The agricultural horses were a good lot. The Ferdinand de Rothschild Memorial Cup, for the best Shire gelding or mare, which is given by Miss Alice de Rothschild, was won by Messrs. Flowers, of Beachendon, with Barrow Madam, the same owners' Beachendon Forest Queen taking the champion award for best tenant farmers' horse, and their mare Beachendon Sapphire the champion prize for the best animal in the county of Bucks. In the Hunter section the Meyer de Rothschild Memorial Cup, given by Lord Rosebery, went to Mr. L. J. Shirley, of Woughton, who also took the champion prize for the best cow in the showyard. Mr. H. S. Leon was awarded the champion prize for the best animal in the horned stock classes; and Mr. Walter Hazell won the silver cup for the best Shorthorn bull. There was an excellent show of sheep, which were quite the feature of the day, Mr. Smith, of Towcester, takthe champion prize. In the pig classes, Mr. T. Henson, of Peterborough, obtained the champion prize. There was also a good exhibition of butter, poultry, and eggs, the latter especially being very fine.

North Somerset.

The show of the North Somerset Agricultural Society at Yatton was somewhat marred by heavy rain in the afternoon, but there was a good attendance of visitors and the event proved a fairly successful one. The entries were not quite so good as when the exhibition has been held more centrally in the society's area, but in many of the classes gratifying quality was shown, and the judges had some little difficulty in one or two instances in deciding between the claims for premier position. Cattle were a mixed lot, but on the whole creditable. Sheep generally were satisfactory, and the tenant farmers' cart horse competition brought out several really useful farm workers. The harness classes and the saddle events excited the customary amount of interest; but, unfortunately, rain interfered considerably with the enjoyment of the spectators. There were also good displays of butter and poultry, the former being especially good.

West Gloucester.

The forty-fifth annual show of the West Gloucester Farmers' Club, held at Durdham Down on Monday, was in every respect the most successful yet held by the society, for the entries were large and of high-class quality, whilst the attendance of visitors was exceedingly good. Horses numbered 203, six less than last year, but above the average, and they formed a most attractive feature of the show. Of cattle there were no fewer than 132 entries, as against 89 and 86 in 1905 and 1904 respectively, and it was the general opinion that this section was the best ever seen at this show, the quality all round being very good. Sheep and pigs made an average display, as did also the butter and cheese. Prizes were this year for the first time offered for the best-cultivated farms, and the new feature proved a success, whilst the pony and galloway gymkhana was an attractive feature of the day's proceedings, supplementing, as it did, some interesting jumping and driving classes.

Tyneside.

The show of the Tyneside Agricultural Society, held in brilliantly fine weather at Hexham on Monday, was in many respects the most successful exhibition yet held by the society. The entries—1,760 in all—constituted a record, beating that created last year by about sixty. The increases were mainly in the classes for cattle, horses, and dogs. As is invariably the case at Hexham Show, horses were the strong feature, but all the other classes were up to the usual standard of merit. The attendance of visitors was on a very large scale, and a total of over £500 was taken.

Lydford Pony.

The eighteenth annual exhibition of the Brentor and Lydford Pony Society was held at Lydford on Bank Holiday, when the entries numbered 256, or forty-two less than in 1905; in point of quality, however, there was considerable improvement. The strongest classes were the yearlings and two-year-old ponies. Mr. C. Harrison Watson's cup for the best foal sired by a Dartmoor pony was won by Mr. H. Reddicliffe, of Petertavy, with a beautiful dark-brown filly, the dam of which was Queen of the Moor. Six dogs were entered for the sheep-dog trials, but none were considered of sufficient merit to receive a prize.

Tutbury.

The sixteenth annual Shire horse and cattle show promoted by the Tutbury Shire Horse and Meynell Hunt Society was held at Tutbury on Monday in lovely weather. The entries were almost up to the standard of the best of previous years, while in the cattle classes, which were included for the first time last year, there was a gratifying increase in numbers and an improvement in quality. The prize list amounted to 500 guineas, and included four challenge cups, the Shire Horse Society's gold medal, and the silver medal by the Hunters' Improvement Society. The gold medal was won by Mr. Smith Carrington with Hendre Crown Prince, for which he gave 1,100 guineas at Lord Wantage's sale some years ago. The Hardy challenge cup, for the best Shire animal two years old and upwards, fell to Messrs. J. and M. Walwyn's Bearwardcote Fashion, the Ratcliffe challenge cup, for the best yearling filly, to Mr. Orme's Combermere Abbess, the challenge cup, for the best Shire foal, to Lord Egerton's Tatton Settler, and the Eadie challenge cup to Mr. Orme's bay by Dunsmore Jameson.

Brigg.

The twenty-fourth annual horse and foal show at Brigg took place on the 4th inst., and received an entry slightly in advance of last year, but, unfortunately, the attendance of visitors was not so good. The Hackney class was a very strong one, but Hunters, although of good average quality, were disappointing, considering what a good hunting country Brigg is the centre of. The riding and driving classes, however, attracted a capital entry. Shires, too, were good, and in this section Mr. J. R. Dook Scotton, with a bay filly by Nailstone—Cœur-de-Lion, carried off the champion prize for the best foal in the show, and also the Shire Horse Society's medal.

Ludlow.

The entries at the fifty-seventh annual show of the Ludlow Agricultural Society, held in Ludford Orchard, on Monday, were considerably in advance of those received last year, both in quantity and quality, and the judges had no easy task in making many of their awards. Cattle consisted of a good type of farmers' beasts; sheep naturally of the Shropshire breed—and a very good lot too; whilst there were highly-creditable displays of Hunters and agricultural horses. Being held on the Bank Holiday, the show attracted a large company, and should prove a financial success.

[*Other shows will be found on pages 195 and 196*]

SHOW GOSSIP.

The Durham County Agricultural Society will hold their show at Wolsingham on Wednesday next, and overyone is looking forward to an even more successful event than when the society last visitod the town. This was in 1892, when a record was practically establishod both as regards entries and attendance, so that thero are no small expectations which those interested in the Society hope to bo realised, but given fine weather we should think thoy will not be disappointed. Though a comparatively small town, and not particularly easy of access, Wolsingham has many points to justify its selection as the venue of the Durham Show. Besides being centrally situated, amid charming surroundings in the valley of the Wear, it has a local show which claims the distinction of being the oldest organisation of its kind in the North. The schedule has this year undergone some wiso revisions, amongst other things being the inclusion of a field produce section for tho first time, while Mr. J. E. Rogerson, M.F.H., the president of the society, is providing another 25 guinea championship challenge cup for the best horse in the hunting classes, in place of the cup won outright last year. The appearance in the schedule of sheep-dog trials will be appreciated in Weardale almost as much as the classes for dales ponies. The district is famous for these hardy little animals, which are sure to attract attention.

The Doncaster Agricultural Society must feel very satisfiod with the result of their experiment with this year's show—*i.e.*, making it really two separate shows rather than one show spread over two days, for it resulted in a profit of £32, as compared with a loss of £112 on last year's shows.

The Royal Cornwall Agricultural Society has accepted the invitation to hold their show next year at Liskeard, the people of which town are perfectly unanimous in their invitation, and will do all they can to make the visit a success. Three sites have been offered the society, and a committee has been formed to visit them and report as to which would be most suitable.

At a meeting of the local committee in connection with the Norfolk Agricultural Show at Harleston, held last week, it was reported that the balance-sheet showed receipts amounting to £390 5s , of which £387 15s. was subscriptions, and £2 10s. rent of a sub-let portion of the ground. The expenses totalled up to £356 15s. 7d., and there was thus a balance in hand of £33 9s. 5d. This balance it was resolved to dispose of as follows :—Grant to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Association, £26 5s. ; a grant to Porter Blunderfield, who was injured at Harleston shortly after the show ; the remainder to be retained to meet possible further claims.

The Okehampton and District Agricultural Association's sixteenth annual show will be held at Oaklands, Okohampton, on Thursday, September 13, when prizes amounting in value to nearly £300 will be competed for, in classes for horses, cattlo, sheep, wool, pigs, dairy produce, roots, cottage garden produce, &c. Last year no fewer than 1,104 entries were received, the best since

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. H. M. CLARK,
East Surrey Agricultural Association.

1901, but the society hope to eclipse that total this year, and there seems no reason why they should not do so. Anyway, we hope they will. Entries close September 1 with the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. J. Futcher, Fairfield, Okehampton.

As a result of the decision to hold the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln next year, the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society have decided to postpone their show, proposed to be held at Sleaford, and co-operate with the Royal Agricultural Society.

An Agricultural, Market Gardeners', and Cottagers' Industrial Show for Bredon's Norton and District (area, a four-miles radius from Bredon's Norton Post Office), will be held in Norton Park, Bredon's Norton, near Tewkesbury, on Tuesday, tho 21st inst., and if the good prize schedule attracts anything like the number of entries it deserves, a most interesting show should be the result. The hon. secretary is Miss Edith Bradley, Bredon's Norton, near Tewkesbury.

About four hundred entries have been received for the Bournemouth Horse Show to be held on the 21st and 22nd inst., and they include the champion and prize winners at New York and Continental, the R.A.S.E., the Royal Agricultural Hall (London), Dublin, Scottish and Welsh shows, thus making the exhibition of an international character. The classes for Hunters, Polo ponies, Hacks, New Forest ponies, Shires, riding, jumping, driving, tent-pegging, lemon-cutting, and horse shoeing competitions have all filled exceedingly well, and with fine weather the show should prove a great success. In any case, it will not be the fault of tho Bournemouth Corporation if it is not, for all arrangements are well in advance, and everything has been done to command success, and it is certainly deserved.

At a meeting of the council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, held in the showyard at Lancaster, a deputation attended from Bolton and invited the society to hold their 1907 show in that town. Alderman Nicholson, who headed the deputation, said he was Mayor of Bolton in 1893 and had the pleasure of asking the society to go there in 1894. The show then was the first after the society's reconstruction, and it was so successful that they had never since looked back. He guaranteed a site, and in the matter of enthusiasm and subscriptions he promised that Bolton would do as well as it did in 1894, and, he believed, even better. After other members of the deputation had spoken, the president moved that the invitation be accepted, and the resolution was cordially carried. A vote of thanks was subsequently moved to the local committee, and the corporations of Lancaster and Morecambe were also thanked for their generous assistance. In response, Mr. George Jackson, chairman of the local committee, said that the local subscriptions to the society's finances came to exactly £1,600, and the committee had abundantly carried out their promise.

ALL MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES of FARMING NECESSITIES certainly find a Ready Sale when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express." The charge is very moderate, and consistent with the profit such small goods yield.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Agricultural Department.
President—W. DURET AUBIN, Esq.
SUMMER SHOW of Bulls, Cows, Heifers, Horses, &c., at Springfield Grounds, Jersey, AUGUST 22 and 23, 1906. JOHN A. PERREE, Secretary.

BATH HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 5 and 6, 1906.
Nearly £700 in Prizes.
Great Jumping Competitions.
Entries close August 18.
Schedules and all particulars to be obtained of—
LEWIS C. MUNDY, Secretary.
41, Milsom Street, Bath.

CHILTERN HILLS & SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.—The 17th ANNUAL SHOW will be held at HIGH WYCOMBE on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1906. OPEN CLASSES for Shire Horses, Hunters, Jumping and Driving, Shorthorns, Jerseys, Butter and Honey. — For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to JOSEPH BLISS, Secretary, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
GREAT SHOW at TOWYN, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906.
Over £300 in prizes. Dogs under Kennel Club Rules. Open Leaping and Trotting contests. Entries close Aug. 29. R. ROBERTS, Secretary, Rhydygarnedd, Towyn,

THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF COVENTRY have kindly consented to open the BREDON'S NORTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW (to be held in Norton Park, Bredon's Norton, by kind permission of Miss WOODHULL), on TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, at 2 p m. Parade of Turn-outs, Sports, Rifle Range, Demonstrations, Auction Sale, Dancing. Entries close on Wednesday, 15th. Hon. Sec., Miss EDITH BRADLEY.

HUNGARIAN BARLEY.

BEER BARLEY MARKET will be held on AUGUST 23, in Miskolcz, near Budapest, Hungary, arranged by the Association of the Hungarian Farmers, supported by the Government.
The Farmers' Association (31, Alkotmány Street, Budapest) accepts commissions to purchase, and also sends samples if desired.
The barley return of this year is in every respect excellent.

OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THE 16TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Dairy and Garden Produce, Poultry and Pigeons, will be held at Okehampton on SEPTEMBER 13.
Prizes about £300.
Schedulos and Entry Forms of CHARLES J. FUTCHER, Hon. Sec., Fairfield, Okehampton.
Entries close September 1.

BUXTON HORSE SHOW, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1906.
President :
The Rt. Hon. THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY.

Over £300 in Prizes, including Challenge Cups and Gold and Silver Medals. Fifty-guinea Challenge Cup for Best Hunter. Entries close Thursday, August 16, 1906. Military Exhibitions by Cheshire and Derbyshire Yeomanry. Entry forms and all particulars from HAMPSON BROS., Secretaries, 3, The Quadrant, Buxton.

WHITWORTH (Lancashire) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11. Judges: Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs, J. Hutchence, Esq., J. Thompson, Esq., J.P., G. Dewhurst, Esq., and F. Metcalf, Esq. Dog entries close August 6, other exhibits August 7. Schedules.—E. A. STOTT, 561, Market Street, Whitworth.

ABERGAVENNY HORSE SHOW and AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION. — Annual Exhibition of Horses and Agricultural Stock (Total Prizes, £400; Special Jumping and Trotting Prizes, £40; Special Timbering Prizes, £24) will be held in Bailey Park, Abergavenny, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1906. Special Attraction—The Tillery Colliery Prize Band (Abertillery) has been engaged for the day. Entries close August 21 (double fees, September 1).—Messrs. JAMES STRAKER & SON, Auctioneers, Valuers and Estate Agents, Abergavenny,

HAY HORSE SHOW, September 20, 1906. Entries close on September 6; double fees September 12.—REECE MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD and LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY
Are holding their
FOAL SHOW
On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
1906,
At LEIGHTON BUZZARD.

SCHEDULES now ready, and can be had on application to either of the Secretaries.

Entries close September 4.

WALTER C. PRUDAMES, W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS, } Hon. Secs.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

President: Leopold Salomons, Esq., J.P.

THE ANNUAL HORSE AND CATTLE SHOW will be held in Stoke Park, Guildford, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1906.
Prizes, value £600 will be offered.
The Entries close SATURDAY, AUGUST 11.
GEORGE ENTICKNAP, Secretary,
Bridge Street, Guildford.

Northern Notes.

HARVEST has come upon us much earlier than we anticipated, and from the Humber to the Tyne much of the acreage devoted to oats and wheat, with some of the barley, was fully ripe. Grain has matured quickly. In West Yorkshire we observed haymakers carrying on their work briskly in the heavy woollen district on Bank Holiday. The crops were bountiful, and were being won in perfect condition. The farms are small, and mainly grass, in that manufacturing neighbourhood; and it is interesting to see on a fine summer day a most lovely landscape of hill and valley dotted here and there with tall mill and colliery chimneys, all indicative of wealth-producing agencies. In the East Riding the crops are more forward still, and some wheat was actually in "stook" on Monday; numerous fields of oats were ready for carting, and many fields of barley of a rich colour were fit for the reaper. In these circumstances there is not much time for "play" between the hay and cereal harvests, as the latter will be general in Yorkshire by the 13th.

OVER such a wide area the variations in the weather, and especially in respect of the rainfall, are very considerable. In some districts the land is parched, the result of drought and the excessive heat; in others the rainfall has been normal and sufficient. No rain has fallen for several weeks in the Stokesley district, and under the influence of sun and wind the bogs and pastures present an appearance of having been burnt, and water in many cases is having to be "led" for considerable distances to supply the stock. The gardens are in a worse plight; potatoes are a complete failure, and the pea crop is ruined. On the other hand, the hay crop has been won in splendid condition, and the crops of wheat and barley give promise of an over average; oats are only moderate. Grub has been prevalent, and there is a deficiency of straw. At Northallerton the authorities are restricting the water supply. In the Richmond district of the North Riding of Yorkshire, as a result of the drought, small birds are attacking fruit crops, the ground being too hard to permit of their finding natural food. Farmers are obliged to employ "scarecrows" to moderate the destruction that sparrows are causing. Wild pigeons are also very hurtful to the crops of pulse.

THE success of the Northumberland Society's show at Newcastle has once more forced to the front the oft-repeated suggestion that the meeting should be held every year in the city. One of the arguments against the proposal is that the society would lose its "county" character. Many supporters would on that ground oppose its permanent location. Newcastle is increasing in importance every year, and it is extending its borders at an enormous rate. It could provide an adequate site for the Royal Agricultural Show, and there seems little doubt that the Finance Committee, to which body the Corporation referred the matter, will recommend an invitation to be extended for 1908. The north has strong claims to be chosen for an early visit. Nowhere is agriculture and stock breeding more prosperous or carried out on more practical lines. At any rate, it was a matter of certainty that the premier agricultural organisation would be able to pick and choose, if necessary, from several invitations from towns eager to house the Royal. New life and interest has been imported into it as the result of emancipation effected after the disastrous policy culminating at Park Royal in 1905. Newcastle would draw probably more thousands than Derby; it has many attractions, and it is one of the most beautiful of our English cities.

THE agricultural department of Armstrong College is doing a work of which northerners are justly proud, and the staff would, no doubt, prepare a programme of great interest to visitors to a Royal Show meeting on lines more extended than was done at the recent county show. There was to be seen on that occasion a most interesting exhibit, including diagrams and reports illustrating its agricultural work in the north of England. Two maps showed in detail the soils and subsoils of Cockle Park, the Northumberland Agricultural Experiment Station. Other diagrams indicated the effect of feeding on the quality and quantity of milk, these being chiefly taken from the Offerton Dairy experiments. Another table showed the variation in the composition of swedes. The forestry section contained a number of specimens of wood and forest seedlings.

GRAZING lambs are selling at high prices in Yorkshire, and are at the opening of the sale season fully three to four shillings in advance of last year. The excellent prospects of keep are a ruling factor. The root crop in the Holderness country promises better things than for many years past, and before November lambs will no doubt be at fancy prices. Leicester gimmer shearlings for breeding purposes made to 55s. per head in pens of five at Driffield cattle market. Farmers able to carry a good many sheep on their holdings have done exceedingly well this summer, after reckoning up their receipts from wool and mutton.

THE rainfall in the east of Yorkshire during July was liberal, the total being given as 2·410 in. Thirteen days were "rainy," temperature in the shade varied from 77·8 deg. on the 28th to 41·0 degs. on the 12th. The rainfall exercised a marvellous effect upon the turnip crop, the wonderful progress of which is the current topic among farmers.

August 10, 1906.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sheep in Sussex.

SIR,—When recently reading White's "Natural History of Selborne," I came across the following interesting remark relating to sheep in Sussex, and I shall be glad if one of your readers will report whether the fact still holds good and if you will publish the letter for my information:—

"One thing is very remarkable as to the sheep; from the westward till you get to the river Adur, all the flocks have horns and smooth white faces and white legs; and a hornless sheep is rarely to be seen. But as soon as you pass the river eastward and mount Beeding Hill, all the flocks at once become hornless, or, as they call them, poll sheep, and have, moreover, black faces with a white tuft of wool on their foreheads, and speckled and spotted legs; so that you would think that the flocks of Laban were pasturing on one side of the stream and the variegated breed of his son-in-law Jacob were cantoned on the other; and this diversity holds good respectively on each side, from the valley of Bramber and Beeding to the eastward and westward, all the whole length of the downs. If you talk with the shepherds on this subject they tell you that the case has been so from time immemorial, and smile at your simplicity if you ask them whether the situation of these two different breeds might not be reversed."

—Yours truly, URBANUS.

August 9, 1906.

British or Foreign Meat for the Army?

SIR,—Through your widely-read and influential paper I desire briefly to invite the attention of the agriculturists of Great Britain to the prevailing system of supplying the Army and Navy with imported meat and the troop horses largely with imported forage. This means the transference of enormous custom to those who do not contribute to the upkeep of the Army or Navy. Surely the tax-paying farmers of the three kingdoms are entitled to receive the support of the authorities whom they sustain by the payment of Imperial taxation, besides paying local rates, rents, and giving employment. It is to be hoped that those interested in Great Britain will back up the action of the Irish Cattle Traders' and Stock Owners' Association, who have already interviewed the Secretary of State for War on the subject.—Faithfully yours, WILLIAM FIELD,

President Irish Cattle Traders' and Stock Owners' Association.

Blacknock, August 7, 1906.

The Board of Agriculture Weakness.

SIR,—Earl Carrington has done well by his appointment of Mr. R. H. Rew to succeed Major Craigie at the Board of Agriculture. Mr. Rew's many Midland friends recognise him as eminently a practical man, with the sound knowledge of rural problems and aspirations that come only in the hard school of experience; and his promotion is hailed as earnest of Earl Carrington's intention to make the Board a really practical body. Yet among thinking men who realise what science can do for agriculture, and what foreign Governments are doing already for agricultural science, the present Board is never likely to be very highly esteemed. What it does it does well; so much all are ready to concede. But how much is there it does not and can never do, so long as the present paltry grant is all that is allowed! The opening of the Mason Laboratory at Rothamsted reminds us of the great things that are expected from the study of agricultural bacteriology, but there is no bacteriologist of eminence at the Board; nor is it to Whitehall one looks to take the lead in the wonderful experiments in hybridisation which promise to increase the produce and strengthen the constitutions of cereal and other crops. So also with entomology; there are important discoveries being made and yet to make in regard to insect pests on fruit and field crops; but it is not the Board of Agriculture that is doing the work. We look for that to the Ormerods, the college teachers and University lecturers outside.

It is not so in Canada, as anyone may convince himself who cares to procure the Appendix to the Dominion Minister of Agriculture's report, with its entirely practical communication from the official agriculturist, horticulturist, chemist, cereal expert, poultry manager and entomologist and botanist. The Canadian Department is a power in the land, because it is an efficient, thinking department; and it is that because the Canadian Government is willing to pay for the needful brain power. When will it be possible to say as much of our own?

Yours faithfully,
L. H.

Half-Holidays for Farm Labourers.

SIR,—In the first place, let me sympathise with "Another Rose" in his misfortune at being put out of the ranks of manual labour through an accident, though, with the same breath, I congratulate him on being still able to live comfortably in spite of his misfortune. I also extend my congratulations to the labourers in his district who get 18s. per week all the year round, cottage and garden free, extra pay for overtime during harvest, a plentiful supply of beer, land on the farm provided to grow sufficient potatoes for the year, enough grass land at a nominal rent to keep a cow, besides the free use of their master's team for hay carrying, coal drawing, &c. Happy labourers! I willingly assent that in "Another Rose's" district they are better off than labourers in other vocations, and would that I could think they were as well treated everywhere. If such generous treatment had been general throughout the country during the past decade, I do not think many good men who have done so would have left the time-honoured calling, and there would certainly have been no need for me to plead the cause of the farm labourer. I should like to have seen the views of some actual members of the farm labouring fraternity in this controversy, but, of course, these men are more at home in wielding the scythe or the hay fork than the pen. RED ROSE.

August 7, 1906.

[This correspondence must now cease.—ED.]

Liquid Manure and Other Topics.

SIR,—I see in yours of this week, in referring, or rather I should say inserting, my few remarks as to "Liquid Manure," I am made to say, "the better the season," etc. It should have been "the wetter the season," etc I can only say that if I said "better," when I should have said "wetter," I must, though shearing time is over, have been "wool-gathering" at the time!

In page 127, in speaking of the advance in the price of wool, you say "most flocks yielded on an average 2s. 6d. to 4s. more value in wool than last year." I fancy this is much over-valued; the average advance per lb. is certainly not over 2s., and I think in the West of England 6 lb. is a full average clip, and this amounts to 1s. a head—some difference this between 2s 6d. to 4s.

I feel sure you will take my remarks in the spirit in which I write you and not put me down as a critic. I notice you refer in yours this week to the "2,003 pieces of wheat." Of course the misprint was evident, but I have been much "chaffed" about it, but all in good humour.

I am just returned from a visit into Dorset, having been to see an old friend who, with his son adjoining him, has 1,500 horn ewes, and has also a dairy of nearly 200 cows—I mean the father and son together.—Yours truly,

Devizes, August 3, 1906. W. FOOKES.

[Our correspondent's caligraphy, to put it politely, is not of the plainest, hence the errors to which he draws attention.—ED.]

Devon Cattle in Japan.

SIR,—I notice in your cattle page of this week, speaking of exporters, you say that "Red Polls, Sussex, and Devons are amongst the breeds that do not find many friends abroad who are desirous of buying new blood or of testing the abilities of these breeds to make a profit in their countries."

Probably a good many sales are not publicly reported, but I know that our enterprising allies the Japanese have already given Devons a trial, and in case it should interest you to know it, I may mention that I have just sold for export to Japan three Devon bulls and a three year-old Devon heifer, with four Berkshire boars and ten gilts, also a Sussex ram and ewe from the well-known herds and flock of Viscount Portman at Bryanston.—Yours faithfully, JAMES FORRESTER.

Bryanston, Blandford,
August 8, 1906.

Agriculture in Sweden—III.

A Model Estate—Feudal Conditions.

Our next visit was to the estate of Mr. Oscar C. Eckman, at Bjärka Saby, who, being a wealthy proprietor, devotes his time and attention to rendering the estates and buildings as perfect as they can be kept. A large proportion of the estate, however, is let to small tenants, who pay their rent in kind. The bulk of the payment comes to the proprietor in the form of milk, although a considerable portion is paid by giving so many days' work to the owner of the soil. The principle involved is precisely the same as the old feudal system which at one time existed in this country.

To revert to the estate itself, the land is managed on strictly scientific principles; an eight years' rotation being enforced.

1. Fallow, enriched with stable manure and fertilisers.
2. Winter grain, rye, or wheat, according to the quality of the soil.
3 and 4. Grass and clover.
5. Two-thirds grass, one-third (about 15 hectares) is ploughed the preceding autumn and sown with mixed grain, which is allowed to ripen.

Four-fifths hectares of the third rotation are left unploughed in the autumn in order to produce a crop of potatoes next year.

6. Mixed grain (barley and oats) on 15 hectares for green fodder and potatoes on 4·5 hectares. The potatoes are planted according to a method first used in Sweden at Bjärka Saby. The soil is left unploughed in the autumn. In the spring it is harrowed and ploughed thoroughly and manured with potash and phosphate Then the planting is preformed by means of two ploughs, the one shallow, the other deep. The potatoes are laid into the shallow furrow, and covered by turning over the deep furrow, and then the field is rolled. This method has very great advantages, and the planting may be done before any other spring labours, as soon as the soil has thawed. The potato crop is thriving, and the products are sounder and of a better quality than those grown in the usual way.
8. Oats and mixed grain. All sowing is performed by means of sowing machines after the fields, by intense labour for removing stones, have been made proper for the use of such machines.

The result of this cropping has been to greatly improve the soil and render it more fertile.

The cattle kept are all Ayrshires; the stock is principally for breeding purposes, and it is found there is a keen demand for the young bulls, which are sold at an average of £25 apiece. Considerable attention has been paid to freeing the herd from tuberculosis, and they have all been examined by means of tuberculin. In order to ensure freedom from the trouble every summer the cow houses, &c., are washed out with hot soda and lysol solution, and then whitewashed.

During the last few years the herd has taken part in a competition controlled by the State to ascertain the milk yield. According to these figures the cow yielding the highest quantity of milk gave 11,539 lb. with 3·31 per cent. of fat, while the cow showing the highest proportion of butter gave 10,524 lb. of milk, which, however, showed 3·92 percentage of butter fat. In the summer the cows are grazed, and the principal milk production is confined to the winter. It is generally managed that they should calve down in sequence, beginning in the autumn, and the food during the winter consists of roots, straw, and cake. Milking cows get daily about 44 lb. of roots and 10 lb. of hay and straw, while cake is given to the cows according to how long they have been in profit.

The number of horses kept is not very large, and the principle purpose is the provision of remounts for the army. Of pigs a large number are kept, most of them being by a Yorkshire boar crossed on the native stock, an average litter of ten being obtained from each sow. They are sold out fat at the age of nine months at weights ranging from 180 to 220 lb., either for export or home consumption.

An Unique Small Holding.

We were much interested on this estate to see a survival of a small holding held under the feudal system, which in this instance gave admirable results and satisfactory terms to both landlord and peasant.

The holding consisted of two and a-half hectares, or just over six acres, and in payment for this the tenant had to work two days a week for his landlord; the remaining four days being left for him to cultivate his own home. Inquiry showed that the average rate of wages in that locality was approximately 2s. 6d. per day, a figure which will be found to work out something like an annual rent of 10s. per acre. The tenant in this case was a remarkably able and hard-working man, and the fertility to which he had brought the soil was a striking testimony to his courage and endurance in overcoming natural difficulties.

The land in all places was well worked, and the crops promised a better return than on adjacent soil, which was cultivated by a larger farmer. There was a very comfortable house that had been recently put up, the work, we believed, being principally done by the tenant, while the out-buildings provided accommodation for the stock, which consisted of five cows, four sheep, and three pigs.

The visit to Bjärka Saby was of an exceptional interesting character, showing us, as it did, on one hand what science can do to aid in farming and on the other end of the scale a relic of feudalism, which to an Englishman's mind was a survival for a remote age.

MIDSUMMER DAY FESTIVITIES.
In Sweden festivities similar to the Old English Maypole dances take place on Midsummer Day. They are still general in all parts of the country, and even in the towns many of the houses are decorated with greenstuff and flowers.

AYRSHIRE COW, "MARY IV.," BRED IN SWEDEN.
In 1904-5 she yielded 9,900 lbs. of milk, with a fat percentage of 3·31.

A Day at Berkeley Castle.

The members of the Gloucester Root, Fruit, and Grain Society had a rare treat on August 3, when they had their fifth annual field day, a visit this time being paid to Berkeley Castle, the historical home of Lord Fitzhardinge. The party left Gloucester in brakes, and on arrival at Berkeley was met by Mr. Jas. Peter, Lord Fitzhardinge's popular steward, who is so well known throughout the agricultural world as a judge and breeder of shorthorns. A visit was first paid to the castle, once a grim fortress, now a comfortable residence, and amongst other interesting things the visitors were shown the bed on which King Edward II. slept when kept in solitary confinement at Berkeley, and the room where he was eventually murdered. The old-world gardens round the castle were much enjoyed, and while the sporting members of the party showed a lively interest in the kennels and stables, the farmers were naturally more taken up with the Shorthorns, of which there is a fine herd at Berkeley. The luncheon came next, at which over a hundred sat down as guests of the noble Lord of Berkeley, and they drank his health in a style that none but farmers can drink healths. Mr. Jas. Peter responded on behalf of Lord Fitzhardinge, and not the least enjoyable item of the day's proceedings was the crisp, witty, and soundly practical speech delivered by his lordship's agent. Feeling sympathy was intermingled with pointed criticism, for when Mr. Peter speaks he talks straight, and during the drive back to Gloucester Mr. Peter's very-much-to-the-point remarks were the subject of general comment. Altogether it was a pleasant as well as an instructive day, the arrangements made by Mr Starr, the energetic secretary, were perfect, and it will be a long time before the members of this flourishing society will forget their outing to historic Berkeley.

The Approaching Harvest.

We are drawing very near to the days when the pickers will be seen in the plantations, and we shall soon be at the end of our doubts and anxieties as to the results of our labour. But I fear we shall not be able to follow the example of our rural ancestors, of whom the poet sings, telling us that they celebrated their ingathering "with feasts, and offerings, and a thankful strain."

Unhappily, the experience of our planters this year has been the reverse of joyful. They have fought through the whole of the months since the starting of the growth, with the most persistent blight that has been known for many years. All their efforts to conquer it have been practically in vain. Their skill and outlay have been beaten by the forces of Nature, and they come to the harvest with lightened pockets, which they have but little hope of replenishing by the proceeds of their market business. For the prospects have not improved this week; washing has ceased, not because the enemy has been defeated, but because the further development of the plant stops the machines. I have analysed many reports and find that in Kent there are over thirty that say there is no perceptible improvement, and only twenty that can trace even slight advancement in the crop prospects. I cannot see one that speaks hopefully or confidently, while very many report the presence and run of mould.

With respect to the yield there are one or two cases in which the possibility of 10 cwt. is mentioned, but the greater proportion are evidently not expecting an average, and in some parishes estimates do not go beyond 4 to 5 cwt. Some exceptional plantations are, of course, to be found, where lavish expenditure, aided by good judgment, will be rewarded by a fair crop. Such action deserves reward, and will, I trust, gain it in the final results; but looking broadly over the prospects of the premier hop county, I fear that disappointment will unfortunately attend the majority.

The outlook for the Surrey planters is also very poor. While some few gardens have advanced a little, others have gone back, and the crop for the Farnham district is estimated at not more than 3 to 4 cwt. per acre.

The Sussex reports are practically similar. The hot sun, here as elsewhere, has helped some gardens and damaged others, several of them being beyond recovery. Of Herefordshire it is generally said, that her deep clay soil can stand a drought better than any part of the hop plantations. But this season we do not find confirmation of the usual experience, the latest news being that only 2 cwt. per acre will be the average, and many yards will not even give that small weight.

In Worcestershire the burr is generally out, but the blight is not conquered, well-washed grounds are making progress, and here and there fair crops will be gathered. The average must, however, be low, and the whole of the Midlands will not exceed what I mentioned last week, viz., 3 to 4 cwt. per acre.

THE CONTINENT.—Reports from Germany are, on the whole, rather more favourable. In Spalt an average crop may be gathered, and in Hallertau the outlook is also encouraging. But only small crops will come from the districts of the market hops, and the Aischgrund. A friend, who is a grower in Alsace, writes me as follows:—"Hops have improved during the last fortnight, and I believe that many of our plantations will give an average crop. Rain would be a great advantage, but is not yet urgent. Three weeks ago it appeared that we should have a very small crop, and some of the earlies will still give poor results, but the Fuggles are flourishing, and the Bramblings also, but not to the same extent."

AMERICA.—The glowing accounts of the condition of the growing crops on the Pacific Coast have been recently modified. The following extract from a private letter from an expert in Oregon throws some light on the present position:—"Having just returned from the country, where I have made a thorough inspection of hop yards in various parts of the State, I am sorry to say that the intense heat that has prevailed for the last two or three weeks has been very detrimental to favourable growth and the development of our hops. They do not seem to arm out as well as expected, and in the wired yards, especially, the hot wires have cut into the branch vines to such an extent that they are hanging limp and dwindling away. Taking an average view of existing facts, I am inclined to say to-day that we shall hardly, after all, have more than last year, if we can reach that, and should the hot spell continue for any length of time without occasional refreshing showers, we shall have to cut down our estimates still further." The above is confirmed by a cable I received this week from Washington, which says that the weather is too hot and dry, and that estimates are being reduced.

The Markets.

LONDON.—Although the holidays have interfered with business, and the limitation of stocks prevents any very important transactions, there is sufficient trade moving to maintain firmness in values, there being a decided tendency towards advancement, which has been established in many cases. As far as I can ascertain, the transactions of the past fortnight have mainly been of a speculative character between Borough holders, the demand from consumers being very moderate. The position demonstrates the faith held by traders, in the future effects of the short crop that is now accepted as inevitable. The only question that remains unsettled is the actual yield, concerning which there is, of course, some difference of opinion. Estimates have been recently much reduced, and to-day I find that the highest does not exceed 320,000 cwt. But even this low figure is discounted by those whose ideas of the crop vary from 280,000 to 300,000 cwt. Judging by the reports that have reached me, I am inclined to think that we shall see rather better results than those predicted by the extreme pessimists, and that an average of about 6½ cwt. per acre will be harvested. Taking the known condition of the English plantations into account, together with the moderate crop expected from the Continent, and the reduced estimates we are now getting from America, we are justified in looking for strength in the opening of our near market. With the recollections of last season in their minds, brewers will probably be shy at first, and will point to their supplies as their excuse. Our growers will, however, know how to deal with such arguments, and will be well advised in being firm in holding their own—at least until they have ascertained the actual position of affairs.

NUREMBERG.—A large business, considering the period of the year, has been passing at full prices. The demand for export continues, buyers for this direction paying 40s. to 50s. for mediums, and 55s. to 65s. for better sorts. Local consumers have also been in the market, and have paid from 70s. to 95s., according to quality.

Samples of new hops have arrived from Styria and Tettnang. The quality of the former is as usual not very satisfactory, and they remain unsold at the price at which they were offered, 2s. per lb. The earlies from Tettnang are more attractive, and have been disposed of at fancy prices.

The scarcity of choice lots, and the demand for such by local brewers, has raised their value considerably, sales having been made as high as 100s.

BRUSSELS.—A certain calmness has come over the hop market, and the trade in 1905 hops is for the moment suspended. There are sellers at 60 to 70 francs, but buyers are holding off. A fall of several points has taken place on the Bourse in the value of 1906's. The latest quotations were 115 francs for Alosts and 105 for Poperinghes. Traders are waiting further developments with respect to the new crop.

AMERICA.—In sympathy with the European markets an upward movement has commenced, which promises to progress. In a cable message received this week, I am told that it is expected that the market will go higher, and in a letter from Portland, Oregon, dated July 21, the writer says: "Our local market is much excited and active of late, dealers trying to make contracts for the coming crop. Ten cents was the opening price, but it has moved on, and 12 and 12½ cents have been freely offered, even 13 cents being reported this morning." From another source of information I learn there has been some contracting for N.Y. State hops at 15 cents. The position is very firm, with an upward tendency.

Imports and Exports.

The returns of the Board of Trade for July show that our imports of hops are again heavier than expected. We have received 11,249 cwt. from America, and 3,000 cwt. from other countries, making a total for the month of 14,249 cwt. Looking back over the eleven months that have passed since the commencement of the present season, we are faced with a total importation of 187,661 cwt., of which America has sent us 92,075 cwt., and the Continent 95,586 cwt. Against this big figure, we can only put the small one of 20,327 cwt., the total of our exports for the same period, therefore the balance of load upon our market is no less than 167,334 cwt. Our great crop of 1905 was more than sufficient for our requirements. It is clear that our industry must have suffered by this large addition to our stocks, without the slightest benefit to the general public, who consume our produce.

The answer of the Government to the Canterbury Farmers' Club concerning this matter savours of contempt. Attention was called to the serious position of the hop-growing industry, owing to the unfair competition from foreign countries, and Mr. Marks, M.P. for Thanet, was curtly informed, that with regard to the proposal that foreign hops should be marked, or that an import duty should be imposed, the Government could not take action in either direction. Thus we must continue to "grin and abide by" the unjust conditions under which we are compelled to try to exist. I trust that some of us may live to see a more patriotic and enlightened policy, supposing that we have not, by that time, lost our position as hop growers, and resigned it to our favoured foreign competitors.

Hop Acreages.

Our Agricultural Statistics for 1905, recently issued, gives some interesting details, from which I extract the following, having reference to hops. The English area of 48,967 acres in 1905 shows a loss of over 2,200 acres in the past five years. Canadian growers do not appear to have been much encouraged, despite the advantages of their climate and soil, as they have reduced their acreage from 2,514 to 1,997 acres. On the other hand, Tasmania and New Zealand are extending their operations, the former having increased from 665 to 757 acres, and the latter from 790 to 894 acres. The returns for South Australia, where some hops are also grown, are not given, but I understand that owing to the advantages found in Tasmania, the South Australian plantations are rather reduced than otherwise.

Turning to the Continental returns, the following figures appear:—

	Present.		Previous.	
Austria.....	50,000	...	48,444	acres.
Hungary	1,720	...	1,047	,,
Germany	97,592	...	90,567	,,
France	7,212	...	6,709	,,
Belgium	5,795	...	5,340	,,
Holland	123	...	138	,,

It will be noted that with the small exception of Holland, all the Continental districts are extending their hop areas, the total of the above figures, 162,442 acres, exceeding the previous returns by over 10,000 acres. In the agricultural returns for Russia, hops are not given as a separate item, but I suppose they may be taken as about 15,000 acres, with a tendency to increase, as planters receive subsidies from the Government, and the industry is being promoted by other means.

Carlisle Harvest Hirings.—The quarterly or "Lammas" hirings at Carlisle were held on the 4th inst., when a fair number of both masters and men turned up, and almost all the men were engaged. The best men were hired at £7 to £9, and up to £10 for the quarter; less experienced men, down to £4. There was a good demand for women servants, who were scarce, and those for hire commanded high wages, almost equalling the men's, while girls got from £3 10s. to £5.

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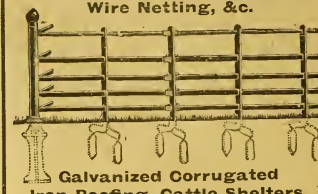
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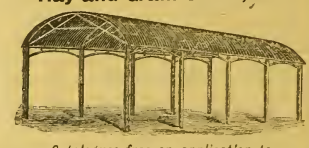
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Midland Notes.

LAMMAS saw a beginning of wheat cutting in early districts, and by the Saturday before Bank Holiday many fields in Worcestershire were in sheaf, while a day or so later cutting had become fairly general in Warwick. It should be a cheap harvest, for there can have been few seasons necessitating so little hand cutting, and year by year the self-binding harvester attacks a larger acreage. Nevertheless, there are complaints already of the scarcity of hands, and the difficulty is not relieved to the extent it might be by the migratory labour, which naturally gravitates to districts where most corn is grown or average earnings run highest, leaving other parts hardly better supplied than in the ordinary times when work is only normal. There is, however, another source of labour open now to farmers. For some time past the Labour Bureau run by the Distress Committee of the Birmingham Corporation has been offering unemployed workmen "suitable for haymaking, fruit gathering, hop-picking, &c.," and doubtless for the cornfields also, and while such labour is not of the finest quality it is better than nothing in times of emergency.

RECENT correspondence on rural schooling reminds one of the efforts which are being made in Staffordshire for the education of farmers' sons in the science of their profession—for such and no less is modern agriculture become. The Staffordshire County Council's Directory for Higher Eduction, 1906-7, which has been sent to me within the last few days, makes pleasant reading for the rural districts Stafford, of course, is one of the counties which subscribe towards the cost of keeping up the Harper-Adams College at Newport. But it provides for young people also, for at the Brewood Grammar School, whose agricultural side is helped by county grants, lads of twelve years old and upwards are put through a three years' course, giving them opportunity for actual work upon the land, and learning everything from butter making and hedge layering to surveying and farm-accountancy. Beyond that there are, of course, the agricultural classes at evening schools, the lectures on agricultural, veterinary, and dairying topics which can be given here, there, and everywhere as required; and the evening gardening classes which are doing much, one hears, to interest lads and young men in work upon the land. The Staffordshire educational work, by the way, has just sustained a severe loss by the death of Mr. Robert Cock, F.R.H.S., whose lectures on poultry gardening, and bee-keeping since 1892 made him a familiar figure all over the countryside. Mr. Cock was no theorist, but a thoroughly practical man, and it is but a few weeks since a movement was set on foot for presenting him with a testimonial on account of his services to the county.

THE figures in the latest agricultural Buff-book relating to the letting of farms in 1905 are less pleasant reading for the Midlands than for other parts of the country. Taking the Kingdom as a whole, the proportion of owner-farmed land is still decreasing, and that of tenant-cultivated land increasing, and Major Craigie is no doubt right in accounting for the change by greater readiness to hire agricultural land to-day than prevailed during the years of extreme depression, in which comparison is made. But in this part of the country the last twelve months appear to have brought practically no improvement. Taking a dozen Midland counties, not as they are classified in the return (along with other parts of England), but by themselves, I find that they account for some 5,284,000 acres of the cultivated area, while last year the net gain in Midland tenant-farmed land was the mere trifle of 380 acres. There were, indeed, considerable improvements in Derby, Leicester, Rutland, Salop, and Warwick, but three counties—Northants, Notts, and Oxford—account for a decline of over 8,200 acres in the tenant-cultivated area, and an advance of over 9,200 acres in the extent of that "in hand." Such changes are too big to be explained to any extent by sales of farms to occupiers, although when any large Midland estate gets broken up nowadays one generally finds a fair number of agricultural tenants bidding for their own holdings. On the other hand, the agents one meet in that group of counties do not give one the idea that any noticeable number of farms are being given up, and only this week the Duke of Newcastle has taken the opportunity afforded by the Clumber Show to hail an improving tendency in agriculture. But then the Dukeries have always fostered agriculture, which should flourish on the Welbeck and Clumber Estates if anywhere.

August 9, 1906.

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AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Water Rate Assessment.

SIR,—Will "Barrister-at-Law" tell me the proper and legal method of assessing house property to water rate assessment? The company here assess upon the annual value, and how is the annual value arrived at? Are there any legal deductions which can be claimed from the rent actually paid to the landlord? RATEPAYER.

July 31, 1906.

[If the water rate is payable on the annual value of the house, then the annual value is easily arrived at. It is the net annual value. First, as to repairs, the average annual amount must be deducted; secondly, the rates and taxes. Annual value is not the same as the poor rate value, but is something between the gross estimated rental—that is, what the house would let at before the deductions were made, and the poor rate. In London, however, under Torrens' Act, it is the poor rate valuation on which the water rate is fixed. The whole matter was discussed in the case of Dobbs *v.* The Grand Junction Waterworks Company in the House of Lords some years ago, and this is the leading case on the meaning of annual value in Water Companies Acts.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Changing a Name.

SIR,—I am desirous of changing my name, and should be glad if you will tell me how to set about it. CONSTANT READER.

August 1, 1906.

[Change of name is often given by the insertion of advertisements in the newspaper, or by telling one's friend and acquaintances when the name has been changed. Another way, because it perpetuates evidence, is by a deed-poll declaratory of the fact. This is enrolled in the central office of the Supreme Court of Judicature. Public notice to members to be given by advertisements. The deed stamp is 10s., and advertisements, &c., another £5. Another way is by Royal licence, but this is an expensive process.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Tithe.

SIR,—I should be glad if you will tell me the exact meaning of tithes.—A NEW READER.

July 31, 1906.

[Tithe is the tenth part of the fruits, prædial, personal, and mixed, due to the ministers of the church for their maintenance. Tithes arise from the profits and stock of lands, or from the personal industry of the inhabitants of a parish The former class are either prædial, among which are tithes of corn, grass, hops, and wood, or mixed, as of wood, milk, pigs, &c. The latter, personal, as of occupations, trades, fisheries, and the like. Of prædial and mixed tithes, the tenth must be paid in gross; but of personal tithes, only the tenth part of the clear profits is due. Nor are tithes of this latter kind generally due at all except so far as the particular custom of the place may authorise the claims. Tithes are divided into great and small tithes. Small tithes include tithes mixed and personal, whereas tithes of corn, hay, and wood are generally comprised under great tithes, but no clear line of demarcation seems to have been drawn between them. All tithes *primâ facie* by presumption of law belong to the rector; but any part of the tithes may be shown by evidence to belong to the vicar. Tithes are now annuited into tithe-rent charge, which is payable by the landlord. I think this explanation will satisfy you on the point of the origin and nature of tithes.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Fences.

SIR,—From enclosure award, dated September, 1850, No. on map 120, extent 60a. 2r. 10p., *Fences to be made and maintained by owner of allotment.* As B says he will not make the fence, will Barrister-at-Law say in your next issue if A has a valid case at law, and if in the county court or at the county magistrates' court for the division?—A FORTY YEARS' SUBSCRIBER.

[The object of fencing is to keep the land so enclosed that cattle may not stray and do damage. In the present case it does not appear that A is suffering any damage for the fact that B refuses to make and keep up the fence, but if any damage does occur to him at any time from B's negligence, A would most certainly have a right of acting in the county court or the High Court, according to the amount of damage.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

The Framlingham Agricultural Co-operative Society, which makes a speciality of the egg trade, has during the past six months gathered in its district of Suffolk 530,615 eggs, an increase of nearly 130,000 over the same period of last year. The farmers benefited to the extent of £300 to £400, this representing the difference between the prices formerly paid by dealers and those given by the society.

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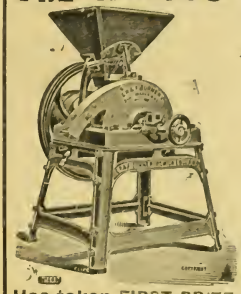

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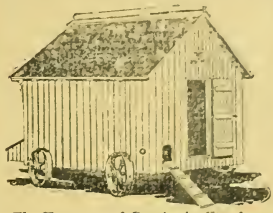

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It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and													
Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Grass Mixtures.

It is essential that good clean seed should be used. Many failures are due to the result of using cheap seed, much of which is either dead or imperfectly formed and weak. No satisfactory result can be obtained unless nearly every seed will grow and grow vigorously. Weaklings never make good plants.

It is also necessary that the land to be sown down should be thoroughly clean and as free from weeds as possible. This is especially important where permanent pasture is being sown down, for many of the best grasses for this purpose are small and slow in growth at first and are easily smothered if they do not get plenty of light and air.

Another point of great importance is the need for a finely worked seed bed. Unless a fine tilth is obtained and the surface is level and well rolled down the finer seeds do not germinate satisfactorily.

Moreover, land to be laid down should be in good condition. A light top dressing of 2 cwt. of superphosphate where lime is abundant on the soil or 2 cwt. of phosphatic guano where lime is deficient assists the germination and growth of the clovers.

In establishing newly laid down permanent pasture the safest plan is to mow the first year, graze with young stock the second and third years, keeping sheep off the land until the fourth season.

British Association.

At the meeting of the British Association at York, several problems connected with agriculture were discussed from a scientific point of view.

Prussic Acid in Plants.—In the chemical section, Professor Wyndham Dunstan opened a discussion on this subject. He said it had been known for some time that prussic acid had been formed by plants, and it was first discovered in the bitter almond. There had been a view from the botanical standpoint that the acid was one of the first substances to be formed by the plant, and that it existed in a free state. Professor Dunstan mentioned that there was a vetch-like plant which grew on the banks of the Nile which, when crushed with water, formed prussic acid, and there was also a species of haricot bean in the East Indies which contained the poison, it being responsible for the poisoning of a whole family in the Isle of Mauritius. Linseed and flax plants supplied the acid in small quantities. Referring to the glucosides which entered into the formation of prussic acid, he said their significance for botanists was somewhat complicated. What they really found in the plant was glucoside, a compound chemical structure, which, so far as they could go, appeared to be the origin of prussic acid.

Nitrogen from the Air.—In the botany section, Mr. T. Jamieson, Director of the Aberdeenshire Agricultural Research Association, read a paper on the "Utilisation of Nitrogen in the Air by Plants," in which he explained his well known views. The chairman of the section said he could not endorse Mr. Jamieson's propositions, and remarked that the last word had not yet been spoken on the assimilation of nitrogen by plants, but, as a chemist, he was bound to say that the very important conclusion which Mr. Jamieson had drawn from his investigations did not appear to him to be supported by adequate chemical evidence.

Oxidation in Soils.—Mr. F. V. Darbyshire and Dr. E. J. Russell contributed a paper on "Oxidation in Soils and its Relation to Productiveness." The contents of the paper were of a highly technical character, but went to show that oxidation is mainly due to the activity of micro-organisms, and that the productiveness of a soil is proportionate to its rate of oxidation.

Composition of Turnips.

In the report on turnip experiments issued by the Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture there are some observations on the above subject. The bulb of the turnip or swede is not uniform in composition, and it is generally supposed that the part of the bulk which is covered by the soil is richer than the part which is above the soil. The investigations show that this assumption is incorrect, and that—

1. The upper half of a turnip contains a higher percentage of dry matter than the lower half. This is in direct opposition to the common opinion that the lower half is the richer.

2. The outside part next the rind is richer in dry matter than the inner part. As we proceed from the outside towards the centre the dry matter decreases. This is true, no matter in what direction we proceed, but the difference from crown to centre is greater than the difference found in any other direction.

It is well known that individual roots of the same species grown on the same land side by side vary considerably in composition. Generally speaking, large bulbs are lower in dry matter than small ones, but both large and small vary very much among themselves.

Co-operation in Germany.

There are 700 farmers' clubs, which co-operate in the purchasing of farming implements and necessaries, chemical manures, feeding stuffs, seeds, machinery, and so on. Their turnover is over £100,000 per annum. This co-operation has accounted for £10,000 alone in discounts and £2,000 allowances for stuff delivered below the guaranteed chemical constituents.

Hand in hand with the co-operative system there are fire and hail insurance companies throughout the province; gradually life insurance is spreading too. Farmers are beginning to insure themselves against liabilities in cases of bodily harm being done to their farm hands, for which the State makes all employers directly responsible.

There are about 1,000 local cattle insurance companies insuring farmers against contagious diseases.

Use of Lime.

Formerly, before the introduction of artificial fertilisers, liming was a regular practice, and there is no doubt that much land would be vastly improved by an application of this material.

In a report of the University College, Reading, it is pointed out that lime has a many-sided action upon the soil. It is primarily an essential constituent of plant food, which is taken from the soil by all kinds of crops. Moreover, it is necessary for the very important process of nitrification, by which the nitrogen of organic manures, such as dung and humus, is made available to plants. Lime also liberates potash from clay in the soil and corrects sourness of the land where drainage is defective or where good tillage has been neglected. In addition to these properties, lime has a remarkable power of destroying the puddled state of stiff clays, and rendering them more open and more easily worked to a good tilth, which improved condition lasts some years.

Finally, liming promotes the early ripening of crops, and is a specific for finger-and-toe or club-root of turnips, swedes, cabbages, and other cruciferous plants.

Lime may be applied in various forms—viz., as (1) quicklime or freshly-burnt lime, (2) raw chalk, and as gas lime.

On stiff clays and sour peaty lands, quicklime is much the best kind to use. It may be placed in small heaps for two or three weeks in order to slake and break up into fine powder, after which it should be spread uniformly over the soil. From 1 to 2 tons per acre every six or eight years is better than applying larger doses at longer intervals. Big dressings of quicklime on light sandy soils may do much mischief in making such soils still lighter than they are, and destroying the humus which is so essential for the retention of moisture in dry seasons. Nevertheless, in cases of sandy land subject to finger-and-toe, quicklime is necessary to obtain good results; otherwise, chalk is to be preferred for application to light soils deficient in lime.

Gas lime, as it comes from the gasworks, contains sulphur compounds and other substances which are highly injurious to crops of all kinds, and until these are destroyed it is very inadvisable to use it. Gas lime should be left in a heap for at least twelve months, during which time it should be moved or turned over once or twice to allow of free aëration. It may then be applied to the land, and will act in practically the same manner as a dressing of chalk

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Clover will assist in providing nitrogen in the soil, but potash and phosphate are necessary before the land will grow clover. Even the free nitrogen of the atmosphere cannot be had for nothing.

No farmer should send money away from home for the purchase of any article that can be grown upon his farm.

New Method of Calculating the Root Crop.

In the year 1904 the Danish Statistical Office introduced an important change in the method of calculating the total feeding value of the root crop, taking as a basis the average dry substance in the roots. The credit for this new system is due to Dr. Helweg, director of experimental stations, and it is believed that the result approaches nearer to reality that the old system in vogue up to 1903, according to which a ton of roots was assumed to possess a uniform relative value in proportion to oats. Thus one ton of forage beet root, kohlrabi, or swedes was estimated to equal one-tenth of a ton of oats, and a ton of turnips one-twelfth of a ton of oats.

For the year 1905 the contents of dry substance in the roots was found to be as follows in Jutland:—

	Dry substance percentage.	Number of analyses made to test it.
Beetroot	12·8	323
Kohlrabi... ...	12·4	362
Turnips	9·6	213

This new method of estimating the total feeding value of the root crops is based on the assumption that the feeding value stands in direct relation to the dry substance, and that a pound of dry substance in roots is practically equal to a pound in oats. The dry weight of a ton of beet-root or kohlrabi is taken to be 180 lb., or turnips 160 lb., and of a ton of oats 190 lb. According to a calculation made on this basis, the total weight of the root crop works out at 67·9 million tons, with a total value of 73·5 million kroner. This is a higher feeding value than it would have shown under the old method.

Denmark is the first country to introduce the system of calculating the value of the root crops for statistical purposes according to the average percentage for the year of dry substances as ascertained by numerous tests made by the different agricultural stations in the country. It is considered to be an advance on previous systems and will be more generally adopted.

British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd.

The interim report states that the improved conditions which were apparent early in February were maintained in the succeeding months of March, April, and the first half of May, after which, as is usual at that period of the year, the demand for feeding stuffs of all kinds fell away very considerably. It will be a satisfaction for the shareholders to know, however, that the volume of trade over the whole six months shows a considerable expansion compared with the corresponding period of 1905, or, indeed, any half-year since the formation of the company.

Potash Salts.

According to the annual report of the German Potash Syndicate the deliveries for 1905 were in considerable excess of those for previous years.

The deliveries of muriate of potash were 254,710 tons, against 235,297 in 1904. The United Kingdom took 10,804 tons, while 90,796 tons went to the United States, and 89,867 tons were used in Germany; 42,420 tons sulphate of potash 90 per cent. were sold, against 39,146 in the previous year; 194,481 tons of lower-class salts were prepared, of which the United Kingdom took 21,678 tons; while of kainit and sylvinit, the most common forms of potash for agricultural purposes, over 2,000,000 tons were raised, of which Germany alone consumed 1,238,829 tons.

The proposal of the German Government to limit the quantities shipped abroad by putting on a stiff export duty has been abandoned in consequence of the Taxes Committee of the German Parliament having reported against the proposal, but the general question of raising the export prices is still under consideration.

Basic Slag Exhibits at Agricultural Shows.

A striking object lesson of the usefulness of basic slag as a means of improving the permanent character of poor grass land has been afforded by the turfs exhibited at the different shows. One of the most instructive exhibits at the Newcastle-on-Tyne Show was formed by a couple of turfs cut from the town moor of Newcastle, which were kindly contributed by the chairman of the Stewards Committee of the Freemen of Newcastle. One part of the moor was dressed with 9 cwt. slag per acre and the turf cut from it shows a thick growth of white clover, whereas another turf cut from the adjoining part of the moor shows only a brownish growth of wiry grasses, the contrast being very effective.

Most of the exhibited turfs represented grass land and pastures, but at Newcastle there were also two turfs of oats, which illustrated the remarkable effect of slag on this crop on some soils. The slagged oats appear much more vigorous and might be taken for another and improved variety.

Experimental Plots at Rothamsted.

In a summary, published in the *Field*, of the results of the trial grass-for-hay plots at the Rothamsted experimental station, it is stated that, as a general rule, in order to keep up the quality of a pasture cut for hay every year, it is desirable to give a dressing of about 10 tons farmyard dung once in every four years, and in the intermediate years an application of 3½ cwt. of superphosphate, or 5 cwt. of basic slag with 4 cwt. of kainit, and combined with these not more than 1 cwt. nitrate of soda. If bulk of produce is required rather than quality, then the quantity of nitrate of soda may be increased to 2 cwt. per acre.

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THE GOOD COW & THE GOOD CAKE.

The tests above-mentioned made at the farms, under ordinary conditions, extended over 34 weeks, and 12 herds were entered. The first place was secured by our esteemed customer, Mr. A. M. Baird, Garclaugh, New Cumnock, Ayrshire, with the following record:—30 cows averaged 909½ gallons per cow; butter fat 3·94% (during August 4·32%). One cow yielded 1,267 gallons, and ten cows averaged over 1,000 gallons. The feed was 4 lb. of Silcock's Dairy Cake and 4 lbs. Silcock's Dairy Meal per day.

Our Customer writes:—"I am highly pleased with the result of your Meals and Cakes; in the H. & A.S. Milk Record List we came out at the top of the list, one cow giving 1,267 gallons of milk in 34 weeks, and ten cows over 1,000 gallons of milk in the same period; these were fed on Silcock's Cake and Meal."

Many of our Customers have won 1st Prizes for Milk Yield and Butter Tests at various shows, including the Royal this year. If you are to secure the best results, you must use the best Cake as well as the best Cow. The combination pays.

SILCOCK'S DAIRY CAKE & MEAL are carefully compounded, well-balanced foods, which will improve the quality and quantity of the milk yield, maintain the condition of the cow, and produce the highest results at the lowest cost. Others have found it profitable to use these foods; we simply ask you to give them a trial, they are sold at a price to meet the economical production of milk.

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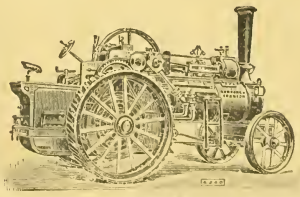

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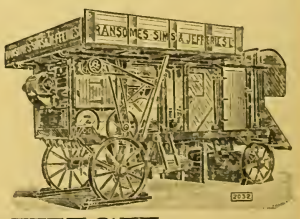

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

FARM HORSES IN HARVEST TIME.

Before the advent of reaping machines the teamsters not unfrequently were allowed a long holiday, carters and plough-boys, together with every hand on the farm, being urgently required either for reaping or tieing the grain into sheaves. Very generally the working horses under such circumstances were turned into a grass field where they could get access to water, and no further care was taken of them until they were wanted to cart the sheaves to the stack-yard. In exceptional cases, it is true, if there were any lads on the farm who could plough, the advantage of turning up the soil for the destruction of weeds, or that a piece of stubble-turnips might be sown, caused them to be kept on working, and sometimes they were made to plough up the stubble between the rows of stooks.

Now, instead of having holiday while reaping is in progress they have to perform the latter operation, and are often worked harder in doing it than at any period in summer. The saving in cost by employing a self-binding reaper is so great that few farmers having a large acreage of corn omit to avail themselves of it. If the corn stands up well it does not cost half as much to cut and sheaf it by a self-binding reaper as to perform the two operations by hand. There are numerous cases of the saving in labour being sufficient to repay the entire cost of the reaper in two seasons. Nor is this saving the only one, the advantage of despatching harvest work quickly being very great indeed, especially when all the crops ripen at once, as so often happens.

In olden times it was impossible to deal with them all at the proper time. There was over-ripening of oats, with the result of a great deal of corn being shed and wasted by high winds, and the over-standing of wheat led to coarse, horny grain, such as millers dislike, because it yields a large proportion of bran. When the harvest is a protracted one, there is always the risk of bad weather being experienced before it is over. By being able to cut and sheave the corn by machinery, even the largest farmers are now able to cry "harvest home" within a fortnight after commencing, whereas in olden times it always took a month and sometimes six weeks to get the work completely finished. That it may be sooner put out of hand, farmers sometimes keep the self-binder in action from early dawn to nightfall, having two relays of horses to relieve one another so as to prevent them being over-fatigued, the machine itself, of course, never tiring.

The teamsters have, of course, to be kept well during the period, and it is of essential consequence to have some good green fodder to soil them with when off duty, but at nightfall they should be turned out into the grass field instead of being stabled, and this course of procedure should not solely be pursued in harvest time but be carried out throughout the summer. Horses are much more healthy in the fields than when stabled on warm, summer nights. When the corn is laid it can often be cut and sheaved by machine by driving the latter only one way, and a statement appeared last year that one of the newest attachments to a reaping machine is an automatic adjustment placed just in advance of the cutting bar to pick up the laid crop and raise it high enough for the knives to go underneath.

When we hear praises of the good old times sounded in our ears it is well to remember that modern farmers, however handicapped by low prices, are able to cheapen their labour bills very considerably by means of machinery, and in nothing have they had such immense gain as that afforded by this modern revolutioniser, the self-binding reaper.

Crown Lands for Small Holdings.

The first Ministerial utterance on the new Crown Lands Act, by which the land held by the Crown is to be allotted to small holders, was made by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries (Earl Carrington) in the course of a speech at a horticultural fête at Broughton Castle, Banbury, on Monday. He said:—

I hold very strongly that the State in the management of the land at its disposal should set an example to private owners in its dealings with its tenants, and also in the adaptation of its arrangements to meet the growing and urgent demands by the labouring classes for means by which they can get access to the land and for a chance of improving their social condition. Under the Crown Lands Act the President of the Board of Agriculture will be, *ex officio*, a Commissioner of Crown Lands, and he will be specially charged with the administration of the 70,000 acres of agricultural land which are comprised within the Crown domains. The task of dealing with these lands will be a heavy one, and existing arrangements and engagements will have to be respected.

The opponents of small holdings—and there are many—are fond of saying: "They are out of the question in my diserict." This may be perfectly true in some districts and of certain classes of land, but it does not justify the condemnation of small holdings generally, for there are many districts in all parts of the country and thousands of acres of land where they are not only possible but profitable. I cannot hope, and do not desire, to effect anything in the nature of a *coup d'état*. But I shall steadily keep in view the two principles to which I have referred, the fair and liberal treatment of the tenants and the increase of the number of those who draw their livelihood from the land.

I hope to put before the landowners of this country a series of object-lessons which will show them that our programme is not one of spoliation and robbery, but that if intelligently carried out by men whose hearts are in the business it will tend to the increased happiness and prosperity of all classes of the community.

The First Allotments.

The first Crown farm to be cut up into small occupations, in accordance with the announcement made by Lord Carrington on Monday, is a farm of nearly 1,000 acres, mainly arable, situated at Burwell, between Cambridge and Newmarket. The farm has been on the hands of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests since it was given up by a tenant two years ago. Mr. C. D. Rose, M.P. for the Newmarket Division, has accepted the responsibility of taking the estate on lease, and has arranged for the Crown to expend about £1,500 upon the enlargement of the labourers' cottages where required, the construction of dairies, stables, &c., and the adapting of the buildings for the use of small holders.

The estate is to be let to selected applicants, and fifty applications have, it is stated, already been received from Burwell and the surrounding villages. Preliminary arrangements have been made to divide the estate into fifty lots, to apportion grass land and the buildings, and to allot at least ten of the cottages on the estate to tenants of the larger holdings.

ADVERTISEMENTS received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

DAIRY.

National Diploma in Dairying.

The National Agricultural Examination Board announce that the eleventh examination of candidates for the National Diploma in the science and practice of dairying will be held, for English students, at the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston, Derby, from September 24 to 27, and for for Scottish students at the Dairy School for Scotland, Kilmarnock, from October 1 to 5, 1906. The last date for the receipt of applications to sit at either of these centres is August 31 next. The subjects of examination are the general management of a dairy farm, the management of a dairy, chemistry and bacteriology, practical skill in dairy work and capacity for imparting instructions to others. Forms of entry and copies of the regulations may be obtained from the Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, 13, Hanover Square, London, W., or the Secretary of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

The Midland Agricultural and Dairy College.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston, showed that the past year had been one of steady progress, and it was felt that a record amount of work had been done, and that the value of the work was gaining fast in the confidence of the farming population. The aggregate of attendances on the courses exceeded all previous records. In agriculture there were sixty students, in the dairy 224, and Nature study fifty-three, a total of 337, making the total since its opening 2,597. A pleasing feature was that practically the whole of the agricultural and dairy students were either sons or daughters of farmers whose intention it was to make farming their profession.

During the year experiments were in progress in connection with every kind of crop on the college farm. The department stood in a fairly satisfactory position, and but for the shortage in the hay and oat crops caused by dry weather, the farm account would have shown a profit. As it was there was a small loss, which was more than accounted for by the extra labour involved in keeping everything in first-rate order, ready for inspection at any time, and by the loss incurred in carrying out a large number of field and other trials.

Lord Belper, in moving the adoption of the report, which was carried, said the governing body had every reason to be satisfied with the work which the college had been doing, and it was satisfactory to feel that the purposes for which the college was established were being carried out, and that the farmers were appreciating the work and sending their sons and daughters to it. They also hoped that the college would be of real practical benefit to the farmers themselves, and they made a special point of giving advice to farmers on all questions connected with agriculture. If the farmers found the college could help them and give them hints, and they appreciated their work, all they had to do was to insist that the college should keep its place in the highest possible class of agricultural education, and the farmers and the agricultural population would reap the benefit.

A big effort is being made to get farmers in Aberdeenshire, Kincardine, and Banffshire to adopt agricultural co-operation.

The Storms and Harvests.—A severe thunderstorm, with deluging rain, broke over North Northants, North Hunts, North Cambs, and South Lincs. on Wednesday afternoon, driving the harvest men from the fields, and summarily stopping the work of cutting and carting. In the evening another heavy storm was experienced, torrential rain again falling, and still further dashing down the wheat crops. Matters are becoming serious for the farmers, and good crops in the fens are being ruined.

Included in the sale of Lady Meux's North Wilts estate, held at Swindon on Monday, was the property known as the Marlborough Down Estate, which comprises 9,200 acres, and produces a rent roll of about £6,000. There are upon the estate many dairy and sheep farms, turf training gallops, and several fine old residences, the most important being Lockeridge House. The total realised was over £90,000. The principal lot was the sporting estate known as West Woods, with several adjoining farms, which were offered together, the area being 5,000 acres, and the rent roll £2,800. At £44,000 it was withdrawn, but was immediately purchased privately by Mr. Alec Taylor, the well-known trainer, at a figure considerably in advance of that mentioned. Other lots disposed of were Wick Down Farm £6,500, and Weir Farm £6,200. The Manor Farm, Berwick Bassett, was withdrawn at £7,500.

Notes of the Week.

The number of shows during the August Bank Holiday week is infinitude, but there is practically only one of first-rate magnitude.

This is the Great Yorkshire, which opened on Wednesday at Middlesbrough, although the Welsh National threatens to run it close.

The run down from London showed that the crops looked well, wheat especially.

Grass was all burned up, and the keep prospects are terrible; there was not a bite for the stock the whole way.

Beans were remarkably promising and free from blight, while we saw no trace of potato disease.

The run from Doncaster to York passes through a well-known potato district, and seldom have we seen better promise.

There had been a heavy thunderstorm up north, and the rain which fell was very welcome.

Now as to the show. Many people were afraid of the hotel accommodation—and the prices—at Middlesbrough, and we heard of visitors coming from all parts.

Several picked on York, but the visit of the British Association rendered accommodation impossible at the Minster City.

Other places selected were Leeds, Darlington, Saltburn, Redcar, &c.

What a loss this must have meant to Middlesbrough, but there they have none of our sympathy.

The way in which prices are put up on occasions of this kind are out of all reason.

The show was hardly up to Great Yorkshire records. The showyard was too diffuse.

The collection of stock was large, and quite equal to Hull last year, but there was a lamentable falling off in the implement section.

The weather, too, was against the attendance; heavy rain all the morning, and so thick that at times one could barely see across the big ring.

Some said it was sea fog, others the result of the black smoke unceasingly belched forth from the foundries.

Probably it was the result of an unhappy mixture of the two, fortified by a thunderstorm.

Anyway, it was noisome and objectionable, and we thought principally due to the smoke.

It really is disgraceful the way in which these huge stacks throw out volumes of smoke.

The arrangements for the show were good, and the showyard bore the effects of the large quantities of rain well, although in parts almost impassable.

We heard that there were seven feet of ashes below the top soil, and if this was so, it would easily account for the water draining away rapidly.

A severe thunderstorm on Tuesday, the day before the show, struck one of the stands, and stunned four men. Fortunately there was no fatality.

What was the price of the Implement catalogue?

The one in my possession is distinctly marked "one shilling."

A friend's had the word "sixpence" pasted over the "one shilling."

The two catalogues were obtained within one minute of each other at the secretary's office.

Again I ask, What *was* the price of the Implement Catalogue?

And how much did you pay?

A departure in the catering section was a notice prominently displayed by one firm, who said "no canned, tinned, frozen, or chilled meat was used. All home fed and home killed."

One wonders what the Royal Show caterers would do if they were asked to fulfil this condition.

The thought arises that we should like to entertain the Royal Show authorities to one of their half-crown luncheons.

Six weeks later do the same at the Yorkshire Show.

Things would be very different at Lincoln, wouldn't they?

Why shouldn't they be?

It has always seemed strange to us why English breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle should invariably employ Scottish auctioneers to dispose of their stock.

Surely in England there are many "Knights of the Rostrum" whose identity with this particular breed of cattle might do much to popularise it south of the Tweed.

We often hear complaints from English Aberdeen breeders about small attendances at sales.

Does this suggest in any way the cause?

The heat during the past few days has been of such a sweltering character that it deserves to be recorded in a note of the week.

In this country it has been tropical, but on the Continent and in America it has been tropicler, if the word may be excused.

In Paris, Berlin, and Vienna, the thermometer has registered over 100 degrees in the shade.

Five hundred pigs arrived at the Central Market, Berlin, dead from heat and thirst.

In Saxony at a marriage ceremony both bride and bridegroom, overcome by the heat, fell asleep in the midst of the clergyman's address.

The weather forecasts published at the beginning of the year are rather wide of the mark, at least so far as August is concerned.

The forecast was—August, mild 5th, 24th, 25th, and 28th to 30th; other days cold (cold month, only seventeen days over 70 deg.).

Everybody is complaining of the plague of flies brought by the continuance of the muggy, hot weather.

They are a nuisance to people, but a source of real suffering to animals. Farmers should not neglect to protect their stock as far as possible by the use of suitable smears and ointments.

We are sorry to hear that farmers will have to pay more for fertilisers next season.

The demand all over the world seems to be greater than the supply.

Nitrate of soda is dearer than it has been for years, and phosphatic material has advanced in value substantially.

There is no scarcity of these substances at the deposits, but the difficulty is to raise them quickly enough to satisfy the demand.

There are not sufficient labourers, and the men are claiming more pay.

It seems to be with labour as with wealth, it wants better distribution.

While we in this old country are over-run with unemployed, in other centres of industry there is a great scarcity of men.

There is no end to the writing and talking, debating and discussion on the subject of education, but will it all lead to the introduction of a practical system?

Life is real, life is earnest, and children should be taught the rudiments of common knowledge.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society recently offered prizes to school children for the best essays on farm animals.

The remarks made by some of the children illustrate that the present methods fail to awaken their powers of observation or to teach them elementary knowledge.

Here are a few extracts from the essays. They are amusing, but at the same time raise a feeling of dissatisfaction.

One is apt to say, Why not be done with all this talk, talk, talk about education and get to work at it?

"A butcher kills a cow for its heart and lights."

"Everything that lives on a farm are called cattle."

"When a cow is alive it is used for to get milk, but when it is dead it is used for to get butter."

"The flesh of the lamb is called veal."

"Some cows have horns and are called bulls; the male bulls are called heifers."

"The pig is a very useful animal to a woman."

"Mad cows are called male cows."

"A young cow is sometimes called an ox."

"One of the stomachs of the cow is shaped like the leaves of the bible."

Best Sporting Powder is Normal.—The new illustrated catalogue proves this, copy of which, as well as gratis samples, will be sent to all sportsmen on application to THE NORMAL POWDER AND AMMUNITION CO., LTD., Renter's Lane, Hendon, London, N.W.—[ADVT.]

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14.—Ipswich Horse Sale—Slough Horse Sale—Cattle Sales at Leominster, Denbigh, Haverfordwest, Hay, Haslingden, and Penrith—Sheep Sales at Ashburton and Hay—Ashford Lamb Sale—Entries close for the Redcar Show Pig Sales at Hay and Haslingden—Horse Sale at Denbigh—Second Day of the Horncastle Horse Week

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15.—Durham County Show at Wolsingham—Lytham Show at Lytham Hall Park—West Sussex Horse Show at Worthing—Agricultural Fairs at Hereford and Ashbourne—Malmesbury Cattle and Sheep Fair—Attleborough Cattle and Sheep Fair—Sale of Lincoln Longwools at Beverley.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16.—Bognor Horse Show at Bognor—Agricultural Show at Harrogate—Penistone Agricultural Show—Warrington Agricultural Show at Walton Park—Uttoxeter Show—Lyminge Annual Lamb Sale—Conway Agricultural Show at Llanrwst—Whitby Agricultural Show—Horncastle Cattle and Sheep Fair—Crewe Horse Sale, first day.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.—Thorntons' Sale of Pedigree Southdowns at Ferring, near Worthing.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18.—Sale of Lincoln Longwools at Brandesburton. Hull—Newby, Allendale, Chorley, Chorlton, and Holmfirth Shows—Wensleydale Show at Leyburn—Horse Fairs at Knighton, Lampeter, and Crewe—Cattle Fair at Lampeter—Entries close for the Bath Horse Show.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20.—Bakewell Agricultural Fair—Welshpool Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair—Newcastle-under-Lyme Cattle Fair—Settle Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21.—Barnsley Agricultural Show at the Queen's Ground, Barnsley—North Lonsdale's Agricultural Show at Ulverston—First Day of Bournemouth Horse Show—Great Harwood Agricultural Fair—Rugby and Stroud Cattle Fairs—Appleby Cattle and Sheep Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Carmarthen, Kington, and St. Laurence—Sheep Fairs at Hungerford and New Romney.

Roumania's Crops.—The estimates of the Roumanian crops show that, in addition to enormous yields of oats, barley, peas and beans, there will be 40,000,000 hectolitres of wheat. The export of maize is expected to be unprecedented. In spite of the fact that the Government has bought ninety-six locomotives and 3,000 trucks for the purpose of moving the crops, complaints are already being made of the lack of means of transport.

The death is announced, in his eighty-first year, of Mr. John Wright, of Silloth Farm, Cumberland, an agriculturist who in his day was well known in all parts as a breeder of Clydesdale horses. Among other prize-takers which he bred were Jewell of Park Head and Jess of Park Head, two mares which were purchased by Mr. Brockbank, of Crosby, and used very much by him in strengthening his famous stud. About twelve years ago Mr. Wright experienced considerable loss from an outbreak of anthrax upon his farm, and such was the esteem in which he was held among his brother agriculturists that a subscription list was started and £600 raised, which was presented to him to recoup him for his losses.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

THE Royal Show at Lincoln next year will receive a specially hearty welcome from the breeders of Lincoln Longwools, who for a second time have the national show in a position favourable for their interests. The southern breeds had a specially favourable opportunity at the Park Royal Shows, and therefore cannot complain if they are neglected for a time. The Suffolk breed will also have a fair opportunity of exhibition, though the hope that they would have the show in their midst has been destroyed. One thing is evident, and that is, no matter where the show is held, the best animals of the breed will be there, even if those of lower grade are left at home, because the certainty of expense in taking them would far more than override the prospects of sharing in the prize money. West countrymen will, however, look forward to the time when they will have the show amongst them again. Meanwhile, they are well served by the big societies which perambulate the Western counties, when those societies stay reasonably at home.

ON mixed farms there is no time of the year when the sheep are so likely to be neglected as during the corn harvest; as in the endeavour to get the corn quickly harvested the shepherd is often taken from his ordinary work to give a helping hand. Possibly the farmer, or his son, or a lad may be left to look after the flock, but beyond hurdle setting and caking, the work is frequently done in a very casual manner, and the shepherd comes back to his ordinary routine to find that neglect has left him with the flock in anything but a satisfactory condition. For want of careful observation the fly has made many of the sheep look disreputable, as the maggots have got firm hold before they were detected, the amateur not having noted the early signs of attack, such as a twitching tail, a wet streak, a small patch of broken wool, an inclination to bite the irritated spots, and a tendency to draw apart from others, while inaccuracy in counting or neglect to count the sheep has resulted in the oversight that one or more of the flock has strayed away and become entangled in briars or lost in undergrowth in ditches where the maggots are taking their course unhindered. It is a time, too, when foot rot is often neglected, and foot-paring is allowed to stand over, with the result that when the autumn rains set in foot-rot readily runs through the flock. In a flock of such size that a shepherd's whole time ordinarily is required, it is very doubtful if it is profitable to let the shepherding be done by a substitute; it certainly is not unless an intelligent substitute is found.

WHEN hot July and August suns have baked the herbage and deprived it of its succulence, there is the greatest need to supply sheep with water. Water carting where the horses are required in the corn-fields is an annoyance, and it is surprising that small portable wind-motors are not more often used in conjunction with Abyssinian pumps. Except on downs, deep sands, and thick clay beds, water is almost always sufficiently near to the surface for an Abyssinian pump to be used, and as it takes little time to set them down or take them up, they can save much expense where ponds or water-courses are not conveniently near. In the dry years of the early seventies they were common in some districts, even though the water had to be pumped by hand, as the modern light, portable disc wind-motor was not in use then.

THE lambing season covers a long period, even when the abnormally early lambing Dorset Horns are taken out of consideration, for whilst in northern exposed hilly districts the lambs are still small, in others the ram has been turned into the flock with the expectation that lambing will commence by Christmas. There is no doubt that any ewe is likely to be more productive if she is in a vigorous condition when she receives the ram than when she is in a declining state; and the percentage of twins is raised when the flock is in a steadily improving condition. Cabbage or rape are excellent food for ewes at this time, as supplying succulent food at a time when other fodder crops are getting stale. The run of the stubbles also provides sound food, although the clean working binder leaves little grain on the ground, unless the crop has been storm twisted. Part of the day on a piece of good grass land, which has not carried stock previously during the season, is very valuable at this period; and if the three kinds of food are provided a good crop of lambs may reasonably be expected without having to have recourse to cake feeding.

THE strong demand there has been for Cheviot wool calls attention to this hardy and, in many ways excellent, sheep. It does not gain popularity in the southern dry, arable districts so much as it does in moister ones, but its influence when crossed has made it a potent force in Scottish farming. Still, where used on some southern breeds, notably the Kentish, it has exercised most beneficial effects. From what it has done there seems good reason to think that there are other breeds in moist districts where it might be used advantageously. It is not necessarily as a first cross that greatest good would be effected, but subsequently where after careful selection and breeding it was graded so that there was a small percentage of its blood remaining. As a pure bred, or even after a cross or two, it is often a source of trouble to the shepherd to keep it in small folds, and this doubtless has been a reason which has told against its adoption in many districts.

THE SHEEP DOG TRIALS AT TRING.
T. Dixon and his dog, Swallow, driving sheep through the Maltese Cross.

THE SHEEP DOG TRIALS AT TRING.
A General View, showing J. Moses' Gem and Nip at Work.

Hampshire Downs for South America.

Mr. Gilbert H. H. Kennedy shipped to the Argentine a selection of Hampshire Down rams purchased from the well-known flock of Mr. James Flower, of Chilmark, Salisbury. The consignment included the two grand two-shears, winners all through the summer shows, and six grand shearling rams, altogether one of the finest lots that ever left England, and they should, indeed, bring credit to the Hampshire Down breed. Mr. Flower sent by the same boat, ss. *Velasquez*, three very choice ram lambs to a client who yearly repeats his order, together with a specially selected Middle White boar. Two excellent shearling rams have recently been shipped to Valparaiso, and a strong consignment of good Field shearling rams to Germany have also been supplied from the Chilmark flock.

Cowhill fair was held on the Town Moor, Newcastle, on Wednesday, when there was a falling off both with respect to numbers and quality of the horses compared with previous years, and though the fair was well attended business was very slow. The supply was much greater than the demand, and few horses changed hands. Prices varied from £20 to £35, but these were only obtainable for the better class animals, the poorer kinds bringing anything up to £10. There was also a falling off in the number of cattle, but the quality was quite up to the average. As with the horses, so with the cattle, and practically no business was transacted. One dealer—and he was regarded as fortunate—disposed of some few heads at prices varying from £10 to £12. The fair, it was stated by old attenders, was one of the poorest ever held.

SHEEP SALES AND FAIRS.

Ilsley.

The annual sheep and ram fair at Ilsley was as well attended as ever, whilst there was a large supply and a fairly good demand, prices being about the same as at recent fairs; ewes made from 30s. to 52s., and lambs 25s. to 38s. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence as usual conducted some important sales of rams and lamb rams, including the annual letting and sale of ram lambs from Sir W. G. Pearce's Chilton flock of Hampshire Downs. Six lambs were first let as follows:—To Mr. Kerr (for Mr. H. C. Stephens) at 60 guineas and 11 guineas, Mr. G. Judd at 36 guineas, Mr. J. H. Dibben at 20 guineas, Mr. J. Pain at 19 guineas and 15 guineas; average, £28 3s. The selling lambs made from 5 guineas to 15 guineas, Mr. J. Pain buying at 15 guineas, Mr. Eyston at 10 guineas, 7½ guineas, and 6 guineas, Messrs. Hobbs (for Mr. Mackenzie), E. Hobbs, Eady (for Lady Wantage), Edmonson, Baxendale, Keen, and others, at from 5 guineas to 8 guineas, the average for forty-four let and sold being £9 15s.

Immediately after the above, the same auctioneers offered twenty-five lambs of great size and good breeding from the Hon. D. C. Bouverie's Coleshill House flock, and twenty-two found purchasers at from 5½ guineas to 17 guineas, Mr. Hurford (for Mr. T. F. Buxton) buying at 17 guineas, Mr. T. Hobbs at 9½ guineas, Messrs. E. Hobbs, Thatchers, Ormond, Clark, Blake, Gauntlett, and others at 5½ guineas to 8 guineas, the average being £7 3s.

Salisbury.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence brought under the hammer at their Market House Yard, Salisbury, forty-eight ram lambs from the Chitterne flock of Mr. J. Dean, and a very excellent lot they proved to be. Mr. H. Corner purchased at 23 guineas, 16 guineas, 14½ guineas, and 10 guineas; Mr. Deane-Willis at 11 guineas, 10 guineas, and 6½ guineas; Mr. W. H. Dean at 10 guineas; Mr. H. Hooper at 9 guineas, 8½ guineas, and 7½ guineas; Messrs. Edwards, Garton, Frank, Harris, Osmond, &c., at from 5 guineas to 8 guineas. A few lambs were unsold for lack of sufficient buyers, but the average of those disposed of was £8 10s. Sir A. Henderson, who is president of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association, also sent a small consignment of fifteen ram lambs of more than usual merit from his Buscot Park flock, and all but one met with a ready sale. The letting lambs let at an average of £7 1s., lots 1 and 2 being let at 19 guineas each to Mr. C. Coles and Mr. J. Flower respectively, whilst the selling lambs made from 5 guineas to 11 guineas each.

Sutton.

The second lamb sale of this season held at Sutton by Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons took place on the 3rd inst., and though it was not so important as the first sale, it was nevertheless a fairly good one. The pens consisted largely of crones, some of them the dams of the grand ewe lambs which made up to 120s. at the first sale. Mr. Vivers secured a nice lot of ewe lambs, the property of Mr. John Cracknell, Wickham Market, at 38s., and other lots of ewe lambs by other consignors went to Mr. Creasey, Mr. Tibbenham, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Wm. Blois, jun., and Mr. Wright. Mr. Vivers was a considerable buyer also of crones, and he gave 46s., 45s. 6d., and 43s. 6d. for three lots of Suffolk full-mouthed ewes, and 31s. 6d. for a score of crones belonging to Mr. D. Barrows, Dallinghoo, and Mr. Thompson gave 33s. for a score of Mr. Alfred Smith's crones. Mr. Vivers purchased the first lot of Mr. J. Goddard's Suffolk ewes, with good bags, at 36s. 6d., Mr. J. Toller taking another pen at 32s.

Mr. Carey Cole's Hampshire Downs.

The annual letting and sale of ram lambs at Winterbourne Stoke has long since become one of the chief events in the Hampshire Down world, and that which took place on the 3rd inst. was a record one so far as this particular flock is concerned. The ninety grand lambs placed in the ring were probably the best lot ever produced by Mr. Coles, and the result was therefore fully merited. The large company of breeders from all parts of the country fully testified to the high esteem in which the flock is held. As usual, an excellent plain luncheon was partaken of, at which Mr. George Blake ably presided, the customary loyal and other toasts being duly honoured.

Business commenced with the letting of eight ram lambs, and of these Nos. 1 and 2, the twin produce of a favourite ewe in the flock, realised no less than 325 guineas, Mr. J. Flower securing No. 1 at 205 guineas, and Mr. A. F. T. Drake No. 2 at 120 guineas. Mr. Dibben hired No. 3 at 24 guineas, Mr. Lambert No. 4 at 45 guineas, Lord Rothschild No. 5 at 95 guineas, the Marquis of Winchester No. 6 at 52 guineas, Mr. Holman No. 7 at 54 guineas, and Mr. G. Judd No. 8 at 30 guineas, the average being £82.

Of the eighty-two selling lambs, Mr. C. Bagg secured No. 15 at 60 guineas, Captain Morrison's agent buying at 40 guineas, 30 guineas, and 13 guineas, Mr. Holman at 24 guineas, Mr. B. Hanbury at 28 guineas and 20 guineas, Mr. Hurford at 34 guineas, Mr. J. Brown at 28 guineas and 22 guineas, Mr. T. N. Coles at 18 guineas, Mr. R. E. Coles at 17 guineas, Mr. Chalker at 10 guineas, Mr. A. Edwards at 16 guineas, Captain Lano at 21 guineas, 13 guineas, 12 guineas, and 10 guineas, Mr. J. T. Gay at 15 guineas, 13 guineas (twice), and 8 guineas, Messrs. Inkpen at 13 guineas (twice), the Hon. Louis Greville at 15 guineas, Mr. Molyneux (for Mr. W. H. Myers) at 40 guineas, 30 guineas, and 13 guineas, Mr. Lunn (for Lord Ashburton) at 26 guineas, 15 guineas, and 14 guineas (twice), Mr. Kerr (for Mr. H. C. Stephens) at 36 guineas, Mr. Ovey at 30 guineas, Mr. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearce) at 42 guineas and 40 guineas, Mr. Priddy at 11 guineas, Mr. J. E. Rawlence at 18 guineas and 12 guineas, the Marquis of Winchester at 24 guineas, Lord Wolverton at 24 guineas, and Mr. G. C. Waters at 16 guineas. Every lot was disposed of at the satisfactory average of £21 10s. per head.

Messrs. Treadwell's Oxford Downs.

Messrs. Treadwell's flock of Oxford Downs is well known throughout the country for its high-class breeding and success at shows, so that the large attendance at the annual sale held at the Model Farm, Upper Winchendon, was only to be expected. Messrs. Paxton and Holiday were the auctioneers, and they brought an excellent lot of rams under the hammer. Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, paid the top figure, namely, 50 guineas, Miss Alice de Rothschild took one at 20 guineas, Mr. Hawkins, London, another at 27 guineas, Mr. Howkins, Bedford, one at 22 guineas, and Mr. Horlick, Cheltenham, another at 20 guineas, whilst the other prices ranged from 8 guineas to 14½ guineas. The average of the fifty-eight lots was £12 13s. 3d., or less than last year, when forty-nine rams made an average of £16 19s. 9d. In 1904 the average was £14 19s. 7d.; in 1903, £11 12s. 2d.; and in 1902, £10 7s. 7d. It will therefore be seen that although the average worked out at less than last year, it exceeded that of the two previous years, and was therefore fairly satisfactory.

Lockerbie.

Messrs. R. Harrison and Son's opening sale of sheep and lambs in connection with their Lockerbie auction mart took place on Thursday, when the consignments numbered 2,550 feeding sheep and 11,500 half-bred lambs. The stock was presented in good bloom, and the lambs generally were in better condition than last year. There was a large attendance of buyers from the southern parts of Scotland and northern and midland districts of England. The sale opened with feeding sheep, and these were quickly bought up at a rise of 2s. to 3s. on the corresponding sale of last year. For lambs a very strong demand prevailed, the best lots making 35s. to 42s., the latter figure being obtained for three lots, two of Oxford cross lambs and one of half-breds. Prices may be quoted from 5s. to 6s. higher on the year.

Newtown St. Boswells.

The annual "Lamas" lamb sales within the Newtown St. Boswells auction marts, and which are the most extensive of the yearly series were held there on Thursday, when there were brought under the hammer at the two enclosures a grand total of nearly 30,000 lambs of various classes. Buyers were present in large numbers, and an active trade was experienced, the stock, quality considered, selling quite as well as at the July sales. Messrs. John Swan and Sons, Ltd., brought under the hammer about 21,000 lambs, and the top price realised was 47s. 9d. per head, got for a very choice lot of cross-Oxfords from Wester Ulston, the purchaser being Mr. J. A. Howie, The Grange, Kingborn, Fife; and another lot of the same class and from the same place sold at 38s. 9d. apiece to Mr. James Wood, Sherry Hatton. The second highest price was made by the Bettyfield cross-Oxfords, which sold at 40s. 9d. to Mr. Boazman, Kelso; and Mr. Shanks, Chollerford, got the Smailholm Mains consignment at 39s. apiece. For three-quarter breds the price list was headed by the Roxburgh Barnes lot, which were bought at 39s. 6d. per head by Mr. Ridley, Chollerford; other good lots of the same class from Bowerhouse and Bettyfield selling at 37s. 6d. and 37s. 3d. per head respectively.

Messrs. A. Davidson and Sons' catalogue included about 8,000 lambs of different classes and some 200 feeding sheep. The highest price of the sale was 41s. 6d., realised for a remarkably good lot of three-quarter breds from Friarshaw, which sold to Mr. Young, Chester-le-Street. A lot of very nice cross Oxfords, consigned by Mr. Cree, Whitelee, St. Boswell's, brought the best price in their class, viz., 39s. 9d. per head, at which figure they were taken by Mr. Shanks, Chollerford, who also got the Millmount consignment at 38s. 6d. apiece. Half-bred welder lambs sold up to 32s. 6d. in the case of the Bowsbank lot.

Blandford.

The great summer sheep fair at Blandford was held on Thursday, when some 6,000 sheep and lambs were penned. Down ewes ranged from 42s. to 47s. 6d. for off-going lots; two-tooth ewes, 52s. to 55s.; grazing ewes, 33s. 6d. to 44s.; very fresh ewes, 45s. to 47s. 6d.; best Down wether lambs, 40s. to 52s. 6d.; seconds, 27s. 6d. to 38s.; store lambs, 30s. to 33s.; mixed Down lambs, 26s. 6d. to 32s.; cross-bred lambs, 26s. 6d. to 32s. Ram lambs sold well, the best making 15 guineas to 32 guineas, others 4½ guineas to 13 guineas.

Lindfield.

The well known and popular sheep fair at Lindfield, noted for its supply of Southdown sheep, took place on Wednesday, and was very largely attended, but the supply was some 4,000 less than last year. There were 6,798 lambs, 890 tegs, and 570 ewes, a total of 8,168, against 12,267 last year. Trade was not brisk, and prices were slightly down in comparison with last year. Some of the flockmasters did better than they expected, and some realised their last year's figures, but generally speaking quotations were down. The top price ascertained was 38s. for best lambs, ranging down to 26s., and lower for culls. Tegs sold from 46s. to 50s., and ewes from about 40s.

Dorchester August Fair.

Dorchester August Fair took place on the 4th inst. in favourable weather and was largely attended. Messrs. T. Ensor and Son and Messrs. H. Duke and Son held their customary sales, and they brought some splendid sheep under the hammer. Trade was good for horn ewes and also for Down wether lambs, but horn wethers and horn lambs met a very dragging trade at prices scarcely so good as of late. Best draft horn ewes sold at from 47s. to 50s. 6d.; two-teeth ewes, 50s. to 58s.; grazing ewes, 33s. 6d. to 44s.; couples, 50s. to 62s.; wethers, 46s. 6d. to 53s.; wether lambs, 34s. to 35s. 6d.; cross-bred lambs, 26s. 6d. to 29s. In Down sheep draft ewes made 44s. to 46s. 6d.; grazing ewes, 33s. to 35s. 6d.; couples, 45s. to 50s.; wethers, 38s. to 43s.; wether lambs, 27s. to 34s. 6d.; cross-bred lambs, 27s. 6d. to 28s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 23s. 6d. to 26s. Southdown wether lambs made up to 39s. 6d. Dorset Down rams made from 4 guineas to 10 guineas, though Mr. Henry Duke, of Martinstowe, who adopted his accustomed method of offering his lambs shorn, obtained 13 guineas and 17½ guineas. A few Hampshire Down rams were also offered and sold up to 6½ guineas.

Mr. J. H. Dibben's Hampshire Downs.

The annual letting and sale of the first selection of ram lambs and rams from Mr. J. H. Dibben's well-known Bishopstone flock took place at the Market House Yard, Salisbury, on Tuesday, when eighty excellent lambs, two shearlings, and one three-shear were submitted by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence. The catalogue commenced with eight lambs to be let, Mr. H. Waters (for Lord Lawrence) hiring No. 1 at 11 guineas; Mr. C. J. Waters, No. 2 at 10 guineas; Mr. J. K. Waters, No. 3 at 12 guineas, No. 7 at 8 guineas, and No. 8 at 13 guineas; Messrs. S. Parsons and Son, No. 4 at 10 guineas; Mr. C. Coles, No. 5 at 28 guineas; and Mr. G. Ballen, No. 6 at 20 guineas; average, £15 2s. Of the selling lambs, Mr. W. H. Cobb bought at 15 guineas; Mr. W. H. Brown, at 11 guineas; Mrs. Folliott, at 18 guineas, and 10 guineas; Mr. J. Flower, at 15 guineas; Mr. Hitchings, at 17 guineas and 8 guineas; Mr. Nosworthy, at 13 guineas, 10 guineas (twice), and 9 guineas; Mr. Jno. Stevens, at 18 guineas and 17 guineas; Mr. Jno. Sprake, at 15 guineas and 12 guineas; Mr. Maslen (for Sir R. N. Rycroft, Bart.), at 12 guineas and 10 guineas; Mr. H. Waters, at 17 guineas, 16 guineas, and 13 guineas; Mr. C. J. Waters, at 17 guineas, 12 guineas, and 10 guineas; Mr. Warner (for Colonel Hanning-Lee), at 15 guineas, 11 guineas, 10 guineas, and 9 guineas; and Mr. B. J. Waters, at 18 guineas. Other purchasers paid up to 11 guineas, and the total average of let and sold worked out at £11 10s. per head.

The Cocum Hampshire Downs.

The twenty-fifth sale of Hampshire Down ram lambs, belonging to Mr. G. Judd, of Cocum Farm, took place on the 3rd inst., and, as usual, attracted a very large company of breeders, the quality of the animals having earned for the flock a wide-spread reputation. The lambs offered on the present occasion were of excellent quality, showing the superior type and character of the highly-bred Cocum flock; in fact, the auctioneer, Mr. James

Harris, said he considered it was one of the best lots, if not the best, that he had offered there. The proceedings commenced with the letting of six ram lambs, and the first lamb to enter the ring was a splendid animal, with good body and general character. Bidding started at 10 guineas, but it quickly rose to 50 guineas, when it was let to Mr. J. Flower, of Chilmark. The next one was secured by Mr. Falconer, of Long Sutton, for 10 guineas; the third to Mr. Donald Nicoll for 35 guineas, and the fourth to Mr. T. Lavington at 16 guineas. The remaining two were withdrawn. Mr. Harris then offered for sale 100 fine ram lambs, all of which were sold. The top price was fetched by a fine animal, which was secured by Mr. A. E. Hayter for 16½ guineas, while the ram owned by Mrs. Judd was bought by Mr. Ovey for 16 guineas, which the auctioneer declared was to go towards a holiday with her husband. One ram fetched 12½ guineas, two made 12 guineas, another one 11½ guineas, and another 11 guineas, and others made prices ranging from 5 guineas to 10½ guineas. Altogether the rams made an average price of a little under £9, which was most satisfactory. At the end seven shearling rams were sold, and prices for these ranged from 6 guineas to 7½ guineas.

Mr. Lambert's Hampshire Downs.

The twenty-first annual sale of Mr. Lambert's Hampshire Downs, comprising eighty Hampshire Down rams and ram lambs, took place on Thursday in a field close to the railway station and cattle market at Cambridge, the auctioneers being Messrs. Chalk. There were eight lambs let for the season, which averaged £12 18s. 7d., Mr. Carey Coles, of Winterbourne, securing Lot 1 for 25 guineas. The other hirers of these lambs were Messrs. Jas. Welch, Woods, Goodchild, and H. J. Briggs. Fifty-two ram lambs were then sold, and the highest price was 17 guineas, the Rev. C. H. Brocklebank paying this sum. The average price for the whole of the sale worked out at £8 7s. 10d.

Mr. E. Ellis's Southdowns.

One of the most important sales of Southdown sheep that has taken place for some time was held on Wednesday, when the entire flock belonging to Mr. Elwin Ellis, of Summersbury, Shalford, Guildford, was brought under the hammer by Messrs. Stride and Son, Chichester, in conjunction with Messrs. Stride, Son, and Ellis, of Guildford.

Having taken as his model in breeding the real true Southdown type, Mr. Ellis was one of the most successful exhibitors at all the great shows, as well as at the great exhibitions of the United States, Canada, and France. The flock, which was established in 1879, comprised 630 head, and all were brought out in the best condition. There was naturally a very large company present at the sale, and bidding proved brisk, some satisfactory prices being realised, although sold without reserve.

The shearling rams came in for a good deal of attention, and sold at high prices, the representative of H.M. the King paying 70 guineas for one; Sir J. Gooch, Wrentham, Suffolk, bought one at 65 guineas; Messrs. Ellis Bros., New Zealand, one at 50 guineas; Mr. Davenport, Northumberland Avenue, London, one at 46 guineas; Earl Manvers, one at 42 guineas; Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Gatton Park, one at 35 guineas and one at 25 guineas; the Earl of Suffolk, one at 25 guineas; Mr. E. Carter, Ryde, Isle of Wight, one at 25 guineas; Mr. J. R. West, one at 27 guineas; and others were sold at prices ranging from 17 guineas to 10 guineas each. Four-teeth rams made up to 62 guineas, this sum being paid by Sir Julius Berner, Bedford, whilst two others went at 20 guineas, one at 22 guineas, and others at from 10 to 14 guineas each. As to the ram lambs, the Duke of Devonshire bought one at 38 guineas; Messrs. Ellis Bros., one at 30 guineas; Mr. Cazelet, one at 26 guineas; the Duke of Northumberland, one at 26 guineas; and others ranged from 18 to 3 guineas.

Good prices were also obtained for the ewes, as the following details will show:—Shearling ewes: Mr. W. M. Cazelet, Tonbridge, purchased five, including first prize winner at Royal Show, Royal Counties Show, Tunbridge Wells Show, East Kent Show, at £14 each; five at £12 each; and others up to £6. Messrs. Ellis Bros., New Zealand, five at £6 each. Earl Manvers secured five, including a first prize winner at the Royal Counties, the Royal East Kent, and Tunbridge Wells Shows, at £6 15s. each, and five others at £6 5s. each. Messrs. Bowron, Sevenoaks, paid £7 each for five, and others made up to £6. Four-teeth ewes: His Majesty the King bought five, including second prize winner at Royal Counties Show last year, at £8 each, and the Duke of Richmond and Gordon five at £6 5s. each, others selling up to £5 15s. Six-teeth ewes: His Majesty the King bought five, including winners at East Kent, Tunbridge Wells, and Sussex County Shows, at £15 each; the Duke of Devonshire five at £15 10s. each; Earl Manvers five, including two winners at Tunbridge Wells and Sussex County, Bath and West of England Shows, at £11 10s. each; and others made from £4 to £5 10s. Full-mouthed ewes made from £3 10s. to £11; draft ewes up to £5 5s.; and ewe lambs to £5 each.

Oxford Fair.

Oxford Ram Fair took place on Wednesday in brilliant weather and was very largely attended, whilst the supply consisted of about 1,000 rams and 4,000 ewes, chiefly Oxford Downs, but Hampshire Downs were also well represented. Trade was very satisfactory throughout, and for the rams high figures were reached in several instances. Messrs. Franklin and Jones achieved the distinction of securing the highest bid of the day, that of 57 guineas, given by Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, Upper Winchendon, for a grand shearling from the flock of the late Mr. John Worley, of Brize Norton. There was an exceptionally brisk trade for medium-priced shearling rams and ram lambs, particularly Oxford Downs, and purchasers for these included gentlemen from Perth (West Australia), the Argentine, and Germany.

Messrs. Franklin and Gale's consignments were somewhat larger than in the past few years, the entries comprising some 286 Hampshire Down rams and ram lambs from the flocks of several well-known breeders; also upwards of 1,000 stock ewes from flocks in the district, and in addition to this they were instructed to conduct the dispersal sale of the renowned Shifford flock of Hampshire Downs, comprising 181 stock ewes, 80 choice two-tooth ewes, and 64 matching ewe lambs.

Trade for the better specimens of the ram lambs was decidedly brisk, and with very few exceptions the smaller ones were cleared at fair prices. Amongst the stock ewes and lambs there was good competition, and a good trade prevailed all round.

The sales opened with a selection of 40 ram lambs from the flock of Mr. R. L. Ovey, Harnes, ranging up to 5 guineas. Fifty ram lambs and 1 shearling from the flock of John Thomson, Esq., as usual attracted considerable attention, and biddings were freely given, 2 lambs making 10 guineas and several others nearly reaching this price, every lamb being sold with an average of £5 11s. 10d. The selection from Mr. H. L. Cripp's flock comprising 40 ram lambs and 7 shearlings were next offered, and nearly every one was disposed of at prices which reached 9 guineas in the ram lambs, and 13 guineas in the shearlings, with an average of £5 15s. 6d.

The next selection offered was 30 ram lambs and 4 rams from the flock of Sir A. Henderson, Bart., 14 guineas being reached, while 5 others made 9, 10, and 11 guineas, and top average of the day, viz., £6 10s. 8d. was secured. Thirty ram lambs and 2 shearlings from the flock of Basil Hanbury, Esq., Kineton, Warwick, reached 7½ guineas, with an average of £4 8s.

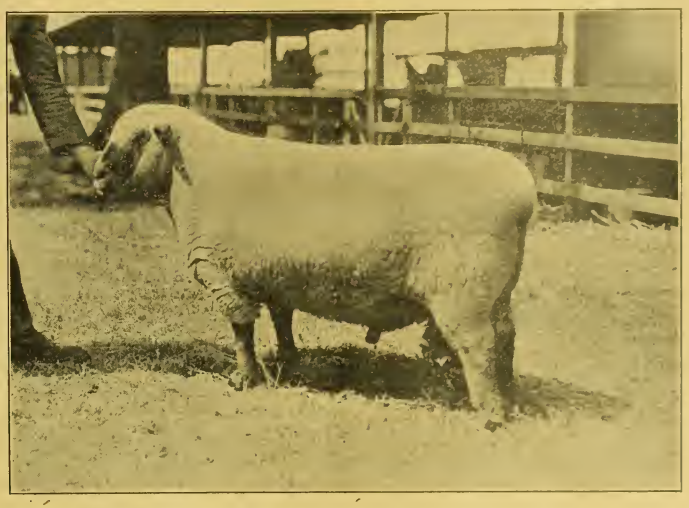
Mr. A. C. Hall's selection of 20 ram lambs was keenly competed for, 13½ guineas being reached, many making 5 guineas, 6 guineas, and 6½ guineas, the average being £6 3s. 10d. Twenty-five ram lambs and six shearlings from the flock of Sir W. G. Pearce, Chilton Lodge, Hungerford, were next offered, and made an average of £4 5s. 1d. The selection from the Hon. D. P. Bouverie's flock consisting of 25 ram lambs and two shearlings sold at an average of £5 16s. 6d., one shearling making 26 guineas, and the other 10 guineas. Fifteen ram lambs from the flock of A. Dore, Esq., Shilton, sold readily, 7 guineas being reached, and the average was £4 10s. 3d.

The sale of stock ewes and store lambs was unusually well attended, and every lot was sold at Henley-on-Thames, which were all sold at prices satisfactory prices, those lots from registered flocks creating the keenest competition. Four tooth ewes from the flock of John Thomson, Esq., Woodperry, made 55s., full-mouth ewes from the same flock, 43s. to 50s.; two-tooth from the flock of Sir A. Henderson made 49s. and 56s., full mouth ewes, 41s. and 46s. Mr. R. L. Ovey's full mouth ewes made up to 51s. Two-tooth ewes from the flock of the Hon. D. P. Bouverie reached 53s. and 51s., four-tooth 57s. and 53s., six tooth 48s. to 51s. Forty-five full mouth ewes from the flock of A. Dore, Esq., Shilton, made 79s., 71s., 72s. Full-mouth ewes from other flocks reached 49s., and lambs reached 17s.

The dispersal of the Shifford flock, as a matter of course, attracted considerable attention, and some high prices were made; 41 draft ewes made from 40s. to 45s.; 39 full-mouthed ewes, 45s. to 59s. The six-tooth ewes were much admired, and two lots were purchased for the Hon. D. P. Bouverie at 70s. and 65s., while other pens made 51s. to 55s. Amongst the four-tooth ewes one pen reached 71s., Mr. A. C. Hall being the purchaser, and another pen was sold to the Hon. D. P. Bouverie at 61s., others making 51s. to 58s. The two-tooth ewes also made good prices, 82s. being given by Mr. Slocock, 75s. by the Hon. D. P. Bouverie, and 70s. by Mr. A. C. Hall. The ewe lambs realised 63s., Mr. A. C. Hall being the purchaser, while others made up to 55s.

Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, as usual, had an excellent lot of drafts from several well-known flocks, among them being the following: Sixty ram lambs, the property of Mr. G. Adams, Faringdon, averaged £11 13s. 8d., the best prices being 22 guineas and 20 guineas, Peels, Brewster, and Co., for the Argentine; 18½ guineas, Mr. A. Bennett, East Dereham, and 17 guineas, Mr. J. Matthews, Bristol, and Mr. W. Arkell, Kempsford. Others made up to 15½ guineas. Thirty-five ram lambs, the property of Mr. S. W. Jeffreys, Black Bourton, Faringdon, averaged £9 5s. 10d., 15 guineas being given by Mr. F. Faulkner, of Kempsford, and 13½ guineas by Mr. H. Shacklock, Mansfield; others selling up to 13 guineas. Of the fifteen Down ram lambs sent by Mr. W. A. Treweeke, Ryne Hill, Chipping Norton, the highest price was 7½ guineas, which was also the average. Twelve Down ram lambs and eighteen shearling rams from the flock of Mr. E. Gillett, Bampton, averaged £7 10s. 8d., the highest price for a ram lamb being 6½ guineas, given by Mr. T. May, Bayard's Green; for the shearlings the highest price being 10 guineas, given by Major Knox, Moretonin-Marsh. Twenty-eight shearling rams from the Heythrop flock of Mr. Albert Brassey, Chipping Norton, realised £11 12s., 30 guineas being given by Mr. Overman, Norfolk, who also gave 28 guineas for another, whilst Mr. T. A. Barton, Norfolk, gave 22 guineas, and Mr. Hesketh, Darlington, 17 guineas.

Twelve shearling rams from Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, Banbury, were submitted, and one made 17 guineas (Mr. J. W. Lowe, Ettington, and Mrs. Thompson, Bedford); another, 16½ guineas (Mr. Graham); and others up to 14½ guineas, the average working out at £12 19s. each. The forty-five shearling rams sent by Messrs. J. Bryan and Son, Southleigh, Witney, were considered to be the best lot of Oxford Downs in the



Mr. J. FLOWER'S FIRST PRIZE HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM, at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Derby.

fair, being a good matchy lot. The highest price was 40 guineas, given by Mr. F. J. Wilsdon, of Wootton, Oxon., whilst 16 guineas was given by Mr. Gask, of Northleigh, and Mr. A. Brassey, and others sold up to 14 guineas, the average being £12 8s. Ten shearling rams, bred by the Earl of Camperdown, sold up to 8 guineas, and averaged £7 12s. 3d.; whilst ten ram lambs from the Hon. R. Hardinge, Burford, averaged 5 guineas.

Twenty-five breeding ewes, fifteen shearling ewes, and twenty ewe lambs, the property of Mr. R. C. Swan, sold in consequence of Mr. Swan having disposed of his estate, were a good type of the Oxford Down, and realised very satisfactory prices. Twenty ewe lambs were sold to Mr. Watts, of Wansford, at 50s.; fifteen theaves were purchased by Dr. Harley, of Bletchley, Mr. Dewhurst, of Poulton-le-Fylde, and Mr. Ridley, of Bridgnorth, at an average of 70s.; twenty-five ewes were sold to Mr. Ridley, Dr. Harley, and Mr. Watts at an average of 65s. Ten Oxford Down theaves from the flock of Mr. W. A. Trewceke, Chipping Norton, were sold to Mr. Ridley, and the executors of Mr. T. Sirett, Middle Aston, at an average of 57s. Messrs. Franklin and Jones' entry comprised nearly 3,000 stock ewes, theaves, store lambs, and Oxfordshire and Hampshire Down ram lambs, forming a record as regards this firm's sales. A very large number of buyers supported the general sale-rings, and, on the whole, excellent business resulted. The rams came from the following:—Thirty from the flock of Mr. A. H. Wilsden, Dornford Park Farm, Woodstock; highest price, 14 guineas, purchaser, Mr. Gooch, W. Australia, thirty sold; average, 5½ guineas. Forty-four from the flock of the late Mr. John Worley, Brize Norton. Every lot sold. Highest price, 57 guineas, purchased by Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, Winchendon; average, 12 guineas. Amongst this consignment the figures reached were 24 guineas, Mr. Case, Bertram Abbey, Norfolk; and 20 guineas, Mr. H. Stilgoe, Adderbury. Ten from the flock of Mr William Arkell, Kempsford, Fairford; highest price, 6 guineas, Rev. C. R. Powys; average, 5½ guineas Thirty from the flock of the Rev. C. R. Powys, Rofford; highest price, 5 guineas, at which figure several were sold; average, 4½ guineas. Twenty-five from the flock of Mr. Henry Akers, Black Bourton Manor, near Faringdon; highest price, 18 guineas, given by Mr. Griffin, of Bruern Grange, Milton-under-Wychwood; average, 9 guineas. Twenty-five from the late Mr. Percy Timms, Hordley, Woodstock; highest price, 10 guineas, given by Mr. Arthur Bartlett, Bletchington; average, 4½ guineas. Mr. Thomas Smith, Campsfield, Woodstock, sent thirty, and a number of theaves were sold at 4½ guineas, the whole lot averaging about 4 guineas.

1,625 stock ewes, theaves, and store lambs, comprising drafts from various well known herds, were then offered by Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, and they sold well at the following prices:—Ewes, 39s. 6d. to 54s.; theaves, 45s. 6d. to 58s.; and lambs, 30s. to 48s. An important disposal was the sale of Mr. Herbert Parsons', Eisfield, flock, comprising eighty theaves, which made 51s. to 52s. 6d.; eighty four-tooth ewes, sold at 46s. to 48s. 6d.; and 140 six-tooth and full-mouth ewes, which realised from 38s. to 45s. 6d.

Mr. A. F. Hobbs had about eighty Oxford Down ram lambs for disposal, comprising fifteen from the Right Hon. Lord St Aldwyn, Williamstrip Park, Fairford; twenty-five from Mr. W. J. Reading, Langford, Lechlade; twenty from Mr. John White, Ham Court Farm, Bampton; twenty from Mr. J. R. Akerman, Grafton, Clanfield. Lord St. Aldwyn's averaged 5 guineas; Mr. Reading's made up to 14½ guineas. The average for Mr. John White's entry was £7 1s.; the highest price, 15 guineas, being paid by Mr Henry Overman, of Weisenham, Norfolk. Another went for 9½ guineas to Mr. Treweeke, of Chipping Norton; Mr. Akerman's consignment averaged £5 10s.

Mr. James W. Tayler submitted a score of pure-bred Oxford Down ram lambs belonging to Mr. James Herlick, of Cowley Manor, Cheltenham, and being a very nice lot met with a good trade. The highest price realised was 11 guineas, that sum being given by Mr. Gooch, of Perth, Western Australia, who is starting an Oxford Down flock there. The average of the twenty sheep was 7½ guineas.

Chichester.

Messrs. Stride and Son held their great annual show and sale of Southdown sheep at Chichester on Thursday last, when about 5,500 ewes and lambs and 500 rams and ram lambs were entered. The auctioneers offer for competition three challenge cups for fifty regular draft ewes, for the best five yearling rams, and for the best five ram lambs, and it is evident from the large entries secured for these cups that the institution of such competitions has been fully appreciated by the Southdown breeders. For the Regular Draft Ewe Cup no less than 500 ewes were entered, ten lots of fifty with grand class, and to win in such a class is an honour any breeder can well be proud of. His Grace the Duke of Richmond won the cup with a grand pen, which were subsequently purchased by Mr. J. Jones to go to North Wales, where he will mate them with some notably good rams purchased from the Duke of Devonshire. Mr. B. Tribe won the second or rn place in the cup competition, and Mr. John Tompkins was the he. The yearling Ram competition was equally keen, no less than thirteen lots of five were in competition, and here again the unquestionable merit and quality of the Goodwood flock again secured the lead, and first honours were awarded that splendid pen, one of which, fourth in its class at the Royal Show, was sold in the sale for the high price of 105 guineas to go out to Messrs. Lavin and Company, Wellington, New Zealand. The Earl of Cadogan's choice pen were made rn, and an he recognised the grand merit of Mr. J. Tompkin's pen that when sold realised the second highest average of the sale The last-mentioned breeder won with a real good pen of ram lambs the challenge cup, and the award was in a striking degree confirmed by the capital average these ram lambs realised when sold.

The general demand for the ewes was perhaps slightly less than in the previous year, but fully 5,000 head were sold, so that it may be said that practically the whole of those offered were disposed of. The Duke of Richmond's yearling ewes made from 90s., the top price of the age, and the same vendors' challenge cup winners made the top price for the draft ewes, 61s. The Earl Manvers, the Hon W. Portman, and many of the leading Southdown breeders were included in the purchasers' list.

The supply of rams and ram lambs was much in excess of the demand, with a result that a larger proportion than usual were passed, and also that a lower average was realised than the excellent one made the previous day at Mr. E. Ellis' dispersal sale led one to anticipate.

The yearling rams were sold first, and the start was a poor one, two only of Mr. Sawtell's being sold at an average of £4 4s. The Duke of Richmond's followed, and here the 105 guineas paid for No. 1 helped the average, so that the ten sold made £22 12s. 6d. The other leading prices were: 24 guineas, Mr. T. W. Ashton, 21 guineas to Mr. Story, 14 guineas, Mr. W. P. Hampton (twice), and 10 guineas to Sir Nigel Kingscote. Lieut.-Colonel W. W. Hammond sold twenty-five rams at £8 18s. 1d. His best prices were 25 guineas to Mr. Hale, 12½ guineas to the Duke of Norfolk, who also purchased two others, 12 guineas to the Hon. W. Portman, 11 guineas to Mr. Bird, 10 guineas to Sir Nigel Kingsecote, &c. Lord Northbourne sold sixteen at £7 4s. 4d., best prices: 12 guineas to Mr. Bailey, 9½ guineas to Mr. Bradbridge, and 9 guineas to Messrs. Pasmore and Gorringe, Mr. J. Tompkins had five present which were in good demand. The Duke of Portland took two at 25 and 11½ guineas, Mr. Singer one at 24½ guineas, Lord Northbourne one at 15 guineas, Mr. Elmer Speed one at 14 guineas, and the other went to Mr. Ashton at 10 guineas, making an average of £17 10s. for them. The Earl Cadogan's five averaged £9 0s. 7d.; 20 guineas to Sir T. Gooch was the best price. Mr. A. Heasman averaged 7 guineas for eight, Mr. Dare paying 13 guineas, the top price. A grand two shear from the Duke of Northumberland's made 10 guineas, a poor price for so good a ram, to Mr. FitzWalter Plumptre. Mr. C. H. Bernes found a good demand for his ten, which averaged £8 6s. 10d. The Duke of Richmond paying 23 guineas for one, and Mr. Stanford 10 guineas for another. The Duke of Devonshire's consignment sold well, averaging 9 guineas for nine, two making 12 guineas each to Messrs. Bailey and J. Jones, the latter taking at this low figure the first prize ram at the Bath and West of England Show at Swindon, and the remainder of the consignments realised such prices as brought the aggregate total of the sale to £1,368 11s. 6d, which gives an average of £7 1s. 6d. for the 176 rams sold at the auction, a considerable number of those passed in the auction ring were sold after, and thus it is computed that somewhat more than 200 were disposed of. The ram lambs sold late in the day were not in so good demand as last year, the three best lots were the following:—Mr. J. Tompkin's eleven that averaged £9 4s. 2d., Mr. Singer paying 16 and 13½ guineas for two, and the Duke of Richmond 13 guineas for another; Mr. A. C. Paul's, whose ten averaged £6 0s. 9d., making 8½, 8, 7 guineas, &c.; and Mr. G. Pells, whose ten made £5 16s. 4d., Mr. Stone taking two at 10 guineas, the remainder making such prices as gave an average of £4 11s. 6d. for 10l.

On the same day Messrs. Hobgen Bros held their seventeenth annual ram sale in the Chichester Market, and satisfactory prices were realised. The highest price obtained was 25 guineas for a ram belonging to Mr. A. Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton, which was bought by the Duke of Devonshire. This ram was, however, not qualified for a prize, value £10, pre-ented by the auctioneers to the owner of the shearling ram realising the highest price, and the award therefore went to the Duke of Devonshire for a shearling ram, which was sold for 21 guineas to Mr. Maitland, of Friston Place, Eastbourne. One of Earl Cadogan's lot realised 11 guineas; Mr. J. E. Allen, Canterbury, got 16 guineas and 13½ guineas, the buyers being respectively the executors of the late Col. McCalmont and the Earl of Ellesmere; the Duke of Richmond and Gordon sold Mr. Wyatt, Cissbury, Worthing, two at 14½ guineas; Mr. Scrase Dickens one at 14 guineas, and Mr. Drummond one at 10½ guineas; whilst the Duke of Devonshire, in addition to the 21 guineas mentioned above, sold Mr. G. Peel, Wymmering, Hants, one at 15 guineas; Mr. F. W. Rudwick, Wittering, one at 12 guineas, and Mr. Drummond, Hythe, Southampton, one at 11½ guineas. Numerous other lots from various consignees and including those mentioned sold up to 10 guineas.

Cirencester.

Mr. J. W. Taylor brought under the hammer thirty Oxford Down shearling rams from the flock of Mr. James Horlick, of Cowley Manor, and they sold readily, the satisfactory average of £11 18s. 6d. for the thirty rams being obtained. The highest price was 24 guineas, paid by Mr. Kennedy, who also gave 19 guineas; others being sold at from 7 guineas to 13 guineas each. Mr. Tayler also submitted eighteen exceptionally good Cotswold rams from Mr. Charles Barton, of Fyfield. One of them made 30 guineas to Mr. J. P. Wakefield, of Signett Hill, and Mr. J. Fowler, of Aston, and Mr. E. Craddock, of Eastington, bought others at 12 guineas each, but the rest did not meet with the demand they deserved. Mr. W. Houlton, of Broadfield, sent fifteen Cotswold shearling rams, and Messrs. W. T Garne and Son, of Aldworth, bought one at 26 guineas; Mr. Davis Brown, of Norfolk, bought another at 15 guineas; and Mr. F. W. P. Matthews, of Fyfield, Chipping Norton, was a purchaser of a third at 14 guineas, the average being about 9 guineas each.

Mr. C. F. Moore also sold a number of choice lots as follows:—Cotswold shearling rams for Mr. Russell Swanwick, of the Royal Agricultural College Farm, average £5 12s., top price 8 guineas; Mr. J. Fowler, Aston, sixteen Cotswold ram lambs, average 4½ guineas, top price being 6 guineas; Mr. H. Baker, Chedglow, six Oxford Down shearling rams, average £7 9s., top price 10 guineas; and five Oxford Down ram lambs, average £6 15s, top price 9 guineas; Mr. J. H. Large, of Crudwell Manor, Oxford shearling rams up to 11 guineas, and Oxfordshire Down ram lambs up to 5½ guineas.

At Cirencester Ram Fair on Tuesday trade was the best experienced for many years past. Mr. A. F. Hobbs, the well-known auctioneer for the district, disposed of fifty-five pure-bred Oxford Down shearling rams bred by and the property of Mr. James T. Hobbs, of Maisey Hampton, Fairford, at decidedly good figures. The highest price realised was 41 guineas, while the average worked out at £16 17s. 8d. The ram for which 41 guineas was paid was bought by Mr. Elliott, of Galashields, who also bought two more at 36 guineas and 25 guineas respectively. Mr. Savage paid 22 guineas for one ram, 21 guineas for another, 20 guineas each for four, while other prices he paid were 18 guineas (two), 17 guineas (two), 16 guineas (two), and 15 guineas, 14 guineas, 13 guineas, and 10 guineas; Mr. McLean, from the Argentine Republic, South America, bought at 12, 11, 13, 12, 9, and 10 guineas; Mrs. Rowe, Windrush, near Burford, paid 18 guineas; and other principal purchasers were Mr. John Bryan, Southleigh, 17 guineas; Mr. T. Rich, Aldsworth, 18 guineas; Mr. R. Hobbs, Kelmscott, 27 guineas; Mr. Austin, 21 guineas; Mr. George White, Stratton, 23 guineas and 12 guineas; Mr. Clem Barton, Williamstrip, 18 guineas; and Mr. W. Barton, 22 guineas. Other buyers paid prices up to 14 guineas. The same auctioneer also sold fifteen Oxford Down rams, the property of William Arkell, of Kempsford, the average price being £6 15s. 3d., whilst the highest price, 9 guineas, was paid by Mr. Stevens, of Ranbury, and Mr Charles Barton, for Lord Ledbury. Mr. W. T. Stevens' Oxford Down rams realised on an average £4 12s. 7d.; Lord St. Aldwyn's realised an average of £9 14s. 3d., the highest price being 11½ guineas, paid by Mr. Charles Barton for Lord Ledbury, while Mr. T. Dancer, for Lord Eldon, bought two at 10½ guineas each. The Hampshire Downs, the property of Mr. F. J. Horton, of Uffcot, near Swindon, averaged £5 7s. 9d.

Bicester.

Messrs. Paxton and Holiday held their customary sale of Oxford Down sheep at Bicester Fair on the 4th inst., the catalogue comprising upwards of 2,300 sheep. There was a good attendance, though not so large as usual, and trade was better than for many years past at good prices, ewes making from 27s. to 55s. 6d., theaves 43s. to 50s. 6d., and lambs 21s. 6d. to 46s. In addition to the above, Messrs. Paxton and Holiday submitted six ram lambs, the property of Mr. E. Slater-Harrison. The highest price was 4½ guineas, paid by Colonel Gosling, of Stratton Audley Park, whilst the average was 3½ guineas.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

MAJOR WHYTE MELVILLE was wont to say that the best possible Hunter was a Thoroughbred with brains. It is not my intention to go into the question of the intelligence of the horse in general, or the Thoroughbred horse in particular, on this occasion, but I think we may fairly allow that he possesses as much of the limited intelligence of his kind as any breed of horses. Probably he possesses a little more, for he seems more inclined to assert his independence. There can, I think, be little doubt that Major Whyte Melville's proposition, taken broadly, describes the situation accurately, and Yorkshiremen will remember the magnificent Thoroughbred Hunters which Sir George Cholmley and Sir Charles Strickland used to breed not so very many years ago.

IT may well be asked why others do not follow in the footsteps of these famous breeders, and the answer to the question is that the small breeder has but scant encouragement to do so. The extreme value of the Thoroughbred has been given as a reason why thoroughbred Hunters are not more extensively bred, but this is only one reason. It is only necessary to look down the sale lists to see that there are hundreds of Thoroughbreds—and not very bad ones either—that are quite within the means of any breeder, and these mares would be more profitably employed in breeding good Hunters than in breeding indifferent selling platers.

IT is a well-known fact that at the Doncaster yearling sales there are a number of yearlings which are sold for 25 guineas and even less, and some of these have developed into fine 14-stone Hunters. I have in my mind now a chesnut mare that cost 20 guineas as a yearling at Doncaster—not the price of a good half-bred foal—that made a fine hunter and that is sure to develop into a high-class Hunter brood mare.

NOW there are plenty of mares of this class to be found if they are carefully looked for, but when they are found there is scant encouragement for their owners to try to breed Hunters from them. One breeder, a man who has had considerable experience as a breeder, and who has bred yearlings that have brought big prices, told me the other day that he has a Thoroughbred mare which no man with any knowledge of breeding would ever think of attempting to breed a racehorse from. As he put it, "You might do your best, get the yearling well up and send it up to a good lot, and you would not get the price of the service fee" But the mare would, he thinks, breed a very good Hunter. At any rate, he is quite willing to give her a good trial. But he is handicapped from the very start. Every Thoroughbred sire of any merit has a special fee for Thoroughbred mares, the average minimum being £5 5s. As my friend points out, the average of barren mares is pretty considerable, and his foal may cost him £10 10s. and two years' keep on the mare before ever he sees it, and then he may not be worth much. And this extra fee for Thoroughbred mares obtains with the King's Premium horses as well as with others.

OF course we shall be told that every Thoroughbred mare is the possible breeder of a Derby winner, or, at any rate, of a high-class racehorse. Well, to a certain extent this is true, but only to a certain extent. The twenty volumes of the General Stud Book contain the pedigrees of thousands of horses, but the Fandangos and the Robert the Devils are few indeed. There is a Romance of the Stud Book, and people love to dwell on it, but, taken on the whole, the Stud Book is a record of prosaic facts, not to say stern ones. But even if this possibility were a greater one than it is, it seems a pity that Hunter breeding should be discouraged on account of it, and it also seems unreasonable. Suppose, for example, that a mare of the kind alluded to were by any chance to breed something of exceptional value, the owner of the sire would receive as much or more beneefit than the owner of the mare, and his fees would soon rise. Indeed, it would seem to be to the interest of the owners of stallions to encourage the owners of Thoroughbred mares that are useful and sound, though not in the foremost ranks according to the Thoroughbred standards.

THERE has been, during the last few years, a growing custom of crossing Cleveland and coaching mares with Hackney sires, and I am bound to say that very admirable specimens of the harness horse have been the result. That is to say, good geldings which would sell at a good price. But it is certainly unfair to exhibit horses bred in this way in classes for coaching geldings. The little extra snap of the knee which they get from their Hackney progenitors gives them a pull when shown against Cleveland Bays and coaching geldings, whose *forte* is shoulder action rather than knee action, especially when the fashion is in favour of the knee and curb chain business, as it is in the present day. Only the other day I saw a class of coaching or harness geldings in which one-half were of the Yorkshire Coach Horse type and the other Hackneys. Indeed, some of the class came out of the Hackney ring. It is, I think, essentially unfair to ask a man to judge such a class. The Coaching Horse and the Hackney have not a single thing in common. In the class in question the judges had not a great deal of difficulty, as the Coaching Horses were of good quality, and were of a fine, commanding type, whilst the Hackneys, with one exception, were moderate movers, and the exceptional Hackney was little if any better than a pony. But if the Hackney had been of a big, upstanding character, if Boquhan Sunrise, for example, had been shown, the task would have been a difficult one. It would have been more, it would have been impossible to judge it and do justice. For if Boquhan Sunrise had won, the Coaching Horse would have been unfairly put back, for he would have been beaten on a point which he could not be expected to possess. And what a noise there would have been had Boquhan Sunrise been put back!

HERE I must apologise to Mr. Buttle for using his fine mare to illustrate a hypothetical case, but it was necessary to take something out of the common to show how unreasonable the classification is that admits of two breeds so diametrically opposite to each other being shown in one class. Of course, when it is a case of the best mare or gelding in single or double harness, it is a very different matter. But in the breeding and young classes it is certainly essential that breeds should be kept distinct. The whole trend of breeding during the last twenty-five years, at any rate, has been to emphasise type, and this should be kept in view by prize stock committees when drawing up their prize schedules.

I HAVE heard it urged that it does not much matter about mixing the breeds up in classes for geldings, but that is a position which cannot be accepted. All the horses bred cannot be kept entire, and if a breed is worth preserving—and it may be taken for granted that a breed which has existed for generations is worth preserving—some consideration should be shown for the geldings. Besides which, at many shows geldings and fillies are shown together in the young classes, and I have seen the anomaly of a Royal winner being beaten by a half-bred horse, solely because he had a bit more snap of the knee than she had.

THE Yorkshire Agricultural Society, with the practical insight into the practical minutiæ of horse breeding which might be expected from the representatives of a county with which so many horse-breeding traditions are associated, has solved the difficulty by having three distinct classes for three-year-old geldings, one for Coaching geldings, one for Hackney geldings, and one for Harness geldings; and, as at the Yorkshire Show, no horse can be shown in two classes, the arrangement answers very well, and there are no complications. It goes without saying that only horses which are entered in the Stud Books of the respective societies are eligible for the Hackney and Coaching classes. In the Harness classes there are no restrictions.

THE entries in these three classes at the recent show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society at Middlesbrough are interesting. Of Hackneys there are four, whilst of Yorkshire Coach Horses there are nine. This is highly satisfactory, as showing that there are yet bred a good proportion of high class coaching horses. When we come to the Harness class, we find seven entries, and a very good class they made. Of these two are by Hackney sires, one is by a Thoroughbred, and two are by Coaching Horses, whilst the pedigrees of the other two are not given, which is much to be regretted. Of those by Hackney sires one is a pure-bred Hackney, and the other is from a famous and well descended Cleveland Bay mare. Of those by Coaching sires one is from a well bred Hackney mare that strains back to Denmark; the dam's pedigree of the other is not given.

A CLASS like this could not fail to be an interesting one, especially as it was judged by the Coach Horse judges, and consequently, to a certain extent, from the Coach Horse standpoint. But the very fact that there was such a strong class, bred and crossed in so many different ways, is proof sufficient that the Yorkshire Coach Horse is unfairly handicapped when called upon to meet Hackneys or horses that have Hackney blood. If the old Yorkshire Coach Horse lines were insisted upon, things would not be quite so unfair—if stateliness, elegance, size, and power received as much recognition as is their due. But now action and with the modern school action too frequently means snap of the knee, without very much heed being paid to where a horse puts his feet—is the one thing looked at in a harness horse, and under such conditions care should be taken that the Coaching Horse is not swamped by horses with a Hackney cross.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale of Hackneys at Monmouth.

The first sale of Hackneys belonging to Mr. W. R. Lysaght, who it will be remembered took over the Amberley Stud Buildings when Lord Llangattock dispersed his Shire stud two or three years ago, took place at Amberley Court, Monmouth, on the 1st inst. in the presence of a large company of breeders and buyers. The animals were a very choice lot, and included a consignment from Mr. F. Wrench, Ballybrack, Dublin. The bidding was brisk, but the sale being unreserved some of the animals went at prices which could hardly be considered satisfactory. On the other hand, one or two very good prices were realised. For instance, Mr. R. Forbes, from South Africa, had to bid 250 guineas before he could secure the brood mare Moss Rose by Chocolate Junior, and for her colt foal by Blaze II. gave 32 guineas, and 185 guineas for Gold Flash by that famous sire Goldfinder VI. Mr. Graves, Cottenham, gave 230 guineas for Mandora, a bay brood mare foaled in 1902, and by the celebrated Rosador; whilst Mr. Smith secured Halcyon, a two-year-old filly by Garton Duke of Connaught, for his Shirley stud, but not until he had bid 200 guineas. These were the only three-figure prices realised, the other figures ranging from 11 guineas to 78 guineas for brood mares and foals, 21 guineas to 65 guineas for three-year-old fillies, 12 guineas to 52 guineas for two-year-old fillies, 18 guineas to 35 guineas for yearling fillies, 16 guineas to 65 guineas for yearling colts, and 48 guineas to 60 guineas for the two-year-old stallions. A special tandem show team, entered by Mr. James Mitchell, Hereford (by permission), were put up at the end of the sale. They were withdrawn at 200 guineas.

The Londesborough Stud Hackneys.

The sale of a number of Mr. Robert Whitworth's first-class Hackneys drew a large company of breeders and others from all parts of the country to the Londesborough Stud Farm on Tuesday, and a satisfactory sale resulted. Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, who were the auctioneers, brought under the hammer between seventy and eighty animals, and they came in for brisk bidding. The best price obtained was 300 guineas, given by Mr. Carr, of Carlake, for Riot II., a chesnut gelding by Polonius. Mr. Carr also bought Jack Spratt, a three-year-old pony stallion, for 200 guineas, and gave 110 guineas for the five-year old pony Oak Apple by Forest King. Mr. Howell, of Cardiff, bought four yearlings, the highest priced one being a filly foal by Polonius, and which changed hands at 130 guineas. He also gave 105 guineas for a colt by the same sire, and 72 guineas and 52 guineas for other yearling fillies. Two-year-olds sold up to 52 guineas, three-year-olds to 90 guineas, and brood mares to 68 guineas.

Miss Langworthy bought a five-year old gelding by Edemynag for 100 guineas, a similar sum being given by Mrs. Hunt for another gelding by the same sire. Mr. Miller, of Edinburgh, went to 160 guineas for a pair of bay geldings, and also gave 150 guineas for two black five-year-olds; whilst Mr. Waltman was another of the chief purchasers of match pairs, he giving 110 guineas for a pair of five-year-old bays and 102 guineas for a four-year-old harness gelding, and 60 guineas for a five-year-old gelding by Edemynag.

The Sedgemere Hackney Stud.

An unreserved sale of pedigree Hackney ponies and a few Shires belonging to Mr. Sam Woodiwiss will take place on Thursday at the Sedgemere Stud, Graveley, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Ltd., Crewe, being the auctioneers. When founding the stud ten years ago, Mr. Woodiwiss spared neither trouble nor expense in his endeavours to obtain ponies with pedigrees dipping deep down into the richest and most fashionable strains of pony blood obtainable, with the result that, through judicious crossing, he has bred ponies which combine the very best

FARM MACHINERY and IMPLEMENTS have for so long been closely identified with the "Mark Lane Express," that the Journal's position as a means of bringing Maker, Agent, and Customer together is unique.

THE

'BIBBY' CAKE

IN THE FORM OF

'CAKETTES.'

"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

Sole Manufacturers—

J. BIBBY & SONS,
EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
LIVERPOOL.

properties of the parent strains from which they have sprung; in fact, the choicest Old Norfolk blood runs through many of their pedigrees combined with the strains of the Marquis of Londonderry, Sir Walter Gilbey, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Mr. A. S. Day, Mr. Christopher Wilson, Mr. John Jones, Dinarth Hall, and many other famous pony breeders.

The animals now offered for sale include many prospective prize-winners, but Mr. Woodiwiss has for the last few years been content to confine himself to breeding only, and has not practised exhibition. A few animals were, however, exhibited prior to then, and premier honours were secured in both male and female classes at the London and leading provincial shows. The whole of the lots are for unreserved sale with the exception of two, and only a moderate reserve will be placed upon these animals. The Shires included are highly-bred, and include the big weighty stallion Nailstone Orthodox 15742, a prize winner at the London Shire Horse Show.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

UP to the time of writing little relief has come to the cattle-keeper in the shape of rains; indeed, the situation has become very serious in many parts of the country. Travelling over a great extent of area during the past week in districts wide apart there seems absolutely no difference, except on some limited areas where irrigation has been practised, on some very deep soils, and low-lying, or otherwise, where the showers that had been so partial had fallen more heavily; for the rest of the matter it may be said without exaggeration that the pastures are completely burned up, the stock drying up in milk and flesh, and the farmers' pockets drying up from the above causes.

ROOTS, too, particularly swedes, are beginning to look a little blue and inclined for mildew. Mangels are a redeeming feature, as these are now swelling out wonderfully, and in most places there is a very good plant. What struck the writer most in very long travel recently as being helpful at this trying time, were the very thick and useful crops of lucerne that were being cut upon lands lying wide apart and varying in the nature of the soil as well as in climatic influences. This succulent and hardy plant is not being grown nearly as plentifully as it might be, with very great benefit. In our own country those who grew it first are still its greatest friends, whilst in Buenos Ayres and the United States it is proving little less than a bank to its supporters, and enabling those countries to produce beef and milk much more cheaply than they otherwise could in spite of favourable conditions.

OCCASIONALLY we hear the weatherwise people in our country saying that the seasons go in cycles of wet and dry, but there is no doubt that the dry cycles become of greater duration and the wet ones less frequent during recent years. In one particular district of the country, the writer was informed recently that the rainfall had been gradually decreasing for over twenty-five years successively, and in that neighbourhood, extending over a great many square miles, the difficulty of finding sufficient water for the requirements of the population and the farms has become a most serious one, and is likely to become intensified as time goes on.

IN addition to the troubles of want of grass and shortness of rain and water, one hears whilst travelling that the abortion scourge is more virulent than ever this year, and the shortage of cattle is very evident as seen from the railways which almost invariably run through some of the most productive valleys in the country where cattle ought to be seen in abundance. It is not enough that our Board of Trade returns should show an increase; they ought to show a sufficient bovine population to be proportionate to the quantity and productiveness of the land of the country. To enable this to be done, it is quite certain we shall have to turn our attention more to the providing of extra or emergency foods.

THESE can only be provided upon mixed or tillage farms, and it is quite reasonable to suppose that the mania for seeding land to pasture has been the cause of a great many needs amongst farmers in all parts of the country. The saving of labour has not been in proportion to the loss in cattle through the smaller quantity of winter food provided. A great deal of land that has been converted into pasture has not turned out at all well or profitable. The first two years most of it is profitable enough, or, at least, yields a plentiful supply of grass or fodder for converting into beef and milk, but after the first two years are gone the quality is lost and much land is worth little or nothing for a period of some years.

NEVER during the present very extensive show season has the tendency on the part of breeders to pay greater attention to the milking properties of their cattle been more marked than during the past fortnight. In each one of the many shows that have taken place, the number of what may be called dairy cattle, dairy Shorthorns, or whatever we please, has been far greater in proportion than in any previous season. Indeed, it is quite apparent that between the dry season's preventing a supply of succulent food to maintain the milk supply and the increasing demand for an increasing population, cattle that show no inclination to give a good yield of milk have become very much shorter in number.

THE many local and very small shows that have taken place, as well as the county shows of the past two or three weeks, have given a good deal of room for complaint as to the quality of many of these milking Shorthorns and their crosses that have been exhibited. Some of these—indeed a great many—have been simply execrable, and the exhibition of such inferior animals is no benefit to the district from whence they are exhibited. The bad quality as seen in these strongly leads to the conclusion that inferior bulls must have been used, and to a further conclusion on the part of visitors to such shows that it is no use to look for good steers in such a neighbourhood, or for calves for rearing purposes.

THE thoughtful farmer who is bent upon either of the prospects named, and visits a district show where the quality of these, the general cattle of the neighbourhood, is good, at once makes up his mind to attend the auctions or to visit the farms in that district, knowing that he will be able to buy steers or calves for rearing that will pay him for his trouble. They will develop well and cheaply, or at least more cheaply than the bad-bred ones, and when selling time comes, whether they are steers for the butcher or heifers for the dairyman, they are pretty certain to find a market, and at a much better price than the bad-bred ones. How important it is, then, that those farmers who exhibit at these local shows should not do so unless they have stock that are fit to show.

I AM led to make these somewhat adverse remarks from hearing from a farmer the other day that there are many hundreds of far better animals within the radius, some of these small shows are allowed more than those that have been chosen for exhibition. This is not owing to error in judgment, but to apathy on the part of those who own these better animals, but have no energy or enterprise to exhibit them, thus leaving the exhibiting to the keener man, who knowing that the classes will only be moderately filled, simply seizes the opportunity of getting a prize that really ought not to be awarded. As noted above, to show good animals quickly gives an enviable reputation to a neighbourhood, whilst to exhibit bad ones is most damaging.

Sale of Guernsey Cattle at Godalming.

The entire herd of Guernsey cattle, the property of Col. H. W. Shakerley, of Burgate, Godalming, as well as a selection from the first-class herd belonging to Mr. E. A. Hambro, of Hayes Place, Kent, were dispersed on Thursday by Messrs. Thornton and Co. Col. Shakerley has been a breeder of Guernseys for over twenty years, the herd being originally started at Fairlight, near Hastings. Prize bulls have been used and had left very good stock, some of the young animals by Picton, third prize bull at the Royal Show last year, being particularly good. The Hayes Place herd is one of the most celebrated in the country, prizes having been won at all the principal shows, both in the inspection and butter-test classes.

There was a good company, and the animals sold remarkably well, the average for Col. Shakerley's being £24 1s. 2d., and Mr. Hambro's about £18. The first cow, Maid of Calais, made 21 guineas to Mr. W. E. Horne, who also gave 30 guineas for Marie des Prevosts, another of Col. Shakerley's. Mr. J. C. Drew paid 23 guineas for Mr. Hambro's Duchess of Kent, 29 guineas for his Bob 20th, 24 guineas for Ma Charmante 5th, and 31 guineas for Golden May of the Gron 2nd, a nice four-year-old cow, the latter being from the Burgate herd. Mr. F. Hargreaves paid 20 guineas for Mr. Hambro's Felois, and 45 guineas, the highest price of the sale, for Col. Shakerley's May Paradox 5th. Beauty of the Knoll, from the

Hayes selection, went to Mr. Twogood Parsons at 26 guineas, and also the yearling Golden May of the Gron 3rd at 20 guineas. Hayes Blicq was taken by Mr. Henwood, 31 guineas, and Mr. G. J. Shakerley gave 41 guineas for Maid of Calais 4th, a sweet heifer of his brother's. The thirty-six head realised an average of £21 17s. 3d., and the total of the sale was £786 19s. 6d.

British Pedigree Stock for the Argentine.

The growth and expansion of the live stock industry in Argentina is certainly of a most phenomenal character, and when we hear of one South American estanciero coolly embarking his thousands in the purchase of Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep, with no more ulterior object in view than the improvement of his flocks and herds, it speaks volumes for the optimistic opinions held in that vast country as to the future of the live stock trade.

Mr. F. Miller, so well known in connection with this great industry, has indeed been busy on Mr. Cobo's behalf, and his selections in Shorthorns include Broadhook's Champion, the first prize bull at Perth, for which 1,500 guineas was paid; Ruddington Prince Christian 89997, bought at the Ruddington sale for 1,100 guineas. This bull is of the valuable Farewell family, so much admired at Mr. Hills' sale, his dam being Countess Farewell 5th, sold for 600 guineas, and whose calf at foot sold for 400 guineas. Mr. Cobo also gets Mr. Deane-Willis' champion bull at Derby Royal—viz., Baptain Viceroy—for which £3,000 was paid. Several other bulls, costing from 500 to 1,000 guineas, complete Mr. Cobo's selection, and accompanying these are twenty Shorthorn cows and heifers, costing 300 guineas and upwards.

In Lincoln sheep, Mr. Cobo has also gone for the best, and Mr. Miller's purchases on his account include Mr. Dudding's champion ram and first prize pen of rams at Derby Royal, costing at auction respectively 1,450, 580, 350, 300, 430, and 500 guineas each, as well as Mr. Dudding's unbeaten pen of shearling ewes at a cost of 90 guineas; Messrs. Wright's second prize ram at Derby Royal purchased for 500 guineas, the second prize pen of rams at same show costing 1,000 guineas, and in addition 1,500 Lincoln shearling ewes, selected regardless of cost from most of the leading flocks of the breed.

SHOWS.

Keele.

The Keele Agricultural and Horticultural Society's fifty-fourth annual show was held in Keele Park on Thursday in fine weather, and was very largely attended, whilst the entries were more numerous than last year, totalling 717 as against 623.

The cattle were for the most part an indifferent lot, but the Shire horses and the Hunters were very good. Sheep and pigs made moderate displays, whilst dogs were not so strong as usual, but there was a large and highly creditable horticultural section.

Madresfield.

The Madresfield Agricultural Club is to be congratulated upon the all-round success of their show at Madresfield Court on Thursday. In every department the entries were satisfactory, and the quality, especially in the cattle classes, showed marked improvement, whilst fine weather attracted a very large company of visitors. In fact, the show proved, as Earl Beauchamp remarked at the luncheon, that the club is adequately meeting

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
August				
14	Mr. J. R. Thornton, Lewes	Southdown Sheep	Lewes, Sussex	Various.
15	Messrs. Sugdon and Pearce-Brown, Beverley	Lincoln Shearling Rams	Leconfield	Mr. Robert Fisher.
15	Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs, Ashford	Kent Sheep	Newingreen	Various.
16	Messrs. Walker and Sons, York	Hackneys, &c.	York Horse Repository	Various.
16	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Ltd., Crewe	Hackney Ponies	Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex	Mr. Sam Woodwiss.
16	Messrs. Lythall and Walters, Birmingham	Tamworth Pigs	Cholderton, Salisbury	Mr. H. C. Stephens.
16	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury	Shropshire Sheep	Corston Coupar, Angus, N.B.	Mr. T. A. Buttar.
16	Messrs. King and Chasemore, Horsham, Sussex	Sussex Cattle and Southdown Sheep	The Home Farm, Lynwick, Rudgwick, Sussex	Mr. J. Aungier.
16	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackneys, Harness Horses, &c.	Cardigan Show Ground	Various.
16 & 17	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hunters, &c.	Cheshire Repository, Crewe	Various.
17	Messrs. J. Thornton & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.	Southdown Sheep	Ferring, Worthing, Sussex	Mr. E. Henty.
17	Messrs. Hornby and Wilberforce, Driffield	Lincoln Longwool Shearling Rams	Barff House, Brandesburton, Hull	Mr. R. Dixon.
17	Messrs. W and B. Hobbs	Kent Sheep	Ashford	Various.
18	Messrs. Warner, Sheppard and Wade, Leicester	Hunters, &c.	Leicester Repository	Various.
21	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Dunsmore, Rugby	Sir P. A. Muntz, Bart, M.P.
22	Messrs. R. Bond and Son, Ipswich	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich Fair	Various.
22	Messrs. Drawbridge & Ansell, Haywards Heath	Sussex Cattle	Maresfield Park, Uckfield	Count A. Munster.
22	Messrs. A. and D. Edwards, Leominster	Sheep	Hereford	Various.
22	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Elford Park, Tamworth	Mr. C. Coxon.
23	Messrs. Winch and Sons	Sussex Cattle	Cryalls, Brenchley, Kent	Mr. D'Arcy W. Reeve.
23	Messrs. R. Leonard and Son, and G. Tanton and Son, Hull	Hackney Horses	Ottringham Grange, near Hull	Mr. J. Clapp[illegible]son.
23	Messrs. Lythall and Walters	Shropshire Sheep	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	Various.
23	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons	Suffolk Sheep	Bentley Hall, near Ipswich	Mr. T. Keeble.
24	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Southdown Sheep and Berkshire Pigs	Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds	Mr. F. H. Jennings.
24	Messrs. Blinman and Miles, Gurney, near Bristol	Polo and Riding Ponies	The Stud Farm, Keynsham	Radnorshire Polo and Riding Pony Co., Ltd.
28	Messrs. Spurling and Hempson, Ipswich	Southdown Ewes	Ipswich Sale Yard	The late Mr. A. Hempson.
28	Messrs. Wyatt and Son	Southdown Sheep	Manor Farm Meadow, Selsey	Pagham Harbour Co.
29	Mr. J. Kidd, Penrith	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
30	Messrs. A. Mansell	Shropshire Sheep	Ruddington, Nottingham	The late Mr. P. L. Mills.
30	Messrs. King and Chasemore	Sussex Cattle and Southdown Sheep	Hatch, Godalming, Surrey	Mr. J. Godman.
30	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, Bicester	Oxford Down Sheep	Banbury Fair	Various.
31	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Dexter Cattle & Berkshire Pigs	Wyndthorpe, Doncaster	Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynds.
31	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Norton House, Shifnal	Mr. J. Harding.
September				
4	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.	The Earl of Feversham.
4	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Loughcrew, Oldcastle, co. Meath	Mr. W. L. Naper.
4	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser & Co., Ltd., Perth	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Kinochely, Perthshire	Mr. W. S. Ferguson.
5	———	Shearling Rams	Kirmington House, near Brocklesby	Mr. G. Marris.
5	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Agharvoe, Abbeyleix, Queen's Co.	Mr. R. F. H. White.
5	Messrs. A. and D. Edwards	Sheep	Hereford	Various.
5	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday	Oxford Down Ram Lambs	Hempton Green, Norfolk	Mr. G. Adams.
5	Messrs. Cotton and Chappell	Sheep	Bromsgrove	Various.
5	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Ltd.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Corston, Perthshire	Mr. Buttar.
5 & 6	Messrs. Lythall and Walters	Shorthorn Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	Various.
5 & 6	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Horses	North Wales Repos. Wrexh'm	Various.
6	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Perth	Various.
7	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Catthorpe Towers, Rugby	The late Mr. J. P. Cross
7	Messrs. R. Bond and Son	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
7	Messrs. Nock and Joseland	Sheep and Lambs	Kidderminster	Various.
7	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
10	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Polo Ponies	Middlewood Hall, Barnsley	Mr. C. Howard Taylor.
11	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrawardine, Shrewsbury	Mr. A. Farmer.
11	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Derby Horse Repository	Various.
12	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackneys	Cheshire Repository, Crewe	Mr. T. B. Sykes.
12	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various
13	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrewsbury, Smithfield	Various
13	Messrs. Hincks, Earl, and Lawrence, Sleaford	Lincoln Sheep	Sleaford	Various
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Berkshire Pigs	Stratton, Dorchester	Mr. W. J. Chicks.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Churchill, Moy, co. Armagh	Mr. H. J. Verner and Mr. J. Atkinson.
14	Messrs. Walker, Walter, and Benson	Horses	Molton Mowbray	Various.
14	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Spalding	Various.
14	Messrs. Walker, Walter, and Benson	Horses	Molton Mowbray	Various.
14	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Spalding	Mr. E. W. Gooch.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns.

the requirements of the neighbourhood. The club, added the Earl, had every symptom of vitality, and every year the stock shown got better and better. The judges were emphatic in speaking of the great improvement that had taken place in the quality of the exhibits since the club begun its operations. The work of the club in promoting classes for the various branches of agriculture had also been of the greatest value.

Bridgnorth.

The first annual show of the Bridgnorth and District Agricultural Society took place on Thursday, and for an initial event was a very creditable one. Horses numbered over 100 and made a good show, as did the cattle, which numbered forty-six. The sheep and pig classes had thirty-five and thirteen entries respectively, and included some first-rate animals, whilst in addition there were thirteen entries of turnouts, and fairly good displays of butter, eggs, and poultry. The success of their first show should encourage the society to still bigger efforts.

Welsh National.

That the Welsh National Agricultural Society's show is fast becoming one representative of the whole of the principality was evident at the exhibition held at Aberystwyth last week, for the entries number over 1,700, and were from every county in Wales, whilst numerous prize winners were forward from other parts of the kingdom, with the result that the show was a good and most interesting one. Mid-Wales Shires, especially the big-boned, broad-chested animals of Montgomeryshire, are noted the world wide, and the class was particularly strong. The prize for any age stallion was given to Hendre Baronet, the property of Mr. Humphreys, Welshpool, the second and third prizes going to Mr. Edward Green, Welshpool. The first prize for stallions foaled in 1904 was taken by Oak Apple, belonging to the Earl of Powis, whilst Messrs. E. Jones and Sons, Welshpool, took first for Shire mares. The silver challenge cup given by Sir Charles McLaren for the best Shire mare or gelding owned by farmers in Carnarvon, Flint, and Denbigh, was awarded to Mr. W. Jones, Chwilog, and the Shire Horse Society's gold medal to Messrs. E. Jones and Sons.

The Hackneys, ponies, and cob classes, which had a much larger entry than even this year's Royal Show, find an excellent breeding ground in the county of Cardigan. The chief honours were shared by animals owned by Viscount Tredegar; Messrs. N. B. Owen, Llanidloes; Joseph Edwards, Llandovery; Marshall Dugdale, Llanfyllin; J. M. Phillips, Cardigan; E. E. Williams Verlon, Montgomery; E. Jones, Llandilo; and W. A. Pughe, Llanfyllin. The Welsh Pony and Cob Society's silver medal was awarded to Milton Cadet, owned by Viscount Tredegar, whilst Mr. Arthur Sowler, Oswestry, carried off the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for brood mares. The same gentleman shared first place in other classes with Messrs. David Davies, M P.; J. Williams, St. Clears; J. C. Harford, Lampeter; James Moore, Wellington; and Willoughby Cotton, Chirk.

The cattle section was again one of the most attractive features of the show, the black cattle of Wales being especially noticed. Linksfield Champion, with which Mr. F. Miller, La Belan, Birkenhead, has been winning all round, was forward in the class for Shorthorn bulls, and was once again put at the head, and was also given the Shorthorn Society's champion prize, Mr. Stratton, Newport, and the Earl of Powis taking second and third. Handicraft, owned by Mr. Millington Knowles, Bingham, captured the first place for bulls under two years. The first and third prizes for the best bull calf were awarded the Earl of Powis. Other noted winners were Viscount Tredegar, Captain W. B. Harrison, Lichfield, and Sir A. C. Stepney, Bart, Mr. R. M Greaves, Vern, Portmadoc, whose herd of black cattle provide some of the finest specimens of this useful type, took several prizes. Other winners were Lord Stanley of Alderley, and Mr. Thomas Roberts, Aber. The challenge cup for the best bull was awarded Messrs. Davies, Thomas, and Howells, St. Clears, and the silver medal of the Welsh Black Cattle Society to Mr. R. M. Greaves. Herefords were not a big class, but a nice lot of animals were shown. Prizes were awarded to bulls the property of Messrs. Frank Bibby, Shrewsbury, A. E. Hughes, Leominster, D. A. Thomas, J.P., and W. B. Tudge, Onibury.

The classes for sheep of any pure breed attracted some of the principal breeders in the country, honours going to the exhibits shown by Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Messrs. John Rees, Llan-y-Byther, and Richard Raywood, Much Wenlock. The fashionable Kerry hill sheep, which turn out so profitably for the butcher, were strongly represented, and Montgomeryshire breeders captured the chief prizes, premier places being taken by exhibits from the farms of Messrs. Thomas Green, Montgomery; J. R. Bache, Knighton; James, Churchstoke; J. Venables, Kerry; and T. E. Linsey, Caersws. The challenge cups of the Kerry Hill Flock Book Society were taken by Mr. T. Jones, Great Weston, Montgomery, and Mr. James, Churchstoke.

Compton Stud.

The twenty-first annual horse show in connection with the Compton Stud was held at Horsington Park, near Templecombe, on Tuesday, and turned out a huge success in every respect The weather was exceedingly fine, with the result that there was a large and fashionable attendance. On the whole the number of animals forward was less than last year; there were not quite so many brood mares and foals, but the depreciation was only in numbers, as the quality was quite equal to the exhibits in recent years. Foals were about one-half last year's total.

The class devoted to tenant farmers' brood mares was strong numerically. The winner of the Hunter's Improvement Society's gold medal—Messrs. Harding and Co.'s chesnut mare, Chorus Girl—was the winner of the first prize and £50 challenge cup at the Hunter's Improvement Society's show, London, 1900 and 1901; first prize as a four-year-old heavy-weight Hunter at Sherborne, 1903; and first prize in Hunter's brood mare class at the Somerset County Show, 1906. In the yearling class, the winner (Mr. J. C. Taylor's exhibit) was a grand, well-grown colt, but she was so big that the judges were doubtful whether she would ever make a good hunter. The second-prize winner, belonging to Mr. W. Bown, of Yeovil, was a nice shapely animal, short legged and very likely to be a capital huntress. The two-year-olds were a small but good class. The prize winner was Mr. W. Bown's exhibit, which had plenty of bone and size.

On Wednesday Messrs. Tattersall held the customary sale of stock. There was a large attendance, and the following prices were realised:—Mares and foals: Mr. W. D. Barter's filly by Pantomime, 20 guineas; Messrs. Harding and Co.'s Chorus Girl, 70 guineas. Yearlings: Mrs. A. R. Poole's Highlander, 20 guineas. Two-year-olds: Mr. H. M. Medlycott's Pennant, 4 guineas. Ponies: Mr. A. Tyrwhitt Drake's Dormouse, 20 guineas. Harness horses: Mr. W. Warry's Warriena, 45 guineas. Hacks and Light-weights: Mr. G. Ford Tilley's Primrose, 35 guineas; Mr. H. Hinks's Popgun, 38 guineas; Mr. Courtenay B. Wilson's Gordon, 36 guineas; Mr. G. Clark's Merriman, £51 9d.; Mr. W. Bown's Beaming, 26 guineas; Mr. R. J. Conway's gelding, 37 guineas; Mr. B. Bond's Marzipan, 27 guineas. Heavy-weights—Mr. C. M. Moody's Marine, 84 guineas; Messrs Willcocks and Rew's Lifebuoy, £99 18s.; Mr. G. Ford Tilley's Sandgirl, £194 5s.; Mr. G. Ford Tilley's Tally Ho, 45 guineas; Mr. Cecil Clark's Speculation, 105 guineas; and Mr. F. H. Dowling's Pansy, 25 guineas.

Perthshire.

The annual show of the Perthshire Agricultural Society was held on the South Inch, Perth, on the 4th inst. in weather that was all that could be desired, and, consequently, was visited by a very large number of people from the town and country, the attendance being one of the largest on record. The entries numbered 1,013, and compared favourably with former years. In most respects the exhibition was rather better than any of its predecessors held on the same ground. Clydesdale horses made a very strong all-round appearance, while the show of light legs, so far as they went, was capital. The cattle section made an exceedingly fine display, notably the cross-breeds, whilst flockmasters agreed that the display of Border Leicesters and Blackfaced was in every respect worthy of Perthshire, while those who took an interest in fat stock held that the cross-bred sheep were fully as good as anything they had seen.

Berwickshire.

The Berwickshire Agricultural Society were not altogether fortunate as regards the weather for their show at Duns on the 2nd inst., for the morning was a gloomy one and a heavy fall of rain was experienced, but later in the afternoon the sun came to the rescue, and the attendance turned out most satisfactory, being in advance of that at the last show. The entries totalled upwards of 400, or about thirty more than last year, and the quality of the stock all over was equal to that of any former show. Dairy cows and grazing cattle were the chief features of the cattle section, and several grand lots of blue-grey Polled cattle were forward. Border Leicester sheep made a good and much-admired display, whilst the Cheviots, though not numerous, showed good quality. Of horses for agricultural purposes there was a large and most creditable show, whilst the display of Hunters was better than in former years both in point of numbers and quality, several of the prize-winners being animals of exceptional merit. In addition to the ordinary attractions, there were a display of shepherds' dogs, a working trial exhibition of shepherds' dogs, horse-leaping, sports by Lothians and Berwickshire Yeomanry, shows of butter, honey, and eggs, and a whippet race. The visitors therefore had much to interest them.

Berkeley Hunt.

Beautiful weather favoured the fifteenth annual show of the Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society, held on Monday in a large field under the shadow of the ancient castle, and lent by Lord Fitzhardinge. The promoters have established classes for all departments of agriculture, which have been greatly appreciated by the farmers of the district, with the result that the entries for this year's show proved a record, and the exhibits were uniformly good. The cattle especially were good, and the dairy products—cheese in particular—were creditable to a degree, whilst the classes for horses were well filled. By way of innovation, in the interests of those who wanted to see something going on in the big ring beyond the hunting, harness, and jumping classes, there were the Victoria Cross Race, in which competitors rode over hurdles, dismounted, picked up a dummy soldier, remounted, and rode over hurdles to the winning-post, wrestling on horseback in sections of four, and three pony races.

Herefordshire Horse.

The Herefordshire Horse Show Society chose Bank Holiday for the date of their annual exhibition, and it attracted a goodly company of spectators, who had good value for their money. Nine classes of Hunters drew seventy-three entries, the best of which were perhaps the foals, for hacks there were three classes and twenty-three entries, and of polo ponies thirteen entries in two classes Shires made a very good display indeed, seeing that the classes were only open to the counties of Hereford, Worcester, Monmouth, Brecon, and Radnor. Peter Coats's was one of the chief winners, so that the quality can be imagined.

Liskeard Town Council and the South Devon Sheep Sales.

To-day (Monday) was appointed by the South Devon Flock Book Society for holding their annual sales of registered rams at Liskeard, and the breeders of the district were looking forward, as in former years, to a pleasant and successful day's business. An unfortunate difference has, however, arisen between the society and the Town Council, which threatens to have a detrimental effect not only on to-day's gathering, but may affect the whole future of the sale.

Even before the formation of the Flock Book Society these annual sales took place at Liskeard, as at Totnes and Truro, and they were invariably held in a field close to the railway station, the convenience of both buyers and sellers being studied by this arrangement. Last year, however, the Corporation opened a new and well-constructed cattle market for the accommodation of the agriculturists of the locality, and the Town Council naturally thought the annual ram sales would be removed thither as a matter of course. Those connected with the Flock Book Society, however, felt their convenience would be better studied by continuing to use a field close to the railway. Nevertheless, last year they yielded to the representations of the Town Council, and the sales took place in the cattle market.

This year the same difficulty has arisen in an aggravated form, the members of the society feeling so strongly on the subject that they have announced their sale to be held in its old location close to the station, in spite of a refusal by the Town Council to sanction such a course. If the sale takes place as advertised, we understand that the Town Council, sitting in committee, have decided to proceed against all persons selling or exposing for sale, under the provisions of the Markets and Fairs Clauses Act, 1847.

Should such proceedings be taken, it would necessarily result in a most serious and unfortunate conflict between the corporation and the neighbouring agriculturists, and it is sincerely to be hoped that some means will be found to obviate such a conflict.

It may be pointed out that no question of the payment of tolls enters into the matter, as we understand that the Flock Book Society have tendered the corporation payment of all legal tolls.—*Western Morning News.*

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised, there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

The "Mark Lane Express" has the finest connection amongst

MAKERS of FERTILISERS and FEEDING STUFFS

of any journal in the United Kingdom.

The best medium for this class of announcement.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S, Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

CAPTON HERD.—Noted for size, flesh, milk, quality, and symmetry combined; colour dark red, with robust constitutions. 100 for Sale. Exported to all parts of the world. Bulls and Heifers of this Herd always on Sale. A. BOWERMAN, Capton, Williton, Taunton.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonisor 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners, Royal and other shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

FOR SALE.—Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Eight to ten guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTER, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleces Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS (*cont.*).

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

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COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

FOR SALE.—Reasonable prices. Fine Black-faced SUFFOLK RAMS, from Lord Cranworth's Registered Prize Flock. Capital Cross for White-faced or Half-bred Ewes.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, Norfolk.

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GALALAW (late MELLENDEAN).—Border Leicesters. Through long and careful breeding have inherent the best qualities of the breed; style, symmetry, pure colours, and good wool. Sales in September at Edinburgh and Kelso Ram Sales, and by private treaty at any time.—Messrs. SMITH, Galalaw, Kelso, N.B.

PIGS.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

LARGE WHITES.
COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes, won at the **Royal Highland, Bath and West,** and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U S A International Exposition, 1904,** breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

(*Continued on next page.*)

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, alford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 cards, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

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CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HORGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk,

SOCIETIES.

Royal.

Owing to the early hour at which we had to go to press with our last issue, in consequence of the Bank Holiday, our report of the Royal Show was not so complete as we wished for, and we now make good the omissions. These include the report of the Finance Committee, who stated that the accounts for the period ended July 28, 1906, as certified by the society's accountants, had been submitted. The balances at the bank on May 26, 1906, were:—Reserve fund, £2,181; ordinary account, £11,118 11s. 7d. The total receipts for the period had been £14,063 12s. 11d., and the expenditure £6,023 5s. 6d. The balances then standing to the credit of the society's accounts were:—Reserve fund, £2,924 1s.; and the ordinary account, £18,415 18s.; making a total credit balance of £21,339 19s. Accounts amounting in all to £15,568 1s. 11d. had been passed and recommended for payment. Since the last meeting of the council promises of additional subscriptions and donations amounting to £511 2s. had been received.

The committee recommended that the directors of Park Royal, Ltd., be requested to take the necessary steps to wind up the company as soon as practicable after the completion of the sale of the estate. The quarterly statement of subscriptions, arrears, and property as at June 30, 1906, was laid upon the table.

In presenting the report, Mr. Adeane announced that a statement of accounts connected with the Derby Show had been prepared, from which it appeared that the result would be a financial success. Approximately the profit would be £2,000, in addition to the society's contribution of £2,000 from members' subscriptions.

On the motion of Mr. Adeane, it was resolved that authority be given to the president, the chairman of the Finance Committee, and the secretary, to issue during the recess orders upon the society's bankers for payments of accounts connected with the Derby meeting.

Then followed a long discussion on the site for next year's show, which, as reported in our last issue, resulted in Lincoln being chosen.

HOUSE.

Sir Nigel Kingscote (chairman) reported that various accounts connected with the house had been passed for payment, and the schedule of interest warrants on Harewood House debenture stock payable on August 1, 1906, had been submitted and approved.

The arrangements for carrying out the transactions connected with the disposal of Harewood House, as approved by the Council, could now be proceeded with. The committee regretted that they could not recommend the council to adopt the suggestion to alter the interest payable to the debenture stock holders from 2½ per cent. to 4 per cent. The Joint Committee had recommended that the Finance Committee be requested to make the necessary arrangements for defraying the cost of the purchase of the lease of 16, Bedford Square, and the incidental expenses connected with the transference of the offices. They further recommended that the president be authorised to sign on behalf of the society the agreement for taking the lease of 16, Bedford Square, on the terms arranged, and that the arrangements for the removal of the society's offices be left to the sub-committee to carry out.

JOURNAL.

Mr. Adeane, in the absence of Sir John Thorold, reported that the committee had decided to make a temporary arrangement for the reproduction of the forthcoming volume of the Journal, and recommended that Mr. Ernest H Godfrey be appointed to undertake the production of Volume 67. The committee had again considered the question of reviving the farm prize competitions which were discontinued by the society in 1892, but, having regard to the cost which these competitions would entail upon the society, they regretted that they could not then see their way to recommend the council to again offer prizes for these competitions.

STOCK PRIZES.

Mr. Reynard (chairman) reported that the committee had considered the suggestion made by one of the judges of poultry at the recent Derby Show, that the second prize in class 345 for black Orpington pullets should be awarded to Mr. James Crocker for his exhibit No. 2,885, and recommended the adoption of the suggestion. The committee had appointed a sub-committee, consisting of Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Mr. Reynard, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. Crutchley, Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Minton, Mr. Rea, and Mr. Rowell, to prepare a draft prize-sheet for the show of 1907, for the consideration of the committee at its next meeting. Various matters arising out of the recent Derby Show had been considered, and instructions given thereon.

IMPLEMENT.

Mr. Greaves (chairman) reported that the committee had considered a recommendation from the judges of miscellaneous implements as to trials of swath turners and side delivery rakes, and recommended that such trials should take place at next year's show, the first prize to be the society's silver medal and the second prize the bronze medal. The committee recommended the publication of the report on the trials of suction gas plants in pamphlet form, the charge to non-members of the society to be 1s. per copy. The report to be issued, if possible, before the end of September. They had considered a protest which had been made by one of the competing firms against the awards of the prizes in the suction gas plant trials, but did not see their way to interfere with the awards made by the judges.

SELECTION.

Sir Nigel Kingscote reported that for the vacancy on the council caused by the resignation of Sir John Gilmour, Bart., three nominations had been received. The committee recommended the appointment of a Sites Committee to make the necessary arrangements for holding the society's show for 1908 in the West of England, and for 1909 in the North, to consist of the following:—Sir John Thorold, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Sir Richard Cooper, Mr. Adeane, Mr. Greaves, Mr. Reynard, Mr. Wm. Harrison, and Mr. Richardson Carr, with power to add to their number.

DAIRY AND PRODUCE.

Col. J. Curtis-Hayward (in the absence of the chairman) reported that various accounts relating to the dairy at Derby had been passed for payment. Copies of the revised "Simple Rules for Butter-making" had been laid upon the table, and the committee recommended that for the next edition of these "Simple Rules" the temperature of the churn should be given as 52 deg. to 58 deg. in summer, 56 deg. to 60 deg. in winter. Various suggestions made at the general meeting in the Derby Showyard and other matters connected with the show of 1907 were under consideration, and would be finally settled at a later date.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On the motion of the president, seconded by Mr. Crutchley, it was resolved that the society's seal be affixed to the supplemental trust deed effectuating certain modifications of the rights of the holders of Harewood House debenture stock, against the society and its property, and certain modifications of the trust deed dated August 2, 1893, for securing the said stock, as proposed by the society, recommended by the present trustees of the trust deed, and assented to by the stock-holders at the meeting of stockholders convened by the society, and held on July 20, 1906.

On the motion of the president, seconded by Mr. Crutchley, authority was given for the society's seal to be affixed to the building agreement with reference to No. 13, Hanover Square, intended to be made between the society of the first part, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., and Sir Robert Nigel Fitzhardinge Kingscote, of the second part, Sir Walter Gilbey of the third part, and John B. Purchase, E. K. Purchase, Alfred Grace, and P. E. Stanley May of the fourth part.

Mr. Wheeler announced that at the next meeting of the council he would move a resolution with reference to a rearrangement of the Standing Committees.

On the motion of Mr. Pilkington, seconded by Mr. Ingram, a sub-committee, to consist of Mr. Harrison, Sir Richard Cooper, Sir Gilbert Greenall and Mr. Pilkington, was appointed to confer with the secretary with a view to bringing up a scheme for a conference with representatives of local societies.

Other business having been transacted, the council adjourned over the autumn recess until Wednesday, November 7th, 1906.

Sussex Herd Book.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Sussex Herd Book Society showed that the year commenced with a balance of £243 1s. 2d., and closed with £267 3s. 2d., of which £157 14s. 9d. is in the Post Office Savings Bank and a sum of £90 is invested in Consols. The membership roll now contains the names of four life and 109 annual members, whilst the last volume (No. 21) of the Society's Herd Book contains entries of 100 bulls and 665 cows with produce, the largest number recorded in any one year, and includes many animals accepted after inspection by members of the Editing Committee appointed for the purpose.

The report was considered very satisfactory and was adopted, whilst Lord Northbourne was elected president for the ensuing year.

Barley Destroyed by Fire.—A field of barley, belonging to Mr. Hempson, late of Good Hall, Ardleigh, situate by the side of the Great Eastern Railway, was totally destroyed by fire on the 4th inst.; the origin is believed to be due to sparks from an engine. The hedge for some distance was also burnt, and another field, belonging to Mr. Girling, of Bound's Farm, became ignited, but by the strenuous efforts of a number of labourers, who cut a breach, the extension of the fire was checked.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17 next.—Mr. E. Henty's entire prizo-winning flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Ferring, Worthing, Sussex.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—Mr. F. H. Jennings' SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's DEXTER CATTLE and BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.—The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Feversham's SHORTHORNS, at Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—The late Mr. J. P. Cross' SHORTHORNS, at Catthorpe Towers, Rugby.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. H. J. Verner's and Mr. J. Atkinson's entire Herds of SHORTHORNS, at Churchill, Moy, co. Armagh, Ireland.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. W. J. Chick's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Stratton, Dorchester.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—The Right Hon. Lord Amherst's RED POLLS, at Didlington, Brandon, Norfolk.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. W. D. Cruddas' Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Haughton Mains, Chollerford, Northumberland.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Lilford's SHORTHORNS at Lilford, Oundle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—Sale of SHORTHORNS at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

SELSEY, near CHICHESTER.

Sale (without reserve) of the well-known Pagham Harbour Company's Southdown Flock.

TO BE SOLD by AUCTION by Messrs. WYATT & SON, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1906, in Manor Farm Meadow, Selsey, close to the Selsey Tramway Station, at One o'clock precisely, the well-known Pagham Harbour Company's SOUTHDOWN FLOCK of 650, of all ages, consisting of

375 EWES,
230 EWE LAMBS,
49 RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

This Flock, which is registered No. 3 in the Southdown Flock Book, was established in 1870 from Ewes bought of Mr. Hugh Penfold, and since Ewes and Rams have been purchased from the principal Southdown Flocks. It has been very successful in the prize ring, having obtained prizes at the Royal, the Royal Counties, Kent and Sussex Shows.

Luncheon (by ticket) will be provided at 12 o'clock on the ground.

The Flock may be viewed on application to Mr. NEWTON CLAYTON, JUNIOR, Selsey, and catalogues obtained of the Estate Office, Selsey, and of Messrs. WYATT and SON, Auctioneers, Valuers and Estate Agents, East Street, Chichester, and 14, West Street, Havant.

OTTRINGHAM GRANGE, near Hull.

IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE of 55 HIGHLY-BRED YORKSHIRE HACKNEYS.

ROBERT R. LEONARD & SON, jointly with Geo. Tanton & Son, are instructed by Mr. James Clappison to SELL by AUCTION,

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1906,
55 PEDIGREE HACKNEYS,

by the renowned sires Garton Duke of Connaught, St. Thomas, St. Anthony, Lord Kimberley, Connaught, Langton, Gentleman John, Goldfinder VI., Danebury, Hedon Sportsman, Hedon Comedian, &c.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Field House, Preston, Hull, and the Mount, Hornsea.

AUCTION SALES.

BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM.

LYTHALL & WALTERS will conduct the 75th SALE of SHROPSHIRE RAMS and EWES

On THURDAY, AUGUST 23,

When selections from the following noted flocks will be offered:—Lady A. de Rothschild, Mrs. Inge, Sir W. Corbet, Victor Cavendish, Esq., Dr. Wall, Messrs. J. R. Adderley, A. S. Berry, G. Brown, J. Brown, G. Gerrard, A. N. Henderson, B. H. Mander, S. Nevett, E. Nock, H. Sankey, M. Williams, W. J. Wood, and others.

Many winners are included, and it will be one of the best opportunities of the year for purchasers.

Luncheon by ticket at 11.30. Sale at 12 o'clock.

Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, who will execute commissions to purchase.

KENT.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE.
ROYAL OAK, NEWINGREEN.

MESSRS. W. and B. HOBBS will hold the above sale at the Royal Oak Hotel, Newingreen, close to Westenhanger Station, S.E. and C. Railway, where a good supply of trucks will be on hand at a special reduced rate, on

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1906.
8,500
KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, including
5,469 KENT EWE and WETHER LAMBS,
2,894 HALF-BRED and SOUTHDOWN LAMBS,
137 EWES.

Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock.

Terms cash, or banker's reference required.

Luncheon provided.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

KENT.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE
ASHFORD.

Close to the S.E & C.R. trucking sidings, where a good supply of trucks will be on hand and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

MESSRS. W. and B. HOBBS will hold the above sale in the Cattle Market field on

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 1906.
2,000
KENT and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, including 400 GOOD KENT EWE and WETHER LAMBS,
For G. ASHLEY DODD, Esq.

Sale to commence punctually at 10.30 o'clock.

Terms cash, or banker's reference required.

Luncheon provided.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

BENTLEY HALL, near IPSWICH.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.

ROBT. BOND and SONS (in conjunction with the Secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society) have received instructions from Mr. Thomas Keeble, to SELL by AUCTION, on the farm, the Entire Registered Flock of Suffolk Sheep, No. 66, comprising

340 Grand Ewes, Ewe Lambs, and Rams, including
100 Ewe Lambs,
68 Shearling Ewes,
50 Two-Shear Ewes,
49 Three-Shear Ewes,
44 Full-Mouth Ewes,
30 Ram Lambs.

This noted flock has been awarded a large number of prizes and will be sold without reserve, and is dispersed owing to the ill-health of the owner.

Catalogues on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Old Bank House, Ipswich

AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Elhandenan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams; "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Pelled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP.—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

HIGHLAND CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PONIES.

ANY class of the above can be supplied on short notice and at moderate prices.

ANGUS CAMERON, Live Stock Agent, &c., Fortwilliam, Inverness-shire; or, Taynuilt, Argyleshire.

Situations, Agents, Wanted and Vacant.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C

IMPORTERS.—Agency wanted for Scotland, situated in Edinburgh.—Particulars, BREWIN BAILEYS, 122, MARK LANE EXPRESS.

TO ESTATE OWNERS.—Young Engineer, Surveyor, practical, would lay out or manage estate, buildings, plant, accounts; whole or part time.—X.L., MARK LANE EXPRESS

SEEDS, &c.

SEEDS of GILLIES' CELEBRATED STOCKS, warranted First-class.—Early Large Yorks, Lates or Drumheads, Savoys, Curled Greens, Imperial Early M'Ewan, also selected Brussels Sprouts, 12s. per stone; £4 per cwt.; Lates or Drumheads, £37 10s. per half ton; £70 per ton. Prepayment or banker's reference from new customers.—GILLIES, Northfield, Prestonpans. Largest Cabbage plant grower in the world; largest market gardener in Scotland.

GIANT PURPLE FLATPOLL.—The best in cultivation, have been grown 60 lbs. each; stands the severest winters without cracking, and provides an immense bulk of nutritious food in the late spring and early summer, when it is generally scarce with the farmer. Drill 6 lbs. per acre, sow 1lb. to transplant. Per lb., 5s.—ERNEST C. ARNOLD, Seed Merchant, Plymouth.

COVENT GARDEN.—Beet Seed and Stimp Root Carrot Seed; about 2 acres of each For Sale. Can be seen growing.—Apply J. T. FORRINGTON, Odda Farm, Saxilby, Lincoln.

FOR SALE.—Two or three hundred Bushels extra select Stock of Purple Top Swede Seed; growth 50 to 60 per cent.—Apply "D.," this paper.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FOR SALE.—High-class Corn, Fodder, Coal, and Family Miller's Business. Doing large trade in best neighbourhood in North-West London, and comprising splendidly-fitted shop and house, together with fine set of premises used as granaries, lofts, stables, &c. Held under lease (12 years unexpired) at moderate rental. Electric plant for chaff-cutting and grinding.—Full particulars of F. W. DAVIS, F.C.A., 95-97, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless. 1s. per lb., over 3 lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ROOFING of imperishable quality, as supplied to largest estates for 25 years. At present cost of labour it pays best to fix highest quality only, and to avoid all renewals. Full particulars, cash prices, and all necessary hirings in free Catalogue. The noted house for Iron Fencing, Water Tubes, Wire Netting, Tanks, Troughs, Roofing Felt, and every estate requisite.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

REMEMBER when buying Farm Requisites to send particulars of your requirements and we will quote you lowest market prices, carriage paid.—DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

WIRE NETTING. Cash prices per 50 yards, carriage paid on 708. lots. 3 in. mesh 36 in. wide 7s. 10d.; 2 in. 7s. 4d.; 1½, 8s. 10d.; 1, 12s. 10d. State wants, Fox & Co., Rochford, Essex, Sheep netting.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Belting, Oils, and Engineers Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

BASIC SLAG PHOSPHATE. Remarkably successful on Grass land. Obtain our prices and book requirements to ensure delivery. Binder Twine, all brands; Rick and Wagon Covers; Implements, at very lowest prices. Write us to-day, it will pay you.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO., LTD., Cannock, Staffs.

HAY.—A quantity of superior old Clover, mixed and meadow Hay for Sale.—Apply J. BIRD, Pantani, Attleborough.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent. phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

PALATINE CAKES AND MEALS are maintained to a high standard. Good results made certain.—THE PALATINE OIL MILL, Liverpool.

WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS. Packets, Powders, 7d.; 16, 1s. 2d.; boxes, 48, 3s.; 144 8s., all post free.—STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough.

POULTRY Houses on Wheels, 7 ft. long, 5 ft. wide, 6 ft. high, nest boxes outside, 65s. carriage paid.—For other sizes write for Catalogue to WHITLOCK BROS., Great Yeldham, Essex.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro Farmer writes:—"After using a 1/- Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, Broad Street, Reading.

PEDICURA for HORSES. Cures Thrush, Seedy, Brittle, Shelly Hoof, Foul Smell of Feet, Greasy Heels, Itchy Mane, Tail or Legs, Mangy Skin, Fleas and Lice in all Animals. Tins, 2s. 6d.—GREGORY AND CO., Temple, Bristol; or through Chemists.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 8d.; 3 ft., 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 1d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 8d.; 3 ft., 7s. 9d.; 4 ft., 10s. 3d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft., 9s. 5d.; 3 ft., 13s. 5d.; 4 ft. 17s. 10d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, with centre strand, strong, 10s. 4d.; medium, 9s. 3d. per 50 yard roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 708. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt.; galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard.

Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality, 5 ft. 1s. 5d.; 6 ft., 1s. 8½d. 7 ft., 2s.; 8 ft., 2s. 3½d. 9 ft., 2s. 9d.; 10 ft., 3s. Ridging, 21d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s. cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns, corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

CONTRACTS.

PROVISIONS.

TENDERS will be received until NOON on Tuesday, August 28, for the Supply, for Twelve Months, from October 1 next, of—

PORK for H.M. Training Ships at Devonport, Harwich (including Shotley Barracks), Portsmouth, and Queenstown.

BREAD and MEAT for the Royal Marines, at Deal.

MEAT, VEGETABLES, FLOUR and CONES, and MILK for the Royal Hospital School, Greenwich.

Form of Tender, containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed "The Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."

Applicants should state for what place and article they desire to tender.

Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender, and reserve to themselves the power of accepting any part of a Tender.

F. W. BLACK,
Director of Navy Contracts.
Contract Department,
Admiralty, London, S.W.
August, 1906.

NAVY CONTRACTS FOR MEAT, LIVE CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, AND VEGETABLES.

TENDERS will be received until NOON on Tuesday, August 28, for the supply of FRESH BEEF, MUTTON, PORK, and VEGETABLES for Twelve Calendar Months from October 1 next to H.M. Ships at the usual Ports in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and for the supply of Oxen, Sheep, and Pigs to H.M. Victualling Establishments at Chatham, Portsmouth, Portland, and Plymouth.

Forms of Tender, containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed to "Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."

Applicants should state for what place they desire to tender.

Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender, and reserve to themselves the power to accept any part of a Tender.

F. W. BLACK,
Director of Navy Contracts,
Contract Department,
Admiralty, London, S.W.
August, 1906.

BANK.

BIRKBECK BANK
Established 1851.
Current Accounts. 2% Interest allowed on minimum monthly balances when not drawn below £100.
Deposits. 2½% Interest allowed on Deposit Accounts.
Advances made. **Stocks and Shares** bought and sold.—Apply SECRETARY, Southampton Buildings, High Holborn, W.C.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd. Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

EDUCATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER.
Patron—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.
President—THE EARL SPENCER, K.G.

For Land-owners, Land-agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, &c.

Farming and Colonial Branch.

Estate Management and Forestry Branch.

For Prospectus of Curriculum, Fees, Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, &c., apply to the PRINCIPAL.

Next Session begins TUESDAY, OCT. 9.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION.
Trustees:
THE LORD PROVOST, MAGISTRATES, AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH.

THE only endowed Veterinary School in Great Britain. Under arrangements which are now being made, the equipment of the College will be strengthened and modernised, and the teaching facilities greatly increased.

An Examination in General Knowledge, for intending students, will be held on SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8.

Next Session commences TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1906.

Further particulars may be learned on application to—
PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—Agricultural Course. Prospectus, Edinburgh Agricultural College; also regulations, degree of BS.c., and Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture.—Apply to CLERK OF SENATUS.

ARMSTRONG COLLEGE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
(In the University of Durham.)
Professor of Agriculture—DOUGLAS A. GILCHRIST, M.Sc.
Secretary—F. H. PRUEN.

For full particulars of B.Sc. (Agriculture), College Diploma, and courses in Agriculture, Forestry, Estate Management, and Dairy Farming, apply to the Secretary.

Session commences September 24, 1906.

POULTRY.

IMPORTANT.—Everybody having old HENS for DISPOSAL should communicate with GEEN & Co., Smithfield Market, London, the largest poultry buyers in England.

12 TURKEY POULTS, 60s.; also 12 Turkey Cocks, 6s 6d., March hatched.—POULTRY YARD, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

44 FIRST-CROSS Leghorn, Buff Orpington, Langshan, Minorca, Leghorn, Houdan, 33s. doz. Carriage paid.—POULTRY YARD, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

100 Very Large March PULLETS, bred from selected layers, 27s. dozen, carriage paid; 50 large TOULOUSE EMBDEN GOSLINGS, 3s. 9d. each, carriage paid six, really splendid, no small birds sent; 50 full-grown DUCKLINGS, in splendid condition, 22s. dozen. Every bird sent on approval, and satisfaction guaranteed.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

FOR
FLY IN SHEEP
USE
Cuff's Fly Oil
OR MAGGOT LOTION.
Price **1s. 8d.** and **3s.** per Bottle.
Prepared by J. H. CUFF and SONS,
CATTLE MARKET, LONDON, N.,
And Sold by Chemists.

FOOT-ROT.
TRADE MARK.
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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Thunderstorms. A TYPICAL English summer has been described, somewhat sarcastically, as consisting of two fine days and a thunderstorm in order of rotation. Whatever our climate may have done in the past to earn this description it has, through the spell of splendid summer weather we have enjoyed of late, done something to win for itself a better reputation. All the same, the inevitable thunderstorms have made themselves felt in some districts with marked severity, and in several instances they have been responsible for fatal results. If it were possible, farmers could well dispense with thunderstorms, for no matter how badly rain is needed, when accompanied by thunder and lightning, it usually comes down in such torrents that a good deal of the moisture runs away before it has time to soak into the parched earth, and again, the weight and force of the rain batters the corn about, lays it flat, and makes cutting a difficult operation. Some misguided instinct leads cattle to seek shelter under trees when a thunderstorm is on, and, as everyone knows, this is a risky thing to do. Happily there have been comparatively few calamities amongst cattle through lightning this summer, but farmers naturally have anxiety for stock in the fields when the heavens are belching forth artillery of fire and thunder.

Dung versus Artificials for Early Potatoes. IN a recent issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS a report was given of a trial of early potatoes conducted at Dobbie's seed farm, at Marks Tey, in Essex. One item in the experiment, and a very important one, resulted in the triumph of animal manure over artificials in the culture of early potatoes. Twenty-five varieties were selected, and of each sixty sets were grown with dung at the rate of about 30 tons per acre, and sixty sets with artificials at the rate of 8 cwt. to the acre. The certified report shows that in every case the crop was considerably heavier where farmyard manure was used than in the case of artificials, and the figures are well worth studying by everyone interested in potato culture. In passing, it may be observed that the dry season has not been favourable for getting the most out of artificial manure, but this does not detract from the superior value of dung. It rather points to the fact that if a person has the choice of dung and artificials for potatoes he had better take the former; but in the trial at Marks Tey we should like to have seen sixty other sets of each variety manured with a lighter dressing of dung supplemented by a moderate application of artificials. In our opinion the great value of artificial manure is as a supplement to, rather than a substitute for, dung. We are growing this season twenty odd varieties of potatoes with dung supplemented by artificials, and the results so far are so satisfactory as to confirm as more than ever to the opinion that with potatoes, as with other crops, the most rational form of manuring is to lay the foundation with nature's plant food and give artificials as a supplement.

The Effect of Insecticides on Hops. IT is not cheerful news to learn from a responsible authority that the Kentish hop crop this season promises to be the smallest for over twenty years, or since 1882, the memorable year of the great blight. The cause of this gloomy state of affairs appears to be twofold. In the first place the present season is a record one for vermin, and growers know to their sorrow how much this has increased the cost of cultivation. There has been no help for it; the hops have had to be washed, washed and washed again, and here we come to the second cause of the disappointing results. The repeated applications of insecticides have had the effect of sterilising the bine, and even in gardens where there appears to be a good growth much of the bine is said to be blind from the effects of continual washing. Thus the hop-grower has been placed between two fires. He has had to wash repeatedly to save his crop from dire destruction, but his efforts to save have been made at a sacrifice. The one redeeming hope in the whole transaction is that, returns being light, prices ought to be above the average. It will take something, however, to make up for the gardens from which probably a basket of hops will not be picked.

Aftermaths. A CHANGE has come over the face of the country during the past week or two, and meadows which at the close of the hay harvest were glaring in their bareness are now pleasantly green through the growth of the aftermath. Herds of cows show an intelligence that is almost human in their choice of pasture. You may drive them into a field that is dried up and destitute of keep, but they go reluctantly and show plainly that they are going against their will; but open the gate of a meadow where there is a good bite of fresh, sweet grass and the cows want no persuading. On the other hand, they hurry to get to the meal, graze with a relish, and the result is seen when they next come up to the shed to be milked. In some districts the dry weather has been against the growth of grass in recently-mown meadows, but keep is getting more plentiful now. For this farmers are thankful, because pasture lands are bare and the shortage of milk-producing herbage has not failed to leave its mark. Aftermath grass was never more welcome than this year.

Thatching. OF course, thatching is not the business now as it was in the days before hay barns were introduced, but still it is an important item in connection with the yearly round of farm work. A well-kept stackyard with ricks neatly trimmed and well thatched is a sign of good farming, but one also sees yards in which the stacks are mere lumps of fodder, loose hay is trampled about and wasted, and no efforts are made to protect the ricks against the weather. By their works shall ye know them, and generally one can form a fairly good estimate of the business character of a farmer by the state of his stackyard. Thatching a hay-rick is not included amongst the fine arts, but it is not every man who is able to do it, and the operation may be fairly included amongst the items of skilled labour on the farm. We call a man a really good thatcher who can put a good roof on a rick with a minimum of material, because straw is an expensive item nowadays. Next to this, neatness and good workmanship are points to be considered, and you can always tell by the way the rick is finished off whether the thatcher is master of his business.

A Troublesome Weed. BY common consent charlock is the worst weed with which farmers have to deal. Its tenacity has scarcely any limit, and in districts where it flourishes prolifically the struggle to deal with it is long, weary and apparently never ending. We have had some experience, however, of late of a weed which, though fortunately not common in all districts, is a terrible pest and hard to get rid of. We refer to Aquisebum arvense, known locally as "catstail," perhaps because it owns as many lives as the owner of the latter appendage. "Catstail" appears to prefer a soil that is inclined to be light or sandy, and while the asparagus like heads are pushed through the surface of the ground, the roots go a long way down and are difficult to get out. When working a piece of ground infested with "catstail," it is worth all the time and trouble to pick out the roots and burn them, but the pest is not cleared out by this method alone. A quantity of the weed will be sure to come up later on, and if pulling is impossible frequent hoeing is the next best method, as this is a means of weakening the root.

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The Progress of Harvest. THE tropical sunshine experienced of late has had its effect on the ripening of the corn, and harvesting operations are being carried on so rapidly that there will be little but bare stubbles when the sportsmen commence to shoot partridges in September. Farmers as a whole have reasons for feeling happy about the harvest this year, for in most cases both straw, ear, and grain are good. It is true that in some districts heavy storms have played havoc; but, happily, we have not suffered, and it is good to see the golden yellow tint of the grain when rubbed from the ear. Most of the corn is cut with the reaper and binder now, but the reaping hook at work in small fields reminds one of the harvests of other days. We are led by observation to think labourers in the cornfield are not so careful as they might be in setting up the sheaves in shocks, stooks, or thraves, as they are called in different districts, and we are inclined to this opinion by seeing so many of the shocks scattered about after being set up a day or two. Is this simple operation, like some others, getting to be a lost art in agriculture?

Sport in the Harvest Field. ALL through the summer rabbits and also hares (where the latter have not been persecuted to the point of extinction) have found covert and perfect safety in the fields of standing corn, and they resent the ruthless disturbance when harvesting operations begin. As the reaper and binder pursues its way round the field the rabbits retreat further and further into the centre until the harbourage gets so small that they have no other course but to make a bolt for it. This is a moment of excitement, and the way a good dog will pick up a rabbit on its way to the nearest hedgerow beats anything we have seen in the way of rabbit coursing. Corn cutting often affords an opportunity for a bit of quick shooting, but it is not unattended by danger, because labourers have a habit of losing their heads on such occasions, and may often be seen blundering over the prostrate sheaves after a bolting rabbit, and entirely spoiling the chances of anyone with a gun. There is no mistake about the spirit of sport moving the muscles, even amongst the old hands stiff joints and rheumatics are forgotten when rabbits are bolting quickly from the corn.

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Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Lord Carrington and Crown Lands.

Lord Carrington has, of course, practically admitted that the Crown lands could not all be utilised for small holdings or even for agriculture. Much of these lands have, for instance, mineral qualities which it would be unwise to disregard, even though regard conflict for the moment with moral anxiety. Apart, however, from this mineral land, there are considerable areas which are ill-adapted for the efforts of the small holder. The suggestion has been made in this column that a part of this particular land might be well set apart for experimental culture, and, more particularly, for the culture of sugar-beet on the lines approved by the Lincolnshire deputation to Germany. Why should not, too, a part of it be set aside for afforestation? There are considerable areas in Wales—and, pray remember, that Crown lands are really national lands, the Crown having relinquished its right in them for a civil list of £350,000—which are admirably adapted for this purpose, and which now practically lie fallow. As a fact, the Royal Commission on Welsh Lands deliberately advised that the Department of Woods and Forests should take steps to compile a statement of the areas of their estate suitable for afforestation. Some part of the Crown lands have been recently declared not to be worth more than half-a-crown an acre. Perhaps not in their present neglected and derided condition. Both Spain and Norway — and I deduce these illustrations because they can be said to be modern in their character—once possessed land as useless, as valueless, and, because of neglected cultivation, as fallow. This land has by afforestation become among the valued assets of the nation's. Norway's waste land, which was within recent years valued at 4s. 5d. per an acre, is now held to be, when planted with trees, worth 38s. 5d. This piquant fact I commend to the Minister for Agriculture.

Why not Reclamation for Out o' Works?

The reforming visionaries of our towns, who are eternally on the quest for agrarian employment for the out-o'-works of the street corners, cannot be expected to wax enthusiastic over the suggested establishment of a wide system of experimental culture. Experimental culture requires skill, and skill and knowledge are what their protégés do not possess. Of course, though a system of afforestation would naturally provide employment for unskilled labour, it would in its development require skill, intelligence, and experience. But Earl Carrington could, with a sympathetic Government anxious to enlarge his opportunities, provide work even for these urban out-o'-works, who are said only to need an area which is unladen with the fœtid pungencies of the great towns to blossom into diligent, self-respecting citizens. Nay, I should say that even without securing extended powers, the Earl could, in a measure, provide this opportunity for work In suggesting that extended powers might be secured, I had in my view the initiation of a considerable policy of foreshore reclamation. However, it is averred that on a large part of the Crown estates foreshore reclamation is necessary in order to safeguard and rescue a national property. To what extent this may be so cannot be definitely said; but, at all events, the prevention of encroachment upon Crown lands would undeniably provide considerable opportunities for work for the protégés who now, I fear, are happiest when they are permitted to lustily bawl their grievances amid the effervescing enthusiasm of a Hyde Park demonstration. May I also commend this suggestion to the Earl Carrington?

Holland Butter and the Customs.

There is one incident in the annual report of the Commissioner of Customs which is of moment to the English butter industry. It certainly says something for the increased circumspection of the exporters of foreign-made butter to this country that of the 1,875 samples examined by the Customs' officials only seventy-eight were found to infringe the provisions of the law. However, what is of more significance than even this fact is that no less than seventy-seven of these adulterated consignments came from Holland. This argues, of course, either that the Customs' officials are for some inexplicable reason inclined to associate a greater espionage with the reception of Dutch goods, or that the gentle and domesticated Dutchman is more prone to habits to which the English law-givers now turn a stern and remorselessly unsympathetic face. At all events, I ween that most of my readers will be ready to accept the incident as a reason for the stern application of the provisions of the Butter Bill, when they become active, to the products of our Lutheran friends in the Netherlands. Not that any part of the competitive sphere should be passed by, but Holland must emphatically not be neglected.

General Booth as Home Colonist.

Excellent is it that General Booth is not so enamoured of his over-sea colonisation that he is unwilling to try the experiment here at home. General Booth's method, after all, is somewhat different to that of the vicarious Socialist philanthropists who, playing gaily and with lofty generosity with the finances of the State or municipality, are willing to draft loafer, physical ne'er-do well or mentally incapable on to the land in order that they may at once indulge—and, of course, successfully indulge—in the most scientific of all artisan pursuits. The General does not believe that the mere bestowal of a Socialistic smile upon an unfortunate or an incapable is the one means by which that unfortunate or that incapable evolves into a sedulous, early-rising, intelligent, reconciled-to-his-surroundings rural worker. He believes, unlike our philanthropists of the type who have made themselves pretty assertive in the towns of late, that it is not enough to label the out of work a Booth protégé; that, in other words, he must have both some prefatory training and some temperamental and physical qualifications. A series of Booth small holdings colonies, which would, of course, be very different to the colonies of human flotsam and jetsam which the General has called into existence in the hope that there the repentant wastrildom of the towns might be able to revive its latent manhood, would have an economic importance as an example. Here you would have, in a sense, skilled men, whose physical texture had been tested and not found wanting.

Why Export our Brawn and Muscle?

Should the brawn and muscle of the British rural areas be sent out to the Transvaal and the Orange Colony in order that, in the Legislature to be given to those erstwhile Republics, a British and loyalist majority might be secured? That a loyalist and British majority should be secured is of course in every way desirable—it may even be conceded that it is in that direction Imperial safety lies: but I put it to Mr. Rider Haggard whether this cannot be accomplished by some other means than the denudation of our rural areas? Mr. Rider Haggard—whose knowledge of South African economics is close and intimate, and has, moreover, associated with it an admirable intelligence and insight—would probably reply that the deliberate denudation of our rural areas is by no means necessary to his scheme of land settlements. We live in an atmosphere of back-to-the-land emotion; our statecraft hopes to relieve the appalling congestion of our greater towns by inducing the men who have divorced themselves from their natural village life to return to that life. And what is more, the villages thirst for this ungrateful labour, which has found itself stranded and bereft in the hustling centres of our life. Even supposing it is only this labour which Mr. Rider Haggard would see drafted to the sub-continent—and apparently he attaches so much significance to the matter that he would associate with it something of State discipline—the rural areas would, in the present emotional state of public opinion, suffer. It cannot be said of Mr. Rider Haggard that his vision is so extended that he neglects the prospect at his feet. No man has given a wider advocacy to the small holdings movement. Still, this continued anxiety to deport our own thews and muscle is not altogether a reassurance. We may be willing to bear many sacrifices for Empire's sake; but is this particular sacrifice necessary?

Are these Peers Wise?

There is a wisdom that is greater than daring. Methinks those enthusiastic peers and Parliamentary antagonists of land reform who are already seeking to organise a peers' crusade against the Tenure Bill in the House of Lords on the lines of the campaign in the Commons, might wisely do something very different to wrecking the measure, or even than despoiling it, to use the words of one of its antagonists, of its fangs. No observer of the Parliamentary temper can pretend for a moment to say that this Bill has realised the expectations of the assertive Radical section. The Labour men, to be frank, regard it as little more than pottering. There is a powerful phalanx—powerful because of the insistence and persistence of its members—which frankly says that nothing short of an English reproduction of the new Scotch Crofters Bill will suffice. There is a more considerable body among the Liberal county M.P.'s, who say outright that they do not think that this Bill will accomplish as much as Mr. Channing's Bill would have accomplished. Mr. Channing's Bill, by the way, is more in harmony with their temper because of the more emphatic manner in which it would deal with the shooting and game rights of tenants. If the present Bill be despoiled in the Lords, if it be reduced to a nullity, this achievement will, believe me, be only held to be a justification for the renewal of the agitation.

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

Warrington.

A first-class show spoiled by rain was the general verdict of those who braved the stormy elements and attended the show of the Warrington and District Agricultural Society, held in Sir Gilbert Greenall's beautiful grounds at Walton Hall on Thursday.

Apart from the weather the show was a pronounced success. Admirably managed, and supported whole-heartedly by the large agricultural district of which Warrington is the centre, it has grown in importance year by year. For this healthy development much is owing to Sir Gilbert Greenall, the society's president. His fame as a horse-breedor attracts many entries, and Walton Park, which has for years been the show-ground, is sufficiently beautiful in itself to repay a visit. Tho entries last week numbered 466, the highest total yet reached. Of these more than half were horses. The Shires numbered 132, Hunters ninety-six, Hackneys sixty-nine, Harness horses forty, and tradesmen's and tenant farmers' turnouts twenty-seven.

With hardly an exception, the classes in the horse sections were well filled. In some of the Hunter classes the number of entries was almost embarrassing, and the judges had a prolonged and difficult task in making their awards. There were twenty-nine competitors in one open class, twelve in another, sixteen in a third, and thirteen in a fourth. A five-year-old bay gelding owned by Mr. John Drage, of Chapel Brampton, won in the open class for novice Hunters to carry 13 st. The heavy-weight novice class was led by a chesnut gelding of excellent proportions shown by Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Great Bowden, Market Harborough, who took chief prize in the next class for Hunters to carry from 13 st. to 14 st. 7 lb., and in a fourth competition for heavy-weights.

The Hackneys were an interesting lot. Here again competition was keen, the chief animals paraded being known in show rings throughout the country. Mr. John Makeague, of Newton-le-Willows, secured first place in no fewer than five classes and also the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal. In the open competitions for Harness horses a couple of animals from the stables of Sir Gilbert Greenall, and now owned by Sheffield and Wimbledon exhibitors, were successful. The Harness section is recognised as one of the best in the country, and here Mr. Caleb Jones, Sheffield, won the premier award, and the Hackney Horse Society's Silver Medal, for the best mare or gelding in single harness. Other leading winners were Mr. Howard Frank, Wimbledon Common; Mr. G. Pimlott, Altrincham; Mr. J. Sadler Sykes, Hawkestone Park, Shropshire; and Messrs. Carr and Co., Carluke.

The jumping deserved all the popularity it aroused. With prizes of £20, £15, £10, and £5 offered, a good entry was assured, and though rain stopped the competitions twice, the finish was so close that first and second awards were divided equally between Mr. F. V. Grange, of Fardon, Cheshire, and Mr. George Ledson, of Bromborough, Messrs. Whittingham Brothers, of Burton-on-Trent, taking third place.

The Shires showed that the breeding of big-boned, useful animals has not fallen away in Lancashire or Cheshire, for in the open as in the district classes many successful competitors hailed from one or other of these counties. Mr. J. Gould was the most successful exhibitor in this section, he taking three firsts and one second prize.

The cattle were a creditable lot, but nothing out of the ordinary. All the entries wore of a type which bore unmistakable signs of utility. Lord Lilford's cup for the best cow went to Mr. T. Billington, Prestonbrook, Warrington. Pigs were few but good, and none but Whites were shown. The butter and cheese sections were not large nor the competitors numerous, but quality was good.

Ryedale and Pickering.

The Ryedale and Pickering Agricultural Society, one of the most popular in Yorkshire, is held in rotation at Pickering, Kirbymoorside, and Helmsley, and last week it fell to the lot of Kirbymoorside to welcome the show, and this they did right loyally, for there was a good attendance of visitors, whilst the entries were the best on record as regards numbers, and quality, too, was as good as in any other year, taken all round. The total was 488, an increase of eighty on last year's show, and of fifty-five at Pickering in 1904; whilst it was twenty-four more than the previous best—namely, 464 in 1903, when the show was at Kirbymoorside. Horses were, as usual, the strongest section, numbering 317. Coaches and Cleveland Bays were a particularly good lot, and the Shires appeared equal to anything seen at district shows this season. Mr. John Webster, of Harome, had several notable wins in the coaching classes with bay two-year-old Harome Bell II., which entered the honours list both at the Royal and the Yorkshire. Several other Yorkshire winners repeated their successes. The Shire horse silver medal went to Messrs. R. and J. Davidson, of Nawton, for a nice bay filly by Caliph, and the Hackney Society's medal was gained by Mr. Bentham King, of Helmsley. Sheep were an excellent lot, whilst the Shorthorns were a very good display, including as they did many animals of the highest quality. There was also a fair show of pigs and implements.

Penrith.

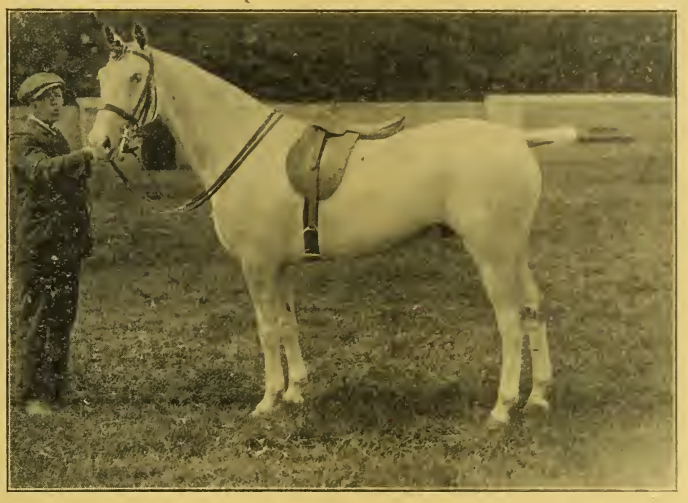
The Penrith Agricultural Society's sixty-third annual show was held at Penrith on Tuesday, and although rain somewhat marred the proceedings, there was a very large attendance of visitors, who had much to interest and instruct them, for there were good entries in all departments. Cattle were, perhaps, the feature of the show. The three-year-old Shorthorn bull, Moonstone, with which Mr. Toppin, of Musgrave Hall, took a first and the championship, is a well-known prize winner, as is Mr. Harris's Lady Dufton 10th, which carried off the female championship as well as the first award in her class. Yearlings made a particularly good show, and another strong class was that for Shorthorn cows or heifers, in which first honours went to the Earl of Lonsdale. Lord Brougham was also amongst the successful competitors, his lordship taking a second in a strong two-year-old Shorthorn heifer class. Of the horses the best were those in the agricultural classes, in which the male championship went to Mr. Mansell's bay yearling colt by Baron Solway, while the best mare was found in Mr. Wood's Cedric Princess. There was also a fairly good display of harness horses and of hunters—the harness championship going to Dr. Dalston-Ewbanke's Affection, and the hunter championship to Mr. J. S. Rigg, of Appleby, for his six-year-old bay horse, Cousin Job. Sheep were well represented, the breeds shown including Border Leicesters, Oxford Downs, Blackfaced Mountain, and Herdwicks.

Worthing Horse.

The Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show, held at Worthing on Wednesday, was, happily, a decided success, both as regards from the show point of view—the entries being a record in number and the quality as good as ever—and also from a financial standpoint, for though a deluge of rain was experienced in the morning, the afternoon turned out fine, and there was a very large attendance. The society should therefore be able to wipe off the deficit on last year's show, which was spoiled by bad weather. The chief interest in last Wednesday's show centred, as is usually the case, in the two jumping competitions, in each of which there were seventeen entries. The first of these—the open jumping—occupied tho best part of the afternoon, and provided some capital sport. Last year's first and second prize winners—Monarch and Grasshopper, both belonging to Mr. A. Nixey Smith—were again tho popular favourites. Both did fairly well in the first round, but Mr. Walter Winans' Sirdar, a horse with plenty of spirit and good action, was a strong competitor, and was fancied by many. Mr. Winans' Marmion also attracted notice by the splendid way in which it cleared tho hurdles and 15ft. 6in. water jump. Later on, however, it spoiled a good chance by fouling the gate. At the second trial, Mr. Walter Grundy's Finstall, Mr. J. Coleman's White Rose, and Grasshopper were the only three to clear all the fences. White Rose was eventually given premier award, but Sirdar, Tip Top (another of Mr. J. Coleman's), and Finstall were called out again for a deciding trial for second and third prizes at the timber fences. Finstall had rather hard luck in losing second place, having exhibited splendid form throughout. Sirdar was a popular second. The jumping, in the opinion of the experts, was the best that has ever been seen at the Worthing Show. White Rose had a double victory, taking first prize also in the United Hunts' jumping competition. This year some local classes for driving and trade turn-outs were introduced into the show, and these added greatly to the interest. The handsome challenge cup for best Harness horse in the show was won for the third time, and the second year in succession, by Mrs. Hartley Batt with Maid of Newton. Mrs. Batt thus secured it outright.

Banwell and Weston-super-Mare.

The Banwell and Weston-super-Mare Horse and Agricultural Association were not altogether fortunate as regards the weather experience for their show on Wednesday, as rain made its unwelcome appearance at intervals throughout the day. The show itself, however, was a highly creditable one, the entries, despite the elimination of the fat stock and pig classes, being nine more than last year, several departments showing satisfactory increases, notably the colts, the farmers' classes, and the Caerphilly cheese class. Horses always have been the main feature of the show, and the reputation of the society was maintained in this respect. The cattle and sheep were well up to the average quality exhibited at Banwell, whilst there was a fine lot of cheese forward.



Mr. O. T. PRICE'S POLO PONY MARE, MOORTOWN.
Winner of several prizes, including First at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Derby.

Bognor Horse.

That the Bognor Horse Show increases in popularity both with exhibitors and visitors was proved on Thursday, when the eighth annual show was held, for the entries were the largest on record and certainly the best in quality, which was very high, whilst the attendance was on a very large scale. Classes were provided for heavy horses, Hackney, and Harness horses, Hunters, jumpers, and hacks, and tradesmen's turnouts, the last named being particularly popular, whilst the riding and jumping naturally interested the crowd most. The show was a good one all round, and testified to the services of those responsible for it.

Whitby.

The annual show at Whitby was at one time confined to horses, but during the last few years classes for cattle, sheep, and produce have crept in, so that the show now has the title of the Whitby Agricultural, instead of Horse, Show. Horses, however, still hold their own, for last week they numbered 201, as against 31 cattle, and they were all round a good lot, Cleveland Bays and Coaching horses being particularly strong, including as they did, many well-known winners.

Agricultural horses made a good show, as did Hunters and Hackneys, but the cattle classes were rather poorly filled, although they were a nice lot. There was more competition in the sheep section, the Leicesters being especially noteworthy, whilst the sheep dog trials evoked a good deal of interest. Unfortunately, rain fell heavily in the afternoon and affected the attendance, which, however, was fairly good.

Durham.

The Durham County Agricultural Society firmly believe in the migratory show system, and they carry out their opinions in a practical manner by visiting each year some different parts of the county. Last year South Shields was the town chosen, and this year Wolsingham, and a bigger contrast in the two sites it would be difficult to find. At South Shields all is bustle and excitement, whilst Wolsingham is a small market town among the hills and far away from the coal-pits with which the county abounds. The change was a good one, and brought success in its train, for though the entries (1,300) were not so numerous as last year (1,474), they were about an average lot, and the attendance of visitors was very good.

A very fine collection of Shorthorns came before the judges, for they included some of the choicest members of Mr. George Harrison's famous Gainford herd. His two-year-old white bull, Royal Ensign, which was first at the Yorkshire, carried all before it, winning not only the chief premium in its class, but a challenge cup also. Second to it was Mr. William Bell's roan bull Baron Hopeful, a son of the same owner's famous Baron Abbotsford. Mr. Harrison's young red bull, Admiral, never shown before, achieved a remarkable success. It was not only at the head of a strong class of thirteen, but was awarded the special district prize of £10 given by the Shorthorn Society for the best bull calved in 1905. Admiral is, for his age, a massive animal, of lovely shape, and is a most promising animal. Other stock from Mr. Harrison's herd which were successful included his well-known roan cow Ursula Raglan, second at the Yorkshire and reserve at the Royal.

In the Polled Angus classes the entries were not so large as in the Shorthorns, twos and threes in each being the rule. Another well-known breeder, Mr. T. H. Bainbridge, who makes a speciality of the "Doddies," was the chief prize-winner, his animals being at the top of every class save one.

Just 100 sheep were penned, and the feature of the section was the black-faced sheep, which are common to the hillsides of Durham. Mr. John Robson's flocks accounted for most of the prizes; whilst for Border Leicesters Messrs. Nicholson, Lanchester, and Messrs. J. Annandale and Sons, Rowland's Gill, R.S.O., were the winners.

Unfortunately the horses showed a marked decline in numbers as compared with last year's show. Clydesdales were, however, a fine show, and only slightly fewer. Among the brood mares the Seaham Harbour Stud's Rusk, placed second in the same class at Newcastle, won easily, Lady Raffan, a well-known winner at the principal shows, failing to catch the judge's eye on this occasion. In these classes special prizes were given for animals owned by tenant farmers. There was a more than average show both of colts and fillies, Lord Durham and the Seaham Harbour Stud being prominent in these classes. The Seaham Stud were first for yearling fillies with the same animal that scored second in the same class at Newcastle, and beat competitors which had won at numerous local shows this year. Mr. Townson, of Bishop Auckland, was second with his Silver Baroness. The Seaham Stud continued their successes in the class for yearling colts, but Mr. Park, of Swalwell, showed the best two-year-old colt, and took both firsts. Mr. Holmes, of Whitburn, was first for two-year-old fillies, and Messrs. Graham, of Elwick, near Belford, for geldings of the same age. In a strong class of three-year-old fillies the Seaham Stud scored again with Silver Princess, which had earned winning brackets this year at the Royal, Highland, and Northumberland shows. Second to her came Mr. Townson, of Hilton Moor, who took the tenant farmers' prize in the class. Three-year-old geldings were small in number, but a grand class of draught mares found the Seaham Harbour Stud and Mr. Fenwick Wilson, of Whitley Bay, first and second respectively—the same positions as they occupied in the same class at Newcastle last month.

Hunters were a good lot, and though just about the same in number as last year, were less than they used to be a few years ago. Mr. Harrison, of Easingwold, was first in a smart lot of brood mares. The foals were only few, Mr. Ingledew coming first with a colt and Mr. David Deuchar, of Warkworth, second with a filly. Mr. Deuchar was first for yearling fillies and two-year-old geldings. Mr. R. G. Heslop's bay gelding, an exceedingly pretty animal, was the best shown by a tenant farmer, and accordingly took the special prize, Mr. F. Walton Smith coming second.

The Hackney classes showed a decline, and seem to have lost ground of late years. Most prominent amongst the winners here was Mr. Thomas Boddy, of Glenton Farm, West Auckland, who took the champion challenge cup for the best horse in these classes and five of the fifteen other prizes offered. Mr. Stephen Cliff, of Easingwold, was first for brood mares and foals. There was a splendid show of Dales ponies, one of the pure breeds of horses still left, but there was a big falling off in the Harness classes, where the entries were just about a fourth of last year's.

The other departments of the show were all satisfactory. The sheep dog trials excited great interest, and the show of dairy produce was the best ever held by the Society. Dogs were about the same in number as last year, and poultry made a very fine display.

Harrogate.

As in the case of other shows held on Thursday, the Harrogate Agricultural Society's exhibition was considerably marred by rain, which at times fell in torrents. The show of stock was an exceptionally good one, and deserving of better treatment than it received at the hands of the Clerk of the Weather. The society offered £500 in prizes, a good increase on last year's total, and this drew a better entry, sheep and pigs in particular showing a gratifying increase. The former numbered 150 as against 104, and pigs 93 as compared with 34 in 1905. Cattle accounted for just over 100 entries, and horses for 177, these being much the same as last year. Shorthorns made a good show, and included Mr. Cass's (Ribston) beautiful roan heifer, which won first at the Yorkshire Show, and she now had no difficulty in taking the special prize offered by Mr. Lynch, M.P., for the best Shorthorn brought from a radius of twelve miles of the town. The horse classes were fairly well filled and contained some first-class animals, whilst for the first time pigeons were included in the catalogue, and these added considerably to the entry total.

Penistone.

The Penistone Agricultural Society were unfortunate enough to have wet weather for their show on Thursday, rain falling continuously, whilst, to add to the discomfort, the wind was now and then like an hurricane. The bad weather was the more aggravating because from the point of view both of quality and numbers the show was one of the best the society has yet held. It is purely a local show in the sense that the awards are scarcely big enough to attract the professional exhibitor of stock, and for that reason, perhaps, it serves a more useful purpose than otherwise. It caters for all sorts of fancies, there being in addition to horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, classes for dogs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cats, and horticulture. So that the interest it arouses is very general and varied. In every section the entries were good, but the unceasing rain marred the proceedings altogether, and the members of the society, as well as the exhibitors, are to be commiserated with on their bad luck.

Lytham.

The Lytham Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Show, held in the grounds of Lytham Hall on Thursday, was a complete success, the entries, which numbered 1,166, being 200 more than in any previous year, whilst early in the morning people from all over the district began to pour into the town, and notwithstanding the heavy showers just before noon the attendance was good. Every section was well filled, and the horses were particularly good. Mr. Henry Jagger, of Poulton, secured the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's silver medal for the best draught mare or filly, and also the Shire Horse Society's medal for Shire mare, foal, or filly. Mr. R. R. Rothwell, one of the most successful exhibitors of the day, carried off the honours for best cow or heifer. One of the most interesting events of the day to the visitors proved to be the sheep-dog trials.

On Wednesday South Lincolnshire was visited by a heavy thunderstorm and some drenching downpours in the afternoon, harvest operations being completely stopped, and corn crops still further damaged. At Weston, near Spalding, a valuable bullock, belonging to a farmer named Grummitt, was struck by lightning and killed. It was one of a herd, but none of the others were injured. Other damage was done in the district, the storm stripping large quantities of fruit from the orchards.

Thirsk Harvest Hirings.—There was a good demand for both English and Irish harvest labourers at these hirings on Monday, and steady English drivers obtained 4s. to 4s. 6d. per day, English labourers 3s. 6d. to 4s. per day. Irish labourers, all-round men (able to stack and thatch), got £5 10s. to £5 12s. 6d., and for really good men £6 was obtained for the harvest month, with milk, potatoes, and temporary lodgings found. Boys capable of driving (carts) got from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per day.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Messrs. Little and Ballantyne's Bulb Catalogue for 1906 is not on such a pretentious scale as some others, but it contains many illustrations and all the details one wishes to know when making a selections of bulbs.

Volume XVII. of the English Herd Book and Register of Pure Bred Jersey Cattle contains the pedigrees of 1,226 cows and 361 bulls, as well as details of births in the herds of members of the society; a list of prizewinners at the principal shows and butter test awards; details of important sales by auction and other information for the year 1905.

The two latest volumes in Mr. Heinemann's (21, Bedford Street, London, W.C.) excellent Garden Library are "Roses" and "Ferns," and they tell in simple language all that the average gardener wishes to know about these two popular garden subjects. The volumes are nicely and freely illuminated, and are uniform in size and and binding. The price is 2s. 6d.

The series of articles on "Systems of Land Tenure," by Mr. J. Macdonald, secretary of the Highland and Ayr Society, which appeared in one of the Scotch dailies, have been issued in pamphlet form by Messrs. Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London. Mr. Macdonald has not attempted to deal fully with the subject, but restricted himself to a consideration of the economic aspects of the question, and his remarks afford most interesting reading at a time when land tenure is so much to the fore.

The picturesque Longhorn cattle are not so popular and numerous as they deserve to be, and their Herd Book makes a very small volume compared with others. In volume 5, there are the the pedigrees of eighty-nine cows and heifers and forty-four bulls, together with details of births, prize winners at shows, sales by auction, etc.; but the whole only make just over fifty pages. It is published by the Longhorn Cattle Society, the hon. secretary of which is Mr. T. H. Weetman, Atherstone.

The complexion of the garden is fast changing, and signs are abundant that summer and autumn flowers will shortly come to an end. It is therefore time to face the requirements of winter, and for the coming months, so far as gardens are concerned, we are limited to those flowers which are capable of enduring the rigours of our climate. Here bulbs prove of immense service. They have an astonishing range of magnificent colours, whilst they are perfectly hardy and of simple culture. These remarks are called forth by the receipt of Messrs. Sutton and Sons' most interesting bulb catalogue for 1906. It is, as usual, a most artistic production, an illustration on almost every page, and from it gardeners can make a selection which, for beauty of colouring, &c., would be hard to excel.

Multum in parvo would seem to be the motto of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society when dealing with their Journal, for the articles and some of the other details are set in somewhat small type, which to many eyes proves trying after a little reading. A little larger lettering would, we feel sure, be more appreciated; it need not take any more space, for a little less display in the prize list of the previous year's show, which very few want at all, would obviate the need of extra pages. However, perhaps the hardy farmers of Lancashire have better eyesight than we poor Southerners, so that the remarks above will not appeal to them. As to the Journal, its contents are chiefly a record of the society's doings in 1905, including reports of meetings, a description, with illustrations, of the Liverpool show and a full prize list, the articles being only four in number—viz., "State Farm Colonies," by the veteran Joseph Darby, who describes them as "the nation's urgent need"; "Sewage Sludge Disposal and Utilisation," by James Ashton, F.C.S., &c.; an article on the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, by Alfred Smetham, F.C.S., F.I.C., the society's consulting analytical chemist; and "Modern Methods of Utility Poultry Keeping," by Miss M. Brown, of the Lancashire County Council Farm. The last-named article will, we think, prove the most popular. The Journal, which is nicely bound, is published at 5s. net.

The Cornwall County Council have passed a by-law forbidding any person to uproot or destroy any ferns growing in public places, under a penalty of £5. The by-law will not apply to persons collecting specimens in small quantities for private or scientific use, but to those who have been in the habit of sending large quantities to London and other big centres.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The prize schedule of the Smithfield Club's show on December 10 and four following days is practically on the same lines as last year, but there are one or two alterations to be noted. For instance, no Cup for the best Cotswold sheep figures in the schedule, whereas all the other breeds have a Breed Cup, and one was given for Cotswolds last year. We wonder whether it is a printer's error or whether the Cup is withdrawn because only one breeder (Mr. W. T. Garne) supported the section last year? Then there is an alteration to note in the Mountain breeds sheep classes, a separate class being this year provided for Welsh Mountain wethers of any age; but this extra class is made up for by the withdrawal of one of the pig classes, Small Whites or Small Blacks being given only one class—for two pigs over nine and not exceeding twelve months old—as against one for pigs not exceeding nine months old, and another for those over nine and not exceeding twelve months old, last year. The schedule, however, contains one more class than that of 1905, for a new one is provided for porkers—viz., pens of two pigs of any breed or cross, not exceeding six months old, suitable for the London porket trade, with prizes of £10 5s. 3d., probably a fourth of ten entries are received. This new class should, we think, prove a popular one.

The only other alteration we have to note is that in the pig carcase classes the animals are not only classed according to weight as last year, but an age limit is introduced, thus pigs not exceeding 100 lb. live weight must not be over six months old; pigs between 100 and 222 lb. must not exceed nine months; and those between 220 lb and 300 lb. must not be more than twelve months old.

The total amount offered by the club in prizes is this year £4,152 6s. 2d., as compared with £4,153 1s. 4d. last year, so that there is only the difference of 15s. 2d. The cattle classes get £2,013, sheep £1,154, pigs £457, carcase competition £281; and table poultry, £121 18s.; whilst those popular prizes for feeders of the first prize animals absorb £125 8s. 2d. In the majority of the cattle classes the prizes are: first £25, second £15, and third £10, whilst in any cases where there are ten entries the judges may, if there be sufficient merit, award a fourth prize. This also applies to the sheep and pig sections. The sheep class prizes range from £15 to £3, and pigs from £10 to £3, whilst in addition there are the usual numerous and valuable special awards as well as the popular Breed Cups.

How valuable are the prizes offered may be judged when it is stated that it is possible for a steer or ox to win as much as £260, for a heifer £255, a pen of three long or short woolled sheep to win £110, and for a pen of two pigs to win £70. The poultry section is the same as last year in every detail, and for poultry the prizes are:—First £2, second £1, third 10s., fourth 5s., fifth 3s., whilst for geese and turkeys there are no fifth prizes, but the others are increased in value, being respectively £3, £1 10s, 15s., and 5s. Prize schedules, entry forms, &c., can be had of the secretary, Mr. E. J. Powell, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

The fifty-eighth annual show of the Bakewell Farmers' Club takes place on Wednesday next, and should prove a successful event, for a good prize schedule was arranged in which a variety of sections figured, all of which should have their interest, whilst for the benefit of the town visitors there will be a trotting handicap and also a pony race.

The East Berkshire Horse Show Society have received highly satisfactory entries for their show at Hawthorn Hill, near Maidenhead, on Thursday next, and, given fine weather, the show should be most successful. One of the chief features of the show will be the Hunter and Shire Produce Classes, for which a large number of entries have been received from all the best known breeders.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. T. TURNER,
Cleveland Agricultural Society.

The Jubilee Show of the Essex Agricultural Society has been fixed to take place at Chelmsford on Wednesday and Thursday, June 12 and 13, 1907, and it is hoped that it will prove a record all round, and thus fittingly mark fifty years' successful work of the society.

It is stated that the whole of the money wanted as a guarantee fund for the proposed International Horse Show, to be held at Olympia next spring, has been raised without the least difficulty. Americans were prepared to find the whole amount, but so generous was the response to the appeal issued after the meeting held in London some months ago, that acceptance of the offer was not necessary.

An excellent entry has been received for the Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep Show at Ball's Bridge, Dublin, on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st, and there is every prospect of the event proving one of the most successful on record.

Northern Notes.

TWO Yorkshire farmers met in a market this week. One asked his friend if he had done any threshing yet, and with what result. The answer was affirmative; but the elements had accomplished the threshing of fifty acres of oats. This is the experience of more than half a dozen large farmers in the east of Yorkshire, where such a storm raged (in parts) on Monday night as has not been experienced within the memory of man for forty years past. Crops in the villages of Garton (the breeding place of some famous Hackneys), Kirkburn, Tibthorpe, Elmswell, and Southburn were devastated by hailstones of phenomenal size; and the farmers make reports, which are only too well authenticated, of £200 up to £500 damage on their several holdings. Farmers I have conversed with, men after whom one can speak with assurance, tell me that on their holdings the damage to growing crops in a few minutes is incredible. The ears of corn were cut off by the ice as if they had succumbed to a sharp instrument, and the ground was literally covered with the shaken corn. Valuers shortly before the storm broke had estimated a field of oats at 7 qr. per acre. Not more than 1 qr. per acre they calculated was left when the storm ceased. Turnip flats in the storm area look as if the tops had been cut off and a roller had then been passed over the crop. Much of the corn affected will not be worth harvesting, estimating the operation "in and out" at £1 an acre. One of these Wold farmers declares the storm has deprived him of what will be tantamount to a year's rent.

INCREASING interest is shown in the experimental farm carried on under the joint auspices of the East and West Ridings of Yorkshire County Councils. Sixty tenant farmers paid a recent visit of inspection to Garforth, and there saw the plots containing the different varieties of wheat, oats, and barley, of which more will be heard when the professors have tabulated the results of their labours and the wonder-working efforts of the soil and atmosphere. Since the County Councils began to take an interest in dairying, I am told by good judges of butter that the quality has been vastly improved, and that no dairy of any size is now carried on without the latest appliances. Free exhibitions are given to farmers' daughters to enable them to acquire skill in butter-making; and the same advantages are offered to the sons desiring to become "wisdom-seekers."

THE most cheerful reports are prevalent of the luxuriant crop of hay that has been got into stack. The contrast between the yield of meadow grass this year and last is the most striking on the hill farms. In the higher reaches of Tyneside valleys the crop last year was about half an average. In the outlying portions of North and South Tyne and in Weardale crops were very light, and only a mild winter spared the farmers from the inconveniences of a shortness of fodder. There is no district, perhaps, in the north of England where the root crops are even in character. In Yorkshire they vary very much, are best on land which is retentive of moisture, and the promising outlook has removed all cause for anxiety on the part of farmers, who last year found their supplies of roots exhausted half way through the season.

RURAL councils, urban councils, county councils are all discussing the motor car question as it affects the roads. They all come to one and the same conclusion—that highways, which are the national arteries of traffic, should

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, & 12.

Great Exhibition of DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c.
Entries close September 10th.
Particulars of—
WM. C. YOUNG, Secretary,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY. STUD BOOK, VOL XXIX.

ENTRIES at Ordinary Fees close on 31st inst. Forms and all information from—
ARCH. MACNEILAGE,
Secretary.
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

WARWICKSHIRE HUNT HORSE SHOW, at KINETON, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906. Entries close August 30.—LORD WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE, Hon. Secretary, Kineton, Warwickshire.

ON THURSDAY NEXT,
THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY will hold its Annual
HORSE SHOW
AT
HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE
(Between Maidenhead and Bracknell),
ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1906.
Excellent entries in all classes.
Two Jumping Competitions.
Band of the 3rd Batt. Royal Berkshire Regt.
Luncheon and Refreshment Tents on the Ground.
Judging commences 9 o'clock punctually.
Entrance to Show Ground 2s. 6d. before 2 o'clock, 1s. after. Grand Stands 2s. 6d. and 1s. Carriages 10s. and 5s.
C. H. W. DIXON,
Hon. Secretary.
4, Henrietta Street,
London, W.C.

OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THE 16TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Dairy and Garden Produce, Poultry and Pigeons, will be held at Okehampton on SEPTEMBER 13.
Prizes about £300.
Schedules and Entry Forms of CHARLES J. FUTCHER, Hon. Sec., Fairfield, Okehampton.
Entries close September 1.

CHILTERN HILLS & SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.—The 17th ANNUAL SHOW will be held at HIGH WYCOMBE on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1906. OPEN CLASSES for Shire Horses, Hunters, Jumping and Driving, Shorthorns, Jerseys, Butter and Honey.—For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to JOSEPH BLISS, Secretary, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (Est. 1755). Thursday, September 13, 1906. Entries close September 4. Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Wool, &c. Open Jumping and Harness Competitions.—W. T. ISAAC, Secretary, Brecon, S. Wales.

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906. £160 in prizes. JUMPING, DRIVING, TURNOUTS, &c. Entries close September 5, 1906.—W. H. M. BARTON, Sec., Church Hill, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
GREAT SHOW at TOWYN,
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906.
Over £300 in prizes. Dogs under Kennel Club Rules. Open Leaping and Trotting contests. Entries close Aug. 29. R. ROBERTS, Secretary,
Rhydygarnedd, Towyn.

be maintained out of the Imperial Exchequer. At the present time there are portions of main roads kept in repair by county councils, other portions are under the control of and are repaired by urban or rural councils; and one can very often discern quite easily where the jurisdiction of one ends and where the others begin. The system is antiquated, but is a very big matter to tackle, and most people having a limited acquaintance with the cost would express their astonishment with the gigantic proportions of the sum total that would be required to meet the expense of keeping up our national arteries. We dare not presume to hazard a guess. A rural district in Yorkshire, for instance, has 300 miles of road to keep up (not all "main" roads, be it noted), and spends about £10,000 a year in doing it. If we are to have roads dustless and less liable to wear than an ordinary road constructed of macadam without substantial grants of revenue from taxes upon the owners of motor cars, the rates may easily be doubled. But rural ratepayers could never stand the strain of the excessive charges which would be necessary. Alleviation must come from some source or other.

DARLINGTON farmers for thirteen years have been selling their own stock at a mart of their own, and as a company they have been fairly successful. The principle carried out is to be commended. It is a case of farmers helping themselves and acting on their own initiative. The net profit of the mart for the last financial year was £590, and a balance of £290 was transferred to a reserve fund, after providing for a 10 per cent. dividend. The turnover reached a total of £202,000, being a reduction of £15,500 compared with the preceding year. The falling off in the receipts was entirely due to the decreased entries of live stock, and this, again, was accounted for by the almost entire failure of the root crop in the locality. We wish the Darlington farmers better luck this year of grace.

STORE sheep and lamb purchases will very soon be engaging the attention of our graziers. Up to the present time but few have been on offer at York, Hull, Wakefield, or Newcastle. There is every indication of dearness. A grassy autumn and a good root season tell their tale in enhanced prices for the stock which the "mixed" farmer has to buy in, and it is far from probable that any cheap lambs will be picked up east, west, or north. A thousand cross-bred and white-faced lambs were sold at a Yorkshire market this week at an average of about 36s. per head. This is an advance on last year's rates.

A General Survey.

While endeavouring to keep myself well posted up by always obtaining my information from reliable sources, I am also on the look out for contemporary opinions, hoping that I may pick up points that have not otherwise reached me, so that the reports I present may be as complete and impartial as possible.

It is for this reason that I read with interest the views of the expert who collects for the *Times* the estimates of the growing crops. His latest report, which describes the position of the hop plantations at the beginning of this month, states that the average condition of Kent was only 55 per cent., as against 102 per cent. at the same date last year, the average for the preceding ten years being 75 per cent.

Similar conditions are deduced from the reports received from Sussex and other southern counties, but the average for the Midland hop counties only works out from 32 to 40 per cent. Reasoning from these figures, I find full confirmation of my views previously expressed with regard to the crop probabilities this year. If 75 per cent., or three-quarters of a crop, is taken, as in comparison with the actual average yield of the past ten years, which is under 9 cwt., we may conclude that the present average proportion foretells a crop for the south of England of about 6½ cwt. per acre, while the Midlands will probably show by the same method of reckoning about 4¼ cwt.

If I take these figures as approximately correct, it will result that the Southern counties may produce from their 38,225 acres about 248,000 cwts., and in the Midlands we may expect from 10,742 acres about 45,000 cwts. By this somewhat dimly lighted road we arrive at the end of our journey, and find waiting us the possible figure of 295,000 cwts. to represent the yield of our plantations this season. I may add that the figure I have thus deduced is in excess of the estimates of my friends in the Borough, but I am inclined to the opinion that when the final results are officially declared it will be seen that I am not very far away from the facts.

My figures to day come out lower than my previous estimates, but they follow the actual course of events, as far as we can ascertain them from the reports forwarded to me by growers. Without going into minute details, it appears that the hot sunshine and the absence of rain have somewhat retarded the development of the burr in most places, with the result that all neglected grounds that have not been persistently washed have gone back, and many are showing signs of complete failure. Rain is badly wanted everywhere, but can be of little benefit to such gardens.

On the other hand, it may be of great service to the plantations that in several districts, notably about Faversham, Selling, Sittingbourne, and Harble Down, the condition of which, due to the advanced methods and determination of the planters, are in a more promising condition. Some of these larger farms will produce good, if not full, crops, and there are several instances in other parts of Kent, proving the especial value in a critical season like this of skill and careful watchfulness, when allied to common sense and perseverance. The prevailing opinions of growers point to the improbability of the average crop exceeding that of 1904.

Reports from Sussex are much to the same effect. Some little improvement is seen here and there, but in the Northiam district not more than 3 to 4 cwt. are expected, and around Rye the yield will certainly not come up to 1904.

Throughout Surrey the outlook is not encouraging. There are but few exceptions, where a slight improvement is visible. Many gardens have gone back, some will fail utterly, and the average will only be low. The usually fertile gardens in Hampshire are generally very disappointing, and although a few of them will come out fairly well, the average is not expected to go beyond 3 to 4 cwt. per acre.

In the Teme Valley, in Worcestershire, some very promising gardens are to be seen. Persistency in washing, and skilful cultivation, added to the advantages of soil and situation, are showing good results. The bine is healthy and clean in many of the gardens, and the crop prospects are very good for the year.

The comrade county of Hereford does not promise much on the whole, and observers say that 3 to 3½ cwt. will be the utmost average. An expert of my acquaintance, after a careful survey of the Midland districts, arrives at the conclusion that 30 per cent. of the yards may produce about 7½ cwt., another 30 per cent. about 4½ cwt., and the remaining 40 per cent. will not exceed an average of 2 cwt. This brings the general average to a little over 4 cwt., corresponding practically with the figure I have arrived at by another method of calculation.

All our evidence thus compels us to the conclusion that our crop must be small, and cannot possibly be improved during the short period that remains before picking. It is generally expected that this work will commence before the end of the month, and will in most places be speedily completed.

Foreign Prospects.

BELGIUM.—The farmers in Alost and Poperinghe have had much the same experience as their brethren in England. Two or three weeks ago there were hopes of improvement, but these have been replaced by the acceptance of the fact that the crop must be seriously deficient. The effects of the blight and the long drought are everywhere evident, and growers have now raised their quotations for new crop hops.

BOHEMIA.—The news from Saaz is to the effect that the yield will be much lighter than expected a month ago. While a few plantations show signs of advancement, most of them are standing still, which is equivalent to retrogression. The crop throughout Austria-Hungary is estimated at about one-third that of last year.

BAVARIA.—The reports are very varied, and it is somewhat difficult to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion. From some districts I hear that the prospects are good, while others are evidently in a very poor position. On the whole, I am inclined to think that a little general improvement has been effected, but that it is not sufficiently marked to change the moderate figures of earlier estimates.

FRANCE.—Owing to the assistance given by more favourable weather, it is now estimated that the Burgundy plantations will nearly equal the yield of last year. In the north the position is about the same as Belgium, and only a moderate crop is expected.

AMERICA.—Recent information has considerably modified the estimates that were previously so confidently put forward as likely to surpass all former records. A cable message this week tells me that the intense heat and absence of rain have lowered the figure for the U.S.A. to 300,000 bales, this being about nearly 20 per cent. lower than the earlier declarations. I am prepared for still further reductions. The New York State growths are said to promise fine quality, but are likely to be less in weight than a year ago. They are branching well and have no vermin. The news from Washington is not very favourable. Oregon promises a full crop, but not so large as has been stated, and although the Californian yards are looking well their yield will not be at all phenomenal.

With its fine connection amongst Live Stock Owners, the "Mark Lane Express" is undoubtedly ONE of the BEST MEDIA for the Disposal of Pedigree Live Stock, either by Public Auction or Private Treaty.

The Journal goes directly into the hands of likely purchasers at home and abroad.

College of Agriculture, Downton, Salisbury.

The fifty-third session of this college terminated on Friday last, when the following certificates, scholarships, and prizes were awarded:—The college diploma was presented to Mr. F. M. G. Starbuck, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Collier Street, near Marden, Kent; Mr. G. V. Wellesley, Uphill Rectory, Weston-super-Mare; Mr. H. M. S. Fellowes, 101, Onslow Square, S.W.; and Mr. C. P. Vansittart, 73, Warwick Gardens, Kensington. Prizes in various subjects were given as follows:—Mr. G. V. Wellesley, for agriculture, chemistry, book keeping, and surveying; Mr F. M. G. Starbuck, for practical chemistry, veterinary, forestry, and building; Mr. B. A Scarlett, 1, The Rocks, Uckfield, Sussex, for agriculture, theoretical chemistry, practical chemistry, veterinary, forestry, building, and farm machinery; Mr. J. L. Rogers, Penrose, Helston, Cornwall, for book-keeping; Mr. L. A. Dashwood, Kirtlington Park, Oxford, for live stock, milking, and surveying; Mr. H F. Foster-Pegg, St. Matthew's Rectory, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, for theoretical chemistry, practical chemistry, and book-keeping; Mr. H. M S. Fellowes, for waggon-driving; Mr. C. P. Vansittart, for collection of forest foliage; Mr. R. N. K. Colville, Bellaport, Market Drayton, for attention to the farm. The Bles prize, awarded for the highest number of marks obtained by a student during his first academical year, was given to Mr. B. A. Scarlett.

Labourers and the Land.

Among the papers read on the closing day of the York meeting of the British Association was one by Mr. R. E. Turnbull on "Labourers and the Land," in the course of which he said that, in order to encourage the best class of cattlemen, shepherds, and field labourers to remain as farm workmen, an adequate supply of comfortable cottages should be provided, each having sufficient good land attached to provide an ample supply of vegetables, fruit, and milk for the labourer and his family. "A home of this kind has always been found to be an invaluable school for children, and not infrequently it has proved to be a stepping-stone to a larger holding."

In the course of an interesting discussion which followed, Major P. G. Craigie, C.B., said he did not himself share in the belief that female labour on the land did not coincide with our present ideas of civilisation. Country workmen might remain longer on the land if women took the part in the work that they had done in the past.

Mrs. Edwin Gray urged that labourers should have a recognised half-holiday.

The question as to whether farm labourers migrating to the towns came to be preferred by employers to city-bred workmen having been raised, Mr. B. Seebohm Rowntree made an interesting contribution to the debate. He said his firm found that the most skilful confectioners, and those who became head officials, were men who began life following the plough. They had excellent power of observation, and made most intelligent men.

It would be difficult to find many horse breeders who are not acquainted with Pedicura, but for the benefit of the few it may be mentioned that it is a tried remedy for all hoof ailments, as well as itchy mane, harness, or other sores, and mangy skin in animals. It is manufactured by Messrs. Gregory and Co., Temple, Bristol, to whom many horse owners and also cattle breeders are indebted for their Vesico-Sudorific, for lameness and chronic swellings. It requires no cradle or tieing of the head, and does not blemish or ruffle the hair. Both these excellent preparations can be obtained from chemists or direct from the manufacturer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Damage by Hailstones: Assistance Needed.

SIR,—Will you help this Chamber by drawing attention in your next agricultural article to the great damage to crops inflicted by the hailstorm of the 2nd inst. in the counties of Huntingdon, Bedford, and Cambridge?

The hailstones, which were jagged pieces of ice, were in many cases 5 in. in circumferonce. They fell with a force sufficient to kill a flock of starlings roosting on a tree. Rabbits were killed in the fields and many covies of partridges.

The damago to the crops is estimated by practical valuers who have carefully inspected the storm area at £20,000. The wheat, barley, and oats were so thrashed as to have the appearance of having passed through the machine.

The storm has brought ruin not only to small occupiers but also to large farmers.

Bearing in mind that this loss has swept across a district which has been suffering for many years past from agricultural depression, it is more of a national disaster than many of those which have been relieved by a Lord Mayor's Fund.

I will send you any further particulars you may require.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

GERALD HUNNYBUN, Hon. Sec.

Hunts Chamber of Agriculture,
Huntingdon, August 14, 1906.

English Auctioneers and Aberdeen-Angus Sales.

SIR,—I see in your "Notes of the Week" the following paragraph:—"It has always seemed strange to us why English breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle should invariably employ Scottish auctioneers to dispose of their stock."

You have, however, in using the word "invariably,' apparently overlooked the fact that the spring shows and sales under tho auspices of this association were conducted by the well-known English firm of Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Bingley Hall, Birmingham, this year, and also in the years 1901, 1902, and 1903, and they may now, I think, be considered a fixture at Bingley Hall.

I may mention that Messrs. Lythall and Walters are this year also holding an autumn sale under the auspices of this association.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ALBERT PULLING, Hon. Sec.

English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association,
Beddington, near Croydon, Surrey,
August 15, 1906.

[*** We publish the above letter as being representative of a number we have received in the same strain. Our correspondents do not seem to deny that our Notes of the Week were true to all intents and purposes. There may be several exceptions, as pointed out above, but we had more especially in mind the Home Sales.—ED.]

English or Foreign Meat for the Army?

SIR,—It is well and widely known your valuable paper is one of the principal organs devoted to the furtherance of British agricultural prosperity, and that your columns are open to all—I amongst them — who temperately and with consistent reasoning beg a space in your columns in placing their views for the purpose under public notice for this—from a national and beneficent point of view—our chiefest industry and all other subsidiary indivisibly associated with it.

It was from an episode in the House near the adjournment when our War Minister, Mr. Haldane, unpatriotically and unwisely refused the request made to him to confine the supply of meat to our Army from British raised sources only, that suggested to me the letter I now send to you. It is a truism that all things come to humanity through the land, and with due deference to some holding it matters not from what land and where situated, I venture to think, and that our agriculturists will be in accordance with me, that as the needs for the sustenanco of the British Army at home, excepting tea, coffee, and cocoa, can be supplied to it of the primest quality from British land, supplemented by British industries, and the request that it should be supplied entirely from British sources, is only reasonable and right, and as we have the best of coal, iron, copper, tin, and other metals, armaments also should be, and I believe are, also supplied from British sources entirely.

Further, oonsidering the sustaining power of our food and the durability of our home-produced clothing, it is questionable if cost would be greater than for the foreign stuff now supplied.

Have we not the best of beeves, and of sheep with the golden fleece, which Jason of old went a long and perilous journey to seek? We have the British farmer, too, and the British men, and all the British-made appliances, live and dead, prepared to raise all that is needed from British land.

To set this industry agoing would, indeed, be a stimulus to our agriculture, and by drawing more labourors to the land meet, in the proper way, the "back to the land cry," and by increased circulation of cash at home, through numberless channels, would vivify industry and so recoup bit by bit imperceptibly the taxpayer.

Would it not be well for every Chamber of Agriculture throughout the land to be prepared—by many signatories—on the October meeting of Parliament to request through the members generally that the Government take measures to have our Army supplied in all its needs of food, clothing, and armament from British sources? Alas! it is to be feared, the Government is so firmly in the grip of the fetish Free Trader, the little Englander, the peace-at-any-price party, the friends of every country but their own, and the Irish Nationalists, that they dare not move to carry out this patriotic policy.

Besides, by so much as we raise from our land to supply our wants and thus displace that hitherto supplied by tho foreigner, by so much would our imports account be loss debited against us in the national imports and exports account.—Yours truly,

ALFRED WELCH.

Southall, Aug. 15, 1906.

Country Education.

SIR,—Farmers are sadly neglecting tho interest as affecting the industry nationally. A grand opportunity now to strike for a system of country teaching after the "Appeal Court Decision." Also the motor nuisance. How history is repeating itself: the rich stopped the dog-drawn carts of fifty years ago, now the supposed rich are driving us poor ratepayers off our roads after being oppressed to make them like bowling-greens.—Yours truly,

S. DUTTON.

Wash Hall, Little Saughall,
near Chester, August 13.

Making Corn Stacks—The New Zealand Method.

SIR,—I beg leave to call your attention to a little matter that deeply concerns the English farmer just now.

I would, however, first state that I spent the greater part of my life as a farmer in the dear Old Country, but the depression which began in 1879 and continued for some years was ruinous to the majority of agriculturists in our district, and consequently I resolved to try my fortune in New Zealand

With regard to what I made reference to above is the way corn stacks are built with you.

We here in New Zealand put stacks up so that no thatching is needed. You build them level up to the usen, and even if the middle is well backed up at the top, when the stack settles the whole is concave, and consequently liable to be injured by heavy rains which occur before it is possible to cover them in, and is a source of anxiety to the owner. Not only so, when the stack settles it often bulges. Now if the stack is convex, all the way up from the very bottom, it would bulge because the pressure will be even all round, and it is impervious to wet.

Please don't infer from this that stacks left until the spring would not require thatching if built that way; probably they would not if correctly built. But what I wish to point out is, if built wet proof, it would save a lot of anxiety just at the busy season, when it is not always possible to get them covered in at once. One year I kept an oat stack for some six months, and it was exposed to several downpours—and it does pour here—that would have completely spoiled it if built the ordinary way; as it was, there was not a dozen sheaves spoiled. It would have saved me a great deal of anxiety in the Old Land had I been acquainted with the better method.—Yours truly,

H. MASON.

Wellington, New Zealand,
July 9, 1906.

The Past and Future of Agricultural Labourers.

SIR,—Our good friend and correspondent "Red Rose" is very hard to convince, but with your permission, if you are not yet weary of this controversy, I must try and point out that it is no mere fanciful idea, but a stern reality with regard to my statement as to the cause of the young labourer to a great extent not following the occupation of his father.

To treat him as a man his feelings should be taken into consideration, and he must be acknowledged to be endowed with as much aversion to sneers and jibes as labourers in other vocations, and I think the opinion expressed by "Red Rose" that he does not care tuppence for them is hardly consistent with that treatment. I adhere to my statement that the inexperienced and sensitive young farm labourer is thus prejudiced, also that it has succeeded only too well, and has been a great factor in causing tho influx into the towns of the rural population, and is responsible for the necessity of the cry, "Back to the land," which is so perplexing our rulers. I claim there is some reason and common sense in this idea, having seen and experienced so much of it and heard the contemptuous remarks of those who should know better.

With regard to prospect and scope for the farm labourer who is energetic and desirous of advancement, I think your correspondent "Red Rose" cannot do better than read the clear and practical letter by "Another Rose" on the subject. I would only add that he now has all the advantages of free education.

I must now defend what "Red Rose" describes as the weakest point in my letter. Our worthy friend has an unfortunate and persistent way of looking at the worst side of the case, which is quite despondent; and the way he describes the occupation and prospects has to me a doleful sound, and is not calculated to inspire hope or energy.

It is no new thing that some emigrate or look out for other means of livelihood offering better prospects; this is but natural, and has always been so. This is very different to flocking into the towns after the big wages—all things must find their level.

Then again he says, unfortunately agriculture has never shown a marked desire to help the labourer. I maintain that it always has, and is still doing all it can to help the labourer, which assertion requires no better proof than that illustration on page 159 of your last issue of Reuben Pratt, who has worked on a farm for seventy-four years; and we are frequently hearing and have known instances of fifty, forty, thirty, and twenty years of service. These men know who are their best friends, and have not been deluded by false promises by the agitator, or unsettled by the discontented. Agriculture is now paying all it can afford to the labourer, and in some cases more. In the same doleful strain "Red Rose" goes on to describe the palmy days of farming, when he represents the poor labourer's condition as little better than that of a galley slave.

I maintain that this is looking at the darkest side of things, and that all things have not been considered, for at that time there was no more stronger or healthier class of people in existence than our rural population, which strongly testifies to the good feeling which existed between him and his employer.

At that time he took his pastime and recreation in feats of physical strength, in which he delighted, and not content with carrying one sack of wheat or beans, would tie two together and vie with each other which should carry them the farthest, or he on his back under the heaviest of his master's waggons, put his feet under tho axle-tree, lift it off ground, and turn the two hind wheels with his hands. Your correspondent must admit that his condition was better than a galley slave.—Yours respectfully,

WHITE ROSE.

August 9.

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10·2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

To the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

SIR,—In last week's issue you remind your regular subscribers that you are prepared to analyse free of cost, they being farmers not dealers or vendors of feeding stuffs and fertilisers.

Why exclude dealers? If you help dealers (not being manufacturers) to buy a genuine article you will also help farmers to get genuine feeding stuffs and fertilisers, and thus further protect the farmer. May I suggest that dealers are fully as good supporters of your paper (everything considered) as the farmers are.—YOURS, CUMBERLAND.

Referring to the above letter, the same idea has no doubt occurred to others, so we are glad to avail ourselves of the opportunity to explain our view.

In the first place, we would like to say that, having a large number of subscribers among dealer-agents, we fully appreciate their support, and are always glad to advance their interests so far as lies within the province of the paper.

But with regard to the point raised, we have not included dealers in the arrangement, because we think it forms an integral part of their business to ascertain for themselves that the goods sold by them are of a genuine quality, and the cost involved in getting the information is one of their regular business disbursements, to be taken into account when they fix their selling prices.

If the opinion expressed by "Cumberland" were followed to its logical conclusion, a manufacturer, being a regular subscriber, might as well expect us to analyse free of cost for him, and so dispense with the expense of a regular chemist.

On reconsideration we feel sure that "Cumberland" will agree with us.

Cockle Park Experiments.

Professor Gilchrist, Director of Armstrong College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has issued Bulletin No. 7, a guide to the experiments for the current year, as a preliminary of the full report, which will be published in due course.

A glance at the contents of the guide serves to show the manifold nature of the investigations carried on at the station, and we look forward to the pleasure of drawing the attention of our readers to the leading features of the results when they are published.

In the meantime the following notes on effects of dung and new sources of nitrogen are of interest:—

Effects of Dung made with Straw and with Moss Litter.

Dung made from moss litter and from straw, produced by cattle under the same conditions, was applied to two plots on light soil in Back House Field for swedes in 1905. Twelve tons moss litter dung gave 25 1/10 tons swedes an acre. Twelve tons straw dung gave 23½ tons swedes an acre. All through the season the moss litter dunged swedes looked best.

Seedling trees were sown last spring on land manured with these kinds of dung. That made from moss litter gave the best results with quick-growing acacia seedlings, but by far the worst results with slow-growing pine seedlings.

The results indicate that moss-litter dung is quicker in its action than ordinary dung, and is likely to give its best results on a quick-growing crop. It is evidently important also that moss-litter dung should be in a moist state when applied to the soil, as if dry and friable when applied it will tend to bring about a dry condition of the soil, especially in a dry spring. This test is being repeated on one-sixth acre plots.

New Sources of Nitrogen.

Nitrate of Ammonia and Calcium Cyanamide.—Nitrate of ammonia, although now too expensive as a manure, may soon be produced at a much cheaper rate. A pure sample contains about 34 per cent. nitrogen. Calcium cyanamide (lime nitrogen) is now being produced by the Berlin Cyanide Company, as a result of a process for combining the free nitrogen of the air. This contains nearly 20 per cent. of nitrogen, and about 62 per cent. of lime. These were tried as top-dressings for seeds hay on Tower Hill (N), alongside of nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, the plots being one-hundredth of an acre in area. The dressings were applied on May 3. The results were per acre:—

Plot 1.—No dressing	51¼	cwt.	hay
,, 2.—156 lb. nitrate of soda ...	59½	,,	,,
,, 3.—119 lb sulphate of ammonia	57¾	,,	,,
,, 4.— 71 nitrate of ammonia ...	56½	,,	,,
,, 5.—125 lb. lime nitrogen ...	43	,,	,,

All the dressings contained 25 lb of nitrogen. Owing to the very dry summer the lime nitrogen did considerable injury when applied to the hay. It should be stated that the manufacturers of it do not recommend it as a top-dressing.

Most of the above dressings were also tried on mangels with double the amounts applied to the seeds hay plots. All the plots also received (per acre) 240 lb. slag, 300 lb. muriate of potash, and 2 cwt. common salt. The results were:—

Plot.			
1.—No nitrogen	12¾	tons	mangels.
2. 238 lb. sulphate of ammonia	14¾	,,	,,
3.—142 lb. nitrate of ammonia	14¾	,,	,,
4.—250 lb. lime nitrogen ...	11	,,	,,

The lime nitrogen was mixed with the surface soil as recommended by the manufacturers. Notwithstanding this, however, it had an injurious effect on the crop, but this was probably owing to the dry season.

Bombay Cotton Cake.

Attention is being directed to the good value for feeding purposes of Bombay cotton cake. According to a series of tests made in Scotland, it would appear that Bombay cake is practically as good an article of food for cattle or sheep as cakes made from Egyptian seed, while it costs 10s. to 12s. 6d. per ton less money.

Constituents of Fertilisers.

The Department of Agriculture, United States, issue from time to time Farmers' Bulletins, containing much useful information. Here are some notes taken from a recent Bulletin under above heading The particulars are put in a lucid form:

Many materials containing the essential elements—nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash—are practically worthless as sources of plant food because the form is not right; the plants are unable to extract them from their combinations; they are "unavailable." In many of these materials the forms may be changed by proper treatment, in which case they become valuable, not because the element itself is changed, but because it then exists in such form as readily to feed the plant.

Nitrogen is the most expensive of the three essential fertilising elements. It exists in three different forms—organic nitrogen, ammonia and nitrate.

Organic nitrogen exists in combination with other elements either as vegetable or animal matter. All materials containing organic nitrogen are valuable in proportion to their rapidity of decay, because change of form must take place before the nitrogen can serve as food. Organic nitrogen differs in availability not only according to the kind of material which supplies it, but according to the treatment it receives.

Nitrogen as ammonia usually exists in commercial manures in the form of sulphate of ammonia, and is more readily available than organic nitrogen While nitrogen in the form of ammonia is extremely soluble in water, it is not readily removed from the soil by leaching, as it is held by the organic compounds of the soil

Nitrogen as nitrate exists in commercial products chiefly as nitrate of soda Nitrogen in this form is directly and immediately available, no further changes being necessary. It is completely soluble in water, and diffuses readily throughout the soil It differs from the ammonia compounds in forming no insoluble compounds.

Phosphoric acid is derived from materials called phosphates, in which it may exist in combination with lime, iron, or alumina as phosphates of lime, iron, or alumina. Phosphate of lime is the form most largely used as a source of phosphoric acid. Phosphoric acid occurs in fertilisers in three forms: That soluble in water and readily taken up by plants; that insoluble in water, but still readily used by plants, also known as "reverted"; and that soluble only in strong acids, and consequently very slowly used by the plant. The "soluble" and "reverted" together constitute the "available" phosphoric acid. The phosphoric acid in natural or untreated phosphates is insoluble in water, and not readily available to plants. If it is combined with organic substance, as in animal bone, the rate of decay is more rapid than if with purely mineral substances. The insoluble phosphates may be converted into soluble forms by treatment with strong acids. Such products are known as acid phosphates or superphosphates. The "insoluble phosphoric acid" of a high cost commercial fertiliser has little or no value to the purchaser, because at the usual rate of application the quantity is too small to make any perceptible effect upon the crop, and because its presence in the fertiliser excludes an equal amount of more needful and valuable constituents.

Potash in commercial fertilisers exists chiefly as muriates and sulphates. With potash the form does not exert so great an influence upon availability as is the case with nitrogen and phosphoric acid. All forms are freely soluble in water, and are believed to be nearly, if not quite, equally available as food. The form of the potash has an important influence upon the quality of certain crops. For example, the results of experiments seem to indicate that the quality of tobacco, potatoes, and certain other crops is unfavourably influenced by the use of muriate of potash, while the same crops show a superior quality if materials free from chlorides have been used as the source of potash.

Plants differ widely with respect to their capacities for gathering their food from soil and air, hence the proper fertiliser in a given case depends upon the crop as well as upon the soil. The fertility of the soil would remain practically unchanged if all the ingredients removed in the various farm products were restored to the land. This may be accomplished by feeding the crops grown on the farm to animals, carefully saving the manure and returning it to the soil. If it is practicable to pursue a system of stock feeding in which those products of the farm which are comparatively poor in fertilising constituents are exchanged in the market for feeding stuffs of high fertilising value, the loss of soil fertility may be reduced to a minimum, or there may be an actual gain in fertility.

The Disaster in Chili and Nitrate of Soda.

The terrible disaster on the Chilian coast excites our liveliest sympathy, and will bring home to us how close is the link existing between different nations. We shall feel the effect of it in this country by the disturbance of the nitrate of soda market and the inevitable advance in price of this valuable fertiliser.

In calculating the value of fertilisers, the form of the materials used must be taken into account. Slowly-acting materials cannot be expected to produce profitable returns in quick-growing crops, nor expensive materials profitable returns when used on crops of relatively low value. The more concentrated and expensive fertilisers should be employed on the most valuable crops.

Nitrate of Soda.

The production of the last four months compared with the same period of 1905 has been as follows:

	1906. Tons.	1905. Tons.
April	126,000	132,000
May	153,000	146,000
June	152,000	141,000
July	155,000	148,000

And the late deliveries for the seven months, January to July:

	Tons.
1906	986,000
1905	933,000
1904	873,000
1903	894,000

Within the last few days a cable from Chili announced that, in consequence of labour difficulties at the port of Iquique, a "lock out" has been put in force, which it is inferred may delay shipments from the port.

Grass Experiments at Kineton, Warwickshire.

The experiments conducted on the farm of Mr. Ernest Parke, under the guidance of Dr. Dyer, have now been continued for a period of five years. As in most parts of the country, the hay crop was late, and very deficient in the unmanured field, although in the liberally-manured plots very good results were obtained. Thus the yield on the field left untreated was only 16 cwt of hay per acre, while phosphatic fertilisers raised it to nearly 2 cwt. of hay per acre, and phosphatic fertilisers combined with nitrate of soda raised the crop to 2 tons 3 cwt. of hay in one field and 2 tons 7 cwt. in another. In confirmation of general experience, the best herbage was produced by the combined fertiliser. The addition of potash salts increased the crop still further to a slight extent. It may be mentioned that the grass in both the experimental fields has been down for nearly fourteen years. The trial plots are cut for hay every year, the aftermath being afterwards grazed.

Soils vary greatly in their capabilities of supplying food to crops. Different ingredients are deficient in different soils. The way to learn what materials are proper in a given case is by observation and experiment. The rational method for determining what ingredients of plant-food a soil fails to furnish in abundance, and how these lacking materials can be most economically supplied, is to put the questions to the soil with different fertilising materials and get the reply in the crops produced. How to make these experiments is explained in Circular No. 8 of the Office of Experiment Stations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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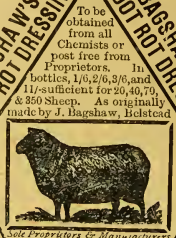

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This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Caketts" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Caketts" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please,' and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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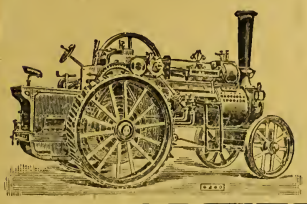

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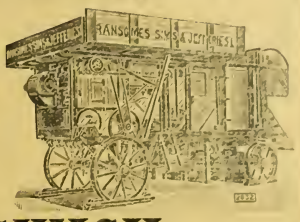

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Agricultural Journal
and
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ESTABLISHED 1832.
AUGUST 20, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 3s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

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STORM IN HARVEST.

We publish in our correspondence columns to-day a letter which none can read without sympathy and few without a personal wish, as we should hope, to do something in the way of aid. On the 2nd inst. a storm broke over London which was chiefly remarkable for the brilliant display of lightning. The rain flushed the gutters, and made streets in low-lying districts impassable for perhaps a couple of hours, But by next morning summer had reasserted itself, and few could have imagined from the state of the ground that there had been any particular weather disturbance.

Whilst this was the case over the greater portion of England there fell on the Eastern Midlands especially on the country between Wisbech to the north and Hertford to the south a veritable plague of icy hail. In half-an-hour smiling landscapes ripening and mellowing to harvest had become veritable scenes of desolation. Where the hail struck at an angle, as on hillsides, ears of corn were cut off as though with a knife, while the more usual level fields of this particular region presented the aspect of having been trampled by a herd of stampeding animals. Huntingdon felt the full fury of the devastating hail. This little county is one of the most purely agricultural in England, out of 209,295 acres it has 77,726 under corn crops. Some 30,000 acres of wheat, about 20,000 acres of barley, and over 11,000 acres of oats have been gravely depreciated in value, besides which the cost of harvesting has been greatly augmented.

We all know from experience what a troublesome and tedious matter is harvesting when constant use of sickle or bagging hook or scythe is entailed. In the county of Bedford the damage done was not much less than in Huntingdon, and with a large area under cereals it is likely that the total amount of money loss will come to about the same. On the fringe of the great storm the district between Peterborough and Wisbech to the north suffered, while the Newport Pagnell and Olney district of Bucks to the west and the Caxton to Royston district of Cambridge to the east were included in the region where crops were badly laid.

The damage done exceeds many cases in which sympathy has been of a national character. May we express a hope that prompt and generous subscriptions will be forthcoming, nor from the agricultural classes only. The harvest is a national affair. For months in advance of its fruition hundreds of farmers in these parts have been paying rates and taxes, labourers' wages, and tradesmen's bills. The means out of which these expenses were in the end to be met have in all cases been reduced and in some almost swept away. Few things in Nature have a more pathetic side or should inspire a more widespread sympathy than storm in harvest.

Midland Notes.

HOW often does it happen that the magnificent summer weather of July deserts us in August when the ingathering of the corn is in full swing! It was so last year, and it is so again this season. Heavy rainstorms on each of the last four days have already delayed work in the fields considerably, and at the time of writing the indications are all in favour of more wet. So far there seems to be no particular scarcity of labour, but here and there one hears complaints of difficulty created by labourers who persist in leaving their own districts to do harvesting elsewhere, where such work is more abundant and the season of high pay lasts longer. How to prevent that tendency where it exists is hard to say. The farm hand of to-day is apt to be an independent fellow, and persists in going his own way. Perhaps a little land of his own to look after might help to keep him at home, but it is difficult or impossible to restrain the man with an inbred tendency to wandering when the desire to roam comes upon him.

THE probable prolongation of the harvest reminds one, by the way, of the terms on which the extra hands required in the cornfields are taken on. Where pay is by the day or week a spell of rain is an expensive matter, and he who has been wise enough to adopt the piecework system comes off best. Nowadays a certain number of farmers offer a lump sum for the harvesting of the entire crop, and the plan seems to work well. There is no room at any time for an idler in the harvest field, but beyond any doubt the work is pursued even more vigorously when every man has a direct interest in getting it over as soon as possible so as to be free for another job.

CROP reports are many and elaborate nowadays, but still most of us prefer the evidence of our own eyes. Those who have travelled much about the country will be the first to admit that one must reckon this in many ways a somewhat patchy season. It is not merely the big weather differences in distant parts of the country which have affected the season's results; the smaller travelling squalls and showers have also left their marks. The Evesham district seems to have been unusually fortunate in these timely rains. Even here fruit is poor, but of the ordinary farm crops there is little ground for complaint, the principal grumble being that so many haystacks have suffered this season from overheating. "Finger-and toe" seems to have been causing more trouble than usual this year. One hears of very heavy grass crops round about Worcester, where the violent thunderstorms that have visited other districts close at hand have failed to put in an appearance. But the sad state of the hops in the West Midlands is common knowledge, and threatens distress among the Black Country pickers, who will shortly be leaving home in their thousands to find the work awaiting them quite insufficient to go round. We are pleasantly free from the fungoid pest producing what is generally spoken of as potato disease; but the yellow wart disease in tuber crops grows increasingly troublesome in parts of Warwick and Worcester.

AMONG the many local shows of one kind and another which have been taking place since the holidays, it is the Welbeck fixture which has attracted most attention. As the pioneer of estate shows Welbeck has a unique interest of its own, but to-day it has fellows—one cannot say rivals in this case—of almost equal reputation and importance. The Clumber and Madresfield Court, Wynyard Park, Crewe Hall, and other tenants' fixtures that might be instanced run all of them on much the same lines, and no one who has visited these shows from time to time can fail to notice the great influence they have had in improving the local tenant farmers' stock. Partly that may be due to the steps which some great landowners are taking nowadays for putting high-class sires within the reach of their own tenants, but even more important is the effect of competition and healthy rivalry at meetings from which the professional exhibitor is practically excluded.

THE many local horse and flower shows attract but little, if any, attention outside their own immediate district, and in the majority of cases they are of no particular importance to the farmer, though even to the agricultural community they make a certain appeal. For one thing, it is at these village meetings that the farm hand who takes a pride in his small patch of garden ground finds the one opportunity of the year to demonstrate his skill and industry; for another, not a few of these fixtures serve to remind us of the close connection that exists nowadays in many districts between gardening and farming proper. The flowers grown to-day in many of our farm gardens do not serve only to beautify the homestead; their destination in the market, and a share of the fruit and vegetable produce of the garden goes in the same direction. These small sales from week to week mount up considerably in the course of the year, and are useful in helping to find the little ready cash which is so often needed when it is hard to put a hand upon.

August 17, 1906.

Chester Cattle Fair.—At this fair on Thursday supplies were large and buyers numerous. With an improved demand sellers endeavoured to obtain higher prices all round, with the result that a very disappointing business was done. Trade was confined to best lots, and for these buyers declined to pay any advance. There was a good supply of sheep, but for these prices were also high, and very few were sold. Prices generally were about the same as last week. Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10.

Notes of the Week.

The agricultural summer show season is now drawing to a close, and as a whole it has been a remarkably successful one.

With a few exceptions the weather has been favourable and the attendances satisfactory.

No doubt their influence is a stimulating one, and the only deprecatory remark one might venture to make is that there are too many of them.

Of all the shows the Royal at Derby is the one that takes the palm. Its great success has given the Royal Agricultural Society a new lease of popular favour.

And the society's financial position has been strengthened by the amount of about £2,000.

The reports from different parts of the country indicate that the harvest prospects are satisfactory.

The cereals now being gathered are quite up to the mark, and the roots and potatoes look well.

Fruit growers, unfortunately, have good cause to grumble.

The recent storms played sad havoc in the orchards.

The uncertainties attending fruit cultivation has been once more demonstrated.

Enthusiasts who recommend the industry right and left are apt to forget its speculative character.

A sharp late frost, a hail shower, or a gale of wind, and prospects bright with hope are shattered in a few hours.

It is not encouraging news for our fruit growers that the imports of fruits from France are just now abnormally heavy. One day's exports from Boulogne reached the enormous quantity of two million pounds.

The reports from the hop districts continue to be of a very gloomy character.

What vicissitudes this industry has passed through since its introduction to this country in the reign of bluff King Hal:—

Carp, Hops, Pickerel, and Deer
Came into England all in one year.
(1524)

In the reign of James I. an Act of Parliament was passed prohibiting the use of hops.

But there were passive resisters even in those days, and the Act remained to a great extent a dead letter.

In the reign of Queen Anne another Act was passed prohibiting the use of any other bitter than hops in beer.

Hops were especially esteemed as being good for the blood and digestion.

At the present time it is a case of "go as you please" in the manufacture of beer.

At Gibraltar cow milk is a luxury. There are said to be only two cows on the rock, and their milk is reserved for the use of the family of his Excellency the Governor.

Goats, however, are very plentiful, and the garrison are supplied with goats' milk.

We can't help thinking that Earl Carrington might champion the interests with more vigour.

He might give Mr. Haldane a warm quarter of an hour over the question of home-bred *versus* home-killed meat for the Army.

With a little judicious pressure Mr. Haldane might be encouraged to give more consideration to the interests of agriculture in the country.

He is setting a bad example in the matter of the Army meat contracts.

Everyone will wish success to the experiment of the Board of Agriculture to promote small holdings.

Some thousands of acres of the Crown lands are to be devoted to the purpose, and the result will be watched with great interest.

At present the tendency of practical opinion is that in general it will end in failure, although cultivation of small market garden plots near towns may prosper.

It is considered that if big farmers working with modern appliances and skilled experience can scarcely pay their way, there is not much chance for the man with a few acres.

Under a more progressive fiscal system it might be different; then "la petite culture" might have a measure of success here as it has in France.

The proposed scheme of importing cattle from the Argentine and other countries into Alderney has probably been abandoned in consequence of the opposition raised against it.

When referring to it, Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, speaking recently at Welbeck, pointed out the paramount importance of keeping our live stock free from contagious and infectious diseases.

For which expression of opinion he merits the thanks of the agricultural community.

The wool industry in Australia is in a thriving condition. For the year which ended on June 30 last the production reached the enormous quantity of 1,869,455 bales, value £25,261,011.

For the previous twelve months it was 1,595,734 bales, value £20,000,000.

According to the latest returns there are 93,836,548 sheep in Australasia.

This makes the number of sheep in the United Kingdom under 30,000,000 look rather small by comparison.

We all of us have pleasant memories connected with sweet lavender, and it is a pity it is going out of fashion.

The cultivation of the plant in parts of Surrey was formerly a prosperous minor industry, but it has fallen on evil days.

Lavender, sweet lavender, is no longer so fashionable, and the acreage under the crop has fallen to something like 70 acres.

This year the weather has been unusually bad for the growth of the crop. The frosts and dry winds injured it seriously.

VETERINARY.

Age to Milk a Heifer.

Will you tell me what age a heifer will give milk?

Answer: This is a curious question, or one curiously expressed, of which we do not quite see the drift. "At what age will a heifer give milk?" would seem at first sight a variation of "At what age will a heifer breed?" but the mammary secretion may be present in animals without their being in a pregnant or parturient state, or ever having been so. Cases of this are on record in cattle, ewes, bitches, rabbits, and mares and fillies, and we have known of maiden bitches not only yielding milk, but enticing away and rearing the offspring of another. Milk has been found in the mammæ of quite young animals. If you mean at what age may a heifer give milk after producing a calf, we have known of two cases of heifers calving down when wanting several days of being a year old; and there are many cases on record of bovine precocity approaching this. Needless to say that such cases are exceptional, and that such exhibitions of precocity are not desirable.

Trouble with Horse's Coat.

In thanking you in referring me to the above question, the condition powder is not satisfactory, as I am sure that it is his water. When I go on a journey, say 14 miles there and 14 miles back, he never stales for about two or three hours after, and if he was right should stale when he gets there.—G. W.

Answer: We can only suggest that you consult a qualified veterinary surgeon of experience, and see if he confirms your diagnosis. In your amended account of the case you render a reason why you think it is his water, because the animal does not stale at the end of a journey; but what this prolonged retention of urine under these conditions can have to do with the coat of the horse "sometimes going like a hedgehog for a few minutes" when you start out we quite fail to see. We may point out to you that many horses will not stale in harness, no matter how long time may elapse since previous micturition, and that others will not do so in a strange stable. We have often seen this in cabbers, who have had to be taken home for the express purpose of micturating. We have, however, never seen a case in which prolonged retention under such circumstances—due to individual peculiarity, not to disease—caused staring of the coat when taken out of the stable.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21.—Barnsley Agricultural Show at the Queen's Ground, Barnsley—Agricultural Show at Norton Park. The Earl of Coventry to speak—North Lonsdale's Agricultural Show at Ulverston—First Day of Bournemouth Horse Show—Great Harwood Agricultural Fair—Rugby and Stroud Cattle Fairs—Appleby Cattle and Sheep Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Carmarthen, Kington, and St. Laurence—Sheep Fairs at Hungerford and New Romney.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.—Bond's Sale of Suffolk Sheep at Ipswich—Ram Fair at Ipswich—Drawbridge's Sale of Sussex Cattle at Uckfield—Edwards's Sheep Sale at Hereford—Mansell's Sale of Shropshires at Tamworth—Jersey Agricultural Show, first day—Marlborough Agricultural Fair—Bracknell Cattle Fair—Sale of Farms at Petersfield.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.—Winch's Sale of Sussex Cattle at Bresachley—Leonard's Sale of Hackneys at Hull—Lythall's Sale of Sheep at Birmingham—Ashford Sheep Fair—Jersey Agricultural Show, second day—Skipton Horse and Cattle Fair—Malling Barley Sale and Conference, Bulla Pesth—Castleton Agricultural Show—Ruthin Agricultural Show—East Berkshire and Camarthen Horse Shows

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—Thornton's Sale of Sheep and Pigs at Bury St. Edmunds—Redcar Show; Cleveland Agricultural Society—Cheadle and Witney Fairs—Alford Sheep Fair—Carnock Cattle Fair—Sale of Farms at Lindford, Hampshire—Yeovil Horse Sale—Many Minor Fairs this day, which was a great Prereformation Festival.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25.—Craven Agricultural Society's Show, at Skipton—Wear Dale Agricultural Society's Show, at St. Johns Chapel, Darlington—Worsley Show—Bedworth, Bury, and Whitby Fairs—Buxton Horse Show—Entries close for Kirkby Stephen Show, for Hawkshead Show, and for Retford Show.

MONDAY, AUGUST 27.—Bedford, Carlisle, Hinkley, Liverpool, Ripley, Northampton, Romsey, and Stroud Fairs—Lampeter Horse and Cattle Fair—Rhayader Horse Fair—Preston Horse and Sheep Fair—Newtown Sheep and Pig Fair—Preston Horse Sale—Entries close for Gillingham Show and for Abergavenny Horse Show.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28.—Spurling's Sale of Southdowns at Ipswich—Wyatt's Sale of Southdowns at Selsey—Airdale Agricultural Show—Cartmel Agricultural Show—Hawes Agricultural Show—Chester-le-Street Stock Fair—Preston Cheese Fair—Spalding Horse and Cattle Fair—York Horse Sale—Ipswich Horse Sale—Sending-in day for Towyn Agricultural Show, for Peterborough Foal Show, and for Bourne (Lincolnshire) Show.

Sale at the Sedgemere Hackney Stud.

An unreserved sale of Hackneys belonging to Mr. Sam Woodiwiss was held at Sedgemere, Great Waltham, Essex, on Thursday, and was well attended, but prices were disappointing, as the top figure was only 58 guineas, and this sum was given by Miss Langworthy, of Maidenhead, for the two-year-old filly Sedgemere Florodora, a daughter of that fine pony Sharplow. The latter was one of the ponies on which Mr. Woodiwiss had placed a reserve, but it was only 100 guineas, and as there was no bid for him he was withdrawn. Considering that 500 guineas was refused for him a few seasons ago, Mr. Woodiwiss's reserve was an exceedingly moderate one. The Yorkshire breeder, Mr. Inman, secured two of the bargains of the sale in the three-year-old filly Sedgemere Viscountess, for which he went to 32 guineas, and the brood mare Sedgemere Futura, a four-year-old bay roan, at 48 guineas; while Mr. J. M. Washington bought others for Holland at prices ranging up to 32 guineas. Mr. Mullens, Halesworth, paid 45 guineas for Sedgemore Pagoda, and Mr. Underwood 35 guineas for Sedgemere Vignette. The best prices for Shires were 36 guineas and 30 guineas, the former being reached by Sedgemere Rufina, sold to Mr. Strong, Brentwood, and the other price was given by Mr. Washington, of the Hague, Holland, for Sedgemere Queen's Birthday. Altogether forty-one lots were sold for a total of 929 guineas, which gives an average per head of only a little over 22½ guineas.

FARM MACHINERY and IMPLEMENTS have for so long been closely identified with the "Mark Lane Express," that the Journal's position as a means of bringing Maker, Agent, and Customer together is unique.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

A CORRESPONDENT makes a series of inquiries in respect to raising fat lambs, and has a fancy for "peel-throated" lambs. One of the difficulties that breeders of certain breeds have to contend with is that of the wool peeling away from the throat; but as it is the type of lamb which has been known as peel-throated in Northhamptonshire for many years, he doubtless means the lambs got by the West Country horned sheep. This breed, in all probability, is the lineal descendant of the old horned, whitefaced Wiltshire, which a century or more ago was brought to the Midland and Home Counties in great numbers, but was gradually improved out of existence so far as its general appearance was concerned, and developed into the modern Hampshire. In 1835 Low, in his "Domesticated Animals," gave an illustration of what was regarded as the last pure-bred Wiltshire sheep, as no one had trace of any which had not been subjected to crossing. However, a few years ago Professor Winter, of Bangor, met with a strain of sheep in Wales which possessed all the characteristics of the old Wilts breed; and there is good reason to believe that this little colony is an offshoot of the original Wilts, which, having got outside the area where they were generally kept, was overlooked at that time. Lamb raisers in Northamptonshire and a few other places long since found that the offspring of rams of this breed were well suited to fatten for the early lamb market; and so far as the existence of these sheep was concerned it was little known of in other parts. Rams of this breed are occasionally advertised as being for sale; but if our correspondent cannot find one to suit his convenience, no doubt Prof. Winter, of the University at Bangor, who takes much interest in this breed, will help him.

THE term West Country as applied to sheep was used in Beds, Herts, and other counties within the last thirty years to denote the origin of sheep, which originally was similar to those now only found in Wales. By this time they had become for the most part blackfaced, but they were not pure-bred Hampshires or Oxfordshires, but rather sheep in a transition state, which were losing most of the features of the original Wilts. Nowadays, people get their sheep from the West Country, but they are not West Country sheep in the sense that they used to be, for the term no longer conveys the same idea that it then did.

WOULD the West Country horned ram mate well with Radnor ewes? is another query. There is no reason why they should not. Both breeds were originally heath breeds—for a down is a heath—and the pasturage of the Radnor and Montgomery hills was typically heath land before the land was enclosed under the Enclosures Act; in fact, all rough open country making commonage appears to have developed a heath breed, some horned and some hornless, some whitefaced and some coloured, but practically all having a common origin, but varying in type through indigenous conditions. The common origin has the effect of permitting all these breeds to intercross with success; the measure of success being, of course, dependent upon the skill exercised. The old Radnor sheep was developed on the higher hills, but so long ago as seventy years had been freely crossed with the Shropshire and other breeds of the low country, and has become a breed suitable to conditions varying greatly from those in which it was originally raised; and its usefulness has been greatly extended. The ewes take the ram much earlier than the cold climatic conditions under which they were raised might suggest. The old Wiltshire or West Country and the Radnor would undoubtedly make a profitable cross.

A QUESTION arises whether the Suffolk should not be a more profitable sheep for the querist, who lives in a dry climate. It would cross all right with the West Country, and the cross would show plenty of throat-peeling; beyond that, however, he would get excellent lambs, and great freedom from foot-rot.

AT this time there is special interest in the Welsh sheep, because the Welsh breeders have just brought out a Welsh Mountain Flock Book, dealing with another type of sheep than the Radnor or Kerry Hill breed. Probably no society ever had so difficult a task in establishing a flock book, because in doing this they have to determine what features constitute a Welsh sheep. Moreover, the white or pink nosed, soft woolled Welsh sheep differs very widely from most British breeds, and is supposed to be of Celtic origin. In the unimproved state they have lengthened hair beneath the throat, like a beard; a thin neck thrown back like an antelope or deer, long tail, a wool peculiarly adapted by its softness and tenuity to the manufacture of flannel; the horns slender and slightly curved and bent backwards in the rams, and in the females generally missing, as they are generally in the rams; generally, but not always, whitefaced; light forequarters, and long, sloping hindquarters. The Anglesey sheep was much of this type, but generally a better animal, because of the more favourable conditions it experienced. The improved sheep are the result of selection and crossing, some of the crossing dating back to the earlier days of sheep improvement. The evolution of the breed has reached a critical stage because, at a time when the Flock Book comes into existence, the type is not unanimously fixed upon, and in the showyard several types may be seen, each one in the opinion of the breeder that which is best suited for his soil, climate, and requirements; and it is quite possible in his conditions each one is best. The question to be solved is, Which of these, or which amalgamation of these, will be best suited over the greatest area; what features must be eliminated and which developed; whether it is best to try to make this breed, which, in its native form, differed from every other British breed, such as will conform in outline and type with our other short-woolled breeds, or whether it shall retain its indigenous characteristics with the mere development of its good features and gradual eradication or submerging of its less desirable features? Beyond this there is the altered conditions of food supply and adaptability to utilise this to the best to be considered; as also the fact that in some places the supply of food, rainfall, soil, &c., differ from others; and how far the sheep suited to the most favourable conditions of food and climate should be allowed to dominate those where conditions are less favourable. Evidently, from the variation in type under different skilled breeders, many of these features are not being unnoticed. Of course, it is not difficult by continued crossing to get a type which will make a more taking appearance, and conform more to what in other breeds has become to be regarded as a model to be aimed at; but in dealing with a totally different type of animal it may not be the best in the circumstances in which the greater number of the sheep will have to be kept. Possibly each breeder will fight for his own hand according to his own views, and in the multitude of counsellors wisdom should be found. But no breed society has ever been faced with greater difficulties, because the area over which the breed is spread offers such a variety of differences in soil, climate, &c. Therefore nothing should be done over-hastily; and it may be remembered that in improving the form of an animal injudiciously the utility of the animal may be lessened.

Mr. C. N. SKINNER,
Shortlands, Kent.
BREEDER OF EXMOOR SHEEP.

EXMOOR SHEARLING EWES.
The property of Mr. C. N. SKINNER, Shortlands, Kent. Winners of First Prize at the Royal Show.

The Liskeard Sheep Sale Dispute.

At a meeting of the Liskeard Town Council held on Tuesday, the following resolution was adopted:—"That proceedings be taken under the Markets and Fairs Clauses Act, 1847, against the gentlemen named for selling, or offering for sale, rams on Monday, August 13, at a field near the railway station, Liskeard; that the General Purposes Committee be empowered to take such other legal proceedings again such person or persons, or company, as may be decided, for selling, or exposing for sale, rams in the field at the railway station on that day; and also that the said committee be authorised to take such other legal proceedings against any person, or persons, or company, taking part in the sale, as the committee may decide upon."

The Mayor remarked that they had decided to take legal proceedings, not with the idea of making any invidious distinctions, but simply with the idea of taking three typical cases. Proceedings would be instituted against Mr. E. W. Body, the local hon. secretary of the Flock Book Society; Mr. F. M. Sobey, an auctioneer; and Mr. W. F. Sobey, a vendor.

Birmingham Shropshire Sheep Sale.—Messrs. Lythall and Walters will conduct this important sale in Bingley Hall on Thursday, the 23rd inst. Entries have been made by many of the leading breeders, and several prize winners will be offered. Catalogues may be obtained from the auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised, there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

SHEEP SALES AND FAIRS.

Mr. Harris' Hampshire Downs.

The annual sale of Hampshire Down ram lambs from Mr. W. M. Harris' Long Sutton flock, held at Basingstoke by Messrs. J. Harris and Son, drew a large company of buyers, and a satisfactory sale resulted, sixty-four lambs out of the sixty-five catalogued being let or sold at an average of £8 9s. per head. No. 1 lamb for letting six weeks was secured by Mr. Carey Coles, of Winterbourne Stoke, at 32 guineas; No. 2, to let for similar period, by Mr. J. Falconer, Long Sutton House, at 38 guineas; and amongst the principal purchasers of others were Mr. C. Cox, for Capt. Dalgety, at 16 guineas, 11 guineas, and 8 guineas; Mr. R. H. Cholmondeley at 16 guineas; Lord Carnarvon at 14 guineas; Mr. Baigent at 11 guineas, 10½ guineas, and 7 guineas; Mr. George Judd at 12 guineas and 10 guineas; and Mr. Davis, for Sir George Cooper, Bart., at 9 guineas (twice). Other purchasers paid from 5½ to 10 guineas.

The Honington Suffolks.

Messrs. S. and F. Traylen's Honington flock of Suffolk sheep was, in consequence of the farm having been given up, dispersed by auction on the 10th inst. at Thurston. The flock was established in 1898, and has attained considerable notoriety by virtue of the marked success of its produce at shows in various parts of the country. Mr. A. Lacy Scott, who conducted the sale, referred to the excellent qualities of the sheep which he had to offer, and he gave some particulars as to the origin and achievements of the flock. A small lot of eight shearling ewes (sucklers) were first offered, and they realised 65s.; two lots of ten two shear ewes went at 70s. and 67s.; while three-shear ewes made from 65s., and full-mouthed ewes 62s. There were but four ewe lambs, one lot going at 48s. The ram lambs realised from 7½ guineas and 6½ guineas; some choice wether lambs going at 42s. and 40s.

Lord Ashburton's Hampshire Downs.

An important sale of Hampshire Down sheep was held by Messrs. James Harris and Son, of Winchester, on the Alresford fair ground, on the 9th inst., for there they disposed of one of the famous Grange Estate flocks, viz., that from Swarraton Farm, as well as drafts from the registered Brown Candover and Chilton flocks. The whole belonged to the Right Hon. Lord Ashburton, and were famed for their quality and pure breed. The sale of the whole of the Swarraton flock was therefore a matter of considerable moment, and created wide interest among sheep breeders and agriculturists generally. The demand for the sheep was very brisk, and, considering that they were brought up in stock order only, the sale was generally regarded as a very satisfactory one.

The Swarraton flock was first disposed of, the sale opening with 150 two-tooth ewes, in alternate lots of ten and twenty, which realised from 54s. to 76s., and averaged 58s. 7d. Mr. Rand (for Sir George Cooper, Bart.) bought at the top figure. Four-tooth ewes, of which 130 were offered, made from 56s. to 76s., averaging 61s. 8d. Mr. W. Allen, of Popham, bought at 76s., and Mr. Rand at 75s. The two-tooth and four-tooth ewes were sired by rams from Mr. J. H. Dibben and Mr. A. F. T. Drake. Six-tooth ewes, to the number of 120, made from 55s to 70s., averaging 62s. 2d. Mr. Hall (for Lord Carnarvon) and Mr. Rand purchased at the top price, and Mr. Waters at 67s. and 59s. Eighty full-mouth ewes made from 45s. to 57s., the average working out at 52s. 1d., Mr. Pickard, of Chapman's Ford, being the principal purchaser. The sale of the Swarraton flock ended with the offering of 160 ewe lambs, sired by rams from Mr. A. F. T. Drake and rams of his own breeding. These brought from 37s. to 47s., and averaged 40s. 8d., Mr. Hall buying at 47s., 45s., and 43s.

From the Brown Candover flock sixty two-tooth, forty four-tooth, and thirty six-tooth ewes were sold with the following results:—Two-tooth ewes made from 52s. to 55s., the four-tooth ewes made from 48s. and 50s., and the six-tooth ewes sold at 47s. and 48s. Of the ewes from the Chilton flock the top price was obtained by ten splendid two-tooth ewes, which were bought by Mr. A. E. Hambro at 82s., who also secured another pen at 75s.; while Mr. Alan Arnold (for Mr. R. H. Cholmondeley) purchased a pen at 62s. Thirty four-tooth ewes from the same flock made 55s. to 62s., whilst thirty six-tooth ewes realised from 51s. to 58s.

Sale of South Devons at Liskeard.

Unusual interest was taken in the third annual sale of registered South Devon rams in a field near Liskeard Railway Station on Monday, by reason of the threat of the town council to take proceedings against anyone taking part in it. The council had previously refused to grant permission to hold the sale in any other place but the market, constructed at great expense in the centre of the town, and instructed the town clerk to point out that the Markets and Fair Clauses Act, 1847 (adopted by the Council), provides that every person who sells or exposes for sale in any place within the borough anything in respect of which a toll is payable to the market authority is liable to a penalty of £2

Mr. F. M. Sobey, one of the auctioneers, said the statement had been made that by holding the ram sale in the field they seriously affected the trade of Liskeard, at which there was laughter, whilst the question as to whether he was right or wrong in his opinion that the action of the Liskeard Town Council would affect the sales of Liskeard more than any sales at the station, brought shouts of "Right."

The sale passed off without any untoward scenes, and proved a successful one, there being a good demand for the better class of rams. The highest price realised was 21½ guineas, given by Mr. T. Roskilly, Truro, for the pick of the consignment from Mr. H. Sobey, of Pensipple, Liskeard. There were seven others from the same flock, and one fetched 14 guineas, another 11½ guineas, and a third 10½ guineas, the others ranging from 9½ to 6 guineas. Five out of the consignment of nine from Mr. W. F. Sobey, Trenant, Menheniot, were also sold at sums ranging from 15 guineas to 6½ guineas; Mr. P. G. Brown, Tremadart, Duloe, got 17½ guineas for one of his nine, 11 guineas for another, and an average of 9½ guineas; Mr. E. W. Body, Twelvewood, Liskeard, sold one at 15 guineas, another at 10, and others down to 7 guineas; a consignment of nine from Mr. P. G. Brown, Tremadart, Duloe, was sold at the average of 9½ guineas, the top prices being 17½ guineas and 11 guineas; whilst four belonging to Messrs. J. P. Matthews and Sons, Blerrick, Antony, averaged 10¾ guineas, top price 14 guineas. Other lots sold up to 7½ guineas.

Lewes.

A sale of Southdown ram and ram lambs was held at Lewes on Tuesday by Mr. J. R. Thornton, who brought under the hammer a choice selection from various herds, and with a good attendance of buyers, satisfactory prices were realised. Of the Duke of Devonshire's Eastbourne flock shearling rams were sold to Sir J. Blyth and Mr. G. S Harris Hailsham, at 7½ guineas and 10 guineas respectively; two six-tooth rams, the property of Mr. J. Kenward, Hamsey, were purchased by Messrs. J. and H. Robinson, Iford, at 10 guineas and 9 guineas. The Hon. T. S. Brand paid 10 guineas each for two shearling rams, the property of Mr. Allan Cooper, Bishopstone, shearling rams from the same flock going to Mr. H. Willett, J.P., at 11 guineas, 5 guineas, and 4½ guineas; whilst Mr. Watson, Framfield, bought a shearling ram, the property of Mr. A. Heasman, Littlehampton, for 12 guineas, and two others at 7½ guineas apiece. Others sold up to 7 guineas.

Britford.

Britford Sheep Fair, one of the most important held in the South, took place on Monday, when some 28,000 Hampshire Down sheep were penned, this being about an average number. There was a large attendance of buyers and flockmasters, and trade was up to the average of other fairs in the district, the prices for young store lambs being rather higher than at Salisbury fair. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their annual sale of Hampshire Down ewes and lambs at the fair, the entry comprising upwards of 13,100 head. The trade throughout was well maintained at fully late prices. Regular draft ewes made from 42s. 6d. to 53s.; draft ewes, one year over age, but fit for breeding, 37s. 6d. to 43s. 6d.; grazing ewes, 31s. to 41s.; two-teeth ewes, best, 48s. to 57s. 6d.; smaller, 42s. to 47s.; mixed young ewes, 41s. to 48s.; best wether lambs, 42s. to 46s. 6d.; working ditto, 31s. to 40s.; ewe lambs, 38s. to 43s.; mixed lambs, 27s. to 37s. Eight lots only out of upwards of 200 were unsold, as not quite reaching the owners' estimate of value. The same auctioneers also disposed of some valuable consignments of ram and ram lambs, details of which are appended:

Mr. J. Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury sent 100 grand ram lambs and 100 full-mouthed ewes, which were of the usual high standard of the flock, and met good competition. Nine lambs were first lot at an average of £76 10s., Mr. C. Coles hiring No. 1 at 180 guineas; Mr. J. Judd No. 2 at 60 guineas; Mr. Hurford (for Mr. T. F. Buxton) No. 3 at 135 guineas; Mr. C. Standford (for Mr. Hulso) No. 4 at 16 guineas; Mr Asprey (for the Marquis of Winchester) No. 5 at 44 guineas; and No. 6 at 38 guineas, Lord Rothschild; No. 7 at 34 guineas; and No. 9 at 105 guineas; Mr. Richards No. 8 at 44 guineas. The chief buyers and prices for lambs were:—Mr. Matthews, 34 guineas; Mr. Irons, for the Hon. D. P. Bouverie, 32 guineas; Mr. Crosland (for Sir A. Henderson), 32 guineas; Mr. Joyce, 32 and 14 guineas; Mr. Goldsmith, 24 guineas; Mr. G. B. Allen, 30 and 13 guineas; Mr. Eveleigh, 24 guineas; Mr. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearce, 21 guineas; Mr. Brock (for Mr. S. Darling), 21 and 18 guineas; Mr. Canning (for Messrs. Bates, C. Morrison, &c.), 16, 14, 13, and 11 guineas; Mr. A. Edwards, 18 guineas; Mr. H. Hitchings, 17 and 9 guineas; Mr. W. Green, 18 guineas; Mr. Treble (for Colonel Le Roy-Lewis), 17, 14, and 13 guineas; Mr. T. L. Mills, 18, 15 (twice), and 12 guineas; Captain Glen Kidston, 19 guineas; Miss Parker, 19 and 13 guineas; Mr. C. Stanford, 23 guineas; Mr. Reynolds, 19 and 11 guineas; others realised up to 15 guineas, and the average of 98 lambs let and sold was the good one of £20 10s. The 100 full-mouth ewes made an average of 68s., the Hon. D. P. Bouverie's agent buying at 70s. (twice), 68s., and 60s.; Lord Rothschild's agent at 88s., 84s., 80s., and 76s.; Mr. Treble (for Mr. Christian) at 60s.; Mr. H. White at 60s.; and Mr. H. P. Taunton at 53s.

Mr. H. J. Hulse sent fifty nice quality ram lambs from his Breamore House flock, but unfortunately buyers appeared to have been already served by the large number of rams sold in the fair, consequently a considerable number of this lot remained unsold. Those disposed of made 15 guineas (twice), 14 guineas, 10 guineas (thrice), to 6 guineas.

Mr. A. F. T. Drake, a regular contributor to the fair, had forward a choice selection from his Dogdean flock, which met with a good trade, the average for eighty-seven let and sold being £14 0s. 6d. Six lambs were first let as follow:—No. 1 to Mr. Notley (for Mr. Holman), at 50 guineas; No. 2, Mr. Coles, at 32 guineas; No. 3, Mr. Blackwell, at 40 guineas; No. 4, Mr. Philippi, at 20 guineas; Mr. Bishop, No. 5, at 14 guineas; Mr. M. Wallis, No. 6, at 10 guineas. Of the selling lambs Mr. Notley bought at 42 guineas; Mr. E. Hambro's agent at 44 guineas and 30 guineas; Mr. C. Bugg at 20 guineas, 26 guineas, 17 guineas, and 11 guineas; Mr. Newland (for Major Chichester) at 30 guineas and 25 guineas; Mr. Rossiter (for Capt. Glen-Kidston) at 20 guineas; Mr. Philippi at 26 guineas, 25 guineas, 18 guineas, and 13 guineas; Mr. Blackwell at 23 guineas; Mr. Cox at 18 guineas; Mr. Greenfield at 19 guineas; Mr. Rose (for Mr. W. Nicholson) at 20 guineas, 18 guineas, 15 guineas, 13 guineas, &c.; and Mr. Stevens (for Mr. Thursby) at 25 guineas, others making up to 18 guineas.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence also offered thirty lambs from Mr. W. C. Young's sale, and they made from 4½ to 6 guineas, average £5 3s.; whilst twenty lambs from Mr. G. L. Dean's Homington flock sold at an average of £5 17s. 6d. each, the range of prices being from 15 guineas down to 5 guineas.

The Leconfield Lincoln Longwools.

On Wednesday about eighty Lincoln Longwool shearling rams from Mr. R. Fisher's Leconfield flock were sold by auction by Messrs. Sugdon and Pearce Brown The flock being so well known for its high class quality, the sale naturally attracted a very large company of buyers, and with competition keen satisfactory prices were realised. The pick of the sale fell to Mr. Crook, who was buying for the Argentine, and when he wanted an animal he was not to be denied. For instance, he outbid Mr. Dudding for an excellent specimen of the breed, by Dowsby Return, but not until he had offered 150 guineas. Mr. Crook also gave 84 guineas for another beautiful specimen, and other prices paid by him were 40 guineas, 38 guineas, 36 guineas, and 30 guineas. Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe, Baumber Park, had to bid 85 guineas before he could get a fine upstanding roan by Dowsby Return; Mr. R. Dixon, Brandesburton, was a purchaser at 70 guineas; Mr. Savage, who was buying for the Argentine, gave 41 guineas, 38 guineas, 30 guineas, and 25 guineas, whilst other purchasers at high prices were:—Messrs. P. and G. Hughes, Buenos Ayres, 37 guineas and 30 guineas; Mr. Jackson, Bridlington, 37 guineas; Mr. T. Crompton, Nafferton, 25 guineas; Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove, 32 guineas; Mr. J. E. Casswell, Laughton, 55 guineas; Mr. Beck, Kirmington, 51 guineas, 44 guineas, and 31 guineas; and Mr. E. Money, Silk Willoughby, 50 guineas. The average per head for the eighty rams was the fine one of £24 12s.

Newingreen.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs's annual sale of lambs at Newingreen, Kent, took place on Wednesday, when the entries numbered about 9,000, and included some first-class animals. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the demand proved satisfactory. The top price of the day was made by a pen of Kent ewe lambs of Mr. W. Long's, these fetching 35s., while other pens of the same breeder's fetched 31s. and 26s. 6d., and his wethers made 27s. 6d. and 29s. 6d. Mr. J. Kingsmill entered a fine run of 404 half-breds, which made from 24s. 6d. to 33s., and averaged close upon 28s. 6d. per head right through. Other sales included the following:—145 half-breds of the exors. of the late Mr. Wm. Long, 26s 6d. to 32s.; 270 crossbreds of Mr. F. Hobbs', 21s. to 25s. 6d.; 180 Kent wethers of Mr. F. Hobbs', 22s. to 26s. 6d.; 100 half-breds of Mr. T. R. Brett's, 25s. and 32s. 6d.; 150 Kent ewe lambs of Mr. Dee Swaffer's, 20s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.; 150

Kent wethers of Mr. Dee Swaffer's, 17s. to 26s. 6d.; 210 half-bred Southdowns of Mr. F. G. Smith's, 21s. 6d. to 28s.; 100 half-bred Southdowns of Mr. F. S. Uden's, 24s. to 26s. 6d.; 150 cross-breds of Mr. F. Hammon's, 27s. 6d. to 31s.; 220 cross-breds of Mr. H. Long's, 24s. 6d. to 27s. 6d.; 100 of Mr. W. Johnson's Kent ewe lambs, 22s. 6d. and 26s.; 100 of Mr. W. Johnson's Kent wether lambs, 22s. and 26s.; ninety of Mr. T. Rolfe's Kent ewe lambs, 26s. and 31s.; ninety of Mr. T. Rolfe's Kent wether lambs, 25s. and 28s.; sixty of Mr. T. Rolfo's half-bred lambs, 24s. and 30s.

Hereford.

A sale of sheep was held at Hereford Cattle Market on Wednesday by Mr. W. Pye, who brought under the hammer about 450 Shropshires and cross-breds, and they met a good demand. The top price for cross-breds was 42s. 6d., which was given for Mr. Nott's lot, the other prices ranged from 36s. 6d. to 31s. The sixty-six Shropshire yearlings belonging to Mr. P. Coats averaged 47s. apiece, while 46s. was paid for those put in by Andrews, of Lower Lyde. Other prices were 44s., 43s, 42s. 6d., and 38s. 6d. It was generally expressed that young sheep made 2s. to 3s. better prices than they did at the corresponding sale last year. Before the afternoon sale Mr. Pye sold 200 store lambs. One hundred of these belonging to Mr. Matthews (Hollington) averaged 33s. apiece, forty sent by Mr. T. P. Smith made 32s. 6d., while the others averaged from 28s. to 30s. The whole lot met with a ready sale.

Mr. T. A. Buttar's Shropshires.

Messrs. A. Mansell and Co. on Thursday conducted the annual sale of pedigree Shropshire rams belonging to Mr. T. A. Buttar, of Corston, Coupar Angus, whose flock has a widespread fame, as was evidenced by the attendance of South American and Colonial buyers.

The fifty rams offered were a grand lot, big, well-boned, of grand style, and with excellent fleeces and skins. The flock holds a deservedly high reputation among connoisseurs of the breed, to which fact Mr. A. Mansell, the auctioneer, directed attention at the luncheon, where Mr. Simmons, Tasmania, presided. Although no phenomenal individual prices wero realised this year, the bidding was brisk and even throughout, and for fifty rams the sum of £611 2s. was drawn, giving an average of £12 4s. 6d. per head. Mr. Bell, South America, paid the top price, 32 guineas, for a shearling ram, Mr. G. Russel, Lundin Links, giving 31 guineas for another; Mr. R. Taylor, Pitlevie, purchased a two-shear ram at 30 guineas, whilst Mr. Middleton, Arbroath, gave 21 guineas. These were the only prices over 20 guineas, the other figures ranging from 17 guineas to 6½ guineas.

Mr. E. Henty's Southdowns.

The entire prize-winning flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep (No. 47 in the Southdown Flock Book), the property of Mr. Edwin Henty, Ferring Grange Farm, near Worthing, was dispersed by auction on Friday by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The weather was unfavourable, but there was a large attendance of buyers, and, on the whole, the results of the sale were satisfactory. The auctioneer pointed out that the flock had a foundation which was almost Sussex all through, and regretted that it should have to be dispersed in its entirety. Some good prices were realised for ewes, the average for four-tooth and six-tooth being about 80s. One lot of five yearlings was sold at the high figure of 115s., and another similar lot at 100s., Mr. Maitland, of Eastbourne, being the purchaser. Rams sold fairly well, but trade in ram lambs was slow. The highest price for rams was 20 guineas, given by Mr. Julius Verner for the four-tooth ram which had won at the Royal, Royal Counties, and other shows; for yearling rams 15 guineas was top figure, others selling at 13 guineas, 12 guineas, 11 guineas, and down to 7 guineas; whilst ram lambs sold up to 7½ guineas.

The Brize Norton Oxfordshire Downs.

A large and representative company assembled at the Manor Farm, Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, on the 8th inst., for the sale of the far-famed and very old-established flock of pure bred Oxfordshire Down sheep of the late Mr. John Worley, the sale being on account of the executors relinquishing the farming business at Michaelmas next. The catalogue comprised sixty theaves, fifty-five four-tooth ewes, forty six-tooth ewes, eighty-four full-mouth ditto, four shearling rams, 108 ram lambs, and 100 ewe lambs. Luncheon was partaken of from eleven till twelve in a spacious marquee near the sale-ring, and punctually at twelve o'clock Mr. Frank Jones (Franklin and Jones, Oxford) mounted his rostrum, and after a few usual introductory remarks, proceeded with the business of the day. From first to last the keenest competition took place, it being interesting to note that the whole of the 167 lots were disposed of in two hours and ten minutes. The following were the prices realised:—Theaves, from 3 guineas to 5½ guineas per head—average, £4 15s. 4d.; four-tooth ewes, 4 guineas to 4½ guineas per head—average, £4 10s. 8d.; six-tooth ewes, 4 guineas to 7 guineas per head—average, £5 6s. 4d.; full-mouth ewes, 2½ guineas to 4½ guineas per head—average, £3 10s. 7d. The four old sheep made 9, 9½, 12½, and 18 guineas per head. Ram lambs made from 3½ guineas to 20 guineas, several realising 15½ guineas, 13 guineas, 12 guineas, 11 guineas, 10½ guineas, 10 guineas, 9 guineas, 8 guineas, 6½ guineas, and downwards, the average of same being £5 3s. 2d. The 100 ewe lambs, from 3½ guineas per head down to 50s., or an average of £3.

The Ottringham Grange Hackneys.

On Thursday next, the 23rd inst., just over fifty of Mr. J. Clappison's well-known Yorkshire Hackneys will be sold by auction at Ottringham Grange, Hull, the auctioneers being Messrs. R. R. Leonard and Son, and Messrs. G. Tanton and Son. Mr. James Clappison is one of the best known breeders of Yorkshire Hackneys, and many notable animals have come from the Ottringham Grange Stud, notably Applause, sold for 1,000 guineas; Lady Gordon, 360 guineas; Lady Newsham, 300 guineas; Daisy Bell, 210 guineas; and at the last sale, Grange Forest Maid, and Ardath, 165 and 135 guineas, &c.

The animals to be sold on Thursday are by the noted sires Garton Duke of Connaught, St. Thomas, Goldfinder VI., St. Anthony, St. John, Langton Connaught, Lord Kimberley, Gentleman John, &c., and will doubtless meet with keen competition. The mares and fillies are specially attractive, being of the best Yorkshire strains, invaluable for brood mares. The colts, too, have great character, action, and breeding, there being several of both sex, that give promise of a highly satisfactory career in the show ring. The geldings are an interesting feature, being well bred with plenty of size and quality. The sale will commence at 12.45.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Kinsale Fair, co. Cork, held August 15.—Average supply of cattle; demand slow. Yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s. to £8; 2nd class, £7 to £7 2s. 6d.; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £6. Two years old, 1st class, £10 5s. to £12; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £9 10s; 3rd class, £6 15s. to £7 10s. Springers, 2nd class, £11 10s. to £12 15s.; 3rd class, £9 5s. to £10. Small supply of sheep, demand good. Lambs, 1st class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 11s.; 2nd class, £1 0s. 6d. to £1 5s. Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, 1st class, £2 to £2 2s.; 2nd class, £1 12s to £1 19s. Young pigs averaged 24s. each.

Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. announce the sale of a number of Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's Dexter cattle and Berkshire pigs at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster, on Friday, the 31st inst., and on the following Friday the dispersal of the late Mr. J. P. Cross's famed herd of Shorthorn cattle, at Calthorpe Towers, Rugby. Catalogues can be had on application to Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.

Pig Markets Closed.—Owing to the prevalence of swine fever in the Holland Division of Lincolnshire, the Board of Agriculture has issued an order closing all the South Lincolnshire pig markets as from Saturday. The order will affect the whole of the administrative county, except the Hundred of Skirbeck, north of Boston. The markets closed will be Spalding, Holbeach, and Long Sutton in the south of the division, and Donington and Boston in the north.

Harvest Pests.—In consequence of the continued dry weather in the Chiltern Hills district, "harvesters," or "harvest bugs," as they are more commonly called, are just now exceedingly numerous and troublesome. They infest not only the cornfields, but the parched herbage of the fields, and are particularly fond of the great variety of wild grasses and flowers on the hill sides.

The Midland Railway Company have issued a new series of picture postcards of the Peak of Derbyshire, including views of the interior and exterior of Haddon Hall and Chatsworth House. The series illustrates a few of the important places of interest included in the route of the new circular tour tickets, which can now be obtained at many of the principal Midland stations. The cards are printed in delicate colours and form an admirable souvenir of the Peak District. They will shortly be on sale at the bookstalls and in the postcard machines at the company's stations.

SITUATIONS WANTED and VACANT.

Those to whom this column appeals, if identified in some way with agriculture, will have no difficulty in obtaining employment or filling a vacancy if their requirements are advertised in the "Mark Lane Express," which is best done under a nom de plume, and addressed to this office. The charge is only a penny for every three words, but the cash must be remitted at the time of ordering the advertisement.

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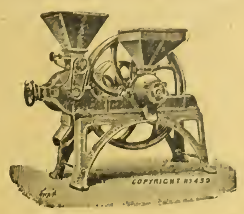

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CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

JUST at the present time the bountiful harvest is the all-important subject of conversation amongst farmers, who for the time being have to leave the milk churns and the butcher's requirements out of consideration, but the milk supply will require to be reckoned with very quickly if contracts are to be kept going. At the moment milch cows, weight for weight, are worth vastly more than fat ones, and this has been the case now for several years, and so far as can be seen bid fair to become more pronounced as time goes on. With fat cows at scarcely more than 4d. or 4½d. per lb., they bring it but a very small sum as compared with the Down calves, at £22, or if a really good one, considerably more. Now is the time to repeat the oft-written advice to breed or buy good heifers of the dual-purpose type, and have two strings to your bow.

SUCH advice cannot be given too frequently, or, as the world has it nowadays, be too deeply rubbed in. If there is any possible means of keeping them, barren cows and heifers can be purchased now at ridiculously low down prices, and will lie aside at rough keep, costing but little for some weeks. Turn the milk with them at the first of October, after having taken care to buy only such as are correct in their udders, and there is no fear but a fair profit will result. It is true everyone cannot do this, but let those who can do it, not miss the opportunity. There are many farms and fields much more fitted to carry incalvers than to carry fatted stock, and the outcome is vastly in favour of the former than the latter in any season, especially upon such lands.

IN one of these notes recently we mentioned the Sussex breed of cattle as being worthy much greater attention than they have been receiving for a long time past at the hands of the general public as breeders, at the hands of feeders, and also at the hands of foreign buyers. After the remarks made it is very pleasing to find that at Earl Winterton's sale the record price of 35 guineas was paid for a yearling bull. This is very gratifying, as it proves distinctly the confidence patrons of the breed must have in their favourites, and a man seldom or ever places this great confidence in any project unless it is based upon actual proof of the benefit to be derived from that project, which project in this instance means the breeding of Sussex cattle.

AT a meeting of the Herd Book Society of that breed, too, matters appear to be progressing very satisfactorily. The number of members increases, the funds are flourishing, and the last volume of the Herd Book contains the names of 100 bulls and 605 cows with their produce. The breed, it will thus be seen, is strong enough to hold its own by itself without the assistance of the foreigner, which has been such a great help to our other most prominent breeds. As mentioned some time since, there is probably no breed of cattle in the three kingdoms that has improved so much within the past decade as these beautiful red Sussex cattle. It would take but little trouble and care, too, to convert them into a dual-purpose breed.

WITH regard to transforming our single-purpose half-breeds into dual-purpose cattle, the awarding of the third prize for dairies of cattle, given by the Royal Counties Society, to a herd of Herefords, and the award being made by so good and unbiassed a judge as Mr. Arthur Hiscock, is ample proof that it only needs a little attention to bring these breeds of cattle up to a standard of the dual-purpose class that would more than double their value. If memory serves me correctly this same herd was similarly placed in last year's competition. The remarks of the judge, too, are worthy of especial notice. That gentleman says in his report: "I had no hesitation in awarding third prize to this herd, and I must mention it is of uniform type and in high condition, though only moderately kept.

THE last three words in these remarks have intense meaning. For a herd to win a dairy prize in such keen competition as that under notice is a great achievement under any conditions, but when it can be added that the herd is in high condition, though only moderately kept, the circumstance gains weight enormously. For a dairy herd to be in high condition when only moderately kept is in itself proof ample that the condition lies in the breeding of the animals, as does also the milk in this particular case. Many other herds of dairy cattle are seen from time to time in very high condition, but as the owner of one of these herds once observed to the writer, "the cost of that condition is incredible."

I READ a letter in your last issue that gives me intense pleasure—it is that referring to the export of Devon cattle in which the writer states that he has recently sold several Devons for export to Japan. One swallow does not make summer, neither does the fact that one breeder or exporter has shipped a few of these cattle to Japan alter the necessity for the note that was given upon Devons in these columns the other week, complaining of the neglect that that breed, together with one or two others, has been experiencing at the hands of exporters. If many of our foreign feeders knew the value of the North Devon they would be importing them by hundreds and not in little more than units, as is the case at the present time as represented by your correspondent.

ANYTHING in these notes that causes attention to be paid to any and every breed of cattle mentioned is for the ultimate benefit and welfare of those breeds. You cannot mention a breed as having suffered neglect at the hands of buyers or breeders without benefiting. Such mention leads purchasers, whether foreign or home buyers, to ponder over the matter as to why they have neglected them, with the result that they make up their minds to give them a trial, which in many cases leads to the sale of numbers of them. Perhaps the writer of that letter may not be aware that Devons were tried in Germany a few years ago and gave such excellent results that farmers there were most anxious to follow up the use of Devon bulls, yet no one appeared to have enterprise sufficient to speculate in sending out other animals.

THE writer obtained this information direct from the quarters whence these Devons had been used, and was delighted to hear that the produce of the Devon bulls on the native breeds with which they were used were so much more valuable than the original stock that they were most anxious to obtain more. A note exactly to this effect was contributed to these columns at the time. I have no doubt that were a small consignment of the breeds mentioned, Devons, Sussex, and Red Polls exported occasionally, even if when on the other side they were sold in the first instance at a loss, would end in a vastly increased trade and accompanied with profits.

THE Black Cattle Herd Book Society are becoming aware of this fact, and ere long it is pretty certain that some specimens of their breed will find their way abroad more than they have done in the past, and let these Welsh cattle give but as good results in the countries to which they find their way as they do on the marshes of Sussex and Norfolk, on the rich, sound pastures of the Midland counties, or in the turnip yards of their land of the ancient mountains and lovely valleys, and they will very quickly be wanted in hundreds, depend upon it. The Welsh breed, too, is quite one of dual purpose. Excellent milkers and great yielders of butter are oftimes found amongst the hardy blacks.

I WAS pleased to read an article in one stock paper the other day referring to the use of the locust bean as a food for cattle. Having been a user of this food for more than forty years, I can only express astonishment that it is not more generally used, or used much more extensively than it is. Not only is it a very nutritious and much relished food, but it is cleanly and not wasteful, especially for use out in the fields during summer time. Many times have we seen great waste attending the use of cake when rain has fallen before the cattle have cleaned out their troughs, or through there being a little water in the trough when the cake has been given. There is nothing of this with the locust bean.

ANOTHER matter in favour of the locust bean as a food is when used whole or as it comes from the ship there is no fear of adulteration. In buying the meal there would probably be a risk of this, and adulteration now means a great deal. It means that you are paying for what you do not get. It means that very often you are paying several times over what the article is worth, and, most of all, it means that you are paying for and being at the trouble of giving to your cattle stuff that is not of one atom of value, even as manure. It is most essential, then, to take every possible means of ascertaining the purity of all cakes and meals used. Home grown produce (ground at home) is a very safe preventive of fraud by adulteration.

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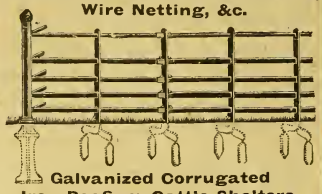
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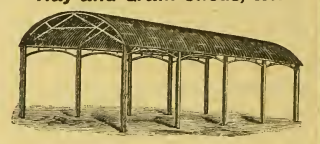
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A Record Price for a Sussex Bull.

Owing to the herd having outgrown its accommodation, Earl Winterton decided to dispose of a number of his well-known Sussex cattle, and the sale, which took place at Shillinglee Park, Petworth, Sussex, on the 10th inst., proved one of the most notable of recent years, for a new record price for a Sussex bull was set up, viz., 135 guineas, as compared with 110 guineas the previous best on record. The bull that realised 135 guineas was Shillinglee Gold 2nd, calved June 5, 1905, and all agreed that in purchasing him Mr. J. Buchanan, J.P., Lavington Park, got one of the best Sussex bulls seen for many a year. Mr. W. J. Hadgate, Horsham, paid 95 guineas for another very fine specimen—namely, Shillinglee Gold 5th, calved July 23, 1905; Lord Leconfield bought a bull calf for 50 guineas, at which figure Mr. C. J. Lucas, J.P., Warnham Court, secured Shillinglee Gold 3rd, whilst for one guinea less Sunlight 8th was knocked down to Mr. Wildman Cauley, J.P., West Grinstead. Other animals sold up to 38 guineas, and the total realised by the sale was £1,100 18s. 6d. for thirty-nine animals, or an average per head of over £28; the average for the seven bulls and one bull calf was the splendid one of 50 guineas.

Speaking at the luncheon prior to the sale, Lord Winterton mentioned that he had other cattle beside the Sussex, namely, Shorthorns, but he found that Sussex cattle, if turned out in the same fashion as Shorthorns, would "beat them into fits"; whilst Mr. Barker remarked that Sussex cattle are the only cattle that will enable a poor man to live in this poor country. They were to him what a pig was to an Irishman, they paid his rent, and he couldn't have lived without them.

Welsh Black Cattle.

With the object of improving the breed of Welsh black cattle, the Welsh Black Cattle Society propose to offer four challenge cups of 25 guineas value each for North and South Wales, open to farmers above £120 and those below, whilst Professor Winter will offer a 50 guineas challenge cup to be competed for by the winners of the smaller cups. These prizes are to be awarded to the breeders of the best herds of Welsh black cattle, the *bona fide* property of the competitors, and freeholders of not more than 200 acres would be eligible. The smaller cups may be won outright in three consecutive years, but the bigger cups are to remain each year for competition. Mr. Wynford Phillipps, M.P., Lord Harlech, and Mr. David Davies, M.P., have each promised a smaller cup, and there seems to be no difficulty about getting the money. A committee has been appointed to arrange details.

The Buscot Park Herds and Studs.

The following shipments have been made from Buscot Park recently:—The Shorthorn bull, Buscot Victor, champion bull at the recent Notts County Show, and the two young cows to Buenos Aerys. All these animals are by Wanderer's Prince, and the cows have calves, one by Missie's Crown and the other by Royal Pennant, both "Marr" bulls.

The following sales have also taken place:—Ten Hampshire Down ram lambs, and a three-year-old Shire stallion by Buscot Harold, for shipment to South America.

Mr. J. Aungier's Sussex Cattle.

A sale of a portion of Mr. J. Aungier's well-known herd of Sussex cattle drew a good company of breeders to the Home Farm, Lynwick, Rudgwick, on Thursday, and though prices did not rule so high as at Earl Winterton's sale, they were considered satisfactory. Lady Napier of Lynwick sold for 31 guineas to Mr. C J. G. Hulkes, and Mr. P. Saillard bought Music 8799 for 30 guineas, whilst many of the cows made well over 20 guineas. The catalogue also included sixty-eight fat Southdown sheep, which averaged out at 44s. 6d. per head, and fifty stores, which realised 42s. per head. Messrs. King and Chasemore were the auctioneers.

The "Mark Lane Express" is a SPLENDID MEDIUM for the Disposal of all kinds of Farm Seeds and Plants.

The Stroud Herd of Large Black Pigs.

Last week Mr. Townsend, The Manse, Stroud, despatched ten fine young boars between the age of six and ten months, per ss. *Highland Brigade*, to Buenos Aires. This is the second consignment from the Stroud herd, the previous lot giving great satisfaction to the consignee in South America.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
August				
21	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Feeding Sheep	Langholm	Various.
21	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Dunsmore, Rugby	Sir P. A. Muntz, Bart, M.P.
22	Messrs. R. Bond and Son, Ipswich	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich Fair	Various.
22	Messrs. Drawbridge & Ansell, Haywards Heath	Sussex Cattle	Maresfield Park, Uckfield	Count A. Munster.
22	Messrs. A. and D. Edwards, Leominster	Sheep	Hereford	Various.
22	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Elford Park, Tamworth	Mr. C. Coxon.
22, 23, & 24	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son	Feeding Sheep	Lockerbie	Various.
23	Messrs. Winch and Sons	Sussex Cattle	Cryalls, Brenchley, Kent	Mr. D'Arcy W. Reeve.
23	Messrs. R. Leonard and Son, and G. Tanton and Son, Hull	Hackney Horses	Ottringham Grange, near Hull	Mr. J. Clappison.
23	Messrs. Lythall and Walters	Shropshire Sheep	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	Various.
23	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons	Suffolk Sheep	Bentley Hall, near Ipswich	Mr. T. Keeble.
23	Messrs. Ganly, Sons, & Co., Dublin	Irish Store Cattle	Dublin	Various.
24	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Southdown Sheep and Berkshire Pigs	Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds	Mr. F. H. Jennings.
25	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son	Feeding Sheep	Carlisle	Various.
28	Messrs. Spurling and Hempson, Ipswich	Southdown Ewes	Ipswich Sale Yard	The late Mr. A. Hempson.
28	Messrs. Wyatt and Son	Southdown Sheep	Manor Farm Meadow, Selsey	Pagham Harbour Co.
28	Messrs. Walker and Sons, York	Hunters, &c.	York Horse Repository	Various.
29	Mr. J. Kidd, Penrith	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
30	Messrs. A. Mansell	Shropshire Sheep	Ruddington, Nottingham	The late Mr. P. L. Mills.
30	Messrs. King and Chasemore	Sussex Cattle and Southdown Sheep	Park Hatch, Godalming, Surrey	Mr. J. Godman.
30	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, Bicester	Oxford Down Sheep	Banbury Fair	Various.
30	Messrs. Jackson and McCarthney, Craven Arms, Shropshire	Sheep	Craven Arms, Shropshire	Various.
31	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Dexter Cattle & Berkshire Pigs	Wyndthorpe, Doncaster	Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd.
31	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Norton House, Shifnal	Mr. J. Harding.
September				
3	Messrs. J. Croal and Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh	Shetland Ponies	Royal Horse Bazaar, Edinburgh	Various.
4	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.	The Earl of Feversham.
4	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Loughcrew, Oldcastle, co. Meath	Mr. W. L. Naper.
4	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser & Co., Ltd., Perth	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Kinochtry, Perthshire	Mr. W. S. Ferguson.
5	———	Shearling Rams	Kirmington House, near Brocklesby	Mr. G. Marris.
5	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Agharvoe, Abbeyleix, Queen's Co.	Mr. R. F. H. White.
5	Messrs. A. and D. Edwards	Sheep	Hereford	Various.
5	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday	Oxford Down Ram Lambs	Hempton Green, Norfolk	Mr. G. Adams.
5	Messrs. Cotton and Chappell	Sheep	Bromsgrove	Various.
5	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Ltd.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Corston, Perthshire	Mr. Buttar.
5	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck, Peterboro'	Hackneys, &c.	Peterboro' Repository	Various.
5	Messrs. R. Leonard and Son	Hackneys and Cattle	Burstwick Stud Farm, near Hull	Mr. D. R. Sowerby.
5 & 6	Messrs. Lythall and Walters	Shorthorn Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	Various.
5 & 6	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Horses	North Wales Repos. Wrexh'm	Various.
6	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Perth	Various.
6	Messrs. Jackson and McCarthney	Sheep	Craven Arms, Shropshire	Various.
7	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Catthorpe Towers, Rugby	The late Mr. J. P. Cross.
7	Messrs. R. Bond and Son	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
7	Messrs. Nock and Joseland	Sheep and Lambs	Kidderminster	Various.
7	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
7	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Louth	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Lincoln	Various.
10	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Polo Ponies	Middlewood Hall, Barnsley	Members of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association
11	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrawardine, Shrewsbury	Mr. C. Howard Taylor.
11	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Derby Horse Repository	Mr. A. Tanner.
12	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
13 & 14	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrewsbury, Smithfield	Various.
13	Messrs. Hincks, Earl, and Lawrence, Sleaford	Lincoln Sheep	Sleaford	Various.
13, 14, & 15	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Crewe	Hackneys	Crewe Repository	Various.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Berkshire Pigs	Stratton, Dorchester	Various.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Churchill, Moy, co. Armagh	Mr. W. J. Chicks.
14	Messrs. Walker, Walter, and Benson	Horses	Melton Mowbray	Mr. H. J. Verner and Mr. J. Atkinson.
14	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Spalding	Various.
17	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, & Co., Ltd.	Clydesdale Horses	Perth Auction Mart	Mr. E. W. Gooch.
18	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Red Polled Cattle	Didlington, Brandon, Norfolk.	Various.
18	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Augus Cattle	Birtley, co. Durham	The Right Hon. Lord Amherst.
18	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackneys	Cheshire Repository, Crewe	The late Mr. Perkins.
19	Messrs. Paxton & Holiday	Oxford Down Sheep	Northampton Ram Fair	Various.
19	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
19	Mr. R. Brydon, Seaham Harbour	Horses and Ponies	Seaham Harbour	Various.
19	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Eshott, Northumberland	Seaham Harbour Stud Co.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Haughton Castle, Humshaugh, Northumberland.	Mr. Bainbridge.
20	Mr. J. Kidd	Breeding Sheep	Lazonby Auction Mart	Mr. W. D. Cruddas.
20	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Sheep, &c.	Woodhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.	Various.
21	———	Southdown Sheep	Lewes Fair	Mr. C. Calder.
21	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Oakfield, Mortimer, Berks	Various.
21	Messrs. Neasom and White, Bromsgrove	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	Alvechurch Shire Stud, near Birmingham	Mr. Tyser and Mr. Wills.
21	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Louth	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Louth Ram Fair	Mr. Clement Heynes.
				Various.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD ROTHSCHILD, Tring Park, Tring. Breeder of Shire Horses, Jersey, Red-polled and Shorthorn Cattle, and Hampshire Down Sheep.—For any further particulars, &c., please apply to Mr. RICHARDSON CARR, Estate Office, Tring.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

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MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

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MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

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CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

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CATTLE.

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COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

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HEREFORD BULL.—Prize bred; full pedigree; 18 months old; well developed and active; bred in South Wales; no further use.—W. WARBURTON, Dallam Farm, near Warrington, Lancs.

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ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

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For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
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Skidby Manor, near Hull.

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SHEEP.

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PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
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COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.)*.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

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FOR SALE.—Reasonable prices. Fine Black-faced SUFFOLK RAMS, from Lord Cranworth's Registered Prize Flock. Capital Cross for White-faced or Half-bred Ewes.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, Norfolk.

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GALALAW (late MELLENDEAN).—Border Leicesters. Through long and careful breeding have inherent the best qualities of the breed; style, symmetry, pure colours, and good wool. Sales in September at Edinburgh and Kelso Ram Sales, and by private treaty at any time.—Messrs. SMITH, Galalaw, Kelso, N.B.

PIGS.

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The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows, of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes, won at the **Royal, Highland, Bath and West,** and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U S A International Exposition, 1904.** breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and also **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

(Continued on next page).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs. bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate pric s. Inspecti n invited - A AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Ki gdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choo-e from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

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DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 86 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

A WEEK or two ago I was speaking of Coach horses and Hackneys being shown together, and the subject brought to my mind rather a curious showyard incident which happened in the long ago. A well-known exhibitor, who rarely shows nowadays, though he sometimes officiates as a judge, bought a big, useful Thoroughbred horse. He was rather long on his top, as Thoroughbreds sometimes are, especially big ones that have not had time to develop fully. The gentleman "did" the horse well after he bought him, and sometimes he thought him a hunter and sometimes he was inclined to think that the harness qualities predominated. At any rate, a big show was coming on, and he solved the difficulty by entering the horse in the class for three-year-old Hunter geldings, *and* the class for three-year-old Coaching geldings. The class for three-year-old Coaching geldings was first judged, and here the horse won. Now the owner thought as the horse was entered he might just as well have a run for his money in the Hunter class. So he made all the haste possible to get his tail tied up, and just got him ready in time to get him into the ring. And he won in the Hunting class as well, so the question as to whether he was a Hunter or a Coaching horse was as far off being satisfactorily answered as ever. But next spring the question was finally solved, for the horse won a steeplechase in good company, and he was, I should think, the only steeplechase horse that ever won a prize in a Coaching class within eight months of winning a good race between the flags. The incident will be well remembered by some of my readers, but for obvious reasons I do not mention names.

I WAS at the house of a well-known breeder of Hackneys the other day, and the conversation turned upon the small shows of Hackneys there had been in Yorkshire during the year. At Driffield, at Malton, at Bridlington, at the Yorkshire there has been a considerable shortage, and this is the more remarkable inasmuch as there was a great show at the Agricultural Hall in March, one which was quite up to the high standard of any previous year, both for numbers and quality. But at all the shows in Yorkshire which I have attended this year, and I have attended a good many, this want of numbers in the Hackney classes has been very marked. Even where there was an exception to the rule, which was very seldom, the classes did not come up to one's expectations. My host gave it as his opinion that the reason is that there are fewer Hackneys bred. He tells me that in his district there are nothing like the number bred that there were a few years ago, and that the small breeders who kept a mare or two have tired of breeding Hackneys, and have devoted their attention to Shire horse breeding, which they say is a surer game, and, in the long run, more remunerative.

A CURIOUS thing in connection with the Hackney is that in other counties, such as Lancashire and some of the Midland counties, the improvement in the Hackney classes has been most conspicuous. And at the Hackney Horse Society's Show in March it was pretty evident that there is no great falling off in breeding Hackneys in the aggregate. Personally I was of opinion that the way in which a few horses stood right out this year was the reason of so many badly-filled classes. It is sufficiently disheartening to show time after time and get beaten; showing expenses are heavy, and there is little encouragement to men to keep showing when they know that they cannot win. I still think, in spite of what my host had to say, that there is something in this, and I scarcely think it likely that Hackney breeding should increase by leaps and bounds in other counties whilst it is dropping out in the county which to a great extent is its native home.

STILL, the shortage at the recent Yorkshire Show takes a great deal of accounting for, for the drop is such a big one. True, Middlesbrough is a considerable distance from the East Riding, in which Hackney breeding has been chiefly carried on; but that of itself is not sufficient to account for a drop from ninety-seven entries at Hull to fifty-four at Middlesbrough. And the latter number is a serious decline from the average of the five preceding years, which was eighty-two. But when one looked through the catalogue carefully one could not help asking the question why so many well-known breeders failed to be represented. In vain did one turn over the pages in the hopes of finding horses that made a mark at Islington or at some of the big shows which took place earlier in the season. They cannot all be sold - but they did not come to the Yorkshire. For instance, look what a big class of brood mares there was at Lancaster a week previously. At Middlesbrough there were four, two of the six entries being absent! I think after all "the form" must have had something to do with the falling off, from which it is to be hoped that there will be a recovery next year.

A VERY satisfactory state of things at the Yorkshire was the excellent show of Cleveland Bays and especially of Cleveland Bay mares. There were only six in the class, but all of them have done something, and Mr. F. Bateman's Woodland Rose, who was the winner, is one of the most promising young mares that has been seen out during recent years. This of itself is satisfactory enough, but it is even more satisfactory in the interests of the breed that the winner should hail from a south country stud, and should be a south country bred one. She was bred by Mr. H. C. Stephens at Cholderton. And it is cheering to learn from Mr. Bateman that the Midland farmers are appreciating the Cleveland Bay and the Yorkshire Coach horse, and showing their appreciation in a practical manner. If a few farmers were to take to the breeds in the Midlands it would certainly be a great advantage to them, for the mares would be kept in the country. There are plenty of mares of both breeds to keep things going and to bring things back to what they were thirteen or fourteen years ago.

IN the meantime I would give breeders of Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach horses a hint, and that is that they should take the trouble to break their horses in to harness. A typical harness horse, a Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coach horse, never appears to such advantage as when shown in his leather, and I am quite sure that breeders would find themselves well repaid for the little trouble they would be put to. After the Yorkshire Show I went about amongst some breeders, and at one place I found four handsome mares that had been sold at a good price to go to the Argentine. These mares had all been broken to single and double harness, and were two as good match pairs as one need wish to find. They were such, too, as would not be difficult for a dealer to sell in England. But if dealers would make the most of their horses they must provide the finished article or something more nearly approaching it.

IN what people are in the habit of calling the palmy days of the Cleveland Bay and Yorkshire Coach horse, Yorkshire farmers were in the habit of buying from small breeders foals and yearlings to graze, and many others used to take to Northallerton Fair, which was the great market for Coach horses, strings of a dozen three-year-olds as like each other as peas in a pod, and not unfrequently the whole lot would be sold to one man. Messrs. Wimbush were great buyers, and other London dealers came down and scoured the markets. But three-year-old geldings are scarcely such a ready sale as they were in those days, and if breeders would make the most of their stock they must adopt their methods to the altered conditions of the times.

IF Hackneys are not bred in such numbers as they were, as the gentleman I have quoted would have us believe, at any rate Mr. Clappison has managed to get a nice lot of Hackneys together. It is only three years since he had his last sale at Ottringham Grange, and on Thursday next upwards of fifty high-class mares and geldings, with one or two exceptions, of the Hackney breed will be offered for sale. It is needless for me to point out to those who know Mr. Clappison that he gets a fine class of horses together, and that there is sure to be found at one of his sales typical Hackneys with good pedigrees. A great many of the mares which Mr. Clappison owns strain back to that good horse Lord Derby II., who made Holderness famous, and of whom Holderness men are justly proud. The combination of Denmark and Lord Derby II. blood, which is frequently found in the pedigrees in Mr. Clappison's catalogue, is especially valuable, and it is getting scarce now. Intending purchasers have an excellent choice of the best blood at Ottringham Grange. THE LOOKER-ON.

Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son, of Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, have recently sold for exportation twenty-two boars and gelts of the Large and Middle White breeds from their large herd.

VETERINARY PREPARATIONS, and Small Articles of a Portable Character, will readily when brought regularly before the readers o the "Mark Lane Express."

The Kinver Seed Farms.

The Kinver Seed Farms of Messrs. Edward Webb and Sons, of Wordsley, Stourbridge, to which we recently had the pleasure of paying a visit, looked at their best on that occasion. The season in that portion of the country evidently has not been so trying as in the eastern and south-eastern counties. It was at once apparent, from the crops at Kinver, that rain had been much more frequent; in some cases even the storms had been so heavy as to partially lay the corn crops. The farms in the occupation of Messrs. Webb and Sons aggregate total in extent nearly 1,500 acres.

Visitors who have the opportunity of inspecting the Kinver seed farms—and we believe we are right in saying that Messrs. Webb and Sons are always pleased to extend this courtesy to any agriculturists—cannot but be struck with the great expanse of land which is exclusively used for the production of stock seed and for the purpose of raising and improving varieties by cross fertilisation and selection.

The farms, lying as they do on the Red Sandstone, afford exceptional facilities for these operations; the land, it should be borne in mind, is by no means rich, and it has to be well farmed to give anything like fair results. The advantage of testing seeds on soil that is only of an average or even below the average is that no fictitious results are obtained, and when the seed is sown under normal farming conditions it will give results equal to if not better than the expectations of the purchaser.

Another feature of the Kinver Seed Farms is the large extent to which trials are carried on, the varieties already on the market for which Messrs. Webb and Sons are responsible are grown alongside other strains, and their merits and demerits noted.

In connection with these trials there are at Kinver to-day almost innumerable plots of different cereals, vegetables, flowers, potatoes, and other crops growing side by side, the object being to determine the best of its class. For instance, the trials include:—

	Trials.		Trials.
Wheat	58	Cauliflower and Broccoli	63
Barley	49	Carrot	30
Oats	96	Swedes & Turnips	133
Peas	166	Mangold	44
Beans	92	Lettuce	40
Cabbage	42		
Onions	81		

The wheats this year at Kinver looked remarkably well; not only were they full in the ear and gave promise of giving an excellent yield, but what is more important nowadays, there was a good length of straw. Although heavy thunderstorms had been prevalent, practically none of it had gone down, and this feature of the cereals at Kinver is one upon which too much stress cannot be laid.

The barley fields looked as well as ever we remember seeing them, and it is now some years since we first had the pleasure of visiting Kinver Edge. Webb's Kinver Chevalier promised an excellent crop; this barley, which was obtained from repeated selections, bids fair to maintain its high reputation for malting purposes. Points in which it excels is the large yield from thin seeding and for excellence of the grain, which is thin-skinned, bright, plump, and heavy. This variety, it may be remembered, beat all comers at the Brewers' Exhibition last year in competition for the world's champion prize. Another barley which is a great favourite on account of its earliness is Webb's Burton Malting. This variety looked exceedingly promising standing on good stiff straw.

Oats promise a heavy yield, conspicuous among the varieties at Kinver being Webb's Newmarket White Oat, which was obviously an enormous cropper. Webb's Black Tartarian fully maintains its popularity for yield and length of straw, while Stable King stood up well against the heavy rainstorms.

The section devoted to potatoes was interesting, for here no fewer than eighty different varieties were on trial, many of them being seedlings of considerable promise. We fear, however, that the late potato boom has rather made the public shy in this respect, and it will take some years for them to come into the market as purchasers of new varieties of potatoes.

Turning to garden seeds, there were several novelties which are likely to become popular in the near future. For instance, there was a new scarlet runner bean, averaging 7 in. long by 1 in. wide, while a new broad bean, which will shortly be put on the market, was an abnormal yielder of good flavour. There were also two new peas—Senator and Stourbridge Marrow—which looked full of promise; while a new tomato, which will be on sale next year, appeared to justify its claim of being a prolific yielder. Then the garden section also included 152 varieties of annuals, many of which were in bloom in the flower seed trial grounds. Particularly noticeable among this lot were a very fine lot of stocks.

We are indebted to Mr. Edward Webb and Mr. Harcourt Webb for the admirable manner in which a rapid survey of the farms was arranged, so that no time was lost in viewing the salient features. A run through the Kinver Seed Farms served to impress upon the minds of thinking men the necessity of getting good seed to start with. It seems a pity that so little importance is attached to this, as by growing from improved sorts bigger and better results can be obtained.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," *3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

Rabbits and Rooks.

SIR,—I beg to ask for advice from your Barrister-at-Law if it is legal for me to shoot any poultry that comes on my land after I give the owner a caution? And also if it is legal for me or my son to shoot rabbits and rooks on my farm without a licence?

SUBSCRIBER FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS.

[It is not lawful for you to shoot rabbits or rooks without having a licence for that purpose, and I should not advise you to attempt to do it. The exception is in favour of an occupier of any lands using or carrying a gun for the purpose of scaring birds or killing vermin on such lands, or any person using or carrying a gun for the purpose only of scaring birds or killing vermin on any lands by order of the occupier thereof who shal have in force a licence or certificate to kill game or a licence under the Act. Rabbits, however, are not vermin, hence the necessity of a licence.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

To any who are in any way dissatisfied with the cartridge they at present use, we would advise a trial of "Exceltor," which for cheapness and quality is held by many to be unsurpassed. It is manufactured by Messrs. Cogswell and Harrison, Ltd., 141, New Bond Street, and 226, Strand, London, W.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

KEEP YOUR PIGS SO THAT THEY WILL KEEP YOU.—And undoubtedly the best way to do this is to mix with the food for each Pig one of WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS once or twice a week according to age. The result will astonish you. Sold in packets—7 powders, 6d., post free, 7d.; 16, 1s., post free, 1s. 2d.; boxes—48 powders, 2s 9d., post free, 3s.; 144, 8s., post free, 8s.—Sole Proprietors, STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough

VESICO SUDORIFIC is the most famous remedy in the world for curing Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, Curb, Windgall, Tumours, Strained Sinews, and Strengthening Legs of Horses without blemish or needing rest. Price 2s. 6d. to 5s., of chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

PALATINE CAKES AND MEALS are maintained to a high standard. Good results made certain.—THE PALATINE OIL MILL, Liverpool.

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Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 5d.; 3 ft., 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 1d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 8d.; 3 ft., 7s 9d.; 4 ft., 10s. 3d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft., 9s 5d.; 3 ft., 13s. 5d.; 4 ft 17s. 10d.

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Iron and Steel Hurdles Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s per cwt; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt.; galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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WIRE NETTING.—Cash prices per 50 yards, carriage paid on 70s. lots. 3 in. mesh 36 in wide 5s. 10d.; 2 in. 7s. 4d.; 1½, 8s. 10d.; 1, 12s. 10d. State wants, Fox & Co., Rochford, Essex, Sheep netting.

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Mark Lane Express

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Root Competitions. NOW that agricultural shows for the season are mostly over, attention is again being turned in the direction of the exhibitions of roots, corn, &c., which take place later in the year. Root and grain societies have been in existence in various parts of the country for many years, and doubtless they have done good in encouraging better cultivation of root crops on farms; but it is an open question whether the roots one sees at autumn shows are of the best type for general use on the farm. There is, in fact, a weakness on the part of many judges to go for size, but from a feeding point of view the medium size mangold or swede is better than a gigantic monstrosity, the like of which one often sees at shows. It would be interesting also to know the cost of the cultivation of some of the gigantic roots one sees at shows. We grudge nothing that is spent in actual tilth, but the amount of nitrate of soda and other costly fertilisers which some show roots get is quite out of proportion to their value, and, if extended to the whole acreage, hopeless loss would be the inevitable result.

Chemical Fertilisers. WE learn with some regret that there is a prospect of chemical fertilisers being dearer next season, and the pity of it is that there is no scarcity of the products used for manurial purposes; but the demand is so great that the means at hand in the way of labour are not sufficient to keep pace with the supply. What a tale the above facts unfold if one cares to ruminate over them! It does not seem so very many years since a few enterprising farmers, who were looked upon at the time as cranks, set out to use chemical manure, while the champions of the dung cart looked on in wonder, and made all kinds of sarcastic remarks about that "patent muck" which they would have none of. But the "patent muck" had come to stay, and where would farmers be now without it? Every year the outlay of money in the purchase of slag, super, nitrate, &c., is looked upon as a matter of course, and the result is that the resources of those employed in the chemical manure trade are severely taxed. Naturally farmers will not welcome the idea of having to pay more for their fertilisers, but have them now they must and will.

The Foreign Onion Trade. IT is no uncommon sight in southern and western counties at this time of the year to see men attired in blue jerseys and peaked caps marching about with wreaths of onions suspended from staffs across their shoulders. You have no need to look twice at the men to know that they are not English, and, as a matter of fact, they are Breton peasants who cross the channel every season and hawk their onions from door to door. Having just considered this point, now turn to the Board of Trade returns and note the amount of money we pay away every month for onions. If it were a case of oranges or bananas there would be no need to say a word, but onions will grow in Britain just as well as they will in Brittany at any rate. Just now, when there is such an outcry for the establishment of small holdings, one might safely urge onions as a crop that could be taken up. We do not know what Breton peasants pay for land, but if they can afford to grow onions, ship them across channel, pay their own expenses, and hawk them about this country, surely there is a chance for the small holder at home.

Harvest Bugs. ALMOST every man you meet just now does not stand in conversation long before he commences to rub some part of his body, and, by way of an excuse for the operation, he informs you that he is suffering from "harvest bugs," "heat bumps," or some other local name that is applied to the cause of the irritation. You can sympathise with the sufferer, because ten to one you are suffering from the same complaint, which has been a real epidemic of late. No, they are not microbes which cause the trouble, neither is it fair to call them "bugs," because an enterprising authority has published the information that they are really mites, so diminutive that six of them together only make a dot smaller than a pin's head. By all good rights these mites should confine themselves to plants, but, as most people can testify from experience, they show a misdirected willingness to transfer themselves from plants to the human body. Rubbing and scratching are not much good, but the best remedies are said to be a little benzine or carbonate of ammonia applied to the spot, as these applications destroy the mite and the trouble ceases.

Kentish Lamb Sales. ON the high road from London to Folkestone, and part way between Ashford and the fashionable watering-place mentioned, there stands a wayside hostelry. In the old days it might have been a stopping place for stage coaches, and, perhaps, at one time Excise officers baited their horses there when in quest of the notorious smugglers who defied the authorities and carried on their nefarious traffic in the district. The place is called Newingreen, and if it is noted for one thing, it is the lamb sales that are held there at the fall of the summer. The spot is certainly a suitable one, for it is right on the main road; on one side a railway station is not far distant, and over the brow of the hill on the other that famous sheep grazing district known as the Romney Marsh stretches itself away for miles. In the neighbourhood of Newingreen on a sale day one can hear little but the bleating of sheep, and the motor cars which rush past on their way to Folkestone have to slow down whether they like it or not. Nine thousand head were disposed of at a recent sale, and this will give some idea of the magnitude of the trade done in lambs at this one quiet country spot.

Selecting Seed Potatoes. COMMENTS are general just now about the failure of many patches of early potatoes this season to grow satisfactorily and produce a crop. Even varieties which are recognised as being the very best have failed lamentably in places, and it would seem as if more care will have to be taken in the selection of seed tubers. So prevalent is the "leaf curl" disease (which is the cause of most of the trouble becoming), that it seems almost useless to save seed potatoes from hot, light, and dry soils, as these conditions are most favourable to the evil referred to. The old idea that anything will do for seed is exploded, and the common habit of leaving seed potatoes on the ground to get green and hardened in the sun has nothing to recommend it. The fact that Scotch seed potatoes do so well on English soil is probably due, not so much to any conditions of soil and climate, but to the fact that the tubers are lifted before they are fully ripe, and the opinion of experts is that if properly selected and stored immature seed gives better results than tubers which are left to ripen in the ground or harden in the sunshine. The other day we saw a man digging early potatoes and the crop was practically a failure through the curl disease. While deploring the fact that he would have no tubers to sell the man expressed some gratification at getting a nice lot of tubers for seed, and the idea never seemed to strike him that the progeny of his miserable plants might also fail in a similar manner.

Then and Now. THE other day we chanced to speak to a wrinkled, cotton-bonnetted old dame who was leaning over a gate watching a smart, brand-new reaper and binder rattling its way round a wheat-field, cutting and binding the corn and laying the sheaves in a long, straight

All Advertisements ordered for the "Mark Lane Express" appear simultaneously in the THIN paper COLONIAL and FOREIGN EDITION, for circulation abroad, WITHOUT EXTRA COST to the Advertiser.

row. "Lors, a mercy, wot one does live to see," said the old lady; "I be seventy-nine, and I was just 'a-thinkin' o' the times as my old man—he's dead now—has swung a sickle in that field, and I used to glean enough in th' season to nearly keep me in bread for th' winter. Bless you, these 'uns don't know wot work is. Many and many's the time as I've got up at four in th' morning, straightened my house up, washed and dressed th' children, took th' baby to a woman as used to mind it for me for a shillin' a week, gone and done a day's work in th' fields, and then come home and done my washin'. Bless you, we did work in those days, and most of the stuff we had to eat come from th' vegetables we growed in th' garden and th' pig in th' stye. Fresh meat didn't come my way very often I can tell you; but there, I'm seventy-nine, and can work as hard as some of 'em yet."

Just then a big motor car rushed by, and as she rubbed the dust from her eyes the old woman exclaimed: "Drat them things, if we worked hard in th' old days we could go about wi'out fear o' bein' suffocated and run over at every turn."

Co-operative Egg Sales. An account appeared in these pages recently of the transactions of the Framlingham Agricultural Co-operative Society, which makes a speciality of the egg trade, and during a period of six months the members benefited to the tune of £300 to £400, this being the difference between the prices formerly paid by dealers and those given by the society. Probably most of our readers read the account referred to, and we merely call attention to it here by way of emphasising that the fact that co operation is no mere empty phrase. It is true that some people are inclined to make co operation a hobby horse and ride it to death, but there are many ways in which, if properly applied, co-operation can be made a means of putting money into farmers' pockets, and the above illustration provides an instance.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Mr. John Burns and his Rural Mentor.

Perhaps, naught has been more remarkable in modern politics than the practical sympathy which Mr. John Burns, the President of the Local Government Board, has exhibited with the wiser necessities of rural areas, and his refusal to be led away by mere unenlightened emotionalism. I mean that probably naught has been more remarkable to those of us who have not comprehended every facet of this many-sided statesman. And yet, in a conversation which I had with the right hon. gentleman, I caught methinks a glimpse of the genesis of this very sane intention! "When," said he—Mr. Burns was in a reminiscent mood—"I was eighteen or nineteen, I was sent to Rochford, in Essex, in connection with the fixing of a set of Rankin's engines, in some mills there. I went to lodge at the house of a labourer, who revealed himself to be one of the most original and natively-informed men I had met in my life. In the clearness of his observation, in the wisdom of his outlook, in his shrewd comments on economic conditions he greatly impressed me. I often got up an hour earlier in the morning in order to walk with him to his work and stay by his side whilst he did it; at night I would sit along with him as he fished by the dam. He was a kind of corduroyed Richard Jeffreys; his conversation was both a tonic and a corrective. It, perhaps, induced me to inquire whether certain of the assumptions I had in my youthful exuberance adopted might not well undergo revision. The memory of that man and his natural astuteness and quiet comprehension of actualities are with me to-day. I shall never forget him and his teaching. Perhaps the man and his lesson have been a greater unconscious influence than even I conceive." There was a softer note in Mr. Burns's voice as he paid his tribute to this unintending Mentor of his; the eye, too, became humid ere the tide of generous memory ceased to flow.

An Indictment and a Justification.

The report of the Butter Committee should have the effect of making renewed legislation imperative. It should give such an impetus to the demand for this stronger legislation that the barriers suggested by sordid selfishness or crude folly must inevitably be brushed aside. It is at once an indictment of dishonesty and an appeal for commercial and industrial sincerity. I must confess that I did not originally think the inquiry was necessary. The practical character which Earl Carrington and Sir E. Strachey associated with it, and the full-natured character of the recommendations are, however, not merely a justification for the investigation, but in themselves constitute a plea for action such as the isolated revelations and disconnected facts, of which we formerly were in possession, did not provide. The enlargement of the power of the inspectors to enter factories; the insistence upon the registration of all premises where butter is blended, or re-worked, or blended by any process; the prohibition in a registered factory of any adulterant of butter; the prohibition of the artificial increase of the percentage of moisture in butter; the insistence that "skim-milk shall not masquerade as cream" (in other words, that margarine shall be advertised as "margarine" both on outside and inside wrappers, and the prohibition of fancy names to disguise its natural character); the minimisation of the quantity of moisture in margarine or any other substitute for butter or aught sold under the name of "butter" to sixteen per cent.; the declaration that all margarine factories shall be registered as such; the retention of the right to approve of any name of any substance containing butter fat, but having a limit of 24 per cent. of moisture; and the indication of a desire to secure an international agreement with a view to the general prevention of adulteration — well, these suggestions might well form the basis of a measure (true, there are many of them to be found in principle, in the Butter Bill, we know) which would, I dare aver, be at once operative and effective. The delay in securing the Bill has thus been an instrument in obtaining a more effective measure than has even yet been discussed.

Stimulating a Popular Sentiment.

What we must not forget is that the public conscience has not been aroused on this question. You see, you cannot wax flamboyant and turgid and rhetorically vivid over so general a matter as the adulteration of the people's food. That only belongs to unemotional problems affecting the public health. When, however, the public is fully introduced, to adapt the description of one of the democratic journals, to "the cotton-seed cow," when it comprehends that its faked butter is often a compound of cotton-seed oil and extraneous fats, when it permits its intelligence to grasp the fact that there is a process of sedulous instruction going on, whose purpose is to teach occupiers of factories how to adulterate their butter from fat not derived from milk (in other words, to almost produce milk-less butter), when it perceives that the ingenuity of many clever minds are deliberately devoted to producing compounds (some probably noxious and others noisome) which, in their likeness to pure butter, actually defy the analyst—well, when the public perceives all this, this public may for a moment withhold from knocking its sublime head against the stars in order to direct its attention to matters affecting itself upon the earth on which its feet are planted.

The Opportunity of Ministers.

Let this public—whose temper is the motive-power of legislation — comprehend that one adulterant-manufacturer promised a Wiltshire dairyman that he could make £5,000 by using their product, whilst in another instance a profit of £20,000 a year is being made. Let the public be educated up to the fact that all the resourcefulness of particularly ingenious minds is being utilised for the purpose of deceiving it and exploiting it: let that public perceive that it is itself which is being victimised, that it is its own health which may be menaced by these skilfully-devised and craftily-advertised compounds—well, this public will then find its articulate voice, and will probably associate with that articulate voice a pummelling fist. Is it too much to hope that a strengthened Butter Bill may be passed this autumn session? Earl Carrington and Sir E. Strachey are both men possessed by a fine zeal. They have, in their first legislative and administrative canter, shown this so effectively, and, I will add, valorously, that they must have a little modified the suspicion with which the farming interest have undeniably regarded the Liberal party. Here is a new opportunity for their practical intent. A public sentiment must be aroused by these new revelations and suggestions.

A little flame is quickly trodden out;
Which, being suffer'd, rivers cannot quench.

Should there be supineness now, that sentiment may die from inanition.

Why not a Round Table Conference?

One need not enter into the details of the disputation which has re-arisen in connection with the question of railway charges on the carriage of fruit. One, too, need not profess to be a partisan of either Mr. Pratt or Mr. Hooper. The mere fact, however, that the discussion has taken place is to me, *primâ facie*, an evidence that the recent report on the subject was too favourable to the railways. Perhaps, in our resentment not so much of actual incidents of the present as of the memories of older charges, we had at times permitted ourselves too vehement a denunciatory enthusiasm, and, perhaps, had become too sweeping and arrogant in our assertions. All the same, however, it would be impossible to have these assertions voiced in the manner that they have been this week without some basis for the publicity. Might I make a suggestion with a view to the amicable evolution of a scale of rates acceptable to both interests. The railway companies may assert that they are quite competent to manage their own affairs without the invocation of external interference. Agreed; but the railway companies must also remember that they are in a measure acting under the authority of the nation. They have to receive the national approval to their schemes. They, therefore, owe some consideration to the community. Why not meet a few representatives of the fruit-producing, vegetable-producing, and general farming class. Let Mr. Hooper himself represent the first class, let a man of the distinction of Mr. Dennis (whose position in Lincolnshire has almost in this respect a national significance) represent the second class, and let a man like Mr. Stratton or Professor James Long, or Colonel Long, M.P., or Mr. R. L. Everett, M.P., or Mr. John Spear, ex-M.P., represent the third class. A mutual conference should do infinitely more good than miles of epistolary recrimination or the enunciation and rebuking of tons of accusations. The revival of this discussion is another evidence of how infinitely important to the interest it is that the new Railway Commissioner should be a man in touch with rural necessities and rural methods.

Bakewell August Fair, held last week, was not so largely supplied as was expected. There was a fair supply of good milch and in-calf cows, which sold readily at prices up to £22; secondary and inferior qualities from £15 to £17; barren and lying-off cows from £10 to £14; superior in-calf heifers from £14 to £17 10s.; stirks and steers, £7 to £11; yearling calves and young rough grazing stock ranged from £5 to £7 10s. The horse fair was limited. A few useful animals of the hack description and a number of young Welsh ponies attracted most attention, and realised fairly good prices for the time of year.

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BOURNEMOUTH HORSE SHOW.
A GENERAL VIEW OF THE GROUND.

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

Bournemouth Horse.

The horse show held under the auspices of the Bournemouth Corporation in Meyrick Park, on Tuesday and Wednesday, proved a most successful affair, both as a show of horses and an attraction for visitors to the town. Over 500 entries were received, and the competition in the open classes was very keen, for not only were horses entered from all parts of the British Isles, but there were also prize winners from Continental and New York shows. The Hunters entered included winners at London and the Royal Agricultural, Peterborough, Northampton, and other shows. The tandems and pairs, always an attractive feature, brought cup winners from the principal shows of the country, and formed a capital collection. In the Shire and Agricultural classes there was a most creditable exhibition. In this department especially Hants and Dorset were well represented, but in the show as a whole the home and neighbouring counties figured well.

On the first day sixteen classes were judged, of which seven were open ones. The first was for Shire mares or geldings, any age or height, in which only two prizes were offered, but so good was the class that the judges recommended a third and a fourth, and expressed the opinion that the class was one of the best in the show. Mr. Max Michaelis's brown mare Pailton Sorais, first at the Royal Counties Show at Portsmouth, and second at the Royal Show at Derby, was placed at the head of the class, next coming Mr. Henry Oakley's brown mare Finstall Countess, which later was awarded the Shire Horse Society's medal for the best mare, filly, or filly foal, Mr. Isaac Wren's bay gelding Captain, and Mr. J. G. Wright's Horne's Surprise, a bay gelding. The next open class was for the best hack, mare, or gelding, any age, over 14 hands and not exceeding 15-2, and here Mr. G. Ford Tilley, Bridgwater, secured first prize, with Mr. Baker, Horsham, second, and Messrs. Yeo Brothers, Stonehouse, Devon, third. Then followed a single harness mare or gelding class, in which the entries were not numerous, but quality was first rate. The first prize went to Mr. Howard Frank's brown mare Tissington Kit Cat, who undoubtedly deserved the position, whilst the second winner was Jersey Lily, belonging to Mrs. Goad, Mrs. Butcher's animal taking third. Tissington Kit Cat was also given the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for the best Hunter mare or gelding. Riding and jumping competitions followed, and proved attractive, as did also the open class for Hunter mares or geldings up to 13 stone and under, any age, to be driven, for there was a keen fight for the prizes between the entries of such well-known breeders as Mr. John Drage, Mr. J. H. Stokes and Mr. H. M. Mackusick. Eventually the judges placed them in the order named. There were only four entries in the class for Open Pairs, but it proved to be one of the finest double harness competitions seen this year. Mrs. Hartley Batt once more won with Hopwood Horace and Hopwood Spark, Messrs. Carr and Co.'s Heathfield Squire and Clyde Vale Squire making a very good second. The local classes of the first day and also of the second were well supported with animals of the right stamp and a credit to their exhibitors.

The classes on the second day of the show were chiefly for Harness horses, and these, with the jumping competitions, to say nothing of the tent-pegging, proved attractive to the company present. In the driving events for the best tandem, any height, Mrs. Hartley Batt, London, obtained the principal prize, Messrs. Carr and Co., Carluke, Scotland, being second, whilst for the best single harness mare or gelding, 14.2 hands or over, Mr. Gerard Jurgens, North Cray, secured first prize, Messrs. Carr and Co. again being second. In the riding competitions, for the best Hunter, mare or gelding, capable of carrying over 13 st., Mr. J. H. Stokes, Market Harborough, was awarded premier honours, and Mr. H. M. Mackusick, Nutfield, Surrey, was second, whilst in the jumping competition for best mare or gelding, any age or height, there was a very close fight, and the two prizes were ultimately divided between Messrs. Glencross and Messrs. Singer, Frome, Somerset.

The following were the winners of special awards not mentioned above:—A silver cup given by Miss Birch for the best mare or gelding: Mr. O. T. Price (Lyndhurst Paula); reserve, Mr. F. Blosset Maule (Nimble Ninepence). The Hackney Horse Society's gold medal for the best mare or gelding exhibited in single harness: Mr. Jurgens (Glenburn Lass); reserve, Mr. Howard Frank (Tissington Kit Cat). The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best Hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal: Mr. O. T. Price (Lyndhurst Paula). The silver challenge cup, offered by Mr. H. King for the best mare or gelding (14 hands or over) in the show: Messrs. Carr and Co. (Heathfield Squire); reserve, Mr. Jurgens (Glenburn Lass).

East Berks Horse.

The attendance at the tenth annual show of the East Berks Society, which was held on Thursday, as usual, on Hawthorn Hill Racecourse, was not up to the average, although the entry in all the sections, but more especially that which was apportioned to Hunters, was exceedingly good, whilst the weather was beautifully fine. The feature of the show was undoubtedly the splendid show of Hunters, both brood mares, colts, geldings, and fillies, and Shire horses. The judges expressed the opinion that the former were the finest lot they had ever seen at an East Berks Show; in fact many considered that better brood mares had never been seen outside of Dublin. The judges also spoke very highly of the Shires, those entered this year being far in advance of any previously shown at Hawthorn Hill. The produce classes were the first of the Hunters to be paraded, and Mr. Ernest W. Robinson won the first and second prizes offered in the classes for colt foals with stock by Collar and Riverstown, but the winners of the premiums which were offered for Hunter fillies went to the foals shown by Mr. F. G. Colman and Mr. J. A. Mullens; the champion cup was awarded to the winning colt. The two classes were especially well filled. The gold medal of the Hunters Improvement Society and the first prize for the best brood mare with a foal at foot went to Mr. Ernest W. Robinson's bloodlike Golden, the same owner's Golden Leaf being second; and the best of the yearling Hunters was Mr. J. L. Nicklsson's Ensign, a gelding by Yard Arm. The winning two-year-old, Footlight, a gelding by Pantomime, was from the same stud, and the best of a small class of three-year-olds was Mr. J. A. Mullens' Paleface. Then followed the light and heavy weight classes, and the winning exhibits were Mr. J. H. Stokes's Wrangler and Whiskey.

The Hackneys were not so large a group, but the classes were full of quality, the best of the stallions being Mr. R. A. de Mancha's Ve precocity, while Mr. Burnell Tubbs' Nunnery, a daughter of Polonius, was the pick of the mares, she being awarded the Hackney Horse Society's medal. The best of the hacks, which were not a numerous lot, were Mrs. W. C. N. Chapman's Miss Trix, a powerful chestnut, and Mr. F. V. Cooch's Maritana. A new class for the best private pair-horse carriage, with servants in livery, for which a challenge cup, value 30 guineas, was presented by Miss Langworthy, only drew two entries, and it is hoped that another year the competition will be keener.

The silver challenge cup for single Harness horses was won by Mr. Gerard Jurgens, North Cray, Kent, with his brown gelding Radiant, which also secured first prize in the open driving competition. Mr. Walter Winans, of Surrenden Park, Ashford, Kent, took premier award for the best pair of horses driven in double harness. In the open jumping classes the chief awards were taken by Mr. Benjamin Robins, Lynsters, Rickmansworth, with Tim and Sterling, two capital performers.

The Shire horses made an especially good group, the leaders in the produce classes being the exhibits of Mr. J. L. Harrison and Messrs. W. C. and A. J. Flower, the first named winning the champion cup, while among the winning exhibitors in the open classes were Mr. R. W. Hudson, Messrs. Headington Brothers, Mr. Louis Deane, the Hon F. W. D. Smith, Sir W. J. Farrer, and Mr. Max Michaelis. Mr. Hudson secured the first and second prizes in the open class for Shire mare and foal, the first prize in Shire stallions, and the silver medal presented by the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire stallion in the show.

Bredon's Norton.

At Bredon's Norton, in Gloucestershire, a small colony of ladies, of whom Miss Edith Bradley (formerly of Lady Warwick's College at Studley) is the leading spirit, have embarked on a scheme of co-operative gardening, etc., and with a view of extending their work they decided to hold a show, which took place on Tuesday, and proved highly successful for an initial event. The show was held in Norton Park, the home of Mrs. Biddulph Martin and her daughter, Miss Woodhull, who has given great assistance to Miss Bradley's schemes. Broadly, the exhibits were of excellent quality. The vegetables were exceptionally strong, those in the cottagers' class being noteworthy; while of the market gardeners a few samples of Victoria plums attracted considerable attention, and in the amateur section cooking apples were prominent. An excellent collection of vegetables was displayed by Miss Crooke, F.R.H.S., Principal of the School of Gardening at the village. Demonstrations of bee driving, milk bottling, butter-making, and fruit trussing were given during the afternoon, and later in the evening dancing, sports, and rifle shooting were indulged in.

A luncheon preceded the opening of the show, at which, in the course of a speech, Miss Bradley suggested the formation of an agricultural guild for Bredon's Norton and district, that not only should they have a show every summer, but that they should try to wake up the villages in the winter by lectures and other entertainments of a bright and varied nature, always keeping co-operation to the front.

Cleveland.

The entries received by the Cleveland Agricultural Society for their show at Redcar Racecourse on Friday were not so numerous as last year by about seventy, but nevertheless the show was a highly creditable one, and with fine weather and a large attendance was an all-round success. Horses, always the feature of the show, were forty-eight less than last year, but they were quite an average lot and up to the good standard of previous years — in fact, agricultural horses were

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amongst the best ever seen here. Hunters were of representative quality, but naturally the strongest classes in the horse section as regards quality were the Cleveland Bays, although only fifteen entries were received. The best brood mare proved to be Mr. G. Grandage's Woodland Briar, which was placed in front of Mr. Wilson Horsfall's Lady Salton. The quality of both these magnificent quadrupeds may be judged by one fact—viz., that Woodland Briar beat at the Royal show the mare which outshone Lady Salton at the Yorkshire. The winning animal also carried off the Cleveland Bay Society's medal. Mr. Grandage's colt foal, Woodland Comet, which comes of the same stock, was at the top of its class. Cattle were not numerous but of nice quality, especially in the non-pedigree classes, whilst sheep and pigs made creditable displays.

Scalby and Newby.

The Scalby and Newby Agricultural Society will have occasion to remember their twenty-first annual show, for instead of the brilliance and rejoicings usually associated with the "coming of age" they had most depressing conditions. This was due to the weather, which was of a most disagreeable nature, a heavy thunderstorm being experienced just as the showyard opened, and rain fell practically the whole of the time the show was on. This was all the more unfortunate when it is remembered that last year rain spoilt the show, and caused a loss of £100. In consequence of this loss the committee were obliged to cut down this year's prize fund, and they accordingly struck out the Yeomanry class, five classes of young horses, and three classes of cattle, all of which had attracted little interest, but they wisely made no reduction in the prize-money allotted to those remaining in the schedule. There was, of course, a decrease in the total entry, but an increase in the average entry. The best classes were the horses; Hunters and Hackneys were of great merit, and included several well-known prize-takers. Agricultural horses were a capital lot, especially the turn-out of two-year-olds; whilst coach horses were fairly good, and sheep a splendid lot; but the cattle section was, as usual, a weak one.

Wensleydale.

The Wensleydale Agricultural Society's annual show, held on the 18th inst., was favoured with fine weather, an attendance above the average, and a good entry—516. There was a marked increase in the cattle classes, but there was a falling off in horses from 152 to 128, whilst the show of sheep was about the same as last year. Shorthorns made a good display, there being some particularly fine animals forward, and the same might be said of the agricultural horses. Hunters were a fair lot, whilst Wensleydale sheep were naturally out in great force. Some pigs and dogs were also shown.

Barnsley.

The Barnsley Agricultural Society were fortunate enough to be favoured with brilliant weather for their show on Tuesday, and the show must have proved a financial success, for the showyard was crowded all day. The show too was a satisfactory one, for although horses (138) were not quite so numerous as last year when the total was 159, cattle were nearly double the number of 1905, and sheep were about the same. Quality all round was quite up to the average. The committee arranged the schedule so as to encourage local exhibitors at the cost of rivals from a distance. Thus only two of the classes in the cattle section were what is known as open. They were the two for the best Shorthorn bull and cow or heifer. In the first the contest rested between the bulls of Mr. T. Atkinson and Mr. J. Haslam, both well-known in the showyard. They had met several times before at much larger exhibitions. Both hail from the neighbourhood of Bury, and sometimes one has been placed first, and at others its rival; but on this occasion the judges gave their award in favour of Mr. Haslam's animal, which looked certainly in the pink of condition. Besides taking the second prize, however, Mr. Atkinson carried off both honours with his Shorthorn cows, which did so well at the Royal and at the Yorkshire. There was some stiff competition in the dairy classes among the local tenant farmers. The sheep section was open to the county, and were a moderate lot. Horses were the features of the show, and both heavy and light animals showed to great advantage.

North Lonsdale.

The North Lonsdale Agricultural Society have of late years been in the unfortunate position of seeing the entries for their show at Ulverston decrease each year, and the tide has not yet turned, for, with the exception of the dogs, which were double the number of 1905, the entries at Tuesday's show were fewer in each section than last year. The reason for this shrinkage is hard to find, but the society certainly need to give the matter their closest attention, for such an old-established society should be in a better position than this. As regards quality, the best sections were those for cattle, sheep, and heavy horses. Light horses were very disappointing. This is the more remarkable when it is remembered that entries for the cattle, sheep, and heavy horse section are accepted only from exhibitors residing in the hundred of Lonsdale north of the sands, whilst the light horse sections were open to the United Kingdom. The farmers of the district devote themselves more particularly to cattle and Shire horses, and in both sections they have valuable help in breeding from one or two well-known studs in the district, such as that of Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., at Holker Hall.

Chester-le-Street.

The Chester-le-Street and District Farmers' Club are fortunate in having Lord Durham as one of their chief patrons, for he places a portion of Lambton Park at their disposal for their annual show, and the picturesque showyard and its associations naturally attract a large number of visitors. Wednesday's show proved no exception to the rule, and, the weather being beautifully fine, the attendance was a big one. The society's aims originally were confined to the breeding of horses. They still make this a feature of their work, but they have of late years taken in all branches of agriculture, and the exhibition, besides providing a pleasant outing, is now one of general merit and excellence. In addition to the well-filled entries of draught and field horses, there were creditable collections of cattle, sheep, poultry, dogs, and produce, while horse-shoeing competitions, sheep-dog trials, leaping, and band contests, provided ample interest for those who wished for attractions other than the displays of animals.

Arundel.

The annual horse, agricultural, horticultural, &c., show held in Arundel Park on Wednesday proved the most successful of the series, for beautiful weather, the largest attendance of visitors, so far, and a very large entry, were experienced. The total number of entries, which also included poultry and needlework shows, was 1,240, and taken all round the show was a highly creditable one to all concerned. The majority of the classes were local ones, but some were open to England, and they contained some splendid animals, notably in the Shire Horse classes, which were one of the chief features of the show. Hunters, too, were a good lot, whilst, as was only to be expected, South Down Sheep showed to great advantage. Cattle, which were chiefly of the Channel Island type, made a nice display, whilst the horticultural section was generally voted the best ever seen here, flowers, fruit, and vegetables being shown in excellent variety and quality.

Poulton-le-Fylde.

The Poulton-le-Fylde Agricultural Society this year thought they would visit their neighbours in Blackpool for the purpose of holding their annual show, and chose the Athletic Grounds, Whitegate Park. The show took place on Wednesday, and its success must have made the society wish they had thought of Blackpool before 1906; but then the society is only of comparative recent origin—it was founded three or four years ago—so that they have not had much time for experiments. Their progress, however, has been remarkable, which is not altogether surprising seeing that Poulton is the centre of what is perhaps the most distinctively agricultural district in Lancashire. Last week the entries totalled no fewer than 1,301, an increase of nearly 200 on last year's total, and there could be noticed a distinct improvement in the quality. The Fylde has a famous breed of heavy cart horses, and in this, the chief section of the show, the local breeders held their own, almost invariably, against all comers. In the Hackney classes Mr. S. R. Tennant's Authority, a famous son of a famous Yorkshire Hackney, which has won prizes amounting to no less than £400 this year, naturally distinguished itself, and Mr. Sykes's Zaverda, another famous prize-winner, also added to its laurels. The Hunters, however, were conspicuous by their absence, and the two classes which had been allotted to them had to be cancelled for lack of entries. Among the cattle the competition was very keen, and the classes were of exceptional merit. Among the sheep, Lord Henry Bentinck's flock of Wensleydales were well represented, and Lord Henry took nearly all the prizes in the six classes in which he competed. The encouragement of the local dairy industries is one of the society's chief objects, and its efforts in this direction met with a gratifying response. Lancashire cheese was well represented.

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Bakewell.

After the disastrous weather of recent years, the gloriously fine day which favoured their show on Wednesday was heartily welcomed by the Bakewell Farmers' Club, and the good gate that was recorded should go far towards making good other years' deficiencies. The show is distinctly a local one, there being comparatively few open classes, and we think the society would meet with better success if they enlarged their area somewhat. The best section of the show was that for light horses, although Shires were by no means to be despised. Cattle made a moderate show, and sheep were interesting from the fact that some pens of the "Dale of Goyts," a local breed, were on view. Concerning these, Mr. Henry Smith, the judge, suggested they might be given the name of Derbyshire Dales, and provided with their own flock-book.

Denbighshire and Flintshire.

The Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society received the record entry of 1,322 for their show at Ruthin last week, and it proved most successful, favourable weather being experienced. All the sections of the show were well patronised, and the quality, taken as a whole, was very good; in fact, many were of the opinion that the show was the best of the sixty-four which have now been held by the society.

The Shorthorn Society's prize for the best bull was won by Earl Powis, and Sir John Mark, of Mold, showed the best Shorthorn cow. Mr. Storey, Denbigh, annexed the society's valuable challenge bowl for the best bull, and Mr. Armor Jones, Denbigh, took Lord Kenyon's Gredington trophy and the Bodrhyddan challenge bowl. Messrs. Lloyd, Wrexham, secured the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, whilst Mr. Frank Lloyd, Wrexham, won the Duke of Westminster's massive challenge bowl. Mr. Alexander Maquire, Rossett, took the Hackney Society's silver medal for the finest Hackney; Mrs. Rowley Conwy, of Rhyl, with the best pen of Shropshire sheep, gained Sir Wyndham Hanmer's Coronation Challenge Bowl and a special award; and Lady Naylor Leyland's trophy for the best pen of Welsh sheep was awarded to Mr. Thomas Williams, Denbigh.

Butter classes were numerously contested, whilst the judges described the cheese show as the best ever seen in Wales.

Sale of Devon Cattle.—The herd of pedigree and prize-winning South Devon cattle belonging to Messrs. Butland Bros., Leigham Barton, near Plymouth, and some the property of Mr. W. J. Crossing, Woodford Farm, Plympton, are to be sold by auction at Higher Leigham Farm, Egg Buckland (four miles from Plymouth), on Wednesday, September 12, at 1.30 p.m., the auctioneer being Mr J. Pearse, of 15, Princess Square, Plymouth. Messrs. Butland and Crossing, having for many years kept a large number of cows for the supply of milk to Plymouth, have made a particular study of the milking properties of their cows, thus embracing this valuable attribute with that of flesh producing, for which the South Devon cattle are singularly noted.

Lincolnshire Farmer and Swine Fever.—At the Holbeach Police Court on Thursday, William R. Caudwell, one of the largest farmers in the district, was charged with having sixty-eight pigs affected with swine fever on his premises, and failing to report the same. An inspector of the Board of Agriculture said that on four of the defendant's farms there were 136 affected pigs, and in order to stamp out the disease, the whole of the swine on the farms—350—were slaughtered. The defence was that in the cases in question the disease was not recognised as swine fever, and that in a case where it was recognised, the authorities were notified. The prosecution submitted that the matter was a serious one for the district, as in consequence of these outbreaks markets had been closed. The bench accepted the defendant's explanation, and believing that he had acted in ignorance imposed a reduced penalty of £3 8s. and costs.

Mr. John Gillies, of North Field, Prestonpans, popularly known as the "Cabbage King," died somewhat suddenly on Tuesday. Mr. Gillies had, in the course of twenty years or so, gradually extended his business till it had attained gigantic proportions, calling for a regular service of special trains to convey his produce from Prestonpans to points of distribution. Starting with some ten acres at Beggar's Bush, Levenhall, Mr. Gillies acquired land on the farms of Pinkie Mains, St. Clement's Wells, Barbauchlaw, Northfield, and Preston Grange, and at the time of his death had over 300 acres under vegetable culture, mainly of cabbage plants. He had 100 hands in regular employment, with fifty more in the dispatching season, when about two million plants per day were pulled, bunched, and sent off all over the country.

SHOW GOSSIP.

This year's show of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, which will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on October 9, 10, 11, and 12, will be on very much the same lines as last year, for a comparison of this year's prize schedule with that of 1905 shows only four or five alterations. As usual, there will be classes for Shorthorn, Jersey, Guernsey, and Red-Polled cows and heifers, and also for Ayrshire, Kerry, and Dexter cows, and the cow and heifer classes for those not eligible to compete in any of the foregoing classes; but there is a new class for South Devon cows, and it will be interesting to see what amount of support breeders will give it. The prizes in this new class are first £7, second £4, and third £2, with milking trial prizes of £15, £10, and £5 respectively. These are on similar lines to those for other sections, so that South Devon breeders who in other years have had to enter in the "any other breed" class, would do well to give the new feature their whole-hearted support and make it a permanent one. The milking trials and butter tests will be as last year, and the bull classes are again included. The valuable special awards for cattle are once more to be competed for, so that the cattle section should be well up to the average.

Coming to the other sections of the show we find one alteration in that for goats, namely, an increase in the prize money for goats of any variety, which, instead of a prize of a silver medal and £2, have a first of £2, a second of £1, and a third of 10s., the same as in the other goat classes. A new class has to be noted in the popular cheese section, and this is for Lancashire cheese, which of late has come to the front. Prizes of £5, £3, and £2, and a gold medal for the best exhibit of Lancashire cheese, given by the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, are offered. The other cheese classes are as in 1905, the prizes again ranging in value from £10 to 10s. Although only one entry was received last year for the "Collections of Dairy Produce," the society are not disheartened, and are still trying to make the section "go," for this year they provide two classes instead of one, thus keeping British and foreign produce separate.

The bacon and hams classes show no alteration, and there is only one to be mentioned in the butter section, and this is a new class for "butter, slightly salted, 2 lb. in 1 lb lumps, to be delivered at the Agricultural Hall four days before the show —*i.e.*, Friday, October 5." No mention is made of what breed the milk is to come from, neither are any prizes stated. Cream, skim-milk bread and scones, and roots are "as you were," but there is a slight alteration in the honey section, namely, in the class for display of comb and extracted honey of any year, the conditions being "approximately 100 lbs. in weight, shown on a space of 3ft. by 3ft.," whereas last year they were "not less than 84 lbs. nor more than 112 lbs. in weight." Otherwise the honey classes are as last year.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. W. J. CLARK,
Bakewell Farmers' Club.

Inventors are given only one class instead of three, but the terms of the class provide for a wide range of articles, as the judges will be empowered to give a silver or bronze medal to any new invention (showing sufficient merit) relating to the dairy industry or one showing distinct and practical improvement, not eligible for competition in any other class and not previously exhibited at this society's shows. Finally, the butter-making contests and also the milkers' contests should prove once more an interesting feature—in fact, the milkers' contests should be more popular than ever, particularly with women competitors, for this year, thanks to the generosity of Lord Northbourne, their prizes are £15, £10, £5, and £2, as against £2 10s., £2, £1, and 10s. last year. The men's will be as in 1905, but boys and girls under eighteen have instead of a class for both one for each, with prizes of £2, £1, and 10s. Entries for all the above-mentioned sections close on September 10 with the secretary, Mr. W. C. Young, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

The Altrincham Agricultural Society's Show is one of the largest one-day shows held in this country, and it certainly grows in popularity, for each year since 1895 has witnessed an appreciable increase in the entries of live stock and produce. For instance in 1895 these entries were 2,767, in 1900 they had increased to 4,118, in 1904 they were over 1,000 more, and last year the total was the record one of 5,449, whilst in addition there were 564 other miscellaneous entries including implements. Such a number of entries speaks volumes for the estimation in which the show is held, and it is no doubt due to the variety of classes provided. These include cattle, horses, both heavy and light and turnouts, sheep, pigs, goats, roots, grain, and other agricultural and horticultural produce, dogs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cats, cavies, implements, &c. With such a wide range the show is naturally a most attractive one, and especially as good prizes are offered. For this year's show, to be held on Wednesday, September 26, a sum of no less than £1,800 is offered in addition to silver cups and medals, and as the prize schedule is on similar lines to that of last year, the society may look forward to another big entry and visitors to a most interesting show. Entries close for all classes except implements and space on September 8, and with double fees on September 12. The secretary is Mr. J. H. Hall, 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.

The West of England Fat Stock Society have decided to hold their show on Dec. 12 and 13 at Plymouth, when it is to be hoped another balance on the right side will be secured. The last year's working resulted in a profit of £33 0s. 11d., and this, despite the fact that subscriptions were £15 less than the previous year, and the prize fund £30 more. The society have now a net balance of £55 7s. 9d at the bank, a result due in a great extent to the excellent management of the secretary, Mr. S. Hoblyn, whose good work the society has acknowledged by a considerable increase in salary.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, & 12.

Great Exhibition of DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c.
Entries close September 10th.
Particulars of—
WM. C. YOUNG, Secretary,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

THE 16TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Dairy and Garden Produce, Poultry and Pigeons, will be held at Okehampton on SEPTEMBER 13.
Prizes about £300.
Schedules and Entry Forms of CHARLES J. FUTCHER, Hon. Sec., Fairfield, Okehampton.
Entries close September 1.

CHILTERN HILLS & SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.—The 17th ANNUAL SHOW will be held at HIGH WYCOMBE on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1906. OPEN CLASSES for Shire Horses, Hunters, Jumping and Driving, Shorthorns, Jerseys, Butter and Honey.—For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to JOSEPH BLISS, Secretary, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
GREAT SHOW at TOWYN, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906.
Over £300 in prizes. Dogs under Kennel Club Rules. Open Leaping and Trotting contests. Entries close Aug. 29. R. ROBERTS, Secretary.
Rhydygarnedd, Towyn.

FROME SHOW, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906.
All Entries close September 12.—T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome, Secretary.
FANCIERS' POULTRY SHOW SAME DAY.—Messrs. YOUNG & FRICKER, Palmer Street, Frome, Hon. Secretaries.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
(Est. 1755).
Thursday, September 13, 1906. Entries close September 4. Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Wool, &c. Open Jumping and Harness Competitions.—W. T. ISAAC, Secretary, Brecon, S. Wales.

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906. £160 in prizes, JUMPING, DRIVING, TURNOUTS, &c. Entries close September 5, 1906.—W. H. M. BARTON, Sec., Church Hill, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

ALTRINCHAM SHOW. WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26. £1,800 IN PRIZES, besides Silver Cups and Medals. for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Goats, Turn-outs, Hunters, Jumpers, Roots and Grain, Butter, Cheese, Honey, Implements, Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, and Cavies. Prize list may be had from the Secretary,
J. HERBERT HALL,
2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.
Entries close September 8; double fee, September 12.

WARWICKSHIRE HUNT HORSE SHOW, at KINETON, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906. Entries close August 30.—LORD WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE, Hon. Secretary, Kineton, Warwickshire.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE

THE SIXTIETH GREAT SHOW AND SALE will be held at BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 and 6 404 Head of Highly-descended COWS, HEIFERS and BULLS, including many prize winners, are entered from the most noted breeders, and will be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. W. H. LYTHALL, without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.
Judging at 9 o'clock on Wednesday. Sale at 11 o'clock each day. Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 7d., free by post.
W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD and LINSLADE FOAL SHOW SOCIETY
Are holding their
FOAL SHOW
On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 1906,
At LEIGHTON BUZZARD.

SCHEDULES now ready, and can be had on application to either of the Secretaries.

Entries close September 4.

WALTER C. PRUDAMES, W. GRAVELY W. WILLIS, } Hon. Secs.

HAY HORSE SHOW, September 20, 1906. Entries close on September 6; double fees September 12.—REECE MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT NUNEATON, ON WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, AUGUST 29 & 30 next.
Admission: 1st day, 2s. 6d.; 2nd day, 1s.
JUDGING in all DEPARTMENTS on WEDNESDAY.
Special JUMPING CONTESTS each AFTERNOON, with DRIVING CLASSES on THURSDAY.
BAND OF 2nd VOL. BATT. ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT, WEDNESDAY—NUNEATON TOWN BAND, THURSDAY.
The FIELD COMPETITIONS will take place on THURSDAY, on Mr. G. H. WARD'S Farm, Attleborough Fields, Nuneaton.
POULTRY & BEE DRIVING DEMONSTRATIONS by Warwickshire County Council's Experts.
First Class Luncheon, 2s. 6d.; Second Class, 1s.
CHEAP RAILWAY FARES, SEE COMPANIES' BILLS.
FREDERICK H. MOORE,
Secretary, Warwick.

KINGTON HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906.
£350 in prizes, including two Challenge Cups value £10 each, and seven Silver Medals. Heavy-weight Hunter Class—1st prize, £20; 2nd prize, £10; 3rd prize, £5. Light-weight—1st prize, £10; 2nd, £5. Entries close September 4, or with double fee, September 8, except for Ring Competitions, which close September 15. Prize Schedules and Entry Forms from the Secretary, T. H. VAUGHAN MORRIS, Byford House, Hereford.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Hunts. Hailstorm Relief Fund.

SIR,—The Hunts. Hailstorm Relief Committee ask me to thank you for kindly noticing in your agricultural article the damage done, and they ask you to draw attention to the fact that subscription lists for a relief fund are about to be opened at all the banks in the county.

Lord Sandwich, the Lord Lieutenant, has subscribed £100, and Mr. George Fydell Rowley, the first president of this chamber, £200.

It is hoped that the Lord Mayor will open a national fund, but this county, and also Cambs. and Beds., feel that they must make a good start in their own counties before anyone will appeal for them to the general public.—Your obedient servant, GERALD HUNNYBUN, Hon. Sec.

Hunts. Chamber of Agriculture, Huntingdon, August 23, 1906.

A meeting of the Cambs. Chamber of Agriculture was held on the 18th inst., at the Cambridge Corn Exchange, to consider the desirability of co-operating with the committee appointed for Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire, for the purpose of raising a fund to relieve the more serious cases of damage done to the crops by the disastrous hailstorm on August 2, in portions of Hunts., Cambs., Beds., and the Isle of Ely. The meeting unanimously resolved to join hands with the committee of the other counties and to appeal to the country, since the estimated damage of between £50,000 and £60,000 is too much to be covered by local effort, and unless help is forthcoming more than one farmer, it is feared, will be ruined.

English or Foreign Meat for the Army?

SIR,—I have frequently heard it stated that young people should never hesitate to ask for information in order that they may, when wiser, utilise the knowledge which is bound to result from application in such old and valuable agricultural papers as the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

I have read Mr. Welch's letter in your last, and I frankly confess that I am unable to convince myself that he has proved his case.

Suppose that the £50,000 which Mr. Haldane asserts that he will save the country by allowing home-killed in place of or in conjunction with home-fed meat, were to be placed into the pockets of home stock breeders and feeders, how much per farmer would this amount to? or would the change asked for, if sanctioned by Mr. Haldane, have the slightest effect on the price of home-bred stock in the markets? Even if the meat which has been supplied to our troops during late years had been home fed meat, and no one would be found to be bold enough to make such an assertion, why should not the War Office and all Government Departments buy in the cheapest markets, providing, of course, that the article bought is of equal consuming value? How many farmers are there who do not follow this system of buying in the cheapest and selling in the dearest market? Suppose the manufacturers of every kind of article or raw material were to squeak if the various Governmental Departments did not buy home-made stuff? What would farmers think of such a strange course of procedure?

Further, I would ask if farmers never buy any foreign meat at the thousands of butchers' shops in the country at which the owners profess to sell only imported meat, or do they never buy imported meat at a very large proportion of the butchers' shops in towns and at a lower price than could be charged for home-grown meat?

It seems to me that this is another of those wild goose chases, such as the repeal of the Malt Tax was, and the Pure Beer is now.—Yours, &c. JUVENIS.

Large v. Small Shows.

SIR,—Some interesting remarks concerning the show systems of the North and South of England were made by the Hon. Gervase Beckett, M.P., at the Whitby Show on Thursday. He expressed the opinion that the more shows held in the agricultural parts of the country the better, and he added that the show system in Yorkshire differed somewhat from that in the south of England. In the north there were more small shows in various areas not very far apart, whereas in the south big shows, covering very large areas, were held. He thought the Yorkshire system the best, as it held out more inducements to the small exhibitor by multiplying his opportunities of exhibiting his stock and gaining prizes. It therefore encouraged the farmer and the breeder in a local area to exhibit more than in cases where he had to send his stock very long distances to compete practically with the whole of England."

There is undoubtedly a great deal of truth in what Mr. Beckett says, and I should like to have some other opinions on the matter. It seems to me that Mr. Beckett has opened up a big subject. —Yours, etc. T. C. M.

August 17, 1906.

Harvest Home.

SIR,—Reading your paper this evening dated August 13, re "Farm Horses in Harvest Time," I believe it has a circulation covering at least England. Farmers (as a rule) are always open to appreciate and acquire any instruction that can be given them in this generation of severe foreign competition, and your object is, I believe, to further their requirements, so that I hope you will pardon my troubling you by quoting this paragraph, viz:—

"By being able to cut and sheave the corn by machinery, even the largest farmers are now able to cry 'harvest home' within a fortnight after commencing."

If this quotation is written seriously by anyone understanding English agriculture, I with thousands of other farmers would only be too pleased to have further advice and information as regarding the workings and condition of the corn at the "harvest home" within the fortnight.—I am, Sir, yours, &c., EDWARD W. HOWARD.

Ingleby, Lincoln, August 14, 1906.

The Cottage Question.

SIR,—It seems to me that one of the most important questions of the day in connection with agriculture is that of providing cottages. How absurd it is to talk of bringing labourers back to the land, when everybody knows perfectly well that there is nowhere for them to live if they come back! Indeed, when we hear of the reduced populations of villages, and on looking round find that there is not a single cottage empty, the wonder is where the people lived before they went away.

Here in towns and the suburbs of towns we see miles and miles of houses run up, but in a country district it it quite an event if a couple of new cottages are erected. Why doesn't some enterprising capitalist turn his attention to the erection of cheap cottages in the country where people want them? There may be many reasons, but one is, that in numerous instances the ground belongs to a local landed squire, who either cannot or will not sell. Why doesn't he build himself? He either has other means of spending his money, or else the return he would get from the cottages would not pay him sufficient interest on his outlay. It is obvious that the rural labourer on his rate of pay cannot afford to pay above a certain rent, but if a landlord cannot build cottages that will pay him interest on capital at the rent that the tenants can afford to pay, this does not do away with the absolute necessity of houses.

Cottages are as essential on a farm as cowsheds or stables, and how are we to get people in the country if there is nowhere for them to live? The town does everything it can to lure people to its midst; the country deplores the migration, but does its best to drive its workers away through not providing them with habitations in which to live. And what habitations some of the cottages are to be sure! They may look pretty with flower gardens in front and roses clambering over the porch, but you want to get inside and round the back premises. No alterations are made, and repairs are rarely done, because the rent derived from the habitation is not sufficient to allow for any outlay—the profits would be all gone.

To put the matter very plainly, is not too much money being spent by landowners on luxury, pleasure, and amusement? It is only fair that part of the money derived from land should go back to it, and whereas a landlord does not see his way to spend a few hundred pounds on cottages because the transaction would not return 5 per cent., it is essential for him to have a motor car or two costing perhaps a thousand pounds apiece. I wonder what interest the latter pay on the outlay.

One sees a good bit of building going on in the country, but it is chiefly of houses of the villa type, suitable for the man who has means and longs for a quiet rural life. What is wanted is cottages, houses of a plain yet comfortable and convenient character, which can be let at a rent that the ordinary labourer can pay, and until some means can be devised of providing for the want, the cry "Back to the land!" is a mere waste of breath. LUX.

August 23, 1906.

Some Minor Crops.

SIR,—Shortly, when your pages are not so much taken up with the agricultural shows, I should be glad if you would give us some articles on the cultivation, marketing, and general information on the less known crops which are capable of being grown in England, such as caraway seed, which I hear used to be grown in this neighbourhood, saffron, chicory, peppermint, and many others.

I have heard a crop spoken of as col, which was grown around here about forty years back. They do not appear to mean cole seed or rape. Some years back I remember reading of Sarradelle in *Bell's Weekly* as being of great use in fertilising the soil, can you say if this has proved so?

I have noticed a grass very like rye grass which blows a flower very like a pea and grows a small pod with a few small seeds like small tares. Can you tell me anything about this?

I quite believe some papers on all this would be of general interest, also something on the cultivation of flax, hemp, millet, canary seed, sugar beet, and potatoes for converting into spirit, &c.—Yours truly, SAD FARMER.

August 20, 1906.

Mummy Wheat.

SIR,—Undeterred by the unwarranted ridicule cast on the Dean of Bristol's mummy peas grown at Congresbury, I venture, with your kind permission, to place on record the result of my careful investigation into the history and disposition of the mummy wheat found in the folds of a mummy in the Bristol Museum in 1849, which is so surprising that it must interest your readers.

The mummy in which the wheat was found was always recognised as that of one of the early Pharaohs. Some of the grains given me were planted by me in a field of wheat at Russ in 1850, and when ripened consisted of a cluster, seven ears on each stalk, six growing out of a large centre one, all bearded. It grew taller by a foot than the rest of the wheat, and with thick, brittle stalks.

In 1853 I lost my sample, and those to whom I gave the rest ceased to grow it after two or three years. The mummy and all belonging to it have disappeared, except three heads of the wheat still in our local museum.

Last summer I received a specimen, exactly like that I grew, from the museum at Kew, which I believe was grown by the late Mr. Sutton, at Reading, about the middle of last century. No wheat of the kind is now growing anywhere, and there is no record of it ever having been grown in Egypt; and the only specimens left are at Kew, in our local museum, and that I hold. Many living persons recollect its being grown, but I find no other who grew it except myself.

The conclusions I come to are these. Seven-eared wheat, of which these samples are the progeny, was specially sent in fulfilment of Pharaoh's dream, and when its purpose had been served it disappeared as completely as did the manna subsequently; that the grains found in 1849 were placed where they were by the hands of Joseph, Pharaoh's Chief Minister and trusted friend, under prophetic inspiration. Their discovery and resuscitation at the present time is opportune to confirm the very interesting history of "Joseph and his brethren," and confound scientific experts who doubt the vitality of seeds, even when hermetically sealed, for more than about twenty years.

I wish to record my thanks to various newspaper editors and to many correspondents at home and abroad for confirmatory facts and information, especially to Messrs. T. Cook and Son for enquiries in Egypt; to the president of the College of Agriculture at Cairo; to Dr. Budge, of the British Museum; to Sir William Thistleton Dyer, the late superintendent of the Kew Museum, for the specimen he sent me; and, finally, with humble reverence, to Him Who led me to undertake an investigation which has culminated in such remarkable results.—Yours truly, T. SHERWOOD SMITH.

Bristol, August 21.

Board of Agriculture Weaknesses.

SIR,—May I add a note to the remarks on Board of Agriculture weaknesses in a recent issue? There now lies before me the Board's official report on crop prospects—a well-compiled and accurate document, no doubt, but one from which we in the Midlands can learn almost nothing. It has been said (by a *Times* writer, if I remember rightly) that a line drawn on a map of England from the Wash to Southampton would have on the right the districts where hay is almost universally light, to the left the good yields, which increase in frequency as we go north. We know in regard to winter oats that the lower Thames Valley and south-east Midlands (which had some heavy rain in June) have come off better than any other parts of the country, and to west of Oxford and north of Leicester full yields are extremely rare. Our geological friends tell us that wheat has come off best on lias and jurassic soils, and on the secondary formations which traverse England from south-west to north-east; and worst on other formations characteristic of well-defined districts. I quote these as examples of intelligent and informative criticisms on the season. In marked contrast the Board of Agriculture adheres to its old classification of counties, by which both geographical and geological considerations are obscured. What, for instance, have Leicester and Notts and Northampton in common with Hants and Surrey and Sussex? or Salop and Worcester in common with Cornwall, Wilts, and Dorset? or Stafford in common with the Lake Country, where soils, farming practice, and customary weather types are all different? From the mass of material the Board must have at command, it should surely be possible to give a really good idea of the local variations and their causes.—Yours faithfully, WARWICK.

August 24, 1906.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Norfolk. HARVESTING in this county was delayed by heavy rains which cut the corn down, but is now in full swing, and quite an average crop is expected. The heavy rains, whilst causing delay and loss in some directions, also did some good for the root crops benefitted considerably.

Hunts. NOT much now wheat has been shown at our market owing to the showers which fell last week, and which did an immense amount of good to everything, especially to the barley, which was very steely. The yield of wheat appears prove that an average crop has been grown. There are some very bulky pieces of barley and some very light. This appears to have been one of those seasons when good farming will have paid, adjoining fields in different occupations show crops of enormous difference and value, in some instances more than twice as good, or even more. The roots have benefited greatly from the showers, but herbage is getting dried up and very scarce.

Leicester. THE general character of the season is rather better, because we shall be better prepared for winter; our stackyards will be more filled. Hay was above the average here, and clovers very good, and all got in splendid condition. Wheat suffered in spring from cold and late frosts, looked bad in May, has done very well since, and is now quite up to average—good ear with plenty of straw. Barley is strong in straw, and promising for a fair yield and good malting sample if weather will keep fine another week. Oats will be the best cereal crop of the year in this district, very well grown, with a beautiful ear. Mangolds look well considering the dry season, plenty of plants, the germination was very good. Turnips: plenty of plant but scorched up, and prospects are poor. Cabbage are doing very badly, and do not look as forward as they did a month ago. Potatoes quite a failure on our strong soil. The prospects for graziers looks very gloomy indeed; price of beef bad, and pastures burnt up; beasts not growing. The prospect six weeks ago was much better than now, and a little better than same period last year, because stores were bought in for less money this year, and we had then much more grass (first week in July). The outlook for dairy farmers is bad, for the milk has gone off by 40 per cent. in six weeks, and cake is dear.

Lancashire. A SATISFACTORY state of the cereal crops in South-West Lancashire is shown by the results of the growing crops competition established by the Southport and Ormskirk Agricultural Society. Wheat, of which a good acreage was grown, was reported good throughout. The entry in this class of cereal was a most representative one, including crops grown on light moss and brown soils, and no little difficulty was experienced in making the awards, owing to the uniform standard of excellence. Oats were also well grown all round, and gave every indication of a heavy yield at threshing time, though many crops were found to have been beaten down and twisted during the bad weather. All the corn was reported to be well fed, and the straw was of good length and clean.

Nottinghamshire (South). DROUGHT is the chief grievance from a pastoral point of view—grass fields burnt brown, clover eddulies very light, grass eddulies have made no pretence of growing. Swedes were in some cases retarded with the fly, but, notwithstanding the lack of rain, they have grown wonderfully lately, though maggots at the root have damaged some crops. Mangel and kohl rabi indicate good crops. Hay this year very prime in quality, short in quantity. Winter oats stacked as early as August 1, good crop; spring oats now being carried. The earlier sown blue peas were secured last week in excellent condition, and selling well. Wheat crops deficient generally in straw, likely to be fine quality corn. Some of the barley has not had enough rain, and will be very flinty. Winter beans are being cut; spring beans ready next week, promise a good yield.

Nottinghamshire (North). SOME progress is being made with the harvesting operations, and unless there is much rain—and for some purposes this is greatly needed—the in-gathering will extend over only a comparatively short time. Reaping machines are this year extensively used, as the crops are generally standing. Leading corn has already begun, and very favourable reports have been received of the yield of wheat out of straw. The roots and pastures look rather greener and better after the showers, but more rain is required even for them. Harvesting has become quite general, but some of the crops are considered under the average, especially spring oats and barley. Winter oats and barley have done very well this season, and winter beans are much better than the spring variety. Potatoes do not promise over well, and swedes and turnips are "patchy," whilst mangels afford a better prospect of a fair crop. The grass fields are sadly burnt up owing to the lack of rain, but the cattle look fairly well on the scanty pastures. The hay crops proved exceptionally light; however, the crops have been "well got"; if wanting in quantity, will doubtless be made up in quality. Wheat will be an average; barley, oats, and beans under; peas average (hereabouts). Cutting commenced here July 25 with winter oats. There is every prospect of a fine harvest, and the crops are setting up better than we anticipated.

Warwick. THE season, on the whole, has been a favourable one, and where the land is well cultivated the crops are good all round. Some of the late planted oats and barley are nearly equal to those sown in proper time Many of the wheat, winter oat and winter bean crops are excellent. Barley is generally a fair crop, but some is thin and short Spring beans vary a good deal, but those planted early and with something under them are all right. The hay and clover crops are an average, and nearly all was secured in good condition. There have been a few heated ricks, as is often the case in a favourable haymaking. There is a fair prospect of winter keeping. Roots generally are a good plant, but they have wanted more hoeing than usual, and this has not always been accomplished. Stock has not sold at all well lately, except the better class of dairy cows. This shows how short the supply of ready money is, and has been for some time.

East Lothian. HARVESTING in East Lothian has begun in earnest, but is fully a fortnight later than last year, says the *Glasgow Herald*. The recent torrential rainfall has laid the heavier crops, and the winds have twisted a lot of the grain, so that the crop will be somewhat difficult to reap, but there is really comparatively little to complain of in that respect. Oats are as a rule light, especially in straw. Barley is variable, but the quality will likely turn out good. Wheat is a splendid crop. Potatoes have improved with the rain, but they are a small crop, and disease is prevalent in the earlier varieties. Turnips are suffering from finger and toe in some places. Otherwise they are a good crop.

Board of Agriculture's Estimates. THE Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have just issued a report on the crop prospects for 1906. It is dated August 22, and gives a summary of the outlook for the various crops in England, Scotland, and Wales, based on reports from the Crop Estimates of the Board, who give optimistic accounts, for the general summary is that all the principal crops are likely to exceed the average. Wheat and barley, the report continues, appear in each division of Great Britain to be over average, while oats are slightly over average in all divisions, with the exception of the north and north-western division of England and the east of Scotland. Potatoes may be reckoned as slightly over average, and the prospect for the root crops is favourable; mangolds generally promise better than turnips. The hay crop is reported as deficient in the eastern, north-eastern, south-eastern, and east Midland counties, while the yield in the west Midland and south-western counties will barely reach an average. In the north and north-western counties, Wales, and Scotland the crop is distinctly over average. Fruit has varied a good deal; apples are plentiful, except in the North, but pears are very scarce. Bush fruits are mostly average or better; but stone fruit appears to be almost universally a failure. Hops are unmistakeably the worst crop of the year, and the yield generally will be very deficient. Generally speaking, prospects for the western half of the country appear more promising than in the east. Summarising the reports, and representing an average crop by 100, the appearance of the crops in August indicates a yield for Great Britain as a whole which may be represented by the following percentages:—Wheat, 105; barley, 104; oats, 102; potatoes, 101; roots, 105; hay, 101.

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POULTRY.

The Utility Poultry Club.

The Utility Poultry Club have found it necessary to abandon the project of holding a twelve months' competition, beginning in October next. The unfortunate illness of the principal of the Harper Adams Agricultural College, with whom arrangements had been made for carrying on the competition, compelled the college authorities to withdraw their offer for a time.

Arrangements, however, have been made with the honorary secretary for holding the tenth annual competition at his farm, near Braintree, Essex. Mr. Richardson is retiring from the position of lecturer to the Cheshire County Council, and will therefore be able to personally undertake the entire management of the competition. Accommodation will be provided for forty pens, and it is probable that the competition will be divided into two classes, each having separate prize-lists.

National Poultry Organisation Society.

The seventh annual report of this society, of which the Marchioness of Salisbury is president, has now been issued in complete form. It contains, *inter alia*, a list of the affiliated branches and collecting depots, balance-sheets and accounts for 1905, and the names of subscribers and donors. A very satisfactory feature of the year's working is that the expenses of the society for the year under review are less by more than £50 than the receipts, and the report shows that the society, in spite of many difficulties and prejudices, is making very satisfactory progress. The egg-collecting depots, which are nearly all upon a co-operative basis, have, with the exception of one or two instances, been a distinct financial success. What failures there have been are due more or less to want of loyalty on the part of members or to inefficient management. Another important and gratifying result from the producer's point of view, is the enhanced returns which invariably accrue from the establishment of a depot in any district, which fact is so often forgotten by those benefiting thereby. The society is certainly performing a most valuable work and deserves the support of all those who have the welfare of our British agriculturists at heart. The report and any other particulars desired can be obtained on application to the offices of the society, at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on payment of the postage—viz., 1d.

Owing to the attitude of the Portsmouth Corporation in initiating prosecutions of milk sellers and dealers for selling milk of a quality below the standard, the Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club have decided to call a conference of milk sellers and others interested with the object of creating a defence fund to fight such prosecutions. They argue that the milk is sold as it comes from the cow, and that it is impossible to set up any particular standard of quality. They are not able even to guarantee 3 per cent. of fat, which is the standard set up in several of the contracts; and for the future farmers are being advised not to sign any contract which contains such a clause.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

The Earthquake in Chili: Its Effect on Nitrate of Soda.

It was at first feared that the nitrate of soda market would be seriously disturbed, but from later telegrams it appears that the radius of the convulsion, which has shattered Valparaiso and the surrounding villages, did not extend so far north as the nitrate of soda districts. We learn from the best authority that neither the nitrate works, nor the nitrate railways, nor the harbours from which it is shipped, have suffered damage. There may be some difficulty in getting up the mining supplies, which come partly from Valparaiso; this might tend to stiffen the market a little, but there is no occasion for any appreciable advance. We are glad to be able to give our readers this reassuring information.

Gas Lime.

Gas lime should be put on the land in the autumn, so that the injurious ingredients in it may be rendered harmless before seeding time. It gives the best results on stiff clay soils, which it breaks up and renders friable. It also acts as an insecticide, and will kill many autumn-growing weeds.

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MAKERS of FERTILISERS and FEEDING STUFFS
of any journal in the United Kingdom.
The best medium for this class of announcement.

Basic Slag.

We shall shortly be printing a special article on this subject. If any of our readers would like information on points connected with the quality or use of slag, and will write us on the subject, we shall be pleased to supply the desired information as far as is possible in the same issue.

Dung versus Artificials for Early Potatoes.

In the interesting remarks on this subject in last week's "Seasonable Topics," the writer of the note is certainly correct in expressing the opinion that "the great value of artificial manure is as a supplement rather than a substitute for dung."

It should not be a question of dung *versus* artificials, but the two should be combined to assist one another. The value of the dung consists partly in its supply of plant food, and partly from its capacity to ameliorate the physical condition of the soil-bed, while the artificials furnish concentrated plant food in a quickly available form.

It is wasteful to apply very large dressings of dung, and although good crops can sometimes be grown with artificials alone, it is not good practice, and in dry seasons might lead to failure.

Sowing by Drill versus Sowing by Hand.

The following result of an experiment seems to demonstrate clearly the advantage of drilling the seed. Upon two pieces of land, adjoining one another and similar in character, wheat was broadcasted by hand on the one and on the other sown by drill. It took 180 lb. per acre of seed wheat when broadcasted, and only about half as much when drilled. The crop on the broadcasted portion was 24 bushels grain and 30 cwt. straw, while the drilled portion yielded 31 bushels and 35 cwt. straw. Thus by the use of a machine there is the double advantage of saving in the seed and an increase in the crop.

A single sow thistle plant has about 20,000 seeds—hence the importance of destroying them before they seed.

Fungus Diseases.

In this month's *Journal of the Board of Agriculture* there is an interesting article on the spread of fungus diseases by means of hybernating mycelium.

It is pointed out that until recently it was assumed that fungi could only be reproduced by means of spores or seeds, but that recent investigations show this assumption to have been too general, as in the case of many destructive fungoid diseases spores play a subordinate part. The disease exists, or the disposition to the malady exists, in the seed or the tuber, and lies dormant until some agency occurs favourable to its development, when it breaks out, and in some cases spreads with great rapidity. For instance, the hereditary taint of the potato curl-leaf disease is present in the seed tuber, and if close, muggy weather acts as a stimulant to the disease, it will manifest itself in an outbreak; on the other hand, if there is a continuance of bright, sunny weather, the latent disease will remain in a quiescent stage, and the crop will be apparently sound.

The lesson to be gathered from these facts is that great care is necessary in the selection of the seed tubers, which should be accepted only from districts known to be free from disease.

Soil Deterioration.

There are many farms, writes a correspondent of a St. Louis paper, so reduced in fertility that general farming cannot be depended on for more than a mere existence. If the total supply of stable manure were spread over the fields, or a portion of them, it would be so much less than the needed amount as to be practically wasted. It is therefore used in the "intensive" culture of some specially valuable crop, such as potatoes, celery, or onions. The only way in such cases to supply fertility is the application of fertilisers which are scientifically and reliably prepared.

Fifty years ago the average live weight of beef cattle in America was only 800 pounds, but improvement of breeds has so greatly increased their size, that at the present time the average weight is up to 1,400 pounds.

Phosphate of Lime Powder for Feeding.

It is contended that phosphoric acid and lime can be supplied with beneficial results in a mineral form to animals by admixture with their ordinary forage, and the trade in phosphate of lime powder has grown to such an extent on the Continent, and particularly in Germany, that the German National Agricultural Society have felt themselves obliged to call attention to the trickery and fraud that have risen up in connection with it.

One might assume that just as human beings in a delicate state of health receive benefit from doses of syrup of hypophosphate and lime, so animals would be benefited by similar treatment.

It may be so in exceptional cases, but as a general rule it is certainly better to give the animals a sufficiency of these essential salts through the natural medium of plants, and attention should be directed to enriching the character of the fodder crops.

We know that the percentage of phosphate of lime in forage is in a measure dependent on the richness of the soil in these constituents. When grown on soils naturally poor, the grasses will be also deficient in nourishing constituents. Animals raised in districts of which the soil is deficient in these two elements do not prosper unless the herbage is improved by applications of phosphate of lime.

The improvement of poor pastures and grass lands is the point to be insisted on. Superphosphate or basic slag are the means available for every farmer, with potash, if this constituent is also deficient. If we take care that there is no lack of these elements in the soil, we may be sure that the plants will be rich, and that the stock fed on it will get sufficient for their normal development. At the International Dairy Congress at Paris the following resolution on this subject was passed :—

"The employment of fertilisers rich in phosphate and lime constitutes the best means of supplying animals with the mineral salts in question, and is adapted to produce the best results both from the point of view of improving the breed, and the general condition of the stock. It is very desirable that careful experiments should be made to demonstrate by analysis the enrichment of the herbage after application of phosphate of lime, and also in practical farming, to contrast the results obtained from fodder so grown, against fodder grown in soil to which phosphate had not been applied.

"It is recommended that active propaganda, by means of lectures, leaflets, and demonstrations, for the more general and greater use of phosphate in dairying and stock-rearing districts should be undertaken by the different societies which take an interest in the improvement of stock and of the industries connected with it."

Cotton Seed Meal.

How can a farmer distinguish between good and poor meal?

The increased demand for this meal and the enhanced price has led to adulteration and to an inferior article being placed on the market. A first-class cottonseed meal should contain over 40 per cent. albuminoids and about 9 per cent. fat. It should be a light yellow colour. If it is dark in colour with many fine black specks, it indicates that ground hulls have been added. If it is a rusty brown colour, it indicates that the meal is old or the material has at some time undergone fermentation. Such meals are not safe to use. The texture of the meal should be about the same as finely ground corn meal, and it should be practically free from cotton lint. The presence and amount of lint can be determined by sifting a portion in a flour or meal sieve. The cotton fibre will remain in the sieve. The lint and hulls are also quite easily detected by stirring the meal up with water. Put one teaspoonful in half a glass of water, mix thoroughly and allow the mixture to stand a few minutes to settle. The black hulls will be found on the bottom, and can be seen through the glass. The good meal will be in the next layer and the lint on top. A first-class meal should show only a few black hulls, and scarcely any lint.

An expert can judge very well of the quality of cottonseed meal by means of tasting. The best fresh meals have a very agreeable nutty flavour not found in inferior goods. The presence of much fibre is readily noted by the sense of touch in the mouth. The absence of the nutty flavour and the presence of a rancid taste indicates that the meal is old.

Experiments in Orchard Culture.

It is estimated that the fertilising elements taken from an acre of apple trees during a period of twenty years amounts approximately to 1,300 lb. of nitrogen, 310 lb. of phosphoric acid, and 1,900 lb. of potash. To make good this waste would require applications over the period of 1¾ tons of sulphate of potash, 2½ tons of sulphate of ammonia, and 1 ton of superphosphate. It is not strange, therefore, writes Mr. W. M. Morrison in a report to the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, that many of the orchards of Maine, and we may add of this country, are deteriorating.

In studying the methods of fertilising orchards, the same general principles will apply as in the management of other farm crops.

The essential constituents must be the same; but unlike ordinary farm crops, orchard crops do not give an opportunity for rotation. A certain amount of nitrogen is essential to the vigorous foliage upon which depends the life of the tree. Potash also is important, not only because it constitutes a large part of the ash of fruit trees and more than half of the ash of the fruit itself, but also, as suggested by Voorhees, because it forms salts with the well known acids. Lime, as also pointed out by Voorhees, "seems to strengthen the stems and woody portion of the tree, to shorten the period of growth and to hasten the time of ripening. Fruit trees growing on rich soils in lime show a stocky, sturdy, vigorous growth, and fruit ripens well; while those on soils which contain but little lime, particularly the clays, appear to have an extended period of growth, the result of which is that wood does not mature and the fruit does not ripen properly."

The fertiliser recommended by the experimental station contains—

3 per cent. of nitrogen
5½ ,, ,, phosphoric acid,
8 ,, ,, potash,

which was tried against a mixture known as the "Fisher" formula, favourably regarded by many growers.

The Fisher mixture is composed of—

8·6 per cent. of nitrogen,
3·3 ,, ,, phosphoric acid,
11·9 ,, ,, potash,

and it is said to produce a most vigorous growth, resulting in large, though not always, well-coloured fruit.

The fertilisers to be sown on the surface under the tree a little further than the limbs extend at the rate of 10 lb. to a medium-sized tree as soon as the blossom buds begin to open.

Twenty Baldwin and five Tolman trees were used for the specific test of each of these formulas. The Baldwin are kept under cultivation; the Tolmans are in sod. Both lots of trees responded freely to the treatment and yielded a good crop of apples. The Baldwins were in an exhausted state when the work commenced, but are now making a remarkably strong growth and promise well, but at present no specific difference in the relative merits of the two formulas is apparent. Great attention is being paid to the cultivation and fertilising of orchards in Canada, and the experiments demonstrate what is sometimes doubted in this country, that the use of fertilisers is attended with good results, and that potash is an important ingredient.

By means of drainage, the various chemical actions which take place through the action of the atmosphere on the surface soil are carried down to a greater or less extent into the subsoil, for as the water level is lowered, the air enters from above to fill the cavities in the soil. By drainage, also the depth to which roots will penetrate is increased, for the roots will not grow in the absence of oxygen and rot as soon as they reach a permanent water level.—A. F.

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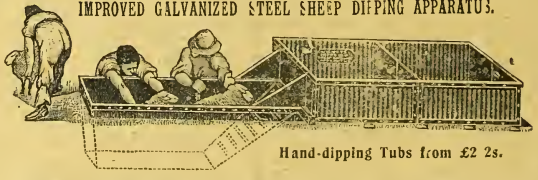

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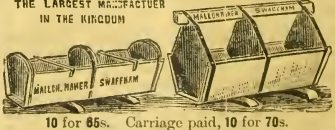

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Illustrated Catalogue post free.
R. MALLON, Station Works, SWAFFHAM, NORFOLK.
Keep this Advertisement until you write for our List.

THE
"BIBBY" CAKE
IN THE FORM OF
"CAKETTES."

'Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using,' was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Caketts" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Caketts" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Caketts" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

Sole Manufacturers—
J. BIBBY & SONS
EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
LIVERPOOL.

Appointed by Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

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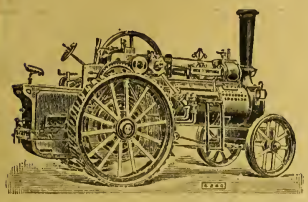

TRACTION ENGINES.

These Engines are well proportioned, simple, and easy to manage, and are suitable for drawing and working Thrashing Machinery, for Steam Cultivation, Sawing, Pumping, &c.

THRASHING MACHINES.

These Machines produce a perfectly uniform sample of full-size grain, free from tail corn, and make all the usual separations in the most perfect manner.

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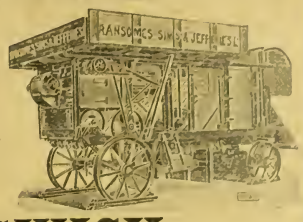


ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

AUGUST 27, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

GREEN CROPS.

This summer has been characterised by fewer turnip failures in most districts than frequently is the case; consequently when corn harvest came there was very little vacant land remaining uncropped on the majority of farms. Under ordinary circumstances it is almost too late to hope for satisfactory bulbing from turnips sown after the first week of August, unless the soil be peculiarly favourable both in natural character and high fertility. Mustard, however, being naturally a quick-maturing crop, may be sown at almost any time in the month unless the condition of things be decidedly unfavourable, good feed for sheep will be ready for consumption in October.

Some farmers in their ordinary courses of procedure sow mustard in August for late—autumn sheep—feed, and consider it to be a great advantage to be able to plough a piece of wheat-stubble or oat-stubble in good time for a mustard crop. Supposing the additional produce to be wanted, there could not be the slightest doubt that a considerable gain would accrue. Moreover, the admission may be made that in any case, if converted to silage or even ploughed in after growth, such catch growing could scarcely fail in having beneficial results. But the condition of soil and the weather had needs be favourable for highly satisfactory yielding, and the culture ought not to stand in the way, so as to interfere with more important operations, in a busy time unless the flocks are likely to stand in need of the fodder.

There is another green crop which might profitably have August culture far more generally than at present, which is kale. Seemingly it would be wise for every light land arable farmer to provide a nursery bed of young kale plants ready for August setting out. In seasons of turnip failure they would prove invaluable, because planting such seedlings into the lands where turnips had failed would be an almost certain way of ensuring a good crop, while the re-sowing to turnips so late would involve the probability of only small bulbs being produced. But even in a season like the present with slight actual turnip failure, it would seemingly be of high advantage to be able to plant kale seedlings into such of the stubble lands which could be early ploughed to receive them. Such crops would be at their best for hurdling off the following April, at the period when keep is often least abundant.

Trifolium seed is always sown into clean stubbles as soon after harvest as possible by the most experienced farmers, and they one and all will be found of opinion that the earlier it is done the better, provided the surface of the land be only moist enough to germinate the seed and bring the plants up. Laggard farmers often delay the matter until September, and even October, but it is most unwise to do so. The plants of late-sown crops are often killed by either slugs or frost.

Midland Notes.

FRUIT growing at the best is an uncertain business, as many growers in Worcestershire could tell, who look with sadness at their own bare trees and with envy at their neighbour's flocks and fields. Nevertheless, it is extending, and there are indications that we may expect to see more in Warwickshire before long. The late Lord Leigh desired it, and pressed the question upon the County Farmers' Association. It seems to be too hastily concluded in many cases that the soils of the county would be unsuitable for the purpose. Around Brailes, Long Compton, Shipston-on-Stour, Strelton-on-Fosse, and Ilmington there are many tracts of land entirely fit for fruit. The Tysoe district is as promising, and has the advantage of being an early one; and the country between Warwick and Stratford was once a noted grape-growing district.

ONE is reminded of this by the progress of the county council experimental fruit plot at Hatton. There the soil is by no means especially good, yet the results so far are more than promising. Even last year, it is said—the first of its existence—the county council's acre and a-quarter paid its way, thanks to the potatoes planted between the trees, while this year the new gooseberries and black currants are said to have given an excellent return. It is, perhaps, the apple which promises to repay cultivation best, for evidently apples are capable of doing well on Warwickshire soils, and there is always a strong demand for them through the winter and early months of the new year, when they escape the competition of soft fruit. At present more ground is needed, so that pears, plums, and other fruit may be given a trial. But even now the experiments which Mr. H. Dunkin conducts have demonstrated the possibility of successful fruit growing in Warwickshire, and it is good to learn that the trial grounds are being visited by a very fair number of local farmers and others on the Wednesday afternoons, when the superintendent is there to give information and advice.

ADMITTEDLY, this is not a good straw year. But it would be a mistake to think that the complaints of shortness of straw are universal. Here, as in other respects, the local variations referred to in these notes last week are very evident. In the Astwood Bank district, on the Worcestershire and Warwickshire borders, and round about Cookhill, Feckenham, and Inkberrow, I hear of straw which stood six and even seven feet in height. In the Tame and Severn valleys it is generally of excellent length and quality, and so it is in the Arrow valley, even though the hot sun of July ripened the corn there a fortnight earlier than usual. So, too, in the fertile and generously farmed Newport district of Shropshire I have seen oats standing five feet and wheat five and a-half feet high, while in Stafford it should be a very fair average. In this dairying district, by the way, not a little difficulty has been experienced lately in keeping up the milk flow. Up to the middle of July or thereabouts there was no trouble, but since then drought has been telling its tale, and bought feeding-stuffs have been much in request—an unpleasant expense in the middle of the summer, but a necessary one where there are milk contracts to be regularly fulfilled. To-day, however, the rains have relieved the situation, and the roots and field cabbage so much grown locally for dairy cattle, are again moving forward rapidly.

ONE is glad to hear that a good start is being made with the county fund for the benefit of Huntingdonshire sufferers in the storm of August 2. It is but a short time ago since a little trip into Hunts. and Bedford left upon the writer's mind a pleasant impression of productive cornfields, smiling faces, and general contentment at the prospect of an abundant and profitable harvest. To-day all is sadness and depression. In this instance, at any rate, the sensation-mongers of the daily press have not exaggerated the calamity. Many a farm, indeed, is a scene of perfect desolation. Nothing, it would seem, could stand up against the pelting of those big and sharp-edged hailstones; and as to the corn, it has not merely been laid flat, but threshed out, and deplorably beaten and battered. The loss probably represents a year's rent in many cases; and even the income-tax people admit a year's agricultural rent as equal to three years' profits. It has been said, that one county fund at least has made a good start. So I am informed by a local correspondent; but it is not to be supposed that these purely agricultural counties will ever be able to raise enough to make good a half of the damage.

August 23, 1906.

On Monday Sir Mark J. M'Taggart Stewart, Bart., of Southwick, presided over a large and representative meeting at Castle-Douglas, held for the purpose of considering what form a proposed memorial to the late Mr. James Biggar, of Carlton, should take. Sir Mark gave an interesting and eulogistic account of the life of the deceased agriculturist. A large committee was appointed, and the hope expressed that the meeting might result in a bursary being instituted in memory of the deceased.

FARMS

never remain unlet when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express."

The charge is Sixpence per Line per Insertion.

Notes of the Week.

Our notes of this week cannot truthfully depict agriculture in a happy condition, if considered all round.

The present spell of harvest weather is a blessing, but the recent gales and hail have wrought sad havoc in certain districts.

For the sufferers in the Eastern Midlands we feel very sorry, and hope practical sympathy will be forthcoming on a liberal scale.

This feeling found expression in the sympathetic leader that appeared in our paper last week.

We hope it will have helped to awaken interest, resulting in a ready flow of subscriptions to the fund.

Remember the old Latin tag:—
Bis dat qui cito dat.

We have to record that the potato blight has broken out in a severe form in the West of Ireland.

The dull wet weather is helping to develop the disease with a rapidity that threatens to ruin the crop.

The small farming classes of that district are always on the verge of destitution, and a misfortune to the potato crop means ruin to many a poor family.

The Government is already being asked to find funds to stave off starvation.

What an untold blessing it would be if a really disease-resisting tuber could be introduced.

Potato seedsmen are striving after this ideal, and much is hoped from the new variety with the long name of Solanum Commersoni Violet.

But will it act up to its high reputation when grown in old disease-tainted soils.

Evil communications may corrupt its good manners.

The blight of the present hop crop is depicted as the worst since 1882.

In our sympathy for the hop-growers, we ought not to forget the disappointment of the poor hop-pickers.

Hundreds of them will be deprived of their annual picnic in the hop-gardens.

There's a lot of woe, now let us turn to the brighter side of the picture.

It is satisfactory to find prominent members of the Liberal party sound on the question of keeping our flocks and herds free from disease.

The Under Secretary for India at Scalby Agricultural Show said he was in favour of absolute restriction of importation of any possible disease from abroad.

He rightly remarked that we sent to all parts of the world our very best breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, and it was absolutely necessary to preserve them from risks of contamination.

A freak of Nature may be seen on an allotment at Tolleshunt D'Arcy, in Essex, gooseberries and apples growing on one tree.

A branch of an apple tree having broken off, a gooseberry seed has been deposited in the cavity, probably by a bird.

According to a note in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture, the wages of farm labourers after going up right from the year 1896 now show a sign of a slight diminution.

What influence will the increase of small holdings have on the farm labour question?

If its effect is to draw men back from towns well and good—but if the allotments are taken by men now working on the farms, it will create friction and dissatisfaction.

Ten years ago there appears to have been 117,968 holdings of above one acre and under five acres in extent.

Last year there were only 110,259 such holdings, being a reduction of over 7,700 holdings.

Why is this, if small holdings are so much in demand, and can be worked so successfully?

Much is spoken now of the advantages to be gained by co-operation. I am sometimes reminded of that blessed word "mesopotania."

No doubt co-operation, properly organised, is a move in the right direction. We would not say a word to check its development.

But don't let the word be used as a red herring to divert attention from evils that should be remedied.

And the advantage to be hoped for from co-operation should not deter any of us from individual effort.

When all is said and done, the success of a farmer must be based upon his own hard work and sound judgment.

The remarks a fortnight ago concerning English breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle and their auction sales evidently touched on a sore point.

We are reminded of the subject by the receipt of the catalogue of Lord Redesdale's herd, which has been removed to Perth for sale.

Breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle are always grumbling that Englishmen do not appraise their herds at the proper value.

Is it cause or effect that makes them fly to Perth?

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," *3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

Itch in Young Pigs.

I have a pig, sixteen weeks old, which has a very troubled-like skin; there seems to be an awful itch about it. At first an eruption broke out behind the forelegs and inside the flanks and belly, and it scratches itself until it bleeds. I dressed it with carbolic acid, train oil, and sulphur, thinking it was eczema. But as soon as I got it all right like in appearance, the scratching that it goes on with soon makes it start afresh. I think there must be a something that is causing that itch in the skin that I fail to find out, but would like very much to know. The feeding consists of wheatmeal and sharps, but have changed the wheat to maize with plenty of green food. It may be as well to know I examined the pig and found its skin excessively hot.—FITZ.

Answer: Pigs frequently, from various causes, show signs of irritation of the skin by scratching and rubbing. Occasionally the trouble is lice, and sometimes mange or "itch"—technically scabies—but, happily, porcine scabies is rare in this country. Lice you ought to be able to see, if the pig has been carefully examined, because the pig louse is a big one, the largest of the tribe, and it is scarcely possible to overlook its presence. The determination of the existence of itch is not so easy, for it requires experience and skill in the use of the microscope to differentiate between itch and eczema. This is one difficulty; and when we tell you that the usual treatment for eczema is powerless to cure mange, and that suitable for mange is likely to aggravate eczema, you will easily understand our reluctance to advise treatment. We can only suggest washing with dog soap, and then applying simple sulphur ointment or sulphur and carbolised oil daily with a little friction.

Mare with a Thick Leg.

I have a grey mare; as near as I can say she is ten or eleven years old. I have had her about one month. She is very full on her off-side hind leg, round the fetlock and about 5 in. up her leg; her heel is quite dry. She is worse on Monday morning after Sunday's rest. It is quite dry and no discharge whatever, no offensive smell. Is it what you call a Monday morning leg? She goes quite sound. Could you advise a powder to be given in her food to reduce it? She is a very free driver. I use her for a small waggonette. Her near leg is slightly swelled, but not so bad as the off-side; but there is no sign of grease on either leg. I feed on clover, chop, bran, and crushed oats, damp in stable, but dry in nosebag, with unlimited long hay in rack.—D. K.

Answer: Your question, "Is it what you call a Monday morning leg?" suggests that you have some idea as to the character of the enlargement of the limb, even if you do not properly appreciate its cause. The answer is, Yes. But it appears to be a phase of the disease in which the enlargement has become permanent, and for the reduction of which treatment, or at least ordinary measures, are of no avail. Repeated attacks of lymphangitis, which is the technical name for "Monday morning leg," invariably result in what is termed chronic chick leg, a condition the veterinary surgeon calls elephantiasis. The name is very suggestive of the appearance of the limb. We are sorry we cannot assist you to reduce what you must now regard as a permanent enlargement, but as the establishment of elephantiasis does not put a stop to the recurrent attacks of lymphangitis we might perhaps help you in this direction.

VETERINARY PREPARATIONS, and Small Articles of a Portable Character, sell readily when brought regularly before the readers of the "Mark Lane Express."

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28.—Spurling's Sale of Southdowns at Ipswich—Wyatt's Sale of Southdowns at Selsey—Airedale Agricultural Show—Cartmel Agricultural Show—Hawes Agricultural Show—Chester-le-Street Stock Fair—Preston Cheese Fair—Penrith Cattle Fair—Spalding Horse and Cattle Fair—York Horse Sale—Ipswich Horse Sale—Sending-in day for Towyn Agricultural Show, for Peterborough Foal Show, and for Bourne (Lincolnshire) Show.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29.—Guildford Agricultural Show—Cheshire Agricultural Show, at Chester—Warwickshire Agricultural Show at Nuneaton—Penrith Lamb Sale—Leek and Ilminster Cheese Fairs—Agricultural Fairs at Colne, Shrewsbury, Saintfield, and Watford—Cattle Fair at Newport Pagnell.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30.—The Brewood District Show at Somerford Park, Staffordshire—East Somerset Agricultural Show at Bruton—North Stoneham Agricultural Show—Sales: Sheep at Ruddington, Southdowns at Godalming, and Shropshire Sheep at Craven Arms, Shropshire—Hope Valley Show at Hope—Leominster Show—Carmarthen Show—The Chiltern Hills District Show at Wendover—Sending-in day Sedbergh Show.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Thornton's Sale of Cattle and Pigs at Doncaster—Knighton Horse, Dog, Poultry, and Pigeon Show—Dispersion Sale of the Shropshire, Norton House, Flock—Cockermouth Cattle Fair—Last Day of Cereal Year: Farmers should save "statistics for 12 months ending August 31."

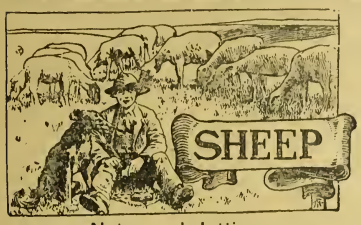
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.—Cowshill Show, Durham—Crawshawbooth Show, Lancashire—Middleton Agricultural Show, in Teesdale—Ammanford Horse Show—First Annual Show of the Saddleworth Agricultural Society—Blandford and Basingstoke Fairs—Sending-in day for the Blenheim, Ampleforth, Wear Valley, Thame, and Melton Shows.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.—Bedwellty Show at Blackwood—Dronfield Show—Gillingham Show—Cirencester Sheep Fair—Evesham Horse, Cattle, and Sheep Fair—Oxford Fair—Tredegar Cattle Fair—Welshpool Horse Fair—Sending-in day for the Aylsham Show and for the Bellingham Show.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.—Bicester Show—Moorgreen Show—Hawkshead Show—Shepton Mallett Show—Kilnsey Show, for Wharfedale—Cowbridge Show, for the Vale of Glamorgan—Thornton's Sale of Shorthorns at Helmsley—Ashbourne Cheese Fair—Ashford Lamb Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Bury St. Edmunds, Crewkerne, Macclesfield, Rawtenstall, Westbury, Sudbury, and Barnet—Sending-in day for the Leighton Buzzard Show and for the Brecon County Show.

A record in harvest operations has been established on Sir Cuthbert Quilter's Ramsholt Lodge Farm, where 400 acres has been harvested in nineteen days.

A Cow in a Cellar.—Much excitement was caused in Guildford on market day by the vagaries of a cow. Attracted apparently by the display in the window, it entered a fruiterer's shop. The ladies who were inside fled precipitately to the cellar, but the cow followed calmly enough, and when reaching the grating which admitted the light, appeared to be perfectly quiet, and the ladies were able to make their escape. The difficulty of getting the animal out of the cellar was a problem not easily overcome. Boards were placed on the steps in the hope of inducing the animal to climb up, but in vain. Ropes were then placed round its neck, and a pulley was rigged up, but it would not budge. The paving was then taken up, and an opening made in the roadway, at which juncture Mr. Boylett, a veterinary surgeon, arrived, and having expressed himself capable of driving the animal upstairs, descended to the cellar, soothed the animal, and in a short time it was seen mounting the steps, after having been imprisoned close upon five hours.



Notes and Jottings.

THE excessive heat and dry winds are marring the prospect of the winter root supply in many districts, but as a rule even in the driest districts there does not appear to be an unusual amount of mildew for the time of year; so the swede crop is by no means settled with, as if good rains come before this, there may be sufficient autumn growth to secure a good crop. But every day tends against this, so long as wet is withheld. In view of the trying time that the root crop is passing through in the districts largely supplied by sheep from the Western Counties, it is satisfactory to notice that lambs and stores are holding their price as well as they are doing. It must mean that the prospects of the root crop are not considered too black, or that the position of the trade in the future is regarded as being very strong—it is most probably the latter. This receives confirmation from the sound prices which rule for rams of practically all breeds.

THE cutting of the corn has revealed a thin plant of clover in many districts through the want of moisture at various periods during the summer, and there is need of filling up in many places, even where the plant has not entirely failed. The need for all the help that can be obtained for increasing the sheep food supply in early spring and summer impresses the necessity of getting in a liberal quantity of suitable catch crops at the earliest convenient time. The land in many districts has been very dry for the catch crops sown for autumn feeding, and the situation is worse in respect to the crops for spring feeding; still the crops must be got in, or there will be nothing to grow, and rain will in ordinary course come to their assistance. We have seen a great many very light crops of mangels in very widely lying districts, which does not give a hopeful prospect for spring feed, and makes a special reason for persisting in getting as much as possible of the crops which come into use between the finishing of the root crop and the starting of the grass.

WHILE General Booth has gained the appreciation of a very large portion of his countrymen for his labours in helping the more helpless in time of need, it is less as an agriculturist than as one capable of dealing with workers in town slums that his endeavours are likely to prosper. His statement that sheep farming should give way to universal gardening throughout the country, which he made to his listeners in Wiltshire, is regrettable, as showing that he has made a miscalculation as to the value of our sheep husbandry as well as to the importance of gardening. Sheep farming is one large industry in connection with the land which is profitable, and the land carries some 30,000,000 sheep, mainly on land that is more profitably employed in raising mutton and wool than it would be in gardening. Moreover, it would be difficult to raise so many sheep in the kingdom that a market for them could not be found; on the other hand, only quite a nominal increase in land under garden and vegetable cropping would preclude the prospect of profit to the producer, under the conditions which obtain in respect to the importation of fruit and garden produce.

GREAT Britain comprises a little short of 57,000,000 acres, of which about 33,000,000 are under cropping or grass; therefore in spite of other produce raised there is practically a sheep per acre maintained, if what is known as waste land is excepted; and it is certainly unfortunate that General Booth should make a public statement urging the limitation of the sheep industry in favour of an industry which at present does not cover 1,000,000 acres, and which if only 1,000,000 acres were added to it would bring destitution to practically all who embarked in it.

SHEEP find employment for a large number of labourers independently of shepherds, because it is only by the aid of sheep that a very big area is kept under arable cropping. Light arable land carrying from two to three head of sheep an acre must produce many other crops, because it would be impossible to keep the land wholesome for sheep without them. General Booth was speaking in Wilts which, with neighbouring counties, probably raises the largest quantity of mutton per acre over an extended area than over any similar area in the world, and it is quite certain but for sheep that land would not be in cultivation. In converting that land into arable, farmers went quite as far into the thin-skinned Downs as was consistent with profit. Many of them would very gladly give up the higher portions of their land to others, but it would be rank absurdity to look for a profit on them from any form of gardening.

WITH sheep coming on to the stubbles care is needed to observe that there are not injurious weeds among them in excessive quantity. Mayweed (stinking chamomile) very frequently causes trouble through poisoning the noses and lips of sheep—the stubbles pecking the nose and so allowing the poisonous matter to enter. At times so many sheep are troubled in this way that it is mistaken for aphtha. This, however, is only likely to occur when there is a large quantity of mayweed present, though fields with a large quantity are by no means rare. This weed has a bad effect on the animal if they eat it freely, as they sometimes do when other food is scarce, and if taken in large quantity may cause death. When there is a plentiful supply of better food they rarely eat it.

Mr. J. STOOKE'S SOUTH DEVON RAMS, WINNERS OF SEVERAL PRIZES.

South Devon Rams.

The South Devon rams illustrated above are the property of Mr. J. Stooke, Sherford, Plymouth, who has won with them the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe's Challenge Cup; the special prize presented by Mr. F. B. Mildmay, M.P., for the best group of six yearling rams at the Devon County Show. It may be added that Mr. Stooke has also won the cup at Launceston for best six yearling ewes and firsts at the Royal, Devon County, Royal Cornwall, and other shows with animals from his well-known flock.

THE WEEK'S SALES.

Newmarket.

Mr. J. Blencowe had about 6,000 sheep, chiefly pure-bred Suffolks from well-known flocks, for disposal at his thirtieth annual sale at Newmarket, and a good trade was experienced, there being a large attendance of buyers. The catalogue included the entire flock of Mr J. T. Stockburn, Clare, and among his animals were five shearling ewes, first prize and society's silver medal as lambs, 1905, which fetched 80s. per head; another five shearling ewes, second prize, South Suffolk Show, 1906, made 78s. per head; twenty others realised from 76s. to 70s.; and eighteen more (including five sucklers) 67s. per head. Twenty three-shear ewes fetched 75s. to 74s.; seventeen others 67s. per head. Ten full-mouthed ewes (four years old) fetched 78s. per head. Others from 64s. to 61s., and the rest of Mr. Stockburn's full-mouthed ewes ranged from 65s. to 58s., and from 58s. to 48s. per head. His ewe lambs made from 54s. to 50s., and down to 48s. per head. The other lots of Suffolks sold at very much the same prices as above. Hampshire Down and half-bred shearling ewes included Messrs. Colchester and Ball's consignment from Burwell of over 170 Hampshire Down shearling ewes, most of which fetched 50s. per head, and others from 49s. 6d. to 49s.

The Cholderton Hampshire Downs.

A fine draft of forty-four rams from the Stratford-sub-Castle section of the Cholderton Flock, and six specially selected ram lambs for letting from the Cholderton Lodge Flock, the property of Mr. H. C. Stephens, of Cholderton, were offered at Britford Fair by Mr. J. Lavington, and they realised satisfactory prices, the average for the fifty let and sold being £12 16s. Of the rams for letting, the Marquis of Winchester hired at 35 guineas, Mr. Cary Coles at 25 guineas, the auctioneer at 18 guineas, Mr. H. Waters at 15 guineas, and Mr. Good and Mr. Matthews at 13 guineas. Mr. Good bought at 23 guineas and 13 guineas; Mr. E. D. Brieant at 22 guineas; Mr. Notley at 21 guineas; Mr. Pritchard at 18 guineas and 9½ guineas; Mr. Pitter at 17 guineas, 10 guineas, 9 guineas, 8 guineas, and 7 guineas; Mr. H. Waters at 16 guineas; Mr. Matthews at 16 guineas and 8 guineas; Mr. Butt at 15 guineas and 9 guineas; Mr. W. J. Chalker at 15 guineas; Mr. G. Judd at 13 guineas; Mr. Brock at 13 guineas; Mr. Wiltshire at 12 guineas, 11 guineas, and 7 guineas; Mr. Pullin at 12 guineas; and others up to 11½ guineas.

Colchester.

Messrs. Sexton and Grimwade's annual sale of rams at Colchester took place on the 18th inst., when Suffolks formed a large proportion of the entries. Mr. John Eagle, of Walton Hall, entered twenty ram lambs; two of these, by Walton Burton III., sold at 7¾ and 7 guineas, and others realised from 6¾ guineas downwards. A shearling ram, by Walton Burton V., sold at 11¼ guineas, and two others realised 7 guineas and 5¼ guineas. Twelve ram lambs, entered by Mr. D. Abbott Green, of Fingringhoe Hall, brought from 7 guineas to 4 guineas. Other consignors of ram lambs included Mr. E. Giles, of Great Clacton, and Mr. Charles Cousins, of Great Tey (from 5 guineas). Blackfaced ewe lambs, from Mrs. Barton, of Alresford Lodge, realised 44s. 6d. per head, and half-bred ewe and wether lambs, from Mr. R. J. Sage, of Monkwick, brought 33s. 6d. and 31s. 9d. per head. Blackfaced ewes from Mr. A. H. Eagle, of Pete Hall, sold at 45s. 6d. per head, and wethers from Mr. T. B. Pertwee, 38s. 6d. per head.

Shropshire Sheep at the Sydney Show and Sales.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. have received advice of the prices made at the first day's sale of sheep at Sydney, New South Wales, which show a satisfactory demand. Mr. Harry Williams' ram, Hanroyd, changed hands at 185 guineas, and his best ewe at 70 guineas. The following are some of the other best sales:—Mr. H. Williams, 104 ewes, average 24 guineas; Mr. A. E. Mansell, eleven ewes, average 34½ guineas; Mr. T. J. Burbury, eleven ewes, average 19½ guineas; Mr. Button, fourteen ewes, average 13 guineas; Mr. H. Williams, eleven rams, average 39 guineas; Mr. A. E. Mansell, three rams, average 27 guineas; Mr. T. J. Burbury, five rams, average 20 guineas.

Sir P. A. Muntz's Shropshires.

As usual, there was a large attendance of breeders and buyers at Sir P. A. Muntz's annual sale of Shropshire sheep at Dunsmore, held on Tuesday, and some good prices were realised. The highest price was for a ram by Dunsmore President, which was bought at 70 guineas for Mr.

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised, there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

Kermode, of Tasmania. For other rams by the same sire Dr. Wall paid 15 guineas and 10 guineas, Mr. Minton 17 guineas, Mr. Rowley 15 guineas, Mr. W. J. Crofts 10½ guineas and 9 guineas, and Mr. Arther Fabling 8½ guineas. For other rams Mr. Gamble gave 11 guineas, and Mr. Loverock 10½ guineas. Ewes made up to 90s. per head. Messrs. A. Mansell and Co. were the auctioneers.

The Brandesburton Lincoln Longwools.

At the annual sale of Lincoln Longwool rams, bred at Brandesburton Barff, in the East Riding, prices, although not quite up to last year, were satisfactory, and some high figures were reached. Mr. Robt. Dixon, Dunnington, welcomed a large company. Eighty shearling rams of excellent quality, with heavy fleeces, were submitted for competition. Mr. S. E. Dean, Dowsby Hall, gave 115 guineas for a grand sheep. Mr. Nelson, purchasing for the Argentine, secured another for 105 guineas. The next highest prices were 95 guineas by Mr. J. E. Caswell, Laughton; 70 guineas by Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove; 30 guineas and 40 guineas by Mr. Nelson (for the Argentine). The total amount realised for the rams was £1,811 14s., an average of over £23 each. Seventy-nine breeding ewes were sold at sums varying from £9 to £13 each, the average being about £6 10s. They were bought chiefly by Captain Baring, Mr. Savege, and Mr. Carsarres (London), principally for exportation.

Lockerbie.

At the sale of Cheviot and Blackfaced lambs held at Lockerbie last week trade was decidedly slower than at the first sale this season, and although prices were in advance of late years, they were distinctly lower than prices current a fortnight ago. Secondary lambs were in strong demand, and very dear. The best class of Cheviots may be quoted at 16s. 6d. to 20s. 9d., and smaller sorts from 12s. 9d. to 15s. 3d. Blackfaced lambs experienced a very good market, all the lots showing an advance on last year's prices. Top lots sold at 15s. to 19s., and secondary sorts from 10s. to 14s. each.

Birmingham.

The seventy-fifth sale of pure-bred Shropshire sheep held in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, under the auspices of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association, took place on Thursday, when the feature was the strong demand for rams for shipment abroad. The home trade was also very buoyant, and the sale was one of the best of the long series. Over 200 rams from some of the best flocks in the Kingdom were entered, and there was also a good selection of ewes. Mr. S. F. M. Nevett paid 66 guineas for a ram from the flock of Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., at Holker, whilst a companion, which had carried off honours at the Royal Lancashire Show, fetched 20 guineas. A South American buyer paid 48 guineas for a Royal winner from the flock of Mr. Matthew Williams, and Mr. W. H. Cooke, Shelsley Kings, secured another ram from the same pen for 30 guineas. Mrs. W. F. Inge, of Thorpe Hall, had the distinctinction of realising the best average for her rams. One made 33 guineas, two 31 guineas, and another 21 guineas. There was also keen competition for the entries of Mr. A. S. Berry, Mr. Edward Nock, and Lady Ada Rothschild. The best price for ewes was 92s. 6d., which was obtained by Mr. Berry's entry.

Mr. Coxon's Shropshires.

On Wednesday Messrs. Mansell and Co. conducted the annual sale of pure-bred Shropshire sheep from the Elford flock, the property of Mr. Charles Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth. The catalogue consisted of forty rams and seventy-one shearling ewes, all of the finest breeding, and they experienced a ready sale. The highest price of the day was realised for a shearling ram, which was sold for 50 guineas to the Hon. Victor Cavendish. Dr. B. Wall, of Coleshill, bought a three-shear ram for 20 guineas and a two-shear animal for 15 guineas, the latter for shipment to Philadelphia. Mr. P. G. Hughes purchased rams at 10, 9½, 8½, 7½, and 7 (two) guineas to go to South America. Several rams were sold to Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Shenstone Court, at 10½, 8½, 6, and 5½ guineas. Other prices realised for rams included 18, 11, and 9½ guineas. Fourteen pens of shearling ewes were disposed of at prices ranging from 125s. to 55s. per head.

The Bentley Hall Suffolks.

Owing to ill-health Mr. J. Keeble has had to give up his famous Bentley Hall flock of pedigree Suffolk sheep, and on Thursday Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, in conjunction with Mr. E. Prentice, secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, brought the animals under the hammer at Bentley Hall, near Ipswich. The flock was established as far back as 1870, and it has for many years enjoyed a high reputation for the excellent grazing and breeding character of its produce. With the exception of twenty first-class shearling ewes, bred by Sir Thomas Barrett Lennard, Bart., which were added to the flock in 1879, the replenishment of the flock in each year was by the addition of the best of the home-bred shearling ewes. The rams used were selected with great care, and were almost entirely home-bred. That the high standard of the flock was well maintained is shown by the fact that at the last inspection of flocks in the district the one at Bentley Hall was scheduled "All excellent," in addition to gaining prizes at county and local shows too numerous to mention, and its dispersal is to be regretted.

As was to be expected there was a very large company of breeders present at the sale, and some good prices were realised, the averages of the different sections being as follows:—Sixty-eight shearling ewes, £4 14s. 9d.; fifty-one two-shear ewes, £5 7s. 2d.; forty three-shear ewes, £4 13s. 5d; forty-one full-mouthed ewes, £3 9s. 7d.; 100 ewe lambs, £3 4s. 6d.; twenty-four ram lambs, £8 11s. 6d. The rams and ram lambs met a keen demand. Mr. J. W. Eagle got the ram Bentley Bugler, by Grange Earl V., and bred by Mr. D. Abbott Green for 40 guineas, while Mr. Clement Keeble gave 24 guineas for Bentley Ensign, by Brantham Fancy, lambed 1904, bred by Mr. J. R. Keeble. The best of the ram lambs was bought by Mr. Thomas Rudland, who got a choice animal by Bentley Ensign at 25 guineas; Mr. J. R. Keeble took another by Bentley Perfect at 16 guineas; Mr. Edmund Giles one by Bentley Standard at 14 guineas, and Mr. S. R. Sherwood one at 18 guineas, whilst others sold up to 9 guineas. The ewes, which were sold in pens of five, realised as follows:—Shearlings up to £6 15s., two-shears up to £7 10s., three-shear, £7, and full-mouthed ewes to £5, whilst ewe lambs made up to £4 5s.

Ipswich.

The time-honoured Ipswich Lamb Fair took place, as usual, on the 22nd inst., but it was nothing like it used to be. Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons held their annual sale of rams, ewes, and lambs, and offered about 1,000, including Suffolks, Southdowns, Lincolns, Oxford Downs, and Wensleydales. There was a good attendance of buyers, and, notwithstanding the drought, a firm trade was experienced for all descriptions. Suffolk ram lambs made up to 7¼ guineas, this also being the top price for Oxford Down and Lincoln shearling rams. Southdown ewes realised from 37s. to 40s., Suffolk shearling ewes up to 54s. 6d., mixed ages to 52s. 6d., crosses 30s. 6d., and lambs to 37s., whilst cross-breds and half-breds made from 30s. to 35s.

Messrs. Spurlings and Hempson also held an auction sale, their catalogue comprising about 1,200 animals. Southdown shearling rams made up to 8 guineas, Cotswolds to 4¼ guineas, and Oxford Downs up to 5 guineas, whilst the ewes sold as follows:—Suffolk shearlings up to 66s., half-breds to 59s., and others up to 50s.

Hereford.

Messrs. A. and D. Edwards, of Hereford and Leominster, held their first special ewe and ram sale in the Hereford Cattle Market on Wednesday, when a number of ram lambs and 500 Shropshire and cross-bred ewes were offered. The highest price paid for ram lambs was 10 guineas for an Oxford Down ram lamb by Juror (4755). This sire won 4th at the Royal Show. Mr. Bonnor Barling was the purchaser, and he also gave 6½ gs. for an Oxford Down ram lamb by Park Royal, which won first at the Royal, Bath and West, and Oxfordshire shows. Other prices ranged from 6 guineas to 4 guineas. The ewes did not sell so well, the highest bid taken being 49s. apiece for Shropshire ewes. The prices for other Shropshire ewes averaged from 44s. 6d. down to 35s. 6d. Cross-bred and Radnor ewes made from 49s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.

Marlborough.

Marlborough Sheep Fair was held on Wednesday, when there was a good supply and a brisk trade for both ewes and lambs, ewes showing a distinct advance on recent fairs, whilst lambs sold fully as well. Mr. Thomas Lavington held a very large sale of sheep by auction, his entry including 11,000 Hampshire Down ewes and lambs, eighty Hampshire Down ram lambs, bred by Mr H. C. Stephens at Cholderton, seventy ditto from Mr. George Judd's flock at Cocum, and twenty-five from Mr. S. Darling's flock at Beckhampton. Seventy-three of Mr. Stephens' were sold at an average of £7 15s. 6d. Of these, one realised 12 guineas, one 10½ guineas, four 10 guineas, three 9½ guineas, four 9 guineas. Fifty-seven of Mr. Judd's realised an average of £5 14s., the top prices being 9½ guineas and 8½ guineas, whilst Mr. Darling's were all sold at an average of £7 8s. 6d., and he secured the top price of the day, namely, 45 guineas for an excellent lamb.

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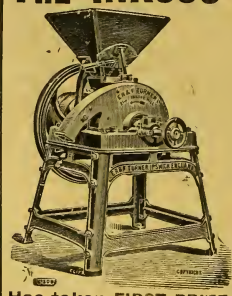

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Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

A FEW years ago, save in a few districts where his many good qualities were well known, the pony was looked upon as at best a kind of toy. Some breeders, whose industry and intelligence succeeded in breeding miniature horses, were looked upon as wasting their time and money, which, said the critics, could have been employed to much greater advantage in breeding weight-carrying horses of the Hunter and Hackney type. That Time brings with it inevitable changes is a truism, and nowhere are changes so marked as they are in the horse world. And in the whirligig of Time ponies have been more and more thought of, till at present they are a very fashionable and a very marketable community indeed.

IT will probably be said that this popularity is due to polo, which, as a sport, has become quite naturalised in England. This, I think, is scarcely accurate, for the popularity of the pony is not confined to animals of the Polo Pony type. No doubt polo drew attention in the first place to pony breeding on a more systematic plan than had been hitherto adopted, and the Polo Pony misfits—by Polo Pony misfits I mean those which were outsized—had to be used for some purpose. Many of these were exceedingly good looking, and their many virtues were soon recognised, and breeding riding ponies without especial regard to polo became an objective of some breeders. Since then the pony has become more popular every day, and at our agricultural shows whatever classes may fail to fill they are rarely to be found in the pony section.

IT is curious that the earlier attempts to improve the pony by systematic breeding were all on harness lines. Or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that the systematic breeding of high-class ponies synchronised with the gradual development of the Hackney into a harness horse. The famous Sir Horace and his progenitors were of the Hackney type in shape and action, and not so very many years ago a pony of the Hackney type—that is, of the Harness Hackney type—was sure to win at any show. This, however, no longer prevails, and frequently at the ring-side one hears the remark, "That is not a pony—it is a miniature Hackney," and there is a strong objection to prizes being given to ponies of this type unless in harness classes.

IT would, indeed, be strange—as seems not at all unlikely—that as the first attempts at systematic pony breeding were on the lines of developing him into a harness pony of the Hackney type, so it will be through the pony that we shall get the typical riding horse, which to a certain extent has been lost. The one thing to be careful about is that in improving the pony we do not lose the pony type. When the type of a breed is lost, many of its good qualities follow, and as we do not want miniature Hackneys, neither do we want miniature Thoroughbreds. Our pony breeds should be developed on pony lines, and the present trend of criticism, and concurrently of judging, is in this direction. There is, however, always a danger that enthusiastic breeders may carry their "improvements" too far, and so the original type may be lost sight of.

MANY years ago Lord Harrington called attention to the value of the pony strain in Hunter breeding. There can be no doubt that he was right in this direction, and if the pedigree of many of our good weight-carrying Hunters could be traced, there is little doubt but what some pony blood would be found. One of the best Hunters I ever knew was by a Thoroughbred horse—Cape Flyaway to wit—from a pony mare. The mare was a small one, standing under rather than over 14 hands 1 in., and her pedigree was unknown. The horse grew longer than is usual, that perhaps being accounted for by the fact that he was badly "done," and, perhaps, by the pony blood. At any rate, he grew to be 15 hands 3 in., and was well up to 15 stone. He did not show any pony character in his appearance, but he had all the tough wiry character of the Moorland or Dales pony.

Mr. F. B. BLOSSETT MAULE'S NIMBLE NINEPENCE.
Winner of First Prize in the Single Harness Class at the Bournemouth Horse Show.

THERE is little doubt that our Forest and Moorland ponies are to a considerable extent of Eastern descent. The Exmoor ponies certainly show this in many particulars, and tradition traces their descent from Arab forefathers. The same may be said of the New Forest pony, and also of the Dartmoor, though probably there is not so much Eastern blood as the Exmoor possesses. It is, however, questionable whether the sturdier ponies of the north—the Fell ponies and the dale ponies—which were once so numerous, possess any Eastern blood at all. They are built quite on different lines; some of them almost like miniature clean-legged cart horses, short-legged, wide, and capable of carrying a great weight or drawing a great weight. Ponies of this class were shown at the Durham County Show at Wolsingham, and it was interesting to see that the classes were well filled. They are pretty largely bred in the western dales leading up to the moors in the county of Durham, and there they answer a good purpose, both for draught and also as hacks, and very good hacks some of them are on the rough moor roads.

NOTWITHSTANDING their many good qualities, it does not seem likely that the Dales ponies, of which I am speaking, will become general favourites, for though they are sturdy and have a fair amount of pace, they are scarcely stylish enough to meet modern fashionable requirements. And perhaps it is all the better that it is so, for the sake of the breed itself, which it would be a pity to cross out of recognition. And a breed of this kind seems to flourish best where it supplies a local need. Then it is bred on practical lines, and not in accordance with preconceived theories, which may have a good practical end, but which again may not. There is no doubt that the Cleveland Bay does much better, and is bred more correctly to type, in his native country than in the south, because in his native country he is used as a farm horse on the moorland farms and East Moor dales, and in breeding him at home, as it were, this fact is never lost sight of.

THE fact which breeders should bear in mind, whatever breed of horses they may select to try their hands on, is that no breed of horses is an "exotic," if I may be allowed to use the phrase. The moment a breed of horses ceases to be a practical value—so soon as there is no work for it to do—so soon will it begin to deteriorate and to lose its characteristics. If there was no hunting Hunters would cease to be, as we know Hunters nowadays. There might be horses bred which would be called Hunters, but they would be nothing like the Hunters of the present day. There would be no incentive to breed them with a view to the requirements of a hunting man. Stamina, pace, jumping powers, would not be needed, and they would disappear. And so of other breeds. The great strength of any breed, after all, lies in the men who build their horses for ordinary workaday life.

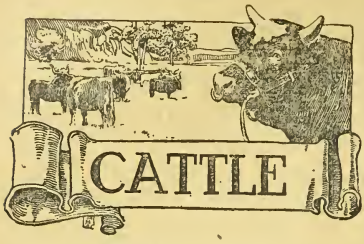
WEALTHY amateurs—who do so much for horse breeding in this country that it almost seems ungracious to call them amateurs—would do well to bear this in mind. Some of them do, notably Shire horse breeders and Polo pony breeders. The danger is to be apprehended from amateur breeders with strong prejudices, or perhaps it would be more polite to say, strong theories of breeding. These gentlemen, with the best of intentions, are sometimes tempted to lose sight of the original use of the breed they devote their attention to, in the quest of what, I fear, can be best described as "the unattainable."

ONE breed, and a very valuable breed it was, has been irrecoverably lost to us. I refer to the Northumberland Vardy Horse, of which I have heard a good deal, but of which I have never seen a specimen. The late Sir Jacob Wilson told me that he had seen one when he was a boy, but that the breed was practically extinct then. The Vardy horse, as I have heard him described, was a black horse standing on a short leg, short coupled, and capable of taking half a draught even on the strongest of the Northumberland land. He was also a very active horse and a fine mover, and he could carry a man a long journey at a good round pace. His weight carrying capacity was naturally great, and he was in his day in great request as a saddle horse in the north. The origin of the breed is somewhat obscure, but so far as can be judged from descriptions of it, it was produced by a mixture of Eastern blood, the Libyan horse, with the breeds of Northern Europe. According to Professor Ridgeway's theory, this would account for the colour. As for what has come of him, the probability is that from seventy to a hundred years ago he was absorbed by the Clydesdale on one side and the Hackney on the other. But however he went, it is deeply to be regretted that he has gone for ever, and his loss should make us all the more careful to see that we retain as much as possible the characteristics of our old breeds, and especially of our old breeds of ponies.

THE LOOKER-ON.

The Ottringham Grange Hackneys.

An important sale of Hackneys took place on Thursday, for on that day Messrs. R. R. Leonard and Son and Messrs. G. Tanton and Son disposed of a number of Mr. J. Cappison's animals from his well-known Ottringham Grange Stud, near Hull. As pointed out in a previous issue, many famous animals have hailed from this stud, whilst the animals offered last week were sired by such noted animals as Garton Duke of Connaught, St. Thomas, Goldfinder VI., St. Anthony, St. John, Langton Connaught, Lord Kimberley, Gentleman John, &c. The sale attracted a large company, but bidding was by no means brisk, and the prices, considering the quality of the animals, were very disappointing. The only three-figure price was 150 guineas, which Mr. Coverdale, Beverley, paid for Bright Dorothy by Garton Duke of Connaught, a very true mover of a good type. The next best price was only 58 guineas, given by Mr. Beal, Sledmere, for the mare Grange Daisy, and the other lots went cheaply at prices up to 51 guineas. The total realised by the sale was £1,408, 25 mares and foals fetching £761, six two-year-old fillies £144, four yearling colts and fillies £84, and 11 geldings £354.



Notes and Jottings.

THE elaborate table of results at the recent Tring show in the butter tests reveals some terrible discrepancies in the way of richness of produce—discrepancies with regard to the characteristics of the breeds tested. In the class for cows not exceeding 900 lb. live-weight, one Jersey is stated to have given milk of such an utterly poverty-stricken quality as to require 46 lb. of milk to yield 1 lb. of butter; and a Shorthorn requiring 54 lb. of the former to produce 1 lb of the latter; whilst another Jersey requires 32 lb. and others 31 lb. of milk to give 1 lb. of butter; whilst 21 lb. up to 25 lb. ratios are quite common. Surely this points to a very unsatisfactory state of things from some cause or other, the general average richness of milk of these breeds being far in excess of what is here given.

THE very dry weather and consequent lack of nutrition in a great proportion of the bulky food consumed may have been the cause of considerably poorer milk than usual being given, but for a Shorthorn to require 54 lb. of milk to produce 1 lb. of butter is altogether absurd, and a Jersey requiring 46 lb. is still worse. If this very ridiculously low ratio was caused by the animals being out of health or by variations in the temperatures of the milk at separating, or of the cream at churning, such causes should be mentioned, or there may have been other reasons; at any rate for such a large proportion of Jerseys to come over a 20 lb. ratio is very prejudicial to the breed, and owners of such cows ought to take care that these animals never make such an exhibition of themselves before the public again.

THE one great feature of the Jersey cow is her ability to produce the richest milk obtainable, and to make butter of the highest possible quality at the lowest possible cost, but the results here indicated show the very reverse. The milking trials may also account for the poverty of these milks in a measure, some exhibitors feeding with a view to winning the milking competition as well as the butter test prize, and so long as the milk is up to the required standard of butter-fat the interest of the breed, so far as richness is concerned, is set on one side. In all fairness to breeders and exhibitors of Jersey cattle, any cow requiring over 20 lb. of milk to produce her pound of butter should by all means be disqualified from either receiving a prize or a certificate of merit.

PERHAPS the most phenomenal feature of these tests and trials was the remarkable performance of Captain Smith Neil's cross-bred cow Doctor, now twenty-four years old, and capable, as was proved in the Tring showyard, of winning a first milking prize in such keen competition. The milk yield of this little cross-bred cow was 55 lb. 8 oz., the butter yield from same being 1 lb. 12½ oz., giving a ratio of 31·43 lb. of milk to the pound of butter. It is generally proved by experience with most of our breeds of cattle that milk diminishes in richness as the animals increase in years. From this point of view Doctor's milk must be looked upon as fairly satisfactory, much more so than many of the others. It is a pity that her breeding (the precise cross) cannot be ascertained. Appearances rather favour the theory that the Ayrshire and Jersey were the groundwork.

FOLLOWING upon the concession granted to the Black Polled Cattle Society with regard to dating the ages of that breed from the 1st of December in each year instead of the 1st of January, it will be seen that at a meeting of the Welsh Black Cattle Society a motion was carried for petitioning the R.A.S.E. to grant similar concessions to this breed. Surely it will be an unsatisfactory business to have the Royal Catalogue showing such mixed dates as these, and one would think the wisest step to pursue would be for the dates of every breed of cattle to commence from December 1 instead of January 1, and thus put an end to the confusion that must ensue upon these mixed dates. All breeds would then stand upon an equal footing in the eyes of strangers who are unacquainted with the reasons why different dates are allowed.

TRAVELLING through a great extent of country during the past two weeks has given an opportunity of comparing notes as to the appearance of the cattle in different counties and districts of the country. The district that strikes one most favourably at the present time is the south-west, through the neighbourhood traversed by the Great Western Railway from Bristol to Exeter. Along this route, covering some seventy or eighty miles, it is pretty safe to say that there are more and better cattle than could be found in any similar area or distance in the United Kingdom. The district is one largely composed of grass land, and includes those rich marshes in the region of Bridgwater, where some of the finest Devon cattle are grown and converted into beef.

AT the present time this district, like practically all parts of the country, is suffering from shortness of keep, though the pastures have a fresher appearance than in many districts. The great numbers of cattle to be seen from the windows of the railway carriage are what strikes the traveller first, and secondly the general quality of the stock. There is more uniformity here than is seen perhaps anywhere else. For a long distance after leaving Exeter *en route* for Bristol, the herds are almost entirely purely bred Devons, and many of these are so conspicuously good as to be quite striking even when travelling at express speed. Most of them, too, are in very satisfactory condition, whilst not a few herds also give the impression of being at least fairly good milkers.

THE absence of cross-bred stock was also a noticeable feature of this journey, and certainly results, so far as could be seen, were very much in favour of pure-bred stock breeding. North of Bristol another very useful class of cattle predominate, not purely bred these, for the whitish faces and other white markings upon a red ground indicated unmistakably the cross of the white face (Hereford) and the Shorthorn and this cross seemed to be extending very considerably, far more such cattle being seen at the present time than is generally the case. The cross, generally speaking, had given a short-legged, well-ribbed, and hardy class of cattle that were keeping themselves in very good condition upon land and pastures that could not by any stretch of imagination be called good.

THE previous week a journey over some hundreds of miles up the Eastern, Midlands, and Northern counties contrasted, as regards its bovine population, very badly with the cheerful outlook in the South-West. Pastures were browner to begin with, which was probably one great cause of the less thriving and generally poorer condition of the animals, which were for the most part of Shorthorn blood—in many instances of inferior blood, too, it is to be feared; and a great number of these, especially of yearlings, were very thin and thriftless-looking, with numerous individuals throughout the journey that must have had a very hard struggle during the spring months. The occasional (very rare) appearance of a herd of cross-breds was the most gratifying feature of this journey—these being for fattening, whilst the Shorthorns were evidently more intended for dairy purposes, might have something to do with this

IT was, however, in spite of all favourable things that could be said, quite evident that first-rate bulls had not been a strong point in the make-up of the cattle seen here. Improvement of a really satisfactory kind can only be achieved in the first instance by the use of a higher class of bulls, and in the second place, by giving improved feeding. It is not necessary to give feeding of such a kind as will be ruinous to the owner in expense, and ruinous to the animals by raising them to a level of condition that is incompatible with healthy breeding conditions on the one hand, excessive fat for the butcher and consumer on the other hand, but such moderately good feeding as will insure steady progress being made from birth to maturity at such moderate cost as will leave a margin for the pocket.

MOST English breeders and feeders who are interested in Aberdeen-Angus cattle, will find themselves in accord with the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society in committing their annual or bi-annual sales of breeding stock to the hands of the well-known auctioneers, Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Birmingham, and to hold their sales at that very convenient centre. No one could complain of the very able Scotch auctioneer who officiated upon several occasions at English sales of cattle (Angus), but manifestly for the sale of animals of that class, many of which (the males) are purchased for crossing purposes, local talent is usually more approved. The society may count upon success pretty surely if they will see that a sufficiently good class of animals are forward, and black-ball such as are not up to a fair standard of merit.

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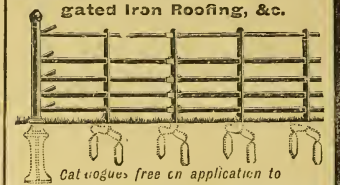
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OUR beef markets stand at a very discouraging level. When one stands at auctions and sees really good crosses and Shorthorns of 90 stone Smithfield, failing to reach anything over £18, there is not much left to the feeder except trouble and sorrow. How to produce beef at a profit during a season like the present with these figures is a problem we will not pretend to solve.

IN the Chicago market supplies have latterly been considerably in excess of those of a similar date last year. Probably the supply marketed has been influenced by ordinary causes such as weather and feed, and we doubt not prices, as at home, have been influenced badly by the excessive heat which has been experienced. Both at home and abroad, however, advices point to a future scarcity of well-finished cattle.

The Cockfield Hall Sheep and Pigs.

In consequence of the Cockfield property being advertised for sale, Mr. F. H. Jennings, of Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, resolved to disperse his entire flock of pedigree Southdown sheep, as well as all the Berkshire pigs, with the exception of two old sows, Sallie and Orchard Beauty. The sale took place on Friday, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers, and its importance attracted a large number of visitors, not only from various parts of East Anglia, but from more distant parts of the country, the Southdown and the Berkshires bred at Cockfield Hall having won for themselves a name and a place amongst pedigree stock by the care and attention devoted to the breeding and rearing of the best examples during a period extending over a score years. Mr. Fred Jenning is well known to have good taste for different varieties of stock, his services as judge having often been accordingly in request at the principal shows.

The first animals to come into the ring were the yearling ewes, which numbered fifty, and a particularly choice lot they were. Mr. More Stevens, Torrington, secured the first five at 64s. each, Mr. Walter Wrinch taking two other lots at 64s. and 62s. respectively. Mr. A. C. Hall, Carlton Grange, had the pick of the lot perhaps at 78s. Others made 73s. and 68s. The four-tooth ewes sold well, Mr. M. Stevens again taking the first lot of five at 69s., but another choice five ran up to £6 15s. each to Mr. Garrod, for the Exors. of Colonel H. McCalmont; Mr. Neame, Midhurst, secured five at 75s.; Mr. Walter Wrinch took two fives at 67s. and 64s. respectively; and the same gentleman was the purchaser of two lots of ten. There were seventy six-tooth ewes, Mr. Neame giving 105s. each for five. Others went at 61s., 59s., 52s. The full-mouthed ewes also sold freely, Mr. Garrod taking two lots of five, one lot making £6 each, Mr. A. Neame gave 105s. each for five, and five more were bought for Lord Cadogan at 70s. Ninety ewe lambs were next disposed of in lots of five, ten, and twenty, and they made from 42s. to Mr. W. Manning (Weeley), Mr. Rush, and other buyers.

About a score rams of different ages were then offered, the five-year-old Cosford Selsey going at 20 guineas to Mr. C. Adeane. Mr. Stride, Chichester, gave 14 guineas for a four-tooth Cosford Penman 3rd; Mr. Robert Edgar, 15½ guineas for a four-tooth Compton Ram 5628; and Mr. Walter Wrinch, 20 guineas for another four-tooth Compton ram. Other prices were 12½ guineas, 11 guineas, 10 guineas, amongst the buyers being Mr. Edgar, His Majesty the King, Mr. C. Adeane, and Mr. Berridge (for Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.).

The Berkshire pigs were then offered, and the feature of the female lots was the big litters of little pigs sold with the sows. Mr. Phil. Browne gave 10 guineas for one sow, Mr. Phil. Browne, jun., taking the next at 11½ guineas, Mr. Jessup and Mr. Neame giving a like figure for two others, and Mr. Duck 9½ guineas. Mr. Alfred Brown, Southampton, took two others at 9½ guineas and 10 guineas, Mr. Cross, St. Osyth, also paying the latter sum, as did Mr. Duck. Others went at 8½ guineas, 7 guineas, 6½ guineas, &c.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
August				
28	Messrs. Spurling and Hempson, Ipswich	Southdown Ewes	Ipswich Sale Yard	Late Mr. A. Hempson, &c.
28	Messrs. Wyatt and Son	Southdown Sheep	Manor Farm Meadow, Selsey	Pagham Harbour Co.
28	Messrs. Walker and Sons, York	Hunters, &c.	York Horse Repository	Various.
29	Mr. J. Kidd, Penrith	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
30	Messrs. A. Mansell & Co., Shrewsbury	Shropshire Sheep	Ruddington, Nottingham	The late Mr. P. L. Mills.
30	Messrs. King and Chasemore	Sussex Cattle and Southdown Sheep	Park Hatch, Godalming, Surrey	Mr. J. Godman.
30	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, Bicester	Oxford Down Sheep	Banbury Fair	Various.
30	Messrs. Jackson and McCarthney, Craven Arms, Shropshire	Sheep	Craven Arms, Shropshire	Various.
30	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Hampshire Down Sheep	Little Langford, Wilts	Mr. H. Andrews.
31	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Dexter Cattle & Borkshire Pigs	Wyndthorpe, Doncaster	Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd.
31	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Norton House, Shifnal	Mr. J. Harding.
September				
3	Messrs. J. Croall and Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh	Shetland Ponies	Edinburgh	Various.
4	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle, &c.	Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.	The Earl of Feversham.
4	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Lougherew, Oldcastle, co. Meath	Mr. W. L. Naper.
4	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser & Co., Ltd., Perth	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Kinochtry, Perthshire	Mr. W. S. Ferguson.
4	Messrs. Simpson and Sons, Bury St. Edmunds	Sheep	Bury St. Edmunds Fair	Various.
5	———	Shearling Rams	Kirmington House, near Brocklesby	Mr. G. Marris.
5	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Agharvoe, Abbeyleix, Queen's Co.	Mr. R. F. H. White.
5	Messrs. A. and D. Edwards	Sheep	Hereford	Various.
5	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday	Oxford Down Ram Lambs	Hempton Green, Norfolk	Mr. G. Adams.
5	Messrs. Cotton and Chappell	Sheep	Bromsgrove	Various.
5	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Ltd.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Corston, Perthshire	Mr. Buttar.
5	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck, Peterboro'	Hackneys, &c.	Peterboro' Repository	Various.
5	Messrs. R. Leonard and Son	Hackneys and Cattle	Burstwick Stud Farm, near Hull	Mr. D. R. Sowerby.
5	Messrs. R. Burtenshaw and Sons, Eastbourne	Cattle and Sheep	Milton Court Farm, near Alfriston, Sussex	Mr. J. E. A. Gwyyne.
5	Messrs. Stride and Son, Chichester	Southdown Sheep	Chichester	Various.
5 & 6	Messrs. Lythall and Walters	Shorthorn Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	Various.
5 & 6	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Horses	North Wales Repos. Wrexh'm	Various.
6	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Perth	Various.
6	Messrs. Jackson and McCarthney	Sheep	Craven Arms, Shropshire	Various.
7	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Catthorpe Towers, Rugby	The late Mr. J. P. Cross.
7	Messrs. R. Bond and Son	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
7	Messrs. Nock and Joseland	Sheep and Lambs	Kidderminster	Various.
7	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
7	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Louth	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Lincoln	Sheep Breeders' Assn.
7	Messrs. Ward and Richardson, Sleaford	Lincoln Shearling Rams	Quarrington, near Sleaford	Mr. F. Ward.
10	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Polo Ponies	Middlewood Hall, Barnsley	Mr. C. Howard Taylor.
11	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrawardine, Shrewsbury	Mr. A. Tanner.
11	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Derby Horse Repository	Various.
12	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various
12	Mr. J. Pearse, Plymouth	South Devon Cattle	Higher Leigham Farm, Egg Buckland	Messrs. Butland Bros. and W. J. Crossing, Plympton
12	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Hackneys, &c.	Normans Rupper, Horsham	Mr. W. Ward-Hargrave and Mr. J. Walter.
13	Messrs. Hincks, Earl, and Lawrence, Sleaford	Lincoln Sheep	Sleaford	Various.
13 & 14	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrewsbury, Smithfield	Various.
12, 13, & 14	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Crewe	Hackneys	Crewe Repository	Various.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Berkshire Pigs	Stratton, Dorchester	Mr. W. J. Chicks.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Churchill, Moy, co. Armagh	Mr. H. J. Verner and Mr. J. Atkinson.
14	Messrs. Walker, Walter, and Benson	Horses	Melton Mowbray	Various.
14	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Spalding	Mr. E. W. Gooch.
17	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, & Co., Ltd.	Clydesdale Horses	Perth Auction Mart	Various.
18	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Red Polled Cattle	Didlington, Brandon	Lord Amherst.
18	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Augus Cattle	Birtley, co. Durham	The late Mr. Perkins.
18, 19, & 21	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackneys	Cheshire Repository, Crewe	Various.
19	Messrs. Paxton & Holiday	Oxford Down Sheep	Northampton Ram Fair	Various.
19	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
19	———	Horses and Ponies	Seaham Harbour	Seaham Harbour Stud Co.
19	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Eshott, Northumberland	Mr. Bainbridge.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Haughton Castle, Humshaugh, Northumberland	Mr. W. D. Cruddas.
20	Mr. J. Kidd	Breeding Sheep	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
20	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Sheep, &c.	Woodhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Mr. C. Calder.
20	Messrs. R. Leonard and Sons	Hackneys, &c.	Burstwick Stud Farm, near Hull	Mr. D. R. Sowerby.
21	———	Southdown Sheep	Lewes Fair	Various.
21	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Oakfield, Mortimer, Berks	Mr. Tyser and Mr. Wills.
21	Messrs. Neasom and White, Bromsgrove	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	Alvechurch Shire Stud, near Birmingham	Mr. Clement Heynes.
21	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Louth Ram Fair	Various.
24	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Gosberton, near Spalding	Mr. R. Mowbray.
25	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
25	Messrs. Howkin and Sons, Rugby	Foals	Rugby	Various.
25	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants	The late Miss L. C. Standish.
25	Messrs. Tattersall	Polo and Riding Ponies	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants	The late Miss L. C. Standish.
26	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Lilford, Oundle	Lord Lilford.
26	Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son, Lincoln	Shorthorn Cattle	Hurn Hall, Holbeach	Mr. H. C. Tinsley.
27	Messrs. Lythall and Walters	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	English Aberdeen-Angus Association.
27	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackneys	Manoravon, Llandilo, S. Wales	Mr. Evan Jones.
27	Mr. J. Kidd	Sheep and Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
27	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Cotterstock Manor Farm, near Oundle	Mr. Everitt King.
28	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Cattle and Sheep	Shrewsbury Cattle Mart	Various.
28	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Chipping Norton Junction	Various.
28	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Peterborough Repository	Various.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns.

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BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Maldon, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

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CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79963; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

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THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by these celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

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ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

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SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebeniser 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS
COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

FOR SALE.—Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Twelve to fourteen guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTER, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

SHEEP—*continued.*

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COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

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(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

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Mr. Willian Frith, of Vale Farm, Sandiway, Northwich, one of the oldest farmers in Cheshire, died on Monday afternoon. Mr. Frith, who was eighty-one years old, had occupied his farm on the Vale Royal Estate for upwards of half a century, and was well known and highly respected throughout the country.

The Uncertain Future.

The almost universal craving of human nature to fathom the unknown, and to speculate upon its possibilities, was perhaps never more forcibly illustrated than at the present moment, when, as regards the hop industry, the minds of all engaged therein are so actively exercised in trying to find out what the coming crop has in store for them. This is the estimating season, and "Opinion, which on crutches walks, and sounds the words another talks,' raises its voice freely and loudly. It is amusing to the outside observer to trace the manifest connection between self-interest and the various views that are expressed, and one is almost induced to agree with Shakespeare when he says: "A plague of opinion! a man may wear it on both sides like a leathern jerkin."

The planter, naturally desirous to belittle the crop, in the hope that thereby he may alarm buyers and secure good prices, is pessimistic; the merchant, with the opposite object in view, argues from this side, and doubts all the statements presented to him. Even factors, who are supposed to be impartial authorities, differ materially, and when amongst their country clients appear to support estimates that they are not prepared to stand by in the Borough. Indeed on such a subject, and at such a time as the present, "truth and fiction are so aptly mixed that all seems uniform and of a piece."

One of the oldest planters who spoke at the Canterbury Farmers' Club on Saturday last said that after forty years' experience he found that this was the most difficult year to estimate concerning the hop crop, tracing his difficulty to the irregularity of the growth and the variation in the condition of the plantations.

These are facts on which we may rest, for when we hear, on the one hand, that extensive areas will not be worth picking, that other larger areas can only yield one to two cwts. per acre, and are also told that the best cultivated and well-washed gardens will give 10 to 18 cwts., we are left in such uncertainty that it becomes almost impossible to strike any reliable average.

Having no personal axe to grind, I am only desirous to ascertain the facts of the position, and therefore examine as carefully and impartially as possible the information that comes before me from various sources, and I am inclined to abide by my previous figures, which show a total from last year's acreage of near about 300,000 cwt. But I am now informed that when the official returns are published we shall find that our hop area has been reduced by some 1,500 acres; if this should prove to be correct, the crop according to my calculation would be lowered by about 10,000 cwt.

This brings us into close proximity with the official returns of 1904, and judging by the average of the ideas expressed by many experts with whom I have discussed this matter, I think this estimate will be generally confirmed.

"The Brewers' Journal,"

which is the recognised exponent of the industry that consumes our produce, speaks plainly on the crop prospects, giving ample details in confirmation. The special reporter says there is no doubt that the hop crop of 1906 will be a very short one. The deficiency of bine in all districts prevented the possibility of a big crop, even if no adverse circumstances had occurred to check the growth. There was just a chance at one period that a favourable turn in the weather might give a fair average. But the weather did not improve, and the aphis attack continued, "resulting in more serious mischief than has happened in any year since the memorable blight of 1882." When the weather became more propitious, hundreds of acres were beyond hope of recovery, and a large proportion will produce so few hops as will not pay for picking.

"In all our experience extending over a period of a quarter of a century, we have never seen a blight so prolonged or so difficult to cope with." As a rule, washing has the desired effect of clearing off the pest, with a few applications, but this season, "only by dint of great determination and by incurring of huge expenses, have a number of the leading planters saved their crops from irretrievable ruin." These strong words may be safely accepted when we consider their origin. There can be no bias in favour of the growers, as every sentence shows the consumers that they must be prepared to pay a fair price for their hops this season, if planters are to be compensated for their outlay. But the writer makes an error in his concluding paragraph when speaking of the cost of washing. Doubtless the error is unintentional, for he says that a certain planter in East Kent, who farms 300 acres of hops, has expended no less than £180 in washing them. The planter himself wishes me to say that his outlay has been at least £6 per acre, or over £1,800.

This correction is confirmed by the evidence of a large grower in another district of Kent, whose outlay for this process averages nearly £10 per acre this year. The efforts made by English growers to provide a crop should appeal to brewers, who would otherwise have been completely at the mercy of the foreigner, by whom the situation would certainly have been taken full advantage of.

Having now arrived at the last week in August, we may conclude that the position is fixed as regards the harvest. The climatic disturbances we have lately experienced must be rather detrimental than otherwise, as I cannot suppose that the extreme variations of temperature from a blazing sunshine at 125 deg. to cold nights with an easterly wind blowing can benefit the tender cones. The recent fall of the barometer, bringing a little rain and promising more, may increase the weight of the crop slightly, but there is now hardly any time for further development, except of the later sorts, which I trust may come down better and to the greater comfort of my country friends.

The American Crop

will not be so large as previously estimated. I have received further letters on the subject, one of which says that "crop prospects in the United States are not so brilliant as when we last wrote, but they still promise a good yield. Continued hot weather on the coast has damaged the crops slightly, and there is a probability of a top crop only in some yards. Estimates have been reduced to 330,000 bales" From another letter from same correspondent, but a week later, I learn that "the weather is very dry and there is no indication of rain. Our crop will be much smaller than previously reported. To-day we would not estimate United States above the following:—Washington 45,000, Oregon 115,000, California 90,000, New York 50,000; total, 300,000 bales" It is probable that we shall get lower figures as the season progresses.

Continental Prospects

The following are extracts from reports recently sent me by the German Hop Growers' Association:—

Bavaria.

ABSBERG.—The hop plantations have not suffered at all since the beginning of this month. A decided estimate as to the likely output cannot yet be given; in any case we expect to be even with that of last year.

GROSSWEINGARTEN.—From the present condition of the hop gardens we have something to expect, but as compared with last year we shall have a shortage. If the good weather continues, the general picking is likely to begin on August 26.

NEUSTADT A/A.—A good crop may be expected here, provided the present prospects are not interfered with by unfavourable weather. Some gardens promise a full crop, the early hops are well developed . . . we will have about one-fourth less than last year's crop, which was very good.

BAMBERG.—The warm weather has been very beneficial to the crop. There is progress in the development of the plant in Upper Franconia, and also in Upper Bavaria and the Palatinate; it is, however, still too early to give any idea as to the probable output.

MAINBURG.—The condition of the plant here is generally good. Picking of the early hops will in many places begin on the 20th of this month.

WOLNZACH.—Development is progressing satisfactorily. We shall soon be able to give some idea as to the output. The picking should begin in about ten days.

KINDING.—In our gardens much has changed since my last report. In nearly all plantations, particularly those which lie in a deep position, there is a lot of rust, and a small crop may be anticipated. On healthy stalks the flowering development is normal. It is impossible to give an estimate as to the output. In some places it would seem as if the crop would be greater than last year, but on the whole a smaller one may be looked for.

HIRSCHBERG.—Some of our gardens look well—those which have been attacked by the earth flea, &c., having greatly improved, but some are still

ADVERTISEMENTS received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

bad and promise little or no hops. Rust and vermin are to be seen in many districts. From what we can see, not half the quantity of last year's crop will be reached.

Wurtemberg.

ROTTENBURG.—Since my last report things have not changed much—those hops which may be called really sound are developing well. Unfortunately the cold nights and early fogs are not conducive to the improvement of the hops, particularly those in deep places which are suffering from rust, and the crop will be small.

HORB.—The condition of the plant has improved; but the black-stalked hops do not promise much even in spite of the favourable weather. The crop is likely to be late as compared with last year.

THAILFINGEN.—Our plantations promise a good medium crop one-third is fine, one-third medium, and one-third inferior.

HERRENBERG.—Since my last report the condition here has improved, and from the good gardens much may be expected. Even the plantations which were totally rusty have so far improved that a little is to be hoped in the way of crop As the cone development is still backward, it is too early to say anything as to the total output.

WEILDERSTADT.—The condition of the gardens has improved on account of the favourable weather; the healthy hops have greatly developed, and the diseased hops are so far advanced that a certain production may be expected from them.

AIDLINGEN.—Since our last report the condition here has not improved—on the contrary, the middle and deep plantations, and partly the high ones, have been totally destroyed by rust. On the whole, one-third of the crop of last year may be expected.

RENNINGEN.—Great improvement here since last report, even the gardens which were suffering from the flea will be bearing some hops. The quality promises to be good. We have at present favourable weather. As to quantity, this may be estimated as about two-thirds of last year.

Baden.

SCHWETZINGEN.—Until the end of July hops here were threatened greatly by rust, but they have recovered on account of favourable weather; one may count on a one-fourth crop, and if the cold nights cease, also the great heat by day, the sound hops will produce a full crop.

HAGNAU.—Since August 1 fine sunny weather has prevailed. The crop will be less than last year, but the quality much better, as rust and lice have not done any more damage.

Nassau.

GRENZHAUSEN.—The present weather is conducive to the development of the cones Hops on the whole are sound. Those plants which have suffered from rust will bear no hops.

Bohemia.

SAAZ.—The hop plants, which have been diseased, will bear little or nothing; one-third of last year's crop is to be counted on. Picking of the early hops begins about 20th inst.

Russia.

WARSAW.—Our hops have improved during the last week or two The rain has helped them considerably, and present prospects are much better than they were. It is now estimated that our crop will be about half that of last year. The prices offered by Galician merchants have therefore fallen somewhat, but Bavarian buyers have not yet commenced operations.

The Markets.

LONDON.—Buying and selling in the Borough have practically ceased for the moment, very little business having been done during the past fortnight. A few small sales have been made to consumers at full prices, and the tone of the market remains very firm Reports have appeared that choice hops are valued as high as 1s. per lb., but I cannot hear that any sales have gone through at this price, although it is possible that an odd pocket or two may have changed hands. The general currency may, I think, be safely estimated at 80s. to 100s., and we may fairly anticipate that when the new hops come forward, a further advance will soon be established. Most of the merchants are, however, away, taking advantage of the fine weather for extension of their holidays, and we must wait their return before we can expect any renewal of activity.

NUREMBERG.—The reports from the plantations being more favourable, business has become quieter, and although there is no perceptible change in values, the desire to sell is somewhat accentuated. Country holders are also clearing up their stocks, the arrivals in the city being in excess of the sales. Recent quotations are from 60s. to 80s. for medium green samples, choice qualities being priced at 80s. to 105s. Low grades are completely neglected, but a few have been taken for export at 40s. to 50s. Some early new hops are on offer at 140s. to 170s., the arrivals being from Styria and Tettnang, but they hang on hand, demand for them not having developed.

BRUSSELS.—The trade is slow, but values are well maintained at recent figures. Alosts of last year's growth are quoted at 70 francs, and new crop for October/November delivery, 115 francs. The general tone is firm.

NEW YORK.—The American markets are quiet but firm, with an upward tendency. Yearling Pacifics are selling at 13 to 17 cents, and a fair amount of business is being done in contracts for the new crop at 15 to 17 cents. The shortage of the English crop imparts tone to the market for futures, and it is reported on this side that 20 cents is now the quoted price, but I have not had this confirmed by my correspondents.

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Hopping. ALL through this brilliant summer Kentish hop-growers have been struggling against opposing forces, and now the fight is over, for the season of harvest has arrived. Reports come from every side telling of the shortage of the crop, but the growers who cultivate well and liberally have come out the best. Be the crop, however, big or little, hopping is a busy time in Kent, and a hop-garden when picking is on is by no means a bad place to study human nature. The newspapers make a point of describing the annual exodus from London, and a motley crew the metropolitan pickers are with their wan faces, cockney accent, and heterogeneous collections of goods and chattels. Some of the London pickers return home better off in pocket, but others spend as they go on, though one and all are improved in health by the few weeks' sojourn in the country. Hopping is not what it used to be, however, and of late years considerable improvement has been made in the lodging accommodation of the imported pickers, and in several districts excellent attempts are made to provide them with amusement and recreation during their hours of leisure.

The Hop-dryer. PERHAPS of all the people who are connected in one way or another with a hop garden at picking time, the man who realises most the sense of his own importance and responsibility is the individual who has charge of the oast and drying arrangements. When hop-picking begins there are certain men who rise quite suddenly above the level of their fellows. They are the hop-dryers, and no matter what occupation they follow at other seasons, while hopping is on they occupy an exalted circle. A good dryer is a jewel to a hop grower, and we know men who have dried on the same farms for half a lifetime, and they seem to know their oasts just as an old mariner knows his ship. A good hop-dryer is jealous of his reputation, and to have hops spoilt in the process would be almost too much for him to bear. Consequently self is put aside when there are hops to be dried, and though the dryer gets extra pay during the time that his work is on, if he is a reliable man (and, generally speaking, hop-dryers answer to this description) he thinks as much of his own reputation and his employer's property as he does of the extra money he earns.

Hop-pickers. A CASUAL spectator entering a hop garden when picking is in full swing would observe an individual here and there who looks to be quite a cut above the rank-and-file of pickers, particularly if the latter belong to the London element. As a matter of fact this is so, and the man referred to is the booker, whose duty it is to keep the records of the hops as they are measured from the pickers' baskets or bins. As a rule the hand of the booker is not hard and horny, for in a good many cases he is a schoolmaster, who prefers to spend part of his holiday in this occupation. We do not blame him, for the work brings in some remuneration, and there is no place like a hop garden to put a glow of health on to the cheeks of people who follow an indoor occupation. Clerks out of work find temporary employment in booking during hop-picking, and though the work looks easy enough it is not always so, for though the native pickers generally do the thing fair and square, amusing stories could be told of the attempts that are sometimes made to get the better of the measurer and the booker.

Blackberries. THOUGH blackberries are wild and looked upon mostly as common property, they play an important part in the commercial fruit industry of the country, and once more the harvest has begun. Since less attention has been paid to hedges blackberries have flourished and increased, and it would be hard to say how many tons of fruit are annually picked and sold. In the west of England blackberrying is quite a business with the cottage folk, and so sparse is the attendance at some of the country schools that the latter are closed during the season. The attitude taken by farmers over blackberring is not always favourable, and one can understand this, when one realises the extent to which fences invariably suffer. Not very many farmers pick the blackberries themselves, and as a rule they do not mind the cottage folk having the benefit of the fruit, but in this, as in other cases where the public is concerned, the privilege is abused, and we can understand a man doing his best to keep down blackberry brambles when he has his fences broken and destroyed by thoughtless pickers.

The Brilliant Harvest Time. AUGUST has run its course, and few of us can remember a more brilliant harvest time. We should have welcomed more rain for the roots and the grass, but the corn came on splendidly under the influence of the glorious sunshine, and in many parts reaping was well started before all the hay was up. And what quality too! For the most part the reports to hand tell of good quality straw, fine ear, and golden-coloured grain. The cost of the corn harvest should also be low this season, for after it was cut the weather quickly did the rest, and a good deal of grain has been reaped and stacked this season in record time. This rapid harvest has had its effect on the labour market, for there is in most places a plentiful supply of workers, and even when carrying was in full swing there were plenty of men to be had. Satisfied to get the corn into stack, farmers do not seem in a great hurry to start threshing, and not much has apparently been done yet. This, however, will be the next item, and at a later date we shall know more of average yields.

Partridge Shooting. ALL the world makes a note of the First of September, for though we are not all privileged to shoot partridge, there is a certain national sporting spirit prevailing, which prompts the entire population to take an interest in the day when the law lifts her protecting arm from Dame Partridge. The man who farms his own land, and consequently has a right to the game thereon, has doubtless been noting the number and size of the coveys for some time past for his own personal satisfaction, but this does not mean that the individual who rents his land necessarily takes no interest in the game. Happily on a good many estates an amicable spirit prevails between landlord and tenants, and the latter are pleased if a number of good coveys are found on their farms when September shooting begins. We fear that in some cases there is a danger of the interests of agriculture being sacrificed to those of sports, but this does not apply to partridge shooting, and we hope the day will never come when the whistle of wings and the banging of guns are not heard in the fields in September.

Potato Scab. EVERY potato grower is naturally pleased when his crop of tubers turns out clean and free from blemish, and, on the other hand, it is disappointing when the surface of the potatoes is disfigured by the brown corky-looking blotches which we call scab. Not that scab in a mild form affects the edible qualities of the tuber, but the potato-buying public are attracted by appearances, and it is the clean, even samples which effect the readiest sales. It is peculiar that potatoes invariably come scabby on some soils, whereas they always grow clean in others, and the actual cause of the trouble is one of the problems which has not been finally solved. The opinion held in some quarters is that the prime cause of scab is friction. That is to say, the skin is abrased when in a very tender state by sharp, gritty particles in the soil, and this sets up an irritation which results in the familiar scab wounds. It may be observed that scab is invari-

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ably common when potatoes are grown in sharp, gritty soil, and we have noticed that liberal applications of coal ashes to the ground are a sure means of bringing about the trouble.

Heated Stacks. IT is a common saying in agricultural circles that we always have more stack fires after a good haymaking time than we do when the weather necessitates more than ordinary precautions being taken. There is something in the contention, and we suppose it is because people, knowing the uncertainty of the British climate, are so anxious to get up the crop while fine weather lasts, do not give the hay sufficient time to get thoroughly dried and made We are reminded, however, that there is also another cause. When the weather is catchy there is no getting out of haymaking, and the crop has to be knocked and turned about before it is carried; but in ideal weather a good deal of the making is left to the sun and breeze. It is false economy to save money in haymaking and then have the stack spoil through over-heating, and we have not much sympathy with those people who mow one day and carry a day or two later, without doing anything in the meantime. It may come off sometimes, but it is a risky experiment, and if a stack fire is the result there is only one person to blame.

Rain and Roots. IT would be a very surprising thing indeed if we got just the kind of weather that suited everybody and everything, and while we rejoice in the glorious sunshine which is so desirable for the harvesting of the corn, we cannot help noticing the pastures which are burnt up and brown, and the aftermaths which offer little keep for the stock. In the root fields, too, the soil kicks up dry and dusty, and the mangolds flag under the burning influence of the midday sunshine. They are fed, it is true, by the refreshing dews which settle on them in the evening, but they are dry at the root, and a soaking rain would help them wonderfully. As for potatoes, the time has gone past for rain to help them much, and we are not anxious for excessive moisture now for fear of the disease. Rains which have fallen of late have been mostly in the shape of thunder showers, and whereas some districts have been fairly well favoured with moisture, farmers in others have experienced repeated threatenings, but the rain clouds have rolled away without any downfall.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Protection of Our Flocks.

I am able to say that Sir E. Strachey absolutely reflects the views of the Government when he says that there is no intention of recalling and revoking the law for the protection of the flocks and herds against disease. As a fact, the assertion of this intention is, in view of the purpose of the Earl Carrington, simply absurd. Both in and out of Parliament Lord Carrington has revealed that he is entirely against any policy which would permit of the admission of tainted cattle into this country. The stupidity of the report is, in fact, emphasised by the memory of the twice-made declaration of Lord Carrington that he would do naught to imperil British flocks and herds. I am convinced that in this matter Lord Carrington does not speak for himself alone. He is, so far, the adviser of the Government on all matters concerning agriculture reflective of official opinion, and his word, therefore, is the word of the Government.

Lord Londonderry.

Lord Londonderry has assuredly mistaken the temper of the hour. In declaring unequivocally against any concession in the direction of the Land Tenure Bill, in averring that the landlord shall be the supreme authority as to the value of improvements, he has shown that his intellect belongs to the pre-Disraelian period. That landlords behave in a paterfamilian manner—that is, the generality of landlords—towards their tenants is undeniably true; but there remains the fact that there is no compulsion or inducement upon them to behave in this manner. Lord Londonderry, in making his speech against the Land Tenure Bill—in making his speech, in a word, in favour of generous methods and a reciprocal manner between landlord and tenant, which shall simply depend upon individual prejudices—is forgetful of the fact that his own first chief, Mr. Disraeli, was in favour of the law stepping in and deliberately defining the relations which, so far as improvements are concerned, should exist between landlord and tenant.

Young Englandism Revived.

I am bound to say that Lord Londonderry's ideal would have been realisable in the Young England day. That was certainly a perfectly comprehendible scheme. It was the union of modern-dayism with the feudalistic instinct. Where it failed was that it was assumed that the feudalistic instinct would be a more dominant influence than the modern-day influence. As a fact, Stuart Millism is a potent influence in our midst to-day which even man of the significance of Lord Londonderry cannot disregard. "There is no such thing," quoths the scribe, "as private property in land"; and no Londonderry in the wide world can alter the absolute mural inscription that the law of the land has already declared that the State has a right to interfere between the landlord and the tenant, and that if the tenant be ill-treated it has a right to demand his recompense at the hands of the landlord. It simply is no use whatever saying that tenure is a matter of kind'y consideration on the part of the landlord. Such an assertion is at least two hundred years old as events march at the moment. Lord Londonderry's assertion belongs to the miocene and pliocene order, and after all Lord Londonderry was born in another era.

What the Radicals Mean.

More than once I have declared that the first sequel to the defeat of the Land Tenure Bill in the Lords — and Lord Londonderry, Lord Ridley, and their friends are invoking the rejection of the measure—would be the exasperated encouragement to a Bill of a much more strenuous character. I am justified out of the events of the moment. Undeniably the Land Tenure Bill was the inception of the Land Law Reform Association; and of that association Mr. James Rowlands, the member for the Dartford Division, is the honorary secretary. List to this from his speech in the division last Saturday: "What," quothed the orator, "was foreshadowed for Scotland was what was wanted for England. Legislation must bring the people back to the land." And so on, etcetera, etcetera. But what does this mean? That almost immediately we shall have legislation initiated on the land of the Scottish Crofters' Bill if the Land Tenure Bill passes not. The Land Tenure Bill is a mild anodyne. The Radicals in the House of Commons want a palliative, and their idea of a palliative is land nationalisation. I put this to Lord Londonderry. It is no use disregarding the fact that the Radicals have a majority in the Commons. And it is the Commons which control. Think on't—the Commons can stop the maintenance fund of the Lords.

Lord Carrington's Assumed Purpose.

Lord Carrington is so versatilely-energetic an administrator that I am inclined to accept the story that his lordship is intent on the reorganisation of his department and the rendering it a more effective and direct instrument in the weal of the farmer. It is undeniable that the Board is sorely cribb'd and cabin'd by the want of financial resources and the consequent dependence upon mere voluntary effort Lord Carrington, with his practical intuitions, must have been driven into revolt against the system of voluntary correspondents by reason of its very ineffectiveness. Of course, Lord Onslow was compelled to resort to the voluntary method in seeking to establish a direct means of communication between the counties and the Board of Agriculture. He had not the means at his disposal to extend his paid staff or to appoint men who would be directly responsible to him for the vigilant performance of their duties. Hence Lord Carrington's first purpose must be to secure a larger grant for the maintenance of his department from the Treasury. Well, I ween, from his suave persistence, that he will secure it. After all, claimant as are the demands now being made on the Treasury, a mere £50,000 a year—and such a sum would suffice for the nonce—would not make a serious difference to the Chancellor of the Exchequer or be an embarrassment to him. A £50,000 a year would enable Lord Carrington to appoint a number of officials in direct touch, on the one hand, with the county agricultural associations, and on the other, with the Board of Agriculture. Fifty thousand a year would mean the creation of a human official link with the farmer.

A Welsh Land Bill.

Of course, though I have dwelt upon the fact that the land reformers—by this description I mean in particular the Land Law Reform Association—now look upon the Scottish Land Bill as providing a more desirable model of their future policy than their own Land Tenure Bill, I quite appreciate the fact that the English agrarian sentiment has not, to put it mildly, been educated up to its draconic height. However, it is different in Wales. The farmers of the Principality have long clamoured for differentiated treatment from Wales; and now of its Parliamentarians are insisting upon the same generous policy which is designed for the Scottish small farmer. Since the death of poor Tom Ellis the land-reform policy in Wales has lacked a vigilant and vivacious exponent. Mr. Lloyd-George, for instance, has attached an infinitely greater significance to the question of Disestablishment and the education problem. However, these Welsh Parliamentarians have a shrewd conception that he would willingly make himself the advocate within the Cabinet of a policy of bold land reform which should serve to deepen the ire of Welsh landlordism.

A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held within No. 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, September 5, at 10.30 a.m., to make arrangements for conference with Lord Carrington, including preparation of programme and resolutions and selection of speakers, &c.

Sugar Beet Growing in Suffolk.—At a meeting of the Sugar Beet Committee of the East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture held at Ipswich on Tuesday, it was reported that although some of the experimental plots had suffered severely from drought, in many instances satisfactory results were likely to be obtained. Arrangements were made as to the inspection, weighing, and analysis of specimen roots from each of the plots in October.

The Earl of Feversham's Shorthorns.—On Tuesday, Sept. 4, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will bring under the hammer nearly the whole of the well-known herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to the Right Hon. the Earl of Feversham, at Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks. The herd has been in existence upwards of a century, and as only the very highest class stock has been bred it has been brought up to a high standard of perfection, and its dispersal will give breeders an opportunity to secure some first-class additions for their herds. The sale will also include a few young Jersey cows in full profit or close at calving, bred for many years from the best English and Island strains; also a number of Leicester and Southdown ewes and gimmers, which are of the best blood, and, like the Shorthorns, have been long reared on the estate; whilst Messrs. Walker and Sons, of York, will offer about a dozen highly-bred hunting stock, a Cleveland mare and an entire two-year-old Cleveland colt.

SITUATIONS WANTED and VACANT.

Those to whom this column appeals, if identified in some way with agriculture, will have no difficulty in obtaining employment or filling a vacancy if their requirements are advertised in the "Mark Lane Express," which is best done under a nom de plume, and addressed to this office. The charge is only a penny for every three words, but the cash must be remitted at the time of ordering the advertisement.

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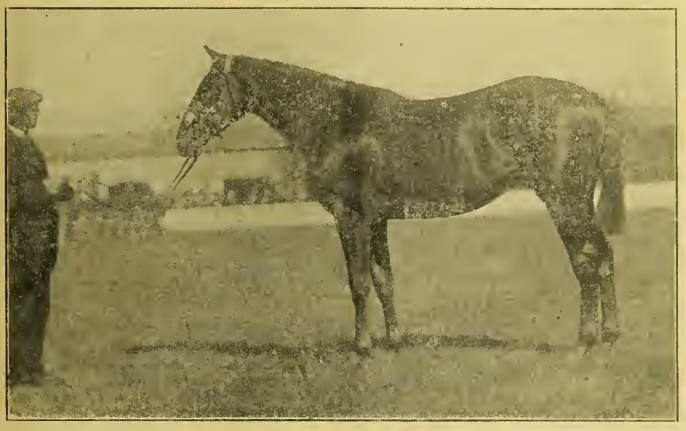
DUBLIN HORSE SHOW.

This great annual event commenced on Tuesday last under most brilliant climatic conditions; indeed, if complaint could be made in this respect, it was that the heat was too intense. The turf in the judging and jumping rings was in very good condition, however, and the grounds all round looked their very best. The entry of horses was a record one, and the attendance when concluded it is pretty certain would also be beyond any previous year. Perhaps the most gratifying feature in this respect, however, was the very great interest all visitors appeared to take in the animals themselves. Never do we recollect upon judging day seeing at the ring side so much keen criticism taken in the horses by apparently all classes of people as was the case this year. A great number of foreigners were present from many other countries anxious to be the buyers of some of Ireland's best horses, and there were plenty of good ones there for them to select from, though it must also be admitted there were a number, as is always the case, that had been sent up with a view to selling only that were not as good as might have been wished. The majority, however, of the younger classes showed very conspicuously that greater care had been taken in their breeding than was at one time the case. Many of them were up to great weights, and with good quality about them too; and the lighter weights, though not so big in their bone, were so good in the quality of it that the lack of substance would be pretty well atoned for, as may be seen by the highly bred polo ponies, whose light bone carries the heaviest of weights under the most trying conditions.



HUNTER GELDING, RED SHANK.
Winner of Pembroke Challenge Cup at the Royal Dublin Horse Show.

The Breeding Classes.

The catalogue commences with the breeding classes, which are by far the most important section of the show from a practical point of view, as these are to be the foundation of future hunters that will be seen in these countries for years to come; for, depend upon it, the Hunter, particularly as bred in the British Islands, will be the military horse of the world, as well as the horse for the chase and general-purpose light work. Thoroughbred stallions were the first class to put in an appearance in the ring, and though the entry of these was not as heavy as it has once or twice been, the two classes contained twenty-one entries. The conditions pertaining to the exhibition of these stallions forms somewhat of a barrier against the highest class of Thoroughbreds coming forward, the stallions having to be obtained for the service of half-bred mares during the season of 1906 at a fee not exceeding 10 guineas. The first class was that for stallions eight years old and over calculated to get weight-carrying hunters. There were eleven entries of these, which, considering that the service season has so recently closed, and that no doubt most of them will have had a very heavy one, came into the ring in very fresh and fit condition. It was very satisfactory to see that the first stallion to be selected was last year's winner, Mr. William Pallin's Red Prince II., now seventeen years old and looking very fit, his beautifully turned body, first-class back, loins and quarters, as well as his fine outlook and quiet temper, are all most satisfactory, and when backed by the knowledge that his progeny are very numerous and acquitting themselves satisfactorily in many parts of the world, the award was the more to be approved. Red Prince II. was bred by Mr. Linde in the co. Kildare, a grandson of Ben d'Or on the sire's side and Blood Royal on the dam's side. Mr. W. T. Trench provided the second winner in Benedictus, a twelve-year-old by Hagioscope, his dam by King Lud; he was bred by Mr. J. Bell. Perhaps he may be considered a little on the small side, but his build and movement stand him in good stead, and it is not always the biggest sire that is the best. The Duke of Devonshire's Minstrel was awarded third prize; he is a deep, closely built horse of twelve years, by Minting by Lord Lyon, his dam Poem by Petrarch, gd by Blair Athol. It will thus be seen what an amount of notable English racing blood of the past is infused in these sires, and when grafted on the half-bred mares which these stallions have to serve, what possible breeding could be expected to produce a more useful class of light horse. The racing blood gives the necessary speed and wind, whilst the small infusion of heavy blood in the half-breds makes up the substance. It is little wonder that horses bred this way should be able to carry off the honours in the great military races on the Continent, where heavy weights have to be carried against time for long distances. Mr. Hugh F. Malcolmson was reserved with Cerasus, an Irish-bred stallion by Cherry Ripe, of great beauty, and evidently a good sire.

The second class of Thoroughbred stallions was for horses under eight years old. There were ten entries of these, in which a son of the first prize stallion in the older class was selected for the red ribbon. This was Mr. James O'Connell's Red Sahib by Red Prince II. out of Hindoo Girl by Tacitus, a big horse, just the stamp to use upon some of the smaller and lighter class of mares, as his breeding is certain to give pretty well all that is wanted. Mr. R. G. O'Callaghan obtained second with Denis Richard, Ben d'Or blood on the sire's side, and with the quality that that blood invariably gives, he should prove an excellent sire as his stock grow up and finish. Mr. McMahon's Blairmore, which was third, was in the selected honours list last year, and is now in better form, and will probably as time goes on find his way to greater honours. Mr. D. Owen's reserve, Knightly, looked very hardly used with his position, a capital stamp of Hunter sire, bred by Lord Bradford, and backed by excellent racing blood. The Croker Challenge Cup, for best weight-carrying Thoroughbred stallion, was awarded to Red Prince II., now for the second time, and the reserve for that honour to his son, Red Sahib.

Yearling Thoroughbred colts were entered to the number of thirty-three, and these were mostly a well-grown lot of animals, though a good number looked perhaps a little short of substance. This, however, is pretty certain to come as they develop. It is rather singular that the fillies in the Thoroughbred classes as yearlings should always display more weight than the colts. Probably, however, this may be accounted for in the more premature furnishing that is invariably found in the female sex as compared with the males. The judge selected one or two very strong colts for the leading places, Mr. S. Riat Kerr taking first prize with a bay colt of Galinule blood with great substance, both muscle and bone, good shoulders, and a generally roomy colt. If he goes on developing in the same manner he has commenced he ought to make one of the best weight carrying sires in the future. The second colt had also plenty of bone and weight with powerful formation. He was bred and shown by Mr. Edward Rooney in the County Dublin, and sired by General Peace by Gallinule, a capital stallion first in last year's list. Other winning colts were Mr. J. O'Connell's, a very good quality one by Vitez by Milton out of a Philammon mare, and Mr. O'Reilly's Lesterland a most beautifully-moulded colt with style, and a beautifully bred one. The first prize colt in this class also takes the Perpetual Challenge Cup for best Thoroughbred yearling colt bred in Ireland and owned by a resident in Ireland.

There were no less than fifty-two entries of Thoroughbred yearling fillies, and these indeed made up a remarkably good class, any amount of size and substance with pure breeding, which was in many of them very conspicuous. Mr. Thos. McMahon carried off the first prize and also the Perpetual Challenge Cup with a beautiful bay filly by General Peace, that showing rangy galloping shape and with plenty of muscle and depth, and so well balanced; her quality, too, leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. R. C. Dawson's second filly, got by Lesterlin, a Gallinule sire, is quite a quality filly with good shoulders and outline, as well as a great lot of beautifully flat bone. Mr. McClure's third filly was got by Bushy Park by Hampton, and she too is capitally grown and with a good deal of muscle and substance about her. Another very good filly of Mr. McMahon's by St. Magdalen was placed fourth. Altogether this was a most satisfactory class of yearling fillies, and it is much to be desired that such a good lot, or any of them, should not be allowed to get into the hands of the foreigner, but remain at home to strengthen our rather, it must be confessed, weak ranks of brood mares in the Hunter section. Thoroughbred brood mares with their foals at foot were the next class in this breeding section, and the 17 entries composing the class made up a very beautiful collection. One does not often see Thoroughbred mares with so much growth and substance, as well as well-balanced forms, as were conspicuous in this class and their foals in many instances gave great promise, though as a rule we did not consider the foals quite an average lot. The Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best brood mare owned by an Irish exhibitor was given to Miss O'Callaghan's Carnage now for the second time, an honour this fine old mare richly deserves, for thirteen summers have left her still fresh and fit, and find her with a beautiful filly foal at foot by Bushy Park. In the class judging Carnage was this time only commended; she is a direct daughter of Gallinule, and her dam by Speculation. The gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society fell to Mr. Tinley's Nora by Nasr Eddin out of a mare by Ascetic, many years ago winner of the first prize as a Thoroughbred Stallion at Ball's Bridge. Nora is a deep, wide, [illegible] type of mare to breed Hunters from, and her blood is good as her personal merit. She was first prize winner in the class for mares under six years old, calculated to breed weight-carrying Hunters. Other winners in this class were Mr. R. G. Camden's Lady Tacitus, Mr. Hassett's Belle of New York, and Mr. O'Sullivan's Fairy Queen by Feldinand.

Returning to the Thoroughbred mares, which, as previously intimated, were a capital class, Mrs. O'Callagan's Curlew was placed first, a very beautiful type of mare by Gallinule. Mr McDermott's Aeushla by Playactor came second, a mare that displays her beautiful breeding in the best possible shape. Third came Mr. O'Reilly's Crusade, a seventeen year old mare by Atherling, [illegible] owner, and a beautiful class. The fourth prize in these went to Mr. J. A. Mallins' [illegible] bred mare Secret Sign, sent over from [illegible], and a great prize-winner at many [illegible] this summer, she has plenty of quality [illegible] roomy good mare all round, and [illegible] and shoulders.

A very good class for brood mares [illegible] for mares over six years old, [illegible] duce weight carrying Hunters. There were [illegible]

Hunter Gelding Redshank.

Our illustration on this page is of the Hunter gelding Redshank, which at the Royal Dublin Horse Show last week won first prize for three-year-old Hunter geldings, and the Pembroke Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas. The cup was presented by Lord Pembroke with the view of encouraging improvement in the breed of Irish horses, and is for the best animal in seven of the Hunter classes bred in Ireland by the exhibitor and continuously owned by the exhibitor up to the time of entry, and has to be won three years in succession by the same owner before becoming his property. Redshank, whose sire was Red Prince by Kendal, and dam by Runnymede, was bred by and is the property of Major R. G. Alexander, Newtown, Strallan.

teen entries of these, and a bigger, better lot of mares are not often seen together, great muscle and bone, yet with enough quality and legs and feet fit for anything. The winners in the class were Mr. C. E. Walker's Actress, eighteen years old, sired by Playactor, Mr. T. Clarke's Partridge by Young Marden, Mr. James Cole's May Morning by Marmiton her dam by Ascetic, and Mr. Thos. Fitzgerald's Alcander, an extraordinary good mare by Beware. There were also some very good foals with these mares.

Hunters.

The made Hunter classes, as already mentioned, were very variable, as must be the case even where a thousand animals are concerned, and where the needs of sixteen stone riders have to be catered for, as well as those of lighter weights, and where general purpose work also plays a part. Some of the heavy-weight horses possessed great bone. The first prize horse in the 15-stone and upward class was bred in the co. Limerick, and sired by Tranesse, out of a dam by Wild Oats, so that he is pretty well up in Thoroughbred blood. There were some capital horses also in the 14 to 15-stone class, where Lady Muriel Grenfell's Sir John, a good mover and powerful horse by Sydenham, was given the first prize. The class for 13 to 14 stone horses contained no less than 118 entries, amongst them a number of beautiful horses. Capt. Holmey's stud had the honour of being placed first in this class with a splendid type of Hunter by Walmsgate, dam by Mayboy, blood that one is pleased to see coming to the top in such competitions. Space will not permit referring to so many classes at all closely, and as the breeding classes have been fully dealt with, the Hunter section must be dismissed with the comments that have already been made upon them. The riding classes of Hacks and ponies, too, need little comment beyond the general remark that most of them were pretty distinctly of riding type, fitted with easy-going shoulders, plenty of pace, and giving, for the most part, a comfortable mount to their riders. The pace class in harness, too, though a very exciting one, does not give much of importance to the practical side of things, the fastest pacer was Mr. Horan's Rustic Beauty by Phillis, which got over her mile in 2 minutes 37½ seconds. Several others followed rather closely. The harness horse classes at Dublin came in more as an entertainment than as part and parcel of a Hunter show, and when these horses came into the ring it was at once seen that most of the drivers wore English hats over English head, and that the animals competing were mostly of English Hackney blood, and consisted of some of our best movers. The chief winners were (in double harness) Mr. John Smith, London, with Selfield Nelly and Scarlet Lady; the Carrand Co., Carluke, N.B., with Clyde Vale King and Heathfield Squire; and Mrs. Hartley Batt with Hopwood Spark and Hopwood Horace. In tandems and singles much the same competition existed, by which it will be seen that matters were rather warm for the competitors.

Sheep.

The sheep classes this year owing to the better prices obtaining for wool, and the steady demand at a paying price that mutton is experiencing, commanded a larger share of attention than is often seen at Dublin, and have evidently caused greater attention to be paid to our "golden hoofed" fleecy friends, as the classes generally were filled with a much improved and more uniformly good quality lot of animals than has often been the case. This was especially noticeable in the Oxford Downs, Shropshires, Border Leicesters, and one or two other varieties. Border-Leicester sheep take precedence in this section of the show. One of the most puzzling questions of the day in this respect being the "why were the old English Leicesters cut off"? At home there is an excellent demand, and a great number of the original Dashley Leicesters bred, but in Ireland the breed appears to have lost itself entirely. Amongst the Border Leicesters were a number of very truly bred and capitally brought-out sheep, with good backs and coats as well as scale and constitution. The chief winners in these, each of whom was admirably represented, were Miss Staples first with a two-shear ram of Irish breeding and first-rate character, Mr. M. Franks, Mr. R. W. Bell, winner of the Border Leicester cup with a rattling good team, in the shearling ram class, Major W. J. Forde, Mr. T. W. Stokes, and Miss Carleton.

The famous Roscommon breed of sheep, too, was very well represented, some of these being of great size and scale, and carrying heavy fleeces and plenty of flesh in symmetrical and good-looking form. Mr. G. R. Acheson, Major Balfe, Mr. John Keene, Mr. P. J. Fitzmaurice, and one or two others were most successful, Mr. G. R. Acheson carrying off the Roscommon Cup.

Lincolns were a fair average show; we have seen them fully as good upon one or two previous occasions, still there was not much to complain of. Mr. G. R. Lloyd secured the cup for the best group of this breed with some very good shearlings in a class of twenty-five entries. Mr. Patrick Hanlon, Messrs O'Brien, Mr. R. Reynell, and Mr. R. G. Carden were also in the money with very good sheep.

Black-faced mountain sheep were a moderate collection, Mr. John Robson was the chief, almost only exhibitor of these.

Shropshires were in very good force, and a very nice quality lot. The old Loughcrewe flock was very conspicuous with beautiful ewes and rams. Mr. R. F. H. White also exhibited a number of close coated, extra quality sheep, whilst Lord Barrymore, Lady Margaret Charteris, Mr. Hamilton Stubber, and one or two others were equally well represented and shared the honours.

Oxford Downs were much better than we have many times seen them, Mr. E. T. Downes, Longworth, had a first-rate collection of these, and won a large share of the spoil, Mr. T. L. Hodgins, Mr. Downes, and one or two others were also very well represented.

Hampshires, Suffolks, Cheviots, and Southdowns were so few in number and not strong otherwise, that they may be dismissed without further comment.

Warwickshire.

The Warwickshire Agricultural Society, after an interval of nine years, on Wednesday and Thursday again held their show at Nuneaton. The town and district provided a handsome contribution to the prize list, and the site, which was the Newdegate Arms ground, with adjoining field, is very convenient of access for visitors from either railway station. The entries of live stock were 524 (not including jumping horses), against 564 at Coventry last year, and there were fifty-nine exhibitors of implements, with good entries in the dairy department, and fifty-one competitors in the field competitions. All these sections were worthy of the County Agricultural Society, and proved most attractive, as also did the minor events. A new feature of the show was the stock-judging competition for farmers' sons and pupils from eighteen to twenty-five years of age, for which there were eleven entries. There were special jumping contests each afternoon, with driving classes on Thursday, poultry and bee-driving demonstrations by the Warwickshire County Councils' expert, whilst bands provided popular music, so that visitors were well catered for, and with the brilliant weather that was experienced the show proved an undoubted success.

Horses.

Without doubt the horses were the feature of the show, all sections being well supported. Shires were never better represented, and a satisfactory feature was the success of local breeders, thus proving that the tenant farmer of Warwickshire is devoting more attention to the breeding of good-class stock. All the Shire classes were well filled, and so keen was competition that in some instances the services of an umpire were necessary before awards could be made. The descendants of Dunsmore Jameson and Lockinge Forest King were among the principal prize-winners at the show. Mr. F. Farnsworth, of Hinckley, showed the best two-year-old stallion in Ratcliffe Forest King, a bay, true to character, which has had a long run of successes since his victory at London. Another very good-class animal in Childwall Chanter, the property of Mr. W. Cunningham, of Liverpool, came second. Yearling colts and fillies were of such uniform quality the judges had a difficulty in making their awards. Mr. F. E. Muntz, of Rockley Heath, however, deservedly won again with his Royal winner King Forest, a massive, well-proportioned brown, a worthy descendant of Lockinge Forest King. Ratcliffe Conquering King, the property of Mr. F. Farnsworth, of Hinckley, made a good second. The premier award in the filly class was given to a tenant farmer, Mr. G. G. Atterbury, of Rugby, for a beautiful grey yearling of great size named Fuchsia II., and by Dunsmore Jameson. There were a good lot of two-year-olds, and chief honour fell here to Desford Future Queen, the representative of Messrs. Thompson, of Leicester. Sir Albert Muntz, M.P., had a three-year-old of well nigh perfect type, which not incorrectly bears the name Quality, and she won in a strong class in which her closest rival was Mr. Blackburn's Coalfield Countess. The four-year-old fillies were quite of unusual merit, and included Halstead Duchess III., a weighty brood mare the property of Mr. Bradley, and Bonny Blue, shown by Sir Albert Muntz, and in this order the awards were made. The Dunsmore representative is one of the weightiest mares in England of her age, but she is not looking quite so well as usual on her joints. Mr. Bradley's filly, which had at foot a beautiful foal, was also distinguished among a first rate lot of mares, the reserve champion at London, Rolleston Fuchsia, from the stables of Mr. H. Towgood, of Cambridge, being placed second. The class for foals was strong alike in point of quality and numbers, and gave the judges a no easy task. A big, stylish bay from Sir Albert Muntz's stud, which won at Derby, was placed first, and a weighty colt, sent by Mr. Farnsworth, a tenant farmer of Hinckley, secured second honours.

The light horses made a good display but were not so great an attraction as the Shires were. All the hack and pony classes were well filled, and there was keen competition in the Hunter section; in fact, the show was worthy of a hunting county. Mrs. Chapman, of Canterbury, showed the best hack, exceeding 15 hands high, in Miss Trix, a bay mare, which achieved successes at the Richmond show. Another very good type of hack was exhibited by Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, who won repeatedly in the Hunter section, and Mr. W. Wakefield, Mr. T. Wadams, and Mr. Rodocanachi also entered some stylish moving hacks. The yearling Hunters were better represented than usual, though curiously there was a marked falling off in regard to the foals. In the colt or gelding class Mrs. Kendrick, of Erdington, won with Regal King, and the best filly was exhibited by Mr. H. R. Roe, of Market Harborough. There was a large entry of mares, but apart from the winners, there was not much uniformity of quality. Captain Jeffcock, of St. Alban's, headed the open class with Sweet Heather, an animal thirteen years old, of perfect type. The four-year-old class was one of the best in the section; the entry was not large, but all the competitors were well known in the showyard. Mr. J. H. Stokes once more secured the chief honour with Splasher, a stylish-moving chesnut gelding. The best lightweight Hunter was shown by Mr. John Drage, of Northampton.

The gold medal of the Hunters Improvement Society for the best brood mare originally went to Fleur-de-Lys, owned by Mr. P. P. Rodocanachi, of Rugby, but it was eventually withheld because the mare was not a prize-winner in her class. As all the other winners were ineligible owing to previous medal successes, the medal will not now be awarded. The society's silver medal for Hunter fillies was taken by Bounce, which belongs to Mr. C. L. Kendall, of Stratford, and the medal for the best mare or gelding by Mr. J. H. Stokes's Lothario. The silver medal for yearling Hunter entire colts was withheld owing to none of the exhibits being eligible.

Cattle.

The cattle were quite up to the high standard of recent years, and made altogether a good display. Nine well-filled classes made up the Shorthorn section, and a number of the best-bred animals of the season were included. Mr. G. Harrison's Royal Ensign, a Scotch-bred bull, which has been winning a good deal this summer, took first in the under three-year-old class, beating Messrs. Gowling and Sons' Lodge Crown Prince, a former champion of the county. There were several good-looking bulls in the local class, where Messrs. Dyke Brothers were credited with both the first and second prizes. In the open class for bulls under twenty months Mr. George Harrison came again to the front, this time with Admiral, who was voted perfect by the judges, whilst the second was Mr. T. O. Lloyd's Evening Star, a yearling of great promise, which in the next class, was judged the best Shorthorn bull in Warwickshire. The Shorthorn Society seek to encourage the breeding of good milkers, and their offer attracted an entry of cows which were full of quality and of the real rent-paying class. The first prize winner, Oxford Ada, is a typical dairy cow, and the same exhibitor, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, of Cambridge, was also second with Beryl. The cows were milked in the ring, and there was an excellent yield. Ursula Raglan, which was adjudged to be the best cow in the above-three-year-old class, is a Dublin winner, and has followed up her success at the Irish show by numerous first prizes and championships. She had as second to her Sir Oswald Mosley's Yours Faithfully, a cow which has also been very successful. The judges were in no doubt in the under-three heifer class, where Mr. George Harrison's beautifully-built Towy Princess was shown, and she proved an easy winner. There was very little to choose, however, between Bearstone Sunshine and Bearstone Sybil, which were respectively second and reserve. A pair of heifers which have scarcely ever been beaten, Silver Flora and Silver Streak, were shown by Mr. Herbert S. Leon, of Bletchley, in the open pair class, and were placed in the order named, whilst Snowdrop and Strawberry, two useful farmers' heifers belonging to Mr. J. H. Parkes, won in the local class.

The picturesque Longhorns showed to great advantage, and it is a pity that their good qualities are not better known, for if they were we think the breed would be much more popular than it is now. A substantial first prize offered by the Longhorn Cattle Society drew together a large number of fine bulls, and at the head of them was placed Mr. W. Hanson Sale's Arden Conqueror, a splendid specimen, which was first at the Royal, and was now given the cup offered for the best Longhorn in the breeding classes. Mr. W. L. Riley's Fradley Conqueror came second in the class, but was very closely run by Mr. S. Chamberlayne's

PUMPING MACHINERY
is always required amongst the class of readers who regularly take the "Mark Lane Express"—the larger farmers and estate owners.

Conspirator. Mrs. Cheape's Rebecca A, sired by Kenilworth, was first in her class, and is a cow of great quality, with beautiful head and horns. Mr. Sale's Lady Panza, the second prize winner, had lost condition through her great milk yield. Lord Gerard's Bentley Rebecca was the best heifer between two and three years of age, and was also reserve for the championship won by Arden Conqueror, which was given the preference for reasons of sex, the judges taking into account the greater influences exerted by a good bull upon the improvement of stock. First in the class for heifers under two years was Mr. H. W. F. Garland's Arden Buttercup, a daughter of Westmeath Squire, a bull bred in Ireland by Lord Westmeath, whose herd has been in existence for some 200 years.

Channel Island cattle were not numerous, but of good quality. The Hon. Mrs. Murray-Smith's Netina's Dairy Boy, a bull well adapted for raising dairy stock, was successful in the bull class, the second prize winner being Captain Gisborne's Oxford Scholar, who has proved more successful at several shows. Captain Gisborne, however, came to the front in the cow or heifer class with Unaware, a winner at the Royal, and practically all the leading shows in the country, whilst Forget-me-not, belonging to Mr. Smith-Ryland, was second. There was also a highly creditable display of dairy cattle.

Sheep.

Sheep showed a considerable falling off in numbers when compared with last year, the respective totals being seventy and ninety-two, but the quality was if anything better than ever. The decline in the number of entries was chiefly observable in the crossbreds, the tenant farmers failing to respond to the committee's invitation to such an extent that in two of the classes there was only one entry each. Shropshires were a nice lot, and for shearling rams Mr. J. Barnett, Market Drayton, won first prize with a finely proportioned animal, which, however, was run close by the exhibit of Captain Townshend. The same exhibitors were successful with their shearing ewes, but the order was reversed, Captain Townshend taking premier honours. A still further success was secured by Mr. Barnett in the open class for lambs. The prize offered by Sir Albert Muntz to tenant farmers in Warwickshire and three neighbouring counties attracted a good entry, and the winning ewes, which were from a Nuneaton flock, that of Mr. S. A. Berry, were of great length and well calculated to raise a sound breed. Mr. Berry also carried off Mr. Smith-Ryland's prize in the next class with five well-shaped ewe lambs. The Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association considerably strengthened the entry for this breed by offering a special prize, which was won by Mr. Phipps Smith with a capital young ram, the same exhibitor also taking the reserve ticket. Three other classes for Oxford Downs were not very well filled.

Pigs.

There were thirty-one entries in the nine classes of pigs, and the section was notable for the excellent quality of the animals, several well-known herds being represented, namely, those of Messrs. Sanders, Spencer & Son, Mr. Robert Ibbotson, Sir Alexander Henderson, and Mr. T. Henson. Messrs. Spencer and Son won the medal of the Pig Breeders' Association with Holywell Emperor D, which also headed the class for Large or Middle White breed. The National Pig Breeders' Association offered a silver medal for sows of the Large White, Middle White, or Tamworth breeds, and this was won by Mr. Alfred Hughes's Royal Ibis, whilst the gold medal of the British Tamworth Pig Breeders' Association was allotted to Lycidas, a boar belonging to Mr. Robert Ibbotson.

Airedale.

The Airdale Agricultural Society's Show at Bingley on Wednesday should prove a most successful one from a financial point of view, for the weather was practically all that could be desired, and the attendance of visitors a big one; but it was not so successful from an agricultural standpoint, for the entries of horses and cattle, which numbered 118 and 34 respectively, were fewer than in 1905 or 1904, of sheep there were none, owing to lack of support, whilst the pig classes, which were renewed after several years' lapse, only drew 21 entries, the remainder of the 1,685 entries being made up of poultry, pigeons, dogs, rabbits, &c.; in fact, any of these sections had more entries than the whole of the horses, cattle, and pigs put together. Agricultural horses were not particularly strong, Hackneys being a much better lot. The cattle section made up in quality for what it lacked in numbers, Shorthorns being particularly strong. Mr. George Harrison overcame competition in the four classes in which the Gainford Hall stock was represented.

Belper.

Belper Horse Show, held on Wednesday, fully maintained its right to be considered as one of the most important of the Derbyshire horse shows, and in interest it certainly ranks next to Buxton. A beautifully fine day favoured the fixture, and there was a very large attendance of visitors, but the heat had one drawback in that it did not allow the Shire horses, the feature of the show, to stir themselves and thus appear to the best advantage when paraded before the judges. Still, they made a capital display for a local show, and would have done credit to many a county fixture. True, there were none of what may be termed national prize-winners, but a few who had figured successfully at the Royal Show were present, and these, supplemented by some fine animals from the district, made a display well worth inspection. The light horses, too, were by no means to be despised, and in several classes long and nice deliberations were needed before the judges could make up their minds. Cattle and sheep also figured in the catalogue, and if these sections increase at the rate they have done of late the show will become an agricultural one instead of simply a horse show, but it is likely to gain rather than lose interest by the inclusion of all kinds of stock.

Guildford.

By permission of Mrs. J. S. Budgett, the show of the Guildford Agricultural Society, of which Mr. Leopold Salomons is the president, was held in Stoke Park on Wednesday, and proved most successful, the attendance being exceedingly large, while the entries were above the average, although some of the most interesting competitions were confined to the county. Among the winning exhibitors of cattle were Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Lord Calthorpe, Mr. Ernest Baby, Mr. W. A. Thornton, the Duke of Northumberland, Sir Edward Stern, and Mr. A. F. Perkin, the prizes for the best dairy cows being taken by Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Lady Mary and Maud, while Lord Calthorpe's Shorthorn heifer Ruby 4th was awarded the Duke of Northumberland's prize which was offered for the best cow in calf or with a calf at foot. The winning sheep were from the flocks of Mr. Colman, Mr. H. Gosling, and the Duke of Northumberland, and Mr. W. G. Langland's Hazon Beecher was the best boar which was penned. The Shire horses made an especially fine group, the county prize, the gift of the High Sheriff, Mr. R. C. Forster, being won by Mr. Leopold Salomon's Childwick Young and her foal; while the pick of the Hunters were Mr. F. G. Colman's Homely Lass and her foal by Royal Mask, Mr. John A. Mullens's Odd Stockings, Mr. Ernest Robinson's Tributary, Mr. H. M. MacCusick's Tennis Ball, and Mr. F. Dartnall's Miss Kenny. The Hackneys were only a small lot, the silver medal of the society being awarded to Messrs. Toms and Mawer's Peninsula, other winning exhibits including Mr. R. A. de Moncha's Ver Zindora, Mr. R. Evans's Evanthius, and Mr. T. Radmore's Princess Dagmar. The harness and saddle horses included many notable performers, and among the winning exhibitors were Mr. W. S. Cunard's Wild Lucy and Queen Go Bang, Mr. Howard Frank's Burlington, and Mrs. Colman's Crystalino.

Weardale.

The Weardale Agricultural Society were unfortunate enough to have unfavourable weather for their show at St. John's Chapel, this being the second time in succession, but the members of the society are striving against their ill-luck, and are by no means downhearted, for the dales folk loyally support the show through thick and thin. The entries this year were, with the exception of dogs, about an average number, and included a very fine display of dairy cows; but naturally the most popular sections were those for dales ponies and black-faced sheep.

Leominster.

The Leominster Agricultural Society were enabled to increase their prize schedule this year, thanks to increased support, and it is gratifying to be able to record that success again attended their efforts, Thursday's show being one of the best on record. The display in the cattle classes was fully up to the standard of what may be regarded as the home of the Herefords. The entries were an advance upon previous years, and included exhibits by well-known breeders. The sheep, too, were fully up to the average in merit, but the number of entries, as in the past, was somewhat disappointing. The entries of horses were slightly below those of last year, but the average merit was higher, and both in the classes for Hunters and hacks and in the agricultural classes the competition was keen. The exhibits in the agricultural classes were generally of a most useful character, and the horses altogether gave abundant evidence of the increasing attention given in the district to the breeding of good animals. A new feature of the show was the introduction of a competition in cider, and this excited considerable interest. The ring competitions in the afternoon attracted a large number of visitors, and the sheep dog trials were watched by a crowd throughout the day.

Cheshire.

For some reason or other the Cheshire Agricultural Society does not receive the support one would expect of a county association; in fact, its entries do not come up to those received for a local Cheshire show, and only a comparatively small portion of the prize-winners in the county usually figure at the show. This year there was a little improvement to be noted, and it is to be hoped this will be continued, for the society is certainly deserving of more support from the farmers of the county than it gets at present. At Wednesday's show the entries were the best on record in number, and the same might also be said of the quality. Cheese is given the premier position in the catalogue, and it certainly deserved it, for there were about one hundred exhibits, and the judges gave out the general verdict that the season has produced cheese of excellent quality. Mr. E. Cookson, of Poulton, won the Duke of Devonshire's silver cup. Against the crowd of cheeses there was only a small exhibit of butter, seat from a score of dairies.

The cattle numbered eighty head. Mr. Brown, of Tarporley, won the chief prize for bulls with his white Excelsior, which beat the older and bigger roan of Mr. Cooke, of Handley, because of more compactness in build. The chief winner in the young bulls was a roan belonging to Mr. Thomas Parton, of Crewe, and to this went a Shorthorn Society's medal and two first prizes. Mr. S. S. Raingill, of Ringway, was highly successful with his dairy cows. The Chester Traders' Association Cup for the best cow and the Cheshire Land Agents' Cup for the best bull went respectively to Mr. Richard Clarke, of Heatley, and Mr. Thomas Parton. These prizes are open for competition amongst tenant farmers only. Colonel Cotton-Jodrell had two firsts, a second, and a third for heifers, and Mr. J. R. Newton, of Warburton, also did well in this section. The Duke of Westminster (who is president of the society) won the chief prize for Channel Islanders.

The notable feature in the heavy horse classes was the triumph of Mr. James Gould, of Lymm, with his grey mare Darling, a well-known prize winner. This mare won for her owner for the third year in succession the Day Challenge Cup (which consequently becomes Mr. Gould's absolute property) and three first prizes, and her five-months-old foal also got a prize card. Mr. Gould with other entries secured several other prizes. The Duke of Westminster was an exhibitor of three Shire stallions, and he got a first and two second prizes. The Shire Horse Society's medal for the best mare or filly foal was secured by Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, of Kelsall.

The prize-winners in the classes for light horses included Sir Lees Knowles and Mr. A. L. Goodson for Hackneys, and Mr. J. Tompkinson, M.P., Mr. R. Prescott (Northwich), Mr. E. C. Griffith (Northwich), and Mr. R. Needham (Knutsford) for Hunters. The Hunters Improvement Society's gold and silver medals were secured by Mr. R. Needham with his chestnut Duchess. There was a capital show both of sheep and pigs.

Buxton Horse.

That Buxton Horse Show is as popular as ever was proved by the large attendance at that held on the 25th ult., when the weather was not altogether favourable, for although dry, there was a boisterous and somewhat chilly wind, which made things uncomfortable to spectators. Then the entries, too, were about up to the average, for the slight decrease was accounted for by the omission of some Hackney classes. The Hackney is to some extent feeling the effects of the motor, but a large number of Hackneys are still bred in Derbyshire, and they made a fairly good show. Hunters, too, were a nice lot, including as they did exhibits from the studs of Mr. F. B. Wilkinson and Mr. J. H. Stokes, but one would have liked the competition to have been a little more pronounced than it was. Mr. Stokes led in the heavy-weight Hunters, and in the class up to 13st. 7lb. in the four-year-olds, and secured the Buxton Champion Cup, given by Mr. R. Whitehead, as well as the silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, whilst Mr. Wilkinson took first and second in the open Brood mare class, the gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, the first prize in the open foal class, and second in the yearling class. The Shire horses were the most numerous, and, in fact, the feature of the show, competition here being much keener than in the other sections. The Whitehead Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, for the best animal in five district classes, given by Mr. R. Whitehead, who, by the way, was one of the most successful exhibitors in the Shire section, was won by Mr. W. T. Beard, of Bollington. Another cup, given by Mr. O. Partington, M.P., for the best entry in eight district classes, was secured by Mr. R. Whitehead, who won also the Wainwright Cup, the gift of Mr. Joseph Wainwright, for the best mare or filly from one year old upwards, and the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society. These three successes were secured by Peak Dolly, which led in the class for two-year-old geldings or fillies.

SHOW GOSSIP.

A comparison of this year's prize schedule with that of 1905 shows that the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society are satisfied that the annual fat stock show at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, meets with general approval as now arranged, for they have made practically only two alterations in the classification—first, the "extra stock" section has only one class for both oxen and steers, or cows and heifers, instead of separate classes as last year; and second, the cross-bred classes for sheep and lambs are now for cross-breds or any other pure breed than Southdown, Shropshire, Oxfordshire, and Hampshire. Thus some breeders of others than those mentioned, who have been debarred from competing, will now be able to send animals to the second greatest of our fat stock shows.

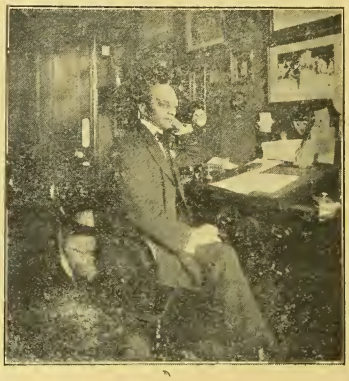
So much for the classes; and now there are a few alterations to note in the prizes. The Elkington, Thorley, Webb, *Birmingham Post*, and the Maisemore Park Challenge Cups are again offered under the same conditions as last year, and H.M. the King has a very good chance of securing the Webb Challenge Cup outright, for he won it both in 1904 and 1905, and it has only to be won three years before becoming the absolute property of the winner. The special for the best Devon is this year only £10, as against £20 in 1905; but what the Devons lose the Welsh gain, for they have a special of £20 for the best animal of the breed, as compared with one of £10 last year. Another alteration is also to be noticed in the Welsh section, and that is the increase of the first prize for steers not exceeding two years old to £15, whereas last year it was £10. The prizes in the other cattle classes are the same, viz.:—Herefords and Shorthorns: 1st prize £15, 2nd £10, 3rd £5; Devons (two prizes only), £10 and £5; Aberdeen-Angus, £15 and £5; Galloways: £10 and £5; pure-bred West Highland oxen or steers, £15, £10, and £5; West Highland cows or heifers, £10 and £5; Welsh, with the exception of the class previously mentioned, have £10 and £5 prizes; cross-bred steers, £15, £10, and £5; cross-bred heifers, £10 and £5; and Kerry or Dexters, £10 and £5; whilst the popular butchers' prizes are £10, £5, and £3.

Turning to the sheep section, we find once again the Cooper Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep; a new extra prize of £5 for Shropshires, given by the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association; whilst the five-guinea extra is this year for Hampshires instead of Oxfordshires. The class prizes are again £15, £10, and £5 for the wethers, and £10, £5, and £3 for lambs, the third prize in both classes depending on the number of entries. Pigs, corn, roots, and potatoes are as last year, and altogether the fifty-eighth annual fat stock show at Bingley Hall should in no wise be inferior to any of its predecessors. It will be held on December 1 3, 4, 5, and 6, and entries close November 1. In applying for forms, intending exhibitors are requested to mention the section they wish to enter, as separate forms are issued. Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, is the secretary.

The Crook Agricultural Society find that the experiment of holding their show on a Saturday instead of a Wednesday does not pay, for they have dropped over £30 by the change this year, and it has been resolved to revert to a Wednesday for the show day. The peculiar feature of the experiment is that although fine weather favoured this year's show, and despite the fact that Crook is a colliery district, the attendance was less than obtained at Wednesday shows.

Next year's show of the Leicestershire Agricultural Society will in all probability be held at Market Harborough, for at a town's meeting held recently, the mayor of Market Harborough stated that the society would be pleased to visit the town next year, provided they were given a site and guaranteed the sum of £200. The feeling of the meeting was in favour of the show being held, and finally the following resolution was carried:—"That a committee be appointed to make inquiry as to a suitable site for holding the show in 1907, and if such site be found, to take the steps required to raise a guarantee fund and make all other necessary arrangements. This to be subject to the society being invited."

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. C. S. HALL,
Bournemouth Horse Show Society.

The capital entry of just over 400 has been secured for the Birmingham Autumnal Shorthorn Show and Sale at Bingley Hall on Wednesday and Thursday next, and the catalogue reminds one more of the spring show and sale than the autumn one. The latter has, however, grown wonderfully during the past few years, and with the present popularity of Shorthorns there seems no reason why this week's sale should not be as successful as that held in the spring, for the animals are from well-known herds. The prizes are to be awarded on Wednesday, and the sales will commence at eleven o'clock each day.

Amongst the principal exhibitors at the above show and sale are the Earl of Camperdown, the Earl of Powis (10), Lord Fitzhardinge, Lord Penrhyn, Lord Rothschild, Lord Sherborne, Sir A. Henderson, Bart., Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Sir J. Rankin, Bart., Miss Alice de Rothschild, Messrs. Allen, Ames (15), Bass, Dean, Denny, Freeman, Garne, Gerrard, Haley, Handley, Hobbs, Horlick (11), Kellock, Mace, Morris-Eyton, Mytton, Preece, Raphael, Read, Steward (12), Stokes (10), Stratton, and Tremaine.

AGRICULTURE IN SWEDEN.

IV.

Seed Improvement.

Of the many establishments visited during my recent tour in Sweden, which included creameries, slaughter-houses, typical farms, &c., not the least interesting was the time spent at the "Sveriges Utsadesforening," or Seed Improvment Association of Sweden. This establishment was at Svalof, and the object of the founders was to promote the agriculture of Sweden, more especially by producing superior breeds of grain and other plants necessary to farm economy. This modest commencement has given rise to the present Swedish Seed Improvement Association. The seed improving enterprise at Svolof was originally a private undertaking, but its present efficiency is due to the powerful pecuniary support given by the official authorities of Sweden. After some associating appropriations from the Government, the association in 1901 was given an annual grant of 15,000 crowns, but since increased to 40,000 crowns. Support soon came also in from the agricultural economical societies (Hushallningssallskap) of the provinces, which in Sweden command considerable funds, this support amounting to 16,000 crowns a year. To this should be added the members' fees, so that the total income amounts to about 65,000 crowns a year. The business soon advanced, important suggestions, new points of view, improved selecting methods, as well as some novel instruments and devices opened new ways to the solution of the urgent question of improving the culture plants.

The experiences from the trials are briefly as follows:—(1) The former so called methodical selections have not come up to expectations. (2) Mass-improving—even with the best expedients—does not result in constant forms and never gives well-characterised sorts. (3) The improvement must exclusively be based on the laws of breeding and variation, so that one should start from a single individual (pedigree culture). (4) The experiments must be based entirely on scientific principles and on purely botanical characteristics, which, on the one hand, offer the safest guide for finding out the most important and hereditary qualities of the mother-plant, and on the other hand, give value to the improved new sort as a systematically independent type resisting the influence of climate and soil. (5) Special and well-furnished scientific and practical establishments are wanted to enhance the improvement in agricultural plants, and the issue point is the material already existing in the country. (6) The important problem of keeping up the productive capacity and satisfactory purity of the obtained breed by a methodical selection (picking, scrupulous sorting) is left to be resolved by the practical agriculturist and seed dealer.

The selection of the single ears for propagation referred to above as pedigree breeding is carried out in a most thorough manner, and I was much interested in the way in which the best ears are called. At Svalof this is done by weight, the ears

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

SHAP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

44th ANNUAL SHOW at Shap, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906.
Increased prizes for open competition in Horse Leaping.
Schedules may be obtained from the Secretary,
THOS. GELDART,
Mill Flatt, Shap.

ABINGDON HORSE AND AGRICULTURAL SHOW,
59th Annual,
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1906.
£450 in Prizes—Subscribers, Berks and Oxon and 25 miles radius.
HUNTERS. Six Classes, One open to all England.
SHIRES AND CART HORSES. Twelve Classes, Two open to all England.
JUMPING AND DRIVING.—Eight Classes, Three open to all England.
Entries close MONDAY, SEPT. 10.
Schedules and Entry Forms of FRANK R. JACKSON, Auctioneer, Abingdon, Berks.

FROME SHOW, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906.
All Entries close September 12.—T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome, Secretary.
FANCIERS' POULTRY SHOW SAME DAY. — Messrs. YOUNG & FRICKER, Palmer Street, Frome, Hon. Secretaries.

HAY HORSE SHOW, September 20, 1906. Entries close on September 6; double fees September 12.—REECE MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

ALTRINCHAM SHOW, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26.
£1,800 IN PRIZES, besides Silver Cups and Medals, for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Goats, Turn-outs, Hunters, Jumpers, Roots and Grain, Butter, Cheese, Honey, Implements, Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, and Cavies. Prize list may be had from the Secretary,
J. HERBERT HALL,
2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.
Entries close September 8; double fee, September 12.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, & 12.
Great Exhibition of DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c.
Entries close September 10th.
Particulars of—
WM. C. YOUNG, Secretary,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT. At GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 25, 1906.
Entries close September 11.
R. J. KIBBY, Secretary,
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

KINGTON HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906.
£350 in prizes, including two Challenge Cups value £10 each, and seven Silver Medals. Heavy-weight Hunter Class—1st prize, £20; 2nd prize, £10; 3rd prize, £5. Light-weight—1st prize, £10; 2nd, £5. Entries close September 4, or with double fee, September 8, except for Ring Competitions, which close September 15. Prize Schedules and Entry Forms from the Secretary, T. H. VAUGHAN MORRIS, Byford House, Hereford.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
GREAT SHOW at TOWYN,
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906.
Over £300 in prizes. Dogs under Kennel Club Rules. Open Leaping and Trotting contests. Entries closed Aug. 29. R. ROBERTS, Secretary.
Rhydygarnedd, Towyn.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.
THE SIXTIETH GREAT SHOW AND SALE will be held at BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 and 6. 404 Head of Highly-descended COWS, HEIFERS and BULLS, including many prize winners, are entered from the most noted breeders, and will be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. W. H. LYTHALL, without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.
Judging at 9 o'clock on Wednesday. Sale at 11 o'clock each day. Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 7d., free by post.
W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

are placed on an inclined piece of metal, which allows them to slide down. The centre portion of this is on a balance, which can be adjusted by means of a screw to deal with any weight. By this means the heavy ears, which are, of course, the best, depress this balance and fall through to a receptacle provided, while the light ones pursue their way till they fall among the rejected. The instrument is most simple and ingenious, and as far as I am aware, is quite novel. The idea for this particular one at all events originated at Svalof.

Experimental Fields.

The experimental fields are for the most part situated on adjacent farms tenanted by the company, and where a crop rotation may be ensured. They are distributed amongst the ordinary grain fields in order to have the same conditions as the surrounding crops. There are four kinds of trials. (1) The pedigree cultures sown always by hand and with a sowing board. (2) Control litres of seeds, which are also sown with machine, are all of the same size, so that the different sorts which without exception have been fixed and considered promising may be compared and studied thoroughly. (3) Pure cultures and increases of the best types mentioned in 2 (4) Comparative experiments in which the test is performed and some of the older sorts being used as standards, results obtained determined which of the new improved products are to be delivered to agriculturists.

As an example may be cited that in 1904 the experiment fields were five, comprising an area of about six hectares. The sorts tried by the comparative experiments were 116, of which only five were older types; whereas 111 grown in the process of increasing. The number of novelties in these fields, some in special specimens, is no less than 505.

A CORNER OF THE EXPERIMENTAL FIELDS AT SVALOFF, SOUTH SWEDEN.

This considerable quantity of working material will perhaps show that the association is seriously pursuing its purpose as soon and as completely as possible to obtain practical results from its methods.

The seed-selling business soon became troublesome to the association, so the Swedish General Seed Company, Ltd., was founded to take over the new breeds, to increase them, and to distribute them among the agriculturists, and also to form first-class, reliable seed-selling business dealing in the best seeds. In order to maintain its standard as a first-class seed business, the statutes of the company provide that only such wares as have been approved by the control board of the association shall be bought; the store houses, the cleansing, packing, and forwarding of the seeds are also controlled by the Association.

The grain sold by the company is the proceeds only of sorts bred, or at least pure cultured, by the association, and produced exclusively from the company's own cultures, which are for this purpose inspected by the officials of the association. To this end the company have their principal breed-cultures at Svalof, the crops giving seeds for experimental cultures in widely different parts of the country. Even here the fields are inspected, and if the crop is approved and found pure it is sent to the stores to be further prepared and finally sold.

OIL and GAS ENGINES
are growing more than ever in demand, and would be still further "boomed" if regularly advertised in the "Mark Lane Express."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Harvest Thanksgiving Collections.

SIR,—The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, for which I have been accustomed to make at this time of year an annual appeal through your columns to the clergy and ministers of all denominations, requires this year even more generous support than ever.

While again asking your indulgence in pleading its cause, I feel that the warmest thanks of all interested in the charity are due to the Press, which has rendered important assistance in raising the harvest offertories from £1,795 in the year before my first letter was written in 1887, to £8,644 in 1905.

Since 1869, the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution has been nobly endeavouring, by a system of pensions, to lighten the burden of those aged farmers, their wives, widows, and unmarried orphan daughters who, through no fault of their own, have been left destitute.

The charity now maintains 1,247 pensioners, at an annual cost of £24,276. Of these 373 are from eighty to ninety-six years of age, and 598 from seventy to eighty.

At the last election, in June, 1906, there were left out in the cold no less than 213 distressing cases, which could not be dealt with for want of funds.

Owing to the altered state of agriculture as an industry it is becoming increasingly difficult for the farmer to gain a livelihood, and there are annually hundreds of brave men and women of the farming class who have to face ruin.

His Majesty the King, who has always been closely associated with and deeply interested in agriculture, once said, when presiding at an anniversary of the institution:—

"The cleverest farmers, men who understand their business, may, in consequence of bad seasons, failing crops, loss of stock, and a variety of other causes, find themselves reduced from a state of comparative wealth and prosperity to one of abject poverty."

Much valuable assistance to the cause for which I plead has been rendered in the past by the clergy and ministers, and there is a peculiar appropriateness in harvest thanksgiving offertories, whether collected in the country districts or in the churches of the metropolis and our large manufacturing towns, being devoted to this, the farmers' charity.

The present Archbishop of Canterbury, writing in 1903 to the then chairman of the executive council of the institution, said:—

"I have long been a warm advocate of the claims which the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution has upon the sympathy and support of all who are interested in our rural life. The need for such an institution is, in present circumstances, indisputable. There is, to my mind, a marked appropriateness in the collections made at harvest festivals being given for the help of those who are suffering in consequence of the existing agricultural depression."

I venture to make a strong appeal to those who have not hitherto seen their way to assist this good cause, to endeavour this year to benefit the funds of the institution by their harvest offertories; and I would also like to take the opportunity of bringing the claims of the institution to the notice of those who are making charitable legacies, especially those having interests in landed estates.

Although the present harvest promises well, the wants of the aged agriculturist, ruined by bad seasons and other misfortunes in the past, remain as urgent as ever.

Having regard to the pressing need for funds, I earnestly trust that a liberal response will be accorded, and that the result may be such that most, if not all, of the 213 distressing cases which could not be dealt with by the council at the last election may have speedy relief.

Any inquiries will be gladly replied to, and contributions received by the secretary, Mr. C. B. Shaw, 26, Charles Street, St. James's, London, S.W.—Yours truly, WALTER GILBEY.

Elsenham Hall, Essex, August 28, 1906.

The Cottage Question.

SIR,—The only way in which the farm labourer's cottage question can be satisfactorily solved is for the landowners to build cottages on each farm to meet its individual requirements.

These cottages should be let with the farms, and be entirely under the tenant farmer's control. This is one way in which landowners can benefit agriculture, and themselves eventually. The way in which the occupiers of these cottages can do likewise is by using their votes in the agricultural interest.—Yours truly, GLORIE DE DIJON.

August 28, 1906.

Peel-Throated Lambs.

SIR,—In your issue of the 20th ult., under the sheep heading, there are remarks re West Country Horned. Allow me to inform your correspondent that there are in this district seven or eight farmers that keep a few pure-bred of this variety for ram lamb breeding. They are called Westerns here.

I have often wondered if that was the real name, but could never see any at the shows I have attended. I saw about thirty ram lambs peeled nearly all over going to the station this week for a buyer in Wales. I often see a lot of ram lambs off to Wales. They are used here for breeding fat lambs for the London market, and are much liked by the butchers; they mostly kill well.

Your correspondent could purchase rams at the local sheep fair held here on Wednesday, Sept. 5. If he wanted ewes, he would have to go to the breeder. I might say he would get very little wool from the pure-bred; they peel nearly all over before shearing day. JOSEPH COLGROVE.

Winslow, Bucks, August 28, 1906.

SIR,—I am very much obliged to you for the remarks in your issue of the 20th ult. re Peel-throated lambs. I have no doubt it has put me on the right track. I always understood the lambs were got by a horned sheep, but it is thirty or forty years since I saw these lambs at market in any quantity. Should I not succeed in selecting a ram or two to my liking, I shall have much pleasure in communicating with Professor Winter.—Yours faithfully, JOHN C. MERRICK.

Stanwell Moor, Staines, August 27.

Forestry: A Visit to "The Holt."

SIR,—Having just visited the "Alice Holt" Forest, situated at the eastern extremity of Hants, bordering on the county of Surrey, I was struck with the large area (1,892 acres under wood) of Crown property still covered by "The Holt," which figures so prominently in the classic pages of Gilbert White, the famous clerical naturalist, who was some time curate of Selborne in the 18th century. Much has no doubt been done since his time; but it is evident that still greater results might be obtained under more scientific and practical management. The Departmental Committee (Board of Agriculture) on British Forestry of 1902 recommended that the Alice Holt Woods should be utilised as "soon as possible" to serve as a demonstration area in England, and the Commissioners of Woods and Forests seem to have followed this up by requesting Dr. Schlich to present a working plan for these Royal woodlands. This has been recently published by the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society, of which the undersigned is a member. It is a comprehensive and able report, showing how the annual yield may be improved, with a prospect of better and sustained results being obtained at the end of sixty years.

Although in this particular case, as Dr. Schlich points out, the "Labour question is a somewhat difficult one," there can be no doubt that the more systematically these areas are worked in order to meet present and commercial needs, the more opportunities will be provided for permanent labourers; aye! and the more this class of operative can be prevented from drifting into the towns the better will it be for the community generally.

WE MAKE GUNS

We sell to the user with only one small profit.
We sell for cash direct to the user.
We buy the finest materials to be obtained.
We pay cash for all materials.
We employ some of the finest workmen in the Gun Trade.
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We sell for £25 Guns of a quality for which sportsmen have previously paid from £50 to £80.

We sell thoroughly reliable Guns.

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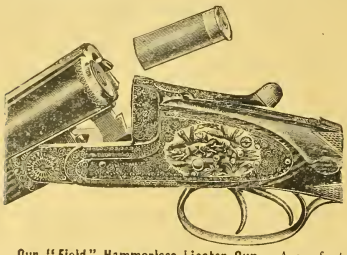
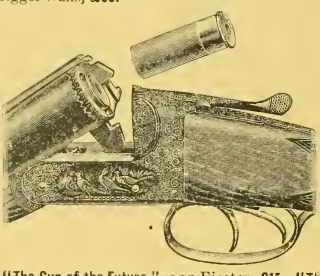
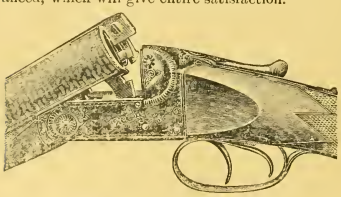


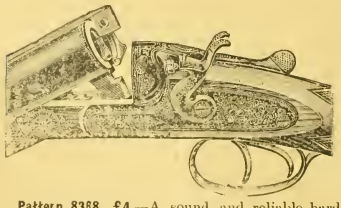
Our "Field" Hammerless Ejector Gun.—A perfect Ejector Gun of the finest quality, **£25.** If made with the best single trigger mechanism ever invented, **£30.** A perfect pair of these Guns, beautifully matched, **£50.** A perfect pair of Single Trigger Guns, **£60.**



"The Gun of the Future," as an Ejector, **£15. "The Gun of the Future,"** without Ejector, **£10.** A sound and reliable gun, well made, and perfectly balanced, which will give entire satisfaction.



Pattern 8662, £6.—A sound and reliable hard shooting and hard wearing hammerless gun. Better than many sold at double the price.



Pattern 8368, £4.—A sound and reliable hard shooting and hard wearing hammer gun. Better than many sold at double the price.

ESTABLISHED 20 YEARS.

Bankers: London and Midland Bank, Temple Row, Birmingham.

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Demon Gun Works,
PRICE STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

It appears from an interesting letter I have received from Colonel Pearson, of Kington, Herefordshire, that Dr. Schlich has already inaugurated a practical first step towards providing forestral instruction in the neighbourhood of Oxford. It will be remembered that Colonel Pearson is a great forestry authority who, in the service of the Indian Government, had for upwards of thirty years under his care the "pilotting" of the Cooper's Hill students periodically sent to Nancy and other places on the Continent to fit them for their important duties in the great forests of our Indian and Colonial Empire. Colonel Pearson writes me:—"I have never seen 'The Holt,' but I believe that at one time Professor Dr. Schlich wished to secure these woods for instructional purposes. I think now that he will be found to content himself with the woods near Oxford, as several of the Colleges have very kindly co-operated with him in this respect, especially the authorities of St. John's, who have practically given over to him the management of their large woods. It will take time before the present nascent interest in forestry bears fruit, but it is a valuable move in the right direction. We will hope that it may follow the proverbial example of the grain of mustard-seed. It is, in my view, a very good thing that we have got into touch with one of the great centres of education in the country. I was staying at Oxford for a week with Dr. Schlich, and was much struck by the general interest shown by all the authorities there, from the Vice Chancellor downwards, in the matter. This will do a great deal more to bring the science of forestry before people generally than all the Parliamentary Inquiries that have ever taken place. Much is due to Dr. Schlich. But you must not expect to see tangible results too soon; and it is better if the move be gradual. The leopard cannot change his spots at once; he only became 'spotted,' probably, after a long evolution!"

I am glad to observe that in many directions increased attention is being given to the question of sylvicultures, both privately and by the State, as affording a hopeful means of providing additional employment for our rural population; and it is to be hoped that in this matter the administrators of our Crown lands will not lag behind those of other countries—men like Dr. Schwappach, of Eberswalde, and Mons. Boppe, of Nancy—in the painstaking attention which the latter *inter alios* have so long given to this important subject.

Thanking you for your kind insertion of previous communications of mine,

I am, yours faithfully,
CHARLES HANCOCK, B.A.

Reform Club, S.W., August 30.

Insurance against Damage by Hail.

SIR,—In your issue of August 24 a letter appeared from the secretary of the Huntingdon Chamber of Agriculture stating the damage caused by hailstorms and suggesting relief by a Lord Mayor's fund. I entirely disagree with this suggestion, as all risk of damage can be obviated by paying a small premium of 5d. per acre. I make this statement as an agriculturist who has continually insured against damage by hail for the last twenty years. The above premium being so reasonable, I think all agriculturists should be informed of this precaution.—I remain, yours,

J. G. BURTON.

Burton-by-Lincoln, August 26, 1906.

The Need of Rain.

SIR,—This to let you know in N. Lincolnshire we are dried out; our milk is reduced by hundreds of gallons; turnips, especially the earlies, have ceased their growth, when only like large oranges, later ones are at a standstill; so with the short hay crop, food for sheep and cattle will not be too plentiful through the winter.

To take the other side of the picture. Harvest runneth apace; except for a few drizzling days last week we have got along famously, and think we are gathering fair crops. Corn on the new seeds first claims our attention, as the stooks soon kill them if not removed, leaving a blot all the next summer.

The dry time is affecting the potato crop, many pieces show quite ripe in patches, and I think, on the whole, cannot but be a small crop. Dates are holding out better than some varieties, and have looked well. Disease seems absent at present, but we must not cry until we are out of the wood, for hot, moist, thundery weather would work havoc on the leaves, and thus down to the tubers.

NORTH LINDSEY.

August 30, 1906.

Half-holidays for Farm Labourers.

SIR,—I quite agree this correspondence should now cease; in fact, it never should have began, as every one connected with farming (at least in the eastern counties) must know that for ten months out of the twelve the labourer takes a day's holiday practically when he wishes—not in all cases going through the formality of asking his employer if it will be convenient.

FARMER AND SUBSCRIBER.

August 16, 1006.

English or Foreign Meat for the Army?

SIR,—I found in your impression of the 27th ult. a letter signed "Junior," prompted, I presume, by mine in your columns of the 20th. The writer, by odd phraseology much favoured by some, writes:—"I frankly confess, having read Mr. Welch's letter, I am unable to convince myself that he has proved his case." Perhaps in withholding his reasons for his inability to convince himself, he thought it well to follow the advice of the astute old judge, who advised his brethren of the bench thus: "Give your judgment but withhold your reasons." Thus "Junior" gives his conclusions, and dismisses as a wild-goose chase the wisdom of raising from our own land, by our own people through their various industries completely, everything needed for the sustenance, the clothing, and the armament of the British Army, and the circulation of our taxation cash entirely through home channels, instead of raising, as now, the main supply for these needs from foreign lands and by foreign people. Further, by asking the question, "Why should not the War Office and all Government Departments buy in the cheapest markets?"

This is the orthodox question of the fetish Free Trade believer and worshipper of the idol set up by Cobden, and in later times buttressed by the glittering personality of Mr. Gladstone, but which all the great, renowned statesmen of Europe and America refuse to fall down to; they all maintain discriminating duties favouring their own industries, particularly the cultivation of the land, which great statesmen in all the ages have regarded as the paramount industry. Not so the fetish Free Trader, the little Englander, the friend of every country but his own; he gives no preference to it. This Free Trade idol is tottering, it will fall.—Yours truly,

ALFRED WELCH.

Southall, August 30, 1906.

Large v. Small Shows.

SIR,—The Hon. Gervase Beckett, M.P., appears to have overlooked some of the chief causes for the difference between the South of England and, say, Yorkshire in the number of local shows. The population in the North is infinitely more dense, and the proportion of breeders or fanciers of poultry, dogs, rabbits, cavies, birds, &c., is twenty times as great as in the South. These two causes only alone would make shows in one district successes, and in the other failures. I am a strong believer in district shows, and won my first successes at one of them nearly forty years since.—Yours, &c.,

SHOWMAN.

August 29, 1906.

SIR,—I quite agree both with the Hon. Gervase Beckett, M.P., and your correspondent T. C. M. that small local agricultural shows offer more inducements to the average farmer to exhibit his stock than big events can possibly do, because apart from the expense attached to the sending of stock a long distance to a big show, the small man does not stand much chance against the renowned breeders who compete with each other at the large shows. There can be no doubt that it is to the interests of the ordinary former, who is not necessarily a stock breeder, to keep as good a class of cattle as his means will allow, and many a man has been induced to improve his stock, and at the same time benefit himself, on the chance of winning honours at his local show.

I contend that it is a good thing to exhibit, because when one man pits his stock against that of another he realises his weaknesses when he is beaten, and if he is made of the right sort of stuff he takes his defeat in the light of an education, and sets out to improve himself. On the other hand, when a man wins it is a means of encouragement, and he is prompted to strive his best to maintain the standard which has brought him success.

It may be observed that it is the good farmers who invariably exhibit and support shows, the men who are not satisfied with the average and commonplace, but are ambitious to rise above their fellows; and if shows stimulate a spirit of this kind they more than merit their existence. Your correspondent speaks of Yorkshire, but there is a society in Gloucestershire, *i.e.*, the Berkeley Hunt, which is, perhaps, doing as much as any other local institution in the country to improve the standard of agriculture over the area which it influences. Berkeley Show is a household word in the vale of the Severn, and every August Bank Holiday thousands of people flock to the ancient town, not so much because they expect to find anything very different to what they have seen before, but simply because it is Berkeley Show, and an event belonging purely to the locality.

With its fine connection amongst Live Stock Owners, the "Mark Lane Express" is undoubtedly ONE of the BEST MEDIA for the Disposal of Pedigree Live Stock, either by Public Auction or Private Treaty.

The Journal goes directly into the hands of likely purchasers at home and abroad.

Whilst arguing in favour of local shows, we must not overlook the possibility of getting too many of them. It is an open question whether big events are not getting rather too numerous, and a show, be it large or small, to be successful must pay its way. Even small events can hardly be independent of the support of that part of the community who bring in the nimble shillings but have no particular interest in agriculture. If local areas got too limited and local agricultural shows too numerous, would there not be a danger of the indispensable man in the street growing tired and withdrawing his support?

August 29, 1906. WEST COUNTRYMAN.

The Butter Tests and Milking Trials at Tring Show.

SIR,—My attention has been called to some remarks in your last issue under the heading "Notes and Jottings" on the butter test and milking trials at the recent Tring Show.

Two sentences in those paragraphs appear to me to impute carelessness, want of fairness, and, might I add, incapacity on the part of the judge. I am, therefore, obliged to take notice of them. The sentences are as follows:—

(1) "If this very ridiculously low ratio was caused by the animals being out of health, or by variations in the temperatures of the milk at separating, or of the cream at churning, such causes should be mentioned, or there may have been other reasons.

(2) "In all fairness to breeders and exhibitors of Jersey cattle, any cow requiring over 20 lb. of milk to produce her pound of butter should by all means be disqualified from either receiving a prize or a certificate of merit."

In reply to the first of these two paragraphs, I would remark that (*a*) at all the milking and butter test trials which I have superintended I have always allowed animals who are reported to be out of health to be withdrawn on the application of the man in charge of them One was so withdrawn at the Tring show this year, and her record was not published.

(*b*) At all butter test trials under my charge the milks are alike separated at the same temperature, the separated milks and creams being kept until the following morning, when cream (if any) found in the separated milk is skimmed and added to its respective lot of cream. This practice is so well known that I did not think it necessary to overload my report by mentioning it specially.

(*c*) It is well known that when churning sweet creams variation of temperature may seriously affect the weights of butter obtained, and consequently in "the elaborate table of results" which were put up at Tring in the dairy tent, and are always exhibited conspicuously at every show where I act as judge, three columns are devoted to temperatures—one to the temperature of the cream in the churn at the commencement of the churning, the second to the temperature of the dairy at that time, and the third to the temperature of the butter-milk when the butter has come.

These figures, which, with the time figures, act as a check on the operations of churning, must apparently have escaped the notice of the writer of "Notes and Jottings." If he refers to them he will find that all the creams were churned at 52 deg. Fahr.

(*d*) There may be other reasons why a cow should yield milk of poor quality; but I think it will be admitted that the judge can hardly be expected to account for or give such reasons.

With regard to the second paragraph, I would reply that the judge at both butter test and milk yield trials is bound by a scale of points which been thought out carefully and adopted by all the leading societies. To disqualify cows as suggested in that paragraph would, therefore, be unfair and wrong, the animals having been entered for the trials with the knowledge that such scale of points would be adopted.

Perhaps, for the information of the writer of "Notes and Jottings," I may be allowed to add that the average butter ratio of all the Jerseys tested in England from 1886 to 1905 inclusive (amounting in all to 2,095) works out at 19·45 lb.

—Yours faithfully, ERNEST MATHEWS.

August 30, 1906.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Messrs. Ben Reid and Co., Limited, of the Aberdeen Nurseries, have just issued a small but comprehensive catalogue of Dutch Flower Roots for 1906. It is freely illustrated.

Mr. Perry, of the Hardy Plant Farm, Winchmore Hill, N., has issued Part I. of his new catalogue of bulbs and tubers. It contains a good list and variety of bulbs, &c., which he is offering at prices 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. less than last year's owing to removal.

ALL MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES of FARMING NECESSITIES certainly find a Ready Sale when advertised in the "Mark Lane Express." The charge is very moderate, and consistent with the profit such small goods yield.

Northern Notes.

HARVEST labourers have been plentiful this year; indeed, a plethora has existed for years past, and on each hirings day the number of disappointed men increased. Amongst the men presenting themselves in the market places as prospective helpers in the field, are very many apparently unfitted for hard work, and who would not be able to stand the strain of loading for half a day. These are weeded out by the keen farmer, whose experienced eye tells him who is fit and who unfit. A few of the weakly ones occasionally get a job, and then the master has to pay for his experience, a full week passing away probably before these men, having made the acquaintance of good substantial fare supplied at regular intervals, can satisfactorily perform the duties for which they were engaged. They are like a rusted machine, which requires a good deal of oiling before it runs with anything like ease. On the large farms of Yorkshire very few extra hands are engaged at the beginning of harvest, the casual labourers having first chance, and then the "stranger." The latter class are chiefly Irishmen, and they come with clockwork regularity year after year, seeking a job on the same farm. These Irishmen enjoy the beer served out to them by the generous farmer, and one typical old hand told me it was "mostly for the beer" that he came. "We have no beer in Ireland," he wofully said. The heavy thunderstorms have sadly interfered with the progress of the harvest, and on farms where the hands are engaged for a month, and not by day or week, the wages bill has been out of all proportion to the work accomplished.

THRESHINGS in the storm area of the east of Yorkshire, to the destructive force of which reference has been made in this column, show a striking deficiency of grain. One tenant of Lord Londesborough's, who has farmed half a century, took note of the result from a field of oats undisturbed by the storm, and one which had been "cut to pieces." The former yielded four and a-half sacks to the load, and the affected corn gave no more than a sack for each load of oats. He was not insured. A neighbour, who had taken that precaution, recovered £70.

IN spite of the stoppages caused by thunderstorms and night rains, it is extraordinary what a great breadth of corn is already cut. Scarcely a day has passed lately without local showers; but advantage is taken of the intervals to get on. It is observed that farmers on large holdings have this year, more than in the past, enlisted the services of skilled mechanics to manipulate their self-binder reapers. This practice ensures steadier progress; the men are conversant with every part of the complicated machine, and if a breakdown occurs, any repairs are soon effected, or any mishap rectified. The ordinary hands of the farm are thus set free to attend to other details, such as setting the sheaves overend and making them into "stooks." The mechanic will, in time, in a large measure, supplant the plough-boy. The plough-boy must see to it that he blossoms into a mechanic. He is already an authority on bicycles, and there is no possible reason against his becoming skilful in the management of all sorts of farm machinery. In the evolution of the rural education code, what could be more useful than the introduction of continuation schools in our villages, at which the youths might learn a good deal in the form of applied mechanics? A wide field for a variety of technical instruction is herein suggested.

NORTH Yorkshire sheep-breeders are having a little "tiff" with the Board of Agriculture over their sheep-dipping regulations; and they have held a meeting at Bedale to protest against their enforcement after September 1. The meeting was influentially attended, and a general opinion was elicited that when a breeder had dipped his sheep in a dip approved by the Board of Agriculture in the presence of a public officer, a certificate should be granted to the owner to take his sheep wherever he can make the best of them without let or hindrance, and a resolution to that effect was carried unanimously. The Bedale farmers having set the ball of agitation rolling, are hoping to enlist the sympathies of their brother-farmers in all the counties that are scheduled under the Sheep Dipping Order.

IT is quite obvious that hardship may follow the stringent enforcement of the regulations The object—the sole object—is to stamp out sheep scab, and the Board must be supported in its primary object. The individual must inevitably suffer inconvenience in the larger interests of the community. Owners of pedigree flocks have for years advocated stringent measures, and if other breeders had been as diligent as they in keeping their flocks clean, and adopted a uniform system of dipping, these irksome orders of the Board would not now be necessary. Our individual interests loom large in our own eyes and estimation; these must be submerged in what is really a national concern.

A COUPLE of sales of Lincoln sheep in the East of Yorkshire emphasises the fact that Lincoln can no longer boast of a monopoly of what may be called the better-class flocks. The dispersals of shearling rams showed averages of £23 and £24 per head respectively. At these prices sheep pay infinitely better than Hackneys, or even Thoroughbreds, and the owners of such flocks, providing they maintain their standard of excellence, possess in them a sort of gold mine. The astounding fact to any person interested in sheep is that so few breeders venture into the show-ring. We see old names—very limited in number—year after year carrying off all the prizes; though it is fairly certain that others have sheep as good in form and quality as those owners who fill so conspicuous a place in the public eye. Flock-owners are, as a rule, a modest class of men; it is, however, well to remember that publicity pays, and if some of the ultra-modest men possessing Lincoln and Leicester flocks would not so persistently hide their light under a bushel, they would, we are certain, carry better-filled purses.

August 31, 1906

The Governors of Guy's Hospital, in response to applications for land for small holdings, have now set apart ninety acres of a farm at Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire, for the purpose. They have divided it into plots of from two to ten acres each. There were plenty of applications for the small holdings from responsible men, and the land has been let at an average price of 50s. an acre.

The Foreign Cattle Question.—Speaking at an agricultural show at Brislington, near Bristol, last week, Sir Edward Strachey said it would appear from a recent statement of Lord Londonderry that the Government intended to alter during the late session the law passed in 1896 for the protection of flocks and herds against diseases abroad. As the representative of the Board of Agriculture in the House of Commons, he could say there had never been such intention. Agriculturists might rest assured that in Lord Carrington they had a Minister in fullest sympathy with them, and whose interests and theirs were identical.

At a meeting of the National Federation of Meat Traders' Associations, held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Wednesday, a resolution was adopted to the effect that, having regard to the fact that the Government emphatically declined, pending the issue of the report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, to promote or facilitate legislation in relation to the seizure and confiscation of the carcases of animals alleged to be tuberculous, the federation urged upon the Government the necessity for issuing forthwith the report of the Royal Commission in the interest of master butchers throughout the kingdom, who were suffering the most serious loss and inconvenience.

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10·2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	··	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and 1 added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

The "Lancet" on Manures.

The *Lancet* has evidently a poor opinion of agricultural professors, analysts, and experimental stations, because most farmers cultivate their lands in accordance with the information and data supplied by these experts, yet the *Lancet* is of opinion that "manure is dumped where it can do nothing but outrage Nature, and of all dumping the dumping of artificial manure is the worst."

"One reason, 'continues the *Lancet*,' why manures sometimes fail in the hands of the ordinary farmer is that they are applied with most callous indifference to the state and the requirements of the soil," and more to the same effect.

Farmers are not such ignoramuses as the *Lancet* seems to imagine, and the writer of the article in question would do well to study the subject more deeply before expressing such opinions which are wide of the mark.

Poppy Cultivation.

This is one of the minor industries confined chiefly to the particular district of the Isle of Axholm in Lincolnshire. Between twenty and thirty acres are cultivated with the crop, which is utilised for distillation into the sleep-producing substances, laudanum and opium.

As the crop extracts from the soil a large proportion of plant food, especially phosphoric acid, it can only be grown on the same land once in about half-a-dozen years without having recourse to liberal application of artificials. It used to be a profitable crop, but like most other agricultural produce the profit in it has departed.

Thistles.

Cultivated crops have to contend with many enemies, which, in the form of weeds, dispute possession of the soil and its plant nourishment. Among the most troublesome is the too well-known thistle. The Board of Agriculture has just devoted a leaflet, No. 166, to a description of its characteristic and the best method of destruction.

There are four common varieties, known as (1) the spear thistle, (2) the welted thistle, (3) the marsh thistle, and (4) the creeping thistle.

The spear thistle is a biennial, producing during the first year a growth of compact leaves, and the second year a strong central stem with branches and flowerheads. The latter yield an enormous mass of seeds, carried about by the breeze and easily germinating in suitable soil.

The welted thistle is somewhat similar to the first named but not so common.

The marsh thistle, as the name implies, flourishes on marshes and on damp, undrained pastures. It does not give trouble on well-drained, cultivated soils.

The creeping or common thistle is the most general and the most difficult to eradicate. Its root system enables it to develope and extend rapidly in all directions It should be noted that the creeping growth of this troublesome weed distinguishes it from the others, and makes it necessary to adopt a different treatment to destroy it.

* * *

How to Eradicate Them.

The chief thing with the first three is to prevent them seeding, and this can be effectually done by cutting with a spud below ground, or with a scythe or sickle above ground in late June or July before the flowers have opened. This must be done before the seeds are formed—plants in their second season of growth are thus got rid of. The first year's growth of leaves must also be got rid of by spudding in the late autumn and in spring. The spud must be driven well below the surface of the ground, and the severed bunch of leaves turned upside down.

The creeping thistle required different treatment. It should be stubbed early in the year, soon after it comes above ground, and the operation should be repeated as frequently as possible throughout the season.

Systematic spudding and cutting for a couple of seasons in succession, or the growth of a couple of root crops in succession where the weed is very prevalent in arable land, is a sure plan of getting rid of this agricultural pest.

Special attention should be given to ditches and waste places where these weeds often accumulate, and during seed time scatter the germs of future plants all over the place. The banks of railways running through agricultural districts sometimes harbour quantities of noxious weeds; the railway companies ought to see that they are cut down and not allowed to contaminate with their seeds the neighbouring fields.

Rust in Wheat.

In a work on the "Diseases of Cultivated Plants" Professor Kirchner, in referring to the extensive injury caused to the wheat crop by rust, writes that no direct means of fighting the disease are known, but that it may be warded off in a great measure by the observance of the following points:—

1. Everything that favours an even and quick growth of the seed, and its proper development helps to check the spread of the disease, and therefore a good preparation of the soil and uniform depth of seeding by the drill-machine are useful.

2. Early sowing of both winter and spring wheat can be recommended.

3. Applications of phosphoric acid by superphosphate or basic slag are helpful in warding off attacks; nitrogenous manures, applied liberally, seem, on the other hand, to encourage the disease.

4. Some varieties of wheat seem able to resist the disease better than others. This point should be carefully studied in districts where the disease has been rampant in previous seasons.

5. Berberry bushes round the fields should be done away with; they harbour the spores of the disease, as also does couch grass, which should be rigorously destroyed.

Potatoes Rotting in A Cellar.

A three-acre field of potatoes, sprayed several times during growth, and practically free from the blight (*Phytophthora infestans*), was harvested before the tops were dead and stored in one bin in a cool cellar. The day of digging was warm and muggy, but the tubers were well dried off before being stored in the cellar. At the time there was very little evidence of rot, perhaps one bushel of discoloured potatoes in 100 bushels, but no really rotten potatoes. Early in November it was noticed that they were rotting badly; fully a third of the crop was found more or less affected with rot, due to late blight.

It was thought possible that the sound potatoes had been infested while lying in store. To test this two barrels of sound potatoes were selected in November from the heap, and to each peck of sound potatoes two potatoes showing unmistakable signs of incipient rot were added.

To ascertain further if special treatment would decrease the amount of infection, five lots of two barrels each of selected tubers were treated (1) with flowers of sulphur, (2) copper sulphate, (3) unslaked lime, (4) Bordeaux mixture, (5) a 3 per cent. solution of formaldehyde. The twelve barrels were kept in the cellar until April. There was very little further rot in either the untreated or specially treated barrels.

This seems to justify the conclusion, according to the report of the Maine Experimental Station, that the danger of the transmission of rot, due to the blight, from one tuber to another during storage is remote. The rot, undoubtedly, is the result of infection in the field.

As the tops during growth were kept green by the application of Bordeaux mixture, and there was so little sign of the presence of the blight, the infection could hardly have been through the vines.

The field was heavily dressed with stable manure only a short time before planting, and there is little doubt, according to the report, that the fungus was carried to the field in the manure and the tubers directly infected, while the tops escaped the disease. This is said to be in accord with common experience so often noted before the use of Bordeaux mixture that potatoes were more subject to blight and subsequent rot when grown on manure than on chemicals, or without the application of fertiliser of any kind.

Danger of Stable Manure.

The following conclusions appear to be warranted from the results of the experiments.

1. The infection of potatoes with the fungus occurs chiefly, if not entirely, in the field before digging.

2. The disease is transmitted in the majority of cases, not directly through the vine, but indirectly through the soil.

3. Potatoes may be infected directly in the field from spores introduced in the manure, or from rotten potatoes spread upon or left in the land the preceding year.

4. It is concluded that the mycelium which produces the rot normally passes into the dormant stage after infesting the potato, but that abnormal conditions of moisture or temperature may cause abnormal activity in the fungus and hence the rotting of the tubers.

5. Whatever may be the explanation, these experiments all agree in showing that, whether the vines have or have not been protected by Bordeaux mixture, there is far less liability of loss from rotting in the cellar in the case of late dug potatoes. This last point is important.

A New Potato Disease.

At the last meeting of the "Academie des Sciences" it was announced that a new malady, caused by a special micro-organism had been recently noticed in France. It seems to be very similar to the disease known as "Solanineola," which has caused considerable damage to the potato crops in Germany, England, Holland, and Russia, especially on soils irrigated with sewage.

These two diseases attack the haulm of the plant just where it rises above the soil, and thus prevent the moisture drawn up by the roots from ascending to the leaves, which turn yellow, and the plant soon dies.

It is most damaging in districts where the potato crop is grown on the same ground year after year, and especially when the crops are irrigated with water containing nitrogenous matter such as sewage.

The remedy seems to lie in growing other crops on such fields for some years and changing the seed of tubers when their growth is again undertaken.

Granite Dust as a Fertiliser!

The Americans are a people gifted with original ideas and apt at making wonderful discoveries. The Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture in a recent report indicates what may turn out to be a great discovery in the way of cheap fertilising, and one of special interest to the Western States. It is well known that a good deal of fertility is carried down to valleys simply by the wearing away of rocks in the hills and mountains above them, and this led to an investigation of the subject. Ordinary granite rock was ground to a fine powder, and extensive experiments were made with the powder to test its value as a manure. The results were excellent, and the report on the subject states that a ton of granite, which cost 12s. 6d. for quarrying and grinding, contained fertilising matter which could not be purchased abroad and imported at less than £20.

Report of Wye College, Kent.

The agricultural reader is always sure of finding something to interest him in the Journals of the Agricultural College, Wye, Kent. The new issue, No. 15, is no exception. There is much in it of an instructive character, expressed in a readable manner.

On the special subject, "manures," it is stated that a manure may serve four functions; it may

(1) Increase the amount of plant food in the soil, either directly or through its solvent action on the soil constituents;

(2) Improve the mechanical condition—*i.e.*, the texture of the soil and so facilitate the production of a good tilth;

(3) Increase the water-holding capacity of the soil, enabling water to be retained till such time as the plant requires it;

(4) Render the conditions more favourable for bacterial activity.

Organic manures—*e.g.*, those of animal or vegetable origin—serve all of these purposes, but mineral manures, with the exception of lime and basic slag, usually serve only one—the increase of plant food. Mineral manures, as a rule, are more soluble than organic manures, and therefore more quickly available to the plant; they also contain a larger percentage of "fertilising" material—*i.e.* of nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash.

Irish Bacon.

The Department of Agriculture for Ireland is rightly keen in keeping up the high reputation acquired by Irish bacon, and in order to be in a position to contravene certain adverse rumours, it has recently carried out an inspection of all the important bacon factories in Ireland, and has also made inquiries as to the trade in Irish bacon amongst wholesale bacon factors in London and the north of Ireland.

The Department points out that for the production of bacon of the highest quality it is necessary (1) to breed suitable pigs, (2) to feed the pigs properly, (3) to ensure that only healthy animals are used, (4) to cure the pork under the best sanitary and other conditions.

Great attention has of late years been given to these four points, and as a result of its careful inquiries, the Department is in the happy position to refute the statements recently made to the detriment of Irish bacon. The British public are content to pay more for the well-known brands of Irish produce than for the bacon imported from any other country, and this fact is abundant evidence of the high estimation in which the bacon is held. There is no foundation for the statement that a greater proportion of second-class bacon is now being exported, nor for the report that the best Irish pigs are bought for export to bacon-curing factories in England.

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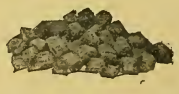
LIVERPOOL VESTA CAKE CO.
BLACKSTOCK STREET, LIVERPOOL.

THE
"BIBBY" CAKE
IN THE FORM OF
"CAKETTES."



'Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using,' was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism: and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the 'Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest: there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
LIVERPOOL.

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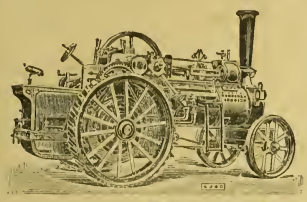

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These Machines produce a perfectly uniform sample of full-size grain, free from tail corn, and make all the usual separations in the most perfect manner.

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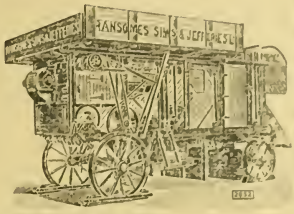

ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

SELECTING THE BREEDING FLOCK.

Two highly important transactions engages the attention of owners of breeding flocks at the present period of the year; the selection of ewes to breed from in the ensuing season and procuring suitable rams to mate with them should there be none already possessed.

In doing the former the flock-owner is fortunate if his shepherd is experienced and takes a deep interest in the flock. If so, the latter will recollect and be able to point out all the bad mothers, and especially those with malformed, imperfect udders. These should be discarded without hesitation, whether young or old. On the other hand, if there are any of the older ewes which have arrived at the age at which the bulk are drafted out that have pre-eminently distinguished themselves as breeders, it might be advisable to retain them. This course is often pursued in the leading ram-breeding flocks.

For instance, the twin ram lambs of Mr. Cary Coles, which at his auction the other day were let for the season for no less than 325 guineas, were stated to be this year's produce of a very favourite ewe. To dispense with the services of such a one so long as she can breed would be akin to killing the goose that laid the golden eggs. The system of selection, while mainly founded on the principle of drafting out the oldest animals, should certainly not be rigidly applied to the exclusion of animals of sterling merit.

If the owner is scrupulously particular in the selection of stud rams, and does not regard extra outlay to secure those well calculated to impart improving character to his flock, every fresh relay of shearling ewes imported for breeding ought to be superior to its predecessor. If such be fully apparent, only the worst should be culled. But this is not always the case, and neither in sheep or cattle do the best results always accrue from the most symmetrical sires. Good blood, however, invariably tells, so that seldom has the owner of an ordinary medium-class flock cause to regret going to one of the best-reputed fountains for it. The pure strain gathers strength by running through a great many generations, and rams from such strains are almost always characterised by great prepotency.

Uniformity of type is much more difficult to be obtained in some flocks than others, usually more or less according to the length of time they have been under skilled management and the degree of prepotency exerted by the rams which have been employed. Some know by intuition the ideal they have to seek after, and are able to discern at a mere glance the imperfections or shortcomings of each individual ewe to breed progeny up to the required standard. This is an invaluable gift to the flockowner desiring to raise his flock to a uniform high standard, for not only does he discern the kind of ewes likely best to accomplish his object, but the ram or rams most fitting to correct in progeny the faults of their dams.

This is why men of this calibre at ram auctions bid so persistently and determinedly for the sheep they have set their hearts on obtaining and seldom leave off until they have bid several guineas more than they intended to give. But those devoid of this gift work at a manifest disadvantage. Even if they succeed in matching their ewes tolerably well, they are seldom so fortunate as those who possess the faculty of discerning the kinds of stud rams calculated to remove most effectually the imperfections of their flocks.

THE AGRICULTURAL RETURNS.

The Board of Agriculture issued last week a preliminary statement showing the area of the various crops under cultivation, and the number of live stock in the country. The figures are compiled from the returns collected on June 4, and show the position of our industry on that day. Naturally the total area of land and water has not changed from last year, but the total acreage under all crops and grass shows a further contraction of 0·1 per cent., a small decimal truly, but a large area when applied to such figures as 32,266,790, which is the area for the present year.

Turning to the various crops, wheat shows a further shrinkage of 41,279 acres, the area under the premier food stuff this year being 1,755,716. This reduction is not altogether unexpected, as the unfavourable weather at sowing time was expected to have some such result. Of barley there is a substantial increase, and now this crop is almost as much grown as wheat, 1,751,238 acres being devoted to it this year. Oats are now by far the most popular corn crop, and the figure shows only a slight variation on last year, the area on June 4 last being returned at 3,042,926 acres. The minor crops in this section—rye, beans, and peas—are noticeable for the remarkable increase in the cultivation of beans, and the almost corresponding decline in the popularity of peas. Of beans there are 288 891 acres, an increase of 34,126 acres compared with 1905, and of peas 153,979 acres, or 21,256 acres fewer than a year ago. Rye is grown on 64,808 acres, which shows an increase of 2,611 acres.

The abundant yield and low price of potatoes last season has left its mark on the crop, for there is recorded a decline of 42,552 acreas as compared with a year ago. The area grown this year is 565,921, and the amount of contraction is 7 per cent. The great root crops—turnips and swedes—which form the bulk of the winter food supplies are practically unchanged, and it is to be hoped that the 1,590,920 acres devoted to their culture will give a satisfactory and profitable yield. Mangel shows expansion to the extent of 6·8, the area now devoted to them being 431,458 acres. The various green crops, such as cabbage, kohl-rabi, rape, vetches, and lucerne, show a striking general tendency to expand. The most important of these is vetches, and here we find that there has been an increase of 4·1 per cent., the area now cultivated in this way being 142,047 acres. Rape is grown on 93,824 acres, while cabbage monopolises 70,368 acres, which shows an expansion of 3·9 per cent.; lucerne has grown to the extent of 4·4 per cent., and is now cultivated on 55,734 acres. The generic term other crops accounts for 114,003 acres, and it is obvious, from the growth of 7·4 per cent. in this item, that greater attention is being paid to the minor crops of the farm: we hope with profitable results.

The season for grass and hay has been variable, and the yields are likely to be poor in the southern half of the country: the respective areas devoted to this crop, however, show only slight alterations from the standard, beyond the tendency of permanent grass to expand. Of clover and rotation grasses for hay, there are 2,191,587 acres, a slight growth of 0·1 per cent., the same crop grown not for hay runs to 2,249,159 acres, or a decrease of 1·7 per cent. The greatest areas of the country are of course devoted to permanent grass, considerably over half of the total acreage under all crops being found under this heading. Of grass for hay, there is 4,785,613 acres, an increase as compared with last year of 2·1, while of permanent grass used for grazing, and not kept for hay, there are 12,459,121 acres, a figure which only varies by 0·4 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Flax seems to have a tendency to pass out of cultivation altogether, as this year there are only 263 acres as compared with 441 acres in 1905. Possibly, however, the exigencies of rotation have something to do with the contraction in its area. Hops are growing on a smaller scale than

The "Mark Lane Express" is a SPLENDID MEDIUM for the Disposal of all kinds of Farm Seeds and Plants.

last year, there being 2,245 acres less, the total area under cultivation being 46,722 acres. So much depends, however, on the price obtained for the produce that a small crop often brings in a better profit than a large one. Small fruit shows a tendency to grow; there are 80,226 acres, a figure which has expanded from 78,825 a year ago. Orchards, too, have a similar disposition to increase this year, monopolising 247,687 acres, or an increase of 3,364 acres. Bare fallow has greatly decreased, something like ten per cent., this year's figure being 314,552.

The returns relating to the number of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs show, perhaps, less variation than usual. The total number of horses used for agricultural purposes of all ages is 1,568,681, a figure which shows a slight decrease on last year to the extent of 0·2 per cent.; it is satisfactory to be able to record that unbroken horses exceeding one year old has grown by almost 5,000.

The total number of cattle in the country is 7,010,856, or 23,836 more than a year ago. This number is further divided into sections. For instance, of cows and heifers in milk or in calf there are 2,738,411, a percentage increase of 1·1; other cattle two years and above total 1,426,754, an increase of 0·8 per cent.; those between one and two years old number 1,494,795. The only decline to be recorded is among yearlings, which number 1,350,896, or a decrease of 3·0 per cent.

The total number of sheep shows a slight but satisfactory increase; they now number 25,420,360, or a gain of 163,164 over last year. The growth, it is pleasing to record, is principally among ewes kept for breeding purposes, while young sheep under one year in age are also substantially more numerous.

Pigs again show a decline in numbers; there are now 2,323,461, or 101,458 less than last year. Sows kept for breeding, however, show a tendency to expand, so with the present price of pork it is quite likely that a year hence pigs of all descriptions will be considerably more numerous.

Notes of the Week.

The heat on some days of this passing summer has been exceptionally great, and apparently has possessed a phenomenal character.

So much so that, according to the newspaper reports, there have been *seven* hottest days of the year.

Perhaps this accounts for the eccentric behaviour of some animals. A cow went to sleep while being milked, and fell down on the milker.

Some sheep walked into a drawing-room, presumably to get shelter from the sun's rays.

Flies, wasps, mosquitoes, and winged insects in general have multiplied enormously.

The Jersey early potato crop resembles the hop crop in its speculative character.

With this season's results the growers are far from satisfied; although the crop was good the prices realised have been disappointing.

When the season opened in April, the first deliveries fetched £27 14s. 8d. per ton; but the price soon fell off, and dropped to £2 3s. 4d. early in August.

Competition from the early-potato growing districts in the North of France is mainly responsible for the unsatisfactory prices.

The rent of suitable potato land in the Channel Islands is very high, and unless growers can realise £40 per acre for their produce there is small profit to be made.

The President of the Board of Agriculture has been touring by motor-car through Lincolnshire and inspecting the numerous small holdings.

He is also Commissioner of Woods and Forests, and in this capacity has been taking stock of the Crown property in the county.

No doubt he is maturing plans to bring the two, small holdings and Crown property, into closer contact.

People living in lonely parts of parishes in Essex are having a new and exciting experience.

Turbulent tramps are bad enough, but motor burglars are a novel danger.

It's easy for an accomplished motor burglar to rush down from London, hold up a few houses, and get back to town early in the morning.

The inhabitants take their guns to bed with them, and strange tales are told of the narrow escapes some peaceful travellers by night have had.

Dublin was unusually gay last week for the celebrated horse show. It passed off, as some of the reporters say, with great *éclat*.

The horses were splendid, and the ladies' dresses were ditto. Pardon one mentioning first the horses—this is not from want of respect for ladies, but because horses form the real object of the exhibition.

Connected with the show there was a most interesting display of Irish industries—lace, embroidery, tapestry, wood carving—the excellence of which served to illustrate the native artistic feeling and genius of the Irish.

Our medical contemporary, the *Lancet*, is exercising its mind about the ignorance of farmers in the use of manure, especially chemical fertilisers.

It deplores the fact that few farmers can tell the reaction of their soil—it's simple analysis.

And thinks manufacturers should be made to state the reaction of their manures to, say, methyl orange, clearly in their invoices.

The *Lancet* need not be so uneasy. Let it consider that the sulphuric acid used in the manufacture of fertilisers combines with part of the lime in the raw phosphate and reaches the land as sulphate of lime (gypsum).

And consider, further, that a liberal application of 5 cwt. superphosphate means only about 2 oz. to the square yard, and of this small quantity a still smaller is sulphate of lime; it will see that it has found a mare's nest.

A farmer, I think, in Lincolnshire sent a consignment of green stuff by rail to a market town, and in consequence of delay in delivery missed his market.

He brought an action against the railway company for compensation, and, I am pleased to say, won his case.

The fruit growers in Kent have a legitimate cause of complaint against the slow deliveries of their consignments.

Unreasonable delay in delivery often means a serious loss to the fruit-grower, for which the railway companies should be responsible.

The growers should co-operate to test this matter. They might also co-operate to utilise motor wagons for the rapid despatch of their produce.

The railways serving that part of England have a bad reputation; as a country girl sings in the opera—

"Of motor cars we'd never heard
That dreadful pace we thought absurd,
We'd hardly complain of a South-Eastern train,
We thought *that* fast when I was a girl."

"Whisky is advancing by leaps and bounds, and beer by hops," says the *Referee*.

In the heads of many of us will the words of the old glee be now sounding—

"Come out, 'tis now September,
The hunters' moon's begun,
And through the wheaten stubble
Is heard the frequent gun."

All the bays and the principal positions are already let at the forthcoming Brewers' Exhibition (October 20 to 26), and there is promise of many novelties being on show.

FARM MACHINERY and IMPLEMENTS have for so long been closely identified with the "Mark Lane Express," that the Journal's position as a means of bringing Maker, Agent, and Customer together is unique.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.—Bicester Show—Moorgreen Show — Hawkshead Show—Shepton Mallet Show—Kilnsey Show, for Wharfedale—Cowbridge Show, for the Vale of Glamorgan—Thornton's Sale of Shorthorns at Helmsley—Ashbourne Cheese Fair—Ashford Lamb Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Bury St. Edmunds, Crewkerne, Macclesfield, Rawtenstall, Westbury, Sudbury, and Barnet—Sending-in day for the Leighton Buzzard Show and for the Brecon County Show.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Ashby-de-la-Zouch Agricultural Show—Retford Agricultural Show—Doddington Agricultural Show — Sale of Oxford Down Sheep at Hempton Green—Peterborough Foal Show—Bath Horse Show, first day—Cattle Fairs at Llanrwst, Northallerton, Oswestry, and Landrake—Brocklesby Ram Sale—Sheep Sales at Hereford, Bromsgrove and Peterborough—Horse Fairs at Oswestry and Hertford—Special Sale of Sussex Cattle and Southdown Sheep at Alfriston — Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale, first day—Barnet Fair, second day.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.—Birmingham Show and Sale, second day—Bourne Agricultural Show at Station Field—Rutland County Show at Oakham—Grayrigg Agricultural Show—Cattle Fairs at Bristol, Devizes, and Northallerton—Abergavenny Horse Show — Horse Fair at Chester — Craven Arms Great Ewe Sale, Shropshire—Bath Horse Show, second day—Entries close for the Hay Horse Show.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Newbury Horse Show — Shaftesbury Farmers Club and Horse Show — Tarporley and Stockport Agricultural Fair—Moy Horse Fair—Great Sale of Lincoln Longwool Rams at Lincoln—Kidderminster Great Annual Sheep Sale—Lamb Sale at Lazonby—Coventry Sheep Sale — Sale of Oxford Down Sheep at Wellington, Shropshire—Shorthorn Sale at Batthorpe Towers, Rugby—Special Sale of Suffolk Sheep at Ipswich.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.—Appleby Agricultural Show—Bowes Agricultural Show—South Tyne Show at Bellister Park, near Haltwhistle — Quarrington Ram Sale — Stanhope Agricultural Show—Otley Foal Show — Entries close for the Blandford, Altrincham, and Stokesley Shows—Horton Sheep Fair—Waltham Horse Fair—Bakers' Exhibition opens at Islington and remains open for six days.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10. — Agricultural Fairs at Oakham, Glastonbury, and Ormskirk—Cattle Fairs at Sutton Coldfield, Buxton, and Warwick — Sheep Fair at Blandford—Pony Sale at Barnsley—Entries close for Abingdon Show and for the British Dairy Farmers' Association Show at Islington.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.—Buckingham Agricultural Show—Woodstock Agricultural Show, Blenheim Park—Ampleforth Agricultural Show—Hitchin Foal Show—Horse Fairs at Denbigh, Ormskirk, and Hay—Cattle Fairs at Denbigh and Wirksworth — Sheep Fairs at Denbigh and Hay — Sale of Shropshire Sheep at Shrawardine, Shrewsbury—Horse Sales at Derby and at Lynn—Entries close for the Gransden Show.

DAIRY.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Pitch about 65 tons. Good attendance of buyers. Prices:—Fine Cheshire, 64s. to 68s.; medium, 58s. to 63s.; lower grades down to 52s. 6d. A good clearance was effected.

Western Counties Cheddar Cheese School.

The second draft of cheese, weighing about 40 cwt., made during the month of May last at the above-named school, carried on at Glendale Farm, near Wedmore, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 66s. per cwt. of 112 lb.; 4,954 gallons of milk made 4,690 lb. of green cheese, which, when sold at eleven weeks old, weighed 4,447 lb., showing a shrinkage of 6 per cent.

The following particulars relating to the manufacture of the cheese will be of interest to cheesemakers:—Temperature of milk when renneted, 81 deg.; acidity of milk when renneted, ·19; temperature of first and second scalds, 88 and 93 deg.; acidity of whey at close of second scald, ·16; acidity of whey when vatted, ·35; average time when cheese was put in press, 3.30 p.m. 105 pigs have been, or are being, fattened since the school was opened on April 3 last.

In consequence of two farms being let, Mr. J. E. A. Gwynne, of Folkington Manor, has decided to sell his herd of pedigree Sussex cattle and also a number of Southdown sheep. The sale, which will be conducted by Messrs. A. Burtenshaw and Son, will take place on Wednesday next, the 5th inst., at Milton Court Farm, near Alfriston, and should draw a large company of buyers, for the herd of Sussex cattle is well known for its high-class breeding.

Death of the Shire Mare Blythwood Guelder Rose.

A Reuter's telegram from Toronto states that Lord Rothschild's well-known Shire mare Blythwood Guelder Rose, which was being shown at the Canadian International Exhibition, at Toronto, broke from her stable on Tuesday and fatally overreached herself. All Shire horse breeders will sympathise with Lord Rothschild in the loss of so valuable a mare, and particularly under such circumstances, for it will be remembered that H.M. the King and he were the only English breeders who responded to the invitation to send exhibits, and in sending such first-class animals they undoubtedly did a great deal for Shire horse breeders in general, which, maybe, will result in an increased demand for Shire horses in Canada.

Blythwood Guelder Rose, we need hardly mention, had been shown with success in this country, her latest prizes including a first and reserve champion at this year's show of the Royal Agricultural Society at Derby. She was foaled in 1895, sire Prince Harold 14228 dam Tudor Rose 15842 by Hitchin Conqueror 4458, and was bred by Sir James Blyth, Bart, Stansted, Essex. Her death is a loss not only to Lord Rothschild, but the Shire breeding industry in general, and it will be regretted by all who have any interest in the breeding of our heavy horses. An illustration of Blythwood Guelder Rose appears above.

SHIRE MARE, BLYTHWOOD GUELDER ROSE,
WHOSE DEATH TOOK PLACE AT TORONTO LAST WEEK.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

THE late Major Whyte Melville, in his interesting book, "Riding Recollections," calls attention to the bitter controversy which was raging between those who believed in "taking hold" of a horse's mouch, and those who believed in almost leaving it alone, the disciples of "finger" and "fist" as he so happily called them. Quite as fiercely rages the controversy between those who are believers in quality in a horse and those who are the advocates of bone. A friend of mine who has done a great deal of judging in his day, was so strong in his advocacy of bone, that if only a horse came up to his requirements in this respect he could overlook almost any fault. Another man calls every horse whose quality is not superlative a common brute. Of course, both men take an exaggerated view of the importance of their especial fancy.

PERHAPS of the two the advocate of bone is generally the more unreasonable. He looks to the quantity of the bone, and if a horse measures well he is satisfied. Now it would be absurd to argue that bone is not an important factor in any horse. A horse with legs like pipe stoppers is out of proportion, lacks balance, and is not at all unlikely to come to speedy grief. But there are many things to take into consideration when examining the bone of a horse, which in my opinion are of quite as much importance as the mere measurement. For example, there is the situation of the bone—by which I mean the angle the legs have to the body. This is of the greatest importance. A horse with a correctly-placed shoulder and with correctly-placed hocks, does not put such a strain on his bone and sinew as a horse whose wethers are upright and whose hocks are right away from him, and his legs will wear better, no matter what the quality of his bone or its quantity.

IT is not the horse's bone that breaks down, it is his sinew. No one ever knew a horse break down in his bone. But weak and defective bone implies weak and defective sinews as a rule. Then in estimating the value of the bone the density of it must be taken into consideration. The specific gravity of an Arab or a Thoroughbred is much greater than that of a Shire horse or a Suffolk Punch, and consequently less bone answers the same practical purpose than is necessary for the heavier breeds. At the same time, an immense improvement has been made in the density of the bone of our heavier breeds of horses during late years. Clydesdale breeders began it, and since then the hard, flinty bone which distinguishes the northern breed has been gradually but surely extending amongst Shires.

IT has been asked how shall the density of the bone be discovered—how, whilst a horse is living is it possible to make even a guess at the specific gravity of his bone? It should not, I think, be difficult for an expert to make a pretty accurate estimate. The trained eye can tell from the shape of the bone what its density is likely to be, and the feel of good hard Arab or Thoroughbred bone can never be mistaken by an observant man.

THERE is not any doubt that the quality of the bone is very much affected by the land on which young horses are bred and grazed. The rich pasturage of the Fens produces, comparatively speaking, a soft, spongy-textured bone, whilst the limestone is proverbial for growing bone of the best. But in these days it is easy to apply lime to the pastures, and though lime applied to strong clays is perhaps not so much to be desired as land on a limestone foundation for the breeding of horses, yet that the application of lime answers a good purpose I am certain.

SOME years ago I visited a Thoroughbred stud which was just in the course of formation. There were three or four—perhaps more—valuable mares there, but I was very much disappointed with their foals, which certainly appeared weedy. The manager and I talked the place over, and he expressed the opinion that he could introduce plenty of lime in one form or another to make the land grow bone of the best quality. I believe he began with half-inch bones and bone-dust mixed—at any rate, I know he applied lime to his paddocks in many ways, and the result was that high prices soon began to be given for the yearlings which he turned out, and they justified the prices given for them by their performances.

SOME weeks ago I spoke of what a little gold mine a brood mare could be to a man, and instanced Mr. W. B. Swallow's Beatrice. During the last week or two I have come across a mare or two that has done quite as well for their owners. One of these is a black or brown mare, owned by Mr. R. J. Robson, of Branston Court. She is about twenty-seven years old now, and was by a Thoroughbred horse from a Cleveland Bay mare She looks wonderfully fresh for her years, and her owner told me the other day that he had sold upwards of £2,000 worth of horses from her. She has certainly filled her place in the economy of the farm to some purpose.

SO has a Hunter brood mare owned by Mr. Thomas Curry, of Morton Carr. Her career has indeed been unique. How she was bred, or where she was bred no one seems to know. She is a lengthy, old-fashioned sort of mare, with good shoulders, and her hocks well under her, and she stands over a lot of ground. I did not stand up to her when I saw her, but I should think she is somewhere between 15 hands 2 in. and 15 hands 3 in. She was at a neighbour's place, running in a box, it being stated that she would not work. Mr. Curry saw her, offered £5 for her, and got her. She was put to run in the milk cart, which she did well enough for some time, and then she refused to work altogether. She has bred several foals, and every one of them

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MAKERS of FERTILISERS and FEEDING STUFFS
of any journal in the United Kingdom.
The best medium for this class of announcement.

has been a winner of prizes. At the recent Cleveland show one of her foals took first prize in two strong classes, and a yearling gelding from her also won in his class. Her stock, however, has established a record which will take a great deal of equalling, and which it is pretty safe to say will not be equalled for many a day to come. At the Durham County Show there is a challenge cup for Hunters, which has to be won three years' in succession before it becomes the absolute property of the winner. This year the cup was won right out by Mr. F. Walton Smith, all of whose winners were from Mr. Curry's old mare.

STILL another good brood mare came to my notice the other day. This was Mr. George Eldes's Cleveland Bay mare Aislaby Queen. She has been a good winner herself, and she is only a young mare, six years old or seven, I forget which ; and at the Cleveland show the other day her foal won in the class for Coaching foals, her yearling filly won in the yearling class, and her two-year-old filly won in the two-year-old class. The two latter were show in the Cleveland Bay section. All three fillies are still the property of Mr. Elders.

THE sale of Mr. C. Howard Taylor's Polo ponies, which will take place a week to-day (Monday) will be an interesting event in the polo world, and some very high-class mares will be offered amongst them. The famous Grey Wings, who, if she had only been from half to three-quarters of an inch taller, would have changed many a second prize into a first. She has always been a great favourite of mine, and she never looked better than she does now. In getting his stud of ponies together, Mr Howard Taylor has acted on a rather novel plan, but it is a thoroughly sound one. He bought as his brood mares not only ponies that played well ; he wanted something more than that. It was necessary that they should have bred good ponies. The consequence is that there are not any very young mares at the sale, except such as Mr. Howard Taylor may have bred. But they are as fine a lot of brood mares as one could wish to see, and it was quite a treat to go through the young stock. The stallion, Marechal Neil, is too well known to need description He never looked better than when I saw him a week ago, and he is certainly one of the best young ponies of his day.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Cottage Models and Designs at Bredon's Norton Show.

The result of the Prize Competition for Cottage Models and Designs, which were on view at the recent Agricultural Show at Bredon's Norton, have now been announced as follows:—For Designs Illustrated by Models.—First prize (£15) to "Cryptonian," Mr. Henry T. Weaver, Gloucester ; second prize (£10) to "Pro Buono Publico," Messrs. Hugo Bird and Robert Browne, Brentwood. For Designs Illustrated by Drawings only.—First prize (£10) to "Red Lion," Mr. A. Dennis-Thacker, Birmingham ; second prize (£7) to "Holte," Messrs. Sam Cooke and Norman Twist, M.S.A., Birmingham.

Mr. Bateman, the judge, considered that the competition was very interesting, and had produced some good designs ; the work of "Red Lion," he commended especially, because "it indicated a character of work more in harmony with the country and the old buildings of the district than any of the others." He further considered that these designs would carry on the old traditions of Cotswold buildings. The two models submitted by Mr. Henry T. Weaver, of Gloucester, received great praise from Mr Bateman, as they showed that a considerable amount of time and thought had been expended upon them. The design for single houses of Messrs. Crouch, Butler, and Richard Savage, of Birmingham, was very artistic and good in many ways, but Mr. Bateman considered that the cost of building would be exceeded owing to the amount of accommodation being in excess of what was asked for.

At a general meeting of the Cheshire, Shropshire, and North Wales Farmers' Supply Association, held at Whitchurch on Tuesday, Colonel Cotton-Jodrell presiding, the thirty-fifth annual statement showed that the turnover for the year was £104,489, an increase of £17,055 on that of last year, and several thousands better than the best previous record. It was decided to allow interest on capital at the rate of 5 per cent. and a bonus of 7d. in the pound on the purchases of members. It was pointed out that with the increasing turnover there was involved a large and more frequent overdraft, and the shareholders, by resolution, approved of the decision of the directors to increase the Association's capital by £7,000. It was reported that the several mills owned by the Association were in a very flourishing condition, and that the mill at Lea Forge, destroyed by fire last winter, was now rebuilt and practically ready to resume work.

PIGS.

Exportation of Large White Pigs.

Messrs. Lythall and Walters shipped last week, from Hull to Baron Frh. von Pohl, one of the leading breeders in Germany, two very fine Large White boars They consist of the winner of first prize in the old boar class at the Royal Show and first and medal Royal Lancashire, 1906, Walton Tartar, purchased from Sir Gilbert Greenall, and one of the first prize pen of young boars at the Royal Show from the herd of Mr. D. R. Daybell. A very high price had to be paid to secure these pigs, which are two of the best that have been exported for a long time.

Four Pigs on Tour.

The swine fever regulations of various Continental countries have occasioned much travelling on the part of four fine pedigree pigs, recently purchased near Colchester for the famous pianist Paderewski for his farm in Switzerland. The agent who purchased the pigs entrusted them to a Continental forwarding office for despatch to Switzerland. The latter, being apparently unaware of the niceties of the laws in force in certain European countries relative to swine and herd fever, forwarded the pianist's pigs *viâ* Harwich to Antwerp and thence to Switzerland.

But when the pigs arrived at the frontier, neither the French nor the German authorities would permit them to pass, and they had, perforce, to be returned to Antwerp, whence, after lengthy delay and voluminous correspondence with the British Board of Agriculture, they were brought back by steamer to London, and transhipped by lighter to the Bennett Line steamer *Syria*, which sailed from Chamberlain's Wharf, London Bridge, on August 25, for Boulogne.

From that port they were forwarded by direct rail to Switzerland, and news has just been received of the safe arrival of the precious pigs at their destination. The pigs are valuable animals, intended for breeding purposes. Paderewski is an ardent farmer on his Swiss estate, and on his lands in Poland he grows fruit on a very large scale, and is reputed to make money out of the business—of course, nothing like what he makes at piano playing.

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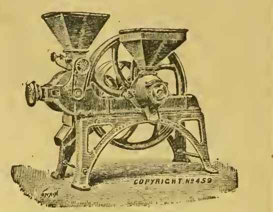

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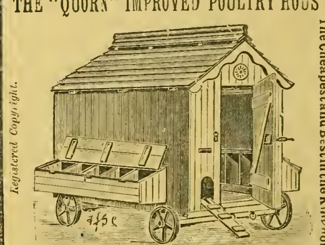

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Notes and Jottings.

THE Board of Agriculture's Returns to the effect that the root crop is well above average rather surprises us, and we do not think it holds good throughout the areas where the winter feeding of sheep on roots is most practised. However, sheep sales continue to go well, and the second drafts of rams which are largely used on ordinary flocks meet with a good demand. Some of the later breeding breeds are now freely coming to the hammer, and breeders have reason to be satisfied with their sales.

THE Bakewell Farmers' Club made a notable addition to their prize list by offering for the first time prizes for a Derbyshire breed of sheep. At the time of the Royal Show at Derby we expressed regret that the indigenous breeds of Derbyshire had not been taken in hand with the view of their systematic improvement, as doubtless there were among them those which might have been developed with much advantage. Whether the hint or the resence of the Royal Show had anything to do with the new movement, or whether it was merely the determination to be in the forward movement in sheep breeding which prevails so strongly, matters not. A breed which ought not to be lost, and which may have a useful influence in the sheep world, is likely to be saved from being crossbred out of recognition, and made more valuable to those who are interested in it. One can only hope that when the Royal goes to Derby again the breed will have attained such excellence that it will figure in the prize list. Under the name of the Dale of Goyt, which may scarcely seem impressive enough at a time when so many breeds take their names from counties or large well-known tracts, another breed is added to the list of recognised British breeds; and as it possesses many valuable features, now that it has faced the public satisfactorily once, there can be little doubt that it will enter the further stage of a flock book. During the last dozen years several breeds have been saved, and now possess flock books which they have every reason to be proud. Although the British Isles are small, the breeds of sheep are numerous, but there is not one too many; there are still other breeds possessing features that ought not to be lost. It is many years since we first thought the Derbyshire sheep should take a more prominent position, and, therefore, congratulate those who have taken its better future in hand.

A QUERY reaches us respecting the feeding of 300 good lambs receiving ½ lb. best linseed and cotton-cake (mixed), and ½ lb. cracked maize and peas (mixed), the lambs to go out as tegs or hoggets in December. A pound weight per day of extra food containing so much nitrogenous matter is dangerous; what safeguard there is being supplied by the starchy maize, though this may be to an extent lessened if at any time the lambs are put upon food which has a tendency to scour them, for in a coarsely grittled condition it may pass through them without being digested, and so not be available to counteract the excessive amount of nitrogen in the blood.

THE rich concentrated extra food given to sheep should be regulated in quality and constituents by the nature of the coarser foods supplied. Sheep receiving clover, which is rich in nitrogen, than when on swede turnips, which contain but little, require cake and corn in different proportions for the best results to be obtained. A sheep can only satisfactorily utilise a certain amount of nitrogen, and when given in excess it is not only wasted but imperils the life of the sheep. From the experience gained by living in a district of high sheep feeding in winter, and a personal experience over many years, we should say that something like 80 per cent. of the losses from feeding are due to over-feeding with nitrogenous foods, 10 per cent. from immature roots, and 10 per cent. from other feeding errors. Those who do not exceed ¾ lb. of good linseed cake alone generally avoid serious losses, but a danger zone is reached at this point, and more carbonaceous food is required if the ration is to be increased; and better results are obtained if the cake allowance is slightly decreased and the starchy food increased. It is difficult for many feeders to realise that because they see an improvement when the cake is raised from ½ lb. to ¾ lb. that further increase will not give an equally satisfactory result. It may do so for a short time, but scour, apoplexy, and death become so frequent as to take away the profit if it is long persisted in.

CHAMPION SOUTHDOWN SHEARLING RAM

The system gradually becomes over-charged with nitrogenous matter, the blood is over-azotised, and one of the three phases just mentioned results. The system tries to relieve itself by scour in many cases; failing to do this, over-pressure is brought to bear on the brain, and the shepherd, leaving his sheep apparently well over-night, finds in the morning a dead sheep, or one that is listless and fails to come to the trough, and if not promptly attended to and blood withdrawn to weaken the blood, or a dose of salts given to lower it, the sheep will soon die. "Knock off the cake," is the usual order, and by doing so others are saved; but it is a crude form of management that causes its necessity. The great point to be realised is that the sheep are not over-thriving when this occurs, but that, although they did well up to a certain point, they are slowly, and sometimes quickly, being poisoned by an excess of the very thing which had done them good until the system was over-charged with it. It is often the over-greedy sheep that suffer, for they get beyond their share of cake, which indicates the necessity for keeping all sheep away from the troughs until the cake is in them so that they get a level chance, and not to have the most eager butting the shepherd almost off his legs in their eagerness to get more than their share—a far too common sight.

Champion Southdown Shearling Ram

The Southdown Shearling ram forming the subject of our illustration above, is the animal with which H.M. the King won a first prize and the Southdown Sheep Society's Champion Gold Medal for the best Southdown ram at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Derby. It was born in February and was bred by the King at Sandringham.

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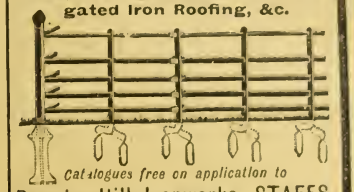
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IN respect to the dietary mentioned in the query, if the ½ lb. cake is given the lambs would be better with fewer peas, and their place taken by crushed oats or barley, giving peas only during the last week or two to top up with to improve the handling. A great many farmers get "right there" when they say they like plenty of mixture in the cake and corn allowance; for they thus get a better balancing of food than when they feed on cake or peas only. Of course, there are those who know this, but who do not take the trouble to provide it.

THOSE who prefer profit to losses and do not mind the very slight extra trouble, would find that if they took ¼ lb. of linseed cake, ½ lb. each of cotton-cake, peas, barley, oats, maize, and locust meal, the lambs would thrive well and safely. Of course, when it comes to feeding swedes, their quality and ripeness require to be considered. Many swedes are eaten before they are really fit to be, although they may have attained considerable size, in which case, for a time, the maize might be withdrawn and the cotton-cake, which is somewhat astringent, increased, until the roots get wholesome and digestible. All the corn is better broken, and when chaff is given it is better to have it ground to meal. A small allowance of clover or sainfoin hay when the sheep are on roots tend to keep them thriving.

SHEEP FAIRS AND SALES.

Messrs. J. A. and G. F. Hempson's Southdowns.

The Southdown flocks of the late Mr. J. A. Hempson, of Erwarton Hall, and Mr. G. F. Hempson, Ardleigh, were brought under the hammer at Ipswich on Tuesday, by Messrs. Spurlings and Hempson, in the presence of a large company, and a satisfactory sale resulted.

The original Erwarton Hall flock, established in 1844, was dispersed by auction in 1900, and for a commencement of the new flock, 146 ewes were purchased from Mr. E. J. Gorringe, of Chyngton, Seaford, and ninety-five ewes from Mr. A. H. E. Wood, of Sudbourne Hall. Other first-class ewes were purchased from time to time, whilst the rams used have comprised sheep of Henry Webb's strain, a ram bred by Earl Cadogan, a ram from Mr. Adeane's flock by Persimmon; rams of Goodwood and Penfold strains, and a Woolverstone ram bred by Mr. C. H. Berners. The sixty shearling ewes were purchased by Mr. W. Wrinch—20 at 70s. per head, 20 at 61s, and 20 at 75s. For the 50 two-shear ewes, Mr. Wrinch gave 63s and 58s 6d per head; he also took 50 three-shears at 57s per head, the other 20 being knocked down to Mr. Carter at 50s. each. Full-mouthed ewes realised from 46s to 43s 6d, and crones from 36s 6d to 33s. Mr. R. Edgar, of Cockfield Hall, gave 6½ guineas for a two-shear ram by Babraham Blue Jacket, and 10 guineas for a three-shear by Son of Streetly C. J., a three-shear by Babraham Blue Jacket selling at 5 guineas to Mr. H. Webb, of Audley End.

The Ardleigh flock, established in 1900, was also of a high class, only the best blood being used. Mr. W. Wrinch purchased thirty shearling ewes at 70s. and 68s. per head, Mr. Carter giving 64s. for the other twenty. Twenty-two shears were purchased by Mr. Kenneth Clarke, of Sudbourne Hall, at 72s. 6d., Mr. Wrinch taking sixteen at 61s., and twenty-one three-shears at 66s. Full-mouthed ewes sold at 66s. to 45s. to Mr. Kenneth Clarke. Seven two-shear ewes sold as follows One by a Hogben ram, 8 guineas, Mr. E. G. Pretyman; three by Ardleigh Blue Jacket, 10 guineas, 10½ guineas, and 11½ guineas, Mr. W. Wrinch (two) and Mr. R. Edgar (two); two by a Hogben ram, 11½ guineas and 9½ guineas, Rev. H.

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised, there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

Taylor and Mr. J. F. Benson (Toppesfield Hall). Older rams made from 9 guineas downward.

New Romney.

At this well-known Kentish fair, 11,600 sheep and lambs were entered for the annual fair, against 8,400 last year. Trade was steady throughout the day at the same prices which have been ruling in the district during the past week or so, and in comparison with last year, lambs were about the same, and ewes from one to two shillings a head lower. The prices made for lambs averaged from 25s. to 26s., these being paid for good useful lots of both ewes and wethers. Thirty shillings was the top price in the private sales, this figure being made for a pen of Kent ewe lambs, while 27s. 6d. was the top figure for wether lambs. Ewes made up to 43s., which price was reached by Mr. Chittenden for his sheep; while a pen from Mr. Arthur Finn's flock made 42s. 6d. Other lots of good toothed ewes sold at from 34s. to 42s., but rough-toothed sheep did not command much money, and were sold at about 26s.

Haverhill.

At Mr. C. Boardman's annual sale of sheep and rams at Haverhill about 1,150 animals from various well-known flocks in the district were offered The entries included the entire registered Suffolk flock the property of the Hon. W. F. D Smith, M.P., of Great Thurlow, and here, as all through the different departments, very good prices were realised. The shearlings sold up to 76s., the other lots making 71s. and 70s.; two-shears made up to 80s., and three-shears up to 75s., whilst a good trade was done in full-mouthed ewes, which sold up to 62s. Altogether Mr. Smith's nineteen lots made an average price of 63s. 6d. Other consignments from various breeders made good prices, shearlings meeting the best demand and making up to 65s. Lamb rams also experienced a good trade, several lots selling up to £5, whilst a Mr. J. T. Stockburn, Clare, got £7 5s. for one, and Mrs. Lowe, Gosfield, £5 12s. 6d.

The Pagham Harbour Co.'s Southdowns.

The well-known Pagham Harbour Company's Southdown flock, which was established in 1870, and has since been very successful at many of the leading shows, was disposed of by auction at Selsey on Tuesday by Messrs. Wyatt and Son, auctioneers, of Chichester and Havant. The sale took place in a meadow at Manor Farm, and prior to the commencement of the business a luncheon was provided, at which Messrs. Herbert Padwick, of Thorney, (president of the Southdown Flock Association), presided over a large company. It included representatives of the Duke of Devonshire (Mr. Burgess), the Duke of Richmond and Gordon (Mr. MacWilliam), the Earl of Egmont (Mr. Howe), Lord Howard de Walden, and Mr. W. D. James, J.P., West Dean.

There was a large attendance of buyers, and a satisfactory sale resulted. The best price for rams was 9 guineas, Mr. Willett paying this figure, whilst others made 8 guineas, 6½ guineas, 6 guineas, 5½ guineas, &c. The ram lambs fetched better prices, the Duke of Devonshire securing one at 12½ guineas, and others realising up to 8 guineas. The other chief sales were as follows:—Shearling ewes: The Duke of Richmond and Gordon bought three at 100s.; the Duke of Devonshire six at 68s.; and Captain Fisher Rowe, Bramley, five at 57s. Four-tooth ewes: The Duke of Richmond five at 58s.; Mr. Wigginton, Selsey, five at 55s., five at 54s., fifteen at 51s., and five at 45s. Six-tooth ewes: Mr. W. D. James, West Dean, ten at 52s.; Mr. Penfold, five at 50s., five at 48s., ten at 46s., and ten at 44s.; Captain Fisher Rowe, five at 48s.; others made up to 47s. Full-mouthed ewes: Mr. H. Padwick, Thorney, five at 56s.; Mr. Penfold, five at 42s., and five at 39s.; Captain Fisher Rowe, five at 41s; and others up to 40s. Aged ewes: Eighty were bought by Mr. Napper, Mr. Penfold, and Mr. Wigginton at prices ranging from 39s. to 34s. Ewe lambs: The Duke of Devonshire bought four at 57s. and five at 48s.; Mr. Monckton, Stansted, six at 43s.; the others selling up to 37s.

Salisbury.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, of Salisbury, submitted to auction, at their Market House Yard, Salisbury, on Tuesday, seventy ram lambs, being second drafts from the registered Hampshire Down flocks of Messrs. J. H. Dibben and Carcy Coles. The forty lambs from the Bishopstone flock made 12½ guineas, 10½ guineas, 9 guineas (twice), 8 guineas (five lots), 7 guineas, to 5 guineas, average £6 16s. 6d., whilst the thirty lambs from the Winterborne Stoke flock made 16 guineas, 15½ guineas, 15 guineas, 11 guineas, 10½ guineas, 10 guineas, 8 guineas (thrice); to 5 guineas, average £8 1s.

The Ruddington Hall Shropshires.

The late Mr. Philo L. Mills's famous flock of Shropshire sheep was dispersed by auction at Ruddington Hall, Nottingham, on Thursday, in the presence of a very large company of breeders. As Mr. Alfred Mansell, the auctioneer, pointed out, buyers had an opportunity of buying an old-established flock. The flock was the result of thirty years' careful breeding by Mr. Mills and Mr. Gibson, and as showing the demand for representatives of the breed he stated that this year certificates had been issued for 1,700 sheep to go abroad, compared with 700 two years ago. That was almost entirely brought about by the fact that Shropshire sheep were being used on merino and cross-bred ewes in the colonies, which sent back fat lambs to this country.

Bidding for the various lots was fairly brisk, but prices were not anything like so good as had been anticipated. The top figure was 75 guineas, which sum was paid by Mr. Bibby for a shearling ram by Coronation. Another shearling ram by Duke of Lancaster, the dam's sire being the celebrated Ruddington Sirdar, was knocked down for 66 guineas to Mr. Napper, whilst one by Panama went to Mr. Thoroby, of South America, for 20 guineas, who took another by Park Royalist for 30 guineas, and two were sold to Mr. Hughes, of South America, for 16 guineas each. Another shearling ram by Duke of Lancaster was sold to Mr. Smith, of Australia, for 36 guineas Mr. Taylor, of South America, was a considerable buyer, taking rams at 14 guineas, 16 guineas, 13 guineas (two), and 15 guineas, and Mr. Forbes, of South Africa, secured one at 12 guineas. Mr. Stein, of Ireland, obtained a ram by Park Royalist at 18 guineas, and Mr. Dowse, of Germany, took several at prices ranging from 6 guineas to 8 guineas.

There were seven aged rams, and the first to enter the ring was Royal Eclipse, a two-year-old, which made the highest price at Sir Richard Cooper's fourteen months' ago, when he fetched 90 guineas. He was also in the first prize pen at the last Park Royal Show. He started at only 5 guineas, and was knocked down to Mr. Shelton, of Newport. Park Royalist, a home-bred sire, which was second at the Royal, was sold to Sir Richard Cooper for 51 guineas. Panama, which once looked like being disposed of for 15 guineas, was bid up to 35 guineas before Captain Townsend his breeder, got him back.

The shearling ewes sold well, there being thirty-one pens. Mr. Kermode bought one pen for exportation to Tasmania at 16 guineas each. Mr. Henderson, of Lutterworth, gave 14½ guineas for three ewes; Mr. Bell 11 guineas for another pen. The general run of prices for shearling ewes seems to be from 5 guineas to 9 guineas, and at such prices Sir Peter Walker, Messrs. Davenport (New Zealand), Hughes (South America), Stein (Ireland), Randall, Pearce, and many small breeders were purchasers. The two-shear ewes were sold in pens each containing five. The highest price made was 9½ guineas, which was given by Mr. Bibby, and the general run of prices was from 4 guineas to 7 guineas. Foreign buyers made no purchases in this section. Ewe lambs were chiefly purchased by butchers at prices ranging from 2 guineas to 3 guineas each. Several ram lambs made from 4 guineas to 9 guineas, Mr. Woodcock paying the latter sum for one by Ruddington Signet.

The total realised by the sale was £2,998, or an average per head of £5 2s. 6d. The average of the shearling rams was £13 16s 7d., of the aged rams £25, of the shearling ewes £5 7s., of the stock ewes £3 10s., of the ewe lambs £2 5s. 7d., and of the ram lambs £2 12s.

Kidderminster.

The entry of sheep for Messrs. Nock and Joseland's annual sale at Kidderminster on Friday next, September 7, will, it is considered, surpass all previous records. The 250 rams and ram lambs will include all the best breeds for crossing purposes, and flocks represented at this sale have taken the highest honours in their classes at the Royal and other great shows. A new feature introduced this season will be the Ryeland rams from two of the best flocks in Herefordshire—the home of the Ryeland sheep—which are especially suited for getting lambs of the finest quality and early maturity. The entry of ewes will be about 3,500, including Shropshires, Oxfords, Hampshires, Cluns, Kerries, and cross-breds The feeding sheep will include about 1,700 well-bred Shropshire and cross-bred lambs, whilst there are 500 good Radnor and cross bred wethers.

Mr. John Harding's Shropshires.

Owing to advancing age Mr. John Harding disposed of his pedigree Shropshire sheep on Friday at Norton House, near Shifnal, the sale being conducted by Mr. Alfred Mansell. Many of the sheep have a world-wide reputation, and they included many Royal winners. Some of the choicest sheep were bought for transit across the Atlantic. Crested Wave, with a reputation which few sheep could claim, reached the top of the list at 90 guineas, paid by Mr. Blatherwick, 86 guineas being paid by Mr. T. Jones, of Cotwall, for another fine ram. Other prices were:—32 guineas, Mr. R. Bache; 25 guineas, Mr. Phillips; 41 guineas, Mr. Parker and Mr. E. Nock; 21 guineas, Mr. J. E. Bourne and Mr. A. Everall; 25 guineas, Mr. T. Button, Cooper Angus; 21 guineas; Mr. W. H. Foster; and 20 guineas, Lord Powis. The top price for ewes was 10 guineas, paid by Mr. McLaughlin, for Buenos Ayres, and Sir R. P. Cooper. Ram lambs sold exceptionally well, the top price being 15 guineas.

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SHEEP DIPS
☞ *OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT REMEDIES FOR SCAB.*
THE CHAMPION RAM for 1905 (Bred by Mr Tom Casswell) and the CHAMPION RAM for 1906 (Bred by Mr. Henry Dudding), sold for 1,450 Guineas, were DIPPED IN BATTLE'S DIPS. Why? BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST.
BATTLE, MALTBY & BOWER, LINCOLN.

Messrs. R. and W. Wright's Flock Purchased for the Argentine.

The purchase is reported by that Leviathan exporter, Mr. F. Miller, of the whole of Messrs. R. and W. Wright's prize-winning flock of Lincoln sheep, including all the breeding ewes, lambs, and stud rams—in fact, the entire flock.

This unique purchase, at a very high price, of the celebrated Wright flock of Lincolns, is on behalf of Señor Manuel José Cobo, of Buenos Ayres and Lezerna, Argentina, whose name has figured largely of late as the buyer of several high-priced animals, including Mr. Dean Willis's Royal Champion Shorthorn Bull at the magnificent price of £3,000

All these sheep will be shipped by Mr. Miller in suitable consignments between now and the end of next January. It will be remembered that Mr. Miller had previously bought on his own account all Messrs. Wright's shearling rams of this season, several of which have already been exported.

Australasian Wool.

The sales of wool in the Australasian markets for the past twelve months total, according to statistics by Messrs. Dalgety and Co., 1,354,865 bales, which realised £18,305,012, as compared with 1,092,651 bales which grossed £13,825,269 in the previous season, so that the increase for Australasia from local sales of wools has amounted to £4,478,473.

Sheep numbers made up from figures taken from the most recent returns indicate that the total in 1905 for Australasia was 93,836,548. A large increase in the flocks is expected to take place during the present year.

As regards the future, the view is taken that while the production during the ensuing season will not result in any plethora of stocks, the use of substitutes and firmness of money are likely to act as barriers to any increase in values, and may, in fact, cause a moderate lowering of the present level. A ready demand is expected to welcome the coming clip, and it is considered that the output should be cleared at comparatively high prices owing to the excellent trade conditions prevailing at the present time.

Foreign Demand for Shropshire Sheep.—Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, report an unprecedented foreign demand for Shropshire sheep, the number of export certificates issued already numbering 1,400, as against a total for the whole year in 1904 of 703.

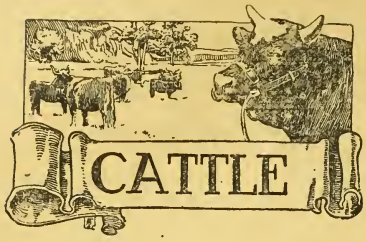
British Grasses.—There is no more happy and wholesome "sign of the times" than the rapid increase in this country of the taste for Nature study; and the new fancy takes the desirable form of home study. The rage is all for things British. This, at any rate, is the experience of the Country Press, of Kensington, who have been inundated with applications for their Nature study (British) picture post cards, of which thirty, in five sixpenny packets, have so far been issued—British fern fronds, British tree leaves, British tree boles, and British trees in winter. People are now asking for grasses, and the Country Press meet the demand by issuing twelve cards for one shilling, depicting twenty-three interesting species, popularly and botanically named, showing magnified fructification, and giving the time of flowering.

Hollesley Bay Labour Colony.—Consent has been given by the Local Government Board to the Central (Unemployed) Body for London to purchase the land known as the Hollesley Bay Labour Colony. It will be remembered that this land—1,300 acres—was leased in February, 1905, by Mr. Joseph Fels to the Central Committee for the London Unemployed Fund for three years at a peppercorn rent. The option to purchase at any time during the period was given at the same time. When the Central (Unemployed) Body was formed, the land was transferred, and since then about 250 men on a daily average have been employed in the training necessary to fit them for life in the Colonies. Several batches of men and their families have gone to Canada, and the Labour Colony has been considered, on the whole, a fair success.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
September				
3	Mr. J. W. Taylor, Cheltenham	Oxford Down Sheep, &c.	Cirencester	Various.
3	Messrs. J. Croall and Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh	Shetland Ponies...	Edinburgh	Various.
4	Messrs. Walkor and Sons, York	Horses	Duncombe Pk., Helmsley, Yks	Earl of Feversham.
4	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, London, W.	Shorthorn Cattle, &c.	Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.	The Earl of Feversham.
4	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrowsbury	Shropshire Sheep	Lougherew, Oldeastle, co. Meath	Mr. W. L. Naper.
4	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser & Co., Ltd., Perth	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Kinochtry, Perthshire	Mr. W. S. Ferguson.
4	Messrs. Simpson and Sons, Bury St. Edmunds	Sheep	Bury St. Edmunds Fair	Various.
4	Mr. D. Waddington, Warminster	Hampshire Down Sheep	Westbury Hill Fair	Various.
5	Mr. W. Ward, Sleaford	Hampshire Down Sheep	Billingboro'	Various.
5	———	Shearling Rams...	Kirmington House, near Brocklesby	Mr. G. Marris.
5	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Aghavoe, Abbeyleix, Queen's Co.	Mr. R. F. H. White.
5	Messrs. A. and D. Edwards, Loominster	Sheep	Hereford	Various.
5	Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, Bicester	Oxford Down Ram Lambs	Hempton Green, Norfolk	Mr. G. Adams.
5	Messrs. Cotton and Chappell, Bromsgrove	Sheep	Bromsgrove	Various.
5	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Ltd.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Corston, Perthshire	Mr. Buttar.
5	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck, Peterboro'	Hacknevs, &c.	Peterboro' Repository	Various.
5	Messrs. A. Buntenshaw and Sons, Eastbourne	Cattle and Sheep	Milton Court Farm, near Alfriston, Sussex	Mr. J. E. A. Gwyyne.
5	Messrs. Stride and Son, Chichester	Southdown Sheep	Chichester	Various.
5 and 6	Messrs. Lythall and Walters, Birmingham	Shorthorn Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	Various.
5 and 6	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Horses	North Wales Repos. Wrexh'm	Various.
6	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Perth	Various.
6	Messrs. Jackson and McCartney, Craven Arms	Sheep	Craven Arms, Shropshire	Various.
6	Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, Dorchester	Hampshire Down Sheep	Blandford Fair	Mr. W. C. Martin.
7	Messrs. Whittingdale and Watson, Coventry	Shropshire Sheep	Coventry	Various.
7	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Wellington (Salop)	Mr. G. Adams.
7	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Catthorpe Towers, Rugby	The late Mr. J. P. Cross.
7	Messrs. R. Bond and Son, Ipswich	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
7	Messrs. Nock and Joseland, Kidderminster	Sheep and Lambs	Kidderminster	Various.
7	Mr. J. Kidd, Lazonby	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
7	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Louth	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Lincoln	Sheep Breeders' Assn.
7	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Wellington, Salop	Mr. G. Adams.
7	Messrs. Whittingdale and Watson, Coventry	Shropshire Sheep	Coventry	Various.
7	Mr. E. G. Hathersall, Preston	Dairy Cows and Heifers	Auction Mart, Preston	Various.
7	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Store Stock	Shrewsbury Cattle Mart	Various.
7	Messrs. Morris, Marshall, and Poole, Craven Arms	Sheep	Kerry	Various.
7	———	Sheep	Kelso	Members of Border Union Agricultural Soc.
8	Messrs. Ward and Richardson, Sleaford	Lincoln Shearling Rams	Quarrington, near Sleaford	Mr. F. Ward.
10	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Polo Ponies	Middlewood Hall, Barnsley	Mr. C. Howard Taylor.
11	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrawardine, Shrewsbury	Mr. A. Tanner.
11	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Derby Horse Repository	Various.
12	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
12	Mr. J. Pearse, Plymouth	South Devon Cattle	Higher Leigham Farm, Egg Buckland	Messrs. Butland Bros. and W. J. Crossing, Plympton
12	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Hackneys, &c.	Normans Rupper, Horsham	Mr. W. Ward-Hargrave and Mr. J. Walter.
12	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Store Sheep	Wilton Sheep Fair	Various.
12	Messrs. Morriss, Marshall and Poole	Ponies, Cattle and Sheep	Bleddfa, Llangunllo	Radnorshire Polo and Riding Pony Co.
13	Messrs. Hincks, Earl, and Lawrence, Sleaford	Lincoln Sheep	Sleaford	Various.
13 & 14	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrewsbury, Smithfield	Various.
12, 13, & 14	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Crewe	Hackneys	Crewe Repository	Various.
13	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Edinburgh	Mr. G. Adams.
14	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Kelso	Mr. G. Adams.
14	Mr. F. L. Crow, Dorking	Sussex Cattle	Leigh, Reigate, Surrey	Mr. H. Bell.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Berkshire Pigs	Stratton, Dorchester	Mr. W. J. Chicks.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Churchill, Moy, co. Armagh	Mr. H. J. Verner and Mr. J. Atkinson.
14	Messrs. Walker, Walter, and Benson, Melton Mowbray	Horses	Melton Mowbray	Various
14	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Spalding	Mr. E. W. Gooch.
17	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, & Co., Ltd.	Clydesdale Horses	Perth Auction Mart	Various.
18	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Red Polled Cattle	Didlington, Brandon	Lord Amherst.
18	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Augus Cattle	Birtley, co. Durham	The late Mr. Perkins.
18	Messrs. E. A. Young and Son, Alford	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Partney Sheep Fair	Mr. L. W. Stephenson.
18, 19, & 21	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackneys	Cheshire Repository, Crewe	Various.
19	Messrs. Paxton & Holiday	Oxford Down Sheep	Northampton Ram Fair	Various.
19	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
19	———	Horses and Ponies	Seaham Harbour	Seaham Harbour Stud Co.
19	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Eshott, Northumberland	Mr. Bainbridge.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Haughton Castle, Humshaugh, Northumberland	Mr. W. D. Cruddas.
20	Mr. J. Kidd	Breeding Sheep	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
20	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Sheep, &c.	Woodhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Mr. C. Calder.
20	Messrs. R. Leonard and Sons, Preston, Hull	Hackneys, &c.	Burstwick Stud Farm, nr. Hull	Mr. D. R. Sowerby.
20	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Great Coates, near Grimsby	Mr. R. Garniss.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Red Polled Cattle	Crabhill Farm, Nutfield, Surrey	Mr. R. F. Henderson.
20	Messrs. C. R. Robinson and Son, North Curry, near Taunton	Cattle	Capton Farm, Williton, near Taunton	Mr. A. Bowerman.
21	Messrs. Rumball and Edwards, St. Albans	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Woodhall, near Hemel Hempstead	Mr. A. F. Umfreville.
21	Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons, Bury-St.-Edmunds	Shire Horses	Little Wilnetham Hall	Mr. J. Sturley Nunn.
21	———	Southdown Sheep	Lewes Fair	Various.
21	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Oakfield, Mortimer, Berks	Mr. Tyser and Mr. Wills.
21	Messrs. Neasom and White, Bromsgrove	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	Alvechurch Shire Stud, near Birmingham	Mr. Clement Heynes.
21	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Louth Ram Fair	Various.
24	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Gosberton, near Spalding	Mr. R. Mowbray.
25	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
25	Messrs. Howkin and Sons, Rugby	Foals	Rugby	Various.
25	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants	The late Miss L. C. Standish.
25	Messrs. Tattersall	Polo and Riding Ponies	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants	The late Miss L. C. Standish.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns.



Notes and Jottings.

THE continued drought which exists over so great a portion of the country is making matters very serious for the store cattle trade; indeed, these cannot be cashed, it may be said, at any price over a large area of the Midland and Eastern counties, as well as North and South. In all the districts mentioned a green field is a very rare thing, and is only seen where some river or small stream has helped to keep the subsoil cool, or occasionally where a good field of the deeply-rooted lucerne or red clover is grown. It is, indeed, a very serious time now for stock-keepers in these districts, and, worst of all is, the prices for both milk and beef are such as not to justify an extravagant outlay in extraneous food.

VERY different from the above picture is that seen in North Wales, where the cool-lying valleys are rich green with beautiful herbage, both on pastures and aftermaths, and the cattle full and sleek with plenty of flesh upon them. The root crops, too, are of a good healthy colour here, and the corn crops are full of straw, the harvest apparently having been hindered somewhat by the rain that has given the green colouring to the grass and the roots. Welsh cattle, too, stand a grass diet as well as most late into the autumn without extra feed, so that it is quite probable and will be wisest, one would think, to winter their stores as much as possible on the roots and oat straw, and bring them out in the late spring for early summer feeding, when they are pretty certain to be wanted at long prices.

THE Emerald Isle has been very much favoured, too, with showers and good pastures, the happy state of things prevailing in Anglesea and other parts of Wales being continued on the other side. Cattle from the latter are coming to market in excellent condition, and feeders—at least some of them—give a very satisfactory account of the summer's profits upon their feeders, even though beef is realising so very badly. There will always be great difference of profits amongst feeders of cattle under the same conditions. Judgment in selection alone will account for all the difference between one lot that has paid well and another that has been losing money, or if not losing at least not giving anything.

IN travelling recently one could not but notice an increase in the number of the Welsh sheeted cattle that are to be seen, odd animals and small herds being seen in several instances where a solitary individual could not be found a year or two since. When an increasing demand for any product is experienced it is astonishing how soon those animals that can oblige begin to be sought after. We had noticed upon several occasions in mixed dairy classes at some of our shows a solitary or perhaps a couple of animals of these sheeted Welsh beasts with beautiful udders under them capable of a very profitable milk yield, and the breed is truly a dual-purpose one, the animals being easily converted into beef, whether steers or heifers.

THERE are many old breeds of cattle that have, so far as appearance before the public is concerned, become extinct, being perhaps kept lingering on in some secluded district of the country where the railway and the stranger are seldom seen. Amongst such breeds the old Gloucestershire would have to be counted. Very seldom are these seen now. The smoky-faced Montgomery, too, is seldom met with, a circumstance that calls for regret, for these were grand cattle. Then several years ago I recollect seeing in the extra class at the Dublin Spring Show a little red Irish cow with a white face and a splendid udder. A milky breed all over in appearance, and a hardy one, too, evidently requiring but little feed.

DIVING more deeply into the whereabouts this little cow had hailed from, I was informed that there was a breed of that kind in the wilds of Donegal that were excellent dairy cattle, very much in the hands of the cottagers—roadside cows as we call them here. The breed, however, appeared to be eminently worth looking after. The white face was not of the Hereford cast either in its pronounced whiteness or in the conformation of the head and the face that wore the white colour. It is rather strange whence such a breed could have emanated. Quite curious, too, is an occasional white face in some of the cattle of Devonshire; here, again, it is not the cast of the Hereford, but probably some outside blood of a very remote period that occasionally crops up and appears as strange in its way as do the occasional black sheep that one finds in a flock of pure Leicester or Cheviot sheep.

RETURNING to the question of feed keep at such times as the present, I noticed yesterday by the railway side a crop of thousand-headed kale, that struck one as being quite as adaptable to and useful for cattle as for sheep, for which is now looked upon as indispensable upon many farms, and yields an immense bulk of feed per acre. Doubtless, like the cattle we are speaking for, this article would require good feeding at its roots and early sowing if a big bulk is to be obtained thus early in the season, but it is none the less worth a trial and might prove of immense benefit.

A GREATER demand for Guernsey cattle appears to have sprung up recently than has been experienced for a long time. Reports of considerable shipments of this breed to America and Australia being very common, whilst inquiries are also being pretty frequently received for them. The Guernsey has proved itself a very practically useful breed where rich milk and a heavy yield of butter are concerned, which is doubtless one cause of the increased demand that is being experienced. Singularly to say, the Guernsey seldom acquits herself as creditably as a showyard animal either for milk or butter as the sister Channel Island breed, but the showyard is not always the safest place to test the capabilities of a dairy cow, especially where the testing is confined to a one-day trial.

IN the sales of cattle advertised to come off during September amongst others is a large herd of the South Devon breed. It is not often that opportunity occurs for purchasing from a breeder by auction specimens of this very useful and rapidly-increasingly popular breed of cattle. It will be worth reminding any intending purchasers as well as any undecided ones, how well this breed accounted for itself in the Agricultural Hall last year. It may pretty safely be said that only one other breed did anything like as well at the two end of the year shows, namely, the Dairy show in October for milk and the Smithfield show for beef, and this sort of thing certainly constitutes a valuable dual-purpose animal.

THE Red Poll, too, is another distinctly useful dual-purpose breed of cattle, though, like the Guernsey, they have seldom done as well in the showyards, either in the making of beef or milk records as some others, still the home balance-sheet, which is the truer and much safer to be consulted test, gives in several instances results superior practically to most other breeds. The Red Poll is found to the greatest advantage in the Eastern counties; whether it is soil or climatic influence that causes this we cannot say, but we have sometimes thought that rich grazing land has greater effect upon the Red Poll than most other breeds in converting it more into a beef-maker than a milk-producer. Anyway where fold-yards are concerned it is very valuable for the two purposes.

THE Government orders with respect to the contracts for Army and Navy beef have made a very sore place with feeders both at home and in Ireland. The subject is one worth a good deal of attention, which it will doubtless receive and which it is to be hoped will end in a revocation of the conditions. There is really no need to feed our soldiers and sailors on States beef at present, and from another point of view there is considerably more nutrition in the beef of cattle killed direct from our own feeding pastures and fold-yards than from the poor beasts that have been on hard cars and boats for a month or six weeks, and must be frequently in very unfit condition for slaughtering.

REVERTING once more to the demand for our different breeds of cattle for export and their suitability to different climates, the photographs of animals that have been winning prizes in the different countries are very interesting (we refer to animals bred in those countries). New Zealand appears to be the one country more than any other that maintains the British type in its best form. Australia appears to lose form rather, probably owing to a less rich soil for the most part, or to a drier climate. The States and Canada come up to a very fair standard, yet English judges who have visited herds there declare that it is considerable degeneration after a few generations left without a new infusion of home blood That great country the Argentine, also appears to maintain type in the Shorthorn and Hereford at least fairly well.

VETERINARY PREPARATIONS, and Small Articles of a Portable Character, sell readily when brought regularly before the readers of the "Mark Lane Express."

Count Munster's Sussex Herd.

In consequence of alterations at the Home Farm, Count Munster decided to dispose of his entire herd of pure bred Sussex cattle, which was established in 1887, and has been brought to a high state of perfection by judicious purchases and management. The sale accordingly took place on the 22nd ult. at Maresfield Park, and was conducted in the presence of a very large company by Mr. Ansell, of Drawbridge and Ansell, Hayward's Heath and Lewes. Prices did not rule out of the ordinary for the top figure was only 30 guineas, and this sum was given by Miss Wolfe for the bull Drungewick Prebble of Maresfield. The best prices for cows were 25½ guineas and 23 guineas, the others selling at prices under 20 guineas. Calves made up to 21½ guineas, and heifers up to 19½ guineas.

SHOWS.

Worsley.

The show of the Worsley Agricultural Society, held in Drywood Park on the 25th ult., was a most successful one despite the gale. The attendance of visitors was on a large scale, and the entries were something like 300 more than last year, although the increase was chiefly in the classes for dogs and horticulture. There were some good classes of cattle, and as the local show season is drawing to a close, many of the animals came before the judges with showyard honours to their credit, whilst as to horses these were above the average seen at local shows, but this is not surprising, seeing that in the district great numbers of horses are used for draught and agricultural purposes. Heavy horses were, of course, the feature of the section, but there were also some good light animals on show. Pigs made but a small display, whilst there were no sheep.

Lord Londonderry's Tenants.

For the past eleven years the tenants of Lord Londonderry's estate at Wynyard, near Stockton, have held with his lordship's and also Lady Londonderry's active co operation, an animal show to which they have brought the pick of their produce, whether of stock of the field or the garden. It has proved a happy means of cementing the good relationship that should always exist between owner and occupier, and that Lord Londonderry is appreciated by his tenants was fully proved at the show held on the 25th ult., he receiving a great ovation. Although the number of cattle, sheep, and horses exhibited showed a decline, the show itself was most creditable to the tenant farmers and cottagers on the estate. Horses numbered 128, cattle 39, and sheep 28, and there were well-filled sections devoted to dairy produce, poultry, flowers, and vegetables, and the like. The exhibits were of a very good class, and amongst those in the horse section were animals belonging to Lord Londonderry's tenants which had won at the Royal and Durham County and Yorkshire shows. Mr. G. T. Peacock, Silksworth, Sunderland, carried off Viscount Castlereagh's cup for the best agricultural horse, and Mr. Yeoman (Stockton) the Countess of Ilchester's cup for the best exhibit amongst the cattle.

In the course of a speech at the luncheon held in the showyard, to which all the tenantry were invited, Lord Londonderry said he was sorry to see the bringing forward of the Land Tenure Bill, for, in his opinion, it would cause friction between the owners and occupiers of land. For many years past the tenants of well-managed properties had invariably looked to their landlord to effect what improvements they required in their farms, and the vast majority had never looked in vain. But legislation of the kind he had referred to would deprive the landowner of the benefits which would accrue by spending a part of his income in improving his property, and when he had to realise that the outlay he had made would be confiscated and given to another, he did not think that any landlord would spend any more than he could help on improvements. In the vast majority of cases the tenants would not be able to effect the improvements themselves, and would have to borrow the money, and, therefore, would be saddled with a double outlay in respect of interest upon the money and their rent. Legislation, therefore, on the lines of the Land Tenure Bill, which endeavoured to confiscate the property of landowners for the so-called benefit of the farmer, must, in the long run, result in the greatest injury to the occupier. It would be rash to say that we should never again have years of depression, and they would not be able to cope with them if the two great interests in agriculture did not work harmoniously. The interests of the owner and the interests of the occupier were identical, and they stood or fell together, and, therefore, he urged agriculturists to oppose the Bill by all the means in their power.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 83184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebenezer 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

CATTLE—*continued.*

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MCHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

FOR SALE.—Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Twelve to fourteen guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTER, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire; has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1903, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—R. FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

SHEEP—*continued.*

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

FOR SALE.—Reasonable prices. Fine Black-faced SUFFOLK RAMS, from Lord Cranworth's Registered Prize Flock. Capital Cross for White-faced or Half-bred Ewes.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, Norfolk.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

GALALAW (late MELLENDEAN).—Border Leicesters Through long and careful breeding have inherent the best qualities of the breed; style, symmetry, pure colours, and good wool. Sales in September at Edinburgh and Kelso Ram Sales, and by private treaty at any time.—Messrs. SMITH, Galalaw, Kelso, N.B.

PIGS.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

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COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows, of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes, won at the **Royal, Highland, Bath and West,** and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U S A International Exposition, 1904,** as breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and also **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Basset, Notts.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

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PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES.—Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

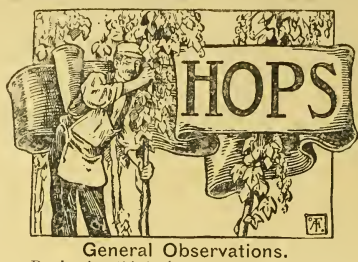
CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

The entire herds of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. H. Verner, Churchill, Moy, co. Armagh, and Mr. J. Atkinson, of Crowhill and Summer Island, are to be sold by auction on the 14th inst at Churchill, the auctioneers being Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. The catalogue also includes animals from three or four other herds, and all are of the highest breeding, so that some first-class cattle will be offered.



General Observations.

By the time this issue reaches my readers, they will be too deeply engaged in the business of looking after their pickers to care for examining any lengthy reports. Therefore I intend to be as brief as possible, and will rapidly survey the position, noting only the points of immediate interest.

The first pocket arrived in the Borough on Monday last, the quality being favourably reported upon. We have since received other small supplies. The samples have been closely criticised, the average opinion being that they were picked rather too early, and were hardly ripe. The grower's idea of value has been expressed at £7, but merchants are not as yet willing to entertain so high a figure, and have named 1s. per lb. as a probably workable value. During the coming week it is likely that the boards will be fairly well covered, and I hope to be able to say something definite about market prospects in my next report.

In the meantime the discussion as to the probabilities of the crop continues. Merchants are apparently very unwilling to accept the statements which insist upon an extreme shortage, and it would appear from the information that comes in from the country that they have some reason for the doubts they express. I hear of improvement in all the best grounds, while it must be admitted that in many gardens recovery and advancement are not possible.

A friend from the Midlands, himself a grower, tells me that after all the difficulties they have experienced in Worcester and Hereford, they will come out of the struggle better than they expected. His opinion puts the average for the Midlands at 5 to 6 cwts. This is a great advance on the estimates of a fortnight ago The outlook in the South is also rather more favourable, although I hear of some damage being done by the recent gale. Looking at the question with an impartial eye, I cannot avoid the conclusion that, even after deducting the lost acreage of which we are now informed, we shall harvest a crop at least equal to that of 1904, and I shall not be surprised if the official returns give us a somewhat higher total.

The estimates of the American crop are still further reduced. A letter just to hand tells me:—"We are having extremely dry weather in the United States, and have had this weather continuously for fifty days. Our hop crop will necessarily be only a top one, and estimates are coming down. Speculators are buying as the season advances, and to-day (August 17) the highest price was paid. A heavy speculator bought 500 bales at 20 cents to growers. This purchase will put the market to that figure, as growers are excited, and are slow sellers even at the high prices now being offered." This is good news for English planters, especially as I hear from another source that it appears probable that the crop will hardly exceed that of last year, and that the local consumption will certainly absorb the great bulk of this year's produce.

The Belgian yield will undoubtedly be small, not exceeding 40,000 to 45,000 cwt. Prices in these markets are rising, the present value of the 1906 crop being 100 to 105 francs (80s. to 84s.) on the spot. The weather is favourable for the harvest, which will soon be in full swing. The quality is expected to be above the average.

Throughout Bavaria planters are engaged in picking their early hops, and although there is much variation in the yield, the general results are more satisfactory than were formerly expected. The qualities of those that have been offered at Nuremberg are sufficiently attractive to have secured purchasers at 135s. to 145s. Very hot weather alternated with cold nights has been generally experienced, but the hops do not appear to have suffered, and the outlook is in favour of a fair crop rather below an average.

The Austria-Hungarian prospect is not so promising, and expectations do not go beyond two-fifths of last year's output.

In the south of France the plantations have suffered from drought, but appear to have come through it without much damage. The earlies are being gathered and find ready sale at 135 to 150 francs. It is estimated that the general crop will not exceed half that of last year, but the quality promises to be very satisfactory.

Estimators profess to be able to state that the whole Continental crop will come out at about two-thirds that of 1905, but I can hardly see what bases they have in hand that are yet to be relied upon. We may, however, calculate with comparative safety that although a large yield cannot be anticipated, it will be sufficient to meet local demands, and will leave some surplus for exportation.

The English Acreage.

The preliminary statement just issued by the Board of Agriculture shows that our area under hops has been reduced from 48,967 acres in 1905 to 46,722 acres this year. This gives a total loss of 2,245 acres, equal to 4·6 per cent. It was expected that the recent experience of planters would induce some reduction, but the area abandoned is certainly larger than was generally expected, and our acreage is now brought down to a lower point than is recorded since the year 1860.

Looking at the details of the returns, we find that Kent has been reduced by 1,359 acres, or about 4·4 per cent., and the three other Southern counties, Hants, Surrey, and Sussex, have gone down by 373 acres, or about 5 per cent. In the Midland Counties of Hereford, Worcester, Salop, and Gloucester, the reduction has been 513 acres, or about 4·8 per cent. It appears, therefore, that planters have felt the pinch of the times to much the same extent in all the districts. It is certainly to be regretted that so large an area is put out of hops, when we remember the benefits that should accrue to the labouring class from this industry. It is acknowledged that more labour and capital are employed per acre in this branch of agriculture than in any other that is practised in England. The diminution of the acreage means less labour required on the land, and the reduction of the numbers of the town dwellers, who annually enjoy a month in the country at picking time. I should occupy too much space if I were to attempt now to trace the causes of the changes that are evidently being accomplished. Foreigners will argue that this reduction is evidence of the decay of our industry, and will probably increase their efforts to complete our annihilation. But there is still hope in the fact that while our area is contracting, our knowledge is enlarging, our methods are improving, and our capacity of production is expanding. We are not beaten yet, and do not intend to be; we shall still fight the battle, even under the most disadvantageous conditions, and I have confidence in the pluck of our planters, which will keep them in front, and eventually bring them to victory.

Le May's Annual Report.

It is our opinion that the weight will approach as nearly as possible to that gathered in 1904, though many growers think that this estimate is too high; there can be no doubt, however, that England will produce this year considerably less than half her annual consumption.

While we have to condole with the growers on the smallness of their crop, we have great pleasure in congratulating the brewers on the grand quality that will be placed before them this season. We have never seen better hops than those that are hanging on the poles to-day. The splendid summer weather we have had has filled the cones with lupulin far above the ordinary; the hops hanging so sparsely, they have had the full benefit of the sun and have matured grandly.

With regard to the consumption, you will notice we have now reduced our estimate of last year of 750,000 cwt. to 700,000 cwt., as we find in the returns made to the Government which were issued last February that in brewing last year's output of 35,047,824 barrels of beer only 556,793 cwt. of hops were used in the copper, which works out at an average of 1¾ lb. per barrel. Now if we add to this small quantity 4 oz. per barrel on the average for dry hopping it gives a total of 635,024 cwt., which will only leave 65,000 cwt. for exporters, manufacturers of non-alcoholic drinks, yeast makers, and private brewers not for sale, and inevitable waste.

This being the position of affairs, the brewer should take into consideration the enormous expense the successful English grower has been put to to secure the hops for him, and should bear in mind that if he is not properly remunerated a further grubbing of the hop plantations must ensue.

The low prices obtained last year have resulted in the grubbing of 2,245 acres of hops, for according to the agricultural returns just received there are now only 46,722 against 48,967 acres last year. This is the lowest acreage for sixty years, and a most serious state of affairs for the brewers of England! Thirty years ago there were over 72,000 acres in hop cultivation in England, and the consumption of beer was less than it is now by over 10,000,000 barrels.—W. H. and H. LE MAY, 67, Boro' High Street, London. S.E.

ADVERTISEMENTS received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

Midland Notes.

THE weather break-up which seemed threatened—perhaps one should rather say promised—a week ago is again postponed, and once more the country is sweltering under a burning August sun, whose almost tropical rays are hardly tempered either by cloud or breeze. In spite of the showers which marked its early days, August will stand on the records as a dry month. Up to date it has yielded only 1·085 inches of rain at the Edgbaston Observatory, and though that means nearly eleven hundred tons of water per acre, it is not half as much as the country could have done with. There were some very heavy downpours during the first half of the month, so that doubtless some districts have had more. But these were very local in their incidence, and probably other parts, especially on the Northampton and Nottingham side, have had even less; certainly the burned-up patches on the pastures and the appearance of some of the roots give that impression.

ONCE again it has been noted during the broken weather that pooked barley has come off better than barley which is sheafed in the ordinary way. Very few Midland growers follow the practice of pooking, so common in the southern shires, where the barley, after being cut, lies loose on the ground, whence it is carted and stacked like hay. Those who do so agree, however, that the corn so treated takes the dews better at night, and in an indifferent harvesting season generally yields better grain for malting purposes.

IN Worcestershire the rain of August has been sufficient to lengthen out the corn harvest, which had begun before Bank Holiday and was still going on as late as Tuesday last, when one might see the final loads on various belated farms being piled and carried under the light of the moon. But in rain, as in other things, Worcestershire has been luckier this year than some other counties. Even the fruit is not altogether the failure which it pleases the alarmists to speak of. One may find patches here and there where even plums escaped the late frost: one has been mentioned at Pultley Court, where thirty-six acres should yield some 200 tons of fruit: and undeniably this is a capital apple year. One of the season's troubles is the bird nuisance. In the prolonged dry weather fruit trees were unusually free from the blight, which provides some species of birds with food during the summer months; and in default of their ordinary insect diet, it is complained that they have had to fall back on the fruit. Certainly an unusual number of early plums, pears and apples have been taken this year just as they commenced to turn colour, and, looking at the damage wrought, not even the best friends of the birds can say that they have merely been digging insects out of the fruit, for in the case of plums one sees nothing but the stone and stalk remaining on the tree, and all the middle of the apples and pears is eaten. The same scarcity of insect food has made the birds' raids on the cornfields more severe than usual this year.

AN interesting illustration of the fine milling condition of the wheat crop in the heart of England comes from Erdington, near Birmingham, where Mr. Herbert Prosser succeeded, on Monday, in cutting a field on Whitehouse Common, threshing, and milling the corn, and baking six dozen loaves from it all in the space of less than three and a-half hours. Naturally the self-binder supplanted the hand reaper, but improvised flails took the place of the modern threshing machine, and the milling was done two miles away at an old-fashioned water mill. One is not surprised to hear that the grain was too damp to command the critical approval of the miller; still, the resulting bread proved appetising and attractive. Five years ago Mr. Prosser managed to perform a similar feat in a matter of eight hours, but since then no summer until this year's has been dry enough to admit of an attempt to break that record.

THE scarcity of milk already noted in this column grows more pronounced as the dry days succeed one another. Dairy farmers who supply Birmingham should note therefore that the City Dairymen's Association has raised the retail selling price to 3½d. per quart, and that the wholesale prices are also to be increased from Saturday, September 1. There is an equally marked scarcity of butter; grocers and other wholesale dealers complain that neither the home-made nor the foreign sorts are anything like so plentiful as they should be, and here again rising prices are the order of the day. Are our local producers getting their fair share of the increase? At present it is doubtful, but their position is so strong that they should be able without difficulty to enforce a demand of better terms.

THERE are some points in the recent Poultry Organisation report which seem worthy the attention of Midlanders. One finds, for instance, that although quite a fair proportion of the subscribers come from this part of the world, Midland depots and branches are few and far between, Oxford, Hinckley, Earlsland, and Hereford being apparently the only places this particular co-operative movement has yet reached. One would like to see the number increased, for certainly there is room for more work in this direction. Near the large towns, indeed, like Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Stafford, and so on, there is so steady a demand, and prices are so firm, that co-operation is hardly needed, though even here there are numerous large firms who would very much prefer to buy if possible from some association which took full responsibility for the quality of its goods. But in the smaller towns prices are very uncertain and fluctuating, so that the small poultry owner finds egg selling a barely profitable business, and the larger farmer who has a few fowls running about finds it hardly worth consideration at all. An association which undertook the collection and retailing of the eggs, and guaranteed their quality, could do a good turn to both, and to the consumer as well, who is too often put off now with foreign and inferior goods. Eggs are but unconsidered trifles on the ordinary farm, but when a depôt can take perhaps 120,000 a year, and pay the producer 11d. or 11½d. a dozen for them, they are worth consideration in this day of small profits.

August 30, 1906.

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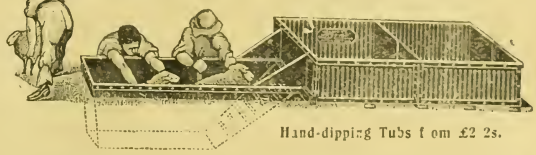

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The Fulham Borough Council is prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of OATS, HAY, CLOVER, MIXTURE, STRAW, BEANS, BRAN and LINSEED for about 70 horses, in such quantities as may be required during the Six Months ending March 31, 1907.

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Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Fulham, S.W.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

EDWIN RUTTER deceased.

PURSUANT to the Statute 22nd and 23rd Victoria chapter 35 intituled "An Act to further Amend the Law of Property and to relieve Trustees" Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any debts claims or demands upon or against the Estate of Edwin Rutter late of Neville House Coulsdon near Caterham in the County of Surrey and of New Barn Farm Coulsdon near Caterham aforesaid Esquire formerly a member of the late firm of Messrs. Arber Rutter and Waghorn of No. 1 Mount Street Berkeley Square in the County of Middlesex Auctioneers Surveyors and Estate Agents who died on the 22nd day of May 1906 and whose Will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of His Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 8th day of August 1906 by Frank Gearey and Joseph Sawyer the Executors therein named are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their debts claims or demands to me the undersigned as solicitor to the said Executors on or before the 15th day of October 1906 after which date the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the debts claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice and that they will not be liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose debt claim or demand they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 27th day of August 1906.

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LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Record Heat. It is not an uncommon thing, when talking about hot or wet seasons with old men, for the latter to look wise, shake their heads, and refer you to a season when something wonderful happened a few years before you were born. It is surprising what a respect the world has for past records in the way of weather, and it is quite possible that when 1906 is gathered to its fathers, and the young men of to-day are growing old and grey, they will linger with pride on the memories of this tropical summer. There is one thing certain, that if the season is spoken of in the future as being hot it will be no exaggeration, for old Sol has set himself to break records, and has done it. Harking back a little, what a day the first of September was to be sure! When we met a party out partridge shooting with the thermometer standing at something over 90 deg. in the shade, we hardly knew whether to admire them for their pluck or pity them for their folly; but later, when we saw a lot of fellows kicking a football, we promptly agreed as to their imbecility, and wondered what would have happened if football had been called work instead of play.

INSPECTING THE CATTLE AT BARNET FAIR.

Water Supply. Reports have come to hand of late from various districts telling of dried-up ponds, water supplies running out, and the various inconveniences occasioned by a shortage of the precious liquid. Men who have farms that are intersected by rivers and limpid streams know nothing of the inconveniences suffered by their neighbours who are put to the trouble and expense of hauling water for the cattle in a season like the present one. When taking farms in low-lying districts an important question asked is whether the land is liable to flood; but any would-be tenant on an up-lying farm shows equal wisdom if he makes stringent inquiries about the water supply before he puts his name to any agreement. It is no small matter to be short of water, and even if liquid can be got by hauling, what a weary, slogging, back-aching, expensive task this is! In every case we know the weather is blamed, and in some instances there is no help for the water famine; but, on the other hand, we know farms on which the pits have never been cleaned out for years, and at the best of times only a few inches of water covers a thick bed of mud. Who is to blame in these cases when the water supply gives out?

Shortage of Milk. A few days ago we were staying with a friend in a west country town, and one morning our hostess was profuse in her apologies because there was no milk for breakfast. The supply from the previous afternoon had gone sour, and the milkman was late. Such a thing had never happened before; but we got over it, and some time later the milkman appeared, sweating like a bull, and trembled about the reception he might get. Poor fellow, he was deserving of pity, for the milk had run short at the farm where he dealt, and he had been running all over the district in search of more to supply his customers. This is by no means a solitary instance of mutual disappointment through milk being short, and it is an open question who is the most perturbed through it—the farmer, the milk dealer, or the consumer. It is all owing to the protracted drought, of course, but fortunate is the dairy farmer who has made provision for the emergency by having a piece or two of some good forage crop to help him out. Brewers' grains have also been called to the rescue, but more than one cow-keeper has been at his wits' end of late in attempting to keep the milk supply up to the average.

Threshing. Since last we wrote the hum of the thresher has grown to be a familiar sound once more, and from now onward through the autumn it will be heard daily in districts where corn growing is still an important item of agriculture. Warm work, too, is threshing when the thermometer is breaking records, what with the heat and the dust and the whirl; but threshing machine proprietors cannot wait, and those people who hire for this work must stick to the appointments they make, irrespective of weather. Straw may have come off heavier in previous years, but never, perhaps, were ears better filled with richly coloured grain, and it could not possibly have been harvested in better condition. It is early enough yet to make estimates as to the yield, but we have heard expressions of satisfaction over the prices already obtained for new wheat and oats. Barley waits a bit, and not very much is threshed out before the middle of September, that being the time when the maltsters begin to make their purchases. Beer drinkers, however, need feel no anxiety about the barley supply this year. We are not so sanguine about hops; but then it is said that all beer is not brewed with hops nowadays.

Stackyards. Not for a long time have stackyards presented such a full appearance as they do now, for they are mostly filled up with the result of the combined harvest of hay and cornfields. One always feels some anxiety, too, when the stack-

BARNET FAIR: WAITING FOR A NEW MASTER.

yard is full of ricks, especially when the material is as dry as tinder, because there is always the risk of fire. Most weeks we see accounts in the papers of stack fires, sometimes caused by overheating, sometimes through the careless handling of matches on the part of tramps who never do any work, but can always get tobacco to smoke, and sometimes the cause of the conflagration remains a mystery. We know some farmers who make a practice of never filling their stackyards owing to the risk of fire, but build a good many of their cornricks in the fields. Where convenient the idea is good, and on large farms a good deal of time is saved in getting the corn together. Lastly, we confess to a weakness for a well-ordered stackyard which indicates the character of the farmer just as another yard will that is all strewn with litter and a picture of untidiness.

Competitions as a Means of Education. IN most districts competitions are held and prizes are given for feats of skill in farm work, such as hedging and ditching, rick-building, thatching, and ploughing, and we should like to see more of it done as we look upon the competitions as a useful means of education. It is not uncomplimentary to the average farm labourer to say that he is a peculiar individual. He knows the rudiments of his business, though he may not be perfect at it, and if you asked him to join a technical class in order to learn better how to lay a hedge or strike a furrow he would probably scout the idea. But put him in competition, where there is a prize to be gained, or pit him against another man of the same calling, and he is another being altogether. He may be beaten, but if so it does him good, as it takes the conceit out of him; but if the man is worth his salt he does not pass through the competition without learning his own weak points and observing for his own future benefit where the other fellow has beaten him. Thus he becomes a better workman.

Potato Disease. UP to the present we have not seen many signs of the presence of the dreaded potato blight, and the tubers now being lifted are coming out of the ground in a beautifully clean condition. Nevertheless, ominous reports are coming from Ireland about the ravages of the blight and the losses that Irish potato growers will suffer in consequence. Doubtless, the rainfall has been greater in the Emerald Isle than in Britain, and the climatic conditions are blamed; but is the accusation a fair one? It would seem strange if an autumn came round and no ill reports came to hand about the potato disease in Ireland, and no doubt we should hear more about it in England if our methods of cultivation were more Irish. We are sorry for the Irish potato growers in their trouble, but we do not know where English growers would look for help and sympathy if they persisted in sticking to the old Champion or any other variety irrespective of whether it was partly worn out or not, and generally adopted methods of propagation and culture which invite rather than repel the disease. But for the energy and enterprise of English and Scottish growers in the bad times of disease some years ago perhaps the potato would have gone under.

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Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Poison in the Butter!

"London's Poisoned Food." This is the dramatic heading given in certain of our London newspapers to a story of the excessive use of preservatives in butter. The deduction from this story is simply that in the East End of London the quantity of boracic acid used in certain butter is such that it is a positive danger to health. As a fact, the danger assumes an alarming character when the number of other articles and beverages which often contain boracic acid is taken into consideration. Here, then, is a supplemental argument in favour of the early passing of the Butter Bill, which should be an active stimulant to the sympathy of urban M.P.'s. Hitherto the representatives of the great centres of our industrial life have held aloof from the movement in favour of this Bill, as though it had no direct interest for them or their constituents. Even when an occasional gleam of interest has been vouchsafed it has had but a tepid warmth. Perhaps the title of the Bill is a bit responsible for this. Butter is produced from milk, milk is the product of cows, cows belong to the rural side—*ergo*, the business could have no vital interest for men who represent only the teeming hives of our civilisation. This has been the instinctive argument. Had the measure been labelled "A Bill for the Salvation of the Poor of the Towns from Poison" it would have had a clangorous and clamorous urban advocacy associated with it. We should have had the Labour M.P.'s perceiving in impure butter the creator of the debilitated, wizened, shrunken specimens of humanity to be met with in our courts and alleys. However, this revelation should, I repeat, quicken in these men that sympathy which is ever sensitive to the romantic and the tragic. The butter of the poor of the towns is now shown to be oftentimes poisoned—no other description is acceptable—beyond the standard of human weal. If this does not give the necessary impetus to the Butter Bill, nought will.

Labour Agitators and Rural Workers.

I am not sure that the persistent disregard by the Labour leaders of the agricultural labourer as an economic entity has not a certain method and disciplined intention behind it. If the agricultural labourers were permitted representatives at the trades' union congress, there would inevitably be very articulate protests against the ecstatic and extravagant visions which move that body to turgid enthusiasm. What would the exrural representatives think of an inflexible eight hours' day, with, I assume, no exceptions in favour of season trades? What would they think of the proposal that, though the weal of the countryside depended upon it—and though their hours may have been fewer in winter—their work must cease in harvest-time the moment 480 minutes had been exhausted, even though two or three hours' labour would save the season's yield from the oncoming menacing storm? What, above all, would they think of the new proposal that the State itself should step in and definitely and affirmatively enact by specific law that the wages of any class of workers should not be less than 30s. a week? I ween that it would not be long ere they perceived that the realisation of either phantasy would mean an added impetus to the farmer in his progress towards the abyss of ruin. Their mouth might water at the prospect dangled before them; but they would know it was illusory, a mere will-o'-the-wisp leading to the morass of cruel misfortune. The absence of representatives of rural labour from the Trades' Union Congress thus means the absence of a discordant element, whose discord would be the offspring of a very practical comprehension and sanity.

Where Agitation would not pay.

Ever and anon we are told that we are on the eve of the evolution of a new Joseph Arch—a Joseph Arch with improved and enhanced powers as a demagogue. I remember that certain gentlemen pretended to see the new rural evangelist in Mr. Nicholls, M.P., the erstwhile labourer who entered Parliament *viâ* the Nonconformist pulpit. An estimable man assuredly is Mr. Nicholls—quiet, restrained, and unaffected. He is of too mild and natively-refined a type to seek to provoke hurricanes. The oratorical dynamite of demagogueism must be entirely repugnant to his soul. I could imagine him happy in a library whose shelves were lined with the tomes of the Nonconformist fathers; but I could no more fancy him astride the storm of a strenuous agitation than I could at the head of a prancing battalion of cuirassiers or in the vanguard of the British fleet. As a fact, there are men in the Labour movement who would readily seek to inflame the agricultural labourer if they thought he would be inflamed. You may call spirits from the vasty deep, but the question is would they come; and these Labour leaders doubt that the harangues which move the very trees in Hyde Park to a sympathetic rustle would do more than arouse a tremor in the breast of ruraldom. It is the appreciation of this fact which is the salvation of the countryside. Your real Labour agitator lives in an atmosphere of adulation and pyrotechnics; he is persuaded that he would find neither in the countryside. In a word, agitation there would not pay.

Mr. Rider Haggard and Canadian Emigration.

Will Mr. Rider Haggard restrict his emigration advice to the unemployed? Will he suggest that, while means should be taken to retain the rural labourers to the rural side (I am bound to say that he has sought by a practical policy to induce this), a formal effort to export the unemployed should be initiated. Well, if he did this, I do not think he would have the overwhelming gratitude of the Canadian Government. Of course, that Government is anxious to welcome muscle and sinew from the motherland; but I do not conceive that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his fellow ministers are so obtuse as not to comprehend the physical, mental, and moral character of the unemployed—that they do not know that of a great section it can be said that if they are not physical weeds, they are morally undesirable, in that they have a double dose of the spirit of wastrildom, and that if they are not one or the other they have so developed the brooding mood of discontent until it has become a disease. Of course, there are desirable men among the unemployed—victims of a pitilessly-dogging misfortune; but the difficulty would be in a policy of emigration to distinguish between one class and the other. Well, at least we must be thankful that Mr. Rider Haggard has not lent his great authority to the movement whose leaders aver that you have only to draft the unemployed—be he desirable or but a street-corner loafer—to our own countryside to make of him a rehabilitated man and a complete agriculturist. We might commend this Canadian emigration policy if it would rid the rural side of the menace of colonies of the unemployable.

Nonconformity and Small Holdings.

It is bad enough that the establishment of small holdings should have been in a measure made a partisan issue. Is the problem also to be made a religious issue? I see that at a meeting of the West Norfolk Federation of Evangelical Free Churches the creation of small holdings was advised, because "they would tend to the strengthening of rural Nonconformity." What shall we hear next? Will rich Nonconformists be advised to assist in the creation of small-holding colonies, because they could be utilised as forcing-houses for the growth and development of Dissenters? Will special boards be appointed with a view to seeing whether applicants for small holdings are sufficiently well-grounded in the tenets of Luther, Dodsworth, Whitfield, and Wesley? Will the acceptance of Dr. Clifford as a modern Melancthon be regarded as an imperative preface to the cultivation of the small holding soil? Of course, the unarrested depopulation of the villagers must undeniably have had a painful effect on the vigour and vitality both of Conformity and Nonconformity; but this attempt to stay it by means of a denominational effort which shall regard the sectarian livery as of supreme importance is to be deprecated. Religion has really naught to do with the creation of small holdings; and if small-holding colonies were to be utilised for the provision of members of this or that sect they would introduce a narrow and unpleasant element into rural economy. Perhaps I have mistaken the purpose of this discussion. I can only hope it is so.

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BATH HORSE SHOW.

1. Weight-carrying Cobs in the Ring. 2 Judging the Champion Hunter Class, Mr. J. H. Stokes' Whiskey, the Wicner, nearest. 3. Mr. W. S. Pinsent's Fernishurst Lady Olivette, Winner of the Hackney Horse Society's Medal. 4. Mr. J. H. Stokes' Splasher, Winner in the Four Year Old Hunter Class.

BATH HORSE SHOW took place on Wednesday and Thursday in fine, cool weather, and was successful in every respect. As a social function, the exhibition maintains its position, and there was a brilliant company present. There was a strong revival of entries this year, there being 100 Hunters, as many Hackneys, and many of the finest leapers in the country competing for prizes of the aggregate value of £650.

In the Hunters' classes the judges were the Right Hon. W. H. Long, M.P., and Mr. Romer Williams. Eight geldings entered the ring in the open event for the heavy-weights, and little complaint could be found with the verdict which placed Mr. J. Drage's Matchbox first, with the handsome Ebony, of Mr. A. Cory-Wright, second. In the middle-weights there was virtually no opposition to the famed Whiskey. The celebrated Irish horse romped home an easy winner, thus adding another to the over fifty prizes which Mr. Stokes has obtained with the gelding. The blue ribbon was awarded to Mr. Drage's shapely brown gelding, Nuggett. Quite a strong class of novices turned out, and the principal prize went to the Market Harborough stable with Goldleaf.

The four-year-olds were one of the strongest classes of the day, attracting no fewer than seventeen entries. Once more Mr. J. H. Stokes was to the fore, with Splasher.

In the limit class for middle weights the wisdom of the committee in excluding the well-known prize horses was apparent, for there was a capital entry and keen competition. Some diversity of opinion reigned as to whether Mr. J. L. Nickisson, of Swindon, was entitled to the first prize, as there was a suspicion of lameness about his mare.

The juding for the champion Hunter, which wins the £25 silver cup presented by Captain Forester, took place in the afternoon, and was followed with the keenest interest. The six first prize-winners eligible to compete all entered the ring, but there was never any doubt as to the result, and the judges were fully in accord with popular sentiment in awarding the honour to the successful horse Whiskey, who thus again confirmed the general opinion that he is among the best Hunters at present in the prize ring. The reserve champion was forthcoming in the five-year-old gelding Matchbox, which Mr. J. Drage has only recently purchased.

The hacks were well up to the average expected to be seen at a Bath show, and this is high indeed. Mr. W. J. Tatem, of Pen-y-lan, sent over the pick of his lot, and he was very successful with his well-known Pen-y-lan Perfection, which has won for him a lot of prizes in her career. The blue ribbon went to Swindon, Mr. T. H. Deacon scoring with his gelding, Brown Bread; while the third prize was taken away by a brown mare named Ladybird, owned by Mrs. Henegan, of Cheltenham. The weight-carrying cobs were rather a mixed lot, and it is doubtful if all of them came up to the necessary standard. Mr. W. J. Tatem produced the winner in Pen-y-lan Sportsman.

The ponies were a nice lot, Mr. W. Foster, of Moseley, putting out the best in his six-year-old Mel Valley's Treasure, Mr. J. L. Round (Wellingborough) second with Berkeley Cladius, and Mr. G. Griffiths (Smethwick) third with Berkeley May Day.

The harness events, as usual, attracted a good deal of attention. For pairs not less than 14 hands 2 inches the entries numbered five, and four competed. The stylish bay pair, Hopwood Horace and Hopwood Spark, owned by Mrs. Batt, deservedly won the first prize. The tandem class only attracted three entries, and the placing was Mr. H. Frank first, and Mr. A. G. Verrier's pair—County Squire and County Gentleman—second. Nothing could touch the beautiful and stylish mare, Kissington Kit Cat, in the single harness class, the nearest competitors being Mr. Jerman's Pindersfield Ruby II. and Mr. T. Smith's Shirley Dasher. Of the thirteen single harness horses not less than 14 hands 2 inches that were entered, Heathfield Squire, that grand mover belonging to Messrs. Carr and Co., was excellently driven by Mr. A. Butcher, and took first prize.

A Hackney's Society's medal was awarded last week to Mr. W. S. Pensent, of Newton Abbot, for his chesnut mare, Fernichurst Lady Olivette.

Second Day.

On the second day the Hunter judges—the Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P., and Mr. Romer Williams—commenced their duties early. In passing, it is worthy of mention that these two judges had the pleasure of acting in a similar capacity 23 years ago, at the inaugural Bath Horse Show, and their meeting on this occasion gave mutual pleasure. One of the first classes to enter the ring was that for yearlings, and a really promising lot of youngsters came up for selection. Mr. R. S. Salwell won the premier honours with a remarkably nice gelding, named the Vicar, a son of Bass Rock, showing plenty of bone and quality. Two-year-olds created a record for quality, all the animals being of the right sort. Out of the seventeen entries, Mr J. H. Watson, of Kidderminster, emerged first with his chesnut gelding Juggler, a horse of fine quality and points, and likely to be heard of again.

Quite a surprise was created in the three-year-old Hunter class, for, with her Dublin victory so close at hand, most people thought that Mr. J. A. Mullen's chesnut filly, Paleface, would retain her place She, however, could get no nearer than reserve. The first prize winner was forthcoming in Mr. W. J. Tatem's Pen-y-lan Omerod, a magnificent chesnut gelding, possessing excellent bone, which has improved much since last year. The Brood mares were a capital lot, and Mr. W. L. Cotton, of Clink, North Wales, won deservedly the premier honours with his black mare Creole, a mare of exceptional quality and bone. Mr. J. A. Mullins was represented with his well-known prize winner, Gaiety Girl, which got the blue ribbon for second place. Juggler, who won in the two-year-old class, secured the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal, the yearling Vicar, first in his class, being placed reserve.

In the harness section and jumping classes Messrs. Walter Lloyd and Alfred Rowell again officiated as judges. In the pony event, for animals not exceeding 14 hands 2 in., Mr. W. Foster, of Moseley, repeated his success of the previous day, beating eleven competitors. The single harness horses saw a number of animals exhibited the previous day again appearing in the ring. Mr. W. S. Perisent (Newton Abbot), who had won a medal with Fernichurst Lady, topped the class for horses not less than 14 hands 2 in. On Wednesday the famous bays belonging to Mrs. H. Batt took the first prize in the pairs from Messrs. Carr and Co.'s chesnuts, and the same

order was observed when the horses met in the tandem class.

A medal, awarded by the Hackney Horse Society, fell to Mr. H. Frank's mare, Tissington Kit Cat, which had a successful time at the show.

Birmingham Shorthorn Show & Sale.

The Birmingham Exhibition Society this year had a particularly acceptable manner of celebrating its sixtieth exhibition by means of swelling out their hitherto one-day into a two-day event, the number of entries having rendered such a course necessary, and furthermore the classes were increased also, the net result being that the total of entries was 404, of which 229 were females, 39 of these having calves at foot. There were 175 bulls, many of these bearing cards that they had passed the tuberculin test. The judges were:—For cows, Messrs. J. Graves, Heskett Hall, Wigton, Cumberland, and Arthur Hiscock, Motcombe, Shaftesbury; for bulls, Messrs. C. W. Brierley, The Furs, Brimfield, Hereford, and F. Miller, Le Belen, Birkenhead. In a preliminary view the majority of the classes did not show many animals of outstanding merit, many of them evidently being sent up for clearance. In the subsequent sale any animals showing merit, whether noticed by the judges or not, were properly and substantially recognised by the buyers, particularly so with the bulls. In the class for cows over three years old there were close on 100 entries. It was at once seen that the judges desired milk, and there was no getting away from the very superior merits of Catthorpe Sweetheart, bred by the late Mr. J. P. Cross, and exhibited by Mr. G. Murray Smith; she was a big-framed cow, with a good coat and an udder that showed her milking proclivities. Mr. Albert Green was second with a rare useful five years old cow, Lavender Queen, but she was fairly eclipsed by the other. The reserve went to Mr C. E. Wodehouse's Cloe 2nd, which was full of true Shorthorn character, and just in her right condition to meet the eye of the judge. Highly commended cards were bestowed on Mr. F. G. Howarth's Susan Girl 2nd, Messrs. Denny's Farleigh Princess and Rose Bud, Mr. J. W. Sander's Nelly Lee 15th, Mr. Benjamin Read's Duchess Annie 20th, Mr. J. E. Dennis's Charming Jennie 2nd, Mr. James T. Hobbs' Lady Ethelred. Numerous commendations were also given in this class.

There were just under fifty in the class for heifers exceeding two but not exceeding three years old. The first prize went to a very smart level heifer, Lady Primrose, sent by Mr. A. J. Marshall, though she had a very good second in Mr. George Freeman's Holywell Marigold. There was a very considerable falling back to the reserve animal, the Earl of Ancaster's Choice Ada; highly commended cards were bestowed on Mr. James Horlick's Diana Dennison, Mr. Murray Smith's Gurnley Rose, Mr. Benjamin Read's Coral Ring, Mr. A. S. Denton's Fen Favourite, Mr. James T. Hobbs' Hampton Daisy, and Mr. Alfred A. Haley's Treasure 2nd, Messrs. Denny's Chiddingstone Nonpareil, Mr. Frederick Ames' Dorcas, and Messrs. Smith's Harthill Princess. The commendations were numerous, and it was a thoroughly good class.

The class for heifers between one and two years old was not quite so good as a whole, there being in it some of the most indifferent specimens yet seen at Birmingham within recent recollection. Here the first prize went to a very even heifer with plenty of character about her, Rolleston Crocus, exhibited by Sir Oswald Moseley, second prize going to another very smart heifer, Mr. W. S. Thompson's Shy Lady, the reserve going to Mr. F. J. Steward's Cherry 5th. Highly commends were awarded Mr. John Lucas's Scotch Girl and Sweetmeat, Mr. F. J. Steward's Shenley Rose 2nd, Mr. James T. Hobbs' Hampton Flower Girl, Mr. A. J. Marshall's Primrose Queen, Mr. R. H. Norman's Severn Red Wallflower 2nd, Mr. F. G. Howarth's Guilfield Dolly, and Captain J. S. Reeve's Princess 11th.

The class for heifer calves filled fairly well, and really good useful calves were in the ascendent here. First went to Mr. F. Phillips' Pretty Pansy 5 h, very level, with nice coat and very deep. Second went to a white one, Mr. Benjamin Read's Coral Maid, very level, and which looked like topping the class when viewed broad side, but she was not quite so good behind; reserve went to Mr. F. J. Steward's Brigstock Lady Careless, which did not meet the eye so well forward; highly commends went to Mr. Frederick Ames' Princess Josephine 66th, Mr. D. H. Mytton's Bulb, Mr. A. J. Marshall's Scottish Primrose, and Mr. John Myatt's Knowle Queen 6th.

The male section of the show was a very mixed one, and it was very evident that the various herds had been well looked over before by various gentlemen interested in the export trade. There was a big entry of bulls exceeding eighteen months old. The first prize went to an excellent two year-old bull, Mr. J. H. Straker's Gay Victor, a well built bull with good back and quarters, but rather short in the neck; second went to a rather unusual type of bull exhibited by Mr. John Charleton. Windmill Sovereign was bred in Ireland, it is exceptionally deep on abnormally short legs, but very weighty and roomy; the reserve went to Mr. F. Phillips' Field Marshall, which by many was deemed to be one of the best, if not the best, animal in this class. Mr. Thomas Jones was highly commended with Marden Douglas 2nd. Sir Alexander Henderson also received a similar notice with Buscot Pioneer, the same honours also being bestowed on Mr. A. F. Webb's Alstone Pride and Miss Alice de Rothschild's Waddesdon Eager. Much merit lay in the next class for bulls between twelve and eighteen months old. Here Mr. George Gerrard led the way with a very hardy, coloury bull, Hindlip Jester, though it was run very closely indeed by Mr. John Handley's San Remo, very level on the back with good middle, but being a trifle gay at end spoilt its chance for premier honours. Third went to a very useful bull indeed sent over from Ireland by Mrs. Walsh. Baron Fortune did credit to its breeder. Fourth prize went to a very hardy roan bull shown by Earl Howe, and it was lucky indeed for him that the fifth prize-taker, Lord Fitzhardinge's Lord Woodford, was a bit timid, and therefore did not show itself to full advantage whilst under the judges' eye. It was a very smart bull. Miss Alice de Rothschild's Waddesdon Noblesse was reserved. The highly commendeds were the Executors of the late Mr. John Naylor with Leighton Squire, Mr. Alfred Hayley's Whitewall Hector, and the Earl of Powis's Powysland Earl.

The younger class was not over filled. It was for bulls under twelve months. The first prize went to a growing bull, Mr. H. C. Lewis's Green Meadow, that did not stand quite so evenly as some of the others, and a very close competitor indeed was the second prize-taker, Mr. Frederick Ames' Hawford Star, a very straight, even bull, very hardy, with a nice coat; reserve went to Messrs. Charles Jefferies and Sons' Broadmoor Monitor, a very shapely bull, but rather full forward. Lord Rothschild was highly commended with Good Boy, and commended cards were bestowed on Mr. D. H. Mytton's Retriever and Captain W. B. Harrison's Aldershaw Bonny Jester.

The Sale: Good Prices.

There was a good demand for the best bulls for exportation, agents attending the sale on behalf of the owners of South American and German herds.

The winner of a strong class of bulls exceeding eighteen months old was Gay Victor, the property of Mr. J. H. Straker, of Cobridge-on-Tyne. There was brisk bidding for him, and ultimately a sale was realised at 200 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. Parkinson. The second prize animal, Windmill Sovereign, was bought by Mr. Battle at the modest figure of 26 guineas. Mr. F. Phillips, of Andoversford, exhibited Field Marshal, a good quality bull, and he changed hands at 52 guineas, Mr. Stockburn becoming the buyer. Mr. E. Berry's Lynx, which formerly belonged to the Welshpool herd of Mr. D. H. Mytton, was sold to Mr. Edwardson at 53 guineas. Belfry, a massive two-year-old, sent by Mr. R. Ford, of Driffield, was bought on behalf of Mr. F. Webb, the price being 150 guineas. Another excellent animal in this class was Weston Recruit (which belonged to Mr. Joseph Pearman, of Kingsbury), bred by the Earl of Camperdown. He appealed to the eye of many, and after brisk bidding the hammer fell at 130 guineas. The purchaser was Mr. Bucka, and the animal will be despatched to Germany. Competition was none the less keen when Waddesdon Eager was highly commended. Miss Alice de Rothschild, from whose herd the bull came, disposed of him to Mr. F. Webb at 165 guineas. Mr. Bucka paid 61 guineas for King of the Pansies, exhibited and bred by Mr. F. Phillips; and Hayle Victor, entered by Mr. F. Platt, Newark, was sold to Mr. J. B. Stevens at 41 guineas.

Nearly one hundred bulls, exceeding twelve and not exceeding eighteen months old, were exhibited. The class was headed by Mr. G. Gerrard's Hindlip Jester, a finely-developed red and white, calved in April of last year, which was bought by Mr. Parkinson at 95 guineas, who also paid a similar figure for Baron Fortune, a son of the well-known Good Fortune, which was stalled by Mrs. E. Walsh, of Coote Hill, Ireland. For the winner of the fourth prize 46 guineas was paid by Captain Corfield for Gopsall Masterpiece, from the Leicestershire herd of Earl Howe. The highest price realised (205 guineas) was given for Lord Woodford (which was placed fifth in the class), from the herd of Lord Fitzhardinge. A son of Ballechin Victor, he is an animal of promise and great Shorthorn character. He was bought by Mr. H. Turner. Mr. Battle paid 105 guineas for Adbolton Clipper, a well-developed red bull from the farm of Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Nottingham. For Leighton Squire, shown by the executors of the late Mr. John Naylor, 110 guineas was paid by Mr. F. Webb; Lord Talbot, from the herd of Mr. C. E. Howard, Lincoln, was bought by Mr. Coxon, Elford, for 61 guineas; and Mr. F. Ames's Hawford Boy 14th changed hands at 81 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. Edwardson. Other prices realised were:—55 guineas for Mr. Joseph Stratton's Rupert, bought by Mr. Parkinson; 40 guineas for Mr. Heap's Wordsley Duke, sold to Mr Green; 53 guineas for Mr. G. M. Smith's Gumley Planet, which went to Mr Dudding; 52 guineas for the highly commended Powysland Earl, sent by the Earl of Powis, which was secured by Mr. Jonas Webb; 77 guineas for Mr. W. C. Barling's Boy, bought by Mr. Parkinson; and 85 guineas for Mr. Falconer's Secret Wanderer.

There was a fairly good lot of bulls under one year. The highest price was 120 guineas, paid by Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., for Retriever, stalled by Mr. D. H. Mytton. Broadmoor Monitor, bred by Messrs. C. Jeffries and Sons, Bourton-on-the-Water, fetched 57 guineas.

Peterborough Foal Show.

The annual foal show at Peterborough on Wednesday attracted a fair entry, Shires being the feature, while Hunters and Hackneys were also well represented. Earl Egerton of Tatton took both first and second prizes in the colt class, and also secured the championship and reserve for the Tatton Stud. Of the fillies the pick was a well-turned bay of Messrs. Houghtons, Leicester, by the Sandringham bred horse, Benedick, the second being Mr. J. E. Thurman's winning Dunsmore Jameson bay, while Sir P. A. Muntz took both third and fourth prizes with bays by Buscot Harold and Dunsmore Jameson. Mr. Poles's and Mr. J. E. Thurman's foals were the leaders in the tenant farmers' classes, and Mr. W. Horrell's Thorney won Sir Walter Gilbey's prize for the best foal by Blythwood Conqueror.

The Hunter foals formed the best class seen at Peterborough for years, and pride of place was taken by a new comer in a colt bred by Mr. G. F. Stops, of Market Harborough, and sired by Lucifer II., whose appearance had been delayed owing to his having made a too early acquaintance with barbed wire. Mr. W. Carter's Merry Matchmaker colt, the winner at Peterborough summer show, was second, and Mr. H. D. Addey was third with a filly by Master Bob, a Lincolnshire winner.

Mr. Meacock's bay colt by Middleton King headed a meritorious class of Hackney foals.

Mid-Somerset.

The fifty-fourth show of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society was held at Shepton Mallet on Tuesday in most favourable weather and with a good entry. Shepton Mallet occupies a prominent place in the cheese world, the neighbourhood containing some of the best known makers of Cheddar in the kingdom, and the substantial prizes in the open class, amounting to over £40, attract a good deal of competition, and it is looked upon by the makers as the beginning of the battle, which ends at Frome. This time there were 31 competitors in the big event, and the first prize and championship, which carries with it the silver bowl, value 10 guineas, went to Mr T. C. Candy, of Cattistock. Mr. Henry White, of Mappowder, Blandford, was placed second.

The cattle were hardly up to the average. Mr. A. M. Criddle was successful with Snowflake in the dairy cow in calf and in milk class, and he also scored in the heifer event. The old and young

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bulls were not numerous. Fat stock was limited to three competitors, Mr. E. P. Alexander, of Holt, getting the champion silver medal for one of his black Polls. A fair entry was obtained of the popular Channel Island breed, Mr. A. Pocock, of Calne, securing the championship with his Jersey heifer, Grove Lady.

A record was created in the horse classes. The cart horses were a representative lot, and there was a keen competition for the medals. In the section for Hunters nearly twenty brood mares were exhibited, the Hon. Mrs. McLean, of Longburton, furnishing the best. The medal offered for the best yearling filly or colt went to a shapely chesnut foal by Pantomime. Probably the best class was that for the three-year-olds, Mr. John A. Mullens, of Longcross, Surrey, following up his Dublin success with his chesnut filly, Paleface. In the weight-carriers, Mr. J. H. Stokes continued his winning career with the noted bay gelding, Whisky; and Mr. A. Cory Wright got second place with his handsome black gelding, Ebony. Mr. Stokes was also successful in the light-weight carriers, with Splasher. In the driving class, five competitors entered the ring, Mrs. A. J. Butcher again winning two firsts for her husband's brown gelding, The Gentleman.

Rutland.

The fifteenth annual show in connection with the above society was held at Oakham on Thursday, and was in all respects, both as regards number and quality, equal to any of its previous exhibitions. In the cattle classes there were some fine animals, and the sheep were of excellent size and quality. There were also an increase of thirteen entries upon last year, the numbers being for this year: Cattle, seventy-one entries; sheep, thirty; Shire horses, 100; Hunters, 125; total, 326 against 313 in 1905. As in previous years the cattle and sheep were arranged in the Poultry Hall, and the judging of horses took place in the Lime Kilns Field.

The cattle were of good quality, although not of outstanding merit. The cup for the best beast in the show was won by the Marquis of Exeter's roan heifer, Tea Rose, this being the first time the animal has been exhibited. It is one year and five months old, and promises well for the future.

In the horse section there was an exceedingly good show of Shires, and in the young classes were many animals of great merit. The Hunters were well up to the character of this show. Mr. Bradley's Holslead Duchess III., which was first in the four-year-old Shire class, is a well-known winner.

Abergavenny.

The annual show of the Abrgavenny Agricultural Society took place on Thursday, the attendance, however, suffered from the wet on the previous day, otherwise the conditions were most enjoyable. Light horses were fairly good classes, though not strong. Miss Pillmer's winning Hunter brood mare was of very nice character, and yearling Hunters were capital. The cart horse classes produced strong competition. Three-year-olds were headed by Mr. Peter Coats's Clifford Smiler. The two-year-olds caused a great deal of discussion outside the ring. First and silver medal went to Mr. Ferneyhough's Monnow Belle, second to Mr. Peter Coats's Clifford Kelpie, but Mr. Frank Evans's remarkable gelding who was first at Leominster and other shows lately, was only highly commended. The cattle were stronger classes than usual. Hereford breed has apparently captured the show entirely. In the open family class, Mr. Peter Coats came an easy winner with the well-known Endale, who was in the prime of condition, with a Girton Girl three-year old cow by Bage Protector, and calf. Mr. David Jones's Crickhowell winners were second, his bull being of great substance and most promising. Mr. D. Jones also won in a big class of yearling bulls, with a very substantial and creditable animal. Bull calves must have been a rather difficult class to judge. Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., won handsomely. Pairs of cows were good enough for any show. Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., also easily won with pair of yearling heifers. Mr. Peter Coats's Pearl, a cow well known in the showyards, were very useful. The winning aged ram was a very sturdy Shropshire wanting scale, second a stylish Kerry wanting substance, third an Oxford whose weak neck must have spoiled his chance of a better award. In the pig classes the sows were all white: first prize went to one with pigs, while the winning boar was a Large Black.

SECRETARIES.

Mr. W. A. BROWN,
Driffield.
Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association.

Hawes.

Some time ago the Hawes Agricultural Society decided to increase its district area to sixteen miles, and that this alteration has proved a success was apparent at the show held on Wednesday, for both the entries and the attendance of visitors were the best for several years past; in fact, the show was an all-round success and very gratifying to all concerned. Sheep form the most important feature of this show, and last week they fully upheld their reputation. Both the Wensleydales and Scotch and half-breds were remarkable for size, typical points, and excellence of wool, the lambs in every section being very fine. Some first-rate milking cattle were on view, whilst horses, which were not great, consisted chiefly of heavy draught animals. Dogs and poultry were also shown, whilst the cheese section was, perhaps, the feature of the show, apart from the sheep.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The list of judges for the forthcoming Smithfield Club Show have just been published; space prevents their reproduction in this issue.

Entries for the Altrincham Show closed on Saturday, but they will still be received at double fees up to the 12th. It is the largest one-day show in the kingdom. £1,800 is offered in cash, with 203 specials, medals, and championships. The greatest care is taken of all exhibits, which are all under cover, and fed by experienced assistants. There are three railway stations that serve the show-ground, and trains from Manchester run out to Altrincham every few minutes.

The Ipswich Fat Cattle Show will be held earlier than usual this year. In the ordinary course it would have been held on December 10 and 11, but as this clashes with the Smithfield Club's show, the Suffolk fixture has been brought forward by a week, and will be held on Monday and Tuesday, December 3 and 4. The Marquis of Bristol succeeds Mr. Berners as president for the year, and has offered a prize of ten guineas for the best beast in the yard. The accounts showed a total receipt, including balance from previous year, of £521 12s. 6d., and the expenditure left a balance of £20 15s. in hand.

The account presented at a meeting of the Tiverton Agricultural Association, held last week, showed that there was a profit of £123 15s. on this year's exhibition, a highly gratifying result for a local society. Sir Edwin Dunning, who presided at the meeting, said the society had £500 in cash in the bank and £500 worth of assets on the show ground, which, he thought, was a highly satisfactory result of seven years' working. Subscriptions totalled £457 9s. 11d., but only the small amount of £60 13s. was collected from 244 men who followed agriculture as a business. There was a considerable falling-off in Shire horses and Hunters, and Sir Edwin suggested that the time had come to abolish novice classes (which had served their purpose), and pay more attention to attracting the very best in all classes. He also thought more attention should be paid to catering for the people who came to the show for mere amusement.

The Mayor of Bideford (Alderman J. Cock) presided over a preliminary meeting of the local committee to make arrangements for the visit of the Devon County Agricultural Association to Bideford next year, and the chairman and secretary were authorised to sign the guarantee required by the county society.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

MARKET DRAYTON AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The SEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held at THE SYCH, adjoining the Railway Station, Market Drayton, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1906. Horse Leaping, Single Turn-outs, and Pairs, open to the world. Dogs, Kennel Club Rules. Poultry and Pigeons, open. Sheep Dog Trials. Bees, Honey, etc. 14 valuable Cups and Medals for Horses, Cattle, Cheese, etc.

Entries close for Poultry and Pigeons Sept. 10, Dogs Sept. 13, Horse Leaping and Turn-outs Sept. 19. Schedules ready.

THOS. PODMORE, Hon. Sec.
Mornington, Market Drayton, Salop.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT. At GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 25, 1906.
Entries close September 11.
R. J. KISBY, Secretary.
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

LEWES SHEEP FAIR.

TO FLOCK MASTERS, FLOCK BREEDERS, and OTHERS interested in the noted breed of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

THE GREAT FAIR will be held on SEPTEMBER 21, 1906, at the County Town of Sussex, LEWES, about one mile from the Station, on the L.B. & S.C. Railway, and within 1¼ hours from London.

Sheep penned, including Ewes, Lambs, and Rams, about 18,000.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

STUD-BOOK.
VOLUME XXIX.

Entries now being received at 50 per cent. additional on ordinary fees.

No Schedules issued after 1st October.

ARCHD. MACNEILAGE, Secretary.
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

SHAP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

44th ANNUAL SHOW at Shap, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906.

Increased prizes for open competition in Horse Leaping.

Schedules may be obtained from the Secretary,

THOS. GELDART,
Mill Flatt, Shap.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

GREAT SHOW at TOWYN, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1906.

Over £300 in prizes. Dogs under Kennel Club Rules. Open Leaping and Trotting contests. Entries closed Aug. 29.

R. ROBERTS, Secretary.
Rhydygarnedd, Towyn.

FROME SHOW, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906.

All Entries close Wednesday next, September 12.—T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome, Secretary.

FANCIERS' GREAT POULTRY SHOW Same and Following Day.—Messrs. YOUNG & FRICKER, Palmer Street, Frome, Hon. Secretaries

SUSSEX.—LINDFIELD and LEWES SHEEP FAIRS.

To Flock Masters, Flock Breeders, and others interested in the noted breed of Southdown Sheep.

THESE GREAT FAIRS will be held on AUGUST 8, 1906, at LINDFIELD, one and a half miles from the first-class Station of HAYWARDS HEATH, on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

And at the County Town of Sussex, LEWES, on SEPTEMBER 21, 1906, about one mile from LEWES STATION, on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

The Stations are within 1 hour and 1¼ hours from London.

Sheep penned, including Ewes, Lambs, and Rams, at LINDFIELD, 13,000;
At LEWES, 18,000.

DAIRY SHOW, LONDON, OCTOBER 9 to 12.

After Monday, September 10, until noon on the following Friday, entries only accepted at extra fees.

WM. C. YOUNG, Secretary,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

Midland Notes.

A LITTLE sprinkle of rain last evening was followed by another light shower or two today, and a falling glass, together with the general aspect of the sky, gives hope of more to come. It will take more than showers, however, to make good the effects of the drought and heat. Wells and springs have probably never been lower, and everywhere, but more especially on the eastern side, water is being carted long distances for stock at great expense. We have noted already a case of Warwickshire wheat being harvested, milled, and baked within the course of a few hours. In Worcester and Gloucester, also, it is so dry that one hears of its going straight to the threshing machine and market without any preliminary stacking. A week's steady downpour is needed to encourage pastures, which are forcibly described as "bare as the roads," and give a fresh start to the roots, which are simply scorched up and prematurely ripening, as are the late potatoes. Hay will be wanted much earlier than usual, which is bad for those eastern districts, as for example in Nottingham, Leicester, and Northampton, where it was generally light; and to make matters worse, the acreage of catch-crops which provide a timely bite of green fodder during early spring will certainly be less this season than usual. The stubble fields are, in point of fact, as hard to day in many cases, and as unploughable, as they are often after a long frost; and even on the lighter soils which can be broken up, it is hopeless to expect any seed sown in present conditions to germinate.

WE have been treated lately to some entertaining newspaper reading on the subject of the present milk scarcity. Farmers, says the writer, are giving up milk selling in order to make fortunes out of cheese; another blames the milk chocolate industry at Bournville; a third relates a circumstantial story of milch kine slain wholesale for conversion into beef in consequence of the Chicago meat-packing disclosures. In point of fact, with pastures affording nothing but "baked meat," and none too much of that, the milk yield of ordinary herds has fallen off by 20 per cent. or more—some put the figure at 30 and even 40 per cent. Retailers in Birmingham have therefore had to advance prices from 3d. to 3½d. per quart, while at Burton the advance is from 3d. to 4d., and an increase of a penny is being enforced also at Coventry and other places.

MEANWHILE, there is a strong suspicion among farmers that the retailers get a great deal too much of the profits of the trade. Naturally the latter deny it. "Our profit," said the manager of a leading Birmingham company to the present writer a short time ago, "comes mainly from our tea rooms and sundries; a halfpenny per gallon extra on the milk we buy would wipe out all our profit under that head." But, if the dealers speak truly, the expenses of distribution must be inordinately large, milk which is bought at 6d per gallon being retailed at 1s. 2d. From the farmers' point of view the condition of the trade is rather lamentable. Where there is effective combination—as there is on the Worcester side—as much as 8d. in summer and 10d. in winter is realised; but even in this time of scarcity, when Worcestershire producers get 8d. without difficulty, there are farmers in Staffordshire and elsewhere who are ready to accept 5½d. —a ruinous price as things are at present.

THE one good thing about the present condition of affairs is that the dairymen, or some of them, seem to be realising that they have gone too far. Not that they think of taking any step that might reduce their own profits; that would be too much to expect. But some are thinking now that it would pay them better to ensure a regular supply by paying the producer a little more, and giving him a fair chance to resort to artificial feeding stuffs when a bad season comes. The doubt in their minds is, can the extra cost be extracted from the pockets of the general public? And the verdict among men of experience is that it might be. The secretary of the Birmingham Farmers and Dairymen's Association (a retailers' society) recalls, for instance, the days when 4d. and 4½d. per quart were regularly paid locally for milk. "The public, even the poorest of them, would not object to pay the price again," he thinks, and "whatever may be said to the contrary, unless things alter materially soon, they will have to pay it."

A *Birmingham Daily Post* representative, I notice, has been interviewing Mr. W. D. Rowland, the secretary of the Warwickshire Farmers' Association, with reference to the statement in this column to the effect that the late Lord Leigh hoped for an extension of fruit growing in the county, and pressed the question on the association without any great result. As Mr. Rowland points out, members of the association have paid visits of inspection to the fruit plots at the Harper Adams College and University College, Reading, while there has been an increase in the acreage of strawberries, especially at Allesley and Stoneleigh, while fruit trees have been planted at Bubbenhall, and some growers have put up more glass. So far, so good. But "any considerable strides," adds Mr. Rowland, "could not be made" under present conditions, which is much what was said in these notes. The cost of planting and the system of land tenure are the difficulties he finds in the way, and his plan for stimulating planting is to let farms on thirty-year leases. No doubt that would be an encouragement; but at present, whatever the terms of leases may be, there is a further obstacle in the prevalent belief that the soil and climate of the county are not fitted to fruit. It was presumably to test the truth or otherwise of that idea that the county council started its experimental fruit plot at Hatton, and now that the Hatton results are becoming known we may expect to find less reluctance to plant in suitable places.

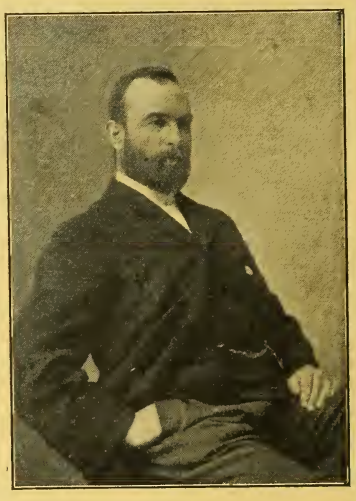
Sept. 6, 1906.

OBITUARY.

Mr. A. C. Skinner.

The death took place on Monday evening at his residence, Pound Farm, Bishop's Lydeard, near Taunton, of Mr. Alfred C. Skinner, who was well known throughout the West of England as a noted breeder of Devon cattle, and successful exhibitor at the leading shows throughout the country.

Mr. Skinner was returning home last Thursday week from a visit he had paid to Mr. Samuel Kidner, at Milverton, and when near his residence his horse shied at, it is supposed, some running water in the roadway. Mr. Skinner was discovered about midnight lying on the road by Mr. Morris Tavender, another farmer of East Lydeard, who was cycling home after seeing Taunton Carnival. The unfortunate gentleman was then in an unconscious condition, a wound in the head having bled profusely. Despite all that medical skill could do, Mr. Skinner passed away. Mr. Skinner was a man of heavy build, and was about sixty years of age. For many years he had been chairman of the Taunton Board of Guardians, and was also a member of the Somerset County Council. He leaves a widow and grown-up family, with whom much sympathy is felt in their bereavement.



The late Mr. A. C. Skinner.

Mr. John Knapman.

Mr. John Knapman, who for many years owned and farmed East Ash Estate, Southtawton, died at Okehampton on Wednesday of last week, aged 62 years. The deceased achieved great success as a sheep breeder, and at shows won about 400 prizes.

Mr. W. P. J. Allsebrook.

Mr. W. P. J. Allsebrook, of Wollaton, near Nottingham, one of the best-known agriculturists in the county, and official valuer of stock to the Nottingham Corporation, died on Wednesday. He was a prominent member of the Royal Agricultural Society, and was generally regarded as an authority on agricultural subjects, particularly those connected with dairying.

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We pay cash for all materials.
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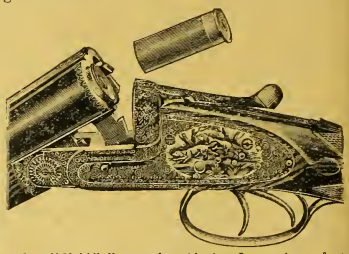

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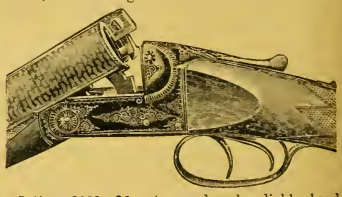
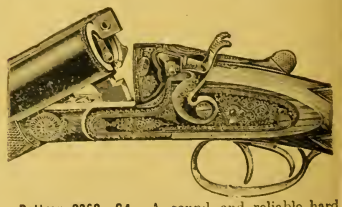


Pattern 8662, £6.—A sound and reliable hard shooting and hard wearing hammerless gun. Better than many sold at double the price.



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SPORT ON THE FARM—A DAY WITH THE PARTRIDGES.

"What's bred in the bone comes out in the fle-h" is an old and true saying where farmers are concerned, because from time immemorial they have been keen sportsmen, and they are just as keen to-day as ever they were, though perhaps means and facilities are not quite so good. Indeed in some cases it would have been better if this sporting spirit had been a little less marked, because sad stories could be told of men who have gone under through paying too much attention to sport and not enough to business. But all this by the way, and I will not dwell on it. It is a great pity when people who have to get their living fail to realise that the first consideration should be business, but fortunately there are plenty who understand this and are good sportsmen nevertheless.

The farmer sportsman moves in a circle of his own, and his strong point is his whole-hearted enthusiasm. Naturally his place is not amongst the aristocratic members of the sporting fraternity, but, bless you, he is happy and contented enough to take his stick and beat for his landlord on big days (if the latter is a good one), and he does not feel that he is losing one whit of his dignity by doing so. But when the farmer shoots himself he likes to have farmers with him or people who are connected with agriculture. Perhaps, my reader, you have formed one of such a party, and if so you will understand the feeling. No form, no ceremony, but mutual good fellowship; plenty of good fare, for the sporting farmer's forte is hospitality, with, perhaps, a bit of friendly chaff, and a help-yourself and enjoy-yourself feeling which tells you, without need of words, that if you don't you have yourself to blame.

Some people argue that the old type of sound, well-to do, jovial, yet shrewd farmer has gone out. I mean the man who made money and yet found time to enjoy himself in a quiet way, and whose name was a household word over the country side. It is true we have not so many of this stamp as we should like, but they exist nevertheless, and we have farmers who occupy homesteads which have been in the family for generations, and cultivate their own land or hold the shooting rights on that for which they pay rent.

It was from a farmer of this type that I recently received a note saying that most of the corn was in, work was not particularly pressing, and it would be just as well to have a day at the partridges early in the month before someone else had them all. Fortunately for the acceptance of the invitation the worst of the heat wave had passed over, or I hardly know what would have happened, for you want all the sporting spirit that Nature could possibly endow you with to tramp after partridges with the thermometer standing at something over 90 deg in the shade.

Farmers differ from some other people over their sport, inasmuch as they do it thoroughly. They rise early and start early, and it was a delightful walk through the fields to the old homestead in the cool air of a delightful September morning. It made one regret that fine weather could ever do any harm, and except for the thirsty and parched crops, one wished that the Indian summer weather might continue for weeks to come. A cheery good morning, an invitation to breakfast, though we had already had one—this is the welcome one gets at the farm, then a smoke, a look round the stock and the sheep and then off. A few dogs turn up from somewhere, and they look as if they know just what is going to happen, and a couple of sturdy lads, sons of our host, who are home for the holidays, and whom we hope will be farmers themselves some day. Bill must come of course, and Bill, by the way, is the general factotum, who knows just where the partridges are located, and in fact knows everything about the places considering that he has been on it as boy and man for well-nigh half a century. It is Bill who trains the young horses for occasional days after hounds, buds the roses in the garden, prunes the fruit trees, suckles the weakly lambs, and nurses sickly animals back to a state of health. Bill is given charge of the cellar arrangements at harvest time with utmost confidence that the men will have enough without getting too much. In fact, Bill is like one of the family, and the good feeling prevailing between him and his master is delightful to see in these days of discontent and labour contentions.

The morning mists are rolling away as we pass through the paddock, and the sun's rays stealing through the trees in the adjoining orchard foretell another warm day. "I wish it would rain," is Bill's comment, as we kick up the dust in the turnip field and note the flagging of the leaves of the mangels; but rain is forgotten the next moment, for two dogs (Bill trained them) stand still, four guns come into position, and for a second we wait. Then a move in the roots, a whirr of wings, and bang! bang! bang! First blood, three birds drop, and the remainder are vanishing over the hedge. Do you remember, my reader, the first partridge you ever shot, because that exhilarous moment is lived over again each September when the first bird of the season is bagged. At the bottom of the field picking his way along the hedgerow, presumably in quest of berries, we see a cock pheasant, who hardly troubles to get out of his way. Our host does not rear pheasants, of course, but there are a few little spinneys on the farm, and Bill contrives to throw a bit of corn down occasionally for the benefit of the birds. He seems to know all about the cock, and points to a place in the hedge where there was a nest last June, and the mother brought off her brood in safety. We are not tied to any rules as to what we shall shoot, and an exciting bit of sport presents itself when the terrier sniffs round a heap of old hedge brushings, which Bill says contain rabbits. It is true, and after the heap has been jumped on considerably they bolt, one this way, another that. We stop four, which are bagged, and Bill expresses approval. He doesn't like rabbits, because they get in the garden and eat off his young plants.

THE HEAD OF A TYPICAL RETRIEVER.

Fear of the editorial blue pencil and consideration for your feelings, my readers prevent me from dragging you, even in thought, over pasture and stubble, through roots and potatoes, which is the ground covered in our shooting tramp. Not much cover, but partridges are not gun-shy yet, and our bag is nicely filled when making a detour, and long after midday, six sweating, tired, and hungry beings enter the farmyard once more. Need I describe the next item? A farmhouse lunch! Is there anything equal to it? Good wholesome viands, home-grown and home-fed, with pressing invitations to keep on eating; and cider! such cider, the pure juice of the apple grown in the home orchard, not the wish-washy liquor which the man in the street buys for cider and rightly condemns it as poor stuff.

The mists are beginning to gather when our host observes that there may be a few rabbits sitting out near to the warren, and we might as well finish the day there. Compared with partridge shooting, potting rabbits may be considered slow work, but there is something very enjoyable in stealing quietly along a hedgeside in the cool of a September evening, hoping that at the next opening you will get the desired shot. But September evenings are short even at their longest, and darkness waits for no man. The rabbits scurry into cover as we return homeward, but they need have no fear, for they are safe in the gathering gloom. More refreshments follow, then a hearty handshake, and a cheery good-night. We feel satisfied, as we have reason to, with the events of the first day of the season.

In passing, let me moralise a little. I am aware that it is not the privilege of every farmer to shoot partridges. Many tenants, of course, have to keep within limits given to them by the ground game laws, but though feathered game may be debarred, there is good sport to be had with fur. Mind you, I am averse to farming rabbits to the detriment of land and crops, but it is an entirely different thing to encourage a few for the provision of quiet sport in summer evenings, and the more exciting pastime of ferreting in the winter. As for hares, well, everyone knows and regrets that in many places they are as extinct as the dodo; but in my case memory fondly lingers on the recollections of more than one good day's coursing in the Romney Marsh in Kent, where hares grow big and where the farmers are keen sportsmen and preserve them. Hard things have been said about puss, and she has been greatly persecuted, even to the extent of extermination in some parts, and in such cases the result is the sacrifice of pleasant items of sport.

H.

CHAS. LANCASTER.

Season 1906-7.

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Opposite the Comedy Theatre.

Price of Barley—Pure Beer and the Public.

Maltsters and brewers will, no doubt, make efforts to keep down the value of our barleys, says the *East Anglian Daily Times*; but we have become more or less used to taking very little more from these buyers than one could get from a miller for grinding, and the mind of many a farmer revolts at the thought of how brewers have ruined—not only themselves, but the barley trade as well. "Serve them —— well right," I heard a farmer say the other day, when some of us were discussing the present position of many a brewery, as disclosed by the value of their shares. By manufacturing a concoction they have pleased to call beer from almost anything but malt and hops, they have brought about a positive dislike to what had for so long been the national drink. By their system of tied houses they forced the consumer to swallow the liquor provided, and now they have lost their customers their houses are a drug on the market. Serve them right; and we drink cider instead of beer, and note that the share list still puts a considerable sum opposite the name of breweries known to consume less substitutes for malt and hops than most of those in the column. They thought the British public could be made to swallow anything that had the name of beer; now they have found out their mistake; but they have spoilt our barley trade as well as their own, to say nothing of the maltsters.

At the Chester Horse Fair on Thursday there was a good show of horses, but trade, except for the best, was quiet and buyers indifferent. Prices ranged from £12 to £18 for light horses and from £30 to £80 for good cart and wagon horses.

If SHEEP DIPS were more extensively advertised there would be a far wider distribution of the trade. The "Mark Lane Express" is a good medium for such.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Innocent Farmer or the Knavish Dealer?

SIR,—Sorry I had not time to write you last week re your kind reply to mine anent analysis. I may say at once it was just what I expected. I knew the question was too big. I was leading up to another which I hope is smaller, but am afraid it will be deemed larger, viz :—We hear continually how the poor innocent farmer is taken in by the knavish dealer. He must have guarantees, analysis, Government protection, co-operation, &c., but we never hear a word of the "dealer" getting protection from the very many (I am sorry to say) unprincipled farmers.

To-day I get sixty sacks wheat, every sack 3 lb. and some 4 lb. short weight. I have seen wool wrapped up with all the "dirty locks" carefully "concealed"; potatoes put on rail with up to 10 cwt. rotten ones in, and some with 4 to 5 per cent. pure soil; oats with two or three bag "siftings" amongst them.

Also, I have seen bargains made in above articles when, if market went "up," he would not deliver, and when on a downward market he has not only delivered his own, but also his neighbours; and have seen wicked horses sold for quiet ones, and unsound horses and cattle for sound ones. I could go on, but have probably said enough. I only write this for the sake of justice. No doubt there are bad men in both classes, but I do think the farmer should bear his share instead of expecting everybody to help protect him from the "naughty" dealer, when probably, nay, certainly, he is the worst of the two.—Yours truly,

Sept. 5, 1906. CUMBERLAND.

Insurance Against Damage by Hail.

SIR,—Mr. J. G. Burton, of the little village of Burton-by-Lincoln, has sent you a sensible letter. I cannot make out why farmers who have paid their own insurance premiums for years should be asked to subscribe to those who have neglected to make themselves right against hailstorms. I do not ask why they have not insured. It may be because they were careless, or they might have thought the charge too high, or some were, maybe, too close. Anyhow, they have got nobody but themselves to thank for being left.

A friend of mine told me that he was at Ramsey lately, and he heard of one applicant for charity who owned two or three farms, and occupied four or five farms which had not been insured for many years, and now that his crops are a bit damaged, he wants the Lord Mayor of London to collect for him and his wife, for he has no children.

I say help those who cannot help themselves, like the poor allotment hirers, but not the rich who fly in the face of Providence and do not insure.—Yours truly, COMMON SENSE.

Lincoln, September 4.

English or Foreign Meat for the Army?

SIR,—As I anticipated, I have learned something from Mr. Alfred Welch's somewhat verbose reply to my letter in your issue of the 28th ult., albeit that something is, perhaps, of little practical value; it is to attempt to avoid answering certain straightforward questions by unfairly criticising the verbiage of the questions and then making other wild assertions.

I cannot quite discover the application of Mr. Welch's ancient story about the advice of the judge, unless it be to show why Mr. Welch has not answered my questions.

My age and my want of experience alone prevent me giving my opinion of Mr. Welch's idea of everything required by our army being produced at home; but this matter and Mr. Welch's tirade about the fetish Free Trader, &c., which appears to me to have not the slightest application to the present discussion, shall have my serious attention when I have received Mr. Welch's replies to my questions.—Yours, &c., JUVENIS.

Sept. 5, 1906.

A Subscriber's Letter.

SIR,—The receipt of the MARK LANE EXPRESS this morning tells me that you received my subscription for the year ensuing, which I am glad of, as I assure you I look forward on each Tuesday to peruse its contents.

From knowing the district around Dorchester well, I notice with much interest the corn reports under that head, which you can understand when I tell you that for many years I was a large buyer of malting barley in that market; but I fail to grasp your meaning of the words "the samples of this grain were mostly of a *legal* description." The meaning intended to be conveyed is thus quite in the dark, and is doubtless a misprint, but not caused by my bad caligraphy, as has been the case once before; but even so, I must ask you to be lenient in your judgment, seeing I am now eighty-one and use no glasses!

The Toronto telegram, in speaking of the death of Lord Rothschild's mare, says she "fatally overreached herself." How can that be explained? I have had a great deal to do with horses all my life, but never heard of death from "over-reaching."

A little corn of all kinds has been threshed, and from what I hear, the result is somewhat disappointing, both as to quantity and quality, and prices are still more unsatisfactory.—Yours truly,

Devizes, Sept. 5, 1906. W. FOOKES.

English & American Farm Machinery: A Colonial Opinion.

SIR,—Seeing an article in the MARK LANE EXPRESS AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL of July 9, 1906, entitled "The American Machinery Question," I can state with utmost confidence that the American machinery is nothing like as substantially made as the English machines. For instance, take the mowing machine. The American and Canadian machines will do the cutting as well as anybody can wish, but they are very short lived. The reason such is the case is because the bearings do not run in brass bushes. The boxings are filled with a composition called Brabbitt, for the bearings to work in, and when the bearings get too much play, in the greatest number of cases the life of the machine is at an end, and the farmer most generally gives his old one and the difference in money for a new one. The life of a machine on the prairie ranges from three to five years, and the cost of a new one is 60 to 62 dols. (cash when you get it) for a 5 ft. cut machine.

With the English machines it is different; the bearing all run in brass bushes, and when one of the bushes gets worn a new one is put in its place, and the machine is almost as good as new, and a machine will last ten or twelve years (cost £14).

Respecting the horse hoes in this country, they are made so very light and springy that when they happen to hit a stone or work in cloddy land they are just about useless. I well remember the one we had in England Set it as deep as you wanted to cultivate, and it would stay there, and in my opinion, taking the American and English machinery all through, I should undoubtedly give the English the preference.

Fall wheat is a failure this year in this locality. Oats very good, barley good, good spring wheat good.—I remain, yours truly,

THOS. JOHNSON.

Nanton, Alberta, N.W.T., Canada.
August 21, 1906.

Northern Notes.

HARVESTING operations are being pushed on rapidly. Yorkshire is much more forward with the work of securing the crops than Durham, and Northumberland is behind its neighbour. The weather has been splendid in Yorkshire; and if it is possible to find any cause of complaint, it would be that the heat was too oppressive. Some of the casual harvest workers refused to proceed while the heat wave lasted, and we know at least of one instance where, rather than miss a golden opportunity, a farmer and a septuagenarian friend replaced the absent men by doffing their coats, rolling up their shirt-sleeves, and handling a fork a whole day under a tropical sun, and clearing a field of six acres of oats. The carters in an adjacent field looked on with amazement at these gentlemen workers.

THE rainfall in Yorkshire during August yielded about 2¾in.; further north the precipitation far exceeded that amount and jeopardised the cereal harvest, while at the same time much benefit was conferred upon grass land, and roots cannot possibly take a backward step now, except from mildew, and that contingency is extremely remote. Turnips and swedes are a bumper crop, and this factor is exercising the usual effect upon the prices of grazing lambs, which are at the very least 3s. ahead dearer than at the corresponding period of last year. The farmers are buying cautiously, but wherever good stock is offered exposers of lambs have no fear of securing a ready sale. The restrictions imposed upon the movement of sheep from one dipping area to another is causing inconvenience, and perhaps needless alarm and fault-finding with the Board of Agriculture. Some of the holders of lambs are, as a matter of fact, working themselves into a frenzy of excitement, and are clamouring for a modification of this order before the commencement of the autumn fairs. Will the Board be wheedled into compliance? We do not think so, in face of the statement made in York market on Tuesday, that a number of sheep were turned away because their owners could give no guarantee that they had been dipped.

THE agricultural societies in the Wear valley seem to be treading upon each other's toes, and several are already in a wobbling state. Is there no remedy for this congestion of agricultural shows? The only solution is amalgamation or alternation. The idea put forward is that the smaller societies should be merged in those possessing larger subscription lists, and which consequently enable them to meet reversals of fortune with a certain amount of equanimity. At one of these Wear valley shows a choral contest was arranged as an additional attraction! This is going very far afield, and relegating to a secondary position the main object of the show. An agricultural society is not promoted for the sole purpose of making money and hoarding it away at a bank. It should be a real, live organisation, with energies bent upon one object, "cutting its cloth" according to the means at its disposal. It is suggested that if the Wear dale societies would amalgamate in a neighbourly fashion they might promote a show in every way worthy of that important district, whose wealth-producing efforts are associated with agriculture and the production of steel.

A QUESTION which might come more boldly to the front is that of imparting more exhilaration to country life in the dull winter months. There is very much talk of reclaiming our whilom rural population back to the land, and of repeopling the empty cottages. Much of this talk is vain, because it is unaccompanied by any active propaganda. Sympathy is all very well, but it is merely passive. How then is country life to be made more attractive? The one agency on the spot which can and should take the work in hand is the Church. In the towns the Church realises her social duty. Through her exist guilds, clubs, entertainments, lectures, libraries—in fact, she tries by every legitimate means to brighten the existence of the working classes. The Church, as well as Nonconformity, is alive with activities. In the country she is practically dormant. Here and there is an institute, often not much more cheerful than a third-class waiting-room. Two or three times a year the vicarage organises a concert or a lecture, and this is really all. These items, which go to relieve the monotony of the daily round, the common task, are not arranged for the labourers and their families, but for the "upper crust" of village life; so that practically the social work of the Church in the villages, so far as concerns the toilers, is a negligible quantity. Many of our country clergy are in a state of somnolence. Their minds and ideas become cramped through continuous association with their dull surroundings, and they develop into gardeners and handicraftsmen, apiarists or poultry fanciers. They don their cloth once a Sunday, but do not trouble themselves on weekdays with the question "What shall we do for our people?"

AT Driffield, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, the custom of ringing the harvest bell in the tower of the parish church is still carried out every year. The morning bell goes at five and the evening at seven; but it is highly questionable whether the hours named fit in with the ideas of field workers in these days. The bell is rung by the parish clerk, who will be eighty-five on the 13th of this month, and he has performed the duty without a break for over fifty years. His predecessor in the office received remuneration in the form of sheaves of wheat, which he collected from the farmers. They no longer feel under any obligation, so the churchwardens pay the ringer. Herein is much sentiment involved.

Scottish Chamber and Lord Carrington.

A meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held on Wednesday, to make arrangements for the conference with Lord Carrington, the president of the Board of Agriculture on the 10th of next month.

The secretary intimated that he had a letter from Sir Thomas Elliott, stating that the chamber's suggestion to appoint a Scotch successor to Dr. Somerville on the Board of Agriculture would be carefully considered. It was within the knowledge of several, the secretary said, that when Sir Thomas was at the Highland Society Show at Peebles he was making inquiries with that view.

Resolutions were prepared to be laid before Lord Carrington on such subjects as the Land Tenure Bill, Foreign Meat for the Army, Butter Manipulation, Law of Trespass, and Motors on Highways.

A serious outbreak, believed to have been caused by an incendiary, occurred on Thursday at Cressing, near Braintree, Essex, where a very old homestead and a dozen stacks of this year's produce were destroyed. The farm adjoined the village street, and several rows of thatched cottages were in imminent danger for two hours. The owner, Mr. Mark Moss, who is unable to walk, hobbled to the conflagration on crutches. The damage is estimated at £2,000.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied; the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10·2	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Comparative Crop Yields.

The agricultural methods of this country are often disparaged, but, according to a table of average yields of some of the principal crops in different countries compiled by Mr. Bear, the British farmer still occupies the leading position. Here are some of the figures:—

	Wheat. Bush.	Barley. Bush.	Oats. Bush.	Potatoes. Tons.	Hay. Cwt.
G. Britain ...	30·95	33·17	39·06	5·75	23·63
France ...	19·57	21·99	26·19	3·26	28·15
Germany ...	28·25	32·83	39·69	5·17	31·99
Spain ...	12·70	18·91	16·24	—	—
Austria ...	17·49	21·83	23·07	3·59	22·52
Belgium ...	27·43	48·91	54·95	6·77	30·20
Holland ...	29·82	46·06	52·85	5·54	—
Russia ...	9·05	11·84	15·67	2·44	9·91
U. States ...	13·43	25·02	29·15	—	25·18
Manitoba ...	18·45	29·87	38·61	—	—
N.W. Canada	19·13	25·27	34·76	—	—
India ...	10·63	—	—	—	—
Victoria ...	7·18	14·27	20·54	3·26	—
N.S. Wales ...	9·9	14·61	19.49	2·08	—
New Zealand	28·63	31·59	35·81	6·26	—

Root crop yields are not given, but in the cultivation of roots England is easily first. Germany and Belgium pay special attention to the hay crop, and within the last decade have largely increased their average by liberal dressings of phosphate and potash.

Fertilisers for Potatoes.

Referring to this subject, a Continental authority writes, that the question whether sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda is most suitable for application to the potato crop, has not yet been settled. It is, however, certain that the plant requires liberal dressings of nitrogenous substances, and that both materials have a beneficial effect.

Sulphate of ammonia should be applied at the time of planting the tubers, nitrate of soda partly at the time of planting, and partly after the lapse of a few weeks.

Basic slag, if used, should be applied in autumn. It has been found of advantage to apply part of the phosphate of lime in the form of superphosphate or soluble guano, and part as slag.

Kainit should be applied to the previous crop, or if not, it should be broadcasted in August or September over the stubble and ploughed under, in order to prevent the potatoes being injured from the muriates in the salt.

The best results are not obtained by applications of artificials alone, but by a combination of artificials and dung.

Purity of Linseed Cakes and Meal.

During last year ninety-one samples of linseed cakes and meal were analysed at the Government Laboratory of Louvain, and of this number eighty were also submitted to a careful microscopical examination to test their degree of purity.

It was found that of these samples

6	contained less than	2 per cent. of impurities.			
34	,,	from 2 to 5	,,	,,	
26	,,	,, 5 to 12	,,	,,	
9	,,	,, 12 to 25	,,	,,	
3	,,	,, 25 to 50	,,	,,	
2	,,	more than 50	,,	,,	

The report adds that in view of the gross adulteration, it is desirable that farmers should exercise the greatest care when buying, and should not be led away by apparently cheap offers. Good merchandise, even if dear, is the most advantageous, and impure foods, whatever their price, are always costly. Fed to stock they never produce the satisfactory results obtained by pure food, and in some cases they do positive harm, resulting occasionally in the death of valuable animals.

The Effect of Carrots on the Colour and Quality of Butter.

An experiment was carried out at Wye Agricultural College to ascertain—(1) how long a period it takes before a change of colour becomes marked; (2) what is the minimum quantity of carrots required to alter the tint; (3) will a mixture of carrots and mangels answer the same purpose; (4) what effects have carrots on the churning character of the cream, the quality of the butter, and the percentage of fat in the milk.

For the experiment four cows of the Lincoln Red breed were picked out, the animals having calved down a few months previously.

Two of the animals were fed on 28 lb. of carrots and their ordinary allowance of cake, meal, and hay. Two others were fed in a similar way, mangels being substituted for carrots. The records were taken in February and March, and the feeding reversed—*i.e.*, carrots being substituted for mangels after the first month of the trial. The carrots used were Sutton's Red Intermediate.

A brief summary of the results is as follows:—

Length of time before the effect on the colour is apparent. Butter made from carrot-fed cows.

1st week.—Very slight difference compared with that made from mangel-fed cows.

2nd week.—Difference more marked, less time occupied in churning, and better grain and flavour.

3rd week.—A very good high-coloured butter, considering the time of year.

On reversing the order of feeding, it was noticed that the colour was maintained in a diminishing degree over two or possibly three weeks, whereas the cows that had previously had mangels responded slightly to their change of food, and would, no doubt, have done much the same as the other cattle. The experiment did not last long enough to finally answer the question as to how few carrots will give the required tint, but it may be said that half mangels and half carrots gave a more saleable quality of butter than those getting a full ration of mangels.

The change of food had the effect of slightly lowering the butter fat in the milk of one cow, and practically made no difference in the others. In no case did it fall below 3 per cent.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906.

Apart from some administrative changes, intended to make the Act more effective and simpler in operation, it differs from the old Bill in certain important points, which should be especially noted, and may be briefly summarised as follows:—

1. Fertilisers.—Sellers must state the respective percentages of nitrogen, soluble phosphates, insoluble phosphates, and potash.

It will not be legal for a seller to guarantee merely nominal percentages, as has often been done in the past.

The percentage of phosphate of lime soluble in a solution of citric acid or other solvent of the prescribed strength may be given. This has special reference to basic slag.

The Act applies to quantities however small. Under the old Act quantities under 56 lb. were not included.

2. Feeding Stuffs.—Sellers must state the respective percentages of oil and albuminoids in all artificially prepared cakes and feeding stuffs, in addition to stating, as stipulated in the previous Act, whether prepared from one substance or seed, or from more than one substance or seed.

Poultry foods are now included in the Act.

The Act comes into operation on the first day of next January.

* * *

The following is the full text of the Act:—

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Warranties as to fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

I.—(1) Every person who sells for use as a fertiliser of the soil any article which has been subjected to any artificial process in the United Kingdom, or which has been imported from abroad, shall give to the purchaser an invoice stating the name of the article and what are the respective percentages (if any) of nitrogen, soluble phosphates, insoluble phosphates, and potash contained in the article, and the invoice shall have effect as a warranty by the seller that the actual percentages do not differ from those stated in the invoice beyond the prescribed limits of error.

(2) Every person who sells for use as food for cattle or poultry any article which has been artificially prepared shall give to the purchaser an invoice stating the name of the article, and whether it has been prepared from one substance or seed or from more than one substance or seed, and in the case of any article artificially prepared otherwise than by being mixed broken ground or chopped, what are the respective percentages (if any) of oil and albuminoids contained in the article, and the invoice shall have effect as a warranty by the seller as to the facts so stated, except that as respects percentages the invoice shall have effect as a warranty only that the actual percentages do not differ from those stated in the invoice beyond the prescribed limits of error.

(3) Where any article sold for use as food for cattle or poultry is sold under a name or description implying that it is prepared from any particular substance or from any two or more particular substances, or is the product of any particular seed or of any two or more particular seeds, and without indication that it is mixed or compounded with any other substance or seed, there shall be implied a warranty by the seller that it is pure, that is to say, is prepared from that substance or those substances only, or is a product of that seed or those seeds only.

(4) On the sale of any article for use as food for cattle or poultry, there shall be implied a warranty by the seller that the article is suitable to be used as such.

(5) Any statement by the seller of the percentages of the chemical and other ingredients contained in any article sold for use as a fertiliser of the soil, or of the nutritive and other ingredients contained in any article sold for use as food for cattle or poultry, made after the commencement of this Act in an invoice of such article, or in any circular or advertisement descriptive of such article, shall have effect as a warranty by the seller.

(6) Where an article sold for use as a fertiliser of the soil or as food for cattle or poultry consists of two or more ingredients which have been mixed at the request of the purchaser, it shall be a sufficient compliance with the provisions of this section with respect to percentages if the invoice contains a statement of percentages with respect to the several ingredients before mixture, and a statement that they have been mixed at the request of the purchaser.

Power to appoint analyst and samplers.

II.—(1) The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries shall appoint a chief agricultural analyst (hereinafter referred to as the chief analyst), who shall have such remuneration out of moneys provided by Parliament as the Treasury may assign. The chief analyst shall not while holding his office engage in private practice.

(2) Every county council shall, and the council of any county borough may, appoint an official agricultural analyst (hereinafter referred to as an agricultural analyst) and one or more official samplers for their county or borough.

(3) The council of any county or county borough may also appoint a deputy agricultural analyst, who shall, in case of illness, incapacity, or absence of the agricultural analyst, have all the powers and duties of the agricultural analyst, and where the deputy acts this Act shall apply as if he were the agricultural analyst.

(4) The appointment of an agricultural analyst, deputy agricultural analyst, or official sampler shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

(5) A person whilst holding the office of agricultural analyst shall not engage or be interested in any trade, manufacture, or business connected with the sale or importation of articles used for fertilising the soil or as food for cattle or poultry.

Power to have fertiliser or feeding stuff analysed.

III.—(1) Every purchaser of any article used for fertilising the soil or as food for cattle or poultry who has taken a sample thereof within ten days after delivery of the article to him or receipt of the invoice by him, whichever is later, shall, on payment of the required fee, be entitled to have the sample analysed by the agricultural analyst.

(2) An official sampler shall at the request of the purchaser and on payment by him of the required fee, and may without any such request take a sample for analysis by the agricultural analyst of any such article as aforesaid which has been sold or is exposed or kept for sale, but, in the case of an article which has been sold, the sample shall be taken before the expiration of ten days after the delivery of the article to the purchaser, or the receipt of the invoice by the purchaser, whichever is later.

(3) Where a sample has been taken with a view to the institution of any civil or criminal proceeding, the person taking the sample shall divide the sample into three parts, and shall cause each part to be marked, sealed, and fastened up, and shall deliver or send by post two parts to the agricultural analyst and one part to the seller.

(4) An agricultural analyst to whom a sample is submitted for analysis under this section—

(*a*) if the sample has not been divided into parts and the parts marked, sealed, and fastened up as herein-before mentioned, shall send a copy of the certificate of his analysis to the person who submitted the sample for analysis; and

(*b*) if the sample has been so divided into parts, shall analyse one of the parts of the sample delivered or sent to him and retain the other, and shall send a certificate of his analysis in the prescribed form and containing the prescribed particulars to the person who submitted the sample for analysis, and where that person is not the purchaser of the article also to the purchaser, and in every case to the seller and to such other person (if any) as may be prescribed, and shall report to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries in the prescribed manner the result of the analysis: Provided that if the agricultural analyst does not know the name and address of the seller he shall send the certificate intended for the seller to the purchaser, to be by him forwarded to the seller.

(5) At the hearing of any civil or criminal proceeding with respect to any article a sample whereof has been analysed in pursuance of this section, the production of a certificate of the agricultural analyst, or, if a sample has been submitted to the chief analyst, then of the chief analyst, shall be sufficient evidence of the facts therein stated unless the defendant or person charged requires that the analyst or the person who made the analysis be called as a witness: Provided that this subsection shall not apply—

(*a*) where the sample has been taken otherwise than in the prescribed manner; or

(*b*) where the sample has not been divided into parts and the parts marked, sealed, and fastened up as hereinbefore mentioned.

(6) If in any such legal proceeding (other than a proceeding which cannot be instituted until an analysis has been made and a certificate given by the chief analyst) either party to the proceeding objects to the certificate of the agricultural analyst, the party objecting shall, on payment of such fee as may be fixed by the Treasury, be entitled to have submitted to the chief analyst the part of the sample retained by the agricultural analyst, and to have that part analysed by the chief analyst and to receive from him a certificate of the result of his analysis.

(7) Where a sample is, under this section, sent for analysis to the chief analyst or to an agricultural analyst, there shall be sent with the sample the invoice (if any) relating to the article from which the sample was taken, or a copy of the invoice or of any prescribed part thereof.

Power of Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to make regulations.

IV.—(1) The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries may make regulations—

(*a*) with respect to any matter which under this Act is to be prescribed;

(*b*) as to the qualifications to be possessed by agricultural analysts, deputy agricultural analysts, and official samplers;

(*c*) as to the manner in which analyses are to be made;

(*d*) as to the manner in which samples are to be taken and dealt with; and

(*e*) generally for the purpose of carrying this Act into execution:

Provided that nothing in this section or in any regulations made thereunder, shall affect the right of the purchaser of an article used for fertilising the soil, or as food for cattle or poultry, to have analysed by the agricultural analyst a sample of an article taken by him or at his request otherwise than in accordance with the regulations.

(2) All regulations made under this section shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament as soon as may be after they are made.

Provisions as to county and county borough councils.

V.—(1) The council of a county or county borough may concur with one or more other such councils in making any appointment which they are authorised to make under this Act, and as to the apportionment in the case of such a joint appointment of the expenses amongst the several councils.

(2) The council of any county or county borough may contribute towards any expenses incurred by any agricultural body or association in causing samples to be taken for analysis by the agricultural analyst.

(3) The council of any county or county borough may fix the fees payable in respect of the making of any analysis and the taking of any sample at the request of a purchaser.

(4) The expenses of the council incurred in the execution of this Act shall be defrayed, in the case of a county council as part of their general expenses, and in the case of a county borough council out of the borough fund or borough rate.

Penalties for breach of duty by seller.

VI.—(1) If any person who sells any article for use as a fertiliser of the soil or as food for cattle or poultry commits any of the following offences, namely:—

(*a*) Fails without reasonable excuse to give, on or before or as soon as possible after the delivery of the article, the invoice required by this Act; or

(*b*) Causes or permits any invoice or description of the article sold by him to be false in any material particular to the prejudice of the purchaser; or

(*c*) Sells for use as food for cattle or poultry any article which contains any ingredient deleterious to cattle or poultry, or to which has been added any ingredient worthless for feeding purposes and not disclosed at the time of the sale;

he shall, without prejudice to any civil liability, be liable, on summary conviction, for a first offence to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds, and for any subsequent offence to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds:

Provided that a person shall not be convicted of an offence under paragraph (*b*) of this subsection if he proves either

(i) that he did not know, and could not with reasonable care have ascertained, that the invoice or description was false; or

(ii) that he purchased the article sold with a written warranty or invoice from a person in the United Kingdom, and that that warranty or invoice contained the false statement in question, and that he had no reason to believe at the time when he sold the article that the statement was false,

and that he sold the article in the state in which it was when he purchased it.

(2) In any proceeding for an offence under this section it shall be no defence to allege that the purchaser, having bought only for analysis, was not prejudiced by the sale.

(3) A prosecution for an offence under this section shall not be instituted except with the consent of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Board shall not give such consent until the part of the sample retained by the agricultural analyst has been analysed, and a certificate of analysis given, by the chief analyst.

(4) In any prosecution under this section the summons shall state particulars of the offences alleged, and also the name of the prosecutor, and shall not be made returnable in less time than fourteen days from the day on which it is served, and there must be served therewith a copy of any analyst's certificate obtained on behalf of the prosecutor.

Penalties for tampering.

VII.—If any person fraudulently—

(*a*) tampers with any article so as to procure that any sample of it taken under this Act does not correctly represent the article; or

(*b*) tampers with any sample taken under this Act;

he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

Penalty for obstructing official sampler.

VIII.—If—

(*a*) the owner, or the person entrusted for the time being with the charge or custody of any article sold or intended to be sold for use as a fertiliser of the soil or as food for cattle or poultry refuses to allow an official sampler to take a sample of the article for the purpose of analysis; or

(*b*) the purchaser of any such article refuses to give to an official sampler the invoice of the article or a copy thereof or of any prescribed part thereof;

he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

Institution of prosecution and appeals.

IX.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act as to the consent of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, a prosecution for an offence under this Act may be instituted either by the person aggrieved, or by the council of a county or borough, or by any body or association authorised in that behalf by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

(2) A prosecution for an offence of causing or permitting an invoice or description to be false in any material particular shall not be instituted under this Act—

(*a*) after the expiration of three months from the date when the invoice was received by the purchaser; nor

(*b*) unless a sample for analysis has been taken, and an analysis by the agricultural analyst has been made, and a certificate of analysis has been given, in accordance with regulations made under this Act:

But the proceedings may be taken as well before the court having jurisdiction in the place where the purchaser of the article to which the invoice or description relates resides or carries on business, as before the court having jurisdiction in the place where the invoice or description was given.

(3) Any person aggrieved by a summary conviction under this Act may appeal to a court of quarter sessions.

Construction and application.

X.—(1) For the purposes of this Act the expression "cattle" shall mean bulls, cows, oxen, heifers, calves, sheep, goats, swine, and horses; and the expressions "soluble" and "insoluble" shall respectively mean soluble and insoluble in water, or, if so specified in the invoice, in a solution of citric acid or other solvent of the prescribed strength, and the percentage of soluble phosphates and percentage of insoluble phosphates mean respectively the percentage of tribasic phosphate of lime which has been, and that which has not been, rendered soluble.

(2) This Act shall apply to wholesale as well as retail sales.

Application to Scotland.

XI.—In the application of this Act to Scotland—

(1) The expression "council of any county borough" shall mean the town council or burgh, and the duties and powers of councils of counties and county boroughs shall be performed and be exerciseable in a county by the county council, and in a burgh by the town council, and the expenses incurred by a council in the execution of this Act shall be defrayed out of a rate to be levied, fixed, and paid in like manner as the local rate under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894:

(2) The expression "burgh" means a burgh which returns or contributes to return a member to Parliament, not being a burgh to which section fourteen of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1889, applies:

(3) Penalties for offences under this Act may be recovered summarily before the sheriff in manner provided by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts, and any person aggrieved by a summary conviction may appeal therefrom in accordance with the provisions of those Acts.

Application to Ireland.

XII. For the purposes of the execution of this Act in Ireland, inclusive of the appointment of a chief agricultural analyst, the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland shall be substituted for the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and in section seventeen of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899, a reference to sections six, seven, and eight of this Act shall be substituted for the reference to section seven of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893; and for the purpose of instituting prosecutions the said department may take samples of any articles to which this Act applies which have been sold or are kept or exposed for sale.

Repeal.

XIII.—The Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893, is hereby repealed; provided that nothing in this repeal shall affect any regulation or appointment made under that Act, but every such regulation and appointment shall have effect as if made under this Act; and in Ireland an analyst holding office under the said Act both for a county and a non-county borough comprised in that county shall become the agricultural analyst for that county.

Short title and commencement.

XIV.—This Act may be cited as the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906, and shall come into operation on the first day of January nineteen hundred and seven.

Condition of Fertilisers.

A fertiliser should be in a condition so fine and dry that it can be applied without hindrance by the drill. There are still some farmers who like to see bone manure in lumps showing partly dissolved pieces of bone, but this is surely a mistaken idea, because such a lumpy material cannot be evenly spread over the soil, and as a consequence some plants are apt to be injured by getting too much, and others are deprived of their proper supply. The fertiliser should be uniform in quality and uniform in condition, so that every plant receives its proper proportion of the fertilising constituents. The fertiliser, if it cannot be used at once, should be stored in a dry place. We have known bags of fertiliser actually left out over night in the field, exposed to heavy dew or rain, so that it became quite damp and sticky, and could only be distributed by hand in a very rough manner. If a fertiliser is worth burying, it is worth careful treatment, in order to reap full benefit from its action on the crop.

6 FEEDS FOR ONE PENNY
INTERNATIONAL STOCK FOOD.
Marsh Farm, Honley, near Huddersfield, March 31st, 1906.
Gentlemen,—Please forward another 25lb. pail of International Stock Food. I have great pleasure in saying International Stock Food is unequalled as a milker for cows and a conditioner for horses. I have also tried International Poultry Food with good paying results.—Yours faithfully, (Signed) JOE THEAKER.
PRICES: 1/- packet, post paid, 1/4; 2/- packet, post paid, 2/6; 4/- packet, post paid, 4/7; in pails, 14/-, carriage paid. Poultry Food prices same as for Stock Food.
PRICES FOR VETERINARY PREPARATIONS AND POULTRY REMEDIES ON APPLICATION.
Write for full particulars to the Sole Importers for the United Kingdom—
F. C. SOUTHWELL & CO., LTD., 75, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON.

"A TRUE PLANT FOOD."
Gives immense increase in CORN, ROOT and GRASS CROPS, MARKET GARDEN CROPS, HOPS.
NITRATE OF SODA
Can be bought of all LEADING DEALERS in MANURES.
PAMPHLETS GRATIS from the PERMANENT NITRATE COMMITTEE, 3, Gracechurch St., London.

GUANO
PERUVIAN GUANO (as imported),
OHLENDORFF'S (Soluble)
DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO,
With Guaranteed Analysis.
Bone Manures, Superphosphate, Bone Meal.
SPECIAL MANURES FOR ALL CROPS.
ANGLO-CONTINENTAL (Late Ohlendorff's) GUANO WORKS.
London Agency: 15, LEADENHALL ST., E.C.

ARTIFICIAL MANURES
How to MAKE, BUY, VALUE & USE.
A Useful Handbook for Agriculturists, Chemical Manure Manufacturers, Merchants and others.
By ALFRED SIBSON, F.C.S.
Price ONE SHILLING.
Post free, 1/2½.
W. A. MAY, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, WELLINGTON ST., STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Burnard & Alger, Ltd.,
PLYMOUTH.
MANUFACTURERS OF . . .
Complete Fertilisers for all Crops.
XXX Superphosphate, &c., for Grass Lands.

CALF REARING

THE BEST METHOD, BUT THE MOST EXPENSIVE

SILCOCK'S (SOLUBLE) CALF MEAL

We only make one quality, viz.—the best. We solicit a trial and invite comparison by practical feeding.
At 12/6 per cwt., carriage paid, it is impossible to obtain better value; equal to most Meals at 5/- to 15/- per cwt. more. **R. SILCOCK & SONS, Union Street, LIVERPOOL.**

SHOWS

ANOTHER METHOD AND THE MOST PROFITABLE ONE

AUTUMN DIPPING.

HAYWARD'S **GLYCERINE DIP.**

Approved by Board of Agriculture.

Prevents and cures scab. Effectually kills all ticks, fags, red lice, &c. Greatly stimulates the growth, quality, and appearance of the wool. Three qualities:—Liquid, Paste, and Cake.

Sold by Agents.

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD, Ltd., Lincoln

Sporting Dogs

For Health and Good Working Condition should now be fed upon

GEORGE SMITH'S Meat Dog Biscuits, Hound Meal, or Terrier Meal.

All of best quality, 16/- per cwt. at any station in England for cash.

Sample 10 lbs. post free 2/6.

Genuine only direct from—

GEORGE SMITH'S
Dog Food Factory, Norwich.

VESTA CAKES AND MEALS

THE MAXIMUM OF FEEDING VALUE.

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

IN order to enable us to supply clean Cotton Seed and a Cotton Cake of good quality we have taken over a mill lately fitted up with the very best modern machinery, which enables us to sell at the lowest possible and at the same time turn out an Undecorticated Cotton Cake practically free from LINT, DIRT, and SAND.

The Cakes are branded "VESTA" PURE.

Buyers of the "VESTA" FEED CAKES can have the Cottons shipped at same time, thus saving any delay.

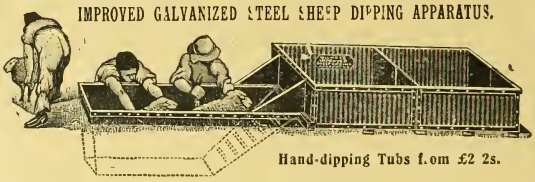
Write for prices and full particulars:

LIVERPOOL VESTA CAKE CO.

BLACKSTOCK STREET, LIVERPOOL.

S. M. WILMOT & CO., BRISTOL.

IMPROVED GALVANIZED STEEL SHEEP DIPPING APPARATUS.



Hand-dipping Tubs from £2 2s.

The most complete, thoroughly practical, economical, and cleanly dipping arrangement in the market. Always ready, not as wooden tubs—always leaking. The best Sheep Rack made, **£3 10s.** Improved Lamb Rack and Troughs, **£2 2s.** Largest Makers of Galvanized Sheep Troughs.

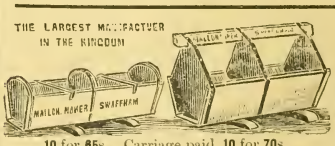
CUPISS' CONSTITUTION BALLS.

For Grease, Swelled Legs, Sore Throats, Disordered Liver, of Appetite, &c., &c. For Hide-Blown, Distemper, Epidemic, Health, Scouring in Calves, &c. ing in Health, Assisting to get Lambs, &c.

Horses Cattle Sheep

Cracked Heels, Coughs, Colds Broken Wind, Influenza, Loss bound, Staring Coat, Hove or Surfeit, Conditioning, Preserving For Rot or Fluke, and for Keep-into Condition, Scouring in

Prepared upwards of 50 years by the late
FRANCIS CUPISS, M.R.C.V.S., DISS, NORFOLK.
Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors in packets at **1/9** and **3/6** each, **7** small packets, **10/6**, **7** large, **21/-**, or direct from **Francis Cupiss, Limited, The Wilderness, Diss,** on receipt of amount.



Patronised by Royalty. Six Prize Medals awarded. **SHEEP TROUGHS.** Cheapest and best. 10 ft. long, best foreign red deal, well hooped and bolted **SHEEP FODDER RACKS,** 10 feet long, on wheels, 50s. each. **CATTLE CRIBS.** Gates, Poultry Appliances, Shepherds' Huts. Lamb Troughs, 10 for 42s.

10 for **65s.** Carriage paid, **10** for **70s.**
If Creosoted, Sixpence each extra.
Lamb Creeps, with 8 movable rollers, 10s. each, carriage paid.
Illustrated Catalogue post free.

R. MALLON, Station Works, SWAFFHAM, NORFOLK.

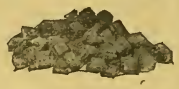
Keep this Advertisement until you write for our List.

THE

"BIBBY" CAKE

IN THE FORM OF

"CAKETTES."



"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

Sole Manufacturers—

J. BIBBY & SONS

EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,

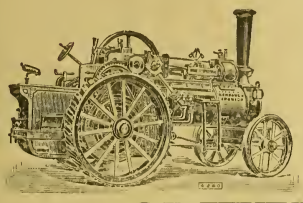
LIVERPOOL.

Appointed by Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.

MANUFACTURE THE

BEST THRASHING MACHINERY.



TRACTION ENGINES.

These Engines are well proportioned, simple, and easy to manage, and are suitable for drawing and working Thrashing Machinery, for Steam Cultivation, Sawing, Pumping, &c.

THRASHING MACHINES.

These Machines produce a perfectly uniform sample of full-size grain, free from tail corn, and make all the usual separations in the most perfect manner.

Complete Illustrated Price List free on application to—

ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1906.

The result of the labours of the Departmental Committee appointed in 1903 to inquire into and report upon the working of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act of 1893 is now apparent in the new Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906, which passed through the Houses of Parliament during the recent session without prolonged discussion, and has just been issued by the Government printers.

It comes into operation on the first day of next January, and the old Act of 1893 is thereby repealed.

In this week's "Fertiliser" section we print it *in extenso* for the information and guidance of our numerous readers who are interested in the substances with which it deals, and we commend the details to their careful attention.

The old Act was a movement in the right direction, and effected a great deal of good, even although farmers have not availed themselves of its advantages so widely as had been expected. It served to stimulate manufacturers to look more carefully into the quality of the goods offered by them, and it acted as a deterrent against fraud; but in practical working it was found, as was quite natural in such a new departure, to be deficient in some respects. The object of the new Act is to remedy such deficiencies and to make the Act of more general utility.

It has been framed with a just regard for the interests of both users and manufacturers, and should be accepted by both as an equitable arrangement.

The duties of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries will be somewhat extended, and the Board will no doubt issue in due course amended Regulations to take the place of those issued in 1897 in their leaflet No. 18.

It will rest with the various authorities responsible for the administration of the Act to make it a success by taking such measures as may be necessary to ensure that its useful provisions may be widely known among the farming community, especially among the class of small farmers, who, more than anyone else, require the protection afforded by the Act, but who, partly from indifference and partly from ignorance, fail to recognise its value.

There should be a liberal distribution of leaflets, supplemented in backward districts by posters. If such steps are not taken the Act will remain of small effect. After the authorities have fulfilled their duties in this respect, it will still remain for the individual buyer to look after his own interests. He will be well advised to have his fertilisers and feeding stuffs regularly tested, as an ordinary matter of business precaution; the facilities at the disposal of the farmer are now so good and cheap that there is no excuse for neglecting this safeguard.

If buyers do not get good value it will be their own fault. Let there be no more vague charges against manufacturers who, as a body, conduct their business in an honest and intelligent manner. When, exceptionally, fraud is detected, it should be exposed and punished without mercy; but we hope and think that such cases will become rarer.

THE CEREAL YEAR.

I.—Breadstuffs.

The cereal year which Friday brought to a close was not one that farmers can look back upon with particular satisfaction. As we felt constrained to say in the "Notes of the Week" for our last issue—"we cannot truthfully depict agriculture in a happy condition if considered all round." The price of wheat on the average fell from 30s. 7d. to 28s. 9d. per quarter, and no especial relief is obtainable from the discovery that this loss of nearly £700,000 on the whole crop was utterly uncalled for.

The price at which wheat for the cereal year wound up was 30s. 9d., so that no decline need have occurred at all. The farmer with a little capital to back him would never have accepted 27s. for his wheat as he did last autumn. This is of course a matter which in some years is open to argument, but in the present instance we are saved discussion, the return to the original price proves the point exactly as an addition sum may be proved by a corresponding one in subtraction.

The real difficulty to consider is why the farmer does not in one way or another get financed. He knows his own business well enough; he knows enough, too, of the foreign trade to be aware that English wheat is no longer a drug in the market. Every ton of it will be wanted. It is estimated that out of 7,500,000 qr. a single 100,000 qr. were handed on by the old cereal year to the new. There is, therefore, no plethora, no over production; there is simply over eagerness in selling at the commencement of the season.

After January the next six months represent a long dreary gradual, but on the whole successful, struggle against the false conditions induced by excessive and inordinate pressure of grain on sale from September to December. The uphill game at last succeeds, the stern chase is successful; and then there comes a new crop, and all has to be recommenced.

Imports of wheat for the cereal year actually fell from 24,523,000 qr. to 21,972,000 qr., and the only untoward sign in this department was the increase in flour imports from 4,375,200 sacks to 5,563,200 sacks. The Millers' Conference at Windsor looked on the landscape under sunset's roseate hues, and pronounced that American competition was practically extinct. But the sober figures of September 1 do not bear the July conclusion out.

If this increase in imports of flour had not occurred, we should not be confronted with the serious fall in flour prices which to-day is the millers' most serious (and let us haste to admit, very substantial) reason for refusing to pay for new English wheat such prices as the situation would otherwise warrant.

Why buy foreign flour? Who orders it? Let us make a frank admission. The miller of twenty years ago was not the competent man which he is to-day. Twenty years ago the foreign flour merchant had an absolute case in the inability of English millers to meet the national requirements. But since the Edwardine era succeeded to the Victorian this blot has been wiped out.

English mills can now grind all the flour England needs, can grind it as England requires it, and can show quality for quality and type for type all that buyers and bakers can possibly need. The finest pastry flour still comes from Hungary; we could make it here if workmen worked as hard as they do in Hungary. Anyhow it is a bagatelle in the general trade; it is the American flour with which we could, and ought, to dispense.

The great step forward of the cereal year so far as English wheat is concerned is probably to be found not so much at Mark Lane as at Rothamsted. The element of strength in wheat which in the nineties we had been told was a product of climate, a gift of Nature to Minnesota and Manitoba, to the Russian steppes and the Polish plains, is now seen—and seen the more clearly with each successive experiment—to be an element that can be cultivated, and if not perpetuated, perpetually and periodically renewed, a conclusion which in botany amounts to perpetuation.

England, for example, has plenty of elms, which are possibly our commonest trees. But who can grow an elm from seed? The Rothamsted experiments show that choice of seed is the first thing, and charge of seed the second thing. With these points borne duly in mind, English wheat growers can breed for strength in gluten as surely as English cattle breeders

All Advertisements ordered for the "Mark Lane Express" appear simultaneously in the THIN paper COLONIAL and FOREIGN EDITION, for circulation abroad, WITHOUT EXTRA COST to the Advertiser.

can emphasise the beef-producing element or the milk producing element at will. Our readers must not forget; of course, that strength, as millers use the word, is rather facticious; strong wheat will not nourish the citizen more than weak wheat. It will make a more presentable and saleable loaf. That is all.

The sources of our wheat supply during the past cereal year have been the United States and Canada, Russia, India, and Australia, Argentina, Roumania, and New Zealand. The Russian, Canadian, and Argentine supplies show a decided increase in business as compared with the other items. Russia, owing to political troubles, still remains very much of a dark horse, but the extensive purchase of lands by the peasantry look well for agriculture. Canada and Argentina are the coming wheat growers so far as the past cereal year has lifted the curtain. Both, of course, have in a sense, already arrived, but there seems scarcely any doubt that in a few years time the *rôle* which they play will be far greater than it is at the present moment.

Notes of the Week.

During the early part of the past week the universal topic of conversation was the torrid heat, now fortunately a thing of the past.

The list of casualties reads almost like the record of a regular battle; the silver streak around our shores was no defence against the burning arrows of the sun.

The sun's perpendicular rays
Descended on land and on sea,
And oft was the sound of the cry:
"Oh, bring me a soda and B."

We could fill columns with the list of disasters attributed to the heat: suicides, fires, sudden death, and scarcity of water, milk and vegetables.

But why harrow the feelings of our readers with general details and particulars? Sufficient for everyone are the troubles and difficulties of his own district.

Not very long ago, people were saying that the climate of England was gradually reverting to the glacial period.

One good result of the tropical heat has been to ripen the cereals to perfection. Millers speak very favourably of the new wheats.

Much of the barley, too, is of superior quality, suitable for brewers' purposes, and should realise top prices.

The results obtained at the sales of growing potatoes indicate a healthy condition of the market.

At the important Biggar Auction some of the prices realised were considerably over the expectations of the sellers.

The crops in England and Scotland are generally free from disease, so the prospects for the growers are better than usual.

Enterprising sugar beet growers in this country cannot contemplate the sugar market with much satisfaction.

It does not seem to offer much encouragement for the industry, which, according to calculations, cannot prosper with sugar beet under 10s. per cwt.

Hopes based on the high prices ruling during the early months of last year are doomed to disappointment.

Sugar was then worth 14s 6d. to 15s. 6d. per cwt. in consequence of the short crop of 1904, but it soon receded to a more average level.

In September last year it was quoted at 8s 9d. per cwt., and it has remained throughout the year at about that figure.

Considerable interest always attaches to the estimates of the world's cereal crops framed by the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture.

He seems to have a clear grasp of the subject, and to have at his disposal fairly reliable data.

According to his calculation, there is no striking difference between the total yields of last year and this harvest.

The yields of wheat and barley are slightly more, while oats, on the other hand, seem a little less.

If his figures are reliable, and the market remains undisturbed by any special circumstance, the prices of these three prime commodities should not be subject to any great fluctuations during the coming months.

Several correspondents have been writing to the *Times* suggesting that we ought to eat more brown bread.

They argue that the ordinary white bakers' bread is deficient in nourishment and lacking in phosphate of lime.

Why should we not cultivate rye for bread in this country? It is said to be as nourishing as wheat, and cheaper.

In Germany and Austria it forms the staple bread diet of the working classes, and is widely eaten in France, Spain, and Italy.

When on the Continent and in Canada I have eaten it with relish as a change. Rye cakes are not to be despised.

The old-fashioned fairs, which many of us remember as bringing a time of festivity, are gradually being abolished.

All things considered, this is a matter not to be regretted; they served a good purpose before the period of railways, telegraphs, and modern market methods.

But they are out of date now, and with few exceptions bring together a disreputable class of people. The genuine "fun of the fair" is conspicuous by its absence.

One of the useful survivals is, perhaps, Barnet Fair, which is still of some importance. There is a big trade done in ponies and cheap horses.

The character of prussic acid is not so bad as some of us have thought. It has its good points.

Scientific men have discovered that its production in plants, as in some kinds of beans, is the final stage in the assimilation by the plant of nitrogen.

Prussic acid is a derivative of cyanogen, and to this substance is assigned the chief place in the building up of plant proteids.

An engineer in Germany has patented an arrangement for controlling the temperature of the soil.

The good old plan of forcing plants in beds of manure, developing heat, he considers is uncertain in its effects and not economical.

Experiments on a small scale have been tried with the new system, and it is reported that very favourable results have been obtained with vegetables and fruit.

Two Men Burnt to Death.—On Wednesday night a large barn at Hall Place Farm, East Peckham, near Maidstone, in which four men travelling with a threshing machine had been given permission to sleep, caught fire and was destroyed. Two of the men, Harry Noakes and George Clowe, succeeded in escaping, the latter, however, being so badly burnt that he had to be taken to the hospital. When the flames were extinguished the bodies of the other two men, James Baikup, forty, and William Jenner, thirty-seven, were found charred beyond recognition. At an inquest on Thursday a verdict of "Death from suffocation" was returned.

BATTLE'S
LIQUID, POWDER, AND PASTE
SHEEP DIPS
OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT REMEDIES FOR SCAB.
THE CHAMPION RAM for 1905 (Bred by Mr. Tom Casswell) and the CHAMPION RAM for 1906 (Bred by Mr. Henry Dudding), sold for 1,450 Guineas, were DIPPED IN BATTLE'S DIPS. Why? BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST.
BATTLE, MALTBY & BOWER, LINCOLN.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.—Bakers' Show at Islington, third day—Buckingham Agricultural Show—Woodstock Agricultural Show, Blenheim Park—Ampleforth Agricultural Show—Hitchin Foal Show—Horse Fairs at Denbigh, Ormskirk, and Hay—Cattle Fairs at Denbigh and Wirksworth—Sheep Fairs at Denbigh and Hay—Sale of Shropshire Sheep at Shrawardine, Shrewsbury—Horse Sales at Derby and at Lynn—Entries close for the Gransden Show.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.—Rugby Agricultural Show—Wardle Agricultural Show—Watton Agricultural Show—Cattle and Sheep Fairs at Brampton, Barnstaple, and Falkirk—Newton Abbot Fair—Bristol Wool Fair—Bakers' Show, Islington, fourth day—Entries close for Winslow Show and Hay Show—Newark Ram Sale.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—Brecon Agricultural Show—Market Leeping Foal and Root Show—Ilkeston Show—Melton Mowbray Show—Bellingham Show—Sedbergh Show—Thame Show—Barnstaple Fair, second day—Monmouth Cattle and Sheep Show—Horncastle Agricultural Fair—Neath Agricultural Fair—Cheltenham Sheep Fair.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Kelso Show—Towya Show—Kineton Show—Cattle Fairs at Louth, Durham, Maldon, and Loughborough—Sheep Fairs at Hawes, Kelso, Lincoln, Louth, and Barnstaple—Pig Sale at Louth—Durham Lamb Sale—Reigate Fair—Stanhope Fair—Knighton Horse Fair—Entries close for Llanymynech Show.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—Cattle Fairs at Coniston, Lampeter, Boston, and Ballebay—Sheep Fairs at Boston and Coniston—Boston Foal Show and Fair.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17.—Holme (Yorkshire) Show—Hemel Hempstead Fair—Holbeach Fair—Sheep Fairs at Market Drayton, Welshpool, and Alford—Pig Fair at Market Drayton—Cattle Fair at Alford, Welshpool, Market Dray on, and Newcastle-under-Lyme—Entries close for Bland-ford Show and for the Middlesex Show at Hounslow.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Leighton Buzzard Show—Pig Fairs and Sales at Kington and Bury—Cattle Fairs at Partney, Kington, Egremont, Bury (Lancashire) and Carmarthen—Sheep fairs at Machynlleth, Egremont, Kington and Partney—Ware Fair.

Reduced Grain Rates on the G.E.R.

The goods manager of the Great Eastern Railway Company, in a letter to Mr. J. B. Forrester, the secretary of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture, makes the welcome announcement that, from September 1, reduced rates will be brought into operation on the carriage of grain from certain Norfolk stations to places like Burton, Retford, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Warwick, &c.

The new rates are for truckloads of five tons and upwards, and the reductions vary from 11d. to 1s. 10d. per ton in the main, but there are some instances in which it is as much as 2s. to 2s. 1d. per ton; while between Norwich and Warwick the charge falls from 16s. 8d. to 13s. 4d., a saving of 3s 4d. per ton, and further between Attleborough and Manchester there is a drop of no less than 4s. 2d. per ton—namely, from 19s. 2d. to 15s.

These new rates apply to wheat, barley, oats, rye, beans, peas, maize, flour, sent in sacks or bags. Norwich being the leading barley market, and almost the biggest wheat market in the country, the effect of these changes must be not only to increase trade, but also materially to benefit farmers.

Margarine as Butter.—John Edward Green, grocer, of Harewood Street, Bradford, was on Thursday, at Bradford, fined £5 and 7s. costs, or one month, for selling margarine as butter. It was stated that a shilling had been paid for a pound of butter, which on analysis was found to be entirely margarine.

Robberies by Hop pickers.—With the influx of hop-pickers from London into Kent, the number of burglaries and cases of housebreaking has increased alarmingly, and almost every village between Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone has suffered. In Tunbridge Wells, St. John's Church and St. Peter's Church have both been entered during the past few days, and the contents of the collection boxes stolen. Residences on the main country roads, and even small cottages, have been broken into and goods removed. Owing to their inability to obtain work in the hop fields, a large number of suspicious characters are roaming about the country lanes, and to these the police attribute the present epidemic of robberies.

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Notes and Jottings.

THE effect of the scorching sun which accompanied the closing days of August and the opening ones in September will be felt in the sheep food supply in the dry southern districts for a long time. The baking which the soil has experienced makes it practically impossible to sow autumn catch crops, or for the crops to grow when they are sown; moreover, it will take sound rains to make the land sufficiently moist to start the crops. It is unfortunate that the districts which have most suffered from drought are those which rely most on autumn-sown catch crops. Sheep keep will require to be carefully handled during the coming months, for if the growing crops are folded before full growth is attained, there will be an undue curtailment of the food to be consumed between now and next May. Little can be done to hasten up the crops, and the only means of saving the growing crops is to get the sheep on to dry food early. It is not a year when hay can be carelessly fed, and chaffing will repay its cost. Straw and hay chaff with a little meal will go a long way to help where other food is short, and it is quite as economical to use them early in the year as to wait until the other food has run out; in fact, it is more so, as by doing it a better chance will be given for the growing crops to increase in weight. Those who have had the good fortune to be blessed with rains during the summer and have thus got a good root crop, ought to have a very satisfactory winter's sheeping.

WE saw an instance recently of the mistake in following up the same strain of rams on a well-selected cross-bred flock, belonging to one of the most skilled cross-breeders of our acquaintance. The ewes have gradually been bred up too closely to pure breeds; and though the quality has improved from a butcher's point of view and the wool is excellent, the sheep (being required for a district which will not carry a pure breed) have rapidly lost size, and the lambs will not grow to a satisfactory weight. The owner, who is a successful exhibitor of cross-bred lambs, held a little closer to quality than his better judgment would have guided him, as he had the show ring in view, and wanted to get a little more quality, and now regrets it. He has run long enough on one strain to get some of the effects of too much in-breeding. He has gone for distant blood in his rams this year, and will doubtless get size back again. This is a case where following too closely on one flock has done harm, even where there is cross-breeding, and is much rarer than in ordinary pure-breeding. The owner was really working his flock into a pure-bred flock, although it was not a pedigree one, or one which he could enter in any flock-book, and has not sufficiently recognised the fact.

Mr. J. STOOKE,
Sherford, Brixton, Plymouth.
BREEDER OF SOUTH DEVON SHEEP.

ONE result of the dry weather has been the severe attack by green fly, the cabbage aphis, on swedes and cabbages. On swedes it is destroying the heart leaves and checking growth; while on cabbages it is rendering the crop very unsafe for feeding, especially by lambs. It takes a lot of most things to upset an old ewe, especially if there is the chance to get other food than that which causes injury; but lambs are readily upset, and great caution is needed where cabbages are smothered with green fly. It is about the only time when cabbages are dangerous to feed. It is unsafe to fold lambs where the attack is bad, and much wiser to cut the sound cabbages and take them to the sheep. The ewes will clear up what can be eaten in the ordinary course of scavenging. Where trouble has been caused by the fly, the sheep should have a dose of salts to clear prejudicial matter from the system, and be given good sound hay in addition to the succulent food. It is quite hopeless to expect birds will clear off the fly; they will no more do it from cabbages than from hops, roses, or other plants it attacks. Birds repay little for the trouble taken to preserve them, though starlings are useful in case of attacks by the cabbage caterpillar. There has been an unusual number of white cabbage butterflies about lately, and it is not at all unlikely that there may be a bad attack from their caterpillars; in the event of this nothing will do more to save the crop than to turn the poultry, especially ducks, into the crop. Washings and dressings cannot be used satisfactorily.

Mr. ALFRED TANNER,
of Shrawardine, Shrewsbury, whose
SALE takes place To-morrow (TUESDAY.)

EVERY year at the Dublin Horse Show the side show of sheep demonstrates how well suited Ireland is to the raising of high class sheep; but in spite of the suitable country Irishmen are not instinctively sheep men. Probably the large number of small holdings is responsible for much of this, and it certainly is so in the west of Ireland, where there is winter commonage over the country generally, and where the old native heath breed or Cottagh may still be met with in its pristine condition of unprofitableness, though of late years some improvement has been made by crossing it with the Black Face. Even where the land is held in larger holdings there has not been the improvement there ought to be. It is satisfactory to see that the English breeds are being more developed there, and that the Shropshires steadily increase in favour. The Oxfords also gain favour, and pioneers in this breed like Captain Longworth Davies doubtless feel satisfaction in the increased number of pure-bred flocks. In a country where the greater portion of the animals are longwools, it is not surprising that the Lincoln becomes more popular, especially in this period of good prices for wool.

Lincoln Ram Sale: A Fine Average.

If this sale that took place at Lincoln on Friday last does not hold the record for the highest average realised at these sales since they were established in 1892, it is one that will in years to come be looked upon as one of the best, because the average for the whole sale, £20 5s. 1d., is based upon the sale of no less than 376 rams. Some casual observers might think the sale well, after all, this is not a great average, but if they, like we have, would search the records of any breed of sheep, we believe the result would be that they, like ourselves, would conclude, few, if

Mr. W. HOULTON,
Northleach, Gloucestershire.
BREEDER OF COTSWOLD SHEEP.

any sales of sheep have ever taken place in which so excellent an average has been made for so large a number of rams—representing as these did, thirty separate flocks. That so notable an average should have been realised is, however, only in keeping with the transactions in Lincoln sheep this season. It has been a year, so far as concerns this breed, such as Lincoln breeders have never before experienced—a year in which the old record price of 1,000 guineas for a ram, held by Messrs. Dudding and Wright, has been broken by 1,450 guineas being made for one of Mr. H. Dudding's rams, this year's Royal champion; a year in which a record average of £151 1s. 3d. was made for fifty-six yearling rams by Mr. H. Dudding; and last, but by no means least, the year in which the insatiable Argentine demand commenced to buy Lincoln sheep by the whole flock. This transaction—namely, the sale of Messrs. Wright's noted Lincoln flock as a whole to Senor J. M. De Cobo—was one of the most prominent themes of conversation the night before the sale, and one which the auctioneers made good use of when selling any rams with Noeton blood, reminding the bidders that this is a strain of blood which cannot, under any circumstances, be renewed, for its source will ere long be removed away from its home near Lincoln to Argentine, from whence no live sheep returns. However, no further digression is permissible, and our reference must be kept to this notable sale, in which 395 rams were catalogued, thirteen being absent and 376 sold, leaving the small and insignificant number of six as being passed at the upset price. The total realised at the sale for these rams was £7,616 1s., giving an average of £20 5s. 1d.

The auctioneers who officiated at this sale were Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Everett and Barrell, J. Martyn-Collins, Sud, T. B. Richardson and Son, Stephenson and Johnson, and J. E. Walter.

The best average of the day was that realised by thirteen rams from Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons' Dowsby flock, namely £71 3s. 1d. All through the competition was good. The opening ram in the sale was a grand one: many wanted him, but the pace was fast and furious, so that, to use a racing term, only the trained and well tried runner lasted to the finish, which was run neck and neck from about 150 to 280 guineas between Mr. R. Dixon, of Brandesburton, and Mr. H. Dudding; the latter won. Mr. J. E. Casswell, another of the leading breeders, had a stiff contest before he got his choice, a real good one, at 150 guineas; one went at 60 to Mr. H. Smith, jun.; one at 52 to Mr. E. H. Cartwright, for Buenos Ayres, was reported; and one of the second prize pen of five at the Royal at 50 guineas to Mr. F. Ward; four made 40 and above, and others made 35 guineas. Mr. John Pears, one of the oldest breeders, sent forward a lot of rams that were highly appreciated. The consignment was the largest in the sale, and therefore, considering this large average, £47 13s. 4d., with a range of prices from 250 guineas, was most satisfactory. The leading prices include 250 guineas, at which Messrs. Needham, who are very old breeders, secured a grand stud ram, after a tussle with Mr. G. Marrs; another made 200 guineas, and here the Argentine acquired one of the choicest rams of the season. Messrs. Hughes were the purchasers; these gentlemen took others at 43, 28, and 21 guineas. One

of the youngest breeders, Mr. C. E. Howard, made a first-class selection, and though he paid 95 guineas for the ram, it cannot be termed an excessive price, quality, &c., being considered. Quite one of the choicest rams, and certainly a beautifully-fleeced ram, was got by Mr. W. Savage for Buenos Ayres at 75 guineas, a cheap ram; another went to the same purchaser at 45 guineas, and others 22 guineas, &c. Fifty guineas secured the first one of this lot for Mr. R. Dixon, of Brandesburton, and at 5 guineas more Mr. W. Searley got his choice; the remainder ranged down to 11 guineas. Mr. Henry Goodyear, with a well-matched lot of ten, realised an average of £30 13s. 2d.; 50 guineas was the best price to Mr. J. Evens, the well-known Lincoln red cattle breeder; a pair went to Laughton, Mr. J. E. Casswell's flock, at 36 and 34 guineas; another went at 33 guineas to Mr. W. H. Pate; and the rest ranged down to 14 guineas. Another lot of ten choice rams followed. These were Mr. J. E. Casswell's, and here again plenty of bids were found; Messrs. Dean, who will have the best, gave 64 guineas, Mr. Rudkin 32 guineas, Mr. Redmore 30 guineas, several made from 26 to 20 guineas, and the remainder ranged down to 14 guineas. Mr. W. B. Swallow's were a fine lot of rams; the average realised (£26 18s. 10d) was lower than anticipated; why this was the case is difficult to understand, for the rams were of high merit and choice quality, and right through good competition was found. Mr. W. Savage, for Argentine, gave top price (66 guineas) for a beautiful ram, and the same buyer took others at 38, 36, 23, 22, and 20 guineas; Messrs. Dean gave 46 guineas, and Mr. Hughes 42 guineas, Mr. E. J. Turton 31 guineas, several others making 20 guineas and above, and the remainder ranged down to 14 guineas. A choice lot, but unfortunate in the ballot, for these were offered near the end of the sale, were those consigned by Mr. R. Richardson, whose wide, deep, and good fleshed rams realised £26 1s. 10d. for the half score. Two made 44 guineas each, and both went to leading flocks owned by Messrs. W. B. Swallow and W. Taylor Sharp; five others made 20 guineas and above, and the limit of price was 13 guineas. One of the most even and well-matched consignments was Mr. S. Yarrad's ten; here the average worked out at £24 9s. 3d., with 48 guineas for top figure, Mr. Grant taking this well-developed ram. Mr. Jessop gave 40 guineas, Mr. R. Chatterton 24 guineas, and Mr. G. Marris 23 guineas, &c. A choice and well-bred lot represented Mr. W. Bayles, whose average for ten was £23 12s. 6d. The Argentine got the pick of the lot at 57 guineas to "Walker"; five others made 20 guineas and over, and the remainder ranged down to 13 guineas. Mr. James Cartwright found quite a demand for his rams. These were fine rams, well grown with good substance, and not overloaded with waste flesh and fat. Mr. C. E. Howard, after a tough contest with Mr. F. Ward, got a grand ram at 77 guineas, Mr. Ward taking an almost equally good one at 34 guineas. Messrs. Hughes, who were good purchasers in this lot, gave from 50 guineas. Mr. Herdman got a pair of fine rams at 36 and 29 guineas, Mr. Watson giving 36 guineas. The remaining prices were such that the average was £22 5s. 7d.

Sixteen from Mr. F. Money's flock were wanted particularly for export. Fourteen out of those offered were taken for that country, twelve by Mr. W. Ward at from 40 guineas, and Mr. Beck two at 25 and 24 guineas, the average working out at £19 8s. 6d.

The following summary of the other consignments sold will complete the sale:—Mr. C. E. Howard, six at £17 5s.; Mr. W. Taylor Sharp, twenty-four at £17 0s. 4d.—top price 45 guineas; Messrs. Needham, eight at £16 19s. 11d.; Messrs. Watson, fifteen at £15 10s. 9d.; Mr. J. Redmore, fifteen at £15 8s.—top price 42 guineas; W. Crowder and Sons, twelve at £14 12s. 3d.; Mr. C. S. Dickinson, eight at £14 6s. 1d.; Mr. J. B. Nelson, ten at £13 11s. 11d.; Mr. J. Brocklebank, fifteen at £12 17s. 7d.; Mr. T. S. Pearson Gregory, ten at £12 4s. 7d.; Mr. C. Hensman, fifteen at £11 12s. 4d.; Mr. C. M. Johnson, eleven at £9 7s. 1d.; Mr. F. Smith, eleven at £8 4s. 2d.; Major Pinder, five at £7 17s. 6d.; Sir J. H. Thorold, twenty at £7 14s. 10d.; Mr. John Evens, six at £6 18s. 3d.; Mr. R. Taylor, ten at £6 14s. 4d.; Mr. G. Langdale, fourteen at £6 14s. 3d.; and Mr. C. N. Anderson, eight at £6 4s. 8d.

Compared with the corresponding sale last year we get the following:—The 1905 sale, £5,586 for 284; average £19 7s. 5d., as against £7,616 1s. for 376 rams that averaged £20 5s. 1d. In 1905 the best price was £210; in 1906, £280; and the best average last year was £63 for ten, as against £71 3s. 1d. for thirteen this year.

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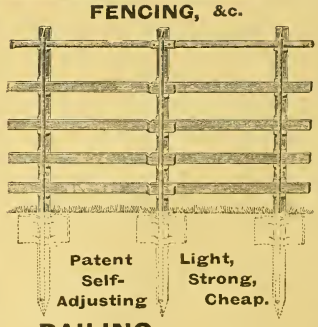

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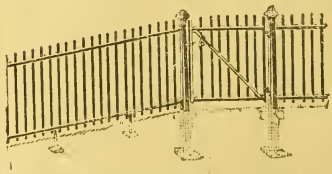

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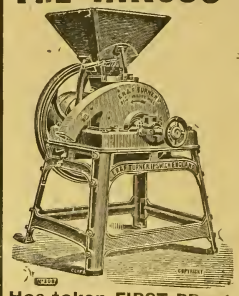

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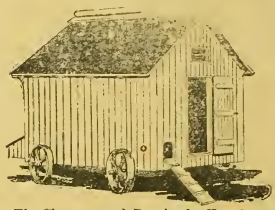

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THE WEEK'S SHEEP SALES.

Hempton Green Fair.

There was a large attendance of buyers and a full entry of sheep at Hempton Green Fair (Norfolk), on Wednesday. In all departments there was evidence of improved quality, trade was brisk in the public section, and at the auctioneer's sales of rams excellent prices were made. Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons sold Messrs. T. Brown's Cotswolds for £11 10s. per head, against £10 11s., Mr. J. P. Case's Oxford Downs averaged £8 12s. 4d., and Mr. T. A. Barton's averaged £8 12s. 5d. Messrs. John Long and Sons offered Oxford Down shearling rams, bred by Messrs. H. and G. Overman, of Weasenham, which averaged £11 14s. Mrs. Dixon's shearling rams averaged 11½ guineas, against £9 2s 6d. last year. Messrs. Paxton and Holliday also sold twenty-nine Oxford Down ram lambs for Mr. Geo. Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Faringdon, Berks. The average was £7 4s.

Bromsgrove,

Messrs. Cotton and Chappell held their annual sale on Wednesday last. The sale commenced with the lambs, when over 1,000 were on offer, and although the root crop of the district is somewhat threatened by the weather, the sale was very satisfactory. A lot of Hampshire ram lambs from Mr. A. Edwards made up to £5, while other entries realised the same figures.

Hereford.

Messrs. A. and D. Edwards's second annual special ewe and ram sale was held at the Hereford Cattle Market on Wednesday, when a good ring of buyers was present. The best prices paid for Shropshire rams were 9 guineas, 8 guineas, and 7 guineas. Other prices ranged from 6½ guineas to 5 guineas. Five guineas was the most paid for Ryeland rams, while the ram lambs reached no higher than £2 apiece. For ewes 46s. was the highest price paid, and others ranged down to 36s. and 27s. 6d. apiece.

Cirencester Fair.

At this fair on Monday upwards of 5,000 sheep were penned. Trade was better than had been anticipated. Stock ewes made up to 46s. and 48s., and shearers up to 48s. and 50s; store lambs to 42s. 6d. and 44s. 6d. Mr. R. W. Hobbs, of Kelmscott, for his thirty Oxford Down lambs, averaged over £8; Mr. J. Horlick, of Cowley Manor, averaged £7 11s. for twenty and Lord St. Aldwyn's thirty secured £5 3s. 6d; and Mr. W. Arkell, of Kempsford, £5 17s. 3d. a head for twenty-five. Hampshire Down ram lambs averaged £4.

Bury St. Edmunds Fair.

This fair was held on Tuesday. Considering the prolonged drought, there was a good trade. All the best bred ewes—which included several very fine consignments of Suffolk ewes—sold remarkably well. There was also a sharp trade for the lambs. Mr. Charles Simpson commenced the sale with the Suffolk rams, for which there was a good demand. Mr. G. B. Robbins (Moulton) sent a half-score; two made 8 guineas each, one 7 guineas, two 6½ guineas each, one 6 guineas, two 5½ guineas, and two 5 guineas each. From Mr. J. Wood's (Hengrave) consignment one animal made 8 guineas, and another 7½ guineas. Mr. H. Northend (Moulton) also sent five, and the top price reached was 8 guineas. A two-shear ram from Mr. J. T. Stockburn (Clare) made 9½ guineas, and another fetched 5 guineas, and among the shearlings from the same breeder one made 8 guineas, two 6½ guineas each, three 5½ guineas each, and one 5 guineas. Mr. R. Barclay (Higham) sent 13 ram lambs, the highest price among which was 8 guineas. From a half score sent by Mr. R. Burrell one fetched 10½ guineas, another 7 guineas, two 5½ guineas, and two more 5 guineas each. Mr. Salter disposed of the Southdown rams in a separate ring. Among those from Earl Cadogan the top price realised was £6 15s. Cotswold rams from Mr. F. Craddock (Eastington) made up to 7 guineas. Mr. Russell Swanwick's (Royal Agricultural College Farm, Cirencester) made from 8½ guineas to 5 guineas.

Battle Fair.

Success attended the twentieth annual sheep and lamb fair held at Battle on Thursday. The catalogue included some 2,500 sheep, lambs and rams, and, in the words of the auctioneer, "everything worth selling found a ready purchaser." The keen bidding resulted in very satisfactory prices being realised. Mr. F. G. Ashton, M.P., of Vinehall, made the highest figure with twenty Southdown wether lambs, which were disposed of at 35s. apiece, while other breeders made 30s. and upwards.

Peterborough Fair.

This fair was held on Wednesday, when about 200 Down ram lambs were offered for sale. The prices realised were quite satisfactory in the Hampshire classes. Ten, consigned by Mr. Walter C. Young, Stratford-sub-Castle, Salisbury, averaged 5 guineas, the highest price of 5½ guineas being given by Mr. Jas. Bonsor, Fotheringhay, and Mr. Peasgood, of Ponton. The average price for 30 sent by Mr. J. H. Dibben, Bishopstow, Salisbury, was £6 each, Mr. W. Collett, of Upwood, paying the top price of 10 guineas for one. Eighteen sent by Mr. A. F. T. Drake, Dogdean, Salisbury, averaged £5 12s., Lord Willoughby de Eresby paying 11½ guineas for one. Twelve and-a-half guineas was the highest price for one from forty sent by Mr. T. Fowell Buxton, Ware, Herts, being purchased by Mr. Bonser, of Holbeach, and the average price for the whole lot, which included three shearlings, was £5. The finest lot penned came from Mr. C. A. Scott Murray, Hambleden, Henley-on Thames, the pick of the splendid consignment going to Mr. T. Fabling, of Fotheringhay, for 18 guineas. Other prices realised were Mr. Smith, Somersham, 15 guineas, Mr. Lane, Great Addington, 15 guineas and 11½ guineas, Mr. Bonser 11 guineas and 6 guineas, and Miss Pearce, Helpston, 11½ guineas. The prices given for Sir Richard Rycroft's forty sent from Kempsholt Park, Basingstoke, ranged from 3½ guineas to 5½ guineas, and twelve from Mr. E. B. Clift, of Basingstoke, made from 3½ guineas to 5 guineas. For some Hampshire Down ram lambs, the property of Sir Alexander Henderson, Bart., the average price realised was £5. Mr. J. Heys, of Warmington, gave the top figure, 9½ guineas.

Mr. J. Kidner's Dorset Horns.

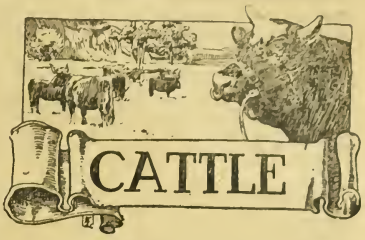
When Messrs. Ensor and Son, in conjunction with Messrs. C. R. Morris, Sons, and Peard, sold by auction on Thursday week the entire flock of pure-bred Dorset Horn sheep, the property of Mr. John Kidner, of Dodhill, Taunton, the sale attracted a large number of breeders of the celebrated Dorset Horns in the West, and excellent prices were realised. Full-mouth ewes made 68s., six-tooth ewes from 49s. to 100s., four-tooth ewes from 57s. to 90s., shearling ewes from 49s to 126s., and ewe lambs from 37s. to 58s. Wether lambs realised from 37s. to 45s. 6d., and ram lambs from 3½ guineas to 18 guineas.

Sale of the late Mr. J. P. Cross' Shorthorns.

On Friday last the herd of Shorthorns bred by the late Mr. J. P. Cross, of Catthorpe Towers, Rugby, was sold by auction in the presence of a large company, Messrs. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. It had been bred for very many years purely as a dairy herd, and animals sold from it have not only given large yields of milk, but have won numerous prizes at the London Dairy and other shows; it was, therefore, not a matter of surprise that breeders were attracted to the sale from far and near. Nearly all the animals were red in colour, and showed considerable uniformity. From first to last the prices were highly satisfactory, three of them made three figures, and many ran up to from 50 to 90 guineas. Mr. C. L. Agnew bought lot 2, Catthorpe Duchess Sarah at 45 guineas, Veronica 3rd at 51 guineas, and Catthorpe Nonpareil 56 guineas. Lot 4, a big fine cow, was taken by Mr. Bagnell at 52 guineas, and Carrie 25th, lot 50, by Mr. Hornby at 50 guineas. Lot 9 was Wild Cran, bred by Mr. George Taylor, and she was knocked down to Lord Tredegar at 155 guineas, this being the top price of the day. Sir Oswald Mosley paid 90 guineas for Catthorpe Star, a three-year-old cow, and 115 guineas for a two-year-old Catthorpe Cranberry. Mr. G. C. Williams, of Cardiff, bought several, of which Darlington Cranford 13th 64 guineas, and Catthorpe Celia 8th 86 guineas, were perhaps the best. Mr. George Taylor gave 100 guineas for a two-year-old heifer, Catthorpe Celia 10th, Mr. J. C. Robinson 60 guineas for a cow, and Mr. Hobbs 60 guineas, Mr. Scott-Murray 54 guineas, Mr. Rodocanacha 56 guineas, and Lord Southampton 55 guineas for yearling heifers. A pretty yearling named Catthorpe Cranberry 2nd was bought by Colonel Beech at 85 guineas.

The two stud bulls Valiant and Lord Fisher oddly enough made the same figure, 41 guineas each, the former going to Mr. Townsend, and the latter to Mr. Wilson. There was a good trade for the younger bulls, although they did not make such high prices as the females. Catthorpe Bravery made 38 guineas to Mr. E. H. Bevan, Catthorpe Conservative 60 guineas to Lord Willoughby D'Eresby, Catthorpe Testator 38 guineas to Mr. J. McMonies, and Catthorpe Rouge 45 guineas to Mr. C. Bathurst. The forty-nine cows averaged £50 all but a few pence, the eleven bulls £36 5s. 5d., and the total of the sale was £2,848 2s. 6d.

Catalogues are now ready of the sale of Lincoln sheep which will take place on Thursday, the 13th, at Sleaford. Messrs. Hincks, Earl, and Lawrence have received entries of 3,714 breeding threaves and ewes, 171 Lincoln rams. The judges for the prizes will be Messrs. Henry Duddery, of Riby, and B. Rowland, of Fishtoft. This sale is one of the largest and oldest established of Lincoln breeding sheep in the county.



Notes and Jottings.

SINCE my last notes were penned the abnormal heat experienced has played terrible havoc with the pastures and root crops, particularly swedes, and has quite blighted the outlook for the stockbreeder during the next six or seven months, as the prospect for good autumn grass is now very bad, and the turnips and swedes that survive mildew can scarcely be expected to prove ordinarily nutritious. Cake and other artificial food can, however, make up very considerably for the loss of the above-mentioned roots and grass so far as the store stock are concerned, and at a comparatively easy cost; but when we come to the matter of beef and milk there is scarcely any means of keeping things going at a profit without a good and plentiful supply of roots.

MILK appears almost to have assumed famine dimensions, and this so rapidly as to have raised prices in many places. Many dairy farmers met with during the past few days have expressed themselves as being quite unable to fill their usual complement of churns, either by increased artificial feeding or by the purchase of more newly-calved cows. Prospects for dairying look very blue indeed for the coming winter. The best grazing districts have been depleted of a very large proportion of their fatted cattle, too, earlier than usual on account of the drought, water being as difficult to obtain in many cases as feed. The bullocks left in the feeding section, however, are looking in better condition than might have been expected.

THE show season still continues going strong, though now mostly confined to district shows and local tenant farmers' stock. These shows are excellent places for farmers and breeders to see what is going on, and equally good for them to decide upon the purchase of a bull should they be requiring such a thing. Not only can they have the assistance of other people's opinions which vary so considerably, that in looking at any animal the inexperienced would-be buyer is certain to have both the vices and virtues it possesses pointed out to him, for one seldom finds two or three people appreciating precisely the same points and the same animal, and the one who does not approve of a certain animal gives his opinion very freely, pointing out its shortcomings, whilst the man whose tastes the beast exactly suits will be equally enthusiastic in pointing out its superior properties, so that the buyer, in a very few minutes, is able to benefit by other people's opinions and experience as well as his own.

THEN, usually these autumn shows are but one-day affairs, and it is often so arranged nowadays that several district shows are held within a couple or three weeks in a comparatively small radius, so that fresh animals and people may be interviewed and reviewed with very little trouble. Vastly more may be learned by attending a few of these shows than by visiting a whole number of herds at home privately, and stock from different herds can be compared so much more satisfactorily and opinions formed when seen side by side in the showyard than when seen at miles distant, apart.

FROM the above point of view it will be seen how beneficial it is for farmers to attend these shows occasionally, as well as some of the more extensive shows in their season. Many new ideas will be given them whilst travelling in the train to and from the shows, as well as while standing at the ring-side, and when looking at the stock afterwards in their stalls in the show, where the judge's ideal may be at least in a measure ascertained. There is an old adage which says "The rolling stone gathers no moss," but there is such a thing as staying at home to the loss of any valuable experience which may be obtained at a very small cost now. Some of our railway companies might do much more than they do at present in facilitating farmers' visits to these shows.

DURING last week the great autumnal show and sale of Shorthorns was held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, when the unprecedented number for an autumn sale of over 400 head were catalogued. The general quality of the autumn

show and sale is invariably of a lower standard than that of the spring exhibition and sale, and this year the difference was fully as marked as upon previous occasions. The foreign buyer has been very busy this year, and every show of importance has witnessed his presence, picking and choosing the best animals so long as their pedigree was eligible for his purpose. It is not to be wondered at, then, that the supply of "top notches," as our American friends style the best, should be forward in somewhat limited numbers.

IT was satisfactory, however, to find that there were buyers in plenty for the best specimens, some for home use, some for American, and rather a good number for the Continent of Europe, and 200 guineas, which was obtained in several instances, is not a price to complain of under the conditions stated above and at such a time as the present. The judges of the female classes seemed to have paid greater attention than usual to the milking properties of the stock than has many times been the case, and perhaps the same remarks may be applied to the exhibits, for in looking through the catologued pedigrees it will be found that a very considerable percentage of milk-bred animals were included, Bates blood being prominent in quite a number of very good bulls as well as females.

SEVERAL rather extensive auctions of Polled Angus cattle have taken place recently in America, and very satisfactory prices realised, or at least prices and averages that place the business on a footing as regards profit and loss that should give breeders confidence for the future of the breed. Averages of £40 and over of English money is an improvement as compared with many sales of the past twelve months. The time of year for this breed to assert its most valuable properties will soon be here, and reports lead us to anticipate some high-class specimens at Norwich, Birmingham, and Smithfield, when those important shows take place. It is to be hoped that ere the shadows lengthen and those days arrive beef will be in better demand and at advances in price than at present; otherwise profits on the job will be very limited.

IRISH cattle are coming out remarkably well this year, the season in the Emerald Isle has been very satisfactory, as referred to in last week's notes. Just before sitting down to pen these lines I looked over a special train load of extraordinary good Shorthorn bullocks from that green island on their way to the metropolis. Big aged bullocks and well fed. It is not every day that one can see bullocks of that stamp now. Growth was evidently over with them, and their last few months had been devoted to the laying on of flesh, a time when it can be put on much more cheaply than when growth has to be carried on at the same time. A fully matured beast fattens very rapidly when his quality is good, as is seen by the short time required to fatten a cow that may chance to have proved barren or has been kept in that state purposely.

HEREFORDS continue to hold a very high position with the foreign buyers for several different countries. The Hereford breed of cattle stand heat and drought as well as most breeds; indeed we have many times during dry summers and scarce feed found the Hereford in better condition as regards ripeness and weight of beef than any other breed. This has been the case in many pastures during the present summer, and at the present time some excellent herds of fat Hereford bullocks are to be seen upon pastures so sunburnt as to be scarcely distinguishable from stubble fields. Travelling with a friend the other day, and discussing the difficulties of fattening cattle under the conditions of heat and flies coupled with scarcity of feed that has recently prevailed, the opinion was expressed that the North Devon was even a better feeder than the Hereford, being less terrorised by the flies and less affected by the heat, properties that help immensely in putting on flesh at such times The Hereford and North Devon are both, however, very good to own at such times.

Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's Dexters.

At the sale of Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's Dexters, at Wyndthorpe, near Doncaster, on Friday week, 40 guineas was paid for Gastonia, a two-year-old cow, by Mr. J. Hay; 30 guineas for Genista, by Mr. T. A. Clarke; 34 guineas by Miss Lucy Bethell for Gentiana; and 22 guineas for Gagia by Dr. Stone. Good purchases were also made by the Duchess of Newcastle, Mr. Colin Campbell, Mr. G. H. Davy, and Mr. B. de Bertadayo. A number of Berkshire pigs were also sold at an average price of nearly £7, the principal purchasers being Messrs. Campbell, Cameron, Hoyles, and Watson.

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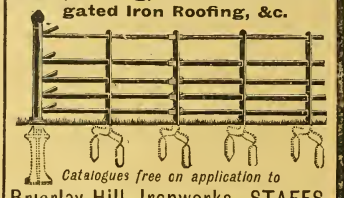

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Sale of the Earl of Feversham's Shorthorns.

On Tuesday the herd of Shorthorns, as well as a number of young Jersey cattle, Leicester and Southdown sheep, the property of the Right Hon. the Earl of Feversham, was sold by auction at Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorkshire, by Messrs. Thornton and Co.

A very large company sat down to luncheon in a spacious tent previous to the sale. The Earl of Feversham presided, and he was supported by Lord Helmsley, M.P. (the heir to the estate), Sir George Wombwell, Bart., Sir Richard Graham, Bart., Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., the Hon. H. W. Fitzwilliam, and a great number of prominent breeders and gentlemen. The herd is one of the oldest in the kingdom, and has been bred principally from the Bates blood for nearly a hundred years. The animals for sale included some grand cows and heifers of the Duchess, Waterloo, Cleveland, Craggs, and other good tribes.

The first cow, Lady Cleveland 35th, was bought by Mr. J. Watt, of Carlisle, at 40 guineas, who later in the sale also took her brother, Lord Cleveland 33rd, at 35 guineas. Caledonia Waterloo, lot 3, must be worth the 38 guineas Mr. W. Thompson paid for her, as her three heifers were particularly good and made 60 guineas and 95 guineas to Lord Middleton, and 35 guineas to Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. Mr. J. A. Williams bought a fine cow with a rare udder in Thorndale Belle 2nd, bred by Mr. George Taylor, at 50 guineas, and Mr. T. H. Hutchinson another highly-bred specimen in Warrior's Lady, at 70 guineas. Mr. W. Savage, buying for the Argentine, was an extensive purchaser; among his lots were Warrior's Maid, 66 guineas; Cheshire Princess, 125 guineas; Lady Cleveland 41st, 75 guineas; Golden Pride, 100 guineas; and Lady Matilda, 95 guineas, the last two being the property of Mr. R. Hornsby, of Hovingham. Sir Oswald Mosley was announced as the buyer of several nice young females, Susanna, 47 guineas, and Rose of Rievaulx, 41 guineas, being among them. Viscount Helmesley bought a splendid pair of heifers of the old Cleveland blood, at 81 guineas and 93 guineas, with the object, it was announced, of founding a new herd. Captain Duncombe paid 100 guineas for a sweet yearling of the Waterloo family, and Mr. C. H. Joliffe got a Thorndale Rose heifer of Mr. George Scoby's at 46 guineas. A pretty calf, also of Waterloo blood, was selected by Mr. Rodocanachi at 67 guineas for his new herd in Warwickshire.

Dr. Malbrau, from the Argentine, was a good customer for the bulls, as he took three of the best. These were Gypsy King, 66 guineas, now four years old, a grand masculine animal, and a proved sire; also Trusty Lord, 54 guineas, and Rhombus, 85 guineas, both of which belonged to Mr. Hornsby. Mr. T. Stamper also sent a stylish young bull, which made 67 guineas, to Messrs. Medd and Moon.

The sale was considered highly satisfactory, as the forty Shorthorns realised the good average of £57.

Ten Jersey cows were sold at 15 guineas apiece, the best price, 23 guineas, being given by Mr. W. S. Hunter. Others made from 12 to 16 guineas, and Sir George Wombwell, Sir R. Graham, and Mrs. Hamerton, were the chief purchasers.

Thirty Leicester sheep were offered and made up to 62s. a pen, and the same number of Southdowns, which reached 51s. for a pen. Messrs. Walker and Sons, of York, afterwards disposed of a few young horses, mostly young Hunters. The following were the prices:—Bay gelding, 58 guineas (Sir George Wombwell, Bart.); black gelding, 80 guineas (Mr. T. H. Hutchinson); bay mare, 70 guineas (Mr. W. Brown); brown gelding, 68 guineas (Mr. W. Brown); brown gelding, 25 guineas (Mr. T. H. Hutchinson); bay filly, 25 guineas (Mr. Barker).

The grand total of the sale was £3,023 13s. 6d.

Aberdeen-Angus Sales.

Mr. W. S. Ferguson's.

The first of the September sales of Aberdeen-Angus cattle was held on Tuesday, when a draft from the well-known herd the property of Mr. W. S. Ferguson, of Kinochty, Coupar Angus, was dispersed. Bidding stated at a steady rate, and at the fourth turn Mr. Fraser, Balgarvie, paid 30 guineas for the fine big cow Alicia of Pitpointie by Erica Lad, out of the excellent breeder Alice II. of Powrie, by Norfolk V. Mr. Ralston immediately after took a sweet breeding like cow in Pattern of Preston of the Rose of Drumin family at 24 guineas. An Irish customer, Mr. Moorhead, had perhaps the second best of the cows in lot six, Vine Pride of Lidnock, a six year-old of taking character, and, like most of her companions, an early calver, the price in this case being 35 guineas. For Princess IX. of Moncrieffe, a compact six-year-old by the show bull Clansman of Fordie, Mr. Cridlam left 30 guineas, but Colonel Smith Grant immediately after went to 42 guineas for Extract of Benton. The best cow of the collection was Mistress Nellie, the pretty five-year-old Ruth, which won second at the Highland, and for her Mr. Bainbridge's representative went to 53 guineas. The best of the two-year-old heifers came first on the list, this being a smart Pride, which passed to Auchorachan at 48 guineas. The noted bull Echador and the three-year-old Engager were offered, but as the reserve figures were not reached these animals were withdrawn.

The sale realised £1,094 2s., or an average for 45 head sold of £24 6s. 3d.

Mr. T. Buttar's.

Following the sale at Kinochtry on Tuesday, the herd belonging to Mr. Thos. A. Buttar, of Corston, Coupar Angus, was dispersed. Mr. Buttar has been obliged to part with his blacks in consequence of the growing importance of his Shorthorn herd. The best price for cows was 29 guineas, paid by Mr. James Whyte, on behalf of Lord Strathmore, for Corston Pride 4th. Mr. Ferguson took the best of the two-year-olds, Sabrina 3rd of Corston, the Angus Show fourth prize-taker, at 41 guineas, her figure being the leading one for the day. The yearling heifer went cheap, several of these being of quite a promising order.

The sale total was £818 9s. 6d., or an average for forty-seven head of £17 8s. 3d.

Perth Joint Sales.

The third sale took place on Thursday at the Perth Auction Mart, the disposal being a joint one There was something of a drag towards the finish for some of the bulls. Mr. Chalmers secured from Mr. Ralston, Glamis, the top price of the day, 65 guineas, for the eight-year-old Eutoca, a big, naturally fleshed Erica. The runner-up for this good cow was Mr. Bainbridge's representative, who had experience of Eutoca's sire in the Eshott herd. Some five minutes later Mr. Calder paid 46 guineas for Eudocia of Preston, a fine quality seven-year of Mr. Chalmer's, and by the Champion Proud Duke of Ballindallock. A yearling daughter of Eutoca was taken to Glamis at 49 guineas. Mr. Crichton, the Culdees factor, had the fortune to secure a good start at 39 guineas from Mr. Grant, Auchernach, Strathspey, for Culdees Erica, a most useful cow out of a Prince Inca dam. A beautiful heifer calf at her foot by Edridge (23085) was taken out for the Drummondfold herd at 30 guineas. Culdees Erica 2nd, a half-sister to the cow already noted, but only a five-year-old, and in excellent calving season, met fairly brisk competition, her destiny being Baltimore at 50 guineas. Mr. Robb, Belfast, secured her handsome bull calf at 18½ guineas. A daughter of the Prince Inca cow was turned out a little later, also at the even 50, to Mr. Stewart, Carse of Trowan, Crieff. Out of the two-year-old heifer group, Mr. David Cross, of Ingliston, had clearly the pick at 20 guineas each in Maya of Auchnaguie and Rosana from Batsford Park. The leading figure for bulls was 29 guineas, paid by Mr. Davidson, the Caithness breeder, for Colonel M'Inroy's yearling Arrogant (24107), a dashing representative of the Pride family.

For fifteen cows Lord Redesdale had £258 6s., an average of £17 8s. 4d.; five two year-old heifers £74 11s., average £14 18s. 2d.; one yearling heifer £17 6s. 6d.; fourteen bulls and bull calves £163 16s., average £11 14s.; five heifer calves £45 3s., average £9 0s. 7d. Ten cows from Culdees fetched £295 1s., average £29 10s. 1d.

Mr. J. E. A. Gwynne's Sussex.

On Wednesday Mr. J. E. A. Gwynne's Folkington herd of Pedigree Sussex cattle was brought under the hammer of Messrs. A. Burtenshaw and Sons, auctioneers, of Hailsham and Eastbourne, at Milton Court, Alfriston, in consequence of two of the farms being let.

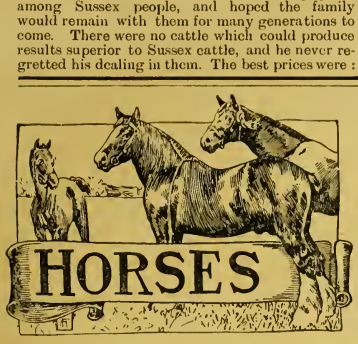
Sir L. Lindsay-Hogg presided at the luncheon, and referred to the good example which Mr.

OIL and GAS ENGINES are growing more than ever in demand, and would be still further "boomed" if regularly advertised in the "Mark Lane Express."

Gwynne had set to landlords in the county by farming his own land. He pointed out that Mr. Gwynne started his herd with the very best blood obtainable, and had a herd of 500 or 600 cattle. He regretted that they had so many animals perfectly useless for breeding at the sales and shows. Mr. Gwynne said he had been for thirty years among Sussex people, and hoped the family would remain with them for many generations to come. There were no cattle which could produce results superior to Sussex cattle, and he never regretted his dealing in them. The best prices were:

Cows.—Good Old Sort 10th (calved August, 1901), Mr. Stanford, 15 guineas; her bull calf (April, 1906), Mr. C. F. Russell, East Dean, 6½ guineas; Fairmaid 8th, in calf (August, 1899), Mr. H. S. Greaves, 17½ guineas; Gentle Lady 30th (May, 1902), Mr. W. A. Haviland, 17 guineas; Celestia 10th (April, 1902), Mr. Knight, 14½ guineas; her bull calf, weaned (December, 1905), Mr. Minchin, Henfield, 7 guineas.

Bulls.—Folkington Fortune (April, 1902) and Bewbush Baron (January, 1901), bought by Mr. Poole for 13½ and 14½ guineas, respectively.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

ONE of the most successful of show seasons is rapidly drawing to a close, and perhaps there is no more fitting time for reviewing the situation, and considering whether we have made any progress as a horse-breeding nation, and, if so, what progress have we made. For we cannot, in an important industry like this, stand still. We must either go forward or go back. And there are not wanting grumblers who say we have gone back and are going back; that the show horses are in the hands of a few men; that the judges dare not, or will not, go against them; that showing is going to the dogs; and that there is scarcely a good horse to be found in the length and breadth of the land, with the exception, perhaps, of a few Shire horses, and even they are hairy legged and short of stamina.

I MET one of my grumbling friends a short time ago. He is a fine judge of a horse-but he could see nothing good in our horses of the present day, except one or two good, looking young ones he had picked up. I should say that he never shows, but if he did his horses would be amongst them. I asked him if any of the few men who win all the prizes—according to his statement—were to come to him with a big cheque for one of his horses whether he would take it. The answer was, as I expected it would be, in the affirmative. Of course he would, and those people who are continually pointing out that the bulk of the prizes go into the hands of a few so called professional exhibitors forget that these gentlemen can afford to give a great deal more money for a good horse than anyone else; that it answers their purpose to do so, and that they can afford to spend a great deal more time and money in getting their horses fit than the general run of exhibitors can. They win because they lay themselves out to win. They have judgment, enterprise, and perseverance; they make showing the business of their lives, and they succeed. And they deserve to succeed.

SO much for the prizes going into few hands. Now let us look at the class of horses that have won these prizes. Let us begin with the Thoroughbreds. Now the Thoroughbred of the day is a favourite topic with the grumbler, and "leggy," "weedy," "no stamina," are a few of the pet phrases by which he is described. There are far too many leggy, unsound weeds, but let us examine the Thoroughbreds that come into the show ring. And first of all, let us take the King's Premium horses. I have attended every show of the King's and Queen's Premium horses that has been held, and I was also at the show of Thoroughbred stallions at Newcastle in 1887, and I have no hesitation in saying that the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding has every reason to be satisfied with the progress that has been made. The horses that won eighteen years ago—aye, or for the matter of that, ten years ago or eight years ago, would have had a poor "look in" in a strong class this year, with perhaps one or two brilliant exceptions. And it must not be forgotten, when comparing the King's Premium stallions of to-day with those of former years, that if the competition against the Royal Commission on Horsebreeding was strong eighteen years ago it is much stronger now, and good Thoroughbred stallions were never more in demand than they are at present. In another direction, too, the Thoroughbred shows considerable improvement. One is apt to forget when one has not taken a note, but it has struck the writer very forcibly that we have more good Thoroughbred mares—good-sized, wide, roomy mares with a fair amount of bone—shown in the Hunter classes than we had a few years ago. This is a good sign. Of course, there are not so many as one could wish to see, but there are a few, and they are more in evidence than they were.

THEN let us take the Hunters, confining ourselves first to what may be termed the breeding classes. At most shows I have visited this year the Hunter brood mares have been decidedly good, and such a thing as a bad show of brood mares I have scarcely come across. There have been some weak classes—weak, that is, numerically—but that is easily accounted for. Then let us look for a moment at the young classes—yearlings, two-year-olds, and three-year-olds. What a fine lot of young Hunters there are in the country, in spite of all that the grumblers have to say about them. Good-looking, well-bred young horses that look like growing into weight-carriers are more in evidence than they used to be. There is a great deal to desire in many of them, no doubt, but one cannot have everything at once, and we are moving in the right direction.

ABOUT the made Hunters I shall not say much, though I am of opinion that they will compare with any of a previous year. One thing, however, seems to be of the greatest importance in these classes, and that is that the weight-carriers show a great deal more quality and are more bloodlike in their action than was the case formerly. The weight-carriers of ten years ago even would not show to advantage beside those of to-day.

THE improvement in Shire horses during the last few years is remarkable. It is not so very many years ago that sidebones were a constant source of rejection, that Shire horses were upright on their pasterns, and greasy-legged, when they got a few years over their backs. Their feather was coarse and curly, and their feet were anything but perfect. What an improvement there is in all these respects! Sidebones are never heard of at a show, or very seldom, and the Shire horse of the day has razor shaped bone of flinty texture, and is as correct on the ground as one could wish, whilst such a thing as "grease" is rarely seen or heard of.

ABOUT the Hackney it is not so easy to speak. For some reason or another at many shows where the Hackney was once strongly in evidence, there was a great falling off in the Hackney classes. Not in quality, anything but that, for amongst the best end of the Hackneys the quality has been well maintained. But anyone seeing the numerically weak classes at the Yorkshire and at many Yorkshire shows such as Malton, Driffield, Pocklington, &c., would be inclined to think at first sight that Hackney breeding was on the decline. This, however, is a conclusion to which I cannot come just at present. To begin with, it is not compatible with the London Show in March, which was probably the best show of Hackneys ever held in England. Then, again, if in many places where Hackneys used to be seen in great numbers the classes have been small, I have seen some useful classes in districts where a few years ago very few, if any, Hackneys were shown. Perhaps the small classes of breeding animals—for it is in the breeding classes and young classes that the falling off has principally been—are due to the breed being a little more spread about and to the exceptional excellence of a few individuals. At any rate, I shall be disappointed if we do not see an improvement in the number of Hackneys shown next year.

CLEVELAND Bays and Yorkshire Coach Horses are very seldom seen at shows out of Yorkshire, but there certainly seems to have been a little more briskness amongst breeders than there has been for some years. Some excellent young stock of both breeds has been exhibited, and there is a number of good looking young mares coming on. Some very interesting, if not very large classes have been seen at many of the shows—notably at the Yorkshire and Middlesborough—and there is considerable improvement on four or five years ago, when things were in very low water.

NOW it must not be supposed that I think this the best of all possible worlds as regards horse breeding—far from it. There is a great deal of room for improvement, not only in the rank and file of the various breeds, but even amongst the best end of them. We cannot afford to let an opportunity for improvement go by. In mating our mares, in managing them and their off-spring, there must be unremitting attention to details, and above all we cannot afford to part with our mares. Let no man think, because he sees a good class or two of horses or of brood mares, that we have plenty of good brood mares in the country, and that he can, therefore, sell to the foreigner. The temptation is great, I admit, especially when times are hard and the foreigner will give a little more than an ordinary market price. But a man who sells a good brood mare is probably selling a small gold mine.

I CAME across an instance of a man refusing to sell a filly foal a week or two ago. He is a farmer farming a not very large holding. He had a very good brood mare some years ago, and she had a very fine filly foal. For this foal he was bid £30—a good price as filly foals were selling at the time. But he refused, saying that he would never sell a filly from the old mare till she bred him another. And she bred him several colts after that, and before she bred him another filly the first one was breeding herself. And she has bred him many a good horse—I believe every one of them prize-winners; and he is, undoubtedly, a much richer man than he would have been had he sold the foal. The foal might have died, you say. Yes, and the money might have been wasted in the honest endeavour to make more of it.

I HAVE purposely refrained from mentioning any names in the above notes. Plenty of instances in confirmation of what I have stated will occur to those who have gone the round of the shows examining carefully for themselves the various classes. And though, as I have said, there is a great deal to do yet—aye, and will be a hundred years hence—I think I have shown that horse breeders need not despair, and that they have done not so very badly—at any rate, in recent years.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor reports as follows:—Pitch about 60 tons; good attendance of buyers, which produced a fairly brisk trade. Prices: Best, 64s to 67s 6d; medium, 60s to 63s; lower grades down to 50s. A good clearance was effected.

Sheep Dog Trials at Ruthin.—In the open stakes on Thursday seventeen dogs competed, and the winner was Lady, who is owned by Mr. W. Arkrigg, of Garsdale, Sedbergh. Lady manipulated sheep around flags and through hurdles, and gained 60 points for an excellent exhibition. Trip, owned by Mr. J. Moses, Oswestry, was second with 58 points. Dust, Mr. George Bancroft's famous dog, had 55 points. Mr. Arkrigg's Lady and Laddie won the special stakes for two dogs.

The well-known fair at Barnet was held last week when there were few cattle to be seen and a strong show of horses. The cattle consisted chiefly of two-year-old Irish Shorthorn crossbreds, with a few half-bred Dexters. There were no Herefords, Devons, or Scots, while dairy cows were eagerly competed for. The trade in horses was very brisk, there being a strong demand for good animals of any breed. The average price for heavy, strong horses was 30 guineas, while 50 guineas was paid for a young bay gelding. There were several Hackneys on the common, one fine horse realising 60 guineas. There were few ponies, being mostly Welsh, which were sold for an average of £12 to £15. The real strength of the horses were the coh and small horse classes.

PUMPING MACHINERY
is always required amongst the class of readers who regularly take the "Mark Lane Express"—the larger farmers and estate owners.

Radiol
THE NEW CHEMICAL LIQUID.
REMOVES, by radiation, all soft swellings that disfigure a Horse, such as Wind-galls, Bog Spavin, Thoroughpin, Capped Elbow, &c. No blister; no laying up; no hair removed. It is less harmful than water to a Horse's skin, the swellings simply disappear not to return. It makes a worn Horse's legs fine.—5/- of Chemists, or post free
RADIOL LABORATORY,
St. George's Mansions,
WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.
WIND-GALL Write for Illustrated Booklet. T.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
September				
11	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury	Shropshire Sheep	Shrawardine, Shrewsbury	Mr. A. Tanner.
11	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, Peterboro'	Horses	Derby Horse Repository	Various.
12	Mr. J. Kidd, Penrith	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
12	Mr. J. Pearse, Plymouth	South Devon Cattle	Higher Leigham Farm, Egg Buckland	Messrs. Butland Bros. and W. J. Crossing, Plympton
12	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Hackneys, &c.	Normans Rupper, Horsham	Mr. W. Ward-Hargrave and Mr. J. Wallis.
12	Messrs Waters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Store Sheep	Wilton Sheep Fair	Various.
12	Messrs. Morriss, Marshall & Poole, Craven Arms	Ponies, Cattle and Sheep	Bledffa, Llangunllo	Radnorshire Polo and Riding Pony Co.
12	Mr. H. P. Stace, Brockley	Ponies and Brood Mares	Finmere, Oxon.	Mrs Hunloke.
12	Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs, Ashford	Kent Sheep	Newingreen, Kent	Various.
13	Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs	Kent Sheep	Wye, Kent	Various.
13	Messrs Hincks, Earl, and Lawrence, Sleaford	Lincoln Sheep	Sleaford	Various.
13 & 14	Messrs A. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrewsbury, Smithfield	Various.
12, 13, & 14	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Crewe	Hackneys	Crewe Repository	Various.
13	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Edinburgh	Mr G. Adams and Mr. W. Hobb.
13	Messrs. Winterton and Son, Lichfield	Sheep	Lichfield	Various.
14	Messrs Moody and Son, Evercreech	Horses, &c.	Eve crecch	Various.
14	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Kelso	Mr. G. Adams and Mr. W. Hobb.
14	Mr. F. L. Crow, Dorking	Sussex Cattle	Leigh, Reigate, Surrey	Mr. H. Bell.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, London, W.	Berkshire Pigs	Stratton, Dorchester	Mr. W. J. Chicks.
14	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Churchill, Moy, co. Armagh	Mr. H. J. Verner and Mr. J. Atkinson.
14	Messrs. Walker, Walter, and Benson, Melton Mowbray	Horses	Melton Mowbray	Various
14	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Spalding	Mr. E. W. Gooch.
14	Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs	Kent Sheep	Ashford	Various.
15	Messrs. Hampson, Bros., Buxton	Horses	Fairfield Stud Farm, Buxton	Mr. A. D. Hazlewood.
15, 19, & 21	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Sheep and Lambs	Carlisle Auction Mart	Various.
17	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, & Co., Ltd, Perth	Clydesdale Horses	Perth Auction Mart	Various.
18	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Red Polled Cattle	Didlington, Brandon	Lord Amherst.
18	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Birtley, co Durham	The late Mr. Perkins.
18	Messrs. E. A. Young and Son, Alford	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Partney Sheep Fair	Mr. L. W. Stephenson.
18, 19, & 21	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Hackneys	Cheshire Repository, Crewe	Various.
18	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Hunters	High Ercall Hall, Wellington, Salop	Mr. J. H. James-Moore.
18	Messrs Lloyd and Thomas, Carmarthen	Shorthorn Cattle	Berry Hill, Newport, Pem.	Mr. G W. Bower.
19	Mr. F. Charles, St. Albans	Horses	St. Alban's Repository	Various.
19	Messrs. Paxton & Holiday, Bicester	Oxford Down Sheep	Northampton Ram Fair	Various.
19	Mr. J. Kidd	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
19	———	Horses and Ponies	Seaham Harbour	Seaham Harbour Stud Co.
19	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Eshott, Northumberland	Mr. Bainbridge.
19	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Northampton	Mr. G. Adams and Mr. W. Hobbs.
19	Messrs. W. Dew and Sons, Bangor	Welsh Black Cattle, &c.	Tan y-Fynwent Farm, Aber	Mr. T. Roberts
20	Messrs. Benjamin Simons and Co., Holbeach	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Holbeach	Mr. J. S. Patchett.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Haughton Castle, Humshaugh, Northumberland	Mr. W. D. Cruddas.
20	Mr. J. Kidd	Breeding Sheep	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
20	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Sheep, &c.	Woodhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Mr. C. Calder.
20	Messrs. R. Leonard and Sons, Preston, Hull	Hackneys, &c.	Burstwick Stud Farm, near Hull.	Mr. D. R. Sowerby.
20	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Louth	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Great Coates, near Grimsby	Mr. R. Garniss.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Red Polled Cattle	Crabhill Farm, Nutfield Surrey	Mr. R. F. Henderson.
20	Messrs C. R. Robinson and Son, North Curry, near Taunton	Cattle	Capton Farm, Williton, near Taunton	Mr. A. Bowerman.
20	Messrs R. Harrison and Son	Sheep	Lockerbie	Various.
20	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son	Sheep	Kelso	Various.
20	Mr. W. Bainbridge, Warrington	Kerry Cattle and Pigs	Walton Hall, Warrington	Sir G. Greenall, Bart.
21	Messrs. Rumball and Edwards, St. Albans	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Woodhall, near Hemel Hempstead	Mr. A. F. Umfreville.
21	Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons, Bury-St. Edmunds	Shire Horses	Little Wilnetham Hall	Mr. J. Sturley Nunn.
21	———	Southdown Sheep	Lewes Fair	Various.
21	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Oakfield, Mortimer, Berks	Mr. Tyser and Mr. Wills.
21	Messrs. Neasom and White, Bromsgrove	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	Alvechurch Shire Stud, near Birmingham	Mr. Clement Heynes.
21	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Louth Ram Fair	Various.
22	Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Garston Farm, Bolney, Sussex.	Lord Auckland.
24	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Gosberton, near Spalding	Mr. R. Mowbray.
25	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons, Ipswich	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
25	Messrs. Howkin and Sons, Rugby	Foals	Rugby	Various.
25	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants	The late Miss L. C. Standish.
25	Messrs. Tattersall	Polo and Riding Ponies	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants	The late Miss L. C. Standish.
25	Messrs. Turner, Rudge, and Turner, East Grinstead	Horses, &c.	Brook Farm, Tanridge	Mr. M. Michealis.
26	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Lilford, Oundle	Lord Lilford.
26	Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son, Lincoln	Shorthorn Cattle	Harn Hall, Holbeach	Mr. H. C. Tinsley.
27	Mr. F. Charles	Shorthorn Cattle and Berkshire Pigs	Radlett	Mr. R. C. Phillimore.
27	Messrs. Lythall and Walters, Birmingham	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	English Aberdeen-Angus Association.
27	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons	Hackneys	Manoravon, Llandilo, S. Wales	Mr. Evan Jones.
27	Mr. J. Kidd	Sheep and Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
27	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Cotterstock Manor Farm, near Oundle	Mr. Everitt King.
27	Messrs. H. F. Russell and Son, Pembridge, R.S.O	Hereford Cattle	Glanusk	The late Lord Glanusk.
28	———	Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep	Ashford	Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Asson.
28	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Cattle and Sheep	Shrewsbury Cattle Mart	Various.
28	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Chipping Norton Junction	Various.
28	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Peterborough Repository	Various.
28	Messrs. Nightingale, Philips and Page, Kingston-on-Thames	Hunters, &c.	Brookleigh Stud, Esher	Mr. E. W. Robinson.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leigh ton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

WHITEHEAD, Robert. Fashionably-bred Mares, Fillies, in natural condition on Sale. Stallions: Bodenham King 17177, Whitton Prince Alfred 22330. — Apply, CLIFFORD, MOCKLOW, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Sta., Telegr. Miller's Dale (2 miles).

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

HUNT, Mrs. Witham, Findon, Sussex.—Carefully inbred Hackneys for sale, suitable for export; moderate prices. Blood: Denmark, Connaught, Danegelt, Lord Derby II.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales, Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Herlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Rough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by these celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Sage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonisor 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowons, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers. —Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1905, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gns., the record price; 78 averaged £20 18s each. Selections always for sale

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.).*

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Herlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or cross-ing.

FOR SALE.—Reasonable prices. Fine Black-faced SUFFOLK RAMS, from Lord Cranworth's Registered Prize Flock. Capital Cross for White-faced or Half-bred Ewes.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, Norfolk.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

GALALAW (late MELLENDEAN).—Border Leicesters. Through long and careful breeding have inherent the best qualities of the breed; style, symmetry, pure colours, and good wool. Sales in September at Edinburgh and Kelso Ram Sales, and by private treaty at any time.—Messrs. SMITH, Galalaw, Kelso, N.B.

PIGS.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Mobile Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

BEVAN, C., Maple Durham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

LARGE WHITES.
COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes, won at the **Royal Highland, Bath and West,** and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U S A International Exposition, 1904,** as breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and also **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large White only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Basset, Notts.

Continued on next page).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 cards, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM TOWNSEND, The Mansc, Stroud, Glos.

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Suspended Animation.

We have arrived at the close of our hop year, and our interest in its history has practically ceased. We are now as it were "between the lights," and waiting for the dawn of a new day and a new season. The plantations are busy enough gathering in their harvest, anxiously inquiring, "What will the harvest be?"

Here in London we are waiting, in almost a comatose state, for some definite indication of the future course of events. Not only in England, but throughout the whole range of the hop world, suspense prevails, and business men are pausing for the moment uncertain as to the direction in which they should commence their new life. During the past week we have had many reports of the results of the picking as far as it has progressed, and we are told that in England the expectations of growers are not being realised, that the gardens are being rapidly cleared, and that the work in most districts will soon be completed.

If such reports are to be accepted as exact indications, we may conclude that the new crop will be very light, even much lighter than has been previously estimated. This outlook is attributed to the exceptional heat-wave that has passed over the country recently. But we are also reminded that only the earlies are yet being gathered, and that the sun is all the while adding condition to the later growths, which will probably be benefited thereby. Consequently many experts are dubious concerning the extreme views that are in circulation, and are disposed to believe that the final issue will not be unsatisfactory on the whole. These somewhat antagonistic opinions explain the calm which is characteristic of the present position of our market A fair supply of new hops has arrived in the Borough, the average being of excellent quality and attractive colour.

An endeavour to ascertain current values reveals wide variations. Growers, encouraged by their immediate experience, are demanding prices ranging from 130s. to 160s, and finding that buyers do not respond, are apparently inclined to hold on for the present. Merchants are willingly looking at samples, but go no further, and thus the suspense is likely to continue until more definite knowledge is attained. I have discussed the probabilities with several of our sober-minded traders, and find that many of them are not disposed to persuade growers to look for an extremely high currency.

They base this view on the independence of consumers, resulting from the large surplusage from last year's crop. They also take into account the improved reports from the Continent, and the American supplies, which will doubtless be important, although not so heavy as were formerly expected.

As far as I can gather from these conversations, the general expectation seems to be that when business opens, and the market settles down to actual work, values will probably run from 110s. to 140s., and that the bulk of the hops will change hands at an average of 120s. Such prices will certainly be very disappointing to growers, as they cannot be thereby properly recompensed for their labour and outlay.

A firm of factors, in their annual circular, exhorts brewers to "take into consideration the enormous expense the successful English grower has been put to to secure the hops," and thus, I presume appeals to consumers to pay fair prices for the produce thus so hardly won. I support this appeal with all my heart, but I fear that such consideration will not be found when the stern facts of business are being discussed, and that our well-deserving planters will have to fight a severe battle this season. I trust they will be satisfied in the end; otherwise I anticipate that further grubbing must result, and the door will be opened wider for our foreign competitors.

It is, from our point of view, satisfactory to know that the American crop will not be much above an average. There is the enlarged acreage to be taken into account, but the exceptional hot weather has so far interfered with the yield that we may only expect a normal surplus for the export trade, and even this may be lessened by the increased local demand, following upon the larger consumption of beer. Although the markets are quiet, prices are steadily rising, 22 to 23 cents being now quoted, both in New York State and on the Pacific Coast.

Very little business is passing in Brussels, and as the crop prospects have slightly improved, there is some tendency towards reduction of values. The picking in Poperinghe is progressing, and the quality of the hops is satisfactory. Quotations for new crop run from 92½ to 102½ francs.

The Nuremberg market is rather easier, as demand is slow. New hops are coming forward freely, some hundreds of bales having arrived. The sales that have been made have ranged from 70s. to 75s. for the lowest, and from 110s. to 130s. for the better sorts from Tettnang and Hallertau. It must always be remembered that these market quotations are those paid to the growers for their air-dried produce, and that about 30s. must be added for loss of weight in the finishing, drying, baling, cloth, and other charges From most of the German districts the reports speak of improvement in the prospects of the total yield. But there is little doubt that the crop will not exceed an average, if indeed it arrives at this point.

In the Saaz district of Bohemia growers are expecting good returns, although their output will be only moderate. The demand for these special qualities by Bavarian and Austrian brewers is practically sufficient to absorb the whole production, and already business is being done in the new crop at prices equal to 160s. to 180s. per cwt.

Manger and Henley's Report.

So malignant and persistent was the blight that the ingenuity and perseverance of the growers of the greatest experience were taxed to the utmost. Washing was continuous for quite nine weeks from daylight to dark, at an unprecedented cost of over £300,000. The result is that some gardens have been saved, and are a credit to the pluck of the planter; unfortunately, some thousands of acres have succumbed.

Last year our crop was very heavy, and so were the importations; therefore brewers have a considerable surplus from which to draw. From a most careful calculation we cannot to-day estimate the crop at more than 260,000 cwt., or £130,000 old duty. The picking up to now corroborates this, for the universal complaint is that the yield is from one to three cwt. under the most conservative estimates. This is one of the shortest "bine" years on record, thus every hop can be seen, hence the mistake that has been made.

There is nothing to fear from Continental competition, and calculations of the yield in America are constantly diminishing, so that before the 1907 crop can be put on the market consumers must again be very short of supplies.

MANGER AND HENLEY.

59, Borough, S.E., September 5, 1906.

At Crewe, on Thursday, Nathan Brassington, a Manchester electrician, was charged with setting fire to four stacks of hay and wheat belonging to his brother, a farmer, of Barthomley, near Crewe. He had been staying at his brother's farm and assisted with the harvest. After hearing the evidence the magistrates committed him for trial.

A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held within No. 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at 10.30 a.m., to complete arrangements regarding programme, resolutions, speakers, &c., for forthcoming conference with Lord Carrington. Important decisions will require to be arrived at, particularly with reference to the Small Holders Bill (copy enclosed) and the Access to Mountains Bill (copy will be sent before the meeting).

ADVERTISEMENTS

received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

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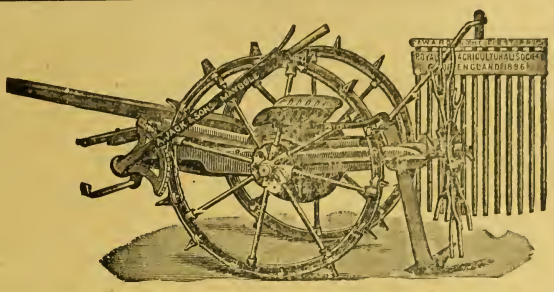

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ALDERSHOT ARMY-CORPS COMMAND.—Aldershot.

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IRISH COMMAND.—7TH DIVISION.—Curragh Camp; 8TH DIVISION.—Cork; BELFAST DISTRICT.—Belfast.

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Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock.

WAR OFFICE,
PALL MALL, S.W.,
September, 1906.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, ISLINGTON.

CONTRACT FOR HAY, STRAW, CLOVER, MIXTURE, OATS AND BRAN.

THE Cattle Markets Committee of the Corporation of the City of London will meet at Guildhall on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, at 2.30 o'clock p.m. precisely to receive TENDERS for the SUPPLY of the fine-t Upland English Meadow Hay, Straw, Clover, English Mixture, Russian Oats and Bran at the Metropolitan Cattle Market for a period of twelve months from October 1, 1906.

A printed form of Tender with conditions may be had on application at the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, or at the Office of the Clerk and Superintendent at the Market.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

Tenders must be delivered at the Hallkeeper's Office, Guildhall, on Wednesday, September 19, 1906, between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock.

BELL.

Guildhall, E.C.,
August, 1906.

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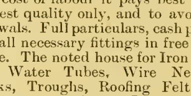
TRADE  MARK.

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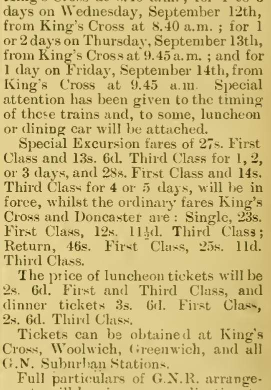

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LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

The Rainless West.

SINCE the passing of the great heat wave at the end of August and the early part of September, welcome showers have fallen in some parts, and if they were not sufficient to soak the ground, they did something to refresh the parched up crops. But in the west no rain has fallen for many weeks, and at the moment of writing the prospects of moisture seem very remote. Milk is scarce in the Vale of the Severn, and the price is going up, while on the shallow soil in the Cotswold country the leaves of the mangels are limp and yellow, and the growth of the roots appears to be at a standstill. In the orchards of Gloucestershire the leaves on the fruit trees are assuming autumn tints and apples are falling to the ground prematurely ripe. In short the whole district is parched and thirsty, and as for grass, well the pastures are dried up and brown everywhere, and one wonders how the stock manages to get a bite at all. There is a cry out for water in many parts, and this, of course, will get worse unless rain falls heavily before very long.

Farm Machinery.

IN these days it is the boasted desire of everyone interested in the question to adopt the education of rural districts to local requirements. Just so; but whether this is being done as it should be is open to question. In rural evening schools a good deal of stuff is taught which cannot be of much practical use to the pupils, and things that would be useful are tet severely alone. Take machinery, for instance. What the farmer wants more than anything to-day is men who know something about the use of tools and the construction of machinery. Every year more machines are used in agricultural work, and these implements are manipulated by men of the labouring class Now, if a fellow goes on the railway with the idea of becoming an engine driver, the first thing he has to do is to learn all about his engine, so that if anything gets out of order he will be able to render first aid. We wonder how many farm labourers there are who know anything about the mechanism of the machines they manipulate. They may know how to put the thing in and out of gear, but if the simplest thing goes wrong a mechanic has to be sent for, and the farmer not only loses time, but is put to expense. We do not want to make mechanics of labourers, but they ought to know sufficient about machinery to be able to render first aid, so to speak. Even the loosening of a nut will often cause a breakdown, but if the manipulator of the machine is a bit of a mechanic, he will make it his business to see that nuts do not get loose, and he will keep the implement in proper working order. It surely would not be a difficult thing to establish classes in country villages, where farmers' sons and young labourers would learn a good deal that would be useful to them about agricultural machinery under the instruction of a qualified mechanic.

Fallows and Weeds.

THE dry weather experienced for some time now has been favourable for dealing with fallows and foul land, and farmers who miss the opportunity have only got themselves to blame. Ploughing of course is not an easy matter with soil in its present baked condition, and plough shares and points suffer so much that the spring drag is preferable, but where the weeds have been got up the sun has done the rest. There has been little need of late for raking up and burning twitch, for every live bit of this obnoxious weed brought to the surface has been quickly shrivelled up. We know some men who will trust no weather where twitch is concerned, and for fear there may be a spark of life left in the weed, they rake up every particle and burn it. The principle of this is good, and in ordinary circumstances the precautiou is a wise one, but the sunshine of this summer has been exceptional in its brilliancy and capable of shrivelling the life out of the toughest of twitch that was exposed to its burning influence. A worrying weed in some parts is the creeping convolvulus, known locally as "bedwind," which seems to revel in dry weather, but if the tops are persistently cut off the roots weaken, and the pests can be got rid of by this process.

Second Crop Clover.

THE influence of the weather may be seen on the second crops of clover which have been mown of late, and; generally speaking, there is not much for the stack, as the growth is short and light. But in this season of drought a little fresh green food of any kind is acceptable, and a good many people, instead of trying to make hay of the second crop of clover, are giving it to the sheep and stock. Considering all things, this is perhaps the best use to which it can be put, and the way the animals masticate anything that is green and juicy is good evidence of how much they enjoy it As we have remarked before, those farmers, particulary keepers of milking cows, who make provision for something in the way of forage crops, have received the reward for their forethought this season.

Breaking the Law.

LAWS are made for the good of the community, and whether we think them just or unjust, we have to submit to them, even though we may be passive resisters. Just so, but it is surprising how many people there are who seem possessed with a remarkable faculty for breaking laws. The motorist drives at express speed when he knows perfectly well that he had not ought to do it, and if caught he pays the penalty. The cyclists will turn out after dark without his lamp, and often spends more in consequence of his folly than would keep him in oil for years. Perhaps some of us feel that the law in regard to the removal of swine is at times hard and unjust, but it is the law all the same, and there is nothing to be gained by defying and ignoring it and then pleading ignorance. No matter what law is passed, it is bound to hit somebody hard, but if we cannot get the Law altered we must submit. Of late we have seen a good many cases of prosecution through farmers failing to comply with the order to have their sheep dipped. Some have pleaded ignorance, and others have assumed a defiant air, but neither served any purpose, and they had to pay. With reference to sheep dipping most reasonable-minded people agree that it is a wise and beneficial order, and we confess to very little sympathy with those who fail to comply with it and are fined in consequence.

Home-baked Bread.

IN the old days it was a part of the education of every housewife to learn how to bake her own bread, and in most establishments there was a brick oven provided for the purpose. To say that home-baking is gone out of fashion would be wrong, because in a good many farmhouses still they have a weekly baking day, and in the North of England it is still customary for cottage wives to do their own baking. In spite of the above fact, however, the baker rules supreme, and on him the majority of people depend for their daily bread. The public taste now is for the snowy white and the light loaf that is new to-day and stale to-morrow, but for supplying stamina and staying power give us the good old-fashioned home-baked loaf, like that which Mrs Poyser (immortalised in Adam Bede) took such a pride in making. This type of loaf is not quite white, it is not puffed up, but it contains that which is satisfying, and makes bone and muscle. There are houses still where they bake once a week, but if you drop in on baking day and have a cut from a loaf made seven days before it has no suspicion of dryness, but is fresh and sweet. We have never had courage enough to test a loaf of ordinary baker's bread seven days after it was made.

Wasps.

PERHAPS this matter is of more importance to gardeners and fruit growers than farmers, but there is no mistake about it we are having a plague of wasps this year. There is never a woodland or a hedgerow without nests, and the thieves eat, ruin, and disfigure not only

the ripe fruit, but also apples and pears that are not nearly ready for picking. A friend of ours thought to lure the thieves to destruction by hanging up bottles containing a sweet decoction of beer and sugar in his fruit garden. It is true he caught hundreds, but thousands more came to see them die, and finding good things near at hand in the shape of fruit, they remained to feed, with the inevitable result that the last state of things was worse than the first. There is only one way of dealing with wasps in the summer, which is to strike at the root of the evil—in other words, the nests. A search should be made in the day time, and the nests be marked. Then in the evening, when the family is at home, a little cyanide of potassium put in the hole and the mouth closed up will do the trick.

Practical Nature Study.

WE hear a good deal about Nature study in these days, and we have people amongst us who are cranks on the subject; but speaking of wasps reminds us that we have something here on which Nature study might be brought to bear with practical and useful effect, and the same remarks apply to other insect pests of an injurious character. It may be very interesting to place a tadpole in a bottle and watch it develop into a toad, but there is not much practical utility about it. Now wasps are a nuisance, and most of us know that every queen wasp destroyed in the spring means one nest less in the summer. Just so; then let the Nature-study youngsters in the village schools hunt for queen wasps and do some good by getting rid of them. We would go further and offer prizes to the children who accounted for the largest numbers. The subject here introduced opens up a wide field, for there are a good many insects injurious to agricultural interests that school children might seek and capture at different times of the year, and unless we see the matter wrongly this kind of Nature study would be more useful and practical than catching tadpoles and similar operations.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Are Scottish Landlords Wise?

Of course, the Scottish landlords are eminently justified in calling attention to the failures and mistakes—such as they conceive them to be—of the Government Scottish Small Landholders' Bill. Certainly it is the most draconic word yet uttered by a British Ministry on the problem of land reform. What avail it, however, to say that Scotland had not specifically asked for it? What avail it to say that the Bill means the arbitrary deprival of the landlord of his property? Both contentions have a simplicity and naiveté associated with them which does not belong to a serious argument. It would not be difficult for official Liberalism to show that Scotland is quite sympathetically abreast of the demand. Whether these proposals had articulate voice at the general election is not so much to the point as is the fact that Scottish Liberalism gave a vast majority to the Liberal Party with the designed intention of securing a Radical policy. The incident meant that whatever was done for Scotland that majority wanted the achievement to bear the hue of incarnadine Radicalism. Had a Land Bill been introduced of the tepid character, then Scotland's Liberalism would soon have revealed its disapproval in resounding Doric. And, after all, even an English landlord can be arbitrarily deprived of his property—that is, at a price—if it be desired in the interest of the community. These frontal attacks on the Bill are pre-doomed to defeat. First of all, to aver that Scottish Liberalism does not want a Liberal Government's policy is—political human nature being what it is—simply to induce that Liberalism to an exuberant appreciation of it. Next of all, to seek to discredit a policy already embodied in a score of Bills is to be guilty of that mistaken strategy which is generally described as setting back the hands of the clock. No; this is an occasion not for bold frontal assault, but for craft, guile, attack in detail, for flank movements.

The Real Points of Attack.

The Scottish landlords are in their criticism on much more solid ground in denouncing the suggestion of dual ownership, in doubting the wisdom of calling into existence a fair rent court, and in suspecting whether a fifty-pound-a-year farm would, even when worked under the most economical conditions, yield a desirable livelihood, and might not even reduce the holder to, as one of these landlords has put it, the level of a beast of burden. For my part, I am inclined to doubt whether the Scottish temperament—in which the feudal and tribal instinct still lurks, to be no doubt quickened into an active virility by an attack on the head of the clan or sept—is altogether in harmony with the principle which would fix rent without any regard for the particular desire or prejudice of the landlord. Despite their latter-day Radical expressions, there is a good deal of conservative fidelity to the race-and-landlord principle in the Scotchmen. No fair and dispassionate observer among our economists can be said to be enthusiastically in favour of the principle of dual ownership in agricultural holdings. It may mean discord, rivalry, and bitterness; and certainly cannot be said in Ireland to have been any serious factor in evolving perfect contentment. Again, too, the discretion of the Land Commission, which is to be endowed with £65,000 a year for the purpose of setting up small holdings and enlarging existing ones, may well—even though its constitution be not known—be doubted. It is a fair rhetorical device, too, to declare that an absolute mathematical system of peasant proprietary would be far better than this half-and-half business, and that the Bill, indeed, can only mean—what a harmless hobgoblin after all!—the application of the three F's to every farm! All this is judicious comment, subtly-wise warfare—is ever much so more better than running your head against a principle as inflexible as adamant and as impossible of banishment from our midst as is the solar system or the letters of Mr. Algernon Ashton. If the positions I have indicated be astutely occupied, then, after all, the pang of this attack on the rights of Scottish landlordism may be assuaged. Landlords' defence associations are, I find, being called into existence. Let them not be associations for the revival of the out of-date and the long-since relinquished.

Is Mr. Collings' Purpose to be Realised?

Mr. Jesse Collings must have been, I ween, greatly gratified at the declaration of Mr. T. S. Dymond, an inspector of schools, upon our system of rural education, "an education which," he declared, borrowing, I would fain believe, the language of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, "has a tendency to send the pupils out of the country rather than to keep them in it." How far did this very intelligent official represent direct Ministerial intention when he acknowledged that "his idea was that rural elementary schools should take over two or three acres of land each and cultivate the allotment as a business concern, the pupils working it and receiving the current wages of the district"? Of course, this latter suggestion—which, after all, is only the leather and prunella of the idea—goes beyond the admirable intentions embodied in Mr. Collings' Rural Education Bill. However, if Mr. Dymond spoke in harmony with official resolve, Mr. Collings' Bill has been rendered unnecessary, or, rather, accepted. Mr. Collings has for years demanded the practicalisation of rural education—the shaping of that education in accordance with what may be the pupils' destiny as rural workers, and thus the implanting in them of a deepened instinct of fidelity to the country-side. Perhaps when Mr. Augustine Birrell has emerged from the morass of creedal tests, from the war of rival sects, from the atmosphere of doctrine mongering, he will tell us how far he is anxious to realise an ambition which will always be honourably associated with the Parliamentary achievements of the right hon. gentleman the member for Bordesley!

Mr. Burns and the Farm Colony Enthusiasts.

Despite all the assertions of those too-impressionable and over-susceptible revolutionists that Mr. John Burns has taken his holiday abroad in order that he might be disillusioned of what these same amateur economists describe as "his prejudices against farm colonies" as a means of redeeming the out-o'-works of our towns, I doubt that the President of the Local Government Board—and I believe that I know something of his mind on the question—will ever seek to realise their fantastic visions. Mr. Burns has too receptive an intellect, is too practical a man, to dogmatically declare that "I am against farm colonies under all and any conditions." I ween that the hight hon. gentleman would even confess that, under certain conditions, farm colonies would be desirable things. His attitude, however, is, I take it, one of refusal to permit himself to be led astray by the whirling ecstacy of the easily-emotionised and untrained minds of the street-corner orators, who believe that the provision of a cheap excursion ticket to the country-side means the magical transformation of the unemployed, the unfortunate, or the unemployable — the human flotsam and jetsam of our civilisation—into complete agriculturists. He refuses to be a kind of Pied Piper to prancingly lead to the depth and bathos of further misfortune. Mr. John Burns' purpose in his continental tour may have been to secure some first-hand information. If it has been, he has provided a very useful object-lesson for those amateur philanthropists who believe their tongue is fore-destined to proclaim economic evangels by the ton, and who denounce responsible men who refuse to adopt them as sacredly inspired. These men disdain even to look at the country-side to which they offer to bring perfect prosperity by means of their *protégés*, those poor deluded victims who include so considerable an alloy of loaferdom. Mr. John Burns is not going to be turned aside from the methods of practical administration by the turgid flamboyance of vine-leaved extremists.

The Marquis and the Land Tenure Bill.

Now, I fear me that both the temper and the purpose of the majority of the present House of Commons are not appreciated by those who are antagonistic to that majority. I am not quite sure whether the Marquis of Exeter meant his speech at Deepings on Friday to be accepted as a prophecy or a threat. "If," said his lordship, "the new Land Tenure Bill passes, there will be more land out of cultivation than for many years." If his lordship means this declaration as a prophecy of the inevitable result of the operation of the new law, I fear me that he will not find an unanimous acceptance of him in the *rôle* of seer. Why, for instance, should tenant farmers be driven from the soil because their rights as tenants are emphasised and extended? Why should they renounce the industry because the restrictions placed upon them as tenants have been modified, and because their tenancy and the improvements they themselves have created have been legally safeguarded in a manner that they were not safeguarded in the past? If the marquis means the declaration to be a threat that landlords will prefer to let their land lie fallow and derelict rather than accept what they may regard as the degrading conditions imposed by the new law—and yet I cannot bring myself to believe that the marquis, himself a good landlord who lives on excellent terms with his tenants, meant this—then I would ask him to remember that the present Lord Chancellor is the erstwhile Sir Robert Reid, and that Sir Robert Reid when in the House of Commons was the sponsor of a Bill whose purpose was to place a tax upon landlords who wilfully permitted their land to remain out of cultivation. Now, rancour may on occasions be justified and be even a good thing! It is well, however, to temper it with provident forethought. A landlord need not allow it to sear his own flesh.

Lord Carrington's Resolve.

I am able to make the interesting announcement that Lord Carrington is convinced that there ought not to be any avoidable delay whatever in carrying the Butter Bill. He holds that this would be not merely an act of justice to the honourable butter interest, but is necessary for the good health of the poorer section of the community, too long the victims of toothsome but dangerous imitations.

Land Tenure and Small Holdings.—The Marquis of Exeter, speaking at the Deeping (Lincolnshire) Foal Show dinner yesterday, referred to the Land Tenure Bill, and said he thought that if the Bill were passed there would be more land out of cultivation in the country than had been the case for many years past.

THREE SHOW HUNTERS.

PERHAPS the largest and most successful modern stud of Show Hunters is that owned by Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Nether House, Great Bowden. Mr. Stokes began showing forty-three years ago, and during that long period he has only shown at four places at which he has not taken a prize.

His record for many years has been a big one, but last year his successes were exceptional, and it is not likely that they will be equalled, let alone beaten, for some years to come. The record—105 first prizes, 42 seconds, 18 thirds, 12 championships, 2 specials, and 5 medals, a total of 184 prizes taken by 41 horses at 52 different shows—good as it is, may be lowered, and it is quite possible that a larger amount of prize money than £2,053 may be won by one owner in a season.

What, however, is not likely to occur again for some time to come is for one man to take four first prizes, a second (both specials), and the championship at the Hunters' Improvement Society's show; practically the whole of the first prizes at the Highland and Agricultural Society's show; and first prizes in the three-year-old gelding, four-year-old gelding, light-weight and weight-carrying classes, and the champion prize at the Yorkshire show, in one year.

Mr. Stokes has begun the present year well, his well-known horses, Dervische, Border Boy, and Sybarito, whose portraits are given, having, amongst others, won valuable prizes. The former has grown into a very good-looking four-year-old with short legs and good back and ribs. His shoulders are well placed, and he is a good mover in all his paces. He began the season well by taking second prize to Mr. F. A. Rickaby's Splasher at the Agricultural Hall. It was a near thing between the two, and "the form" comes out all right, as Splasher was reserve for the championship. Since then Dervische has won at the Oxfordshire show at Henley. Sybarite is a different stamp. A well-bred galloping light-weight hunter, he is quality all over. He has excellent bone, is beautifully turned, and is a fine model of a light-weight four-year-old. Border Boy, a weight-carrier with fine quality and action, was a purchase from the late Sir James Miller's stud. Quite one of the right sort, he won in an excellent class at Henley-on-Thames, in which he had the London champion, King Edward, behind him. All three horses are decidedly above the average of high-class show hunters, and may be expected to win more prizes.

SYBARITE.

BORDER BOY.

DERVISH.

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

South Tyne.

This show took place on Saturday week. Shorthorn and Galloway cattle were never better represented, some fine specimens being forward. In the latter class Messrs. Stothert, Cleughfoot, with a third successive win, secured the silver cup for the best three females of any breed. In the classes for black-faced sheep the honours were divided between Mr. Robson, Newton, and Messrs. Addison and Paisley, Bellingham. Agricultural horses were not quite so numerous, but nevertheless the quality was above the average, while the harness horses and Hunters included some well-known prize winners.

North Westmorland.

The sixteenth annual exhibition of the North Westmorland Agricultural Society was held at Appleby on the 8th inst. The entries showed a slight reduction on last year. The most considerable decrease occurred in the cattle classes, which fell short of the 1905 figures by twenty-nine head. Heavy horses figured as a strong class, but light horses, though fairly numerous, and comprising some noted winners, could not be described as uniformly good. The feature of the show was to be found in the sheep exhibits, which were of excellent quality, and formed a fine entry throughout.

Axminster.

Axminster Union District Agricultural Association held its fifth annual exhibition on Wednesday. In the Devon cattle classes Mr. Walter Dare, of Kilmington, won with Fairmaid, the prize for the best bullock in the show. The sheep were a capital lot right through, especially Downs, but lambs might have been better had there been more keep about. The champion prize went to a Down ewe, in lamb, belonging to Mr. S. L. Tatchell, of Lyme Regis. Hacks and Hunters were very good for the district, and a great improvement was seen, especially in the young stock, two-year-olds and yearlings, and mares with foal at foot attracting considerable attention. The champion prize offered in the classes for cart and hack horses was awarded to Woodhayne Tom, a Shire colt sired by Sowerby Boy, and exhibited by Mr. T. Trott, of Shute.

Wellington Farmers'.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Wellington Farmers' Club was held on Wednesday. An interesting feature of the society's work is the encouragement given to long service on the part of agricultural labourers, and this year prizes were

given to eighty-six servants, whose total years of service were 2,733, or an average of thirty-one years and ten months. One servant had been in one situation sixty years, two fifty-nine years, one fifty-two years, and one forty-nine years.

The Cludde Challenge for the greatest number of points in all classes was won by Mr. R. H. Gwynne, Haygate, Wellington. The Shire Horse Champion Cup was secured by the president of the club (Mr. J. V. T. Lander), who also won the Shire Horse Society's medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or foal in the show, and the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal was won by the Misses Eyton and Horrocks, Admaston. There were fair entries for cattle, and a good entry of Shropshire sheep.

Montgomeryshire.

The annual exhibition of the Montgomeryshire Agricultural Association was held on Thursday at Welshpool, when rain fell in torrents, and the association has not had a fine day for the show since 1901. The entries were not quite so good as last year, but the falling off was perhaps slightest in the Shire horse classes. In this section the animals shown more than maintained past years' records. Mr. John Lewis, Trwstllewulyn, was the most successful exhibitor. He won in the stallion, two-year-old colts, brood mare, and two-year-old filly classes, and also carried off the champion prize with the mare Moss Rose, by Buscot Harold, and the Shire Horse Society's medal and £5 prizes for the best Shire mare or filly in the show, the £5 going to him as exhibitor. In the Hunter classes W. Ward, Crankwell, Chirbury, was the principal winner, and Evan Roberts, Hope, Buttington, and A. H. Macguire, Darland Hall, Rossett, were equally successful. In the pony classes, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, was the chief prize winner. The cattle classes, introduced for the first time last year, were fairly well filled, and competition was keen. Mr. Charles Evans, Bahaillon, Kerry, with a bull under two years, which took first prize in the Herefords, was awarded the champion prize for the best animal in the show.

North Tyne.

The annual show of the North Tyne and Redesdale Agricultural Society was held on Thursday. Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford, Darlington, cleared the first prizes in all the Shorthorn classes save one. Messrs. Rami and Son, Lewingshields and Son, and T. Rutherford, Low Row, Carlisle, divided chief honours in Galloways. The Leicesters were weakest in number of individual classes, the principal awards going to Mr. W. Ridley, Stocksfield; Mr. T. White, Ridingmill; and Mr. J. Robson, Bellingham. In Cheviots, numerically larger, honours went to Mr. John and Mr. Jacob Robson, the well-known breeders of Newton and Byrness. First prizes in heavy horses were won by Mr. A. Bell, Asperton Castle, Brampton; Miss E. H. Bell, Bellingham; Mr. T. Shanks, Barrington; and Mr. W. R. Trotter, North Acomb, Stocksfield. The chief award for saddle horses went to Mr. A. Rutherford, Haydon Bridge, who cleared four classes.

Wigton (Cumberland).

The Wigton and District Agricultural Society—one of the oldest in Cumberland—held its fifty-second annual show on Thursday in threatening weather. There was a remarkable falling off in the entries, which were about 120 fewer than last year, and the lowest for a quarter of a century. The bulk of the prizes for Shorthorns at Cumberland shows this season have gone to the Wigton district, and there was a splendid show in this department, all the prominent local herds being represented by about 150 animals. The decline in numbers was mainly in the horse classes, cart horses being thirty-one fewer, saddle horses forty-five, and harness horses forty-two.

Okehampton.

The annual show was held on Thursday. The total entry was not a record one, but it was a a round century better than last year. Horses accounted for the biggest proportion of the increase, whilst there was also a very large show of poultry and pigeons, the department for which was one of the most interesting in the showyard. The cattle were, however, a disappointment in respect to numbers, and the sheep classes were not so well filled as they should have been to equal in merit the other departments. For the first time for several years the committee catered for pig breeders, and a couple of classes attracted a fair number of entries. The "horsey" side of the exhibition was undoubtedly the strongest, and taking the exhibits all round they were a gratifyingly good lot. Hacks and Hunters were well represented, whilst several of the pony classes were very strong, the animals evidencing a good deal of care in breeding. The silver challenge cup for the best exhibit in the local Hacks and Hunters classes brought forth keen competition, and General Holley, who won the trophy last year, had to part with it to Major Budworth's black gelding St. David. It was a pity that the quality of the cattle as a whole was no quite up to the usually high standard, although this was, perhaps, due to the scarcity of "keep" resultant on the prolonged drought. Among the sheep the judges found a good class of animal, and in one or two cases had no little difficulty in coming to a decision. The Devon Longwools included two splendid pens of yearling ewes Ram lambs of this type were poor, and ewe lambs were only moderate. Although not numerous, the pigs were an extremely good lot, as were also the sows.

Yeovil.

Improvement of quality was noted in all departments of the Yeovil Agricultural Society's annual show, which was held on Thursday. There was also an increase in the numbers of entries in each section, the horses and sheep showing a great advance. The horses were particularly well represented, both in the agricultural and Hackney classes. The cattle were of high quality if not numerous, and the president of the society, Mr. Troyte-Chafyn-Grove, was a wonderfully successful exhibitor, no fewer than eight prizes going to him, and in three classes took both prizes. Sheep were a fine lot, and Mr. J. H. Creed, of Broadwinsor, met with gratifying success.

Agricultural horses were sound, useful animals, and a credit to their owners. Hunters were also prominent for the number as well as the quality of the exhibits, and Mr. T. H. Miller, of Osborne, was a successful prize-taker with Marmion. Mr. E. J. Legg, of Keynsham, with his well-known Marksbury, secured a first for heavy-weight Hunter. Messrs. Flower and Mattick, of Radstock, gained first for hack and second for light-weight Hunter. The jumping classes were exceptionally interesting. Messrs. Glencross's (Frome) Bampton jumped marvellously, and got first prize; and their Nomination shared the second prize with Messrs. Singer's (Frome) horse, so close was the competition.

As to the exhibits, the cheese, though not to be compared in point of entries with those at Bruton, Shepton Mallet, and Frome, was no whit behind either in quality of the best exhibits of Cheddar, which was of exceptional merit, and Mr. T. C. Candy, of Woolcombe, Cattistock, won the first prize.

Rugby.

The annual exhibition under the auspices of the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association took place on Wednesday, and was largely attended. It has become one of the most important in the Midlands, and the promoters have intimated their intention to make it a sort of Peterborough show. The entry numbered 356, which included 271 horses, 50 cattle, and 23 sheep; and there was the customary display of butter produce and implements.

There were some magnificent animals in the bull and milking cow classes, and some capital sheep and pigs were shown. The Shire horse classes formed the principal part of the exhibition, and here Messrs. F. Farnworth, Tooley Park, Hinckley; Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P., Dunsmore; and Mr. G. G. Atterbury, West Haddon, were prominent among the prize-winners. In the hunting horse classes, Mr. H. R Roe, Market Harborough; Mr. P. P. Rodocanachi, Dunchurch; Mr. G. F. Stops, Market Harborough; Mr. J. H. Sedgley, Church Langton; and Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, carried off the principal prizes. Mr. J. Bradley, of Tilton, Leicester, won the Shire Horse Society's medal.

A large crowd was present in the afternoon to witness the jumping and driving, some of the classes being open to all England. In the first jumping class Mr. Foster, of Brailsford, Derby, was first with Lassie and second with Paddy, Mr. N. Smith, of Nutfield, Surrey, being third with Monarch. In the next Paddy was first, Monarch second, and Lassie third. The open driving class was headed by Mr. J. Raynor, of Mansfield, Notts, with Messrs. J. Morton and Son, Coventry, second, and Miss E. S. Ross, of Sale, third; and in the tandem team competition Miss Ross was first, with a pair of black geldings.

Bath and West Dairy Herds Competitions.

The Wilts Agricultural Association and the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society having made a monetary contribution towards the prizes offered by the Bath and West Society at its recent Swindon meeting, the latter society devoted a portion of such contribution to the following prizes:—

Herd of dairy cows (of any breed) over forty in number, the property of a *bona fide* tenant farmer farming land in the county of Wilts or Gloucester, or within a radius of twenty miles from the Town Hall, Swindon, £15, £10, £5.

Herd of dairy cows (of any breed) over twenty and not exceeding forty in number, the property of a *bona fide* tenant farmer farming land in the county of Wilts or Gloucester, or within a radius of twenty miles from the Town Hall, Swindon, £15, £10, £5.

There were seven entries in the first-named class and four in the second.

The judge was Mr. Arthur Hiscock, of Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset, and the following is a summary of his report:—

"Although the entries for these prizes might have been more numerous, I was able to see, through the keen competition of the herds inspected, that in every case competitors had spent not only time and money, but had brought the best of judgment to their aid in their endeavour to obtain such coveted prizes.

"It may be of interest if I briefly state the system of dealing with the herds submitted for competition. I did not trust to the eye alone, but took each cow on its merits, marking them 'above average,' 'good dairy cow,' or 'under the standard,' afterwards working out the percentage in accordance with the size of the herd.

"I explained the system to the various competitors, who expressed themselves thoroughly satisfied with my mode of working. The competitors had, I am pleased to say, their milk yields for the year prepared and ready for my perusal, thus complying with the previous requests of both the secretary and myself.

"The competing herds lay very wide and to the full extent of the prescribed distance, and in order to get to the remote and isolated districts it was obvious the most convenient mode of travelling would be by motor car, making Swindon my headquarters.

"I will now deal with the largest of the herds inspected. I made my way to the extreme boundary of Mr. George Adams's holding by Uffington Station. Here I inspected the first forty of his herd of about 450 head, which were in about fifteen lots, in beautiful pastures covering an area of about seven miles.

"The method of Mr. Adams in showing the returns from his huge herd is worthy of imitation; and although, after most careful working out of figures, I was unable to award him higher than a second prize, it is only fair to say that his herd ran the first-prize lot very close.

"I now come to another fine herd, the property of Mr. R. Hobbs, of Kelmscott, whose farm borders for some miles the River Thames, and five miles had to be covered by motor car to get from his first fifty to his last fifty, whilst the total number in some nine lots exceeded 200.

"Mr. Hobbs had determinedly worked up a herd of dairy Shorthorns where colour, type, and character exhibited itself; their milking properties also slightly exceeded the good average of the second-prize lot; and, as a large number were young Shorthorns, comprising among them many prize winners, my choice for first prize fell to the Kelmscott herd. Good management, too, in all branches presented itself in a marked degree, and if many of the young farmers of England would only avail themselves of the opportunity of seeing the two herds already dealt with, it should prove advantageous to them in future as agriculturists.

"My next visit was to the extreme eastern boundary of Wilts, where at Ogbourne St. George Mr. Stevens and his son showed me a herd numbering seventy-three, over sixty of which were close to the old homestead in which Mr. Stevens resides. Some few were specimens of real good dairy cattle, but I soon discovered that this herd had not been fed to any high pitch, specially for this competition. Although the milk yield was good, I could understand why, as a large majority of the herd were young and not on such rich pastures as many other of the competitive herds, the yield was less abundant than was the case with other herds inspected. I was, however, unable to give them a less distinction than very highly commended.

"I next proceeded to the farm of Mr. Froeth, at Cricklade, where I found an exceedingly nice, though small herd, numbering just over forty, but a real rent-paying lot, matching in colour, type, and character. I cannot forget a few of the beautiful cows that were being milked in the open yards, and certainly they had not been in any way pampered, but showed themselves most satisfactory, winning at the finish the reserve number.

"I next inspected a well-managed herd, the property of Mr. Balch, of Swindon, where I found slightly the highest milk yield, and, although I was able to pick out many very nice dairy cows, several failed to reach the high standard in character of those placed above them. The herd was, however, entitled to a high commendation.

"I was obliged, very reluctantly, to pass what I knew to be a very good herd belonging to Mr. J. Macey, of Baverstock, Dinton, Wilts, which had, owing to the illness of its owner, been withdrawn from competition.

"Mr. W. J. S. White, of Zeals Park Farm, Wilts, exhibited eighty of quite the best Hereford cows I have ever seen together, and without any hesitancy I can say that seldom is to be found in this handsome and fine grazing breed such a tendency to milk. It is certainly unusual to find a Hereford herd able to win a dairy prize, but I had no hesitation in awarding the third prize to this herd, and I would add that it was of uniform type, and, though only moderately kept, was in high condition. This herd was established in 1819 by the grandfather of the present owner.

"I have now to deal with the class not exceeding forty in number. I started at Hannington, Highworth, the residence of Mr. Hussey-Freke, where I found thirty-two neat dairy Shorthorns. The selection no doubt had been made with care, but the number under the average rather told against them, and, with a milk yield under others in the competition, my award could not exceed a reserve number.

"I next took a long journey by train to Berkeley, Gloucestershire, where at the farm of Mr. Cullimore, a tenant under Lord Fitzhardinge, a very nice herd of thirty-two called for careful attention. There were among them some of extraordinary merit as rent-payers, but lacking in type and character; many others were really nicely bred, good in colours, level, deep, and with rare legs. I was under the impression when leaving that they would be hard to beat, but at the finish I could only award them second prize.

"Mr. Dixon, whose farm adjoined the show ground at Swindon, next showed me a nice group of thirty-seven in one lot, a herd doing justice as rent-payers. They had not been fed up, but lacked uniformity, and they secured third prize.

"My last visit was to Winterbourne, just outside Bristol, where Mr. Matthews showed me an excellent lot, numbering about thirty. I quickly observed that money had gone with judgment in securing such animals, everything under the average having been ignored. They easily won the first prize, and were the utmost credit to their owner."

SHOW GOSSIP.

The Bath Horse Show will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, September 4 and 5, 1907.

The annual show of the Herefordshire and and Worcestershire Agricultural Society will be held at Hereford on June 18, 19, and 20, 1907. Entries close for stock classes, May 11; ring competitions, June 5.

The executive of the Yeovil Agricultural Society had the misfortune to fix upon a showery day for the annual show, at which they offered about £350 in prizes. A source of keen regret, and one which evoked very general and sincere expressions of sympathy, was the illness of the secretary, Mr. E. H. Oakley, whose portrait appears on this

Mr. J. J. PENTY,
Secretary of the Easingwold Agricultural Society.

page, which has confined him to his bed for a fortnight. He had, however, got the work in connection with the preliminary arrangements well in hand, and his son, Mr. F. I. Oakley, has made an efficient substitute for his father since he has been laid up.

At the annual meeting of the Tiverton and District Shire Horse Society, Mr. Courtenay Haydon reported that the year's receipts amounted to £269. Mr. Haydon drew attention to the lack of entries of Shire horses at the Tiverton Agricultural Show, and asked how a better entry could be ensured in the future. The chairman said the most important question before them that day was whether they should hire or purchase a horse for 1907. The hon. member had circularised the members, but had not had many replies. After reviewing the circumstances and noticing the risks of purchasing, the chairman strongly advised hiring as before. The meeting accepted this view by sixteen votes to eight.

Judges for the Smithfied Club Show, 1906.

CATTLE.

Devons, South Devons, and Sussex: C. N. Skinner, Shortlands, Kent; Daniel Swaffer, Mumford, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent. Herefords and Red Polled: John H. Yeomans, Withington, Hereford; Fred. Smith, Woodbridge, Suffolk. Shorthorns and Cross-Breds: Arthur S. Gibson, The Elms, Ruddington, Nottingham; John Wortley, Shipdham, Norfolk. Aberdeen-Angus and Galloways: C. W. Schroeter, Bella Vista, Haywards Heath; A. B. Matthews, Newton Stewart, N.B. Welsh and Highland: R. W. Pritchard, Coedmarion, Carnarvon; J. R. Campbell, Shinness, by Lairg, Sutherland. Kerry, Dexter, and Small Cross-Bred Cattle: H. D. Betteridge, "Drayton," Woodstock Road, Summerton, Oxford; Henry C. Webb, Audley End, Saffron Walden. £25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup: Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset; William Reid, 160, Central Meat Market, E.C.

SHEEP.

Leicesters, Bordor Leicesters, Cotswolds, and Lincolns: George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington; Robert Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln. Kentish or Romney Marsh, Devons, and South Devons: F. Austin Bensted, The Lawn, Sittingbourne, Kent; J. G. Pedler, The Barton, Sampford Peverell, Tiverton, Devon. Cheviots and Mountains: M. S. McKerrow, Boreland of Southwick, Dumfries; James Moffatt, Craiok, Hawick, N.B. Southdowns and Shropshires: George F. Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate; Matthew Williams, Whiston Hall, Albrighton, Wolverhampton. Hampshire Downs and Suffolks: Cary Coles, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury; D. Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, Colchester. Oxford Downs and Cross-breds: John White, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon; George Stimpson, 71, Central Meat Market, E.C. Ryelands and Dorset, &c.: F. Hawkins, Sugwas, Swainshill, Herefordshire; L. C. Attrill, Bowcombe Farm, Carisbrooke. Champion Plates for Long and Short-woolled Sheep and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup: Henry Smith, Junr., The Cottage, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham; James P. Case, Binham, Wighton, R.S.O., Norfolk.

PIGS.

Small White or Small Black, Middle and Large White breeds: Herbert Broom, Wissett Hall, Halesworth; John Angus, Whitefield, Morpeth. Large Black and Berkshires: A. H. Cobbald, Eldo House, Bury St. Edmunds; William A. Barnes, Hasluck's Green Farm, Shirley, Birmingham. Tamworths and Cross-Breeds: D. W. Phillip, The Redlands, Whitacre, Birmingham; Robert Wallace, Auchenbrain, Mauchline, N.B. Champion Plates and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup: Col. F. A. Walker-Jones, The Manor House, Burton, Westmoreland; S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich.

CARCASE COMPETITION.

Cattle and Sheep: William Coggan, Bracmar, 58, Thurlow Park Road, Dulwich, S.E.; G. H. Walker, Abbey Gateway, Great Malvern. Pigs: J. W. Bowyer, 259, Central Meat Market, E.C.; W. E. Hoare, 220, Central Meat Market, E.C. Champion Prizes and Challenge Cups: William Haydon, 411, Brixton Road, S.W. Table Poultry: W. Bellamy, 118, Jermyn Street, S.W.; John Baily, 116, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.

Date of the Royal Counties Show.

An important meeting of the council of this society was held at Basingstoke on Wednesday, Mr. E. Whitfield (vice-chairman) presiding.

The secretary reported that the Bath and West of England Society had arranged to hold its 1907 meeting at Newport on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday, June 5 to 10, thus terminating its show the day before the usual opening day of the Royal Counties Society, viz., Tuesday, June 11. He read correspondence which had taken place between himself and Mr. Plowman, the secretary of the Bath and West of England Society, with reference to the possibility of that society finishing its Newport meeting on Saturday, June 8, but he regretted to say that Mr. Plowman held out no hopes of this being done. The secretary further reported that he had addressed a circular letter to all the members of the council of the Royal Counties Society, laying the facts of the case before them, and asking in the event of inability to attend the meeting for an expression of their views on the subject, and there appeared to be a unanimous concensus of opinion that the Royal Counties meeting should open on the usual date, viz., Tuesday, June 11, this being convenient to the Maidenhead authorities, and it was also pointed out that inasmuch as the Ascot Race Meeting commenced on the following Tuesday, there was virtually no other date open to the society.

It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr. James Stratton, seconded by Mr. James Harris, "That the Maidenhead, 1907, meeting be held on Tuesday, June 11th, and three following days."

It was further unanimously resolved that the secretary be instructed to write to the secretary of the Bath and West of England Society, suggesting that in the event of the society being unable to omit Monday, June 10th, from its Newport meeting, and in order to minimise the inconvenience to exhibitors of stock wishing to show at both meetings in consequence of the clashing of dates, the council of the Bath and West Society should allow exhibits entered for the Maidenhead Show to leave the Newport showyard on the evening of Saturday, June 8th, so as to enable them to be received at Maidenhead on Monday, June 10th.

Various business of minor importance was transacted.

Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks Show.

The seventeenth annual show of the above Association was held on Wednesday at High Wycombe. The weather was for the most part fine, although a slight shower fell in the afternoon, but this did not in any way mar the proceedings, and there was a large attendance of the public. The entries numbered 472, being a reduction of twenty-seven of last year, when they reached the total of 499.

There was a fairly good display of agricultural horses, the principal prize-winners in this department being Mr. R. W Hudson (Danesfield, Marlow), the Hon. W. F. D. Smith (Greenlands).

The Hunters and hacks were rather short in numbers, but there were some good animals in the open classes. Mr. J. H. Stokes was again successful with Whiskey, which has now won about £700 in prizes in various parts of the Kingdom. In the open class for hacks over 14 hands 2 in., Mrs. W. C. N. Chapman, of Canterbury, was successful with Miss Trix, whilst in that for hacks under 14 hand 2 in. Colonel E. N. Henriques, of Mursley, took the premier award with Bumpkin. There was only a small entry of polo ponies, Mr. E. Bell, of Henley-on-Thames, winner with The Rajah.

Much interest was taken in the jumping and driving competitions, the former being better than usual, the large entry in the open class providing some good sport for the numerous onlookers. Miss Marion Dyer, of Mill Hill, Middlesex, took the premier honours in this class with her horse Alfred, which was second at Buckingham on the previous day, Mrs. E. M. Clarke, of Skindles, Maidenhead, being second with Topp. Mrs. Clarke also secured the first prize in the local class with Settee, and Mr. B. Robins, of Rickmansworth, was second. In the second open class for horses not exceeding 14.2, the first prize went to Mr. R. Tugwell, of Tetbury, with Dainty, an animal which did well at the Royal Show at Derby, the Bath and West at Swindon, and the Oxfordshire at Henley. In the driving competitions the single harness horses were excellent, and in the local classes the animals were shown in good condition.

Mr. E. H. OAKLEY,
Secretary of the Yeovil Agricultural Society.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Marketing Eggs and Poultry.

SIR,—With reference to the interesting paragraph given in the "Midland Notes" in your issue of Sept. 3, it is a satisfaction to find that you have thus called attention to the districts where considerable opportunities should present themselves for the organisation of the trade in eggs and chickens. Hitherto we have not been able to do anything in the Midlands for various reasons, one of which is that in some districts, more especially contiguous to the great centres of population, the local demand is far greater than the supply, and the produce is marketed on the spot.

Under these circumstances it will be realised that the returns, as a rule, are fairly good; but there are many other parts of the counties to which your note specially refers where these conditions do not prevail. Under those circumstances, however, what has been wanting is the local initiative or the disposition of persons who are interested in this question to take first steps.

It will be realised that when once a depot has commenced, the work depends upon local effort, the National Poultry Organisation Society being the centre for information and for combination in respect to marketing. Until the minds of the people in any given district are roused to the importance of this question, nothing can be done. The success of a depot must depend upon the loyalty of its members, and to secure that loyalty it is essential that they shall see the necessity for better methods, and be ready to adopt them. Where this is the case, and the system of marketing expedited, a guarantee is thus given to traders and consumers which enhances very considerably the returns. Not only so, but very often the establishment of a depot in a district compels others who are engaged in the trade to modify their system and bring it up to modern requirements.

Whilst thanking you, therefore, for calling attention to this matter, I shall esteem it a favour if you would permit me to say that we shall be pleased to hear from anyone disposed to help in this direction in any part of the country, and also to send copies of our literature to applicants on receipt of a stamped envelope for reply.—I am, yours faithfully, EDWARD BROWN,
Secretary.

National Poultry Organisation Society,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.
September 7, 1906.

Hodge and His Prospects.

SIR,—I intervene with some timidity in the War of the Roses which has been going on in your correspondence pages for so many weeks. One knows what often happens in such cases—both the contestants fall upon the interloper. But on the question of the farm labourer's position and prospects there is something more to be said. Is it a fact that our friend Hodge is nowadays so very badly off? Frankly, I do not think so. There are hard cases, of course. It is but a few days since I was listening to the woes of a Worcestershire farm hand, who is endeavouring to keep a wife and young family on 14s. a week, with only 30s. extra at harvest, and neither beer nor cider nor anything in the way of food provided for him. This man—a fair specimen of a good many in his district—pays 1s. 9d. a week for his cottage and garden; but the latter is large and productive, so that in the course of the year he does pretty well out of it. But in every village one finds men who have spent a lifetime on the land, lived healthily if poorly, and contrived to bring up sturdy and numerous families, by whom, in turn, they are supported in old age. One cannot regard a man who can do all this as other than a useful, deserving, and successful member of the community. "But," it is said, "the farm hand must always be a servant, and has no way to independence." The only possible answer to that is that it is demonstratably untrue. Farming is not an easy business to start in, because even the smallest farm requires a good deal of capital to work it; but wherever there is a chance for the market-gardening and fruit-growing small holder to thrive, one may find men who have risen from the foot of the ladder to positions of prosperity and independence. There are plenty to-day in Worcestershire who have done so. Nor is it only in such favoured regions as this that the small man has a fair chance of coming to the front. While week-ending in Cumberland a little time ago it was pleasant for a Midlander to learn of the comfortable position of the hinds in that picturesque country of lake and fell. Considering how much is done for him in the way of free board and lodging, a north country labourer of a careful and saving disposition can manage, I am told, to put by a matter of £20 to £30 a year, so that at a reasonably early age he can expect to be in a position to take and stock one of the small farms which are common here. Of course, the small amount of arable land, and consequent small outlay on implements, is all in his favour. How far these impressions of a visitor are correct I leave it to the natives to say; at any rate, they are supported by the fact that one finds, so far as my experience and information go, comparatively few married men working for hire on these north country farms. No; the position of the farm hand is by no means so hopeless as the pessimists would have us believe, and if local authorities cared to exercise their powers in the way of starting small holdings where there is a fair chance of their success, there would be very little to complain of in his prospects.—Yours faithfully,
WORCESTER.

The Butter Tests and Milking Trials at Tring Show.

SIR,—I notice a letter from a correspondent referring to my remarks in "Notes and Jottings" anent the very low records of some of the animals in the milking trials and butter tests at the above show. I fail to see where any charge of unfairness or carelessness is implied, but as far as ordinary mistakes are concerned, I have yet to learn that judges are any more infallible than other people; at least, I must admit that this remark applies to myself.

Your correspondent mentions that the separated milk was retained and examined before churning, and where any cream presented itself it was skimmed and added to its legitimate cream lot; nothing, however, is said about the buttermilk. Now it is well known that a degree or two in the temperature of the cream at churning makes a great difference to the yield of butter, a quantity often escaping in the buttermilk, and though it is well known that every care is taken to have all these lots of cream started in the churn at a uniform temperature, I contend that it is next to impossible to do this. Many times, when judging in churning competitions, I have noticed how very quickly some of the dairymaids take out the thermometer the moment it shows the desired temperature; it is not allowed time to reach its level. Between this hurry and the varying thermometers (for these instruments often vary), especially when more than one person is concerned in taking the temperatures, it is most difficult to assure oneself that they are uniform. Then when a churn is required to be used a second time straight away, it is next to impossible to allow sufficient time for it to return to the low temperature of 52 deg. required, and I have no doubt in such cases, were the temperature taken again a few minutes after the churner has commenced the second lot, it would be found to have risen very considerably.

Your correspondent mentions the average butter ratio of the Jerseys tested for the past nineteen years. I presume he refers to the showyard tests. About the commencement of that period named I went to a great deal of trouble in ascertaining the home butter ratio under ordinary feeding and management of several of our breeds of cattle where well-bred and well-managed herds were kept. The records I received then were: Jerseys 18 lb. of milk to one of butter, Shorthorns 27, Kerries 25, Red Polls and Ayrshires 22, so that it appears under the higher feeding, which is usually given to animals competing in these tests, the quality of the milk deteriorates. The publication of such terribly low ratios as some of those referred to cannot but be prejudicial to our British breeds of cattle, and I little wonder that so many foreign buyers should patronise the Continental breeds in preference to our own, as they are now doing. One of the greatest safeguards of the prosperity of British farmers will ever be the maintaining the highest possible quality in everything they produce, and to allow animals yielding these impoverished qualities of milk to remain in the competitions is, to say the least of it, a very questionable policy.—Yours, &c.,
September 7, 1906. NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

Shortage of Milk.

SIR,—The chief cause of the shortage of milk during the past month is that so few farmers have had their milk to sell, nearly all being sold by contracts made months ago when milk was plentiful, at prices that do not pay for the increased outlay that would have been necessary to keep up their supply during the drought. I know that some dealers have offered their farmers a greatly-increased price for all the milk they could make, over and above the minimum quantity contracted for, but are they likely to exceed their minimum quantity, which must first be produced at a loss?

Those farmers whose contracts expire at Michaelmas should take advantage of the present scarcity and demand a price in their new contracts that will recoup them for their losses during the present drought and provide for a similar contingency in the future.—Yours truly,
September 11, 1906. A DAIRY FARMER.

The Knavish Dealer or the Innocent Farmer?

SIR,—In reading the interesting letters which appeared on the correspondence page in the last issue, one cannot help observing how true it is that there are two sides to every question. "Cumberland," for instance, made a suggestion a few weeks ago that dealers in feeding stuffs should, in common with farmers, be able to get their wares analysed through the MARK LANE EXPRESS free of cost. The reply given to the request was a sound and logical reason for non-compliance, and evidently "Cumberland" anticipated it, judging from his letter in the last issue. Revenge is sweet, and your correspondent indulges in a little peep into the other side of the question. He is not unreasonable, for we certainly do hear a good deal about the unfair methods of dealers and traders who victimise farmers, and while everyone is expected to sympathise with the protection of the latter, the former must look after himself.

From the traders' point of view this does not seem hardly just, and in the way of taking advantage of customers perhaps the methods of many farmers who sell are no more above criticism than those of the traders from whom they buy. This is the other side of the question, however.
September 13, 1906. LUX.

Cause of Wheat Failing.

SIR,—Can you through your valuable paper give me any information as to the cause of my wheat being scrawlly or stubble fallen before cutting? My land is rather stong, and I find where the strongest land the worst fallen is the wheat.—Yours faithfully, W. CALLWOOD.
Westminster Farm,
Frankley, near Birmingham.
September 12, 1906.

Hailstorm and the Crops—£55,000 Uninsured Losses.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit us to appeal through your columns to the generous public on behalf of the sufferers from the recent hailstorm in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, and Huntingdonshire? In many cases allotments have been completely stripped of their produce, cottage gardens have suffered severely, and fine crops of all kinds of corn battered out of all hope of even paying for their ingathering.

The damage done to uninsured persons has been valued at £20,000 in Bedfordshire, £20,000 in Cambridgeshire, and at £15,000 in Huntingdonshire. Each of these counties has started local relief funds, which have received liberal support from their own inhabitants, but the sum required is too large for local help only, and we therefore ask all those who are interested in the welfare of the farming and labouring classes to assist us.

All sums collected from this appeal to the general public will be equally divided between the three counties, unless any subscriber requests that his subscription may be put to any particular county's fund.

Subscriptions may be sent to us, care of our respective clerks.—We are, yours faithfully,
ST JOHN, H.M. Lieut., co. Beds.
ALEXANDER PECKOVER, H.M. Lieut., co. Cambs.
SANDWICH, H.M. Lieut., co. Hunts.

Prevention of Butter Frauds.—Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., speaking at the Yeovil Agricultural Society's dinner on Thursday, said, speaking on behalf of the Government, they had every desire to introduce a bill at the first possible moment to put down fraud in the butter trade. It was not possible to attempt to introduce such a bill during the autumn sitting, for the reason that the recommendations and the evidence upon which the bill would be founded were to be carefully investigated and considered by those who would be responsible for bringing it in. It was well known that the intention of the Government in connection with the autumn sitting was only to complete the business left over.

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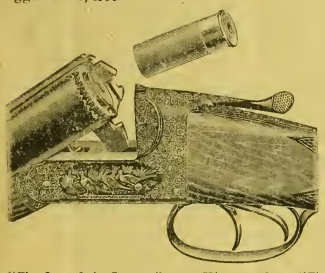

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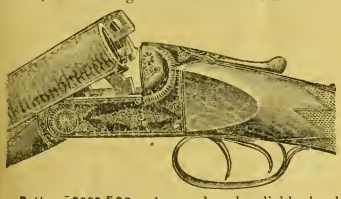

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Northern Notes.

THE harvesting of cereals was completed within a month on large holdings in East Yorkshire, with the minimum of breaks caused by untoward weather. On one of these farms were counted forty-three stacks of corn. The two yards were filled to repletion, and it was necessary to build three stacks outside. The descendants of the first cultivator of the soil, Father Adam, never worked harder than these Yorkshiremen, and none could look happier, with their rubicund faces, at the month's end. Threshings are common after the rapid harvest, as there is some anxiety to ascertain whether the yield of grain responds to the great bulk of straw. Most farmers agree that a "lot of stuff" has been stacked.

MANY instances have come to notice of longevity amongst farmers and labourers who have taken a turn in the harvest-field. A patriarchal individual at Driffield, aged ninety-six, broadcasted some seed corn in the spring of the year, and during harvest he looked well enough to undertake some light duty. He has been a worker on the soil all his life, and is now as straight as a Grenadier Guardsman. In the Bedale district a labourer, aged ninety, gave assistance in the field; and four others, averaging eighty-four years apiece gave a hand with the scythe.

SO far, the number of farm fires caused by spontaneous combustion or wilfully have been few in the North. There is a fear of heated stacks, as a result of hurried carting; but one must not anticipate troubles. Produce should be insured at the earliest possible moment. When a serious fire breaks out in a district far removed from a town possessing a fire-engine the possibilities of wholesale destruction are great. A farm fire recently broke out at Cronswick in Yorkshire, and consumed the barn and other buildings. Great fear was felt that two casual labourers had met their death in the conflagration, and the brigade, summoned from a distance, after subduing the outbreak, were set to work "to recover the bodies" from among the debris. Fortunately, the men had slept away from the farm that night, and luckily escaped a terrible fate.

THERE is no question that, at the time of writing, rain is wanted very badly in grazing districts all over the North of England, and the absence of showers is aggravating the scarcity in the supply of milk, caused to some extent by the increase in the demand. Graziers find it necessary to "cake" the cattle under present conditions, as outdoor feed is rapidly diminishing. Frequent showers would be regarded as a Godsend, as white turnips, as was predicted, if a spell of droughty weather was experienced, are showing unmistakable signs of mildew, and swedes are only doing moderately, in some places very badly. A bad account is also given of grass land, fogs are stunted in growth, and seeds are fast disappearing. The weather is of the most desirable character for finishing up the tail end of harvest; but it spells disappointment and loss to the grazier and to the farmers of mixed holdings. Lambs are cheapening and becoming somewhat difficult to move in the face of the unpleasant circumstances. A strong reserve of dry fodder is at hand in the hay ricks, but the situation for the flockmaster is full of perplexity.

CO-OPERATION among the working classes is developing rapidly in several Northern counties. The principle is not taking root very rapidly among the farmers. The problem of practical co-operation in farming is much more difficult than its application to keeping shop for the distribution of domestic requirements. An impartial examination of the successful foreign systems of land working leads inevitably to the conclusion that their success is because of two factors common to them all. The first is a very complete system of agricultural technical education; the second a highly developed system of co-operation between the farmers. In our own country these factors exist only in a minor degree, and our problem of agriculture is mainly the problem of how to make technical education and co-operation a vital part of English farming. So far as technical teaching is concerned the way lies very clearly. The Education Act of 1902 placed in the hands of county councils very full powers to provide the most complete system of education that the ratepayers will sanction; and if the councillors and their electors chose there is no reason why the English farmer should not be as well educated, technically, as his fellow in Denmark.

SOME time ago publicity was given in this column to a proposed sale of portions of two great landed estates in the county of "broad" acres. The first of the sales by auction of large farms on the estate of the Downe family has proved abortive, none of the holdings (some with the richest land in East Yorkshire), fetching anything approaching the reserve prices. Next week and the week after, fifteen farms, comprising

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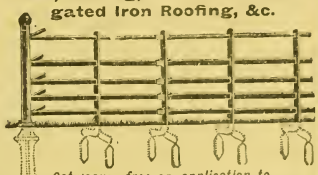

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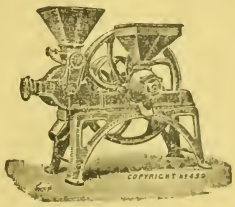

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THE CHAMPION RAM for 1905 (BRED BY MR. TOM CASSWELL) and the CHAMPION RAM for 1906 (BRED BY MR. HENRY DUDDING), SOLD for 1,450 GUINEAS, were DIPPED IN BATTLE'S DIPS. WHY? BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST.

BATTLE, MALTBY & BOWER, LINCOLN.

nearly 13,000 acres of mixed land, at present included in the Londesborough estate, will come into the market. These opportunities, it was thought, would be seized by some of the sitting tenants. In the first case this speculation was unrealised. At the forthcoming sale, maybe, the tenants may choose to become their own landlords. As an indication of the value of land up here, one may mention that a 180 acre sheep farm, 5½ miles from a station is let at £180 a year, or £1 an acre. Another sheep and barley farm of 275 acres brings in a rental of £215, while a third property, upon which there is much winged and ground game, and containing 1,615 acres, produces a rental of £1,167 per annum; there seems to be a shyness about sinking money in land, notwithstanding.

September 13, 1906.

The Borough.

What can I say about the hop market, when it is practically non-existent? The condition of "suspended animation" to which I referred last week still continues. Merchants will not recognise the shortage reports to the extent they are circulated by growers, and postpone their operations until more convincing or conclusive evidence is forthcoming.

The larger growers are determined to see the business through, and show no anxiety to sell, the only persons who seem to desire business being a few of those who understand the meaning of financial pressure, and who are therefore asking for bids.

I understand that some choice Mid Kents have changed hands at £8, and I hear of a few other sales at £7 to £7 10s., but these are but as drops in a bucket, for as regards the general market, it is nearer to stagnation than anything else. Some of the men one sees hanging about the factors' offices with depressed expressions of face, sucking their pipes for comfort and apparently finding none, are, I hear, very willing to sell, and the money they are open to accept ranges from £5 10s. to £6. But they cannot meet with buyers disposed to buy, and they will return home with no results unless, as is probable, some friendly factor has taken compassion upon them and advanced them cash wherewith to meet the demands of their pickers.

An important buyer from the Midlands was in town to-day, but he laughed at all the current quotations, and departed without placing an order for a single pocket. The under current that appears to create this stationary position suggests that perhaps we still, after all the alarmist reports, see a fairly good harvest. For myself, I can say that in the districts that I have visited this week there is no fear that we shall be short of hops. I have seen garden after garden in which picking was in full swing, and where the pickers were contentedly and cheerfully at work on the tally of seven for a shilling.

Such a rate does not indicate a very short crop, and this idea is confirmed when I hear in many places that 12, 14, and even 16 cwts per acre have been secured. Of course there are some poor yields, but if I am to judge by what I have personally come in contact with, and the reports that have come to me from other districts, I may be satisfied that we shall not get less than 300,000 cwts when the harvest is finished.

This is but a small crop, and considering the great cost at which it has been secured, should certainly be well paid for. Unhappily in this cruel world we do not all obtain our deserts, and I am very much afraid that our hard-working planters will mark this season in their memories as one in which their anxieties and labour were excessive, their returns poor, and their profit nil.

Our Foreign Trade.

The Years' Balance-Sheet.

The returns just completed enable us to survey the results of the trading during the past hop year, ending August 31. We find that our receipts have been:—

	Cwts.
From the U.S.A.	95,694
From other countries	97,723
Total imports for 1905-6	193,417

During this period we have shipped to our Colonies and other parts of the world, the following:—

	Cwts.
English hops	16,602
Foreign hops	4,504
Total exports	21,106

After deducting the exports from the imports, we are left with the important balance of 172,311 cwt., supplementing our large crop of last season, and loading our market unduly, the results being evident in the low range of prices at which we have been compelled to sell our produce.

If we estimate the stocks in the hands of brewers and merchants at the close of the 1904-5 season at the moderate figure of 100,000 cwt., and take into account the 1905 crop as officially returned, adding thereto the balance of imports given above, we may fairly conclude that during the past twelve months we have had to deal with something like 1,000,000 cwt. of hops. What has become of them? We have good reason to believe that the quantity now remaining in the hands of dealers and growers is comparatively small.

The average consumption as declared by brewers during the past five years hardly reaches 600,000 cwt. per annum, the latest return being 556,793 cwt., so that after making allowance for the hops used for dry hopping, and by all other consumers, we cannot safely calculate upon an annual demand of over 650,000 cwt.

If this be approximately correct there must be left in stock somewhere, from last year, some 350,000 cwt. or thereabouts. From all we can learn, nearly the whole of these are under the control of consumers, and as, from the reports to hand, we have reason to expect that imports will be quite up to the average this coming season, our growers can hardly look towards the future with unalloyed satisfaction, especially when they consider the small returns they have this year obtained from their plantations, on the whole.

If we could shut out the foreign competitor, or call upon him to pay for the privilege of being permitted to compete with us, we should have a more encouraging prospect. But there is no hope at present in this direction, therefore I fear that a very trying time is in front of English planters, and I shall not be surprised if the next return of our hop acreage shows further important reductions.

The Latest Word About Hop Drying.

It is now fully recognised by all who are interested in the hop industry, that Ezra Meeker, the pioneer of hop growing on the West Coast of America, spoke the truth, when he said "the manufacture of hops for the brewer's use commences when the cones are brought to the kiln." The previous operations of cultivation, training, washing, &c., in fact, all that is done in the field, require skill, good judgment, outlay, and persevering labour. But climatic influences, and other workings of Nature, form such an important element in the growth of the crop, that frequently, as in the present year, the efforts of the planter are thwarted, and his expectations are disappointed. But as soon as the crop is safely gathered, and the pokes are landed at the Oast the further process is entirely in the hands of the grower, who can spoil or perfect his produce according to his knowledge and desire.

In old times there was, unfortunately, much ignorance of the conditions necessary for proper curing, with the result that hops were burned or slack-dried, and their value for brewing was not seldom seriously depreciated. But during later years careful consideration has been given to this most important branch, and many improvements have been introduced, each having for their object exact curing, whereby the delicate flavour and colour of the cones may be preserved, and the superfluous moisture expelled, so that the contents of the pockets may be kept in store free from any danger of depreciation. It is now acknowledged that an ample supply or draught of air, not unduly heated, is essential to success, and the recent discovery that poisonous gases, emanating from the fuel, may be condensed by the passage of the products of combustion through the drying floor, has induced the conclusion that the air employed to remove the moisture must be pure.

In order to secure all these desirable results, steam-driven fans running at high speed have been designed, and many of our most advanced planters have, at considerable cost, erected the necessary machinery. Such systems have been proved to be very effective, and have in most instances satisfied those who have adopted them. But the greater number of planters are not possessed of sufficient spare capital to be able to incur the outlay. It has therefore become necessary for some simpler and less expensive arrangements to be made that would secure equally good results. My own thoughts have been actively engaged in this direction, and certain suggestions made to Mr. Joyce, the inventor of the well-known Reek Dissipator, have resulted in a combination which I had the pleasure of seeing in operation this week at the Hempstead Oast of Mr. George H. Dean, of Tong, Sittingbourne.

Mr. Dean has many kilns, all of which have been fitted with the Reek Dissipator for several seasons. He is completely satisfied with the working of this system, but twas at once attracted by the further advantages offered by the combination that I will now endeavour to describe:—

The kiln placed at Mr. Joyce's disposal is 20 ft. square. Within the space usually occupied by the open fire, an iron casing is erected. This contains a closed furnace, fitted with hollow fire bars and a series of large pipes made of sheet iron, through which the heat and all the products of combustion are conducted from the furnace. Thus the first object is gained, as all the gaseous emanations from the fuel are discharged into the open air, and cannot by any possibility come into contact with the hops. The pipes being affected by the passage of the heat arising from the furnace, provide the means of heating the air, which is admitted in such volume as may be desired through valves placed at the lower part of the outer casing already mentioned.

Thus the regulation of the air and its heat are under the complete control of the drier. The upper part of the casing is expanded to the full size of the drying floor, by the construction of what may be described as a false floor, which is within a short distance of the Hair, and with the help of a baffler, distributes the pure hot air evenly through the load of hops. The current of air from below being thus arranged for, there is also in action another heated current, which is discharged on the upper side of the load, this being affected by the action of the hollow furnace bars, through which cold air, drawn from the outside of the kiln is passed and heated, and being conveyed by a separate pipe which is taken through the floor and the air it warms the upper half, dispersing the reek and creates a strong draught. Provision is made for burning brimstone as required, and it appears as if every point had been considered, and everything necessary for the accomplishment of the object in view had been arranged.

The claims of the inventor of this combination have been fulfilled in the experience of the past fortnight, during which time the kiln has been in constant use. Any kind of fuel can be burned, the quantity of it is reduced, the hops cannot be contaminated by it, the heat can be managed to a nicety, only pure air comes in contact with the hops, and a larger bulk of hops can be cured in a given time. Last, but not least, simplicity is the chief feature of this system: it can be comprehended and managed by any man of ordinary intelligence, and it has the additional merit, as I am informed, of being comparatively inexpensive, both as to installation and maintenance. It is distinctly a step in advance, and will, I should think, commend itself to the favourable attention of our planters.

North-Eastern Farmers' Federation Conference.

The second annual conference of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation will be held on Saturday, October 13, in the Great Hall of the Armstrong College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, which has been kindly granted by the college authorities for the purpose.

The conference will be presided over by Mr. J. Knox Lyal, of Peepy (the president for the year), and the Earl of Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, has signified his intention of being present, and will take part in the proceedings.

The following subjects have been placed on the agenda with a view to bring them before his lordship:—

1. The Inequalities of Rating as Applied to Land.
2. The Sheep Dipping Orders.
3. Land Tenure.
4. The Legal Disabilities of Dairy Farmers and the Remedy.
5. Education, as applied to Agriculture.

As all of these subjects have been entrusted to speakers who understand the needs of farmers from the practical side, it is expected that the exchange of views with Lord Carrington will be both interesting and productive of good results. It is intended to invite all the Members of Parliament in the district covered by the Federation (as listeners), and, of course, all farmers will be welcome.

It may be useful to point out that the North Eastern Railway Co. have kindly agreed to issue cheap return tickets from all stations on their lines to members of any of the federated societies on production of a card signed by the secretaries. These cards will be issued to members through the local secretary of each society in ample time.

Under these favourable circumstances it is hoped that a gathering of farmers and others interested in agriculture worthy of the district may be expected to meet Lord Carrington, whose deep sympathy with farmers is so well known, as is exemplified in the liberal management of his own estates.

Midland Notes.

AS these lines are being written rain is descending gently upon the parched fields, the first we have had since a week ago, when expectations of a break-up of the long-continued drought were sadly disappointed. Only here and there have there been occasional local showers, and the water scarcity, which was referred to yesterday by Mr. T. S. Townsend at the Rugby Show luncheon, is still a source of serious inconvenience and anxiety. Even Evesham and Pershore, which are usually plentifully supplied from the Cotswolds, are going short, and North Warwickshire is anxiously awaiting the development of the local company's scheme for the supply of villages between Birmingham and Coventry. In the southern part of the county the farm water cart is to be met almost everywhere carrying water from the Avon and its tributaries, and in default of proper water carts, waggons laden with milk churns and similar extemporised receptacles are pressed into service. Round about Rugby and Coventry it is not unusual for farmers to have to cart water two or three miles for their stock, while so far as one can gather the failure of wells and pumps is, if anything, even more general on the Leicestershire side. An outbreak of fire—and we have had a good many farm fires lately—would be a very serious thing indeed in many of our villages just now. On all accounts, then, one is glad to hear that Mr. Townsend purposes raising the whole question of the water supply of rural Warwickshire at the next county council meeting. It is impossible to serve small country villages as adequately as the big cities, but certainly the present state of affairs is far from satisfactory.

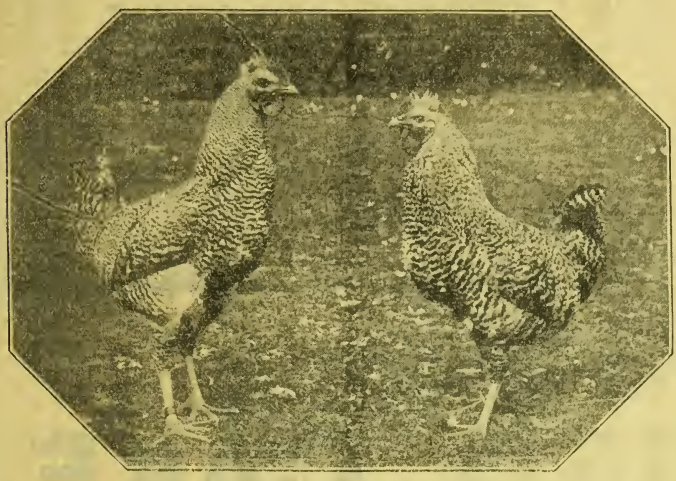
THE Worcestershire County Council has just decided to purchase something over forty-six acres of land at Littleton for the purpose of small holdings. When one remembers the outlay necessary for dividing up the land and providing needful buildings, the initial cost of practically £57 16s. per acre may seem heavy; but it is not so heavy that it need cause any anxiety as to the future of the venture. In the fertile Avon valley, so heavily cropped with fruit and market garden produce, land is valuable, and quite a small amount will keep a family in decent comfort; there are, indeed, already over 10,000 acres of small holdings in the Vale of Evesham district close at hand, mostly in tenancies of three to eight acres, and probably the future occupiers of the council's new possession will get their holdings on quite as favourable terms as their neighbours.

IT is pleasant, by the way, to hear that this Vale of Evesham district has had a better season than seemed at all likely when the late frosts practically destroyed the plum crop in the spring. Early in the year growers made very fair profits out of spring cabbage and other greenstuffs, while the asparagus season was quite a good one. Peas and beans have not ranked among the profitable crops this year; both were much too plentiful, with the result that markets were glutted; and pears have been as great a failure as plums. Indeed of the fruit crops, strawberries alone gave anything like general satisfaction. But apples at 6s. to 10s. a pot are profitable to grow; and as Pershore plums have averaged some 10s. a pot and Victorias half as much again, the fortunate people who have marketed a third to half a crop of them—as some few have—must have had an excellent year.

MILK producers in the Nottingham district have set an example which might be advantageously followed in other parts, having entered into an agreement with the local dealers, who are to raise the retail price by a half-penny per pint, and to share the extra twopence per gallon thus extracted from consumers equally with the farmers. No difficulty in obtaining the higher price from consumers is expected.

VISCOUNT Helmsley's recent advice to farmers—*i.e.*, that they should pay more heed to the lessons of the various experiment stations—would be less needed if other parts of the country were all so well served in this direction as the Midlands. On the one side we have the Harper-Adams College, which Staffordshire and Shropshire farmers have quickly come to recognise as an entirely practical and useful institution; on the other there is the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute at Kingston, Derby, whose report has just been sent to me. On thirteen farms in Notts, eleven in Lincoln, nine in Derby, and eight in Leicester, experiments of one kind or another are being conducted in connection with the institute, with the result that many who would never think of making a journey to headquarters or writing for an official report are made acquainted with what is being done. Especially useful are the trials of different varieties of seed one against another. That sort of thing is done much more thoroughly in Canada than here, to the manifest advantage of farmers in the Dominion. One would like to see an extension of enterprise in this direction, for there is still a great future before the scientific seedsman and improver of farm crops, and only by the help of the experiment stations can we hope for timely knowledge of the really good things among the much praised new introductions that are constantly being made.

September 13, 1906.



A PAIR OF PLYMOUTH ROCK COCKERELS.

DAIRY.

Western Counties Cheddar Cheese School.

The third draft of cheese, weighing over 36 cwt., made during the month of June last at the above-named school, carried on at Glendale Farm, near Wedmore, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill, Bros., of Evercreech, at 70s. per cwt. of 112 lb. Four thousand five hundred and fifty-four gallons of milk made 4,317 lb. of green cheese, which when sold weighed 4,079 lb., showing a shrinkage of about 5½ per cent.

The following particulars relating to the manufacture of the cheese will be of interest to cheese-makers:—Temperature of milk when renneted, 84 deg.; acidity of milk when renneted, ·19 deg.; temperature of first and second scalds, 88 deg. and 93 deg.; acidity of milk at close of second scald, ·15 deg.; acidity of whey when vatted, ·85 deg.; average time when cheese was put in press, 3 p.m. A large number of pigs have been, and are being, fattened in connection with the school.

POULTRY.

Enemies of the Poultry Yard.

Poultry-keepers who reside in the country have some disadvantage as against their many advantages as compared with those who live in towns, and amongst these are the depredations made by rats in both farmers' and cottagers' holdings, and by foxes in fox-hunting counties. In spite of the various remedies which have been invented for the demolition of these pests there are hundreds of chickens and ducklings killed. They are really difficult things to destroy, as they are so cunning. Many poultry-keepers attempt to poison them, but, unfortunately, in doing away with rats by this method they are apt to lose their chickens unless great care is taken.

There are several kinds of four-legged animals we, as poultry-keepers, have to guard against. In villages and towns cats are a great nuisance, though poor puss is useful for many things. Then in country places there are weasels, which will often clear off half a dozen chickens in a night, and they will frequently come in the daytime too. The worst of these animals is they do not kill the chickens and eat them, but merely kill them for their blood, therefore they are rather dangerous things to have round a poultry-yard.

Young weasels and stoats are easy to shoot, as they often play about very early in the morning, like young kittens, and if one is shot and left dead on the ground, very often in a few seconds the mother finds it, and it commences to carry it away, so that when a person shoots a young weasel or stoat he should always wait for five or ten minutes. If he does this he is almost certain to see the old one coming to take her dead young one away, and there is a good opportunity to dispose of the mother also.

Poultry-keepers who live in fox-hunting districts are very much tormented with those animals, but it is certainly easier to guard against foxes than weasels or rats. During the night at this time of the year they will often fetch the chickens away, and occasionally the stock birds too, their depredations sometimes extending to the middle of the day. If the poultryman puts half a charge of powder and shot in his gun and stings them a bit they will not come again. In districts where no fox-hunting is carried on it is best to give them a whole charge and settle it at once, as then they are neither use nor ornament.

It is rather remarkable that if half a charge is fired at a fox, dog, or cat from a moderate distance, when they are prowling about after chickens, and it hits them, not one out of twenty will be seen in the same spot again. It is different if a stick or stone is thrown at them (even if they do get it), as they will return again in a few days; but when the shots rub their skin, this, together with the sound of the gun, seems to make such an impression on them that they appear not to forget it in a hurry.

We have met a good many poultry-keepers this year who have lost their fowls and chickens by foxes. In most hunting districts compensation is allowed. It is very annoying when foxes kill the chickens and no compensation is allowed, especially if the young ones are intended for stock purposes, or are bred from birds of value for any certain purpose, as in such cases money cannot fully compensate for the loss.

Some people are very fond of fox-hunting, and we have heard them say they do not mind losing a few fowls. It must be remembered, however, there are scores of people living in the country who do not go in for fox-hunting, but at the same time are greatly troubled with the depredations of these animals. We will therefore mention a remedy which came under our notice some time ago.

We went into a field where there were about 500 chickens, and there were young foxes in the woods all round, and instead of destroying them, the owner kept a cross-bred dog, which was half Scotch terrier and half beagle. The animal would lie and watch for the young foxes as a cat would for a mouse, and as soon as one came into the field he would run it through the wood.

Neither dog, cat, nor anything will keep the poultry-yard entirely free from rats, which are, if possible, far more cunning than foxes. After studying the habits of rats, we notice that unless they are very hungry they will not come out until it is getting dusk. There is often a great difficulty in catching them during the day, and sometimes in the hot weather, though they may have holes all about the place, not a rat can be seen in the daytime.

These pests are very much like rabbits in one respect, especially during the summer months, as sometimes they will go a distance away from home and make a hole in the bank, and have their young ones in a hedgerow. Frequently they will not bring their young home until they can run well and are able to take care of themselves. In many districts they keep the young ones out in a cornfield, and the old ones seem to know when harvest time is coming, as they

begin to clear out and make their nests in the fields. Occasionally when the last patch of corn is cut there will be found from ten to one hundred rats, especially when it has been cut down by horsepower.

In the breeding season the old doe rats should be cleared off, as each one killed at this time of the year means twenty or thirty young ones, as the latter begin in their turn to breed when they are two months old. Though the rats have their holes in the field, if there is no corn they are almost sure to take young birds if they get half a chance.

Perhaps one does not see signs of them for a week, and all of a sudden swarms of them come. They travel about a great deal, but not so much in flocks during the summer as in winter. The reason of this is because during the hot weather all the does are breeding, and therefore cannot leave their nests; but the bucks go about in flocks during the summer from place to place.

The most effective way of preventing the accumulation of rats is to keep a sharp terrier who is game for vermin, and unless there is grain about in store-houses or barns this method answers well, but when there is a lot of grain about their collecting cannot be avoided, but they may be disposed of by having a supply of specially prepared virus put down, which causes them to disappear altogether. When foxes are the pest, the birds can be saved by having wired-in runs with a strand of barbed wire fastened with tying wire to the edge of the wire-netting, as foxes have never been known to scale this.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Exclusive Reports.

Durham. IN the Darlington district of the county of Durham a good average crop of hay has been exceedingly well got, and the major part of the corn has now been cut and some little stacked. But in the dales to the west there has been a good deal more rain and a quantity of grass is still to cut, and I am afraid a good deal of what has been cut is very much spoiled. Barley and wheat are good average crops. Oats are lighter; under average. Beef is selling very badly. Mutton and lamb very well. Lamb sales are very good—in fact, they were considered good last year, and are making 3s. or 4s. a head more this. Turnips, early sown, good; late sown, almost a failure.

Essex (North-West). SPLENDID harvest weather is enabling us to carry a good all-round crop of wheat, barley, peas and beans, oats being of a variable character in our neighbourhood. The wheat will be above the average, the barley an average crop, whilst beans, though short in the straw, are very well podded. The clover seeds are maturing, and promise a fair yield. Mangolds, notwithstanding the severe drought, look well, though swedes and white turnips have felt the effects of want of water. This district has been exceptionally dry, and but for a very heavy rain on June 29, which saved the situation for the corn (though it killed the partridges), we have had no rain to speak of, excepting occasional showers and slight thunderstorms. Sheep, lambs, and pigs have met with a ready sale, and prices seem likely to hold good. Wool has also been a valuable asset, ranging from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. Another ten days of fine weather will see the harvest home, and give us good time for preparation for winter tillage and sowings.

Hampshire. WHEAT is good, and some very fine pieces where the land is farmed well. Barley and oats are good this season; of course there are a few exceptions—bad farming, bad crops. Many a piece of wheat that is threshed has yielded ten sacks (or 40 bushels) per acre. Tares are a good crop, in many instances yielding up to 40 bushels per acre. Hay, with the exception of sainfoin, is not good; clovers are light; meadows are very poor for want of rain; sainfoin is good. Roots are a poor crop; both mangolds, swedes, turnips, and rape are very paltry, and in the majority a complete failure, owing to so much dry weather. Sheep have done well this summer, and free from any disease, but are not selling well, owing to the scarcity of keep. Beasts have done well; no disease of any kind.

Sussex. REPORTS to hand on the harvest of 1906 indicate that the season in Sussex has been a good one. In both east and west the wheat crop is spoken of as being thoroughly up to the average. This is speaking generally, but some slight qualification is necessary, the yield having been disappointing in one or two districts owing to blight. On the whole, however, the wheat harvest in Sussex appears to be a bountiful one, and both barley and oats are spoken of as yielding average crops and threshing out in good condition. All the reports agree on one point, and that is that the harvesting weather has, so far, been as favourable as could be wished. This has enabled the crops to be harvested by the self-binders with the minimum of trouble and expense, and in the best of condition. Rain is now badly wanted for the root crops, and unless it comes soon they will be much below the average.—*Sussex Daily News.*

Westmorland. WE are still haymaking, having had wet weather since the middle of July, which is our time for starting the hay on the sheep farms, as the ewes and lambs crop the meadows till nearly June. The weather seems improving now, and a fine month is badly wanted. Hay crops are good, and grazing land has had good feed all summer. Roots are a good crop, corn is fair, straw being rather short in some cases. The lamb crop has been a good one, and prices at present are good. Wool has made a fair price again; the earliest sellers, as last year, got the best price.

Cumberland. TAKING results as a whole, so far it has proved a favourable season. The first crop of the hay has proved an abundant one, and in the early districts the bulk of it has been well secured, but on high-lying grass farms and the intervening valleys the hay crop has suffered serious damage, and large quantities of the best grass has lost half its value by exposure to the continuous showers and drizzling rains which fell day after day for nearly three weeks. A most remarkable and beneficial change has now taken place; for the last four days we have had almost uninterrupted sunshine, bringing the corn crops to maturity and setting the reapers to work on all sides. The root crop is nearly all round a record crop. Potatoes, however, with few exceptions are short and weak in the shaws and thin in the tubers, and have been within the last week exhibiting signs of disease, but more in shaws than the tubers.

ROBSON'S FEED CAKE.

Great care is exercised in selecting the ingredients to make this Cake specially adapted for all classes of Stock.

EVERY FARMER SHOULD TRY IT.

Manufactured by the

BRITISH OIL & CAKE MILLS, Ltd., HULL.

Sold by Cake Merchants and Dealers.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

BASIC SLAG.

Brief History.

Attention was first drawn, about twenty-five years ago, to bassic slag as a phosphatic fertiliser; many agricultural scientists were then rather disposed to pooh-pooh its value, but experiments and field trials soon demonstrated that the plants—the most practical judges—availed themselves of it with eagerness Excellent results were obtained in different parts of the country, and this fact led to further investigations into its special properties, when it was discovered that the phosphoric acid in basic slag was not combined so closely and rigidly with the lime as the ordinary raw phosphate of lime; hence the fertilising constituents in it are more easily available as plant food. In this matter, as in many others of a scientific nature, Germany led the way, and basic slag has gradually taken its place as one of the most important and valuable aids to agriculture.

The world's consumption is estimated in round figures to be annually about 2,500,000 tons, of which Germany uses nearly 1,300,000 tons, while in the United Kingdom we employ only about 170,000 tons. The average consumption per acre of grass and tillage land in Germany is 32 lb., and in the United Kingdom about 8 lb. As a possible correlative of this fact, it may be pointed out that the yield of grass land in Germany has increased nearly 20 per cent. since the application of basic slag became general in that country.

In the cultivation of crops, the return to the soil of the phosphoric acid is the most vital. Whereas the potash is returned to a great extent in the animals' excretions, in the straw and other débris, the phosphoric acid is carried right off the farm in the grain, milk, wool and stock. To convey a concrete idea of the relative importance of phosphoric acid, lime and potash, it may be said every ox sold off the farm takes these three constituents in the following proportions:—

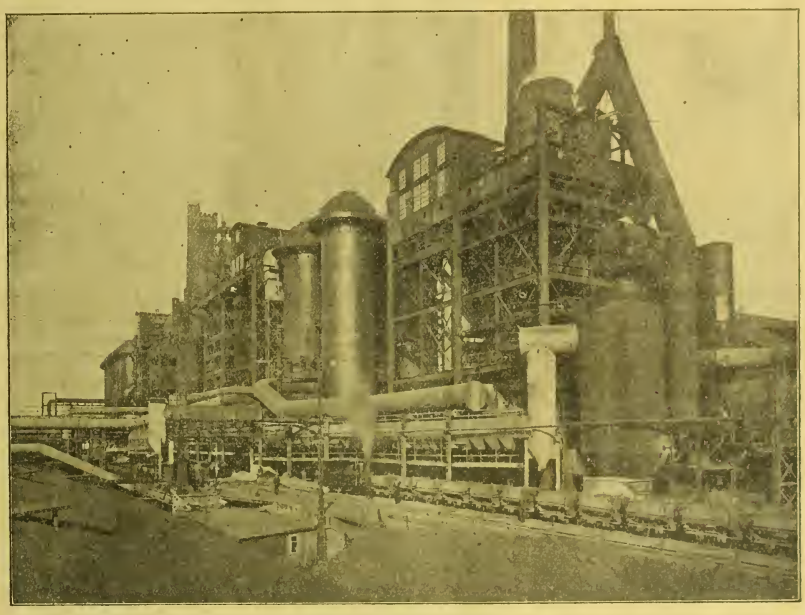
Phosphoric acid, as much as is contained in two wagon loads of hay.

Lime, as much as in one wagon load of hay.

Potash, as much as in a barrow load of hay.

Manufacturing Process.

The process by which basic slag is obtained has only a theoretical interest for the farmer, but it may be briefly mentioned that it is a by-product in the manufacture of steel by what is known as the "basic" process, introduced in about the year 1880 by Messrs. Thomas and Gilchrist. Hence basic slag was for many years following its introduction in England called "Thomas' phosphate powder." The process consists in submitting the molten "pig" iron from the blast furnaces to tremendous heat in pear-shaped vessels, called, technically, converters, lined with lime. An air blast is injected through the converter, and the phosphorus in the pig iron combines with the lime, thus forming the slag phosphate of lime, which is then easily separated from the steel. We are able to give a few illustrations of the process.



BLAST FURNACE.

Qualities.

As the proportion of phosphoric acid in the iron ore varies, it is a matter of course that the percentage of phosphate of lime in the bye-product, basic slag, should vary to the same extent. Sufficient regard was not given to this circumstance at first, but manufacturers have for some time recognised the importance of exercising care in keeping separate the different grades. There are now several grades in the market, the minimum guarantees of which range from 24 per cent. to 42 per cent. Though the shade of colour in the various grades may differ slightly, this possible variation gives no clue as to difference in quality, which may be considerable. Therefore the buyer has to depend on the reliability of the seller, and hence the absolute necessity of buying only good standard brands, as well as having the quality of parcels received tested by analysis.

Basic slag is offered according to its respective grades of quality, but it must be especially noted that only the minimum percentages are guaranteed. The seller may offer to supply 24 to 28 per cent. or 42 to 50 per cent., but his obligation does not extend beyond respectively 24 and 42 per cent., and the buyer must be legally satisfied with these limits, although he might naturally expect that he would get something more, and would receive about the mean of the offered percentages.

These wide margins are the custom of the trade, but it is often thought that they are too wide, and apt to confuse the buyer. Why should not the seller simply offer just what he is prepared to guarantee?

Solubility.

By "solubility" of basic slag is understood the percentage of phosphate of lime soluble in a 2 per cent. solution of citric acid, and the importance of the percentage thus soluble is recognised by the new Fertilisers and Feeding-Stuffs Act making it a legal guarantee. Whereas under the old Act the law only recognised two kinds of phosphate of lime, viz., the soluble and insoluble "in water," it now accepts three kinds, the soluble and insoluble in water, and the soluble in a 2 per cent. solution of citric acid or other solvent of prescribed strength.

This was a necessary extension of the old Act, because as the Department of Agriculture said in one of their useful leaflets:

"It has been shown by experiments that the efficacy of basic slag is directly proportional to the quantity of the total phosphate of lime which is soluble under certain conditions in a 2 per cent. solution of citric acid. Ground mineral phosphates may be added to basic slag in order to increase the total amount of phosphate of lime. Such ground phosphate is not so valuable a manure as the phosphate of lime in genuine basic slag and unless it has been specially treated is not so soluble in a 2 per cent. solution of citric acid. It is, therefore, of great importance to insist on being supplied with slag containing a high percentage of phosphate of lime soluble in citric acid as used in Wagner's test."

And in the Agricultural Report of the County Palatine of Lancaster it is mentioned that

"In a third experiment basic slag was tried on meadow land. Of late it has been pointed out by distinguished chemists that the value of slag depends to some extent upon the solubility of phosphate of lime when treated for half-an-hour in 2 per cent. solution of citric acid. Two slags were compared, one having a fineness of 77 per cent. and a solubility of 89·7 per cent., the other a fineness of 90·5 per cent., but a solubility of only 39·5 per cent., and it was found that the more soluble slag gave the better yield, although the less soluble slag was more finely ground. This result is rather important, as it is often the custom when buying slag to notice only the percentage of phosphate in, and fineness of it; but from the above results it will be seen that it is advisable also to know the solubility of the phosphate in dilute citric acid."

The best makes are guaranteed 80 per cent. of the total phosphates to be soluble in a 2 per cent. solution of citric acid, according to Wagner's method.

Fineness of Grinding.

Of great importance is the fineness to which the material is ground. In this respect there has been much improvement during recent years, in consequence of the introduction of more powerful grinding machinery, and a condition is now attained enabling sellers to guarantee that a minimum of 80 per cent. of the meal will pass through Amandus Kahl's standard sieve No. 100 E. As a matter of fact more than this minimum is usually attained, and 85 per cent. fineness is not uncommon.

When Buying.

When arranging a purchase of basic slag, buyers should obtain a clear guarantee on the following points:—

1. Minimum percentage of phosphate of lime.
2. Minimum of 80 per cent. solubility in a 2 per cent. solution of citric acid.
3. Percentage of the slag capable of passing through the standard sieve beforementioned.

They should also insist on receiving a prompt invoice, in which the above conditions should be recorded.

Adulteration.

Most of the basic slag manufactured in this country is of a satisfactory character, but there is a good deal of imported stuff offered to farmers, and this makes it especially desirable to exercise care, as the imported slag is not always of genuine quality. Some unscrupulous merchants on the Continent mix it with low class, raw, ground phosphate, which greatly reduces its efficiency The trade paper *l'Engrais* had the following note on the subject:—"In Belgium the sale of basic slag is made on the basis of its contents of total phosphate of lime. Some fraudulent sellers have mixed raw ground phosphate with the slag,

thereby seriously diminishing its fertilising value, and this fraud has hitherto been most difficult to detect. It is said, however, that a method has now been discovered of exposing such an artifice. The total phosphoric acid in the manure is dissolved in citric acid, when the raw ground phosphate leaves an insoluble residue, but, all the same, buyers should beware of such cheap Continental stuff."

Deliveries.

There is good reason to think that there will be a enormous demand during the opening season. Buyers will therefore be well advised to place their orders in good time, and thus secure to themselves delivery when required, because there is sure to be the usual block in deliveries during the height of the season, and buyers whose orders are entered first will naturally be first served.

High-percentage and Low-percentage Basic Slags.

The opinion has sometimes been expressed by those who have tried both high and low grades, that the latter yielded the better relative results, and in order to gain guidance in this matter various experiments have been made, probably the best known being those carried out by Mr. Dymond for the Essex Education Committee. In the course of these experiments sixteen different samples were tested, and from the results it would appear that, as a rule, the slags with the lower percentage of phosphate contain a higher percentage of available phosphate of lime than do the slags containing the higher percentage of phosphate. The average results of the analyses were :—

	Total phosphate of lime.	Percentage of total phosphate available.
Low grade samples	30·5	93·9
High grade samples	40·4	77·9

which explains why the lower grade is often more quickly acting.

It is therefore a mistake to consider that one kind is necessarily inferior to the other; they may both be good value at the price charged, and the farmer has to decide which is best adapted for his purpose.

It may naturally be expected that the higher grade, if it contain an equal percentage of solubility on the total of phosphate of lime and an equal degree of fineness, will produce over a series of years a greater bulk of crop, owing to the larger store of phosphoric acid supplied than in the same weight of slag per acre of a lower grade, and is, therefore, worth a correspondingly higher price.

The farmer has to consider the four factors—percentage of phosphate of lime, solubility of the total phosphates, fineness, and price, and then decide which is the most suitable for his requirements.

Soils Most Suitable for Basic Slag.

Lands of a peaty character, rich in organic matter, are especially benefited by applications of slag.

On all kinds of pasture lands, and particularly on poor hill pastures, it can be used with great advantage.

On soils subject to "finger and toe" it should always be given the preference for roots.

As it contains a certain quantity of free lime its action on heavy, stiff clay soils is very beneficial, as it helps to disintegrate the soil and make it more friable.

In general, it may be said that in consequence of finer grinding and greater solubility, the range of usefulness of good slag has become wider, and it is now being used on soils and crops for which until recently it was not considered suitable.

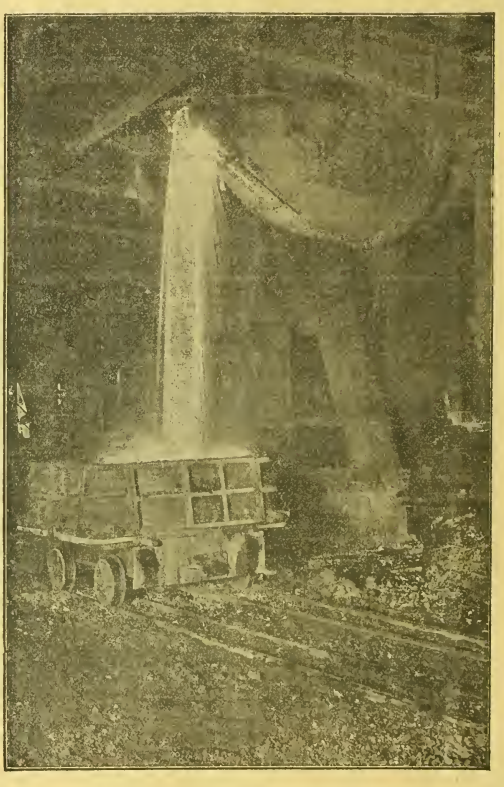
The Uses of Basic Slag

The Department of Agriculture for Ireland, in consequence of frequent inquiries, issued the following note :—

General Use. The uses of basic slag also form the subject of numerous questions from farmers. Repeated experiments have shown that this fertiliser yields excellent results when applied to most second-class grazing lands. The weight of evidence goes to prove that its influence in stimulating the growth of white clover is more marked and more certain on the stronger class of soils and on soils of a peaty nature. Even wet lands of this description are often very much improved by it. Basic slag may also be used along with farmyard manure in the cultivation of swedes and turnips. It is occasionally used, but is probably not so suitable as superphosphate, in the manuring of corn crops. For root crops, along with farmyard manure, 4 to 5 cwt. per statute acre will substantially increase the yield. An application to second-class grass land of from 6 to 10 cwt. per statute acre is usually followed by an increase in white clover and a sweetening of the herbage, the improvement being often so marked as to be rightly described as extraordinary.

Pastures. The Board of Agriculture reported that the tests to which basic slag has been subjected have been as thorough and conclusive as it was possible to make them. Typical pastures have been selected in some of the poorest districts situated, respectively, on the Weald clay of Sussex, the heavy cold clays of West Dorset, the loams and moorland clays of North Devon, and the poor loams and peaty soils of East Somerset, where the soil for the most part is held by coarse, rank weeds, and in every instance the results of a single application of basic slag in the early spring, at the rate of six to eight hundredweights per acre, have been strikingly manifested during the first season following the application. In more than one case of a field overrun by carnation grass, rush, and bents, with moss filling every inter-space, and entire patches of herbage consisting exclusively of yellow-rattle, hardheads, or other coarse-growing weeds, it has been observed in the course of a few months after the application of basic slag that a complete transformation has been effected in the character of the herbage—the weeds have gone under, and the clovers have been stimulated to such an extent as to convert the pasture into a perfect clover-ley.

If it be objected that basic slag alone appears to exercise little effect upon the grasses, as compared with the clovers of the pasture, it may be well to bear in mind that the growth of the grasses has in no instance been found to be prejudiced by the encouragement of the clovers, whilst in some cases the basic slag has undoubtedly stimulated certain species of grass. On the other hand, the experiments have demonstrated that the application of a nitrogenous manure, following upon the basic slag, has a powerfully stimulating effect on every species of grass normally present in the pasture.



POURING OFF THE BASIC SLAG.

Roots. The West of Scotland Agricultural College report :—"The commonly accepted theory is that basic slag requires to be in the ground for some months before the turnip seed is sown, in order that it may be ready to assist the young plants when they commence their growth in spring. But these experiments have shown again, what was previously proved under somewhat different conditions in the College experiments of 1896, that this theory does not hold good in the case of the turnip crop, nor probably in the case of any other crop grown in the drills in a similar manner. The obvious explanation is, that when the manures are put in the drills in spring, they are immediately beneath and in close contact with the growing plant roots, while when the manure has been spread broadcast in the winter, much of it is mixed with portions of the soil which are never reached or touched by the descending tap root or by the side roots of the turnip, which cannot extend far out from the plant. The difference in the produce of the crop in favour of the spring application was so great—in a year, moreover, of somewhat light yields—that it is obviously a matter of some moment that the practice of applying basic slag for the turnip crop in winter instead of in spring should be entirely abandoned."

Swedes and Potatoes. The Armstrong College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the relative merits of superphosphate and slag, find the relative position of the two manures is very nearly what it was in the previous year. Superphosphate produced on the average 12 cwt. more swedes per acre than did basic slag, but this did not cover the extra cost of the former. Basic slag was thus the more profitable of the two, but a mixture of the two gave again, as last season, better results than either did alone.

Poor Pasture. Basic slag has proved of enormous benefit on the improvement of poor pasture lands. Professor Wilson, when speaking of results obtained in Northumberland, says :—

After it had been grazed twenty or thirty years it was starving for want of phosphates. That was the weak link in a fairly strong chain. Given an abundant supply in the slag, this soil, in other respects naturally good, physically and chemically, by the help of clover, soon accumulates nitrogen and organic matter, and becomes capable of fattening sheep or cattle. From being worth 5s., it becomes in a few years worth 25s. an acre.

Mixing of Basic Slag with other Manures.

Basic slag must not be mixed with sulphate of ammonia, guano, sewage, blood-meal, or fresh blood, as a part of the ammonia contained in these various manures will be liberated by the lime in the basic slag and pass off into the air, and thus be lost.

Basic slag may, however, be mixed with nitrate of soda, bone-meal, and potash salts. When mixing with kainit, 2½ per cent. of peat-mull should be added, unless the mixture is made shortly before application of the manures to the land. The peat-mull prevents the mixture from clogging.

Extract from last Annual Report of consulting chemist of the Royal Agricultural Society :—

Basic Slag. Improved manufacture and better milling, aided by competition, has caused a general raising of the terms of guarantee under which basic slag is offered. Whereas, formerly, vendors confined themselves to giving a guarantee of 75 to 80 per cent. "fineness," it is now not at all infrequent to give one of 85 to 90 per cent.; and it must in justice be said that this when offered is generally attained. Nevertheless, there must necessarily occur variations, and the only real safeguard is to buy under strict guarantee and to check deliveries by subsequent analysis. The following are cases in point :—

(*a*) A member sent me, for analysis, a sample of basic slag which he had bought as "the best quality." It analysed :—

	Per cent.
Phosphoric acid	13·54
Equal to phosphate of lime ...	29·56
Fineness	71·00

As the "best quality" basic slag is generally sold now on a basis of 38 to 45 per cent. of phosphates, and of 85 to 90 per cent. "fineness," it will be seen that this delivery was very far removed from being of "the best quality." It cost £2 4s. per ton delivered, and was decidedly dear. The purchaser was made an allowance of 7s. per ton.

(*b*) Another member purchased basic slag without a guarantee, paying 39s. 3d. per ton. Analysis of a sample gave :—

	Per cent.
Phosphoric acid	11·71
Equal to phosphate of lime ...	25·57
Fineness	75·00

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10 2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	0 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

6 FEEDS FOR ONE PENNY
INTERNATIONAL STOCK FOOD.

Marsh Farm, Honley, near Huddersfield, March 31st, 1906.
Gentlemen,—Please forward another 25lb. pail of International Stock Food. I have great pleasure in saying International Stock Food is unequalled as a milker for cows and a conditioner for horses. I have also tried International Poultry Food with good paying results.—Yours faithfully, (Signed) JOE THEAKER.

PRICES: 1/- packet, post paid, 1/4; 2/- packet, post paid, 2/6; 4/- packet, post paid, 4/7; in pails, 14/-, carriage paid. Poultry Food prices same as for Stock Food.
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Write for full particulars to the Sole Importers for the United Kingdom—
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"A TRUE PLANT FOOD."
Gives immense increase in CORN, ROOT and GRASS CROPS, MARKET GARDEN CROPS, HOPS.
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OHLENDORFF'S (Soluble)
DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO,
With Guaranteed Analysis.
Bone Manures, Superphosphate, Bone Meal.
SPECIAL MANURES FOR ALL CROPS.
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AND

WINTER BARLEY,

as well as other Seeds for present and later sowing, will be found in our New Catalogue, post free on application.

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Keep Your Stock

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Volatile Black Drink (for colic' gripes, and spasms in horses and cattle), 19/6 per dozen.

Soothing Linctus (for coughs, sore throat, &c., in horses), 19/6 per dozen jars of ten doses each.

Before Calving Drench and after Calving Drench, 10/6 per dozen.

White Oils (for sprains, splints, spavins, rheumatism, ring-bones, all lamenesses, sore throats, and coughs), 2/- and 2/6 per bottle.

Lambing and Calving Oils, 2/- per bottle.

Semi-Fluid Foot-Rot Cure, 1/6 per bottle.

Carbolic Oil, 1/6 per bottle.

Antipyretic Fever Drink Astringent Calves' Cordial, Hoof Ointment, Mange Lotion, Non-drying Fly Oils, Lice Wash, Harness Oil, &c., &c.

All the above and every requisite for the stable and stock medicine chest, compounded, manufactured, and sold by the sole proprietor—

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A Pain or a Strain made Right again

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GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

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Prepared upwards of 50 years by the late

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"BIBBY" CAKE

IN THE FORM OF

"CAKETTES."

"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest: there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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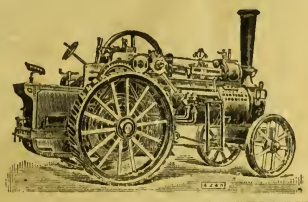

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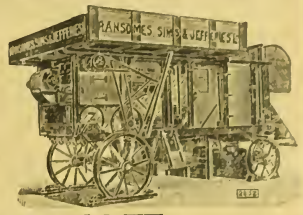

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ESTABLISHED 1832.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

MILK SUPPLY IN SUMMER DROUGHTS.

That there should have been a shortage in the milk supply from country to town during the burning-up-pasture weather of the past month, is only what might naturally be expected. A drought late in summer, lasting into autumn, causes less milk production on a general scale than one earlier, because many more cows have been longer in profit, and are naturally diminishing their lacteal secretions, and their owners are unable to discover any profit in buying costly auxiliary feeding stuffs or giving home-grown corn to any milkers but those in full profit. To quote an old proverb, "the toll" would be "bigger than the grist" if they were to resort to artificial feeding promiscuously for those which had been six or seven months since their calvings yielding milk. Then, again, a very large proportion of ordinary farmers never give corn, meals, or cotton-cake to dairy cows under any circumstances if the pastures are burnt up. They serve them with hay in the early morning when they milk them, and the animals have to forage for the remainder of their diet through the day. When this system is resorted to, diminishment of milk-yield almost invariably takes place to a very great extent. The cows find it hard work to get food enough to keep flesh on their bones, and the inner machinery secretes flesh before milk. Sometimes a precarious living is obtained by pickings of leaves and spray from bushes in the fences, and there is great nutriment in some leafage if to be obtained in sufficient quantity. The fact was stated in the Journal of the R.A.S. for 1893, on the authority of M. Vigel, at that time the French Minister of Agriculture, that in France, Italy, and Spain it is common practice for the spray of forest trees to be cut and stacked every autumn, and that the farmers considered dried leaves superior to their meadow hay.

There is also another fact given by Mr Beadell, of Bedfordshire, in the Journal above mentioned, that of a herd of twenty bullocks in the severe summer drought of 1893 being fed throughout the greater part of June entirely from branches cut from elm trees. One man was employed one-half of every day to cut down the branches, and the animals did well on their pickings, having a burnt-up hill pasture to roam in where there was only an abundant supply of drinking water. The late Mr. C. S. Read, in view of winter scarcity of stock food, recommended, in the same Journal, that every blade of coarse grass and rank herbage from under trees and in plantations, together with rushes and weeds rendered from the banks and borders of dykes, lakes, or fences, should be ensiled green is not only such waste products, but turnip tops and mangel tops when the roots are stored. Thousands of acres of swede leaves are allowed to wither and decay, he stated, which ought to be collected and pitted for silage.

The rational practice of the better class of dairy farmers in summer droughts always has been to give ample supplies of cotton-cake, home-grown grain, or other auxiliary feeding stuffs in conjunction with straw or hay chaff, and with an ample supply of water cows are found to sustain their milk yield satisfactorily, although the diet is dry.

THE CEREAL YEAR.

II.—Feedingstuffs.

To say that the price of linseed has been the leading event of the cereal year, so far as feedingstuffs go, is somewhat like saying that Polonius is the most interesting character in "Hamlet." The example is chosen because Hamlet with Hamlet left out is a proverb for the incomplete, and maize, of course, has every claim to be regarded as the Hamlet of the year for feedingstuffs. Still, there is this to be said, that whereas the young man not quite equal to his responsibilities is with us always, the man who is a sage statesman in public affairs and general council, yet a foot in his own home is a study which marks Shakespeare. The humbler case of trade which is now before us presents a like problem. The great trade—maize, and then the barley and oat trades, which united about equal that in maize; these three protagonists are not usually so interesting as this fourth trade, in linseed, which has controlled so much. The average price of linseed for the cereal year 1904-5 was about 38s. per qr., for 1905-6 it was 41s. per qr. Now a rise of 3s. per qr. is, in these days of small profits, considerable, and as linseed grows to perfection under the Union Jack, in India, East Africa, and elsewhere, the matter may even claim an Imperial importance. Is linseed likely to keep up in price? That is the question already addressed to us, and on due consideration we feel inclined to answer in the affirmative. With every wish to make matters agreeable for owners of live stock we feel bound to say that the price of fattening meal, of oilcake, and of oilseeds themselves is likely in this new cereal year to be rather enhanced than reduced. Linseed, in short, is worth its present value, and the more early maturity is appreciated in the stock breeding world the more will mild yet forcing and fattening food, such as linseed is, be in request.

With respect to maize a new cereal year starts with over a million quarters on passage, and there is no fear of scarcity therefore for some weeks or so to come. After December the American and Roumanian new crops will be arriving, and then in March and April an Argentine new crop will be reaped, or rather, husked. Maize is likely to be cheap for another twelvemonth.

Barley and oats depend very largely on a country which at the present moment is most unsettled; we mean, of course, Russia. This Empire is now credited with a good crop of barley, but with a mediocre yield of oats. No very precise news is, however, obtainable, and we can only advise our readers that feeding barley and light oats in this new cereal year must needs depend very largely in value upon a most unreliable country.

There are two feeding stuffs which have for the whole year, September 1 to August 31, been in request and scarce and at a good price. These are beans and peas. English farmers should grow more of them, for they fetch a far better price than wheat. Even the commonest dun peas go up to 32s., and are seldom under 31s., while 34s. would be about an average price for beans.

Of foreign small pulse more and more is imported every year. Dari, dholl, and muttor, canaryseed, and millet and gram all find a ready market at Mark Lane. The feature of the year in this branch of business has been the abundance and resulting cheapness—of canary seed. It used to be worth 60s. to 100s. per 464 lb., and as such was the food of small birds and other pets. But canary seed, as Dr. Freame long since pointed out, is a genuine cereal, and it is rather pathetic to note that it is the year of his decease which has seen the fact for the first time brought home to the trade. Dari has gone up in sale steadily all through the cereal year. As it is exceedingly cheap and exceedingly nutritious, and as it is very largely the product of our Indian Empire, the fact may be recorded with unalloyed satisfaction.

In connection with the fatal farm fire which occurred at East Peckham, near Maidstone, when two men were burned to death, it has been discovered that an extraordinary mistake was made as to the identity of one of the victims. One man was supposed to be James Baitup, of Hooks Green, Sussex, and at the inquest the jury returned a verdict to the effect that Baitup was accidentally burned to death. Last week, however, Baitup turned up at his home alive and well. It remains a mystery whose body it was that was mistaken at the inquest for that of Baitup.

Notes of the Week.

The steadily-growing appreciation of colonial and foreign stockowners for our pedigree breeds is a gratifying sign of the times.

At recent sales some very satisfactory business has been done in animals for exportation. In one case an entire flock of Lincoln Longwool sheep was sold for shipment.

And in connection with this developing trade it is a pleasing reflection that, in order to improve the character of the vast herds of cattle and flocks of sheep in South America and elsewhere, there is scope for the use of our pedigree stock for many years to come.

Our breeders are fortunately pre-eminent, and the prospects offer them every encouragement to maintain the high reputation of their stock.

This consideration should impress upon our legislators the vital necessity of keeping our shores free from the danger of imported disease.

On many an acre of arable land the plough will be busy during the next few months—"God speed the plough."

It is not known who invented the first plough, yet, as Cotton said, the inventor has done more for the happiness of the world than the whole race of heroes and of conquerors.

Any sympathetic reader who has not yet sent in his subscription to the fund being collected for the sufferers from the recent hailstorm in Bedfordshire and neighbouring counties can still do so.

As some of the correspondents to this paper have pointed out, the application of the moral connected with the disaster is, that farmers should insure their crops.

The annual cost of the premium is not heavy, and would be well repaid by the pleasant feeling of security, even though such storms are quite exceptional.

We are glad to learn that the Chilian Government have decided not to increase the export duty on nitrate in order to raise money for the relief of the sufferers from the earthquake.

The export duty is already very heavy, and to increase it would be adopting the policy of killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

As it is, farmers will be hard hit in other ways. Hay is very short, and feeding stuffs will be dear. Fertilisers are up in price, and jute has advanced in value considerably.

The last point will be felt by potato-growers and other farmers who require large numbers of bags and sacks.

The value of jute has risen from 11s. 8d. per cwt. in 1900, to 15s. 9d. per cwt. at the present time.

And, as usual, directly prices advance, adulteration creeps in. There are complaints of quality, and it is said that the jute is being adulterated with water and sand to increase the weight.

The row between two parties of hop pickers in the Worcester district last week afforded some startling head lines for the daily papers.

The party of gipsy pickers seem first to have struck work, and then struck the other party who were willing to work at the rate offered.

It was a case of the usual peaceful picketing, which is now legal.

There was only one solitary policeman on the spot, and for the time "his lot was not a happy one."

I was glad the other day to hear a hop-grower in Kent say that he was well satisfied with his crop. He estimates he will get about 10 cwt. per acre of prime quality.

He did not spare cultivation and continual washing, and expects to reap the benefit of his enterprise.

I hope there are a good many in the same fortunate position.

The "distressful" island across the Channel can be congratulated on its agricultural prosperity.

According to the Irish agricultural returns recently issued, agriculture is in a flourishing condition.

There is an increase in the cereal crops, green crops are more cultivated, and there is a substantial advance in the number of cattle and pigs.

There have been rumours of potato disease in the western districts, and there is an agitation for Government assistance, but it is now said that there is nothing very serious the matter with the crop.

Poison in butter, perdition in milk, ptomaines in meat, &c. These are the sort of lively titbits served up in the papers to be digested with our breakfasts.

The insurance companies should charge a higher premium to a man who eats anything that has not first been analysed.

And we shall all have to keep analysts on the premises to test our food, just as in Turkey the Sultan keeps a taster, whose pleasing duty it is to taste everything to see if it has been poisoned.

Fortunately we don't believe half we read; otherwise we who are obliged to pass much of our time in towns would eat nothing, or have been poisoned, and thus not be alive to take an interest in such alarming news.

Heigh ho! for a country life with milk and eggs direct from the producer, and butter fresh from the cool dairy.

Bristol Wool Fair.

On Wednesday Down fleeces were quoted at from 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 3d., and matchings 1d. per lb. above the quotations of the corresponding fair. In skin wools there were no more encouraging facts, business being small and at a considerable reduction in values. Sellers were naturally reluctant to part.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

We are in receipt of a copy of Mr. Hugh Robert Mill's "British Rainfall, 1905," a volume of close on 300 pages, the compilation of which must have involved an enormous amount of work and time; in fact we are told that it represents, in round figures, 1,000 hours of Mr. Mill's work, and at least as many of that of three assistants, to say nothing of the time bestowed on the subject by the 4,000 observers in Great Britain and Ireland, upon whose reports it is based. Yet all is done by voluntary subscriptions, and it is not surprising to hear that for the last two years the cost of collecting the returns, paying assistants, observers in remote localities, rent, stationery, printing, postage, and the innumerable minor expenses, has exceeded the income from subscriptions and the sale of publications; and so far from there being any surplus available for the remuneration of the editor, he has been obliged to divert time from a work on which he would gladly concentrate the whole in order to make up the deficit and earn his own living. Surely there is no similar instance of a voluntary assistant of scientific observations of equal magnitudes unaided by the State or by a learned society, and seeing the importance of the subject, we think that the work should be put on a more satisfactory financial footing by an annual grant, for experience proves that the strain on the compiler is far too great, and unless the financial basis is made stronger, the work will sooner or later have to be suspended. The volume, which is published at 10s. by Mr. Edward Stanford, 12, 13, and 14, Long Acre, W.C., abounds with interesting data, and it is one we can commend to all interested in the subject of rainfall.

Paid no Rent for Forty Years.—An owner of property at St. Osyth, Essex, has obtained an ejectment order against a tenant, whom he said had not paid any rent for forty years.

The memorial portrait of the late Mr. John Hungerford Arkwright, of Hampton Court, late Lord-Lieutenant, of Hereford, was unveiled in the Shire Hall, Hereford on Tuesday. Nearly £400 was collected, and the painting was executed by Mr. Frederick Beaumout, who was intimately acquainted with the late Mr. Arkwright. In addition to holding the office of Lord-Lieutenant, the late Mr. Arkwright had been a president of the Hereford and Worcestershire Society, president of the Hereford Herd Book Society, representative member on the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, and as a highly successful breeder and exhibitor of Hereford cattle, he will be long remembered.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.—Leighton Buzzard Show—Agricultural Fairs at Bury, Carmarthen, Egremont, Kington, and Partney—Sheep Fair at Machynlleth—Ottery St. Mary Fair—Ware Fair.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—Easingwold Agricultural Show—Loughborough Agricultural Show—Kington Show—Worcester Cheese Fair—Shap Show—Aylsham (Norfolk) Agricultural Show—Show of Shire Horses at Winslow—Cardiff Horse Show, first day—Entries close for the Dorchester Show—Fairs at Carlisle, Staines, Northampton, Worcester, Abingdon, and Malmesbury.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Cardiff Horse Show, second day—Abingdon Agricultural Show—Hay Horse Show—Market and Drayton Agricultural Show—Market Harborough Agricultural Show—Oswestry Agricultural Show—Stokesley Show—Annual Agricultural Fair at Lutterworth—Reading Hop Fair—Hinkley Hiring Fair.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.—Corwen Agricultural Show—Reading Horse and Cattle Fair—Lewes Sheep Fair—Thorney (Cambridge) Horse and Sheep Fair—East Dereham Fair—Downham Fair—Exeter Special Horse Sale—Entries close for Dalbeattie Show.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.—Stevenage Cattle Fair—Alston Sheep Fair—Alnwick Great Fair.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.—Llan Ymynech Show (entries to J. Ellison, Morton, Oswestry)—Hadleigh Cattle and Sheep Fair—Rugby and Southwell Cattle Fairs—Kildwick Sheep Fair.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—Great Gransden Show—Cattle Fairs at Haverfordwest, Hay, Barnoldswick, Easingwold, and Burgh—Preston Cheese Fair—Horse Fairs at Cambridge, Market Rasen, Abergavenny, Bungay, Marsden, Chesterfield, Chertsey, Spalding, Stourbridge, Pickering, and Howden—Sheep Fairs at Spalding, Pickering and Melton Mowbray.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Henry Smith.

A well-known figure in the commercial life of South Staffordshire has passed away in the person of Mr. Henry Smith, of Summerhill, Kingswinford, who was eighty-two years old. Mr. Smith belonged to an old Pedmore family, whose names in the parish register go back between 300 and 400 years. He was one of the founders of the firm of Messrs. Hill and Smith, the Brierley Hill Ironworks, a business of world-wide reputation. For some years he was Deputy-Lieutenant for Staffordshire, and he greatly interested himself in county work in a variety of directions. Thirty-eight years ago he was appointed a justice of the peace for Staffordshire.

Mr. Fergus William Park.

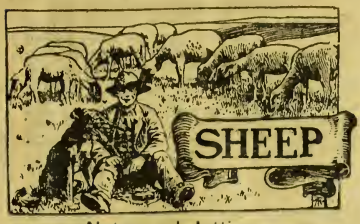
Mr. Fergus William Park, of Headon Manor, near Retford, a well-known agriculturist, died on Tuesday, aged eighty years. Mr. Park was for many years agent for Mr. Harcourt Vernon on the Grove Estate, and after his retirement went to reside at Headon Manor, where he continued to carry on farming on his own account. He had a great reputation as a breeder of Shire horses and Shorthorns, but the greater portion of his herd was dispersed in 1902.

Dr. Max von Eyth.

We regret to announce the death of Dr. Max von Eyth, on August 25, the president and founder of the German Society of Agriculture, who had just celebrated his seventieth birthday on May 6, shortly after which he visited the society's show at Schöneberg. He had arranged to visit Wirtemberg in the autumn to help in selecting a site for the society's show in 1908. The ex-president had been for twenty-four years an engineer in England.

Mr. James W. Lord, of Church House, Northiam, East Sussex, a prominent breeder of pedigree Sussex cattle, has just shipped two bulls for East Griqualand, South Africa. Some time ago a couple from the same herd were dispatched to South Africa, where they gave excellent results. The breed is not so well known abroad as it should be, but it is pleasing to know that wherever they are they give satisfaction.

Horse Breeding in Japan.—H.M. Embassy at Tokio have forwarded a report on horse-breeding in Japan, which may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. It is stated that the announcement made regarding the contemplated purchase by Japan of 1,500 stallions abroad is incorrect; this is the total number of entire horses which will be in the establishments of the new administration at the end of the eighteen years covered by the present programme.



Notes and Jottings.

THE very slight increase in the number of sheep in the country, having in view the long run of mild winters, shows how sound a business sheep farming is likely to be for some years to come. The chief increase lies in the number of breeding ewes, and, as a result in normal conditions, of lambs. A healthy sign among the older sheep, although at first sight it may not seem so satisfactory, is the decrease in old sheep not kept for breeding, as it is pretty safe to infer that the decrease in the number scheduled is due to their being drafted into the breeding flock. The increase in the number of sheep—not merely a jump in one year owing to some special feature in the food supply—is a good indication of the position of matters agriculturally, for when sheep lose in numbers things are generally going pretty badly all round. A steady increase is therefore satisfactory, and though one might like to see it bigger, a ·6 increase is not to be despised. The hot weather since the returns were sent in may have caused some to shorten the number of ewes in accordance with the prospect of food supply; but a good harvest well got will probably prevent diminution below the numbers recorded.

AT the time of the Royal Show some objection was taken to criticisms on British methods of wool marketing, which were made in an address to the National Sheep Breeders' Association. The lecturer on that occasion was a Colonial; now the Home Wool Buyers' Association has supported many of his contentions. No doubt much of the bad work is due to want of better knowledge in the treatment of wool; though some of it is caused by the desire to be over clever, so as to secure more than the wool is worth. That all wool is not handled in the best manner cannot be denied, and it is a mistake to try to deny the fact, even though a vast number of growers do put their wool on the market in good condition, and after exercising all reasonable care and skill. The members of the association know how the article reaches them, and the effect on their pockets is too unmistakable for them to be bluffed in the matter. As showing their sincerity it was decided that the committee should draw up in a convenient form suggestions as to the best methods for wool growers to adopt in the care and treatment of the fleece, and to use the best means available to get this information set before farmers. Those who do exercise skill and care in their methods will not mind their good management being supported by the purchasers, while those whose management has fallen short of the advice which is to be set before them should accept it in the best spirit, and act upon it.

FARMING is subject to criticism from those outside, and sometimes one is inclined to be a bit tired of it. However, everyone is glad when those outside throw useful light on matters affecting farming; and it is interesting to know that the inventor of the modern phonograph is trying to aid the sheep industry. It appears that Mr. Bell conceived the idea that if the blind teats about the udder of an ewe could be developed, the ewe would attain to greater fecundity. With this view he has selected and bred until he has raised sheep with active teats, where previously the milking properties were latent. It may not be so rare a feature for the supernumerary teats to possess the power of producing milk as he may have thought, for it is met with in cows as well as sheep, and it is generally regarded that these teats were active in the very far off past. Having got the milk, however, he has not yet attained to a higher breeding rate, but the fact that he has got a strain of sheep which constantly produces milk from more than the two ordinary glands is, at any rate, interesting as showing what may be done in the way of awakening latent features in a breed. How far the breeding organs of an animal are subject to the milk organs, or the milk organs to the breeding ones, is rather an interesting question, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Bell will throw some light on the subject.

SOME breeds of sheep are notably good mothers—that is, give a large quantity of milk—while others give less than is desirable; but the same applies to breeds of cattle, and the endeavour to obtain earlier maturity and greater aptitude to fatten is generally accompanied by a loss of milking properties. The ability to raise a high percentage of lambs is a very important matter, and it is doubtful if there is much attention paid to the udder possibilities as there might be. Of course, most shepherds draft the ewes with absolutely useless udders, whether caused by disease or other agencies, but beyond this little is done, the food supply being regarded as the easiest means of securing milk, though it is not always successful. Perhaps Mr. Bell's experiments may throw some useful light on the subject.

THIS mild September weather affords an excellent opportunity for dipping sheep. No one can tell when colder weather will come, but the season is here when it may be expected, and it is an advantage not to chill the lambs; moreover, they can be allowed a longer dip whilst the weather is warm. The hot season has been favour able to the development of insects, and most probably they will be more vigorous for the pleasant conditions in which they have been brought into existence. Even if sheep are bought with a warranty of having been dipped, it is desirable to make sure that the animals are clean, especially if they have been through the markets. We never believe in experimenting with doubtful dips; there are plenty of well-known and safe ones, and it is far wiser to keep to these.

SALES OF THE WEEK.

The Quarrington Rams.

There was a record attendance of ram breeders and agriculturists at the sale of the Quarrington rams, at Quarrington, near Sleaford, on Saturday week, when Messrs. Ward and Robinson offered by auction 120 Lincoln shearling rams (flock book) No. 155.

Mr. Richardson offered 117 rams, the king of the flock by Scopwick Better Times, which was a prize winner at Gainsborough show, being secured by Mr. Marris, of Kirmington, at 105 guineas, the top figure of the day. A fine animal by Mere Ringleader was knocked down to Mr. Dudding, of Riby Grove, for 100 guineas, and grand sheep were also secured by the following buyers:—Mr. Yarrad, Swaton, 45 guineas; Mr. J. E. Carswell, Laughton, 70 guineas; Mr. Savage, of the Argentine, 35 guineas, 38 guineas, 28 guineas, 24 guineas, 27 guineas, 32 guineas, 22 guineas, 32 guineas, 20 guineas, 17 guineas, and others at smaller prices for exportation. Mr. Walker, of Buenos Ayres, was the next largest buyer, at prices ranging from 28 guineas to 11 guineas each.

The average last year for 100 yearlings of this flock was £20 2s. 4d., and this year the total realised for 117 was £2,426, an average of £20 14s. 8½d.

Lazonby.

On Wednesday Mr. John Kidd commenced a two days' sale of cattle and sheep. The lambs were shown in first-class condition, and as buyers were very numerous, a good trade was the result, prices being about 1s. a head up from last week. A large number of sheep were bought to go south, whilst several lots went into the west of Cumberland. The greyfaced lambs were a splendid lot, over 7,000 in this class being penned, and they were eagerly sought after and made good prices, one of the best lots—that shown by Messrs. Raine, of Thornhorpe, Slaggyford—making as high as 30s. 3d. a head. This was the best price obtained amongst the large consignments, although several small lots made more money. Blacfaced lambs were not up to the quality of last week, but for the best lots there was a keen demand, although a few lots of the smaller sorts were reserved.

Kerry Hill Society's Show and Sale.

Messrs. Morris, Marshall, and Poole held the ninth annual show and sale, under the auspices of the Kerry Hill Flock Book Society, at Kerry, on Friday week, when between 5,000 and 6,000 sheep passed through the sale rings. Prizes amounting to £43 10s. were offered, and there was good competition in each of the nine classes. Prices were higher than last year, and we understand that many lots made up to 5s. over expectations, and only one lot of ewes were unsold. One vendor sold ninety-five ewes privately just before the auction began; the purchaser sent them through the sale ring, and took over 4s. a head out of them.

The rambs were sold by Mr. Morris. Among ninety shearling rams, the red card was given to a sheep from Brompton Hall, and Mr. Lawton Moor was declared the buyer at 24 guineas. The second prize ram was sold to Mr. Evans, Newcastle Emlyn, at 22 guineas. The fourth ram found favour with several breeders, and Mr. J. R. Bache had to pay 32 guineas before he could claim it. The four rams from Winsbury averaged £21 5s. 3d. The third prize was awarded to a thick-set ram on short legs. It realised the top price of the sale, 40 guineas, which was given by Mr. Alderson, Glanmiheli. Another ram from this flock made 25 guineas, to Mr. Jones, The Graig, the twelve averaging £15 19s. 4d.

In the old ram class a two-shear from Great Weston was placed first, and was purchased by Mr. Thomas Davies, Vronoleu, at 25 guineas. The second prize ram came from Brompton Hall, and realised 20 guineas. A ram from Penygelly was awarded third prize, and was sold for 11½ guineas to Mr. Langford. A good three-shear ram from Cwm Earl was sold at 15½ guineas to Mr. Griffiths, Dolwen. A ram lamb from Brompton Hall was placed first, and one from The Graig second, whilst third prize and reserve went to the Great Weston exhibits. A highly commended lamb, sent by Mr. John Anwyl, realised the highest price. It was a lengthy, sappy youngster, with a grand head, and Mr. Lowton Moore did well to buy it at 18 guineas. The three lambs from this flock averaged £11 0s. 6d. The seven Graig lambs averaged £6 9s. 9d., and the twenty from Great Weston £6 9s. 8d.

Mr. A. Tanner's Shropshires.

A numerous company attended Mr. Alfred Tanner's annual sale of Shropshire sheep on Tuesday. The prices realised were as follows:—Shearling rams: 18 guineas, Mr. E. J. Frank; 17 guineas, Mr. E. Instone; 40 guineas, Mr. F. F. H. White; 32 guineas, Mr. P. Everall; 13 guineas, Mr. P. Instone; 18 guineas, Mr. T. Cartwright; 17 guineas, Mr. Powell (Hereford); 8 guineas, Mr. Powell; 9 guineas, Mr. Jackson; 7½ guineas, Mr. Eve; 30 guineas, Mr. Shaw; 13 guineas, Mr. R. Timmis (Wolverhampton); 14 guineas, Colonel Lovett; 19 guineas, Mr. Murch (Hereford); 9 guineas, Mr. T. D. Wyley

LINCOLN SHEARLING RAM.

Lincoln Shearling Ram.

Our illustration on this page is of a Lincoln shearling ram, the property of, and bred by, Mr H. Dudding, of Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire. This ram won the first prize in its class at the Bath and West Show at Swindon this year.

10 guineas, Mr. Jas. Whitaker; 8½ guineas, Mr. P. G. Hughes; 7 guineas, Mr. Downes (Bromfield); 6½ guineas, Mr. Rogers (Prescott); 9 guineas, Mr. Wadlow; 5½ guineas, Mr. Davies (Eyton); 6½ guineas, Mr. T. Wadlow; 6 guineas, Mr. Tudor; 6½ guineas, Mr. P. Hughes; 8 guineas, Mr. G. Lloyd (Milford); 9 guineas, Mr. Wicksted; 5½ guineas, Mr. Marsden (Craven Arms); 5½ guineas, Mr. Richmond; 11 guineas, Mr. J. H. James-Moore; 10 guineas, Mr. Farmer. A pen of five shearling ewes was bought by Mr. F. Bibby, at 5 guineas each, and Mr. Wilson Slater bought three pens at 3¾ guineas, 3½ guineas, and 3 guineas a head.

Kidderminster.

Messrs. Nock and Joseland held their nineteenth annual sheep sale at Kidderminster on Friday week when all previous records were broken, both as regards quantity and quality, the sale being the best all-round supply of breeding and feeding sheep ever held in the district. The entry totalled nearly 6,000 sheep and lambs. The ram section started with the Shropshires, and included sixteen shearlings from the old-established flock of Mr. Geo. Gerrard, Offerton, which made up to 9½ guineas, and averaged nearly £7; six from Mr. J. W. Dee, Woollas Hill, up to 8½ guineas. Six grand Oxford shearlings from Mr. Jas. Horlick, Cheltenham, reached 10½ guineas, and averaged 8½ guineas; six from Mr. J. Phipps Smith, Evesham, up to 7 guineas; twenty splendid Oxford lambs, from the noted Ryne Hill prize-winning flock of Mr. W. A. Treweeke, Chipping Norton, made up to 11½ guineas; twenty from Mr. Geo. Adams, Faringdon, up to 5½ guineas. The large entry of Hampshires met a ready sale. Eight shearlings from Mr. G. Laing, Reading, made up to 5½ guineas, eleven very choice lambs from the Pendley Manor flock, Herts, of Mr. J. Grout Williams 11 guineas, and averaged over £8, ten from Mr. A. C. Hall, Chipping Norton, 11 guineas, and averaged nearly £7. The Ryeland lambs, which attracted those who want early maturity lambs, were a new feature. Six shearlings from Mr. W. T. Barnehy, Saltmarshe Castle, made up to 6 guineas, and two from Mr. W. H. Davies, Claston, 4½ guineas. Kerry Hill rams made 4¾ guineas.

The breeding ewes were the finest lot ever seen in the market. The best consignment came from Mr. Alfred Hodgetts (Northfield), whose 500 grand young Shropshires made up to 61s., whilst 170 Radnors from the same owner made up to 48s. There was a very large attendance of agriculturists at the sale from Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, Warwickshire, Shropshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Herefordshire, in addition to breeders and feeders in the district.

Mr. W. S. Ferguson's Border Leicesters.

The annual sale of Border Leicester rams at Pictstonhill, Perth, took place on Tuesday. Mr. Bryden, New Mains, Scone, paid the leading figure, £20, for No. 1 ram, which had led at Crieff, Perth, and the Stormont. The Hon. A. D. Murray had a thick, well-clad sheep in No. 4 at £13 10s. For fifty-nine rams sold the sum was £516 10s., an average of £8 15s. 1d., against £9 14s. 10d. for forty-six sold last year. Twenty-one gimmers disposed of yesterday made £78 7s. 6d., or an average of £3 14s. 8d., against £3 19s. 4d. for twenty-four last season.

Sale at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons held their annual special sale of Suffolk sheep from registered flocks on Friday week, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich. The sale was a satisfactory one, having regard to the fact that it was the second sale, and that there appeared every indication of the present severe drought continuing over a good part of East Anglia. The rams formed the feature of the sale. Twenty-one ram lambs consigned by Mr. D. Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, averaged £10 4s 6d., with a top price of 18 guineas paid by Mr. G. T. Harrison for Mr. Felix T. Cobbold, M.P., for a ram lamb, Fingringhoe Grange 2nd. Eighteen consigned by Mr. S. K. Sherwood, Playford, averaged £8 17s. 4d., Mr. G. T. Harrison giving the top price of 17 guineas for a choice ram lamb by Playford Scott 2nd. Mr. Herbert E. Smith's sixteen averaged £9 13s. 7d., Mr. J. W. Eagle giving the highest price of the day, 35 guineas, for a prize-winning ram lamb by Grange Bismarck 9th.

Sale at Driffield.

At Driffield on Wednesday the auctioneers had a busy day selling breeding sheep and rams. Messrs. G. W. Clark and Sons sold by auction fifteen Lincoln shearling rams from the registered flock of Mr. T. D. Robinson. The best price was £7. The average for the lot was £5 10s. per head. Messrs. Hornby and Wilberfoss also sold fifteen rams by Lincoln sheep belonging to Mr. Appleby, of Wilsthorpe. These made from £3 12s. 6d. to £4 17s. 6d. per head, averaging just over £4.

Tavistock Fair.

There was between three and four thousand sheep at this sheep fair on Tuesday. The fair is principally for the disposal of breeding ewes, of which there was a large supply, at prices ranging from 38s. to 43s. each. There were more than 150 rams. The average prices ran from £4 to £8 10s. each. A few exchanged hands at £10.

Newingreen Sale.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs conducted a successful sale of sheep and lambs at Newingreen, Kent, on Wednesday, when practically the whole of the entries—6,000—were disposed of. The prices made continue good. The top figure for half-bred lambs was 31s, for Kent wether lambs 28s 6d, and Kent ewe lambs 29s 6d, and the average price for good working lambs was 25s. and 26s.

Lichfield.

Lichfield sheep sale was held on Thursday by Messrs. Winterton and Sons, when 3,500 sheep were offered and met a sharp trade. Mr. A. S. Berry's rams made 8 guineas; Mr. George Brown's sixteen, 20½ guineas, 17 guineas, 18 guineas, 10 guineas, and averaged 11 guineas each; Mr. J. Brown's thirty, 14¾ guineas, 10 guineas, 12½ guineas, 9½ guineas, 8½ guineas; Sir Richard Cooper's rams 9 guineas, Mr. Boston's lambs 10¼ guineas, Mr. Corbishley's Oxford lambs 4¾ guineas, Mr. White's Oxford lambs 6 guineas, Mr. Dodd's Hampshire lambs 8 guineas, Mr. W. J. Wooe's rams 7 guineas. Mr. Wint's ewes made 54s., Mr. Wylie's 50s., Sir Richard Cooper's 85s., Mr. M. Booth's 57s., Mr. A. S. Berry's 60s., Mr. J. L. Coxon's 52s., Mr. George Brown's 89s., Mr. J. Brown's 60s., Mr. Myatt's 55s, Mr. Hulme's 55s., Messrs. Averill's 52s., Mr. Hunter's 51s., and Mr. Martin's 51s.

Lothian Ram Society's Show and Sale.

A two days' show and sale in connection with the Lothian Ram Society was held last week at Murrayfield, Edinburgh, in good weather, and before a large attendance of buyers.

Blackfaced and Cheviots were brought under the hammer, the numbers being an increase over the previous year, and clearances were effected at prices showing a distinct improvement. Messrs. Dobson and Murray, Parkhall, secured the premier show honours for Blackfaced shearling rams with an animal by Woolford's sire, and Mr. A. Archibald, Oversheils, was given the first prize for the Blackfaced group. Mr. J. Elliot, the well-known Hindhope breeder, took first place for Cheviot rams, and Mr. Geo. Hogg, Newlands, for the Cheviot group. Mr. Archibald's lot carried fleeces extremely well suited for the manufacturer, and Lord Rosebery gave £30 for one, this being the highest price of the sale. Mr. Elliot, Ardtornish, secured another at £27, and a contingent of twenty-five realised £290. Mr. Mitchell, West Loch, had an average of £12 9s. for ten animals, the highest being £20. In the Cheviot section Mr. Davidson, Woodhall, paid £28 for the best of the famed Leaston stock (Messrs. Smith).

Truro Ram Sales.

Over 2,200 sheep were penned in Truro Market on Wednesday, and there was a strong demand for the best type of animals. Messrs. M. L. Blamey and Son sold several rams from Mr. Jenning's flock at an average of 7 guineas to 8 guineas, and some two-teeth ewes realised 55s. per head. Mr. W. H. Brewer sold the following registered South Devon hog rams:—Six from Mr. J. A. Spry, Veryan, averaged £8 10s.; six from Mr. R. H. Ward, Grampound Road, £6 7s. 6d.; four from Mr. G. A. Northey, St. Allen, £8 10s., the top price being £15 2s. 6d. Messrs. Henry Thomas, Son, and Co. had a consignment of 1,500 sheep. Two-teeth ewes made up to 55s. each; four-teeth, 48s.; full-mouthed ewes, from 45s. to 50s. Nine South Devon long wool lambs from Mr. M. H. Holman, Mylor, averaged 6 guineas; four from Mr. J. C. Daubwz, 5 guineas; six from Mr. Hallett, Brixton, 7½ guineas. Oxford Down lambs ranged from 2½ guineas to 4 guineas, and three Shropshire Down hog rams from Lord Falmouth fetched 5¼ to 7 guineas each.

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Wilton Great Sheep Fair.

This great September sheep fair was held at Wilton on Wednesday, when the sheep penned numbered about 33,000, which was several thousand less than last year. The attendance was large, but below that at some of the previous fairs, and trade was hardly as good as at some of the recent fairs; but Britford and Salisbury quotations were fairly well maintained. Mr. J. Futcher, of Fovant, secured as much as 3s. per head more for his ewes than a similar lot realised last September, but, as a general rule, sales were effected at rates very similar to those prevailing twelve months ago, when trade was exceptionally good. The quality of the sheep penned called forth high commendation from experienced judges, and, considering the weather, the shepherds are much to be congratulated in bringing the sheep to hand in such excellent condition. General quotations were as follows:—Fat wether lambs 42s. to 48s.; working wether lambs up to 40s., chilver lambs 36s. to 39s., mixed lambs 28s. to 35s., regular and draft ewes up to 45s., two-teeth 45s. to 50s., fat ewes 42s. to 54s.

The Corporation of Wilton offered a prize for tenant farmers' wether lambs, and the Earl of Pembroke gave a cup in an open class for similar sheep, but the knowledge that Mr. H. Hitchings, of Broadchalke, would enter the magnificent pen of lambs which had previously won prizes at Salisbury and Britford kept away other intending exhibitors, and there was no competition. Both prizes were awarded to Mr. Hitchings. The prizes were distributed at the fair office by the Earl of Pembroke.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their usual great sale of ewes, lambs, and rams, the catalogue comprising no less than 17,500 head, and with a large attendance of buyers from all parts of the country, practically an entire clearance was effected. The entry of ram lambs and rams numbered 180, being the last drafts from well-known breeders. Forty-six from Mr. J. Flower made from 4 guineas to 7½ guineas; 27 from Mr. A. F. T. Drake, 3½ guineas to 12½ guineas; 36 from Mr. Dibben, 4 guineas to 7½ guineas; 20 from Mr. C. Coles, 5 guineas to 9 guineas; 40 from Mr. H. J. Hulse, 4 guineas to 6½ guineas; a few others making 3 guineas to 4 guineas each.

Messrs. John T. Woolley and Wallis held their important sale of fat and store ewes and lambs in the fair. The catalogue comprised 188 lots, and, with a large attendance of buyers, a good clearance was effected at very satisfactory prices:—Best wether lambs, 40s. to 46s; working wether lambs, 31s. to 38s. 6d.; best chilver lambs, 33s. to 38s.; small chilver lambs, 29s. to 32s.; mixed lambs, 31s. to 42s. 6d.; culls, 20s. 6d. to 29s.; regular draft ewes, 46s. to 50s.; two-teeth ewes, 41s. to 52s. 6d.; over-aged ewes (good on tooth and udder), 32s. 6d. to 44s. 6d.; grazing ewes, 25s. to 35s. 6d; two-teeth wethers, 46s. A number of rams from Messrs. H. P. Taunton, B. J. Waters, H. Hitchings, the Hon. Louis Greville, R. E. Coles, and others were also disposed of.

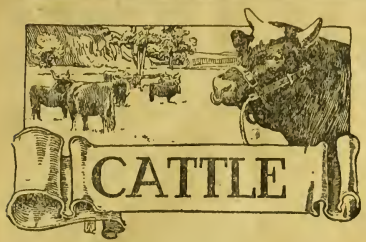
John Jeffrey and Son's sale comprised 4,108 store sheep and lambs, and thirty-one ram lambs and lambs. Trade was good, and a capital clearance was made at prices about the same as at this fair last year. Regular draft and draft ewes made 36s. 6d. to 45s.; two-tooth ewes, 38s. to 48s.; grazing ewes, 24s. 6d. to 42s.; working wether lambs, 30s. to 40s.; ewe lambs, 29s. 6d. to 38s.; mixed lambs, 21s. to 34s. Ram lambs and rams, 2½ guineas to 5 guineas each.

Sale of Berkshire Pigs in Dorsetshire.

The sale of the choice herd of Berkshire pigs belonging to Mr. J. Chick, of Stratton, Dorchester, was held in a meadow adjoining this hospitable homestead last Friday. There was a good company, most of the breeders being represented, and the stock (although not of quite the same length as the old Stratton herd) were of good quality and met a good demand. Lord Cawdor secured a couple of good sows to go to Pembrokeshire, Mr. A. S. Gordon purchased Stratton Beauty 2nd, the second prize sow at Dorchester last year at 13 guineas; Mr. Edney Hayter several to go into Hampshire; and Mr. H. C. Cameron many of the best gilts to go to Argentina. Messrs. A. Brown, Arthur Hiscock, D. Mutton, J. Jefferson, and H. Standfield also obtained some of the best lots. A couple of good sows were also purchased for the Hon. Mr. Mouldsworth in Guernsey. An all-round average of £5 6s. 3d. was made for eighty-eight head, sixty of which were born this year.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

On Wednesday at Whitchurch Cheese fair, there was a pitch of 67 tons, and, with the exception of a few heated lots, the quality was excellent. Most lots changed hands promptly at prices ranging from 63s. to 67s. 6d. best qualities; mediums, 57s. to 62s.; and lowest down to 52s.



Notes and Jottings.

THERE is at least an appearance of a break-up of the long drought at the time of writing, and the weather, particularly after sunset and in the early morning, is distinctly colder. Many cattle of all breeds stare their coats now in the early morning terribly, a sure sign that some warming food is needed. In many places the very short supply of grass has necessitated foddering with hay, but this scarcely suffices to keep things together, and progress is out of the question. Now the colder evenings and mornings have come, some cake or meal are practically a necessity if beefers are to progress and down calvers to be got into a state likely to make them milk well when parturition is over. Longer delay in attending to these now means loss later on.

THE milk supply is an awful subject to touch upon at the present time. For years and years the supply of milk from October to February 1 has been practically inadequate for our large towns and cities, and the drought, with its accompanying scarcity of pasture and green food, has added immensely to the difficulty. One of the great features of the future in stock-keeping, depend upon it, will be the discussion and consideration of the milk supply of Great Britain. What may be done in the way of importing milk from abroad is not at present known, but there is little doubt that necessity, the mother of invention, will devise some means, and it is to be feared that the necessity for a vastly larger supply of milk than is at present possible will be needed.

THE enormous quantity of beef imported in the shape of live cattle and dressed beef prevents any scarcity or even rise in price of that article, and the beef supply from foreign countries can easily be multiplied many times over, and perhaps will be, whether needed or not. This would certainly leave a greater—vastly greater—portion of our own land in the keeping of dairy cattle and the production of milk, and there is little doubt, too, that by careful selection and good feeding and management our present milking might be made to produce a greatly increased quantity. The price of new milk to the producer during a great part of the year is not too high, and there are many milk-selling farmers who find a difficulty in making ends meet; at the same time it may be truthfully said that there are many farmers who have done well in the business.

ONE thing the writer has observed in respect to the last statement is that the majority, indeed, nearly to a man, of those who have been most successful have been those who have bought or bred the best animals and kept them in the highest conditions. This is by far the most important point in the dairying business. Good condition means hardier nature or ability to withstand the many ills that are apt to befall the dairy cow. When well fed she can throw off a slight chill that would prove very damaging, indeed, often fatal, to a weakly, ill-fed companion. And so it is with those dreaded scourges, tuberculosis and abortion. The well-conditioned cow will stand much more of infection or other causes that may conduce to the former disease, whilst when the latter difficulty comes the high-conditioned cow is worth much more money to go to market than the thin one.

READING the results of the milk and butter yields of the Holstein Fresian cattle in some of the American herds, the quantities of both products obtained are remarkably good; the quantity of milk yielded is very great, but the butter-fat percentage is still more remarkable in a breed that was at one time more noted for the poverty of its milk than in any other desirable property. This is speaking of many years ago, when these cattle were imported into England in large numbers at certain times of the year. Probably climate and feed may have a hand in the excellent results recorded; indeed, it is well known that the same kind of feed is vastly more nutritious grown upon some soils and in certain localities than in others.

THE difference in the nutritive properties of Scotch-grown oat straw and Scotch-grown turnips when compared with the same articles produced in the south of England is almost incredible. So far as the oat straw is concerned, it has been proved that the straw from oats, cut a little before being half ripe, is much more nutritious than that from a dead-ripe crop. This may, in a measure, account for the superiority of Scotch-grown straw, as it seldom attains the same stage of ripeness in the north country that it is allowed to do in the south and Midlands of England. To maintain a regular and heavy supply of milk from a dairy all the food used during the autumn and winter months should be made as succulent as possible and be of the most nutritious kinds.

TYPICAL SHORTHORN DAIRY COW, IFORD FANCY.
Property of Messrs. J. and H. Robinson, Iford, Lewes. She gave 1,857 gallons of milk in 10 months.

IT is quite likely that the terrible drought through which we have been passing will be the means of causing a much greater breadth of lucerne and sainfoin to be grown in the future. Travelling during the present week we noticed two or three herds of cattle on first rate pasture of these crops, and there can be no disputing their value on soils that are at all suitable to their growth, whilst both plants have the additional recommendation of making the best possible hay should they not be required for feeding off green, or should the season prove more prolific so that pastures overgrow the head of cattle. Mangels have increased very much of late years, so far as the area sown is concerned, and it appears quite likely, with the succession of dry seasons, that we shall have to fall back upon new plants.

AS soon as the soil is sufficiently soft to break up and seed on those farms that have some tillage that can be applied to the use of the cattle, some rye or other green food should be sown for early spring use. Though the season will soon be getting on, growth is certain to be very rapid after the great heat that must have so thoroughly warmed it. Italian rye grass and trifolium also make very bulky and profitable crops for early summer cutting, either to feed green, or, if they are not required for that purpose, to be made into hay. Last April we also saw a crop of the famous thousand-headed kale nearly a yard high that made an enormous bulk of keep, and this we were told was not drilled until the first week in the previous October.

THE Chicago markets appear to have been heavily supplied with cattle of late, which, so far as condition and prices are concerned, have been fairly satisfactory. The demand for the best finished cattle apparently keeping very firm, and, as in our own country, it is scarcely likely that this class of beef will come to market more plentifully than it is required for the next few months, if at all between this and another summer. These steers and heifers that were turned on the pastures in poor condition last April and May will not, through the drought, have gained flesh sufficiently fast for them to be brought out before the first months of next summer have been made use of, and Christmas will see the end of a very large proportion of those that were turned out more fit.

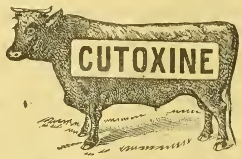
THE necessity for keeping our ports closed to foreign cattle is well seen by the outbreak of what is called East Coast fever in South Africa, a disease said to be even worse than the rinderpest which proved so disastrous in England in the sixties of the last century. When disease of this kind or these kinds once breaks out, the temptation to be rid of those animals that are not infected, though in the company of diseased ones, is too great for the ordinary man to withstand, and so the healthy portion of herds are at once, upon the outbreak of disease, railed or walked to the nearest market and allowed to spread the seeds of the disease broadcast throughout the length and breadth of the land. Were we importing store stock from over-sea countries to-day, it is most probable we should be importing disease of some kind or other.

TUESDAY next, the 18th, will witness the dispersion of one of the leading herds of Red Polls in this county, that of the herd belonging to Lord Amherst, of Hackney, and consisting of some hundred head that have been carefully bred and furnished a number of prize winners since 1880. The present is a very opportune time for those who have the means, pecuniary and otherwise, for purchasing some of these cattle to do so. As intimated in the above notes, the supply of milking cattle is quite inadequate for the demand, and a herd of Red Polled animals started upon such a foundation as the prize stock of this famous herd would furnish should be worth thinking about, and would be pretty certain to turn out a pecuniary success, especially if located in a suitable district.

ON the day following the sale of the Red Polls mentioned, another important sale of a breed that seldom are found in the market took place. We allude to that of the Welsh herd belonging to Mr. Thomas Roberts, near Aber Station, Carnarvonshire. The herd numbers about fifty head, and has supplied a good number of the highest class stock of this hardy and useful breed for several years past. Local demand may probably be fairly brisk, but the scarcity of feed in many parts of England is certain to have a very prejudicial effect upon prices in general. The Welsh breed deserves to be better known and more extensively patronised than it is. It is a general or dual purpose breed; the cows give a good yield of butter and milk, and the steers supply the best of beef and with great development at an early age.

Sale of Mr. Lysaght's Herefords and Horses.

Another important sale of pedigree animals, the property of Mr. W. R. Lysaght, was held at Amberley Court, near Monmouth, on Tuesday afternoon. The following are some of the chief prices and purchasers:—Two-year-old Hereford bull, Amberley Chieftain, bred by Lord Llangattock, 50 guineas—purchaser, Mr. E. W. Well, Amberley; yearling pedigree Hereford bull, 16½ guineas—purchaser, Mr. T. James, Glewstone, near Ross; pedigree yearling Hereford heifer, 19 guineas, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P.; two-year old Hereford heifer, 25½ guineas, Mr. Henry Williams, Llanarth; Hereford heifer (calved in March, 1905), 18 guineas, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P.; Hereford cow Hendre Pansy, 25 guineas, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P.; her bull calf, 12



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COMPOUND CAKE
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THE FARMERS' RED BOOK.

THE AGRICULTURAL ANNUAL AND MARK LANE EXPRESS ALMANAC, 1907.

Published each year in time for sale throughout the United Kingdom **early in December.** Price **One Shilling** per copy, through any bookstall or bookseller; by post, **One Shilling and Fourpence.**

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guineas. Other pedigrea hereford cows fetched from 25 guineas to 33 guineas.

The Shire mares, colts, and hackneys aroused much interest, but in some cases the prices, considering the expense and trouble Mr. Lysaght has gone to in breeding pedigree horses, were disappointing. A promising young bay Shire mare, by Lord Rothschild's Birdsall Minstrel dam Heather Belle, was sold for 37 guineas to Mr. Scase, Monmouth: and for 14 guineas and 10 guineas, respectively, the same buyer obtained two other Shire mares. For 33½ guineas Mr. Albert Lewis, Priory Farm, Monmouth, purchased the black Shire mare Studney Deborah. A blue roan Shire colt by Hendre Baronet went to Mr. Morgan, Glebe Farm, near Lydney, for 14½ guineas. Other colts made from £10 10s. to £17 17s.

Sale of South Devon Cattle.

The sale of the herd of pedigree South Devon bullocks at Higher Leigham Farm, Egg Buckland, on Wednesday, attracted a good company. The lots, fifty-eight in number, were. with one exception, the property of Messrs. Butland Bros., of Leigham Barton, and Mr. W. J. Crossing, of Woodford Farm, Plympton. The auctioneer was Mr. John Pearse, of Plymouth, and most satisfactory prices were obtained for the various lots of cattle. Altogether over 1,200 guineas were realised, more than 1,000 guineas being Butland Bros.' share of the proceeds. It is interesting to note that Leigham Champion (1667), which was bred by the late Benjamin Butland, was the sire of twenty-four of the heifers and seven yearling bulls disposed of. One of the heifers, Handsome 3rd, obtained the highest bid at the sale—namely, 67½ guineas. The following are the best prices realised:—

Property of Messrs. Butland Bros.—Cows: Buttercup, 3692, 30 guineas, H. Hellier, Kingsbridge; Handsome 4040, 57½ guineas, J. Stoke, Sherford; Dairymaid 4th, 4817, 30 guineas, Whitley, Paignton. Heifers: Princess 2nd, 5826, 40 guineas, Whitley; Snowdrop 2nd, 5828, 65 guineas, Tucker; Perfection, 5270, 51½ guineas, W. Symons, Kingsbridge; Beauty 7th, 5814, 25 guineas, Whitley; Honesty 2nd, 5825, 40 guineas, Whitley. Bulls: Right Sort, 2477, 35 guineas, R. Clarke, St. Austell.

Property of Mr. William J. Crossing.—Heifers: Iris, 4885, 18½ guineas, Sandover, Kingsbridge; Rose, 5336, 21½ guineas, W. H. Payne, Kingsbridge; Pollie, 5888, 27 guineas, Whitley.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Warts.

These excrescences, though of little importance from the point of view of the health of the animal, are often a source of considerable trouble, and are at all times unsightly. Technically, warts are described as circumscribed hypertrophies of the papillary layer of the dermis, and they are considered by modern observers to be parasitic in their character, the micro-organism being the bacterium puri. Our fathers considered dirt to be the exciting cause, but this cannot be regarded as constant, because among animals living under exactly the same conditions as to cleanliness many will not develop a single excrescence, while with the few they may be seen from one or two in number up to as many hundreds, and from a grain of mustard seed in size up to several pounds in weight.

The parts on which they are most often met with are the muzzle, eyelids, abdomen, thighs, sheath, and teats. In horses they are exceedingly troublesome when they come in the way of the harness, and when they interfere with movement, or are subjected to friction or bruising they assume a raw, ulcerated appearance, and bleed at the slightest touch. In cows they are often found on the teats, and here they are particularly inconvenient, because they greatly interfere with the milking, and in some cases they occur at the end of the pap, completely block the orifice, and effectually prevent removal of the milk. They are most frequently seen on the teats of heifers carrying their first calf, one or more teats being completely covered with small "seed" warts, as they are popularly called, with an occasional large one, that seriously interfere with the grasp of the teat by the hand in milking, and which from friction become sore.

Unless steps are taken to remove them before the calf is born, there is often difficulty in getting the animal to stand to be milked, and the gentle heifer develops into a kicking or vicious cow, so that in this position it is not, as it may be in other parts, merely a question of unsightliness or disfigurement, but their removal becomes a matter of urgent necessity, if milking is to be profitably performed. A strange thing about warts, which many will have observed in their schoolboy days, is that they frequently disappear spontaneously, even when not "charmed" away, and in the case of warts on the teats of heifers they sometimes disappear as mysteriously as they came, but it is not by any means a safe plan to depend on this, for if they persist removal becomes most difficult, since any attempt at treatment increases the soreness, and interferes with the milking. There are several methods of removing or destroying warts—by ligature, by excision, with the ecraseur, with the actual cautery, and by the application of certain caustic or corrosive agents—and they are varied mainly according to the character, size, and position of the growth. Removal by ligature is by far the best method where the character and position of the growth will permit. It is safe, surgical, and effective, and more easily practised by the owner than any other method. In the case of a pregnant cow, for example, casting, so as to effectually use the hot iron or the knife, would be highly inconvenient, not to say risky, but a ligature can generally be applied without imposing any such restraint.

(*To be concluded*).

Death of Ewes.

SIR,—I have lost 4 ewes within the past month. The first thing I noticed was one-half of the udder swollen, and walk stiff in the hind legs. In a few hours they die, and get nearly black. The last one I had killed, and when it was skinned the flesh was very yellow all over the body; the gall about four times the proper size. Before death I noticed the urine a very high colour. Two ewes died since the lambs have been weaned. They have been kept on sound grass land.—READER.

Answer: Clearly what the ewes have suffered from, or died of, is gangrene of the mammary gland. This mortification, or death of the part, during the life of the animal is not at all an uncommon sequel to acute mammitis in ewes, and is not infrequently seen in cows that are narrow between the thighs. In cases so rapidly fatal as those described there is, of course, nothing to be done; but it is not the rule that death supervenes so rapidly, and we can only suggest that the beginning of the inflammation of the gland structure has been overlooked or neglected. Gangrene of the udder may cause death from shock, or from general blood poisoning, owing to the absorption of poisonous products. The dead parts are sometimes removed by excision, but generally are allowed to separate from the living structures, the horrible fœtor of the discharges being in the meantime modified by deodorising and disinfecting agents. You need not be really sorry the ewes died, for with ordinary animals treatment is not profitable. The loss of condition, the length of time occupied in recovery, and the cost of getting the animal fit to kill for the butcher—for it is of no further use for breeding—is such that treatment does not pay. It is noted that the cases occurred subsequent to the weaning of the lambs. The complete want of attention to the state of the udders of the ewes from which the lambs have been removed is responsible for many cases of mammary inflammation, and, of course, for gangrene as a sequel.

Scour in Calves.

SIR,—What is generally the cause of scour in calves six months old? Is it infectious, as last year several in the same district died from this cause? What is considered the best food and treatment for sufferers from it? A reply in your valuable journal will oblige.—S. S. LEWIS.

The "general cause" of "scour" in calves six months old is indigestion and over or improper feeding. There is an infectious scour in calves—popularly known as "white scour" or "white skit," and technically as dysenteria neonatorum, but this "white scour" is peculiar to newly-born animals, and there is no evidence of an infectious dysentery affecting calves six months old. Scour in calves is, or used to be, very rife in certain districts in your country, and it was investigated, and the cause elucidated, by no less an authority than the late M. Nocard, assisted by the veterinary staff of the Irish Board of Agriculture. It was determined that the infection took place at birth, through the open umbilicus, and that calves born on infected premises all died. This must, however, be quite a different matter from the scour in calves six months old, from which several animals have died in your district. As to the treatment of this, we cannot form any reliable opinion as to its cause, as nothing is said as to the character of the scour, or under what conditions the animals are kept, fed, and managed. "Scour," or diarrhœa, is not in itself a disease, but only a symptom, generally of disease of the digestive organs. It may, however, be a feature of several other bovine diseases. We will refer again at an early date to the infectious white scour in young calves. In the meantime you may be able to tell us something about the character of the "scour" to which the deaths in your district of six-months-old calves has been attributed.—M.R.C.V.S.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

WHITEHEAD, Robert. Fashionably-bred Mares, Fillies in natural condition on Sale. Stallions: Bodenham King 17177, Whitton Prince Alfred 22930.—Apply, CLIFFORD, MUCKLOW, Hargate Hall, Buxton. Stn., Teleg. Miller's Dale (2 miles).

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

HUNT, Mrs. William, Findon, Sussex.—Carefully inbred Hackneys for sale, suitable for export; moderate prices. Blood: Denmark, Connaught, Danegelt, Lord Derby II.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Rough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on Sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonijer 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

RED-POLLED COWS for Sale, down Calving, bred specially for Milk. Also some grand young Bulls, Pedigree Herd.—H. WALNE, Kettleburgh Hall, Wickham Market, Suffolk.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners. Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb lot for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 1os. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.)*.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, Jas. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

SOUTHDOWN.

FOR SALE, 200 Superior Pure-bred SOUTHDOWN WETHER LAMBS, strong & healthy. J. HOGBIN, Estate Office, Betteshanger, Eastry, Kent.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep. Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

FOR SALE.—Reasonable prices. Fine Black-faced SUFFOLK RAMS, from Lord Cranworth's Registered Prize Flock. Capital Cross for White-faced or Half-bred Ewes.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, Norfolk.

PIGS.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

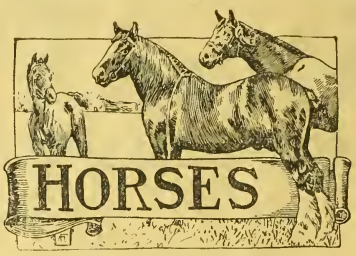
CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

We learn that Mr. Harry W. Bishop, now located at Pendley, near Tring, is taking the necessary steps to establish as fine a herd of Middle Whites for Mr. Williams, the owner of the fine estate at Pendley, as he quickly built up for Mr. T. Simpson Jay, at Wimbledon. Mr. Bishop journeyed a few days since to the cradle of Middle White pigs, and purchased two yelts, winners of the second prize at the Royal, and bred from the bluest of the blue blood at Holywell Manor, and one young sow, which has reared one litter of eleven pigs, and is again to be mated with one of Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Sons' stock boars. One of the yelts is by Holywell Viscount, a Royal gold medal winner, and the other is by Holywell Rosario, own litter-brother to the boar sold to Mr. T. Simpson Jay for 100 guineas; the second yelt being a daughter of Holywell Victoria Duchess, a prize winner, the dam of three Royal gold medal winners, and at the present time suckling a very fine litter of pigs, albeit she is in her ninth year. The young sow is a daughter of Holywell Barbara, a winner three years in succession at the Royal; this sow is out of Holywell Curly Rose 2nd, the dam of twelve Royal winners.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

A GOOD brood mare has often been the making of a man, and there is a considerable amount of romance about horse breeding. Indeed, this is one of the attractions of a fascinating, but at the same time risky, branch of farming. I have on previous occasions drawn attention to successful hunter brood mares. To-day I wish to draw attention to a Cleveland Bay mare, and also to a Hackney brood mare, both of which have a very unique history.

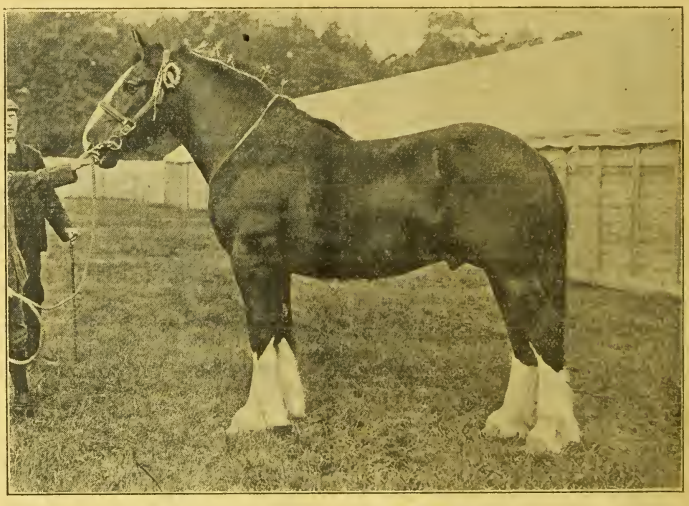
THE Cleveland Bay brood mare was Tommy Peart's famous mare Darling, by Master George out of Jolly by Admiral III., her dam by Barnaby XV. Jolly was owned by Mr. Peart, for whom she bred fourteen foals, amongst them the two sisters Damsel and Darling, both of whom made a great mark at the time. Damsel was the dam of a famous prize-winner in Mr. Robinson Watson's Sunflower; but Darling, who was retained by Mr. Peart for many years, was perhaps the most successful brood mare of the breed of which any record remains. Darling was mated with Cleveland Lad LXIX., but not proving in foal to him, Mr. Peart sent her to the game little Perion, a thoroughbred horse, and filled Cleveland with good Hunters. The result was a bay colt foal, which was sold to Mr. John Robinson, of Hutton Rudby, and by him to a London dealer.

IT is as a breeder of stallions that Darling is principally known. She bred no fewer than half-a-dozen of them, and all of them good ones. Five out of the six went abroad, or at any rate left England; the other, fortunately, happened an accident, and so was kept in his native country, which he filled with good horses. This was Brilliant by Zatton Lad, whose blood is perpetuated through Sportsman and other good horses. The first stallion Darling bred was Master Thomas by Cleveland Lad. Mr. John Robinson, of Hutton Rudby, who did a large business in the fifties, bought him as a foal, and sold him for £100 to Mr. Olde, for the German market. This was considered a good price in those days. The other four stallions she bred were Brilliant, Lord of the Manor, Captain Cook, and Roseberry, all of them by Wonderful Lad. Brilliant, the second of the name, was bought by the late Admiral Chaloner for the late Earl Fitzwilliam, the price being £100. He stood at Coollatin several years, but it is stated that he was not a great success in Ireland, though he certainly sired some good Cleveland Bay mares. Lord of the Manor was perhaps, with the exception of the Brilliant that remained in England, the best of the stallions. He was bought by Mr. John Robinson, of Hutton Rudby, for £100, and was sold by him to Mr. George Holmes, of Beverley, for £300 when three years old, his ultimate destination being India. Captain Cook was a useful horse that won some prizes as a foal. He was sold at weaning time to Mr. Grayson, of Pickering, who kept him a few years and sold him to go abroad. Roseberry, who was bred by Mr. James Peirson, who bought the old mare. He was a very good horse, and was sold at a big price to Captain Jordan.

CURIOUSLY enough, Darling only bred one pure-bred Cleveland Bay filly. This was Duchess of Cleveland, who was bought by Mr. Thomas Darrell, of Spiker's Hill, when a foal, and for him she bred two good stallions, Duke of Cleveland and Roseberry, and she also bred a useful mare in the dam of Duke of Ryedale.

DARLING bred nine other foals—seventeen foals in all—but most of them were sired by Thoroughbred horses. One of these, a filly by Perion, had an eventful history. She won in a big class of Hunter foals at Stokesley, and was bought by Mr. William Dale, of Pressick House, for £15, and she grew into a very good-looking filly. At three years old she was mated with Newport, a well-bred horse of Mr. John Mewburn's that was not particularly successful as a sire. History, however, would have had to be written differently if all Newport's stock had turned out like this one. Mr. H. W. Thomas, of Pinchinthorpe House, took a great fancy to the three-year-old, and gave Mr. Dale £60 for her. They fancied she was not in foal, and she was hunted—though not hard hunted—till the end of the season. Then she dropped a good-looking filly foal which Mr. Thomas sold to his brother-in-law, Mr. Henry Wilson, of Barnaby side. She was hunted for a season or two when old enough, and then she was shown in the open Hunter class at the Cleveland Agricultural Society's Show at Redcar and won. She was seen by Mr. John Harvey, then the master of the Durham County Hounds, and he gave £100 for her. She was a famous hunter, and carried Mr. Harvey for many seasons.

HERE is an interesting item. In the days when Mr. Henry Wilson's mare won at Redcar, the Cleveland Show was one of the best and most important in England—as a horse show standing considerably above the Royal, and perhaps equal to the Yorkshire. It took quite as good a horse to win there as it does to win at any of the great shows of the present day with a few conspicuous exceptions. And here we have a good winner selling to a gentleman for his own riding



CLYDESDALE STALLION "BLYTH THOMAS.

Clydesdale Stallion Blyth Thomas.

Blyth Thomas won first prize for Clydesdale stallions foaled in 1904, and also the Clydesdale Horse Society's champion prize for the best Clydesdale stallion at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Derby. He was shown by Mr. James Kilpatrick, Craigie Mains, Kilmarnock, but was bred by Mr. A. W. Law, Mains of Sanquhar, Forres, and is by Prince Thomas out of Utopia.

for the, in these days, insignificant sum of £100—the price of a good three-year-old. The probability is that a mare such as Mr. Henry Wilson's would sell for £250 or even £300 in these days.

THE other mare to which I would draw attention is the Hackney No. 36 Bounce by Pride of the Isle 1104—Jat by Sir Edwin Landseer 779, her dam by Pride of England 630, her granddam by Mousetrap 1526, her great granddam by Fireaway 201. Bounce was a good winner in her day. As a three-year-old she was never beaten, and she was winning prizes at fourteen years old, her last appearance in the show ring being when she won at the Lincolnshire Show. She was thirty-three years old when she died, and it is said that her produce so far has realised over £8,000. Like Peart's Darling, she has been a breeder of stallions, amongst them being the famous horse Gentleman John 3624 by Lord Derby II. 417. That horse, it will be remembered, was fourth twice, first and reserve for the special cup, and second once at the London Hackney Horse Society's Show, and he also won the group prize for the best three stallions at that show in 1899, whilst two years ago he won the challenge cup at the New York Show right out. His other prizes are too numerous to mention. Topper 1350, another of her stallions, took eight first prizes at county shows and has been the sire of many famous winners, and Gentleman George 7458 is the third of her stallions.

SHE has been a most prolific breeder, and when twelve years ago her owner, Mr D. R. Sowerby, had a sale at Burstwick most of the animals sold were descended from her either on one side or the other. And now, after this long interval, Mr. Sowerby is having another sale on Thursday next, and with a very few exceptions the horses to be offered are descendants of this fine old mare. She was not a very big one herself, but her quality was of the best; she was a beautiful brown in colour, her action was remarkably true, and she moved well off her hocks. In richness of colour and in action her descendants take after her in a remarkable manner, and it is unnecessary to insist on their excellent breeding.

WHEN I was in Holderness a few weeks ago, I had a good deal of talk with some of the most prominent Hackney men, and again when I paid a second visit. And from what I can gather from them Hackney breeding is decaying in Holderness proper—by which I do not mean the district hunted by the Holderness Hounds, but that part of Yorkshire which lies between Hull and Spurn Head, embracing Hornsea, Withernsea, Patrington, Hedon, &c. In the early days of the Hackney Stud Book, this was one of the great Hackney strongholds, and there are, of course, some famous breeders still keeping up the reputation which they made many years ago for breeding high-class Hackneys. But I am told, and from what I have seen, I can well believe it, that there are not two-thirds of the Hackneys—perhaps not half of the Hackneys bred in the district that there were ten or a dozen years ago. And the reason given is the motor car. I asked my informant if he thought the motor car was driving the horse out directly—whether people really preferred the motor car as a means of locomotion to the high-stepper. He said he thought not, but that people were afraid of the risk now entailed by driving on the roads where scorching motorists care only for their own selfish pleasure. He told me of several instances of people who had given up driving simply because they dared not run the risk to life and property.

THERE can be no doubt that the agriculturists of Holderness are feeling and will feel this very acutely. Their Hackneys were a considerable source of income to them, and this they are losing through the selfish misconduct of so called gentlemen, who care little what inconvenience they cause to others. The serious accident which took place at Bainton only a week ago is but one amongst many. A gentleman saw a motor car coming in the distance, he stood at his horse's head full in the light of the lamp of his own conveyance, and signalled to the motorist to steady up, so that he might lead his horse past. But steadying up was not in the motorist's mind at all. He came on at a reckless pace, his car swerved, knocked the gentleman down and ran over him. Stop to pick him up? Of course not, what business had he on the road? Now such people as these are caught occasionally, but when they are they do not get half the punishment they merit. At the same time I would point out that if farmers would really combine on the question of motor-cars they could have pretty nearly all their own way about them. It only needs a little organisation. The motor-car is all very well in its way, but the time is coming when they will have to be more moderate or they will be sent off the roads altogether. Already in some northern towns the licenses for motor omnibuses have been withdrawn. This may be regarded as a sign of the times.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale of Polo Ponies in Yorkshire.

Mr. C. Howard Taylor's entire stud of choicely-bred polo ponies were sold by auction on Monday, September 10, at Middlewood Hall, Barnsley, by Messrs. John Thornton & Co. Established some ten years ago, the ponies have been bred from some of the greatest prizewinners of the present day. Among them might be mentioned the mare Confidential (herself a winner of many prizes) by Rosewater 37, a horse that was never beaten, and Marechal Niel, bred by Mr. G. Norris Midwood. Being the first day of Doncaster week there was only a small but business-like company, the older mares selling cheaply. Lot 9, Fine Fleur, a well-grown chestnut, going to Mr. Stockburn's bid of 40 guineas into Northamptonshire; lot 11, Grey Wings, to Mr. W. H. Cooke, of Cheshire, the same purchaser also securing Confidential at 44 guineas, Camelia at 43 guineas, and a yearling colt at 56 guineas Marechal Niel, looking in the pink of condition, was taken by Mr. R. Wright at 75 guineas to go to Argentina. The twenty-five head belonging to Mr. Taylor, including several foals, realised £753 18s., an increase of over £30 each. Among other purchasers might be mentioned Mrs. Hayes Sadler, Mr. John Barker, Dr. Sullivan, Mr. Vincent Taylor, and Mr. T. H. Weetman.

Radnor Polo Co.'s Stud Dispersion Sale.

A great number of people from all parts of the kingdom were attracted to the Stud Farm at Bleddfa, Knighton, on Wednesday afternoon, when Mr. Bernard Poole of the firm of Messrs. Morris, Marshall, and Poole, acting on an order of the High Court in the case of Aubertin *v.* the Radnorshire Polo and Riding Company, Ltd., sold by auction a number of valuable yearlings, brood mares, Thoroughbred and cob stallions, and polo ponies. The price amongst the Welsh ponies averaged from 6 to 15 guineas. The celebrated mare, Bleddfa Pigeon was knocked down to Mr. W. H. Cooke (Chelford) for 17½ guineas; and the famous Welsh cob stallion, Keidd Loyre, was purchased by Mr. Moore (Old Hall) for 21½ guineas. The Welsh Mountain stallion, His Lordship, fell to Mr. Knight for £39, and Whitehall went for 16½ guineas. The noted gelding, Lord Keynsham, was not sold.

The Merits of Sussex Cattle.

The Sussex Herd Book Society has published an interesting booklet on "The Merits of Sussex Cattle," a course which might well be followed by other societies connected with our less well-known herds.

Few breeds of British cattle, if any, can trace back their origin further than the Sussex. As long ago as 1795, when Arthur Young wrote his remarkable series of letters published in his "Annals of Agriculture," they were recognised as a well-established breed of very high repute, and were in the hands of very capable breeders, for he reports an experiment in feeding which proves the breed had then a remarkable proclivity for rapid development. Summing up their merits, he declared that "Sussex oxen are as remarkable for the fineness of their hides as they are for the closeness and delicacy of their flesh." The breed is in great favour on the wealden clays and the marsh lands of Sussex, Kent, and Surrey, comprising as they do all qualities of grazing land, from the poorest to the strongest; and it was on the first section it was mainly bred, and on the latter finished off for the butcher.

In the olden time, and, indeed, down to a very recent period, the steers were largely used for draught purposes in cultivating the land and clearing the produce of the woods, for which these powerful oxen were admirably adapted, as with their constant and steady pull they were able to move great weights with few breakages. It is probable that as the cattle were so much used in the before-mentioned districts for draught purposes, the earlier breeders did not endeavour to find buyers from outside. In fact, it may be said they had always at home a ready market at remunerative prices for all the cattle they could produce. An advantage, however, and one that the expert breeder and buyer should fully realise, has resulted from the practice, which prevailed until the middle of last century, of breeding Sussex cattle largely for draught purposes—it being necessary that they should have thoroughly sound constitutions—they have for ages been bred with the object of producing an animal capable of withstanding the rigours of cold and exposure, and of furnishing a good carcase of beef after the close of its working career.

Absolutely red in colour, they are esteemed as one of the hardiest of breeds, and for their ability to thrive and do well under the most unfavourable circumstances as regards feed, soil, and climate, being practically free from disease. It is no exaggeration to say that the Sussex are unequalled for beef production, draught purposes, hardiness, early maturity, and thriving disposition—in fact, experience has proved the breed to be one of the most profitable in existence.

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9ft. by 7ft. by 7ft. 6in. high	4	15	0
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THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
September				
18	Messrs. Mason and Sons, Louth	Lincoln Longwool Rams	Partney Sheep	Messrs. J. T. and A. W. Needman.
18	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., London, W.	Red Polled Cattle	Didlington, Brandon	Lord Amherst.
18	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Perth	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Birtley, co. Durham	The late Mr. Perkins.
18	Messrs. E. A. Young and Son, Alford	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Partney Sheep Fair	Mr. L. W. Stephenson.
18, 19, & 21	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Hackneys	Cheshire Repository, Crewe	Various.
18	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury	Hunters	High Ercall Hall, Wellington, Salop	Mr. J. H. James-Moore.
18	Messrs Lloyd and Thomas, Carmarthen	Shorthorn Cattle	Berry Hill, Newport, Pem.	Mr. G. W. Bower.
19	Mr. F. Charles, St. Albans	Horses	St. Alban's Repository	Various.
19	Messrs. Paxton & Holiday, Bicester	Oxford Down Sheep	Northampton Ram Fair	Various.
19	Mr. J. Kidd, Penrith	Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
19	Messrs. A. G. & E. A. Crow, Sunderland	Horses and Ponies	Seaham Harbour	Seaham Harbour Stud Co.
19	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Eshott, Northumberland	Mr. Bainbridge.
19	———	Oxford Down Sheep	Northampton Fair	Mr. G. Adams and Mr. W. Hobbs.
19	Messrs. W. Dew and Sons, Bangor	Welsh Black Cattle, &c.	Tan-y-Fynwent Farm, Aber	Mr. T. Roberts
19	Mr. W. J. Pierce, Northampton	Hampshire Down Sheep	Northampton Ram Fair	Various.
19	Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons, Bury St. Edmunds	Horses, Cattle, and Sheep	Beechamwell, Norfolk	Mr. C. B. Mason.
20	Messrs. J. Baker, Cook, and Standen, Kilburn	Shire Horses, and Cow	West Lodge, Hadley Wood, London, N.	Various.
20	———	Sheep	Devynock	Mr. W. S. Miller.
20	Messrs. Benjamin Simons and Co., Holbeach	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Holbeach	Mr. J. S. Patchett.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Haughton Castle, Humshaugh, Northumberland	Mr. W. D. Cruddas.
20	Mr. J. Kidd	Breeding Sheep	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
20	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, Sheep, &c.	Woodhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Mr. C. Calder.
20	Messrs. R. Leonard and Sons, Preston, Hull	Hackneys, &c.	Burstwick, near Hull	Mr. D. R. Sowerby.
20	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy, Louth	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Great Coates, near Grimsby	Mr. R. Garniss.
20	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Red Polled Cattle	Crabbill Farm, Nutfield Surrey	Mr. R. F. Henderson.
20	Messrs C. R. Robinson and Son, North Curry, near Taunton	Cattle	Capton Farm, Williton, near Taunton	Mr. A. Bowerman.
20	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Sheep	Lockerbie	Various.
20	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Sheep	Kelso	Various.
20	Mr. W. Bainbridge, Warrington	Kerry Cattle and Pigs	Walton Hall, Warrington	Sir G. Greenall, Bart.
21	Messrs. Rumball and Edwards, St. Albans	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Woodhall, near Hemel Hempstead	Mr. A. F. Umfreville.
21	Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons, Bury-St. Edmunds	Shire Horses	Little Wilnetham Hall	Mr. J. Sturley Nunn.
21	Various	Southdown Sheep	Lewes Fair	Various.
21	Messrs Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Oakfield, Mortimer, Berks	Mr. Tyser and Mr. Wills.
21	Messrs. Neasom and White, Bromsgrove	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	Alvechurch, near B'mingham	Mr. Clement Heynes.
21	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Longwool Sheep	Louth Ram Fair	Various.
21	Messrs. W. Teagle and Son, Chippenham	Horses	Malmesbury	Various.
21	Messrs. Keeve and Finn, Rye	Sheep	Hamstreel, Kent	Various.
22 & 24	Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Bolney, Sussex	Lord Auckland.
24	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Gosberton, near Spalding	Mr. R. Mowbray.
25	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons, Ipswich	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
25	Messrs. Howkin and Sons, Rugby	Foals	Rugby	Various.
25	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh	Late Miss L. C. Standish.
25	Messrs. Tattersall	Polo and Riding Ponies	Ditto Ditto	Ditto Ditto
25	Messrs. Turner, Rudge, and Turner, East Grinstead	Horses, &c.	Brook Farm, Tanridge	Mr. M. Michealis.
25	Mr. J. G. Villar, Cheltenham	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Dowdeswell	Mr. F. H. Unwin.
26	Messrs. W. F. Ingram and Son, Lewes	Southdown Sheep	Falmer, Sussex	Earl of Chichester.
26	———	Wensleydale Sheep	Northallerton	Members of Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Asso.
26	———	Ayr	Ayr Cattle Mart	Members of Ayr Ram Soc.
26	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Lilford, Oundle	Lord Lilford.
26	Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son, Lincoln	Shorthorn Cattle	Hurn Hall, Holbeach	Mr. H. C. Tinsley.
27	Mr. F. Charles	Shorthorns and Berkshire Pigs	Radlett	Mr. R. C. Phillimore.
27	Messrs. Lythall and Walters, Birmingham	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	English Aberdeen-Angus Association.
27	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Crewe	Hackneys	Manorayon, Llandilo, S. Wales	Mr. Evan Jones.
27	Mr. J. Kidd	Sheep and Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
27	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Cotterstock, near Oundle	Mr. Everitt King.
27	Messrs. H. F. Russell and Son, Pembridge, R. S. O	Hereford Cattle	Glanusk	The late Lord Glanusk.
27	Messrs. J. Risdon & Son, Williton	Devon Cattle	Harwell Junction	Mr. Tremayne and Mr. H. H. Earle.
28	Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons	Horses, Cattle, and Sheep	Letheringsett Holt, Norfolk	Mr. C. H. Hardy Cozens-Hardy.
28 & 29	Messrs. Winterton and Sons, Lichfield	Horses	Lichfield Respository	Various.
28	Various	Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep.	Ashford	Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Asson.
28	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co.	Cattle and Sheep	Shrewsbury Cattle Mart	Various.
28	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Chipping Norton Junction	Various.
28	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Horses	Peterborough Repository	Various.
28	Messrs. Nightingale, Philips and Page, Kingston-on-Thames	Hunters, &c.	Brookleigh Stud, Esher	Mr. E. W. Robinson.
28	Mr. E. J. Vidler Rye	Dairy Cows	Northiam, Sussex	Mr. E. J. Bates.
October				
1	Mr. F. Charles	Horses	Rickmansworth	Various.
2, 3, & 4	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck	Shire Horses	Derby	Various.
2	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Brayton, Carlisle	Late Sir Wilfrid Lawson.
2, 3, 4 & 5	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Son	Horses	Wrexham	Various.
2	Messrs. Walters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Norfolk Red Polled	Salisbury Repository	Earl of Radnor.
3	———	Shropshire Sheep	Shrewsbury Smithfield	Various.
3	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Hesket Hall, Wigton	Mr. J. Graves.
3	Messrs. Burtenshaw and Sons, Eastbourne	Horses, Cattle and Sheep	Westdean, near Eastbourne	Duke of Devonshire.
3	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Lincoln Red Shorthorns	Little Langford, Wilts.	Mr. H. Andrews.
4	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Whatley House, Frome	Mr. J. H. Shore.
4	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep	Benniworth Walk, Donnington-on-Bain	The late Mr. T. Bett.
4	Messrs. King and Chasemore, Horsham	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Pulborough, Sussex	Mr. R. L. Batchelor.
4 & 5	Messrs. H. F. Russell & Son	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Home Farm, St. Devereaux	Capt. P. A Clive.
4	Messrs. Stride and Son	Southdown Sheep	Lavant, Chichester	Messrs. Waters and Son.
5	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos.	Mr. R. W. Hobb.
5	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Farcet, Peterborough	Mr. W. Willis.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns.

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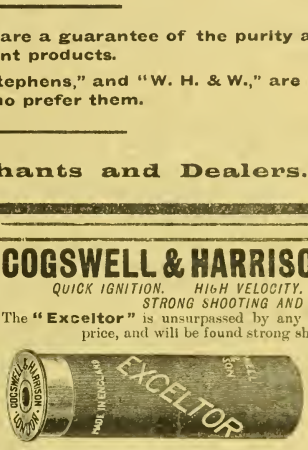

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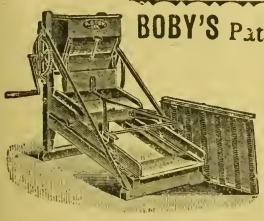
BURY ST. EDMUNDS.



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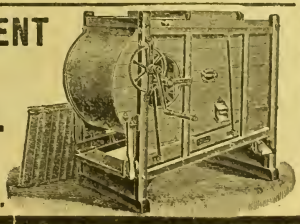

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WATERPROOF COVERS

For Wagons, Engines and Machines.

The Best for Estate and Farm Purposes.

All sizes complete with Brass Eyelets and Best Quality Cords.

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Manufacturers by Special Royal Warrant to His Majesty the King.

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To be obtained from all Chemists or post free from Proprietors. In bottles, 1/6, 2/6, 3/6, and 11/- sufficient for 20, 40, 70 & 350 Sheep. As originally made by J. Bagshaw, Belstead

Sole Proprietors & Manufacturers GRIMWADE, RILEY & CO., Princes St., Ipswich. Never known to fail. Testimonials sent on application. Used for many years on Her Majesty's Farm, Windsor.

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Have supplied Used Bags as above for over 30 years, for all purposes.

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For Health and Good Working Condition should now be fed upon

GEORGE SMITH'S

Meat Dog Biscuits, Hound Meal, or Terrier Meal.

All of best quality, 16/- per cwt. at any station in England for cash.

Sample 10 lbs. post free 2/6.

Genuine only direct from—

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Situations Vacant and Wanted, three words a penny when accompanied by remittance.

Publishing Offices: 3, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

SEED POTATOES, &c.

SEED POTATOES.—Puritans, 70s.; Epicures, 70s.; Sharpes Express, 70s.; British Queens, 55s.; Royal Kidneys, 40s. All the above are grown on Lincolnshire siltland, and guaranteed direct from Scotland last Spring. Recorders, 55s. All free on rails Swineshead. Also Sole's King and Magnet; price on application. Recorders at Whittlesea, 50s. Delivery before the end of November. Settlement April 1, 1907, or 10 % discount for cash. Apply A. J. SOLE, Swineshead Station, nr Boston, Lincolnshire

SAINSBURY'S NEW WINTER KING BARLEY.—Two-rowed, the earliest barley in cultivation; reselected every year; favourite with brewers for quality and extract; straw strong; not liable to be laid; stand any winter. Began cutting July 16th; very ripe—land planted to a green crop—a great advantage. From a 600-acre farmer: "The barley you supplied me with was the heaviest crop I ever saw. Had five big stacks with over 20 waggon loads in each off 28 acres." Samples on application; price free on rail. Ross, 60s. per quarter; sacks, 1s. each. Cash with order.—J. B. SAINSBURY, White Cross, Ross, Herefordshire.

WINTER OATS.—Garton's black Winter Oats, direct from Garton's last autumn, at 54s. per quarter. Weight 46 lb. per bushel; on rail at 40s. per quarter; sacks, 1s.—Apply BAILIFF, Anstie Grange, Holmwood, Dorking.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FARM WANTED, rent or purchase; 100-200 acres, mixed. Would take good stock at valuation.—BRAZIER, Vale Farm Whitfield, Dover.

FARM for SALE (Kent), £17 acre. Superior House, excellent buildings; 106 acres grass; company's water.—RUTTERS, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand.

OLD-ESTABLISHED Corn, Flour and Fodder Merchant's BUSINESS for SALE as a going concern, in Nottingham First-class connection Turnover £14,000.—For further particulars apply to MELLORS, BASDEN and MELLORS, Chartered Accountants, Nottingham.

FODDER CROPS.

BY

C. G. FREER-THONGER.

ONE SHILLING. *Post Free, 1/2½.*

W. A. MAY,

The "Mark Lane Express,"

3, WELLINGTON ST., STRAND, LONDON, W.C

Readers of Advertisements

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when writing to our Advertisers.

EDUCATIONAL.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER.

Patron—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.

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For Land-owners, Land-agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, &c.

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For Prospectus of Curriculum, Fees, Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, &c., apply to the PRINCIPAL.

Next Session begins TUESDAY, OCT. 9.

THE UNIVERSITY of LEEDS, and THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

COMPLETE Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in the University and at the Farm from October 15, 1906, to March 16, 1907. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a Special Course for the B.Sc. Degree. Prospectus from the REGISTRAR, The University, Leeds.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, the Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd. Auckland. London Manager, R B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

"FODDER CROPS."—1/-, post free, 1/2½.—W. A. MAY, "Mark Lane Express" Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

Situations, Agents, Wanted and Vacant.

OILCAKE AGENTS WANTED, to sell well-known Compound Feeding Cake, on commission, to farmers.—Apply, stating qualifications, to "OILCAKE," care of Birchall's Advertising Offices, Liverpool.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

CORN TRADE.—Man seeks SITUATION as MANAGER or any Place of Trust; age 36; references good; 21 years' experience.—"D," 173, Caledonian Rd., King's Cross, London, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POULTRY Houses on Wheels, 7 ft. long, 5 ft. wide, 6 ft. high, nest boxes outside, 65s. carriage paid.—For other sizes write for Catalogue to WHITLOCK BROS., Great Yeldham, Essex.

BASIC SLAG, all grades.—Kainit, Boiled Bones, Dissolved Bones, etc State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, etc., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless. 1s. per lb., over 3 lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BASIC SLAG. Percentages phosphates guaranteed; lowest prices to any station; write us to-day.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO., LTD. (established 50 years), Bone Manure Manufacturers, Cannock, Staffs.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro Farmer writes:—"After using a 1/- Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, Broad Street, Reading.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

GALVANISED Sheep Racks, from 55s.; Galvanised Cattle Cribs, 35s.; Galvanised Corn Bins, 12s. 6d.; send for catalogue.—DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

IRON ROOFING of imperishable quality, as supplied to largest estates for 25 years. At present cost of labour it pays best to fix highest quality only, and to avoid all renewals. Full particulars, cash prices, and all necessary fittings in free Catalogue. The noted house for Iron Fencing, Water Tubes, Wire Netting Tanks, Troughs, Roofing Felt, and everyestate requisite.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford.

LADDERS, with wood sides and galvanized, steel tube rounds; 22 rounds or under, 6d. per round, carriage paid for cash.—JONES, Patentee, Sedgley.

KEEP YOUR PIGS SO THAT THEY WILL KEEP YOU.—And undoubtedly the best way to do this is to mix with the food for each Pig one of WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS once or twice a week according to age. The result will astonish you. Sold in packets—7 powders, 6d., post free, 7d.; 16, 1s., post free, 1s. 2d.; boxes—48 powders, 2s. 9d., post free, 3s.; 144, 8s., post free, 8s.—Sole Proprietors, STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough

MILK! MILK!! MILK!!!—WELFORD & SONS' DAIRY COMPANY, Limited, can always entertain offers of reliable dairies of well-cooled MILK. Full supply of BRASS-PLATED CHURNS provided. CHEQUES WEEKLY. Call, or write full particulars to the Secretary of the Company, Chief Dairy and Offices, Elgin Avenue, London, W.

VESICO SUDORIFIC is the most famous remedy in the world for curing Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, Curb, Windgall, Tumours, Strained Sinews, and Strengthening Legs of Horses without blemish or needing rest. Price 2s. 6d. to 5s., of chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 5d.; 3 ft., 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 1d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 8d.; 3 ft., 7s. 6d.; 4 ft., 10s. 3d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft., 9s. 5d.; 3 ft., 13s. 5d.; 4 ft. 17s. 10d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, with centre strand, strong. 10s. 4d.; medium, 9s. 3d. per 50 yard roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt.; galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard.

Spendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality, 5 ft, 1s. 5d.; 6 ft, 1s. 8½d., 7 ft., 2s.; 8 ft., 2s. 3½d.; 9 ft., 2s. 8d.; 10 ft., 3s. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s. cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns, corrugated steel 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 8d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. W. D. Cruddas' Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Haughton Castle, Humshaugh, Northumberland.

THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. R. F. Henderson's entire herd of RED POLLED CATTLE, at Crabhill Farm, South Nutfield, Surrey.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—The late Miss Standish's JERSEYS, at Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Lilford's SHORTHORNS at Lilford, Oundle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—Sale of SHORTHORNS at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.—The late Sir Wilfrid Lawson's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Brayton, Carlisle.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3.—Mr. John Graves's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Hesket Hall, Wigton, Cumberland.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. H. Shore's JERSEYS, at Whatley House, Frome, Somerset.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. R. W. Hobbs's SHORTHORNS, at Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.—Mr. E. St. John Phillips' Herd of JERSEYS, at the Armourie, Magdalene Laver, Ongar, Essex.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's JERSEYS, at Tring Park.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—JERSEYS at Bletchley.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19.—Sale of SHORTHORNS at York.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEPBREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

TENTH ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE of REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS, under the management of the above Association, will be held on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1906, in the CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT.

N.B.—Please note! Judging commences at 9 a.m., and the Auction at 11 a.m. sharp.

The entries, which number 502 Rams, have been made by the breeders whose names are given below:—The Right Hon. Lord Harris (15), Messrs. P. H. G. Powell Cotton (10), Captain Somerset Webb (5), Messrs. A. Amos (35), J. P. Barnes (12), G. Buley (20), F. de B. Collard (20), G. Farmer (20), C. File (40), J. File (10), T. File (8), Arthur Finn (10), L. H. and G. W. Finn (10), G. M. Goodson (14), E. Hambrook (10), S. Kingsnorth (20), J. D. Maxted (10), W. Millen (40), F. Neame (50), J. B. Palmer (10), H. Rigden (65), G. C. Swindells (28), J. E. Quested (23), H. Walters (6), T. Wotton (13).

N.B.—The judging will commence at 9 a.m., and the Auction Sale at 11 a.m. sharp on Friday, September 28th, 1906.

Refreshments will be obtained on the Sale ground as usual.

Catalogues and full information in respect to the Show and Sale, as well as the Breed as a whole, to be obtained from the Secretary, W. W. CHAPMAN, Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams and Cables: Sheepcote, London.

The Burstwick Stud Farm, near Hull.

Highly important sale of YORKSHIRE HACKNEYS, CATTLE, BRAKES, HARNESS, &c.

ROBT. R. LEONARD & SON are instructed by Mr. D. R. Sowerby to sell by Auction, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1906, his entire Stud of 37 PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, RIDE and DRIVE HORSES, 23 head of CATTLE (among which are some Pure Polled Angus and Norfolk Red Polls), Double, Single and Tandem Brakes, Harness, &c., &c.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Field House, Preston, Hull.

AUCTION SALES.

Owing to the Ploughing Match arranged by Mr. Gorham on October 4, Messrs. W. F. INGRAM AND SON beg to announce that they have CHANGED THE DATE of the Second BALMER SALE from October 4 to TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.

BALMER FARM, FALMER, SUSSEX,

About ¾ mile from Falmer Station, on the L.B. & S.C. Rly., and equidistant 4 miles from Lewes and Brighton.

MESSRS. W. F. INGRAM & SON having let the Farm, have received instructions from the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Chichester to SELL by AUCTION at the FORGE BARN, FALMER, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906, at 1.0 p.m. precisely:

THE OLD ESTABLISHED FLOCK OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP (No. 283 in Flock Book), including 117 full-mouth, 140 six-tooth, 126 four-tooth, 115 two-tooth EWES, 120 STOCK EWE LAMBS, 3 RAMS, and 2 RAM LAMBS, together with the Hurdles and other accessories. COWS, 2 years old, and 12 months-old STEERS and HEIFERS, CALVES, SHORTHORN BULL (17 months), and about 100 head of POULTRY.

THE AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINERY, and 17 capital CART-HORSES, and about 48 head of STORE STOCK will be SOLD on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2 1906. Sale to commence at 11 a.m. precisely.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, at 2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes.

LORDSHIP FARM, HOLWELL, BEDFORDSHIRE,

3½ miles from Hitchin on the G.N.R. and 2 miles from Henlow Station on the Midland Railway.

The Live and Dead Farming Stock, including 33 Valuable SHIRE HORSES comprising Brood Mares and Fillies, Foals and Working Horses; most of the Mares and Fillies are entered or are eligible for the Shire Horse Book, and trace back to some of the most fashionable blood; the Dead Farming Stock and Thrashing Tackle, will be SOLD by AUCTION by

MESSRS. J. R. EVE & SON on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906. Dead Stock at 11 o'clock, Horses at 1.30, by direction of Mr. H. J. MARSH, who is leaving the farm.

Catalogues of MESSRS. J. R. EVE & SON, 2, St Paul's Square, Bedford; and Hitchin.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1906.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from this Flock will be Sold by Auction at the under-mentioned [illegible] Fair.

NORTHAMPTON ... Sept. 19.

A number of Yearling Ewes for sale at Home. Inspection invited.

A Home Sale of Cows, Heifers, and Young Bulls, from the 1st Prize Dairy Shorthorn Herd, will be held on October 5.

LAZONBY AUCTION MART

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 20, and 21, Great Three Days Sale of 10,000 SHEEP and LAMBS.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—Great Sale of 6,000 LAMBS.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Prize Show and Sale of 3,500 GREY-FACED EWES and GIMMER SHEARLINGS.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.—Prize Show and Sale of 200 BORDER LEICESTER RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

Sales on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY commence at 9.30 prompt, and on FRIDAY, at 10.30.

Catalogues on application.

JOHN KIDD, Proprietor.

Offices: 17, Devonshire Street, Penrith

AUCTION SALES.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

The magnificently situated TODDINGTON MANOR ESTATE, 35 miles from London, and close to the Midland main line.

G. C. WALKER (in conjunction with Messrs. Knight, Frank & Rutley) will SELL by AUCTION at the Swan Hotel, Bedford, on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1906, at 4 o'clock punctually (unless previously disposed of by private treaty), the highly valuable Agricultural and Sporting Estate of 1,624 Acres, including 9 valuable Pastoral and Dairy FARMS, with capital Houses and Homesteads, and Enclosures of convenient Accommodation Land, the gross income of the whole being £1,908 per annum.

The Estate affords excellent shooting, possessing advantageously disposed and well watered Coverts.

Particulars, with Plan and Conditions of Sale, may be obtained of F. T. TANQUERAY, Esq., Solicitor, Woburn; G. C. WALKER, Auctioneer, 1, St. Paul's Square, Bedford; or of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 9, Conduit Street, London, W.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON.

THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 20.

AN UNRESERVED SALE of about 50 YOUNG PIGS

from the famous Herd of Prize-winning pedigree Large and Middle Breeds, the property of

Sir GILBERT GREENALL, Bart.,

and also a selection of

REGISTERED KERRY CATTLE, mostly recently calved, or in-calf Heifers from Lady GREENALL'S Herd, will be Sold by Auction on THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 20, at Walton Hall, nr. Warrington.

Luncheon at 12.30.

Sale at One o'clock.

Catalogues of Mr. J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington, or of the Auctioneer, Mr. W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.

IRELAND'S NORWICH HILL AUCTION MART.

Established 50 Years.

Special Autumn Store Cattle Sales, Every Saturday, Commencing SEPTEMBER 22, 1906.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these Important Weekly Sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the Sale Ring if desired.

Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers
Norwich, Norfolk.

DUTCH BULBS.

Sales every day except Saturdays. 10,000 lots sold weekly of Hyacinths, Tulips, Crocus, Narcissus, Roman Hyacinths, and other bulbs received direct from Holland: lotted to suit large and small buyers.

MESSRS. PROTHEROE and MORRIS will SELL as above, at their Great Sale Rooms, 67 and 68, Cheapside, London, E.C., at 10.30 o'clock each day. Lots purchased for those unable to attend. Goods packed and forwarded to all parts. Catalogues free.

POULTRY.

IMPORTANT.—Everybody having old HENS for DISPOSAL should communicate with GEEN & Co., Smithfield Market, London, the largest poultry buyers in England.

SOCIETIES.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT At GREAT GRANSDEN.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1906.

Entries closed September 11.

R. J. KISBY, Secretary.
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

STUD-BOOK.
VOLUME XXIX.

Entries now being received at 50 per cent. additional on ordinary fees.

No Schedules issued after 1st October.

ARCHD. MACMILLAN,
Secretary.

93, Hope Street,
Glasgow.

AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application, references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP.—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

HIGHLAND CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PONIES.

ANY class of the above can be supplied on short notice and at moderate prices.

ANGUS CAMERON, Live Stock Agent, &c., Fort William, Inverness-shire; or, Taynuilt, Argyllshire.

TENDER.

BOROUGH OF HAMPSTEAD.

TO CORN MERCHANTS.

THE COUNCIL of this Borough invite TENDERS for the SUPPLY of HORSE PROVENDER for six months, from October 1 1906. Forms of Tender, containing full particulars, may be had of the Borough Engineer, at the Town Hall.

Tenders to be sent to me by 4 p.m. on Thursday, September 27. The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Order,
ARTHUR P. JOHNSON,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Haverstock Hill, N.W.,
September 11, 1906.

BANKS, INSURANCES, &c.

BIRKBECK BANK.

Established 1851.

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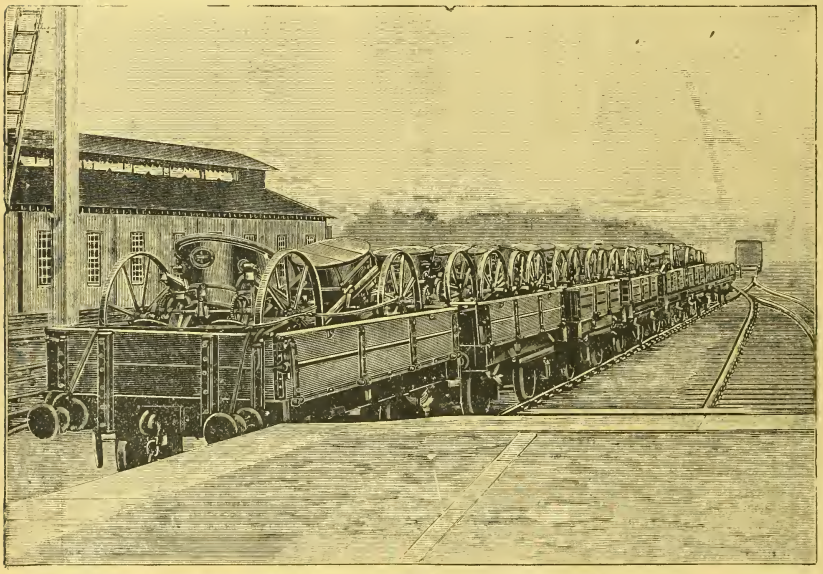

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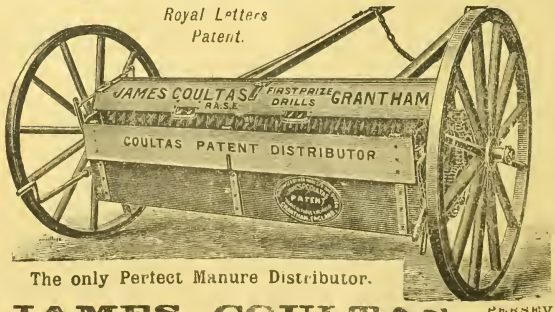

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LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

The End of Hopping. As a rule, when the East-end hop-picker takes his family down to Kent for the annual outing, he does so with the idea of being away about a month, but this year has proved an exception, for the hop-picking was begun, continued, and ended in about a fortnight. We do not know whether this is a record, but its effect must be felt in many quarters. It is true the weather during the picking season was of an ideal character, but to finish the picking in so short a time points, in the first place, to a very light crop, in consequence of which the farmers must suffer. Secondly, not nearly so many pickers were employed as usual, and those who were engaged in the hop gardens did not earn anything like as much money as in an average season. This means that they will have less to spend, and tradesmen will be hard hit, as the latter always expect to reap a little harvest out of the proceeds of hop-picking. There are hundreds of working families in Kent who depend on hopping for the purchase of various necessaries and comforts for the winter, but this year we fear many of them will have to go short.

The Value of Cabbage. The dry season has taught its lessons, and amongst them the usefulness of cabbage as a feeding crop. Of late years there appears to have been a general move in favour of mangolds and swedes, with the result that comparatively few farmers go in for much cabbage. Is not this a mistake, particularly on the part of those whose business it is to produce milk? During the past few weeks there has been a general outcry about the shortage of milk, and the reason of course is a scarcity of suitable food. Cows cannot make milk on brown and dried up pastures, and if the dairy farmer has nothing else to give them he stands to suffer. But with a few acres of good ripe cabbage to cut at he has the very food for milk production, and is safe. Some people estimate that an acre of cabbage is worth as much as four or five of swedes; and be that as it may, this season has proved the value of the former crop. Give it plenty of manure and reasonable cultivation cabbage is not a difficult crop to grow, and those people who do not want the trouble of sowing seeds and raising their own plants can always buy what they want at a low price.

Maincrop Potatoes. POTATOES, like everything else, are ripening off quickly this season, and many people who usually leave their digging till October are pushing on with the work. The fears are that if much rain falls now the potatoes will either commence to grow again or contract disease, hence the anxiety to lift them while they are dry and clean. Second early potatoes, lifted in September, have come out perfectly clean, and the growers have gained none of the advantage in weight which they do in a wet time through a certain amount of earth adhering to the tubers. In the way of crops it is the people who manured liberally that will gain the advantage this season, because dung holds moisture, and where little or none of it was used the tubers are coming out small. It is a peculiar fact that we do not hear much about many of the boomed varieties that sold at inflated prices a few years ago, and the old Up-to-date, which it was said would be wiped out by Northern Star, easily holds its own. By the way, one does not hear much of Northern Star in potato circles just now. Poor Northern Star! Its triumph was shortlived.

Drought and Fruit Crops. THIS year the western counties have been particularly hard hit by the dry weather; the effects are to be seen on every side, and nowhere more so than in the orchards. Even before September was a fortnight old leaves on the apple trees commenced to turn yellow and fall, and now a good many old specimens are to be seen quite bare of foliage. As with leaves, so with fruit, a lot of which have ripened prematurely and fallen. Even cider apples, which, as a rule, hang late, are ripening before the ordinary time, and it looks as if grinding will commence early this year. What effect this will have on the cider remains to be seen, but it is hardly to be expected that the average quantity of juice will be crushed from the fruit this season. Perhaps the dry season is responsible for the general anxiety which prevails to get everything harvested in a hurry. For instance, we saw a man the other day picking Blenheim orange apples, and his argument was that they would do no more good on the trees. He will probably find out his mistake if the fruit all shrivels before Christmas, as it most probably will.

Over the Cotswold Hills. A LITTLE more than a week ago we made a circular tour round a few of the big Cotswold farms, where the once very lucrative occupations of corn growing and sheep farming are still carried on. It was still early in September, but over the miles of hilly country hardly a shock of corn could be seen—nothing but brown stubble, which indicated a quick and early harvest. The Cotswold farmer has limits that he has been favoured this year. Sheep have done well, and never of late years have corn crops been better. Add to this the glorious harvest time, when in a few cases the corn went straight from the field to the threshing machine, and in every instance it was ready as fast as it could be carried. He would be a grumbler indeed who complained under such circumstances. There was one exception to the general expressions of satisfaction, namely, the roots. They were simply dying for the want of rain, and the farmers were naturally anxious; but since the day referred to the Cotswold country has been visited by showers which have given the roots a new lease of life, and we hope the crops will be satisfactory, though they can hardly be heavy.

Implements After Harvest. THE other day we observed standing in the corner of a meadow a raking machine that was new in the early summer, and had stood out there ever since the close of the hay harvest. On another farm we saw a mowing machine standing in the rick yard exposed to the weather and just as it was after it had finished its last day's work. We fail entirely to see any reasonable excuse for this kind of thing, and cannot understand a farmer paying money for expensive machines and then allowing them to be neglected in this way. The cost of machinery is now a big item to farmers, but we are convinced that implements would last considerably longer if better care were taken of them when not actually in use. The harvest is now practically over, the autumn is coming on, and in the ordinary course of events we shall have wet days when little can be done in the way of outside labour. Surely the time on wet days could not be better spent than in overhauling the harvesting implements, cleaning, oiling, and putting them away in good order, against the time when they are required once more.

The Care of Harness. THIS is another matter to which we venture to call attention. Happy is the farmer who has got a careful, handyman waggoner who has an eye for seeing when a strap is coming off or a buckle needs attention. A stitch in time saves nine, and perhaps an accident into the bargain, and the waggoner who makes a point of keeping the things at hand and can do a simple repair if necessary is worthy of encouragement. We know that it is a good thing at times to call in the services of a saddler to overlook the harness and do any necessary repairs, but it is the little things that need prompt attention at home. It is surprising how some men will see a strap or a buckle getting more and more loose everyday, until at length it comes off and is lost, and the master is put to the expense of a new one. It is these little losses that good servants attempt to avoid, and the example should be set by the employer whose interests are most affected. How unlikely it looks to see a harness buckle tied up with

a piece of string when with a few simple tools and proper thread it would be fastened permanently in about the same time.

Fire Insurance. FIRE brigades have been kept busily employed of late, and the burning of hay and corn stacks, sheds, and farm buildings have been frequent occurrences. When the details of a farm fire appears in the local paper we read at the bottom that the damage is covered by insurance, or it is partly covered, or, again, in some cases that it is not insured at all. We sympathise with any man who has a fire, even if his property is insured, but it is with the satisfaction that we can, to a great extent, repair the damage. But what of the man, like unto the unwise virgin, who never takes the trouble to insure his ricks and property generally? Perhaps he is fortunate and never has a fire at all—maybe he goes on for years without one—but supposing the fatal day comes, as it has come in many cases just lately, what must the feelings of the careless one be as he sees the cruel flames licking round his worldly goods, and he observes later in the blackened ruins of his property also the ruin of his worldly prospects? Surely the possibility of such a calamity ought to be sufficient to prompt every man to protect himself by means of insurance.

Harvest Festivals. THE harvest is now gathered in, and in accordance with a time-honoured and beautiful custom religious people of every denomination are decorating their sacred edifices with the ripe fruits of the earth and celebrating the harvest thanksgiving There are some people who condemn harvest festivals as being more of an ostentatious display than a heartfelt thanksgiving; but we fail to see how one can judge the motives of another, and there is something about the annual harvest festival in village church or chapel that appeals to us. We see farmers reserve willingly the finest fruits from the orchard and the best sheaf of corn for the festival, and equally willing hands manipulate the flowers, the berries, and the tinted leaves, and take a pride in making the sacred house look beautiful on this great occasion. Then we hear the dear old harvest hymns sung out in a manner that leaves no suspicion about heartiness, and thanks are returned to Providence for the blessings of the harvest. We cannot help thinking that the harvest festival is something that is real and genuine in agricultural Britain.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Lord Carrington and the Land Tenure Bill.

Yes, Lord Carrington is emphatically right. The noble landlords who have been appalling themselves by spectral fears, the noisome but unnecessary offspring of the Land Tenure Bill, have imagined for that measure a progeny of which it never could be the parent. Such a result would be more than an unnatural experiment in freakism. Let us, after all, confess the fact—indeed, Lord Carrington's speech to the Lincolnshire farmers' deputation on Tuesday was so sequential in its illustrations as to place the matter beyond a doubt—that so far from the Bill being a mere irresponsible amateur effort at revolution, it is in harmony with the moderate projects of moderate reformers. Its pallidness is in strange contrast to the lurid recommendations of a body like the Welsh Land Commission. In one place it emphasises a desire which did not rebuke the soul of Mr. Chaplin. In another place—that is, in omitting the words relating to "the inherent capabilities of the soil" in estimating the amount of compensation due—it actually seeks to realise the desire of Mr. Walter Long, who is assuredly no economic revolutionary Camille Desmoulins. In another place, it is but following out the explicit suggestion—more particularly in regard to compensation for damage by winged game—of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, which, when it was first propounded, was regarded as an inevitable development of the existing law. True, in regard to the improvements which may be carried out, without the landlords' consent, it goes beyond the suggestions of the Royal Commission on Agriculture; but yet, even in this, I aver that it is only following a precedent suggested by the Market Gardeners Act. I repeat that the Bill—aye, even in the matter of compensation for capricious improvement, and remember that the tenant would, under the measure, only receive the actual loss sustained in moving from the farm—is but the necessary sequel of the Conservative legislation of 1875 and the corollary of the Conservative legislation of 1900. "Oh, Romeo, be some other name; 'tis thy name which is my enemy." And I do not hesitate to declare that had this Bill a Conservative origin, it would have been hailed as a judicious and wise compromise, and as a suggestive and sagacious substitute for bolder legislation.

Character of Radical Criticism

Lord Carrington may be held to have indulged in a threat—a threat which should be emphatically resented—by his assurance that the rejection or emasculation of this measure would inevitably be followed by an agitation in favour of a more emphatic reform. Well, let the warning be greeted as it may, I know that it but epitomises the actual fact. Lord Carrington's desire is to harmonise the new reform policy with the very method followed by the best landlords. There are, however, Radical land-reformers—and they have a place in this Government, too—who hold that the customs of the best landlords are pursued only in the interests of landlordism, and that Radicals should not be chloroformed or seduced by a suggestion to crystallise them in a formal legal enactment into acquiescence with economic anomalies. It is not necessary to argue that they are unwisely suspicious—that they perceive the outline of a gaunt conspiracy where no conspiracy exists; we have to accept the fact as it is. These men have actually been coerced into acceptance of the present Bill by party discipline. They regard it as an immature bantling, weak, puny, and destined to be but of feeble growth. I have even heard the restriction of compensation for unreasonable disturbance to the actual loss sustained by the tenant in leaving the farm denounced as "an unnecessary concession to Kenyon-Slaneyism," whatever that may mean. I have heard the moderate character of the protection against damage done by game denounced as a recreance to the promise of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman that Liberalism is determined "to convert the land from being the pleasure-ground of the rich into being the treasure-house of the the people." I have even heard the Bill epigrammatically described by one fevered Radical as "a Conservative measure designed to conserve a Conservative class." These men have adopted as their motto (*vide* Gambetta)—"landlordism, there is the enemy."

What Radicalism Would Prefer.

I repeat with all the emphasis begotten of actual knowledge that Radicalism would rejoice if the Bill were so emasculated that it would be better to abandon it. Then, in its view, it would have the pathway cleared for real, effective, dramatic reform. I have heard many Radicals demand, as a to-be-preferred measure, Mr. Channing's Bill, with its extended protection against damage by game, and with its extended protection against capricious and unreasonable eviction. I have heard as many express a preference for Mr. Jesse Collings' Purchase of Land Bill, with, however, compulsory methods of expropriation and purchase substituted for voluntary arrangement, and, with allied to this, the proposal once sponsored by the present Lord Chancellor imposing a serious taxation on landlords who allow land to remain fallow or derelict. "To re-people the land"—this is the much-advertised desire of these politicians; and they do not believe that this can be accomplished by a dulcet Morisson pill fashioned in the political laboratory of mild Mr. Agar-Robartes. "Landless soil," "hired serfs," "villages bereft of virile girlhood and manhood," "forces of degeneration at work which, unless arrested, will mean rotten decay"—these be the attractive watchwords of the faith. They would, too, at once have an army at their command ready to use them should this Bill be treated with incontinent ungenerosity or unmerited prejudice.

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A Remonstrance with Lord Carrington.

Now a word with Lord Carrington: Does his lordship actually mean that "home killed" meat has been substituted for "home-bred" meat in the supply of the army, because in the past (under the "home-bred" regulation) it was impossible to distinguish between home-bred meat and home-killed meat? Well, if this be so, it means that the Government has been coerced into this policy by nothing more or less than fraud! In order that the nation may not be swindled Ministers have been compelled to deprive the British meat-producer of a market he had a right to expect should be his. Let me put a parallel case to his lordship. At this moment he is possessed by the laudable anxiety to pass his Butter Bill. In this he is so far resolved not to be coerced by fraud that he is determined to fight it, to penalise the fraud-monger, and to make him appear before the world as he is, as a malefactor. Why have we been fighting the adulterationist these years past? Instead of doing this, according to his lordship, the wiser plan would have been to accept his standard of goods as the desirable standard. Of course, I am not saying that home-killed meat may not be honest meat. I am, however, entitled to show that Lord Carrington's apology and excuse are based upon an illogical premise, which is out of harmony with his own shrewd commonsense. If it means anything it means this: "Yes, we know we ought to supply the army with home-bred meat; but in the past the men who sell home-killed or foreign meat circumvented us—so you see we yield the market up to them." Not a very brave attitude, in all sooth.

A Genial, Honest Quixote.

Excellent Sir Carne Rasch—this Parliamentary sphere would be sadly uninviting without his chivalrous fidelity to the past, his unyielding loyalty to the impossible. What other man would have had the courage, the Quixotic courage, to boldly declare that "if all the money wasted on education had been spent on artificial manure the agricultural interest would do a lot better." Now, if I mistake not—and one loves to argue with Sir Carne; he hath such a delightful gift of *non sequitur*—Sir Carne Rasch is in favour of the cost of education being an entire Imperial charge. We know, however, or rather assume, that his latest anxiety is to see education displaced. As a natural corollary of his contention, the cost of manure should be a national charge. What picturesque electoral visions this opens out to us: "Vote for So-and-So and Manure," "Manure for ever," "Old England, Mr. So-and-So and Manure." But how would the most excellent Sir Carne Rasch have this manure distributed? Should acreage or number in family be the standard of distribution? These are serious problems, and I pray that Sir Carne will have fully considered them ere he submits any formal proposal to the Legislature. Well, well, Sir Carne, there be many men who at least would rather more were taught in our rural schools of the component parts of our agricultural dressings, of their quality and possibilities. If the doctrine of manure were taught in our rural schools rather than that Euclid, which is now being discarded, the children would be the better for it.

A map of considerable interest to the dairying industry has recently been prepared. It represents the kingdom of Denmark, and shows all the dairies situated within its borders. These total 1,383, and it is shown that only twenty-three used exclusively other separators than Alfa-Laval, so that of the cream separators in use in Denmark over 98 per cent. are Alfa-Lavals Our readers can obtain a copy of the map on application to the Dairy Supply Company, Museum Street, London, W.C.

THE WEEK'S SHOWS.

Cardiff Horse.

After many years of wet weather on show days the Cardiff Horse Show seems to have found favour with the clerk of the weather, for the twenty-fourth animal show was held on Wednesday and Thursday last in splendid weather, thus repeating last year's success in this respect. Thanks to this and an excellent entry of stock the show proved one of the most successful of the series, particularly as regards quality, which it was generally agreed would be hard to beat anywhere. The Hunters in the open classes included some of the best bred animals in England, but the local classes on the whole, were rather disappointing. Starting with the yearlings, the judges found some promising youngsters, and there was no questioning the decision that Mr. Nickisson's chestnut Ensign was entitled to the first place, although Mr Arthur Master's Angelo showed bone and muscle which will, undoubtedly, make him a useful Hunter.

The two-year-olds were also a good lot, and the class was well filled, but does not call for particular comment. But when the three-year-old Hunters came out the judges had a difficult task. They would, probably, have liked to commend the whole class, but there was one which stood head and shoulders above the others—namely, Penylan Ormerod, which beat Mr. Mullens' Paleface at Bath after the latter had taken the premier position in his class at Dublin. There is no questioning the fact Penylan Ormerod is one of the finest horses shown in this part of the country. Mr. Leonard Taylor's Wridgill, which came second, is also a fine stamp of Hunter, but there was no difficulty in placing the local horse first. Great interest was shown in the judging of a large class of four-year-old Hunters, and the judges had a by no means enviable task. Not only did they send the horses round the ring several times, but, as usual, tested them by taking the saddle themselves. There is no limit as to height or weight, and judges, as a rule, lean on the side of weight carriers. The result was that Mr. J. H. Stokes took first with Twister, and second with Karmak. Undoubtedly Karmak was the best horse, but with regard to his stable companion opinions differed round the ring. Mr. Drage's Workman, which came third, seemed to be a horse which would do well in a close country, but had not the movement for an open district.

In the light-weight Hunter class Mr. Stokes was again successful in taking the two first prizes in a well-filled and very nice class, Mr. Drage's Pretty Polly coming third. In the middle-weight Hunter class there was keen competition between Mr. Drage's Matchbox, a noted winner, and Mr. Stokes's Gold Leaf, another very fine horse. Unquestionably, Matchbox was the smartest in a class of about a dozen, although Gold Leaf ran the winner very closely. In heavy-weights, which was one of the best in the list, Mr. A. Cory-Wright, who won at the Bath Show, again took the first place with Ebony, a horse which won in the name of Mr. Stokes in the four-year old class at Cardiff last year. Mr. J. Drage came second with Birr, while Mr. Stokes had to be content with a third prize.

The champion classes for Hunters were of such excellent quality that the judges had the greatest difficulty in making their awards. The light-weight Hunters class included many of the best show horses of this and many other years. Mr. J H. Stokes had a good shot with Riddle and Chello, two well-known horses, but Mr. Drage's Nugget caught the judges' eyes from the first, and kept it, Mr. Stokes' animals being placed in the order given. But good as this class was, it was equalled by the heavy-weight Hunters. Here we had quality and age, and proportionately monetary value. It was a splendid class, well filled by the best horses which the country could produce, including, as they did, Karmac and Goldleaf, owned by Mr. J. H. Stokes, Mr. Cory-Wright's Ebony, and Mr. Drage's Birr. An Irish horse, Ramhill, from Cork, was also a fine animal, but the interest of the judges centred in the first four, and the difficulty which presented itself to them was a great one. They mounted the horses and rode round the ring; they examined them "fore and aft," they sent them round the ring again in order to watch their paces, and it was not without some trouble that they agreed to give the first prize to Mr. A. Cory-Wright's black gelding Ebony. It was a turn of a hair between Ebony and Birr, the property of Mr. Drage, and it is not at all improbable that the decision would have been reversed at another show. Goldleaf got a reserve number, and Ramhill a he, both being typical weight-carriers.

The Hackneys made a good display all round, and in this section local exhibitors gave a much better account of themselves. Mr. Burnell Tubbs took the first for brood mares, but Mr. James Howell came second with Campanula. The first horse, Nunnery, a nice-looking four-year-old, has not so far been beaten. Campanula is also well known, and took the championship two years ago, as well as coming second on two other occasions. In the local class there was nothing to touch her, and Mr. Howell's Cruciform took third place, a very pretty mare belonging to Messrs. T. and J. James, Carmarthen, dividing the honours. A chestnut filly by Lady Kate Cadet, also belonging to Mr. Howell, was the best foal, while in the yearlings he took first and second. Mr. W. J. Tatem came first with yearling fillies, Mr. Howell in this case being second. In the open class for two-year-old colts Mr. Howell took first and second, and won many other prizes in the various classes.

Mrs. W. C. N. CHAPMAN'S MISS TRIX.

Winner of First Prize for Covert or Lady's Hack at the Cardiff Horse Show, last week. Miss Trix has won 18 First Prizes this season.

In single Harness Horses not exceeding 15.2, Mr. Gerard Jurgens, Kent, was first with Radiant, one of the finest goers in England in single harness. Mrs. Hartley Batt, Hyde Park, London, was second with Prince Edward, another grand goer, who has previously been a winner in the Hackneys in saddle at this show, whilst Miss Ella S. Ross, Cheshire took third place with Rowton Blackthorn. In the single Harness Horses not exceeding 14.2 and not above 15.2, which was one of the best in this section, Messrs. Carr and Co, Clyde Vale Stud, Carluke, were first and second with Heathfield Squire and Clyde Vale Hero, the former having come back to his old form. Mr. S. R. Tennant's Authority, another exceedingly fine goer, made a good third. For the single harness horses, not exceeding 13.2 and not above 14.2, Tissington Kit Cat won again for Mr. Howard Frank, Wimbledon Common, London. Both behind and before, this horse was superior to Miss Grace Clark's Highbrook Hero, which was second, with Mr. H, Rodmell's Holly King third. In the open tandems Mr. Howard Frank was first with his well-known pair, Tissington Kit Cat and Burlington Sir Horace, which, as usual, made a very fine show. The remaining prizes went to Miss G. Burston's Massey Dot and Pinderfield's Sapphire.

In the champion harness class there were eight entries, but six of these did not put in an appearance, thus leaving the two prizes to be divided between Heathfield Squire and Radiant, both prize-winners in their class. Radiant, the property of Mr Jurgens, Kent, was given the preference, so for once in a while Messrs. Carr and Co. had to be content with a second place for that well-known horse Heathfield Squire.

As has been the case in other years, the display of cart horses left much to be desired both as regards quantity and quality, though there were, of course, some first-rate animals amongst those shown. Mr. Thomas Skeats, of Whitchurch, for instance, took the first prize with a grand bay gelding of 17 hands, beating Dodford Duke, the property of Mr. Fred Cole, of Chippenham, which was the reserve champion in London. The cart mares were weak as a class, but the yearling colts were a highly creditable lot, including, as they did, Mr. Muntz's King Forest, one of the best yearlings in the country, and Dewstow Conqueror II., owned by Mr. Oakley, of Chepstow, was not far behind it.

The trotting and jumping competition proved as

Messrs. CARR & CO.'s CLYDE VALE HERO.

Winner of Hackney Championship at the Cardiff Horse Show last week.

popular as ever, whilst the classes for polo ponies introduced last year received such good entries that the society will doubtless be considering the advisability of extending this section.

Brackley.

Brackley Agricultural and Horse Show, held on Tuesday, proved a most successful one, there being an increased entry in all departments, and a very large attendance of visitors. The horse show was the principal attraction, and among the judges was the Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P., at one time President of the Board of Agriculture. Mr. S. Clarke, of Lillingstone, won the Brackley Challenge Cup, given by the subscribers to the Grafton and Bicester Hounds, with Mr. G. A. Elliott, of Hulcot, in reserve. In the open jumping class there was a large entry, and leading honours went to Mr. W. Kelvey, of Wheathampstead, with Bouncing Girl, a beautiful bay mare and a splendid jumper. Mr. J. Wheeler, of Studley, with Royal Enfield, came second. The Shires were the best that have been seen at Brackley for some years, and Mr. Bruce Fry, with Mollington Manners, won the Brackley Challenge Cup, this filly defeating her sister, Mollington Movement, which won the championship at Banbury and Kineton. Messrs. Flowers, of Beachendon, won the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society, with Mr. Fry in reserve.

Ampleforth.

Situated in the midst of a horse-breeding and hunting country, Ampleforth Show can hold its own against any local exhibition, and the tenth annual show was no exception to this rule. There was a record entry of stock, and eighty exhibits more than last year were catalogued, whilst the weather was beautifully fine, and there was a large attendance. The quality of the horses was very good, and the awards in some cases were difficult to make, whilst there were creditable displays of sheep, pigs, dairy and agricultural produce, but cattle only consisted of one class.

Easingwold.

The forty-sixth annual show of the Easingwold Agricultural Society, held on Wednesday, maintained the good reputation of this society's shows in every respect. The horse section comprised almost an equally strong show of Hunters, riding and driving horses, and agricultural horses, the character of the competition being worthy of note in that order. A fair proportion of the wins were those of animals which have during the season distinguished themselves in greater or less degree at local shows. No fewer than four of the five premier awards for roadsters fell to Mr. Stephen Cliff's exhibits. A nice sprinkling of well-bred Hackneys was seen. Mr. S. R. Tennant's bay four-year-old Astonishment was adjudged to be the best gentleman's Hackney, and Mr. Edward Harrison's Hermia was the pick of the lady's class, both in open competition, and the former also led the open driving class. There were a capital lot of coachers; and the agricultural classes, though not all well filled, included some of quite the right sort of stock. The young bulls and heifers were good features of the cattle section, together with a creditable display of dairy cows. Sheep, Leicesters and Lincolns, and some few Wensleydales, made an attractive show; and there was also good competition in the pig classes.

Coleshill.

The show of the Coleshill Horse Society consists almost entirely of Shires, and although it is a purely local exhibition it always brings together a collection of animals of remarkably good quality. The country round Coleshill is admirably adapted to the breeding of Shires, and the rivalry created by the annual show has undoubtedly improved the stock of the neighbourhood. There was a small increase of entries in the Shire classes at the fourteenth annual show held on Wednesday, and in addition there were two classes for Welsh cob colts and fillies, but there was a decrease in the entry for the driving and riding competitions. There were several promising youngsters among the Shire foals, and the fillies were a better class than the colts. The mares were, however, the best of the Shire section. The driving and jumping competitions in the afternoon provided excellent entertainment for the large crowd of spectators, whilst in the tradesmen's turnouts there was some keen competition.

Kington.

The Kington Horse Show Society's twenty-sixth annual show was held in the Recreation Grounds, Kington, Herefordshire, on Wednesday, when entries were numerous and highly creditable as regards quality. The challenge cup for cart foal was won by Messrs. Edwards, Byford, and the champion prize for best exhibit in agricultural classes 1 to 13 inclusive fell to Mr. Coits's Duchess of York. The sections for Hunters and Hackneys brought out some excellent quality. Mr. Bowen, Hockley Heath, showed the first prize winner in the class for three year old gelding or filly. A yearling gelding shown by Mr. Swalwell, Worcester, took first prize in his class. In the Hackney section, the two-year-old class found Mr. J. B. Brooks, Bromsgrove, first. Mr. Robert Bach, Rushock, Kington, carried off the challenge cup for Hackney fillies not exceeding three years old. The winner in the class for Hackney gelding or mare exceeding 14.2 was the property of Mr. R. Jackson, Pershore. The jumping and driving trials in the afternoon proved very attractive to the large company present.

Loughborough.

The Loughborough Agricultural Association were fortunate enough to get a reoord entry (601) for their show on Wednesday, and, with a good attendance of visitors, the show proved most successful. Considering the year, there was an average show of cattle, and dairy cows formed the two best classes. The bulls were only of moderate quality, and competition was not very keen, but the Jerseys were good dairy cattle. Sheep have suffered on account of the drought, and many of the customary breeders in the district were not represented. The two winning pens of ewes were good big sheep and more typical of the Lincoln breed than the remainder. Pigs made a nice display. Horses were undoubtedly the feature of the show, the Shire section being exceptionally good. Hunters were, as usual, in strong force, whilst the harness classes were creditable.

Stokesley.

Favourable weather was experienced by the Stokesley Agricultural Society for their show on Thursday, and though the entries were eighty less than last year, they reached the big total of 1,869, and made a good all round display. There was a capital show all round of cattle, and the Shorthorns exhibited included cattle which had previously carried off premier honours both at the Royal and local shows. Some first class sheep were shown, notably Leicesters and Wensleydales. The feature of the show, however, was the display of horses—Hunters, Cleveland Bays, and agricultural horses being all well represented.

Westmorland.

The show of the Westmorland and Kendal District Agricultural Society was held at Kendal on Thursday, and proved one of the best ever held by the society. The total number of entries was 861, a falling off from last year of 68, but equal to the average of the last five years. Westmorland has long been noted for the excellence of the Shorthorns bred in the county, and last week all the classes were fully up to the standard. The competition was exceptional y keen, and in some of the small tenant farmers' classes it was gratifying to note that there was quality little inferior to that in the open classes. As usual the Shorthorn Society gave large premiums for the best Shorthorn bull in the county, and the best pedigree Shorthorn dairy cow, and both attracted large entries, particularly the last-named. The best bull was produced by Mr. J. Handley, Greenhead, and the best dairy cow by Mr. A. Dobson, Carlisle. Sheep were unusually well represented, particularly the Wensleydales, whilst rarely has there been a better display of horses at Kendal, both heavy and light breeds, though the number of Hackneys was less than usual.

Leighton Buzzard.

The Leighton Buzzard and Linslade Foal Show Society's annual exhibition, held on Tuesday, showed a marked improvement on previous years both in the quality of the animals and the number of exhibits. The number of entries in twenty-four classes was 176, a few more than last year. The cart colts shown were very good, and in the hunting classes there were some excellent colts and brood mares, and although yearlings were rather short, they included a few exceptionally good animals. The society offer the respectable sum of £120 in prizes as well as silver cups and medals, so that they deserve the support of the breeders.

Abingdon.

The Abingdon Agricultural Society's 59th annual show was held on Thursday and was most successful from all points. The entries were a good average, and the judges expressed the opinion that it was one of the best shows of the character held in the neighbouring counties. The horses were the feature of the show, and Shires made the best display. Nearly all the prize winners had competed in other local shows during the past two or three weeks, and received awards. For instance, all the three winners in the class for Shire mares had previously taken prizes at Thame, Woodstock, and Bicester. In the class for Shire mares under four years the three prizewinners were by that successful sire Lockinge Forest King, formerly owned by Lady Wantage. The cart horses were all of the Shire breed, and the chief awards were taken by animals which had previously secured awards at other shows this autumn. They were an exceedingly good class all through. There was a very good show of Hunters, and these were much admired. There was a very fair show of cattle for a local show, Shorthorns predominating, this class of animal being particularly suited to the grass land in North Berks. Sheep were not numerous, but good, whilst other sections included a remarkably fine show of mangolds, swedes, and turnips considering the adverse season.

Shap.

For their show on Wednesday the Shap Agricultural Society secured a record entry, the total being 480, as compared with 424 last year, whilst the quality was, in many instances, above the average, so that the society is to be congratulated on its success. Some first-class cattle were shown, among the exhibitors being Lord Lonsdale, who took first prize for a heifer calf, second for two-year-old heifer, and first and second for a collection of cattle. The horse classes were, perhaps, the feature of the show, and the heavy animals predominated. There was also a good display of sheep, both White and Black faced, and in the latter section Lord Lonsdale was the chief winner, he taking the championship.

Hay Horse.

The Hay Horse Show seems to be increasing in popularity each year, for last year's record of 519 entries was at the show held on Thursday beaten by thirty-nine, whilst quality also showed an improvement; further, there was an increased attendance of visitors, so that the show may be described as the most successful ever held at Hay. The agricultural horses made a splendid show, and were admired on all hands. The hacks, roadsters, and cobs formed a very strong feature of the exhibition, and some animals of first-class merit were brought to the notice of the judges. The ring competitions attracted much attention, and some of the turn-outs were really smart. An additional attraction to the exhibition this year, and one which was no doubt responsible for an increased attendance, was the holding (under the Kennel Club Rules) of a very commendable and interesting dog show.

Pedigree Seed Wheat.

The county of Essex has long been famed for the excellence of the seed grown in its soil, and the extent of this industry is perhaps hardly appreciated by the average agriculturist and horticulturist. We had an insight into the industry on a recent visit to the seed farms of Messrs. John K. King and Sons, of Coggeshall. The farms, which we spent a whole day in visiting, are seven in number, and the impression left upon our mind was not only the great extent of Messrs. John K. King and Sons' cultivations, but also the constant care and attention to every detail which is essential to produce good results in the seed growing business.

All sorts and varieties of seeds are arranged on these septette of farms, which extends to five parishes, and in each case the farms are kept entirely distinct. The portion that was of most interest was that devoted to the production of seed wheats. The process of pedigree selection is carried on by the firm on a scale which would surprise the great bulk of growers.

The aim of Messrs. John K. King and Sons has been to produce varieties of wheat which will give the largest ears, thick-chested and closely packed with grain, with stout clean straw which will stand up in unfavourable weather. This the firm has largely succeeded in doing, and we may note that among the many visitors to their farms no less an authority than M. Vilmorin (Vilmorin, Andrieux, et Cie), of Paris, expressed surprise at the splendid results attained by Messrs. King as a result of their many years labour.

Of white wheats there are several good ones, sent out by Messrs. John K. King and Sons. Their Emperor, which is claimed to be the largest eared white wheat in cultivation, has ears 5in. in length, is thick chested and a very heavy cropper. The crop we saw looked like yielding 7 to 8qr. per acre. Again Rent-Payer was a grand crop, many ears were 4½in. in length, remarkably well set, and a good miller's wheat. We also liked their pedigree selection of Stand-Up white wheat, with its closely set ears and fine quality of grain.

Among red wheats, none impressed us more than a grand crop of "Essex Conqueror," with its splendid ears, some 5½ in. in length, frequently six chested, with a splendid quality grain and clean upstanding straw. The crop was estimated at seven quarters per acre, and it looked it, for it was as level as a billiard-table, and one mass of ears and straw nearly 5 ft. 6 in. in length. A fine pedigree selection of Square Heads Master showed good results, while a large acreage of "Essex Square Head" was remarkably true in type.

The importance of pedigree selection was very evident from a visit to Messrs. King and Son's trial and experimental grounds; among these were nearly fifty plots of French sorts, none of which came up to the standard of the home-grown varieties.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The Royal Agricultural Society is receiving the hearty co-operation of the Lincolnshire Societies for their show at Lincoln next year. The Lincolnshire Agricultural Society propose to abandon their show for the year and offer £400 in prizes at the Royal Show; whilst the Lincoln Red Shorthorn Association will give £210 in prizes, and the Lincoln Long-Wool Sheep Breeders' Association £110.

We hear that close on 120 competitors will take part in the milking contests at the forthcoming Dairy Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, and of the number no fewer than eighty-three are women and girls, so that dairy-maids are not so scarce after all.

The Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show Society have fixed on Friday and Saturday, June 14 and 15, as the dates of next year's Royal Horse Show at Richmond.

The Pytchley Hunt Horse Show has had to be

Mr. F. H. CHAFER,
Secretary of the Doncaster Agricultural Society.

abandoned this year on account of insufficient entries.

The success of the foal futurity classes at this year's show has induced the East Berks Horse Show Society to continue these valuable and interesting classes, and breeders of Hunters and Shires should give the classes whole-hearted support, for they undoubtedly encourage the retention of good mares in this country and also the breeding of high-class stock. The society offer from £150 to £170 and two champion silver cups as prizes to be competed for by the produce of mares covered in 1905, and for these the preliminary entries close on October 1, so that early application for entry forms is essential. Forms and full details can be had of the hon. secretary, Mr. C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

At a meeting of the Council of the Suffolk Sheep Society held on Tuesday it was resolved to contribute to the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln next year the same amount as this year, viz., £36 for two classes.

A large and influential public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Maidenhead, last week, in support of the proposal to hold the Royal Counties' Agricultural Show at Maidenhead next June, and a resolution was unanimously carried endorsing the invitation given by the town council to hold the 1907 show at Maidenhead, and promising to promote the success of the show in every way possible. The mayor announced that promises amounting to about £870 had already been received towards the necessary local fund, including £100 from Colonel V. W. Bates van de Weyer, who is to be nominated as president of the society for the year.

A special meeting of the Welsh National Agricultural Society was held at Aberystwyth on Wednesday to consider the future location of the show, and, after some discussion, it was decided that the show remain at Aberystwyth for another year. The secretary stated that this year they were £80 in hand, as against a deficit of £200 last year, there having been a general increase in receipts, whilst the expenses had been loss.

At a meeting of the council of the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society held on Tuesday, it was unanimously resolved to hold the society's next show at Bebington, on Wednesday and Thursday, July 10 and 11, 1907.

The show of the Frome District Agricultural Society, which is acknowledged to be the largest cheese show in England, will be held on Wednesday next, and there is a record entry of no less than 830. The cheese entries are above the usual average. The large cheese tent, 240 ft. long and 42 ft. wide, will contain nearly 400 entries of some of the finest Cheddar that can be produced. The butter classes are patronised by the best makers. In the working dairy, the actual making of butter by forty-five exhibitors may be witnessed, many of the competitors being crack hands. Miss Stubbs, of the County Education Butter School, will give demonstrations in butter making. Table poultry and eggs are a large entry.

In the jumping and driving competitions, of which there is a record entry, most of the best horses are competing, and some fine jumping and driving is anticipated There is a capital entry of cart horses and colts. Shorthorn and Jersey cattle include some from the best herds. Sheep and pigs are also a good entry. There is also a large entry of roots. There will be a display of fireworks and concert in the evening, and a large attendance may be expected, for the usual excursion trains will run from all parts.

At the annual meeting of the Cheviot Sheep Society held on Tuesday a letter was read from the Royal Agricultural Society asking if, in the event of the Royal giving two first prizes of £10 each in the Cheviot section, the society would give two prizes of £5 each, which would bring the class into line with the others, and probably induce more people to exhibit. Mr. John Robson, Newton, said it was stated that the Cheviot classes would be done away with at the Royal unless they could be made uniform. Mr. John Borthwick, Oxnam Row, the president, said it was desirable to keep in touch with the Royal Society, because they could sell sheep better at the Royal than at the Highland, although the latter represented this breed a little more than the Royal. It was resolved to accede to the request for the year.

Sale of Clydesdale Horses at Perth.

A sale of pedigree Clydesdales was held at Perth on Monday by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., who brought under the hammer close on sixty animals from several well known studs, and they met a very good trade. Excellent bidding was experienced for Mr. Kerr of Harviestoun's animals, and out of seven horses exposed four of them reached double figures. Mr. Montgomery paid 70 guineas for Bell of Harviestoun, a mare which was first at Inverness and Elgin in 1906, and first at Perth in 1905. The filly Blushing Rose took the eye of a number of bidders, and before she was sold to Mr. Anderson, Pitcarry, £120 was realised for her. Lady Grace, foaled in 1904, started at 50 guineas, and was knocked down at 115 to Mr. Kilpatrick, Craigmains, while Lady Primrose, which started at 40 guineas, made the highest price of the day—namely, 160 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. Kilpatrick, a frequent buyer. Mr. Montgomery took out May Belle at 100. For his seven animals Mr. Kerr realised an average of £100 1s. Mr. George A. Calder, Anchorscross, Dunblane, received £100 for his Harmony, an animal which took a first at Crieff in 1905, first and champion at Doune and Ardoch in 1906, and first at Crieff and third at Perth in the same year. Lord Polwarth, Mertoun, received 110 guineas for Miss Dee, which secured a first and championship at Galashiels, first at Newcastle, and second at Kelso, and for his lot of nine his lordship had an average of £60. Six from Hedderwick Hill, belonging to the late Mr. St. Clair Cunningham, realised the fine average of £78 2s. per head. They included Heather Bloom, a five-year-old by the famous Baron's Pride out of the equally well-known Rosebud, and she was sold at 105 guineas to Mr. Johnston, Bogton, but her foal was even more fancied, and Mr. Patrick, Craigie Mains, had to bid 145 guineas before he could secure her: Lady Lochfergus, a five-year-old by Baron's Pride, was sold to Mr. Montgomery, Netherhall, at 105 guineas, whilst the others sold up to 62 guineas. Altogether forty-four animals were sold for a total of £2,639 3s. 6d., which gives an average per head of nearly £60.

Mr. J. H. James-Moore's Hunters.

The first sale of Hunters belonging to Mr. J. H. James-Moore, High Ercall Hall, Wellington, Salop, took place on Tuesday and attracted a large company, for Mr. Moore has had some notable successes in the showyard. For instance, this year he has won champion prize at Birkenhead Show for the best mare and foal, first and reserve card and two silver medals at the London Hunters' Show, first and reserve for mare and foal at Shropshire and West Midland Show, first and second at Newport, first and second at the Welsh National Show at Aberystwyth, &c.

Mr. Alfred Mansell, Shrewsbury, who conducted the sale, explained that some years ago Mr. Moore commenced breeding hunter stock, and now found himself considerably overstocked. He had taken every possible care to breed high-class animals, using the best mares and high-class sires. The result was that Mr. Moore had been most successful as an exhibitor at many of the leading shows of the country. That was the first venture of the kind in Shropshire, and they were able to place in the ring that day a splendid lot of hunters or "youngsters" likely to grow into good hunters.

The sale then proceeded, and fairly good prices were realised. The chestnut gelding Dog Star by Dog Rose, a promising weight carrying Hunter, and a prize-winner at the Shropshire and West-Midland Wem, Wellington, Newport, and Wenlock shows, was bought for 120 guineas by Mr. E. B Fielden, Condover Hall. The same gentleman also gave 55 guineas for Duke, a black gelding by Dubuque, a fine, stylish horse, likely to make a first class hunter, or suitable for a charger. Mr. R. G. Warner, Shrewsbury, was the purchaser of the bay filly Bandetta for 50 guineas. This filly has won prizes at Birkenhead, Aberystwyth, Bath, Shropshire, and West-Midland Shows, and at Wem. The Clown, a chestnut gelding, likely to make a valuable hunter, was bought by Mr. T. Shaw, of Sherlowo, for 50 guineas, and others made up to 30 guineas.

Mr. Henderson's Red Polls.

The entire herd of Red-polled cattle belonging to Mr. R. F. Henderson was sold at South Nutfield, Surrey, on Thursday, by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The attendance was not a large one, and prices were by no means high, the 34 lots aggregating 389½ guineas, the cows and heifers averaging 11 guineas, and the bulls 13 guineas. The top prices, 25 guineas and 24 guineas, were paid by Mr. Howard Vyse and Mr. Sam Woodiwiss respectively for the cows Hazel and Red Duchess. Mr. Woodiwiss, who is establishing a herd at Gravelcys, also gave 20 guineas for Dewdrop.

At a meeting of the Liverpool and District Farmers' Club on the 15th inst., a resolution was passed to the effect that the members were extremely disappointed with the report of the Motor-car Commission, and felt convinced that the seriousness of the dust nuisance had not been fully realised or appreciated by the commissioners, and that immediate legislation was necessary to meet the urgency of the case They also expressed their conviction that the time had arrived when the taxation of motors should be revised, the weight and horse-power forming a basis on which such taxation should be made.

Mr. DAVID KEMP,
Secretary of the Ampleforth Agricultural Society.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
September				
25	Messrs. Thornborrow and Co., Penrith	Agricultural Horses	Southwaite Auction Mart	Various.
25	Messrs. R. Bond and Sons, Ipswich	Suffolk Sheep	Ipswich	Various.
25	Messrs. Howkin and Sons, Rugby	Foals	Rugby	Various.
25	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., London, W.	Jersey Cattle	Marwell Manor, Eastleigh	Late Miss L. C. Standish.
25	Messrs. Tattersall	Polo and Riding Ponies	Ditto Ditto	Ditto Ditto
25	Messrs. Turner, Rudge, and Turner, East Grinstead	Horses, &c.	Brook Farm, Tanridge	Mr. M. Michealis.
25	Mr. J. G Villar, Cheltenham	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Dowdeswell	Mr. F. H. Unwin.
25	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Perth	Cheviot Sheep	Lairg, Sutherlandshire	Various.
25	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Blue Grey and Galloway Cattle	Carlisle Auction Mart	Various.
26	Messrs. J. Harris and Son, Winchester	Shire Horses	Colemore, Hants.	Messrs. J. Borrowman and S. Channon.
26	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Blackface Hill Sheep	Tyndrum, Perthshire	Various.
26	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Shorthorn Cattle	Carlisle Auction Mart	Various.
26	Messrs. W. F. Ingram and Son, Lewes	Southdown Sheep	Falmer, Sussex	Earl of Chichester.
26	———	Wensleydale Sheep	Northallerton	Members of Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Assn.
26	———	Ayr	Ayr Cattle Mart	Members of Ayr Ram Soc.
26	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Lilford, Oundle	Lord Lilford.
26	Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son, Lincoln	Shorthorn Cattle	Hurn Hall, Holbeach	Mr. H. C. Tinsley.
26	Messrs. J. R. Eve and Son, Bedford	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Holwell, Beds.	Mr. H. J. Marsh.
27	Messrs. Stride and Son	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Arundel, Sussex	Mr. D. Humphrey.
27	Mr. F. Charles, St. Albans	Shorthorns and Berkshire Pigs	Radlett	Mr. R. C. Phillimore.
27	Messrs. Lythall and Walters, Birmingham	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Bingley Hall, Birmingham	English Aberdeen-Angus Association.
27	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Crewe	Hackneys	Manoravon, Llandilo, S. Wales	Mr. Evan Jones.
27	Mr. J. Kidd	Sheep and Lambs	Lazonby Auction Mart	Various.
27	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Cotterstock, near Oundle	Mr. Everitt King.
27	Messrs. H. F. Russell and Son, Pembridge, R.S.O	Hereford Cattle	Glanusk	The late Lord Glanusk.
27	Messrs. J. Risdon & Son, Williton	Devon Cattle	Harwell Junction	Mr. Tremayne and Mr. H. H. Earle.
27	Messrs. Ensor and Son, Dorchester	Dorset Horn Cattle	Dorchester	Various.
27	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Cattle and Sheep	Inverness Auction Mart	Various.
27	Messrs. Escritt and Barrell, Grantham	Horses	Grantham	Various.
27	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Highland Cattle	Kenmore, Aberfeldy, Station	Marquis of Breadalbane.
27	Messrs. R. Harrison and Sons	Clydesdale Horses	Carlisle Auction Mart	Various.
27	Messrs. Barber and Son, Wellington	Sheep	Wellington, Salop	Various.
28	Messrs. J. Harris and Son	Cart Horses	Binsted, Hants	Mr. J. Chalcraft.
28	Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons, Bury St. Edmunds	Horses, Cattle, and Sheep	Letheringsett Holt, Norfolk	Mr. C. H. Hardy Cozens-Hardy.
28 & 29	Messrs. Winterton and Sons, Lichfield	Horses	Lichfield Respository	Various.
28	Various	Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep.	Ashford	Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Assn.
28	Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury	Cattle and Sheep	Shrewsbury Cattle Mart	Various.
28	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Chipping Norton Junction	Various.
28	Messrs Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, Louth	Horses	Peterborough Repository	Various.
28	Messrs. Nightingale, Philips and Page, Kingston-on-Thames	Hunters, &c.	Brookleigh Stud, Esher	Mr. E. W. Robinson.
28	Mr. E. J. Vidler Rye	Dairy Cows	Northiam, Sussex	Mr. E. J. Bates.
28	Messrs. Thornborrow and Co.	Sheep	Southwaite Auction Mart	Various.
28	Messrs. Spelman, Norwich	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Waxham, Stalham, Norfolk	Messrs. Reeves.
October				
1	Mr. F. Charles	Horses	Rickmansworth	Various.
2, 3, & 4	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck	Shire Horses	Derby	Various.
2	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Brayton, Carlisle	Late Sir Wilfrid Lawson.
2, 3, 4 & 5	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Son, Wrexham	Horses	Wrexham	Various.
2	Messrs. Walters and Rawlence, Salisbury	Norfolk Red Polled	Salisbury Repository	Earl of Radnor.
2	Messrs. W. F. Ingram and Sons, Lewes	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Falmer, Sussex	Earl of Chichester.
2	Messrs. J. Harris	Cart Horses	Bentley, Hants	Mr. E. Biagent.
2	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co	Cattle and Sheep	Stirling Auction Mart	Various.
3	Messrs. Winterton and Sons	Sheep	Lichfield Smithfield	Various.
3	Messrs. J. Croall and Sons, Edinburgh	Shetland Ponies	Edinburgh	Various.
3	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Cattle and Sheep	Perth	Various.
3	Messrs. Mansell and Co.	Shropshire Sheep	Shrewsbury Smithfield	Various.
3	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Hesket Hall, Wigton	Mr. J. Graves.
3	Messrs. Burtenshaw and Sons, Eastbourne	Horses, Cattle and Sheep	Westdean, near Eastbourne	Duke of Devonshire.
3	Messrs. Waters and Rawlence	Lincoln Red Shorthorns	Little Langford, Wilts.	Mr. H. Andrews.
4	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Whatley House, Frome	Mr. J. H. Shore.
4	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep	Benniworth Walk, Donnington-on-Bain	The late Mr. T. Bett.
4	Messrs. King and Chasemore, Horsham	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle	Pulborough, Sussex	Mr. R. L. Batchelor.
4 & 5	Messrs. H. F. Russell & Son	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Home Farm, St. Devereaux	Capt. P. A. Clive.
4	Messrs. Stride and Son	Southdown Sheep	Lavant, Chichester	Messrs. Waters and Son.
4	———	South Devon Cattle	Totnes	Members of South Devon Herd Book Society.
4	Messrs. J. Harris and Son	Cart Horses	E. Worldham, Hants	Mr. W. Dryland.
4	Messrs. Lythall and Walters	Tamworth Pigs	Cholderton, Salisbury	Mr. H. C. Stephens.
4 & 5	Mr. H. J. Burt, Steyning	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	Okehurst, Billinghurst	Mr. H. F. Locke King.
5	Messrs. Cobb, Higham, near Rochester	Sheep	Frindsbury, near Rochester.	Various.
5	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos.	Mr. R. W. Hobb.
5	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Parcet, Peterborough	Mr. W. Wilis.
9 to 13	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons	Horses and Foals	Crewe Repository	Various.
9	Messrs. Simmons and Sons, Reading	Horses, Cattle, and Pigs	Manor Farm, Reading	Reading Corporation.
9	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Bull Calves	Tillycairn, Old Meldrum	Mr. Duthie and Mr. J. Marr.
9	Messrs. Davis, Newland, and Hunt, Chepstow	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Trelleck Grange	Mr. C. M. Compton Roberts.
9	Messrs. J. Harris and Son	Cart Horses	E. Worldham, Hants	Mr. H. Turvill.
9	———	Dartmoor Ponies	Okehampton, Devon	Various.
10	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Newton Insh	Messrs. Gordon, Wilson, and Simmers.
10	Mr. F. Charles	Horses	St. Albans Repository	Various
10	Messrs. Perks and Lanning, Waterloo Place, London, S.W.	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex	Mr. T. G. Binney.
11	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Aberdeen	Various.
11	Messrs J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Magdalene Laver, Ongar	Mr. E. St. John Phillips.
12	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Inverness	Various.
13	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Perth	Various.
16	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Tring	Lord Rothschild.
17	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Bletchley	Various.
17	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Clydesdale Horses	Perth Auction Mart	Various.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Suggested Hop Combine.

SIR,—"Hop-growers," says the trade circular of a leading Worcester firm, "have come to market with inflated ideas as to the value of their product," and consequently merchants "have set their backs firmly against any such wild notions, preparing to wait for a more reasonable demand." Probably, in the long run, the buyers will have their way, for the expenses of cultivation have been inordinately heavy this year, equalling in some cases the freehold value of the land, and growers will be wanting ready money. But the same circular admits that at the prices merchants offer a further loss to producers and a consequent further grubbing of hops are likely.

May I suggest that if ever a hop pool offered fair prospects of success the time is now? At present the position is admitted by factors to be something like this: A third of our total yield will be absorbed by some half-a-dozen big breweries, half the remaining growths are practically taken up, and the balance for general consumption cannot exceed more than about 50,000 pockets. That would not be a large quantity to "corner," and there would be the less work, as nearly all the Worcester and Hereford hops this year are level and good in quality—probably as good as those of 1902. Somebody is bound to make money out of them. Surely it is the growers' turn. Will not the organisers of the last hop pool come forward and help?—Yours faithfully, H. L.

Maize as a Forage Crop.

SIR,—I venture to think that the enclosed photograph of a crop of maize grown here this year may be of interest to your readers, and especially to those who have felt the pinch of the late drought.

MAIZE GROWN BY Mr. A. H. BARING, THE GRANGE, ALRESFORD, HANTS.

The seed was ploughed in on June 7, and cutting commenced about the end of August. The photograph was taken September 15. I think there is no forage crop in the world which can give such a return in the time.

Cattle take to it readily, and the way every stalk disappears, however thick it may be, is quite marvellous. Horses, too, are very fond of it, but it must be cut up for them.

I have sown it as early as May 20 and as late as July 7, and I am of opinion that the first week in June is quite soon enough.

Not only is there less risk from cold nights, but I have found that the later it is sown the less trouble the rooks give. If there were no rooks I am sure we should see a very much larger average of it sown every year.—Yours truly,

A. H. BARING.

The Grange, Alresford, Hants, Sept. 20.

We Maintain the Highways. Cannot We Retain Them? Means by which Agricultural Papers May Help.

SIR,—I believe there is a society formed to protect the interests of those using the roads, and those having properties adjoining highways, against the damage done by inconsiderate motorists and unsuitably constructed motors. I think if the society is one which is active, it would be an advantage if you were to publish its address so that your numerous country readers, who are suffering from the carelessness and callousness of motorists, should be able to get into touch with it. I am not at all sure that you could not go a good deal further than this.

There is no real opposition to the motor properly constructed and driven with proper care. Everyone admits it is a valuable means of locomotion; but motorists are taking advantage of the fact that "it has come to stay." Having come to stay, however, is no reason why it should become a greater nuisance than advantage; or that the value of property, the growing of crops, the health and safety of men and animals, and the ordinary carrying on of businesses, should be imperilled by it. If the inconveniences were temporary they might be put up with, but as the motor has come to stay, something must be done to control the selfish and thoughtless, for with an increase in number the troubles will become even greater. While recognising the good features of motors, the public has become utterly disgusted with those who drive them; and, unfortunately, the few who would use them in a decent manner and with proper regard to the well-being of others, are wholly unable to influence others. The Automobile Club professes to try to restrain the wild drivers, but at the same time urges them to rashness by trying to defeat the efforts of the police—the only body that has any power—to detect those who drive wildly. The recommendations of the Commission as to no speed limit, and the provision of roads that make suitable motor racing tracks by those who do not use motors for the benefit of those who do, are so distinctly unreasonable that no one should lose an opportunity to oppose them.

There are millions grumbling at the present condition of things, but they are disinterested units, powerless against the numerically small but collectively wealthy united body of motorists.

In view of the serious injury done to crops and property in country districts, and the many hindrances to farming and other businesses, I think the Agricultural Press ought to move in the matter. Could not you place yourself in communication with the Protection Society, and find means by which you could help country readers to combine? It seems to me that if the Society were to arrange with you so that every copy you sent out should contain a sheet on which desiring members could attach their names, a vast membership could be obtained. I am not aware what sum is required for membership, but if a large number were obtained a small fee would be enough. I also believe that the feeling of need to protect oneself from the motor nuisance is so great that most of those who received a sheet would canvass their neighbours. Beyond payment for membership, I think there are those who cannot afford the fee who should be allowed to become honorary members on undertaking to use their influence to resist the present unwarrantable position of affairs.

I think if you were to throw your columns open to suggestions, it would be found that valuable ones would be made, and that the suggestions I have roughly sketched would be greatly improved upon; but I have thrown them out as a groundwork to start upon. If those who are at present grumbling at the intolerable state of affairs will not take a little trouble when an opportunity occurs to put them on proper basis and prefer to take their mauling "lying down," of course the motorist domination must be with us for all time, and a jolly expensive thing it will be for farmers, who will have to pay an increased highway rate to provide pleasure tracks for those who pay nothing, but who shove them off the roads.

Sept. 21, 1906. ROADSTER.

Foreign Cattle Competition.

SIR,—It is well that a certain variety of stock, such as sheep, is profitable, for cattle are of no use in the way of yielding a reasonable return for outlay on keep. Cattle, as a rule, only return a reasonable allowance for six months' keep during the twelvemonth. This is far from what it should be; but as long as foreign cattle for slaughter and dead meat are sent to this country on such a large scale from countries where the production is remarkably low, nothing else need be looked for. Home farmers are handicapped in every way, and legislation does little to ease the burden that crushes agriculture to the earth.

If any other industry suffered in the same way more noise would be heard, but farmers are too quiescent; they only complain a little above the breath, the complaint is lost in the passing breeze, and there is no result. The time may come when the folly of allowing the agricultural industry to be ruined will assert itself; but that time is not yet here. Come it will, for all that. J. B.

Aberdeenshire, September 20, 1906.

A Wail from the West.

SIR,—None of the crop reports one sees make any mention of a pest which is causing us a good deal of trouble—the brown-rot fungus in apples. In many West Midland orchards one may see the diseased fruit ringed round with the fungus spores, and remaining dry and withered upon the tree until the following spring. In the last few years this parasite seems to have obtained a firm hold on many orchards, and there seems to be little doubt that it is extending; as, indeed, it must inevitably do unless concerted measures are taken to put an end to it, for it is little permanent use to wash one's own trees and burn affected fruit while one's neighbour's orchards on either side remain uncared for to spread the infection. Perhaps some day a reformed Board of Agriculture will be empowered to deal as drastically with rapidly spreading fungus and insect pests as the present Board does with infectious diseases in live stock. In the mean time would it not be well to circulate a warning leaflet in the districts where the fungus has made its appearance.

Another grumble. The Le May hop report, which we all read with interest, speaks of the dwindling hop area of Great Britain as a most serious thing for the brewers. Perhaps it is; but it is surely a much more serious thing for us who grow the crop and lose on it because the said brewers, our only customers, steadfastly refuse to pay a price that will cover the cost of cultivation. Even this year they talk of getting supplies at 110s. and 120s. per cwt for the finest qualities. If they can do no better than that, assuredly more hops will be grubbed up. Are the profits of the brewery industry so small that its materials have to be bought at less than cost price? One would not suppose so, to see the extravagant way money has been laid out the last few years in buying and decorating and reconstructing tied houses.—Yours faithfully, SEVERN SIDE.

Carlisle Latter Fair.

Carlisle Latter Fair, the largest of the year held in that city, with the exception of the "Great Fair" in August, took place on Wednesday. The supply of Irish store stock was smaller than usual, numbering about 300, most of which were wintering heifers. The attendance of buyers was also small, and a slow trade was done at £7 10s. to £13 for wintering heifers, and up to £14 for animals suitable for putting on fog for finishing purposes. The show of lambs altogether numbered over 20,000, not being quite so large as last year. Trade was pretty busy, as reported at the auction marts.

At Hetherington's Auction Company's mart, about 10,000 sheep and lambs were exhibited. They included half and three-quarter bred cross and Cheviot lambs, feeding sheep, ewes and gimmers, and also a prize show of Border Leicester and Down rams. Buyers showed a decided disposition to keep down prices and sellers resisting it as much as possible. Trade was slow, with the result that lambs changed hands at figures which indicated a decline of 1s. to 1s. 6d. a head as compared with the quotations at recent markets.

Messrs Harrison held a special sale of rams, ewes, gimmers, and all classes of lambs, of which there was the large entry of 1,100 head. Trade opened brisk for all classes of breeding sheep, and prices were from 3s. to 5s. per head in advance of last year's prices for ewes and gimmers. Rams also sold well, making from £1 to 30s. higher prices than at the corresponding sale a year ago.

Northern Notes.

MR. S R. TENNANT, the well-known Hackney breeder and the owner of the famous Authority, has purchased two of Lord Downe's large farms in the Driffield district of east Yorkshire for about £26,000. He is the sitting tenant of one of these farms called Wold House, containing 608 acres, and for which he is paying £538 a year rent. He has also bought the adjoining farm, Great Kendale, in the occupation of Mr. Wood, who has combined with a successful career in agriculture a very large trade in artificial manures. This farm extends to 528 acres, of which only forty-six are grass land. To increase his pasturage, Mr. Wood some years ago bought several lots of old grass land near Kendale, which has made his holding more valuable to him personally, enabling him to carry much more stock. Wold House, like Kendale farm, is very short of grass, as only one-twelfth comes under that denomination. The land is splendid. Kendale lets for £601 a year, and is only a mile and a half north of Driffield, while Wold House is three miles distant, and has 30 acres of woodland. Mr. Tennant has received many congratulations on his purchase, and his friends wish him good luck in his speculation.

THE harvest festivals are now in full swing in the north. The "objects" of the offertories are singularly chosen, especially in Nonconformist places of worship. We have Scripture precedent and warrant for associating religion with the harvest, and more especially for giving fullest exemplication to one of the divinest manifestations of moral and religious feeling—that of being bountiful to the bereaved, forlorn, and destitute.

THANKFULNESS should find its outlet in charitable acts; therefore it is very desirable that the offerings at these annual festivals should be appropriated to the maintenance of hospitals and other institutions carried on in the cause of humanity. Is it too much to ask that offertories received this year should be given to some charity rather than passed on to "funds" variously denominated? The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution is somewhat neglected in the north of England.

ARE we to some extent getting out of touch with homely arts? It is no longer necessary to regard the spinning chair and wheel as anything more than curios. Is there not a tendency in these modern days to abandon the manufacture of home-made jam, of wines and syrups, for the sometimes questionable productions sold in the shops? The efforts of the Agricultural Department of Leeds University to resuscitate an interest in home industry connected with fruit is highly commendable; and one of the professors is giving lectures in several centres on the bottling of fruit. He paid a visit to Darlington this week, and addressed the Chamber of Agriculture and a number of ladies, who formed the major portion of the audience.

THE process is not one that requires the use of choice fruit, as the cheaper varieties lend themselves equally well to the process, which is a very simple one. The lecturer gives instruction in the "art," and exhibits the most suitable bottles, and tells his audiences where they may be purchased. It is possible in this way to have fruit all the year round at a trifling cost, and it may be equal, and in some cases superior, in colour, flavour, and consistency to fresh fruit, and by employing the method recommended can be kept fresh for years.

IN the dales of Yorkshire some of the finest of butter is produced by the farmers' wives and daughters. The president of an agricultural society recently took the butter-makers to task for turning out an inferior article; and at the same time he expressed his belief that the reason was not by any means that the art was lost, but that the young men did not choose their wives properly. He gave them the excellent advice not to go by looks, but to ascertain before marriage if their sweethearts could make butter.

THEN he followed up this excellent advice with the amusing suggestion that perhaps the district council might help the young men in so momentous a decision. This is a piece of rural philosophy that should not be lightly dismissed by any whom it may concern.

LAST week farmers were in a very doleful mood over the prospect for roots. The drought of three full weeks in Yorkshire had given a set-back to the crops, turnips being badly mildewed in some districts. Now timely rains have fallen, and put some heart into the despondent ones. Before was certainly a period of great anxiety, lambs having been bought very dear, and it seemed unlikely the buyers would be able to keep what they had purchased to profit.

THE spell of drought was broken on the 13th, and nice rains have since fallen, and roots now give promise of being a heavier crop than last year. The same cheerful report comes from the Cleveland and Whitby districts, and in Northumberland are some splendid turnip flats.

THE Durham County Agricultural Society some time back sent a protest to the Durham Education Authority relative to the alleged excessive expenditure of that body on education. Nothing has been heard of the protest, which, if we remember rightly, was not confined to educational matters, but to the general expenses of the county council. In the colliery districts, where the farmer is hopelessly outnumbered, he is compelled to contribute heavily to lighting and other rates for village improvements miles distant from his house, and he has no benefit whatever, only the satisfaction of feeling that he is acting the part of a good citizen. He feels the hardship pressing heavily upon him, and that he must endure it so long as the present system of levying rates remains in operation.

NEXT March new councils will be elected all over the country, and ratepayers must be careful to vote for candidates who will set their faces against extravagance. The agriculturist is a long-suffering individual. He is under many heavy clouds; but we are told if we wait long enough they will all roll by.

Sept. 21, 1906.

Midland Notes.

ONCE again this year has shown the wisdom of our weather experts in closing their summer records at the end of August. The change which has lately come upon us could hardly be more complete. Already we have had just a touch of night or early morning frost in exposed situations, and the perpetually clouded sky and lower temperatures by day are typically autumnal, making manifest the near approach of "chill October," and forcibly reminding us of the arrival of that turning-point in the year when the sun sets at six o'clock or earlier, and the hours of daylight become shorter for six months than those of darkness.

AUTUMN tints, usually so varied and brilliant in these heavily timbered Midland shires, threaten to be of the poorest this year, for even deeply rooted forest trees have suffered from the universal lack of moisture, and the leaves, of elm and chestnut especially, are drying, dying, and falling abnormally fast and early. The rain of the past week or so has refreshed all growing things wonderfully, but the state of grass lands compares sadly with their verdant and flourishing condition a year ago, and the roots lost more ground during the drought than they can be expected now to make up. With the scarcity of hay which is so general in many districts, on the Eastern side especially, and the current expectation of dearer foodstuffs, the future is not free from anxiety. But a mild and moist autumn would relieve the situation in every way, and we are still hopeful.

MANY have been the trials of our hop-growing friends this year, and not the least the trouble they have had in so many instances with the pickers. The addition of several bands of alien gipsies to the ordinary Black Country gangs has not exactly made for peace and quietness; strikes, too, have been rather numerous, as generally happens in a year when the crop varies much in different gardens; while here and there gangs disppointed at not finding the expected amount of work have failed to understand why they should be shut out from gardens where the hops are too few to be worth picking.

EVEN this year some of the hoppers have been able to earn good money. Working at the rate of six bushels for 1s., small families have made up to 8s. or so a day, with full lodging and liberal allowances of cider or beer, which is decidedly more than their own trades would bring in. But the supply of labour offering has been more this season than the bulk of the crop warrants, so that distress among the pickers has been more than usual.

GRADUALLY we are learning to do something in the way of brightening up village life. The newly formed Bredon's Norton Guild, of which Miss Edith Bradley—well known by her association with the women's agricultural movement—is hon. secretary, is the latest move in that direction, but in Staffordshire we have Lord Harrowby giving all his help and influence to the encouragement of village clubs, and Worcestershire boasts its workmen's clubs and institutes, with Lord Cobham as president, and over sixty affiliated institutions. Not all of these, of course, are strictly agricultural, some being located in suburban districts. But the Union's experimental gardens, now extended to six acres by the help of the late Dr. Corbett, are already a model to other counties, and they will be still more worthy of imitation if it is found possible (as is now proposed) to start a thoroughly good horticultural school with moderate fees in connection with them So, too, the book boxes as they are circulated bring sound and desirable literature within the reach of the humblest members, and wherever the clubs exist the landowners and other leading people are found taking a most sympathetic and helpful interest in the welfare of their work-people.

THE scarcity of stone fruit this season has made the humble blackberry more worthy of attention. At 2d. per lb. to the pickers they pay for gathering, so that one hears of anything from one to two tons at a time being sent away daily in open 6 lb. baskets from small stations in Worcestershire, whence they travel to centres as far distant as Leeds and Hull.

IT would be a good thing for the cottagers of England if they could make a little more of the opportunity offered by the blackberry crop. As it is this country pays £6,000 a year or so for berries which the wives and children of the thrifty Brittany peasants gather and despatch to St. Malo, where they are graded and packed for shipment by agents.

CERTAINLY the Brittany folk are fortunate in enjoying greater freedom of access to unenclosed lands where blackberries abound; but there are miles and miles of quiet by-ways, footpaths, and farm hedgerows in the country along which blackberries ripen in abundance, only to rot for want of picking.

SOME of the industrious French families contrive to make £10 to £12 a year out of them—no small addition to a cottager's income; and given a moderately business-like system of marketing our own country labourers in blackberry districts might no less certainly be some thousands of pounds a year better off.

September 20, 1906.

Worcester Fair.

Worcester Great Fair, which takes place annually on September 19, is one of the oldest of the mony ancient institutions of the city, and on Wednesday last there was the usual large influx of visitors and business men into the city. Interest now centres chiefly round the Cattle Market and the Hop Market, the Cheese Market, which years ago assumed considerable importance, having now almost entirely disappeared. What English cheese was shown was of excellent quality. Canadian and American were well up to the average, but prices ruled 10s. per cwt. higher. The Cattle Market was a scene of activity from early morning.

Nearly 5,000 sheep were penned, and though a somewhat unequal lot, the Hampshire and Oxford Down rams and ram lambs were of splendid quality. Shropshires, too, were good, and the best classes found a ready sale Lord St. Alwyn sent fourteen Hampshire ram lambs which made only 4 guineas, but Mr. H. C. Stephens, Salisbury, secured as high as 8 guineas, and averaged 5½ guineas. Mr. George Garrard's Shropshire shearling rams averaged 6½ guineas, the best price being 8½ guineas, while a dozen sent by Mr. J. W. Dee averaged nearly 7 guineas. Ewes made up to 51s. 6d., theaves up to 52s., wethers 56s., and store lambs 32s. 6d.

A good many horses were on offer, twenty Hunters making up to 50 guineas for three-year-olds and 55 guineas for four year olds. The cattle trade was quiet.

The amount of business done in the Hop Market was less than usual, merchants being unwilling to operate extensively in the face of large stocks held by consumers, while, on the other hand, the cost of production has been so high this season that many growers say they cannot make any profit on current prices, and prefer to await developments. Prices ranged from about £5 to £6 per cwt. for common to fair medium qualities, rather more money being bid for some choice samples. Only 86 pockets passed the scales, compared with 953 weighed out on the first day of last year.

A fine flour mill, built by the Hovis Bread Flour Company, not far from the banks of the Ship Canal, in Trafford Park, was opened by the Lord Mayor of Manchester on Tuesday. A large company was invited to inspect the works, and the plant, which represents all the latest improvements in flour mill machinery, was much admired.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS AND THE LAND TENURE BILL.

Deputation to Earl Carrington—"The Government desire to see the Bill passed into Law during the Autumn Session."

The members of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union have expressed the warmest approval of the Land Tenure Bill, and with a view of getting the measure an actual statute as soon as possible they decided to send a deputation to the President of the Board of Agriculture and urge him to push on the Bill. The deputation, which consisted of Mr. Colin Campbell (Chairman of the Union), Mr. E. W. Howard (Vice-Chairman), Messrs J. D. Blanshard, W. S. Fox, J. T. Glen, G. Powell, J. Bowser, C. Featherstone, J. Thurlby, C. E. Andrew, H. Hopkinson, E. Crawford, G. Marris, W. C. Wood, T. Harrison, and H. W. Palmer, was received by Earl Carrington at the Board of Agriculture on Wednesday, and it is satisfactory to record that their suit proved successful, for the noble earl assured them he would do all in his power to get the Bill passed, and added that the Government desire to see it passed into law during the forthcoming autumn session.

Mr. Colin Campbell, who introduced the deputation to Lord Carrington (who, by the way, was accompanied by Mr. F. A. Jones, assistant legal adviser, Mr. F. L. C. Flood, and Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P.), expressed the warmest approval of the general principles of the Land Tenure Bill, but urged that the arbitrator to be appointed under the Bill should be directly under the control of the Board of Agriculture, and independent of local considerations and influences.

Mr. W. E. Fox said that further protection was desired under the Bill against damage by game.

Mr. E. W. Howard called attention to the hardships to farmers which they urged would follow from the substitution of the specification of "home killed" for "home bred" in the supplying of meat to the army. He also urged the views of the small tenant farmers against the requirement of large public abattoirs, which it was contended would drive the small butchers into the towns.

Other speakers followed, one of them urging that farmers summoned to serve on juries should be paid their expenses. Some small farmers, he said, had to sell their pigs in order to attend the assizes, and got no return.

Earl Carrington's Speech.

The President of the Board of Agriculture then replied as follows:—It has given me great pleasure to hear that such a representative body of tenant farmers heartily approves of the principles of the Land Tenure Bill, and I can assure you that the Government desire to see the Bill passed into law during the forthcoming autumn session. I am very glad also to have this opportunity of calling attention to the needless alarm which is being expressed in many quarters as to the alleged disastrous results which will follow the passage of the Bill.

The history of legislation on the subject during the last thirty years shows that some interference between the landlord and tenant is absolutely necessary if the latter is to be protected against being deprived of the fruit of his labours, and the Land Tenure Bill merely carries a few steps further the protection given by the earlier Acts.

The Duke of Richmond's Act of 1875 was the first to recognise the right of a tenant farmer to compensation for unexhausted improvements, but the provision it contained allowing contracting out was so largely taken advantage of by landowners that it was practically inoperative. Mr. Gladstone's Government therefore passed the Act of 1883, which made the right to compensation under the Act inalienable and forbade contracting out, and this was followed by Mr. Long's Act of 1900, which simplified the machinery and made certain improvements in detail which experience had shown to be desirable.

The evidence given, however, before the Royal Commission on Agriculture and the Welsh Land Commission has convinced us that the statutory relations between landlord and tenant required further revision, and we welcomed therefore the introduction of the Land Tenure Bill of this session, so ably brought in by Mr. Agar Robartes and Mr. Soares, and the second reading of which was carried by a majority of 253 in March last.

In view of the considerable misapprehension which exists as to

What the Bill Actually Proposes,

it may be convenient that I should state shortly the effect of the various provisions. It omits the words relating to the "inherent capabilities of the soil" in estimating the amount of compensation due. But the Royal Commission on Agriculture, including such men as Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Walter Long, saw no objection to the omission of these words, and they were actually omitted in the Act of 1900 as introduced by Mr. Long, only to be reinserted in the House of Lords.

It provides for compensation for damage by winged game. This was recommended by the Royal Commission on Agriculture. It contains a clause extending the shooting rights of the tenant farmer in relation to ground game, but I understand that, in order to disarm opposition, the promoters of the Bill do not intend to press this clause.

Clause 4 will relieve the tenant from harassing restrictions and covenants which on some estates hamper the tenant in the cultivation of his holding, and merely gives to all tenants the freedom of cropping which is at present allowed on the estates of many large landowners. Indeed, the Act of 1900 can fairly be said to have secured freedom of cropping subject to payment for any consequent damage or deterioration, and I would remind you that Major Birch, president of the Land Agents' Society, said in his evidence before the Welsh Land Commission:—"I believe these agreements are simply waste paper. I would not sign any agreement which would interfere with me if I did not know it was going to be a dead letter. I hate the sight of these agreements myself because they are of no use."

It provides for compensation for unreasonable disturbance, but the amendments proposed by the Government will confine the compensation payable to the actual loss sustained by the tenant in moving from the farm, and I am sure that no fair-minded man would deny the justice of such compensation in the case of capricious or arbitrary eviction.

It extends the class of improvements which may be carried out without obtaining the landlord's consent. In this respect it goes beyond the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture by including laying down of permanent pasture and fruit and vegetable culture; but the enormous increase in the fruit industry in recent years is ample justification for this proposal, and it must be remembered that the tenant on quitting his holding only receives such sum as fairly represents the value of the improvement to an incoming tenant.

The other provisions of the Bill are of minor importance, but I have said enough to show that so far from the Bill being of a revolutionary character, most of its provisions have received the support of the Royal Commission on Agriculture or prominent Conservative statesmen, and that practically the only new departure—viz., the compensation for disturbance clause—is of an extremely moderate, if not inadequate, character.

This being so it has been with great disappointment that I have read the speeches of Lord Londonderry, the Duke of Portland, Lord Zetland, and Mr. Victor Cavendish in opposition to the Bill. They are universally recognised as some of the best landlords in the kingdom, and no doubt any interference is absolutely unnecessary in the case of their own estates. It is therefore all the more to be deplored that they should object to the Bill when it merely proposes to give all tenant farmers the advantages already enjoyed by their own tenants; advantages which are refused, and legally refused, by landlords of a different type to themselves.

No one can be ignorant of the fact that there are estates in chancery, estates in lunacy, estates in the hands of mortgagees often administered by loan offices or lawyer agents, and estates where the owner, either by his own fault or extravagance, or by that of his predecessors, has been reduced to practical insolvency, and where the absentee landlord cannot keep the house or buildings in repair or even make both ends meet. It is for the tenants on estates such as these that the Bill is designed, and the Government are determined that they shall not look to them in vain for that protection to which they are entitled by every law of justice and equity.

At the same time I do not hesitate to say that many Liberals do not pretend to regard the Bill as in any sense a full satisfaction of the legitimate demands of land reformers. It is, after all, only a modest measure dealing with a limited part of the question; and should this Bill be thrown out or emasculated it is possible that future legislation may proceed somewhat on the lines recommended by the unanimous report of the Welsh Land Commission, of which I had the honour to be the chairman. To the views expressed in that report I still adhere, and many land reformers believe that great hopes for the future of agriculture are to be found in the directions there indicated.

The Supply of Meat to the Army.

I am very glad also to have an opportunity of answering the attacks which have been made on the Government for the change which has recently been made by the substitution of "home-killed" for "home-bred" in the meat contracts for the Army.

For the last five years a condition was made that the beef supplied should be home-bred, but it has constantly been pointed out that even an expert could not distinguish the difference between home-bred meat and home-killed meat unless he was actually on the spot when the animal was slaughtered. The War Office endeavoured therefore to protect themselves by requiring the contractor to give a certificate with each quarter of beef, guaranteeing it to be the produce of a beast reared in the United Kingdom. It was, however, generally agreed that this certificate was not worth the paper it was written on, and the Army Council therefore came to the conclusion that no adequate precautions were possible, without entailing great additional expense, whereby they could be certain that the meat supplied was actually home-bred.

The foreign meat is killed at Deptford, Birkenhead, Glasgow, and Bristol, and from there it is distributed to butchers all over the United Kingdom. Nearly every butcher sells imported meat as well as that which he slaughters himself, and unless the actual meat supplied for the troops was slaughtered under the eyes of War Office inspectors there could be no guarantee that the Government were getting what they paid for. So long as a contractor did not consign meat direct from one of the slaughter-houses used exclusively for foreign cattle, he knew that there was little or no possibility of detection. A great deal of the meat for the Army comes from the Central Meat Market in London, which is supplied with home-bred meat from Islington, and with foreign meat from Deptford, and the only means of ensuring that all the meat supplied to the Army was home-bred would have been to employ an army of detectives to watch every quarter of meat from the time it entered the market till it was sent out. The cost of any such system of inspection would be prohibitive.

The question resolves itself, therefore, into a pure matter of business. Were the Government in the present state of the public finances, with the income tax at 1s. in the pound, and acting as trustees for the taxpayers, justified in declining, for purely sentimental reasons, to make a very considerable economy which involved no substantial difference in the quality of the article purchased? I cannot doubt that farmers, as hard-headed business men, will agree that there could be only one answer to this question.

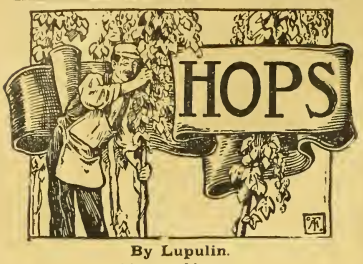
In view of the exaggerated statements that have been made as to the disastrous effect of this change on the prosperity of the British farmer, it must be remembered that it does not mean that only foreign meat will be supplied, for at several of the largest stations, such as Aldershot, the Curragh, Shorncliffe, and Chatham, live cattle are taken for slaughter by Army butchers, and the meat in these cases must therefore be home bred. The decision will probably make little or no difference in the character of the meat supplied, while a substantial economy will have been effected in the annual estimates for the Army.

I can assure you that it is from no want of sympathy with agriculture that this change has been made. The Government are fully determined to do all in their power to help the agricultural interest, but they intend that any assistance they may give should be of a really practical and useful character, rather than it should take the form of a merely sentimental sympathy which is of no practical benefit whatever to the British farmer.

This brought the proceedings to a close.

Sale of Hay.—Some good prices were obtained at a sale of hay at Settles Farm, Otten Belchamp, the property of the Earl of Wilton. Three large stacks of mixture hay (1906) were sold for the respective prices of £52, £62, and £58, and a small stack of sainfoin seed was knocked down at £14. Immediately afterwards a large stack of upland meadow hay, at Hobart's Hall Farm, Otten Belchamp, was brought under the hammer and sold for £43 to Mr. W. Whitlock, of Yeldham, who was the purchaser in each instance named.

Need of an Agricultural Party.—Sir Carne Rasch, M.P., speaking at an agricultural show at Bungay last week, said farmers had plenty of advisers. They were told to go in for jam and sugar, and that the cause of depression was rent, but they knew that rent was not in it. He himself had had to let a farm rent and tithe free. It was high rates and low prices that were responsible for the depression. Unless they could get all rates swept off the land, agriculture would never look up. They wanted a solid body of eighty or ninety members in the House of Commons prepared to stand firmly by agriculture. There were something like 180 agricultural members in the House now, but they were all gone to pieces. If they had eighty members strong for agriculture they would not have to sit smiling when a Tory Government first, and a Liberal Government afterwards, brought in a useless Education Bill, putting additional rate on the land. If all the money wasted on education had been spent on artificial manure the agricultural interest would do a lot better. Agriculturists must do something or they would be wiped out before very long.



By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

The Borough trade remains at a standstill. In some of the factors' show rooms we can find growers discussing the situation, but in others there is nothing to be done beyond waiting for visitors. Very little seems to arise out of these meetings, as buyers are conspicuous by their absence. Now and then a bid is made, which is now and then accepted. But there is no doubt that business is abnormally flat, and the reason is not far to seek or difficult to explain.

There are "two Richmonds in the field," each equally determined to do or die. The merchant will not pay the price demanded, and the grower will not listen to the offered bid. The two opponents stand with swords drawn and watchful eyes, waiting for each other to move. How long the suspense will continue, nobody knows, but from the present temper of the combatants it does not appear likely that they will commence operations just yet. I have heard of some small transactions, but the rates at which they were carried through are by no means encouraging. It is painful to speak of £5 in a season like this, and yet I am assured that this low figure has been accepted for a decent parcel of very good quality and colour. I think we shall be obliged to wait for the beginning of next month before we shall see any substantial movement in the direction of real business.

Worcester Hop Fair.

I much regret I was not able to pay my usual annual visit to the "Faithful City," therefore I am compelled to rely on the reports of my friends who were present at this gathering of hop buyers and growers. One of them writes to me as follows:—"The market at Worcester yesterday cannot be described as a 'Fair.' It was simply a gathering of people interested in hops, talking things over. There was certainly a fair attendance, but you must only use the term in this connection. Without actually seeing a transaction, I heard of a few, the lowest price named being £5 3s., and the highest £7—'Worcester' terms which are at current rates about 10s. better than London—at least, this is my experience.

"There is evidently a feeling of uncertainty among merchants as to what the market will settle down to, and my idea is that they will be glad to meet growers' views directly brewers begin to operate. There is no pressure to sell at present, and if this attitude is maintained for a week or two, our Worcester trade promises to be satisfactory to all concerned. The outstanding feature yesterday was doubtless the extraordinary quality of the growth, which I imagine is one of the finest on record. We have all that is wanted, so far as quality is concerned—good colour, good side, whole, healthy, well-matured hops, and it was quite the exception yesterday to see a sample that could not be thus described."

From other informants I hear that as far as real trade went the fair was a fiasco. The leading local merchants bought nothing, the London men who were down could not get on, and the growers were almost to a man absolutely indifferent, and would hardly quote a price. On the other hand, I am told that some fairly good hops were bought by a London house at about 84s., but I should gather that this was quite an exceptional case, and probably is open to explanation.

The Kentish Hop Crop.

(From a Correspondent.)

Picking is finished, having occupied one of the shortest periods on record, owing to there being so few hops to pick in the majority of grounds.

In Kent the crop is pronounced one of the smallest ever gathered. So far as the Weald is concerned, in the neighbourhood of Paddock Wood and Yalding, usually one of the most prolific districts, the crop was to a great extent a failure; but not many miles off, at Tonbridge and Hildenborough, satisfactory yields have been gathered.

At Goudhurst also the produce was fairly good. Passing over the border into Sussex, in most cases the results of the year's work are very discouraging to the growers. Some fairly good crops were secured at Wadhurst, but in the adjoining parish of Burwash almost total failure describes the result of the efforts of the planters. Very few hops were gathered anywhere, and in several grounds no attempt at picking was made.

At Hartfield and Withyham, where as a rule good crops are obtained, the quantity picked is very meagre, and striking instances were to be found of extrordinary contrasts in close proximity. For example, in one part of a large field the produce was relatively satisfactory, while in the remainder it was quite the reverse. As the whole field had been treated alike, the case seems to point to the conclusion that the failure must be attributed to influences unconnected with either good or bad farming.

Perhaps there was never a year in which the effects of good cultivation and careful treatment were more apparent; yet many who have "done" their hops will have been grievously disappointed. There are growers who habitually leave things to chance, believing that money spent on cultivation seldom comes back. They spend less, but the results in a season like this may be easily imagined.

With regard to quality, there is little fault to find, and in many cases some really splendid hops have been gathered, and the fine weather that prevailed during most of the picking time helped materially in their being secured in the best condition. Such *ought* to make good prices, BUT (well, it is a big "but") that has yet to be proved.

The grower has to contend against too many adverse influences to be able to anticipate a reasonable reward for his year's work, and grubbing may be expected to continue.

Foreign Notes.

NUREMBERG.—Business has been very active since the opening of the new market for hops. Local consumers have picked up the prime qualities as fast as they have arrived, and the general trade has been assisted by orders for shipment to America, the demand for consumption there being heavier than usual so early in the season. Therefore prices are well maintained, ranging from 75s. to 95s. for the lower grades, 80s. to 115s. for Hallertaus, 115s. to 120s. for Spalts, 95s. to 125s. for Wurtembergs, and 105s. to 115s. for Badens. The crop is coming in freely, some large quantities

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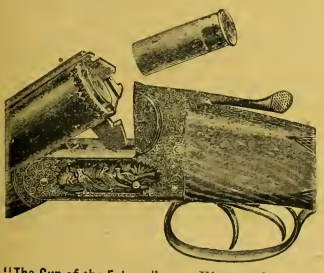

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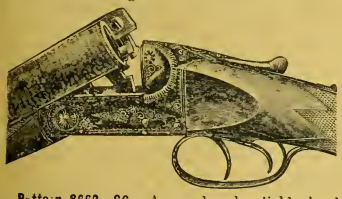

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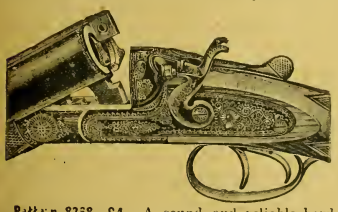

Pattern 8338, £4.—A sound and reliable hard shooting and hard wearing hammer gun. Better than many sold at double the price.

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having arrived, but the sales are keeping about on the same level. The latest report speaks of the trade having become rather calmer, but values, especially of best qualities, remain very firm.

There were some fears that the excessive heat would have interfered with the later pickings, but as the temperature has lowered and some rain has fallen all such fears are removed, and the results of the end of the harvest are quite satisfactory. The total yield will be heavier than was anticipated a month ago.

BRUSSELS.—The picking in Poperinghe is completed, and although the quality is satisfactory, the yield does not come down so heavy as expected. In the Alost yards the harvest is nearly over, and as the weather is fine a crop of good quality is expected, although the weight will be light. Business is slow at present both in old and new crop hops, but something has been done in Pops at 95 francs, and in Alosts at 102½ to 105 francs, representing about 76s. to 84s. per cwt., f.o.b. Ghent. But these hops are being offered landed in England at about these figures, the results of earlier contracts.

The World's Crop in 1906.

It is perhaps full early to make any definite pronouncement concerning the total yield of the hop plantations of the world, and any opinions that are now put forward must necessarily be of a speculative character, and can only be thus considered. But as the harvest is now practically concluded in every hop-growing country, we have arrived at a period when estimates can be made with a fair approach to correctness, and experts are busy reckoning and publishing figures for the guidance of their clients. Many of these have reached me, and therefore I have compiled the following, which I present to my readers with the qualification mentioned above.

England	280,000	cwt.
British Colonies	35,000	,,
U.S. America	500,000	,,
German Empire	410,000	,,
Austria Hungary	175,000	,,
Russia	55,000	,,
France	45,000	,,
Belgium and Holland ...	50,000	,,

These figures give an approximation of the world's production this year, amounting to 1,550,000 cwt., which compared with the estimated total of 1905, shows a deficiency of about 850,000 cwt.

The World's Consumption

of hops is estimated, in round figures, to be about 2,000,000 cwt annually, and on this basis this year's supply will fall short of requirements by something like 450,000 cwt., therefore, if this were the only element in our calculations, we might reasonably expect that the demand would speedily create a famine, and values would arise to an excessive point. But the unconsumed surplus from the large crops of last year must be taken into account together with the stocks on hand at the commencement of the 1905 season, and when this is done it will be seen that there is every probability that sufficient hops will be forthcoming to satisfy consumers, and to keep prices within moderate limits.

The Utility Poultry Club's Laying Competition.

Arrangements have now been completed by the Utility Poultry Club for holding their Tenth Annual Laying Competition.

The competition will begin on October 22 and end on February 10, 1907—a duration of four months—and will be under the management of Mr. E. W. Richardson, the hon. secretary of the club, at Rayne, near Braintree, Essex.

In view of the recent discussion as to the relative merits of the scratching shed and colony systems, and for greater convenience the club has decided to divide the competition into two sections, providing accommodation for twenty pens in each sections, or for four more pens than on any previous occasion. The birds in Section A will be confined to scratching sheds without runs, those in Section B in the ordinary portable house with grass runs. All the plant is being erected for the competition, and the land has not previously been used for poultry.

A number of prizes and specials are being offered, including the Tamlin Silver Cup, and these are supplemented by the gold and silver medal, and the first and second class certificates of the club should the standard reached be sufficiently high.

Important alterations and additions to the rules of the competition have been made. In scoring three points will be given for every egg weighing 2 oz. or over, two points if 1¾ oz. and less than 2 oz., and one point if less than 1¾ oz. Hitherto any egg weighing over 1¾ oz. scored two points only. Birds must have been in the possession of the competitor for at least three weeks prior to the entry being made, and any sick or dead bird may be replaced.

The entry fee is £1, and entries close on September 29.

CHAS. LANCASTER.

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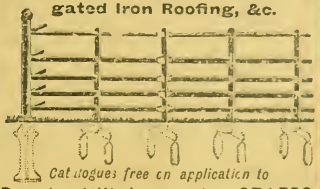

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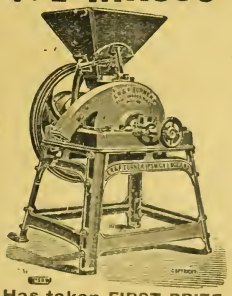

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BATTLE, MALTBY & BOWER, LINCOLN.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Similarly with cakes and other feeding stuffs. In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *non de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Sulphate of Ammonia.

According to the figures given in the annual report of the Government Inspector of Alkali, &c., Works, the quantity of sulphate of ammonia produced from all sources in the United Kingdom during the past three years has been as follows:—

	1905.	1904.	1903.
Gas works	155,957	150,208	149,489
Iron works	20,376	19,568	19,119
Shale works	46,344	42,486	37,353
Coke oven works ...	30,732	20,848	17,438
Producer gas and carbonising works (bone and coal) ...	15,705	12,880	10,265
Total	269,114	245,990	233,664

It will be noted that a substantial increase has taken place, and this is the more satisfactory as, in consequence of the enhanced price of nitrate of soda, there will be a larger demand for sulphate of ammonia, in which the unit of ammonia is considerably cheaper than the equivalent fertilising unit in nitrate of soda.

In view of the high prices for all nitrogenous fertilising material, it is more important than ever that all waste substances should be added to the manure and compost heap. The labour of clearing up round the barns and stables will be amply repaid in the conversion of all useless material into manure.

Atmospheric Nitrogen.

On the Continent the industry of extracting nitrogen for agricultural purposes from the atmosphere continues to make substantial progress. The material, nitrate of lime, is now being regularly manufactured in Norway, and so successfully that the results are stimulating the erection of fresh factories for the same purpose. It is reported that one of the most important chemical companies in Germany has arranged to erect in Bavaria plant at a cost of over a million pounds for the production of this new and valuable nitrogenous fertiliser. We shall welcome the introduction of the material on this market, in the hope that before long it will be manufactured in the United Kingdom.

Prices of Nitrogen-Units.

The Engineering Supplement of the *Times* has the following note on this subject:—

An analysis is given in the *Journal des Usines à Gaz* for September 5 of the respective values of the unit of nitrogen in ammonium sulphate, calcium cyanamide, and calcium nitrate to show the possibilities of the competition likely to arise from the conflict between the sulphate of ammonia derived from gas, the Chile nitrates, and the new compounds of nitrogen obtained by means of electric action. The total annual production of nitrates from Chile, with an average of 16·5 per cent. of nitrogen, may reach 1,567,000 tons, each kilogram of nitrogen in which is valued at 15½d. The estimated amount of ammonium sulphate produced annually by the chemical industries varies from 500,000 to 600,000 tons, and the kilogram of nitrogen in this salt is set down at 14½d., taking 21·2 per cent. of nitrogen throughout. In calcium cyanamide the value of the nitrogen may range from 13½d. to 15½d. per kilogram, while in calcium nitrate, under certain conditions, the kilogram of nitrogen may be produced at 12½d. Of course, the relative cheapness of the new nitrogen products will depend entirely upon the use of electricity generated by water power at very low rates. (A kilogram is about 2 lbs.)

If a material is offered as a fertiliser at a price which appears temptingly low, it should be scrutinised with more than usual care. As a rule, high grade fertilisers are the cheapest and best.

Disastrous Fire at Basic Slag Works.

We regret to record that on last Wednesday night the works belonging to the Chemical Works, late H. and E. Albert, at Frodingham, North Lincolnshire, were completely gutted by fire. At this factory the firm grind the basic slag supplied by the Frodingham Iron and Steel Company into the well-known fine powder, used as a fertiliser. The flames, fanned by the north-west wind, spread rapidly, and, the principal buildings being of wood, the fire quickly demolished them.

Perhaps, fortunately, there was no available water supply to extinguish the fire, and, therefore, the stock of basic slag in the warehouse was not injured to any serious extent.

We are advised that rebuilding will be begun with the least possible delay in order to cope with the demand in the district.

Sale of Nitro-Guano.—Fine and Costs.

At the Norton (Malton) Police Court, on Saturday, Arthur R Furniss, 37, Great Tower Street, London, was charged with selling to Thomas Martin Beswick, of Potter Brompton, 4 tons of guano under a false description.

Mr. J. R. Proctor, Beverley, prosecuted on behalf of the East Riding County Council, and said that the case was of immense importance to agriculturists.

From the evidence it appeared that Mr. Beswick took up the agency of the Nitro-Guano Company, and received 4 tons of nitro-guano, for which he paid £3 10s. per ton. The guano was guaranteed to contain from 2 to 2·5 per cent. of nitrogen, 5 to 7 per cent. of soluble phosphates, and 1·50 to 2 per cent. of insoluble phosphates, whereas it only contained 1·08 per cent. of nitrogen, 3·69 per cent. of soluble phosphates, and 4·73 per cent. of insoluble phosphates.

The Bench fined defendant £5 and costs.

To renew an old strawberry patch, plough away from each side of the row, leaving it but six to eight inches wide. Thin out the plants in the row, leaving only the young and vigorous, and pull out all the weeds. When this is done, clean out the middles by the use of a cultivator with narrow teeth.

Tree Leaves as Fodder.

The great scarcity of grass and other green food, in consequence of the exceptional drought of the present season, must be a serious fact for many farmers, who will find themselves compelled to incur a heavier outlay than usual in artificial foods in order to maintain their stock in a satisfactory condition.

Catch crops are being resorted to as much as possible, so as to get a provision for the late autumn, winter, and spring to help out the small stock of hay and roots.

Attention may also be directed to the advantage of utilising the leaves of trees. They furnish a feeding material which is not to be despised, good, either in the green or dry state, for animal consumption.

According to a report in the *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique*, their richness in food constituents compares favourably with that of grass, and when dried they are equal to good hay.

The foliage of almost all trees can be employed, that of the elm being particularly excellent, but the leaves of nearly all trees—the ash, the lime, the acacia, &c.—can be gathered and fed with advantage to stock.

The walnut tree should, however, be avoided, and the leaves of the oak and alder should be dried before given to animals, as they contain an irritant, which disappears during the drying process.

For the purpose of drying, the leaves should not be exposed to bright sunshine, but should be allowed to gradually dry off in the shade. If the operation takes place in full sunshine the leaves become brittle and crumble up, whereas in the shade they retain their texture and can be easily gathered up.

They should be stored in a dry place, otherwise they are liable to become mouldy and lose their value.

They can be used through the winter with advantage, and combined with other substances constitute an agreeable and nutritive food.

Mixed with chaffed straw or with grain they form a good ration which horses soon become accustomed to and eat with avidity.

Milking cows are said to do well on them. The dry leaves should be soaked for half an hour in warm water, and then mixed with a little bran or cake. The cows eat the mixture readily, and it is found to exercise a favourable influence in the yield of milk.

It may be noted that small animals—rabbits, for example—eat the leaves of trees with almost as much relish as they do a green crop, which seems a natural indication of the nourishing quality of leaves.

So that in a season of drought such as we are passing through it is wise not to neglect such a source of additional fodder.

When Plants take Nutrients.

Regarding the nutrients of plants, Messrs. Wilfarth, Romer, and Wimmer (as reported in "Landw. Vers. Stat.," Germany) made pot and field experiments which were conducted for several years to study the quantities of fertilising materials taken up by different crops in various stages of growth. The work is described and the analytical data secured are reported in tables. Barley, spring wheat, peas, and mustard were found to have taken up the maximum quantity of fertilising materials at the time of blossoming, or at the beginning of fruit formation. With the exception of phosphoric acid, part of this quantity of food elements returned to the soil as the crops approached maturity, and this movement seemed to be dependent upon the supply of available plant food. As determined for potash, relatively larger amounts returned to the soil when the supply was inadequate than when it was sufficient. Potatoes continued to take up plant food until ready to be harvested and a return movement to the soil did not take place. When the food supply was normal the quantity of dry matter increased until the plants were ripe. Starch also increased up to maturity in all plants except mustard, in which fat is substituted for the starch grains.

The Object of Ploughing.

The object of ploughing may be said to be fourfold.

1. The loosening of the soil.
2. The stimulation of bacterial activity.
3. The destruction of weeds.
4. The burial of manure.

The first is essential in order to prepare a good seed bed and to enable the plant roots to penetrate more deeply, so that they can get nourishment and moisture from lower strata of the soil. A further advantage of ploughing is that it opens up the soil to the atmosphere, the oxygen of which changes the character of some injurious combinations, and renders it available for food fertilising material of a slowly-soluble character. Not less important is the improvement of the moisture conditions of the soil caused by the loosening of the soil by ploughing. A friable soil allows the water to percolate down, and on the other hand the fine soil is able to retain more moisture, which otherwise drawn from the lower soil by capillary action, would be lost by evaporation.

Land must not be ploughed in a too-wet condition; otherwise it cakes still more.

An important benefit of ploughing is the stimulation of bacterial life. This subject is now engaging more and more attention, and much remains to be cleared up, but it is certain that light, warmth, air, and moderate moisture are all beneficial, and all these conditions are promoted by ploughing.

Cover Crops in Orchards.

The importance of a winter cover for orchard lands that are given clean culture during the summer should not be overlooked, reports the Maine Experimental Station. The advantages are:—

1. The cover crop utilises soluble fertilising material which would be wasted, and prevents washing of the land.
2. Adds humus to the soil.
3. Protects roots during the winter and holds the snow.
4. Helps to dry out the soil in spring, thus permitting earlier working of the land.
5. In some cases adds directly to the store of nitrogen in the soil, as when leguminous crops are used.
6. Growth of trees late in the season is checked.

Geological Definitions.

The Primitive Earths are four: clay, sand, lime and magnesia.

Clay is called by geologists alumia, alumine or argillaceous earth.

Sand is called silex, silica, silicious earth, or earth of flints.

Lime, as it exists in the soil, is commonly called calcareous earth. The term calcareous is not properly applied to any soil, unless it will effervesce with acids.

Each of these earths answers a determinate and specific purpose in the economy and growth of plants; and the perfection of soil lies in the mixture of the whole

Basis of the whole.—The primitive earths which enter into its composition.

Vegetable matter.—All vegetable substances in a decaying or rotten state.

Animal matter.—All animal substances in a putrifying state.

Organic matter.—A term applicable to both animal and vegetable substances in a putrifying state.

Vegetable mould.—The earthly remains of vegetable substances which have either grown and decayed on the soil, or have been conveyed thither in the progress of cultivation.

Loam is a combination of vegetable mould with the primitive earths.

Marl is a substance consisting of lime with a small portion of clay, and sometimes of peat, with a marine sand and animal remains. It is useful as manure, and is distinguished by *shell clay* and *stone* marl.

Increasing the Yield.

Expenses are reduced when the yields are increased because in many instances it requires but little more labour to secure a large yield than a small one, and expenses are also lessened when fertilisers are used to increase the yield, because the cost of the fertilisers will be more than regained as well as assist in securing greater results from the labour. Labour cannot alone make a crop. The soil must be fitted to derive the largest possible product by the proper use of plant food, which permits of the application of labour to the best advantage. Small farms can be made to largely increase their yields more easily and rapidly than large areas, because the manure or fertiliser can be concentrated instead of spread over a wide surface at an increased cost of labour for men and teams; hence, proportionately, as the yields increase the expense decreases.—*American Fertiliser.*

Experiments show that rye and winter wheat will germinate in a soil the temperature of which is 32 deg; barley, oats, flax, peas, and clover will sprout at 35 deg.; turnips the same; carrots at 38; and beans at 40 deg. If these experiments have been carefully conducted they demonstrate that some plants will sprout even below the freezing point.

A test of the value of the new inoculating material for leguminous plants was conducted by Professor Gilchrist at Cockle Park on beans, on peas, and on alsike clover. Every care was taken in the conduct of the test, but the results do not show at present much advantage from use of the cultures.

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He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

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It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

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and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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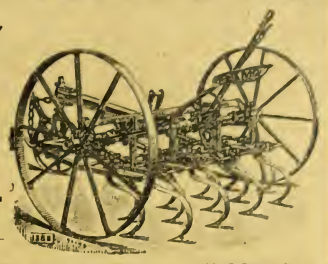

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SEPTEMBER 24, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

RICK-COVERINGS OLD AND NEW.

In olden times no one entertained the thought that either hay or corn stacks could be covered with anything but thatch. The thatcher was quite a famous man in the parish, especially in harvest time, being often sought after by half-a-dozen farmers at once. The art of thatching ricks does not seem a very difficult one to acquire, yet it is perfectly well known that very few of the rural labouring class ever attempted to master it. The cause, no doubt, was the want of any very active demand for the thatcher's services after haying and corn-harvesting had terminated.

If we go back far enough it is true we shall find that almost all the dwelling houses in rural parishes were thatched, the repairs and recoverings of which then gave work for the winter. But tile manufactories and slate quarries have long since been resorted to in preference not only in the interests of economy, but as a safeguard against those terrible conflagrations which sometimes depopulated an entire street in a few hours in olden times.

The agricultural literature of the last century deals very prominently with the evil of ricks after being made in time of harvest, having to remain a long time exposed to the elements, owing to there being an insufficiency of hands to thatch them.

But agricultural engineers have relieved farmers of their worst anxieties in this matter both by supplying them with thatch making machines to save the heavy manual operations, and corrugated iron roofing sheets, by adoption of which straw thatch and the art of laying it can be dispensed with altogether. Both inventions have long since been found of great value, the former to ensure expedition as well as to save labour. Often, since so much arable land has been sown down to grass, farmers find the whole of their straw consumed at the end of spring and none left to make thatch of. In such cases a day's thrashing has been given to the first fruits of the new crop and the machine set in motion to convert the fresh threshed straw into thatch. But straw has become so valuable as fodder for stock that many deem it wasteful either to employ it for this purpose or even to litter cattle with it.

A set of iron roofing tiles with due care lasts a man's lifetime, so that those who can afford the capital of laying in a stock the outlay would be handsomely repaid in the long run. This appears all the more evident when it is considered that any common labourer can hinge the iron adjustments, one or the other, so as to cover the entire rick in perfect security in about twenty minutes after it has been erected.

But the best of all devices to deal most effectually and economically with the weighty matter is the erection of lofty corn sheds, spacious enough to contain the whole of the corn grown, so that as soon as there has been sufficient conditioning in the field, it can be carted into them in perfect security. A light corrugated iron roof fixed on poles in the front need not be a costly erection. Many a renting farmer has seen it to be necessary to erect one in recent times.

A Petition for Cheaper Railway Fares for Exhibitors, &c., at Shows.

It will be remembered that at a conference of the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies, held on the showyard of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Derby, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That the sub-committee appointed at our last meeting, draw up a petition, asking the various railway companies 'That facilities now given to delegates and representatives at conferences and other meetings, anglers, golfers, &c., of travelling at cheap rates be extended to exhibitors and officials attending shows.'" This petition has now been drawn up and is being circulated for signatures. It requests that all exhibitors and officials attending shows, be allowed to travel at a rate not exceeding a fare and a quarter for the double journey, and draws the attention of the Railway Clearing House Committee to the following points:—

(1) That some railway companies already allow these concessions to exhibitors residing within a certain radius from the showground, and that others grant the privilege only from certain of their principal stations, and that, in consequence, exhibitors living in country districts are placed at a disadvantage by having to travel at ordinary rates.

(2) That many railway companies grant no concessions at all, except by certain trains which run in the early part of the afternoon, thus conferring no benefit whatever upon exhibitors.

(3) That exhibitors are compelled to consider the cost of attending shows, and, if they were enabled to travel at reduced fares, many would attend to see their stock judged, and the influence and prestige of exhibitions would be enlarged.

(4) That with regard to the issue of special tickets, the greatest care would be taken to prevent any misuse of these privileges, and the various secretaries would pledge themselves to adopt any reasonable means which may be suggested by the railway companies to secure the successful carrying out of the scheme.

The committee of the federation hope that every secretary who considers the interests of his society, exhibitors, and show officials generally, will recognise the importance of the concessions asked for, and will endeavour to obtain as many signatures as possible to the petition. United action is absolutely necessary, and as the Kennel Club will, it is anticipated, present to the Railway Clearing House their petition at the same time, the interests of all classes of exhibitors may be said to have been considered.

The federation rely especially for assistance from the Royal, and County Societies, but trust every district Society and Fanciers' club in England and Wales will send its quota of signatures, and thus show its sympathy with a movement the objects of which, if obtained, would benefit not only exhibitors themselves, but the shows at which they exhibit.

Mr. M. Birtwistle, 8, Garden Street, Ramsbottom, Secretary of the Federation, requests us to ask any secretary who has not received a copy to communicate with him, and also to express his thanks to all those societies who have (although the petitions were only dispatched a few days ago) already written expressing their appreciation of our efforts, and best wishes for a successful issue.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

A meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday, Mr. S. P. Page in the chair, when twenty-nine new members were elected.

Upon the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee cheques to a total of £273 13s 6d. were passed for payment, and it was reported that in the five weeks ended Sept. 1 288 cwt. of fresh milk were imported into the United Kingdom, being the first consignment received since March 1. In the same year the imports of cream amounted to 547 cwt., against 485 in the corresponding weeks of last year; of preserved milk 572 against 422 cwt.; and of condensed milk 78,191 against 81,870 cwt.

The council had before them a statement of entries for the forthcoming dairy show, the most gratifying feature in which was that this year there is an increase in the cattle entries, totalling 210 compared with 182 last year. In the other departments the entries are very satisfactory, while in the milkers' contests the competitors number 119, of whom the great majority are women and girls. Owing to the large number of competitors in the buttermaking classes the council decided to subdivide the classes, and to offer extra prizes. It was also resolved to form a special class (No. 101) for cows of any breed or cross, to be used for the milkers' contests during the show. If desired these cows can be offered for sale by auction on the last day. There is no entry fee, and the prizes offered are £10, £5, £3, and £2.

On the recommendation of the examiner of candidates for the society's diploma and certificates, the following awards were agreed to:—Diploma to Mr. Victor L. Yates and Mr. J. W. Taylor; teacher's certificate to Miss Iris L. Bull; butter and cheddar cheese making certificate to Mr. Wilfrid Sadler, Miss Annie Wrate Leighton, Mr. George Ferry, Miss Ethel Morris, Mr. A. Gordon McKenzie, and Mr. C. Fenton; cheddar cheese making certificate to Miss Nellie Yeld; butter making certificate to Mr. A. G. Walker.

Notes of the Week.

An important deputation of Lincolnshire tenant farmers waited on Lord Carrington on Wednesday.

It was an interesting episode, and served a useful purpose.

It afforded the Minister of Agriculture an opportunity to expound the views of the Government on two subjects which are agitating the agricultural mind—

The Land Tenure Bill and the home-bred *versus* foreign-bred meat for the Army.

The Minister's statement with regard to the first subject was quite satisfactory to the deputation.

The Government recognise the urgency of the Land Tenure Bill and will do their best to pass it without changes weakening its efficiency during the Autumn Session.

On his position towards the Army meat question the Minister cannot be congratulated.

It appears to be his opinion that even if the War Office contracted for home-bred beef they would be supplied with foreign-bred meat.

Does not such a statement come dangerously near to suggesting fraudulent dealing against the meat-contractors.

Things are coming to a pretty pass in this country when Government contractors cannot be relied on to execute their contracts in an honourable manner.

One would like to hear what the contractors have to say on the subject. They would certainly repudiate such an insinuation.

After a summer which will be long remembered for its long spell of sunshine and drought, rain has at length fallen over the greater part of the country.

"Better late than never" may be said. If it had fallen a month ago, its beneficent action would have been much greater.

But still we must welcome it as a boon and a blessing to thirsty crops and thirsty stock. It brought relief to many an anxious farmer.

And in its train has come the first whiff of real autumn, reminding us that the year is on the wane.

The trees are beginning to assume the variety of tints which produce such a charming effect.

Another sign of the time of the year is the harvest festivals, which seem to be taking the place of the old-fashioned harvest homes.

The harvest home on the farm was associated with good cheer and good fellowship between the farmer and his men.

All rejoiced together on the home-bringing of the last sheaf of golden grain, but times are changed. The rural districts have lost much of the old jollification.

Church harvest festivals are universal, and serve as a useful reminder that there is another side to Nature besides the purely material.

And they constitute a channel through which much charity should flow. The flowers and fruits with which the churches are decorated for the occasion are distributed among the poor and the hospitals.

The money collected is devoted to some charitable purpose. We hope many collections will be allocated to the funds of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

Surely it is the most appropriate recipient for harvest festival collections.

Agricultural politics are quiescent—members of Parliament are holiday-making and farmers are harvesting.

During the coming long evenings, many of us might discuss with advantage the requirements of agriculture from a political standpoint.

"If you wish for peace, prepare for war," is an old and true saying.

Similarly, if we want changes in the laws relating to agriculture, we must prepare for the political campaign.

We must marshall our voting forces, and make our views known with no uncertain voice, both as to what is wanted and what we should protest against.

Medical men are lifting their voices against the practice of rapid motoring.

It is a craze which involves blindness to the beauties of Nature, and develops a selfish want of consideration for the convenience of others.

Sir James Crichton Brown says that the confirmed motorist becomes sluggish in intellect and excitable in temper.

And worse still, that it tends towards homicidal mania.

It certainly does sometimes excite homicidal feelings in the mind of the pedestrian whose safety is ignored by the motorist.

Visitors from the town to the country are apt to have hazy notions about trespassing.

Elated with the pleasant feeling of freedom from town life, they wander at their own sweet will just where they like.

Occasionally they catch a tarter. Three visitors from Yarmouth, found by a farmer in his turnip field trying the flavour of a succulent root, were surprised at the stern demeanour of the farmer.

He offered them the choice of a prosecution for trespass, or a subscription to the Yarmouth hospital.

The institution benefited to the extent of a guinea, and for the future the young men may be trusted to restrain their love of similar ventures.

In a certain district of Germany foot-and-mouth disease has broken out in a severe form, and the Government have prohibited dances and balls in the neighbourhood.

People are wondering what can be the connection between the two.

The German gypsies are still with us. They are hustled about from one part of the country to another.

Finally, their presence near Ecclesall created such a panic that the police raided the gypsy camp and arrested seventy of them.

The difficult problem is what to do with them. They should not have been allowed to enter the country.

And should be re-exported to Germany at their own cost, or, in case of necessity, at the country's expense.

Three horses drawing a reaping machine on the Ash Tree Farm, near Ebchester, county Durham, fell down a disused pit shaft that had been timbered and covered with soil. The machine had been over it once safely. Fortunately the pole of the machine snapped, or the machine and the man in charge might have followed the horses, which were killed.

A strong feeling has been expressed by many interested in dairy farming that the time has arrived when some recognition should be made of the valuable services so long and so ungrudgingly rendered to that industry, especially in its relation to education, by Mr. George Gibbons, of Tunley. It is proposed that this recognition should take the shape of a personal presentation, and a committee, of which Sir C. T. Dyke Acland, Bart., is chairman, has been formed to carry this desire into effect. Subscriptions will be received by the hon. treasurer, Mr. T. Cumberland, Birmingham and District Counties Bank, Newport, Mon.

The prospectus of the Agricultural Department of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, for the session 1906-7, shows that the college is continuing its good work of agricultural education in all its branches. The session consists of three terms—autumn term, spring term and summer term, and the terms for 1906-7 have been fixed as follows:—Autumn term, Tuesday, October 2, to Wednesday, December 19; spring term, Tuesday, January 8, to Wednesday, March 27; summer term, Thursday, April 18, to Saturday, June 29. Students will be registered on Tuesday, October 2, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 4 to 6 p.m; and on Tuesday, January 8, 1907, and Thursday, April 18, 1907, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Further details can be had on application to the secretary of the college.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—Great Grassden Show — Cattle Fairs at Haverfordwest, Hay, Easingwold, and Burgh — Preston Cheese Fair—Horse Fairs at Cambridge, Market Rasen, Abergavenny, Bungay, Marsden, Chesterfield, Chertsey, Spalding, Stourbridge, Pickering, and Howden—Sheep Fairs at Spalding, Pickering and Melton Mowbray.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—Thornton's Sale of Shorthorns at Lillford—Richardson's Sale of Shorthorns at Holbeach—Winsleydale Sheep Breeders' Sale at Northallerton—Lord Chichester's Sale of Southdowns at Falmer — Eve's Sale of Shire Horses at Holwell, Beds.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Great Sale of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle at Birmingham—Sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns at Oundle—Sale of Herefords at Glenusk—Sale of Devon Cattle at Harwell Junction near Williton—Witheridge Agricultural Fair—St. Breward Fair—Ashbourne Shire Horse Society's Show.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—Salter's Great Agricultural Sale at Holt, Norfolk—Great Sale of Romney Marsh Sheep at Ashford, Kent—Thornton's Sale of Sheep at Chipping-Norton — Vidler's Sale of Milch Kine at Northiam, Sussex—Sexton's Horse Sale at Peterborough — Stoford Fair — Lichfield Horse Sale.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29. — Marazim Agricultural Fair — Wincanton Agricultural Fair—The Minor Fairs held on this, Michaelmas Day, are too numerous to detail, but many of them are marked by considerable business in live stock and produce.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1.—Horse Sale at Rickmansworth—Great Sale of Store Sheep at Preston—Entries to be sent in for the East Berkshire Horse Show.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.—Entries for the Malting Bailey Competition should be sent in by this date—Sexton's Sale of Shire Horses, Derby—Thornton's Sale of Shorthorns at Carlisle—Lloyd's Horse Sale at Wrexham — Great Agricultural Sale at Salisbury — Moreton-in-the-Marsh Horse Show.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 18, 1906:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	35	54	93	88	4,497	2,825	4,708	5,810
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	10	14	21	809	620	1,017	1,145
Sheep Scab	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	4	4	5	8	306	667	1,077	1,193
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	33	33	50	71	1,485	1,548	2,008	1,805
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	28	26	31	788	903	1,127	1,087
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	21	23	28	16	953	956	1,113	869
	Outbreaks.	No.	15	13	21	13	654	695	707	570
Period.			Week ended September 25, 1906	Corresponding week in 1905	Corresponding week in 1904	Corresponding week in 1903	Total for 37 weeks in 1906	Corresponding period in 1905	Corresponding period in 1904	Corresponding period in 1903

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

The Holbeach (Lincolnshire) September Horse Fair, one of the oldest in the country, took place on Wednesday, when the supply was smaller of all sorts of animals than usual. Foals made £6 to £16 each. Good cart horses ranged as high as ever, and were in demand, £70 to £80 being realised for really good animals. Mares and foals were not, as a class, in good condition.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

IT is a healthy sign that exception is being taken in many places to the extravagant action in Harness Horses and Hackneys which was at one time so fashionable, and which is yet so fashion able in certain circles. I would not be misunderstood. By extravagant action I do not mean high action, but that forced action which knocks a horse completely off his balance. If a careful inspection is made of any ordinary class of single-harness horses from a place where their action can be fairly seen and judged—not from the grand-stand, for a sideway show is of no use at all—how few will be seen to go straight. They bend their knees up to their curb chains very nearly, but they throw their fore feet about in ungainly fashion, and put them down anywhere. This is, to a very great extent, the result of over-training. The idea is to get a horse to step higher and higher and still higher, without any thought either to his balance or his rate of progress. Then, when a horse is sent round a ring at anything like a pace, he is all abroad, his hind legs are away from him, and one could wheel a barrow between his hocks.

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THE great thing that is wanted in a harness horse is balance. This was necessary in the old days, when the only way of getting about in many parts of the country was by driving. A horse that is not nicely balanced is working against himself, as it were, and expends as much energy in going five miles as should take him ten. And in the present day, when the high-priced harness horse is a luxury kept only for show—by which I do not mean the showyard—balance is equally essential. Without balance there can be no style, and the stylish horse, level in appearance, with true and nicely-balanced action, is the one that commands most money.

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IT is an old saying that no Englishman would admit that he had never driven a gig, this probably being a survival of the times when horses were the only means of locomotion. The onlooker at our agricultural shows during the last two or three years must have been impressed with the fact that a great many Englishmen—and dare I say it? some English ladies—drive very badly. One would naturally expect to see in a showring finished coachmanship, but with a very few notorious exceptions we do not. Men sit back and drive in a "pull-devil-pull-baker" style, and with a total disregard to the "handling" of a horses's mouth, which is anything but pleasant to behold, and there is no getting away from the fact that a great number of horses are driven very much above their pace with the effect that we see the shafts bending and the horses rocking in a way which was unknown a few years ago.

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I PUT all this down to the training. A horse is excited, and then strapped up tight with a big bit in his mouth, which he dare not face properly, and then he is supposed to go. Some weeks ago I went to see some Hackneys, and one after another was turned loose in the yard. And when they settled how they did "go"—stepping up and stepping out in much better style than when they were strapped and bitted up. I think the Hackney men themselves are to blame for much of the criticism which has fallen on the Hackney, and if they were to cultivate a more natural style of action than prevails at present, there is reason to believe that the breed would be more appreciated.

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IS trotting a natural pace for the horse? I question it very much. And my reason is that whenever a Hackney whose recognised pace is the trot is turned out lose he takes the earliest opportunity of breaking into a gallop, notwithstanding the fact that he can get over the ground much quicker in a trot. This by the way however. What I should like to see is more style and balance in the Harness classes, and, if not asking too much, a little more artistic driving.

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SOME Hackney exhibitors are obdurate in sticking to the cruel practice of "figging" their horses for show purposes, yet it is very seldom that one hears of a prosecution at the hands of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals on this score. I take leave to think that more than one Hackney that was shown at the Crossgates show a short time ago was "figged," yet the inspector for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals passed by on the other side, and selected Mr. Welburn for a prosecution on the ground of cruelty in riding a lame horse in the jumping competition.

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THE horse in question was the General. I know him well, and ever since I have known him he has had a callous fetlock joint. This naturally interferes with the liberty of his action, and he would not be a pleasant ride on the road, but to all intents and purposes he is practically sound. The inspector laid great stress on the horse being bandaged. When the ground is hard, and when there is any doubt about a horse's sinews, a sensible man always bandages his horse with cotton wool bandages, on the principle that it is easier to prevent a strain of the back sinews than to cure one. There being a sensible bench of magistrates to hear the case it was dismissed, and very properly so. Incidentally it was stated that the General, who has been a winner at the Royal and the Yorkshire on several occasions, has won £1,000 in prizes during the last six years. Men as a rule don't run a risk with a value horse like that.

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IT was stated in evidence that the horse was very lame, and that it was his pluck that made him jump so well the first turn round. Which is simple nonsense. I have ridden some of the boldest and biggest jumpers that ever crossed a country, and I have invariably found that if a horse was suffering pain anywhere, he either jumped short or refused. If a saddle even pinches a horse, he will not jump freely in the hunting-field, let alone in the show-ring, and the chances are that he will not jump at all.

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SOME seasons ago I rode a horse with callous forelegs. He had belonged to a well-known hard-riding man, who thought he had broken him down, and sold him to a large farmer and horse-dealer. The horse was turned off for a time, was then found capable of doing slow work, and the shepherd rode him round the farm twice a day to see the sheep, &c. This went on for a couple years, and then the horse came into my hands for a season. He was an old horse and had lost a bit of his pace, and he was not a very pleasant hack, but he could go the nearest way. There was never any necessity to pull out of the direct road to look for gate or gap if he could put his nose in the place in front of him, and he could jump a gate, and did with me more than once, as easily as a two-foot rail. If it was a case of water—12 ft. or 2 ft. was all the same to him. Now it may be allowed for the sake of argument that a resolute horseman with a pair of sharp spurs and moderately good hands can force a horse over a fence whether he will or not—it is not my opinion, but that is no matter. But a man can scarcely do that with a broken stirrup-leather in his hand, and I rode this horse in a sharp half-hour with one stirrup, during which time he jumped big timber and big water. And his legs were quite as bad to look at as the General's which is the point I want to emphasise.

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THE Seaham Harbour Stud Company had a rare sale on Wednesday, and a record price for a foal at the Seaham sale was made. This was a chesnut filly, for which Mr. Marshall, of Stranraer, gave 110 guineas. I believe the previous record was for a bay filly by Castlereagh, for which the late Mr. R. P. Petch, senr., gave 101 guineas. The sixty horses sold made £2,313, or a fraction over £38 10s. each.

THE LOOKER ON.

WELSH PONY BROOD MARE, LLWYN SNOWDROP.
Winner of First Prize at the Cardiff Horse Show, last week. The property of Mr. J. MARSHALL DUGDALE, Llanfyllin.

The Burstwick Hackneys.

Very poor prices were realised for the Hackneys belonging to Mr. D. R. Sowerby, Burstwick Stud Farm, Hull, sold by auction on Thursday. The foundation mare of the stud was Bounce, who was never beaten as a three year-old, and finished up a wonderful showyard career by winning a first prize as brood mare at the Lincolnshire Show when fourteen years of age. The highest priced brood mare proved to be Bouncing Girl, by Champion Ganymede—Bounce, who was purchased by Mr. B. Lucas, Pickering, at 26 guineas, her filly foal by Nonesuch going to the same gentleman at 18 guineas. Three of the four stallions were sold. Snip, by Gentleman John—Bouncing Girl, and Gentleman George, by Langton Performer—Bounce, were both purchased by Mr. Bruce, London, the destination of both animals being South America. Nonsuch, by Gentleman John—Meg Merriles, made 51 guineas, to Mr. Gaskill, Stormile. The six saddle and harness horses averaged £30. Mr. Hulton, Westram, Kent, gave 53 guineas for the gelding Miracle, by Snip, and Mr. T. Troop, Cottingham, 51 guineas for Flashlight, by Topper. The ten geldings averaged £28 17s. 6d.

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Good Prices for Hackneys at Crewe.

Some good prices for pedigree Hackneys were obtained at Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons' sale at Cheshire Repository, Crewe, on Thursday. Mr. W. Foster's (Mel Valley stud) six show ponies commenced the sale. Mel Valley Catch of the Season, chesnut mare, five years old, under 13 hands, was sold for 230 guineas to Mr. Alexander Gemmell, Ayr; Mel Valley Treasure, bay gelding, five year old, 13 hands 2in., 140 guineas, to Mr. Forbes, Middlesbrough; Mel Valley Gold Piece, brown gelding, five years old, 13 hands 3½in., 130 guineas, to Mr. Whittaker, Edgefield; and Mel Valley Sneezer, bay gelding, five years old, 13 hands 3in., 100 guineas, to Mr. Van de Poel, Brussels. The average for the six worked out at no less than £129 13s. Fylde Zinnia, chesnut mare, 15 hands 2in. was bought for 155 guineas by M. Van de Poel, Brussels; Saveda, chesnut mare, 14 hands 2in., 240 guineas, by Mr. Mills, London; and Fylde Forester, five years old, 13 hands 3in., 100 guineas, by Mr. Edmunds, New York, the whole of Mr. Sykes' stud being sold at prices averaging £54 each. Sunny Jim, bay pony, four years old, 13 hands 1½in., was sold to Mr. Foster for 146 guineas; Tissington Promise, five years old, 13 hands 2in., 160 guineas, to Mr. A. Watson, New York; Wigginton York, chesnut gelding, seven years old, 14 hands 2in., a winner of 250

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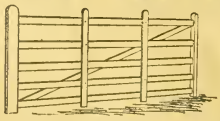

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prices, 250 guineas, to Mr. Douglas Grand, New York; and Wigginton Gavotte, 195 guineas, and hunter gelding, Tennis Top, five years old, 16 hands, 120 guineas, to Mr. A. Carr, Broxton. The Hon. Mrs. Ward sent a pair of bays, Amphray and Prince of Naples, which were withdrawn at 340 guineas.

The Seaham Harbour Stud Sale.

The annual sale of pedigree Clydesdale horses, Hackneys, and Hackney ponies, store cattle, &c., the property of the Seaham Harbour Stud, Ltd. (formerly the Londonderry Stud), took place on Wednesday near Dawdon Dene. The stock, which was offered without reserve, comprised sixty head of store cattle and fifty-eight horses, made up as follows:—Clydesdales—ten foals, nine colt foals, three two-year-old fillies, one three-year-filly, and sixteen brood mares; four Hackney and Hackney pony colts and filly foals; saddle and harness—three mares, three three-year-old fillies, three geldings, and one Shetland pony. The sustained excellence of the Stud's produce is exemplified by the number of prizes gained by their animals at agricultural shows throughout the country, and this is in no small degree due to sound judgment and an extensive knowledge of the characteristics of Clydesdales possessed by the managing director, Mr. Robert Brydon, who has for so many years been associated with the Seaham Stud. It has always been the aim of the Stud to handle only the best stock, and in their premier stallion, Silver Cup (11,184) by Baron's Pride—Balmedie Vesta, they have undoubtedly one of the best Clydesdale stallions living. At the recent Durham County Show ten first prizes were awarded to his produce, some of which were included in the sale.

Mr. E. A. Crow, of the firm of Messrs. A. T. and E. A. Crow, Sunderland, was the auctioneer, and he made a start with the cattle, which were all in fine thriving state, most of them so forward in condition that they can be finished for the Christmas markets. The sixty head were quickly disposed of at fairly satisfactory prices. The animals ranged from £8 7s. 6d. to £17 per head, the latter price being paid by Mr. Mitchell, Driffield, Yorks, for a Shorthorn and Polled Angus bullock. The total sum realised for the cattle was £738 10s., an average of £12 6s. 2d. per head.

The filly foals were the first of the Clydesdales to be brought under the hammer, and one of the number realised the highest price ever paid at the Seaham sale for a filly foal—namely, 110 guineas. After a spirited competition Mr. M. Marshall, of Stranraer, paid this sum for Rosalind, a five months old chestnut by Silver Cup, out of Royal Rose. The same purchaser also paid 60 guineas for another filly, Quail, of the same age. Five of the fillies were purchased by Mr. Best, of Pateley Bridge, Yorks, who altogether secured twenty-two out of the total number of horses sold. The ten filly foals realised £452 11s., an average of £45 5s. per head. The colt foals, nine in number, were next submitted, and realised £463 11s. 6d., an average of £51 10s. Prices ranged from 14½ guineas to 86 guineas, the latter figure being paid by Mr. Best for Homestake, a six months old bay, which has won a first prize on every occasion he has been exhibited. Mr. Best also paid 80 guineas for the colt foal Baronial, which won first at the Northumberland Show at Newcastle, the only time exhibited. The two-year-old fillies brought even prices, the three lots fetching £120 4s. 6d., an average of £40 18s.

The brood mares were a magnificent lot of animals, and Mr. Best paid 105 guineas for Royal Rose, the foal Rosalind's mother. Thus the pair realised 215 guineas, and represented the highest price paid at the sale. Royal Rose is in foal to Silver Cup, and has won several first prizes. Another beautiful mare, Geranium, winner of a long list of prizes, brought 69 guineas, this sum being paid by Mr. McDowell, of Glenluce. Altogether the sixteen mares realised a total of £883 1s., or an average of £55 3s. per head. Nine of these animals went to Mr. Best, and four to Mr. Marshall.

The Hackney ponies followed, and the four lots realised £21 10s. 6d., or an average of £5 7s. The harness mares were a smart-looking lot, and the eight animals brought £169 12s. 6d., an average of £21 4s. Prices ranged from 9½ guineas to 26½ guineas, this figure being paid by Mr. Wade, Hawthorn, near Seaham, for Seaham Lady Fern. The three-year-old fillies were sold next, and fetched £63, the three lots averaging £21. The harness geldings and a Shetland pony concluded the sale, which was considered a highly successful one, the total amount realised being £3,052 4s. 6d.

The annual sheep fair at Ilkley took place on Wednesday, when the number of sheep on offer was much larger than usual, but trade was only slow. Half-bred ewes made 12s. to 50s., lonk ewes 25s. to 35s., Scotch ewes up to 25s., half-bred lambs 25s. to 30s., and cross-bred up to 35s. per head.

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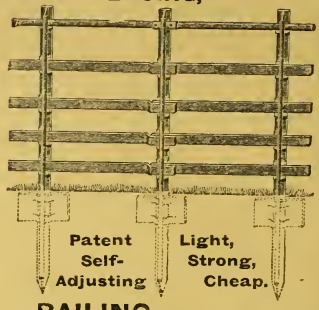

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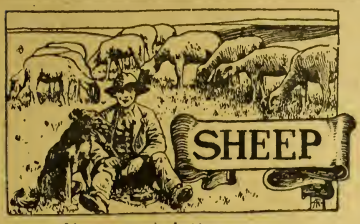

Notes and Jottings.

A GENERAL though not excessively heavy rainfall has been most welcome after the long summer, which came to a climax some three weeks ago, and the prospects of the sheep keeper are brighter. The weather had, however, got a severe hold on the root crop, and in many places it will never fully recover. Still there will not be the great failure that at one time threatened, and not since deemed probable in some districts. It is not surprising, considering how severely the root crop was hit, that prices for stores have not been maintained; and it is quite possible that the shortened crop will cause many to hurry out their sheep during the early winter, and possibly make the mutton trade a little slower during that period, though it would be made better for those who can keep them until spring.

MUCH depends upon the weather during the next few weeks how the catch crops will be established before winter, and this will have a definite effect on the supply of food in spring. The dry weather has made a late seeding, and in many districts it is difficult to see if the clover and young grasses will stand, or if there are any to stand.

RAM sales are coming to an end, and for some breeds it has been an exceptional season. The Lincoln Longwools have had a quiet time; nor is it the rams alone that have done well, for a large number of ewes have changed hands. The season seemed likely to be noted for the sale of Mr. Dudding's sheep at £1,450, but Messrs. Wright have done a remarkable thing by the sale of their whole flock at a price which shows how keen to buy and how well able to buy are the Argentine flockowners. It is a loss to the country when one of its oldest and best flocks is taken away, but just as from time to time our best racehorses go because of an exceptionally good bid, it is only natural that an exceptional bid should break down whatever sentimental attractions even a flock may possess to its owner.

THERE is one thing that the foreigner cannot buy, and that is that combination of soil, climate, and herbage that has helped to build up the British flocks, which no other country can produce and maintain in a like manner. It would be a mistake to think that the conditions of British farmers are so much better than those of farmers in other countries, that the matter can be dealt with lightly. We want all our advantages to be able to keep clearly ahead, but undoubtedly we have advantages that will give us first call for some time to come, although the sheep stock in other countries is gradually grading up. The most pleasant features of Messrs. Wright's sale are that it indicates what a strong desire there is on the part of breeders in other countries to get our sheep; and also that perseverance over a long time gets its reward.

A VERY instructive lesson will be learned by watching how Messrs. Wright will set to work to get together a new flock, for presumably such capable flockmasters will not leave their old love altogether, though they have jilted her this once. Others who are working up their flocks might do worse than follow on the lines they adopt. The soil of Nocton is unchanged, and one could look confidently to seeing a powerful flock there before long. There are many flocks which have been influenced by the Nocton blood, and with help from these the type of sheep could soon be brought closely to that of the sheep which have left. But it would be regrettable if many of our old established flocks were to be taken away.

THE Romney Marsh sheep which is making such a strong bid for recognition among the Longwools, and is fortunate in having a very keen lot of men steering its interests, holds its annual sale and show under the auspices of its Breed Association at Ashford on the 28th inst., when over 500 rams will face the hammer. Prizes at this show are given for sheep in the wool, and as Argentine buyers are still busy filling in their commissions, they will doubtless appreciate the conditions. The Kent sheep has done well in recent years, and will have to be considered in the future, for it has established a reputation from which it is not likely to fall away. There is a very considerable extent of land carrying indifferent sheep which could be profitably utilised by the Kentish, and which is suitable to produce the breed as well as on the land on which it is carried. With wool at a good price it should be more extended in its adoption, for excellent as the Lincoln is in its own county and northwards, somehow the Lincoln as a purebred does not do its best when it comes further south. Here is the Romney's chance. When one thinks how well the two marsh land breeds, the Lincoln and the Kentish, are doing, one cannot but regret that the other British marsh sheep—even if it is Irish — the Roscommon, should not have shared equally in the improvement. In origin, soil, climate, and herbage the Roscommon had every chance, except that it lacked the men to bring it along. It is being improved, but has yet a considerable leeway to make up.

IN view of the enormous quantities of wool imported from Australia and the Argentine at the present time, we give a few figures showing the position of the wool trade in 1839. At that time Germany supplied us with 23,000,000 lb., Russia about 8,000,000 lb., Australasia a little over 12,000,000 lb., the River Plate only 236,750 lb. out of a total importation of 57,000,000 lb. The exports of manufactured woollen goods were valued at a little over £6,000,000. Great Britain was then the great woollen market of the world, but the figures seem very insignificant in comparison with those of to-day. Few probably recognise the length to which woollen threads can be spun. In ordinary Norwich spinning 1 lb. of wool may be extended 13,440 yards, and in superfine spinning to 39,200 yards, in which case a 7 lb. fleece would produce a thread 155 miles in length. Sir John Banks reared a sheep from which 1 lb. of wool was spun reaching 95½ miles.

LEICESTER SHEARLING RAM.
Winner of many First Prizes in 1905 as a Lamb, and in 1906 as a Shearling. The property of Messrs. J. E. and C. H. SIMPSON, Hunmanby, Yorks.

SALES OF THE WEEK.

Alford.

At Alford Ram and Sheep Fair held on Wednesday there was a good supply, but purchasers were not numerous. Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Sons, of Strubby, secured the prize in the class provided by the Alford Bull Fair Committee for Lincoln Long-wool rams, and in the class for ewes Mr. John Wells, of Withern, was placed first, and Mr. W. R. Mountain, of Bilsby, second. Rams made up to 11½ guineas, gimmers to 65s., ewes to 60s., and lambs to 41s. 6d. per head.

Beaminster.

Beaminster Fair, a very popular one in Dorset, was held in beautifully fine weather on Wednesday, when full average supplies of sheep were penned, the total being nearly 5,000. The sheep, on the whole, formed a very excellent lot, both horns and Downs, and the rain which has fallen since the drought broke helped sales materially all round. Consequently trade on the whole was better than had been expected; but prices did not come up to those of last year. Horn couples made 54s.; horn ewes, up to 56s.; horn chilver lambs to 37s.; wether lambs to 37s. 6d.; Down ewes sold up to 46s. 6d.; Down wethers to 37s. 6d.; and Down wether lambs to 38s. 6d. A fair clearance resulted.

Border Union Agricultural Society.

An entry of nearly 2,300 was secured by the Border Union Agricultural Society for their annual ram show and sale at Kelso. Some high prices were paid. Mr. Cameron, Westside, Brechin, gave £200 for a Border Leicester ram shown by Mr. Templeton, Sandyknowe, whose lot of twenty-six brought an average price of £34 4s. Mr. Hume, Barrelwell, sold a score of Leicester rams at an average price of £21 19s., the highest being £70. For one of a lot of twenty-six which realised an average price of £22 15s., Messrs. Smith, Galalaw, got £75. Mr. Mark, Sunnyside, sold fifteen at an average price of £20 3s. 4d., the highest being £60. Lord Polwarth sold thirty at an average price of £21 3s. 4d., his highest being £85.

Caistor.

Upwards of two thousand sheep were forward at Caistor Ram Fair on the 15th inst., and some good prices were realised. The top price for rams (25 guineas) was secured by Mr. Spilman, of Broughton, Mr. Holt, of Broughton, being the purchaser, and Mr. Jos. Spilman, Clixby, was second with 20 guineas. Other lots sold at prices averaging from 4½ guineas to 9½ guineas. Lambs realised from 34s. to 42s.; ewes, 45s. to 55s.; and drapes, 30s. to 40s.

Driffield.

Little Driffield September Fair was largely patronised by farmers and sheep breeders, and a good trade was experienced for the 330 pedigree rams submitted for sale. The rams were from the flocks of some of the best breeders of Leicester, Lincoln, and Oxford Downs. A large contingent of gimmer shearlings and lambs were also on sale, the latter numbering between 3,000 and 4,000. There was only a slow trade at from 36s. to 42s. per head. The following were the ram sales:—

Messrs. Hornby and Wilberfoss submitted twenty Oxford Down ram lambs from Mr. Wilson, Speeton, all of which changed hands at an average of just over £5 each. Mr. J. A. Coulson's (Watton Abbey) Oxford Down ram lambs realised up to £5 7s. 6d., and Mr. H. L. Brooksbank's (Walkington) up to £7. The Leicesters from Mr. W. D. Megginson's (Towthorpe Manor) made up to £12 1s. 6d., and Mr. J. J. Stamper's (Highfield, Nunnington) Leicester shearlings to 11½ guineas. Mr. Thomas Crompton, Westfield, Nafferton, sent thirty from his Lincoln flock (formerly known as Lowthorpe flock), and were all disposed of at an average of nearly £11 per head. Mr. F. Duggleby, Nafferton Wold, made his debut as a ram breeder, and sent nineteen Lincoln shearlings, which made the good average of over £9 16s. per head, the highest price being 23 guineas.

At Messrs. Sugden and Pearce-Brown's ring, Mr. Robert Fisher, of Lecoutield, offered fifteen of his Lincoln shearlings, for one of which 40½ guineas was paid. Mr. T. Campion's Lincolns made up to 9 guineas, and Mr. Jackson's (Etton) up to 14 guineas.

Messrs. G. W. Clark and Sons sold twenty-three rams from the Eastburn flock of Leicesters of Mr. E. F. Jordan, the lot making an average of just under £10 per head. The first submitted made the top figure, £18 18s.

Messrs. Cranswick and Cranswick sold ten

pedigree rams, the property of Mr. John Cranswick, Field House, Hunmanby, which realised an average of £8 18s. apiece. The highest price was £17 10s. Ten Leicester rams, the property of Messrs. J. E. and C. H. Simpson, Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, made an average of £9 6s. 1d. each. The highest price was £21. Mr. T. Spink, Highfield House, Hunmanby, sold ten Lincoln rams at an average of £9 4s. each, and his near neighbour, Mr. G. Lowish, had to go up to £21 for the pick of the lot. Mr. Joseph Cranswick, Howe Farm, Hunmanby, sent up a score of his Lincoln rams. The first ten realised the nice average of £6 14s. each, and the second ten made an average of £6 7s. apiece. The highest price reached was £9 15s.

Hawick.

The Hawick annual ram sale was held in Messrs. Andrew Oliver & Son's auction mart on Wednesday in splendid weather. The numbers forward consisted of 637 Cheviot rams, being 89 more than last year; 248 Leicester and Oxford rams, an increase of 63; and 20 black-faced rams. This being the principal market in Scotland for Cheviot rams, there was a very large attendance of flockmasters. There was a splendid demand for good sheep, and in several cases there was a big rise in the averages, but in some others they were not so good. The highest price of the day was got for a Hindhope sheep, for which Mr. Anderson, Ettrick Shaws, paid £100, while from the same lot Mr. Elliot, Upper Hindhope, bought one at £88. This consignment of 30 averaged £23 18s. 8d., an advance on last year of £5 19s. 1d. Mr Elliot, Upper Hindhope, got £60 for one of his 23, and the average for his lot was £13 7s.; whilst 28 from Mowhaugh averaged £18 19s. 4d., top price £62. Several other Cheviots were sold at prices ranging from £30 to £40, but the top price for Oxfords was but £9 5s. and for Leicesters £12.

Lincoln.

The annual September Ram Fair at Lincoln, was held in the Cattle Market on the 14th inst., and attracted a large number of dealers and breeders. There were large supplies of both long-wool rams and breeding sheep, and prices compared very well with those made last year. Many of the best animals were purchased for exportation. Mr. J. E. Walter sold by auction twelve Lincoln shearling rams belonging to Mr. Henry Paddison, of Branston, at 8 guineas to 17½ guineas a-piece. The latter was the top price of the fair. Seven shearling rams, the property of the Sheffield Coal Company, realised up to 15 guineas, the lot going for exportation. Mr. Bayles, of Welton Cliff, forwarded eight shearlings, which made 8 guineas to 16 guineas each. Six of the Marcham-on-the-Hill rams (bred by the trustees of the late Mr. J. Hurdman) made up to 12 guineas a-piece. Mr. Cartwright, of Dunston Pillar, sent twelve shearling rams, which realised up to 17 guineas each. Mr. Walter also sold under the hammer about 1,000 breeding sheep, the highest prices obtained being 56s. Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son sold eight Lincoln shearling rams from the flock of Messrs. R. and R. Hilton, of Wellingore, at 8 guineas to 14 guineas. Mr. J. Brocklebank, of Bassingham, sent seventeen Lincoln shearling rams, which averaged £9 9s. 6d., the highest price being 16½ guineas, whilst sixteen Lincoln shearling rams, the property of Mr. J. Pears, The Mere, realised 5 guineas to 16 guineas each. Others made up to 10 guineas.

Partney.

Partney Sheep Fair took place on Tuesday when the supply—about 8,000—was the smallest for many a year. The rams, as usual, were the chief feature, and for these some good prices were obtained. Some very good shearlings were offered, and one sent by Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe, of Baumber Park, realised 32 guineas, the top price of the fair. It was secured by Mr. Blarkley, of Calverthorpe. It was a fine specimen of the Lincolnshire Longwool. There were twenty in tke lot offered, and these averaged £10 19s. 8d. The shearling rams that averaged the highest price were the Huttoft Grange rams, the property of Messrs. J. T. and A. W. Needham, who got £13 9s. 11d. per head for twenty-four, the highest price being 20 guineas, given by Captain W. Hoff, of Gretby Hall, for a fine upstanding sheep. There were several consignments of Hampshire Down ram lambs, which made up to 9 guineas each.

Perth Ram Society.

At the sale of Blackfaced rams and ram lambs in connection with the Perth Ram Society, prices all over were good. Messrs. M'Dougall, Claggan, sold seventeen at an average price of £19 5s., and Messrs. Cadzow, Borland, twenty-four at an average price of £12 2s.; the highest price in each case was £60. Colonel Lowry, Doraville, had an average of £11 12s. for each of a lot of six, his highest price being £50. Mr. Matthew Hamilton, Woolfords, sold thirteen at an average of £14 8s., his highest price being £44. Mr. Howatson, Glenbuck, sold ten at an average price of £21 10s., and for one of them he got £50. The highest price for a lamb was £22, which was got by Mr. Grieve, Ladybank, for one of a lot of sixty, the average price of which was £2 16s.

Scunthorpe.

Scunthorpe September ram fair, held on Tuesday, was well patronised, and rams met a ready sale at prices up to 14 guineas; in fact, every animal offered found a purchaser. There was also a brisk trade for breeding sheep, which were forward in good numbers. Gimmers made 40s. to 65s., and ewes from 44s. to 55s. each. Fat ewes made up to 63d., and wethers, which were scarce and dear, 9d. per lb.

Teesdale.

At the special autumnal lamb sales held at the Barnard Castle and Teesdale Farmers' Mart on Wednesday the prices realised were the best within recollection of the oldest flockmasters attending the sales. There were 820 half-bred lambs, and not a single "shot" lamb was sold under 20s., whilst the best half-breed gimmer lambs went up to 44s. a head. Others reached 40s. apiece, and the general run was from 20s to 30s. each.

The Loughcrew Shropshires.

The annual sale of Shropshire sheep belonging to Mr. W. Lenox Naper, the Home Farm, Loughcrew, was conducted by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co, of Shrewsbury, who brought under the hammer a choice lot of animals which met a good steady sale followed with no sensational prices. Connaught Ranger, the first prize three-shear ram at Dublin, was sold to Mr. Wilson Slator for 10 guineas; while the second prize shearling ram at Dublin went to the well-known breeder, Mr. A. S. Berry, of England. Captain Everard gave 15 and 9½ guineas; Mr. Skelly 9, 7½, and 6½ guineas; Mr. Armstrong 8 guineas; the general average for twenty-seven all sold being £8 7s. 9d. Forty shearling ewes sold from 57s. to 47s. and averaged 51s. Thirty young breeding ewes were in great demand and sold up to 61s., and made the grand average of 56s.

The Aghavoe Shropshires.

Notwithstanding Mr. R. F. H. White's sustained successes at this year's Royal Dublin Show, he was not as well supported at his sale by his contemporary breeders and farmers as the merits of the flock warranted. Mr. White was, however, supported by one prominent English breeder and Mr Jeffreys, of Uruguay, South America, and though several of the famous sheep failed to find buyers the "top" lots sold well. Mr. Jeffreys (South America) took the Royal Dublin first prize shearling ram at 41 guineas, after keen competition between the Marquis of Ormonde's representative, Mr. T. Jucke's, of Wellington, Salop, and Mr. Jeffreys. No. 3, another good-looking son of Ulster Councillor (11618), went to Lord Ormonde at 21 guineas, while No 4 (fourth prize at the Dublin Show), after spirited bidding, was bought by Mr. Juckes at 33 guineas. Other good rams made 10 and 9 guineas, while the general average was £11 11s. 7d. The sheep as a whole were greatly admired, and so far as regards character, wool, and skins, were generally considered the best Mr. White has ever exposed. The ewes and lambs sold at good commercial prices, and for the forty Aberdeen-Angus cross-bred cattle the demand was very good, the largest buyer being the Marquis of Ormonde.

York.

The second extra ewe fair, held during the autumn at York, took place on Thursday, when fully 7,000 north-country ewes were on offer, but they met with a very slow trade indeed. The best made up to 54s., and others 48s. to 52s. each. A few south-country ewes were shown, and made from 35s. to 45s.; north-country lambs, 35s. to 40s.; Masham lambs, 22s. to 28s.; Holderness lambs, up to 40s. Very bad show of twice-crossed lambs, which made 35s. to 42s. A few north-country gimmers were on offer, and made 50s. to 56s.

Northampton.

A large supply of sheep and attendance of buyers and a brisk trade were the features of Northampton Ram Fair, held on Wednesday. As last year, Messrs. Peirce and Thorpe obtained the highest price, selling, on behalf of Mr. G. E. James, Irchester Grange, Wellinborough, an Oxford Down ram lamb for 27 guineas, to Mr. F. Campbell, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Last year's corresponding figure was 17 guineas. The top price last year for shearlings was 20 guineas, but this year only 16 guineas, which was paid by Mr. J. S. Smith, Quinton, for an Oxford Down shearling belonging to Mr. J. M. Eadey, Thorpe Malsor, Kettering. Sheep varied much in price. Theaves went as high as 55s., lambs, 40s., and ewes 50s.

Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, Bicester, sold for Mr. George Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Wadley, Farringdon, twenty Oxford Down ram lambs, which made an average of £2 17s. 2d. Lord Penrhyn gave 7½ guineas and 6 guineas for a couple of the best of these. The Hon. R. Hardinge, South Lawn, Burford, sent ten Oxford Down ram lambs, the average selling price of which was £4 6s. 4d. Mr. William Raven, Quinton, gave 5½ guineas for one, and Mr. Syder, of Fakenham, gave 5 guineas for another. Mr. Henry Akers, of Black Bourton, sent twenty ram lambs, which made an average of £8 8s. 6d, the best price being 10 guineas, which was obtained three times by Mr. J. G. Willows, of Rushton, Mr. T. S. Agutter, Thrapston, Mr. J. Groom, Oundle. Mr. John Garnn, Burford, penned thirty-six lambs, which made an average of £3 4s. 4d., top price 5 guineas. Mr. F. H. Heygate, Nobottle, purchased one for 5 guincas, Mr. J. Cross, Braunston, another for 3½ guineas.

Messrs. Peirce and Thorpe had very large consignments from well-known flocks to dispose of, and as mentioned above, got the highest prices of the fair. Their sales included three shearling rams and sixty-three ram lambs from the well-known Oxford Down flock belonging to Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, and these sold well, one shearling reaching 11½ guineas, and another 10 guineas, whilst the lambs made from 5 guineas to 10½ guineas, the average being £6 15s. Better figures were obtained for Mr. G. E. James' Oxford Down ram lambs, for in addition to the 27-guinea animal, 18 guineas, 15 guineas, 14½ guineas, and 12 guineas were secured, the average per head working out at £8 14s. 3d. Mr. J. M. Eady, Thorpe Malsor, sent forty Oxford Down ram lambs, which made up to 13 guineas, and an average of 78 guineas, whilst thirty-seven Oxford Down shearlings from the flock of Mr. George Roberts, Stowe Manor House, Weedon, made an average per head of £8 15s. 6d., the top prices being 16 guineas, 15 guineas, 13 guineas, and 12 guineas. Other lots were sold by various auctioneers at prices up to 12 guineas.

Lewes.

The annual sheep fair at Lewes took place on Friday in beautiful weather, and was largely attended; the supply of sheep—14,000—was larger than last year, and the quality of the famous Southdown breed was fully maintained, both sheep and lambs being hardy and healthy if not quite so fleshy as in some years, but it cannot be said that trade was brisk. Ewes sold fairly well, but, in comparison with previous fairs at Lewes, there was a difference of shillings to the advantage of the purchaser in the average prices. Ewes of the better class made from £2 to 47s, wether tegs as much as 48s., lambs from 26s. to £2, cull lambs about 14s, and ramb lambs from 5 guineas to 6 guineas.

After the business of the sheep fair a large number of flockmasters assembled to further consider the question of holding one central fair in the county town, and of dealing with a proposal to establish an auction sale in connection with Lindfield Fair. The chairman, Mr. W. F. Ingram, explained that it was impossible to prevent an auctioneer holding a sale on the same day as Lindfield Fair, and, after other gentlemen had spoken in favour of the "open" fair, Mr. Harry Willett, J.P., brought forward a proposition, which was carried, that a sub-committee should be appointed to consider how far the Lord of the Manor had rights over Lindfield Common, and what were the rights and feeling of the Lindfield Parish Council in connection therewith. This motion, he explained, was with a view to ascertaining if it were possible to control the fair in regard to the question of permitting an auction sale. A formal motion on the part of Mr. E. J. Gorringe to test the feeling of the meeting was carried in favour of the continuance of Lindfield Fair, and a further proposition on similar lines showed that the committee were of the opinion that Lewes Sheep Fair should be carried on upon the lines at present in vogue.

Howden September Horse Fair, held on Wednesday, was only poorly attended, and only 100 to 130 animals were brought to the fair. Some were of very indifferent order, while the majority of those on parade were chiefly of the ride and drive class, though there was a display of carting horses which had been reared in the district. Trade was very dull and very few animals were sold.

Death of a Secretary.—The death took place on Thursday of Mr. Edwin Henry Oakley, Fairleigh, Kingston, who for the past fourteen years had acted as secretary to the Yeovil and District Agricultural Association, also for many years as secretary to the Yeovil Fat Stock Society. Although he had been unwell for the past six months suffering from an internal trouble, the news of his death came somewhat unexpectedly. He leaves a widow and a grown-up family of five daughters and two sons, with whom much sympathy is felt.

Graziers and breeders of live stock generally will be interested in the sale of a well-known property in the neighbourhood of Northampton known as Preston Deanery extending to nearly 1,000 acres, which is to come under the hammer on October 22, the auctioneers being Nicholas Denyer and Co., of Pall Mall, London. There are nearly 650 acres of grass, including some of the finest fattening pastures in the Midlands. The farmhouses and buildings are in excellent repair, and the latter include some capital buildings for breeding purposes. One of the tenants is Mr. D. Beddoes, a well-known Midland grazier.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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SHIRES.

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CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

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MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

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COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79068; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Rough Beech Railway Station, Pen-hurst.

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SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

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KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners, Royal and other shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

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SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
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PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
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COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03 05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.).*

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WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

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LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYKE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R. — HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM TOWNSEND, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Maple Durham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

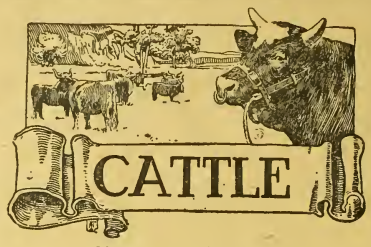
CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

IBBOTSON, R., can spare 20 or 30 young Tamworth Boars and Gilts by his prize Boars "Knowle Bounder," "Joey" and "Lycidas." Price 2 guineas and upwards.—The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

Horse Sale at York.—Messrs. Walker and Sons held a sale of hunters, harness horses, etc., at their repository, York, on Thursday, and although they had only a small catalogue of about fifty horses, containing nothing much of importance, trade was very good, particularly for the harness class. St. Bride, a brougham horse, five years, realised 70 guineas, and others made up to 48 guineas.



Notes and Jottings.

THE shortness of pastures and the bite that the autumn winds have already begun to inflict upon cattle have made them all hang after the yards and sheds much more persistently and much earlier than usual. This is especially the case with cows in milk and with the calves of the present year, particularly that portion of the latter that were born rather late in spring. There is no possibility of keeping up the milk supply in the case of the cows and growth in the case of the calves without liberal hand feeding with food of some kind or other, and much of this feed is better given in the sheds or yards, which causes the animals to be more on the look out morning and night for the time when this much-needed food is given to them.

SUCH seasons as the present, which is only one of many during the past decade, raise in one's mind the possibility of better things where mixed farming is the rule, rather than on the all grass farms which have always been the rule in the leading dairying districts. This system of all grass for dairying arose many years ago—far back in the last century, when cheese-making was the one great function of the dairying cow. This system of farming gave an opportunity for the cattle to be left in the fields entirely during the dead of winter, a practice that was very general at the time mentioned, say, fifty years ago. The change of dairying from that of making cheese to that of milk selling necessitates a totally different system of catering for the cattle, milk having to be forwarded to our towns and cities as much in winter as summer.

THIS brings us to the consideration of breaking up some permanent pastures. On many grazing farms where milk-selling is practised there are some fields comparatively newly laid down, and others completely worn out, that would be far more profitable under the plough. The advantages of a portion at least of arable land where dairying is being carried on all the year through are very many and great. The supply of roots for the winter and spring, and, indeed, for the summer through, is a very valuable point. Then there are other green crops that can be grown, either as permanent crops (such as lucerne and sainfoin) or as catch crops, such as rye and vetches, trifolium, and Italian rye grass, also peas and oats. All these things are, in a season like the one we are passing through, of immense value.

THEN the dairying and the mixed farming work well together in another respect, namely, the manuring of the land. A good dairy of cattle well fed the year round yield a very good income, and for pretty nearly six months of the year are in the sheds at least during the night, when they make a vast quantity of manure, and this of first-rate quality. Manure from dairy cattle, it is known, is not quite as enriching to the soil as that made from fattening cattle, but all the same it is a great fertiliser, and being made upon the premises, it does not run the out-of-pocket expenses up so fast. Then from the tillage land, in addition to the green crops, there are the corn crops of oats, wheat, and also beans and peas, as well as barley, when the latter misses the malster.

ANOTHER very strong point, too, in favour of mixed farms for dairying is the labour question. Where all is grass a number of hands are required to do the milking, and therefore can at the same time, or rather at times between the morning and evening milking, be very profitably employed on the tillage land. A certain number of horses, too, are necessary on the all-grass farm for cutting and securing the hay, as well as for other purposes that crop up continually upon every farm. As to the question of the use of home-grown corn, it is probably the cheapest food obtainable for dairy cattle at the present time, and probably the best kind of home-grown corn to use is wheat, ground all one way—that is, not dressed; this is precisely the same as mixing bran and meal together, and is altogether an excellent food.

FROM the above points it will be seen that the arable question is well worth considering, and as well as helping to make farms produce more food for the people, it would also help a little in keeping more people in the rural districts by finding them regular employ and by enabling them to earn a little better wage. In Ireland there has been a desire on the part of many farmers for several years past to break up some of the inferior new and worn out old pastures, so as to provide roots and straw as well as corn for the (in their ease) purpose of helping them to finish off their half-meated summer-grazed cattle, and making them realise a much higher price. It is quite likely that in England we shall ere long see a greater demand for a little tillage than there has been for some time past.

YET another reason may be given as an inducement to try or in favour of tillage as a portion of the farm, and that is the rearing up of young stock. A few roots and a little straw, and if a pound of linseed cake per head per day be added, you have a food that will make heifer calves grow on so rapidly as to be well fit for the dairy a year earlier than under the all-grass system, and with steer calves a diet that will ripen them into a much higher price in a given time than where grass only is obtainable with outlying quarters and a little hay. All these many items make up a very strong argument in favour of the mixed farm. One point, too, has not been yet mentioned—namely, that the quality of the milk will be improved by the help of a little green food in the sheds. Mangels are not a very enriching article if given to excess.

THE higher price that is now being realised for milk will no doubt help very much in stirring up producers to better feeding and management of their dairy cattle, and will also probably have the effect of inducing more farmers to commence dairying in its milk-selling form, for though the new milched cow is very dear and the food not by any means cheap yet, an extra twopence per gallon, or nearly so, has a marvellous effect upon the thoughtful farmer. The same cause will also probably have the effect of making dairymen who breed their own cattle turn their attention more to the pail than to the animal itself. A word of caution may be necessary here—namely, "don't forget the cow," appearance goes further in selling any article than does any other point, the appearance of the cow is very important.

THE sale of South Devon cattle in Devonshire attracted a good company, and prices displayed very much activity and brisk demand for those cattle, and though the highest price in the sale was but 67½ guineas, a very low figure compared with the excessively high prices that have been and are being paid for Shorthorns. Yet, it must be remembered, that but a very brief period since the sale of a herd of South Devons would not have attracted anything like the attention given to the sale noticed, which is probably due in a great measure to the good account one or two specimens of the breed have given in the London Dairy Show and at other places during the last two or three years. A good dual purpose class of beast, and with a maximum allowance of points obtained, the South Devon has risen immensely in public favour with the dairy farmer.

THE reading of the reports in the beef markets is not a very satisfactory matter at the present time, and quite as remarkable as it is unsatisfactory. It is remarkable for low prices with a short supply of the article so far as home markets and supplies are concerned, and it is very unsatisfactory because very few of the fat cattle that are being sold at the present time are leaving anything in the way of profit behind them. The whole matter at the present time is hanging upon the enormous foreign supply of live cattle and dead meat. It is little less than appalling to British feeders to read the totals of live stock and dead meat shipped into Birkenhead and other places during the week. The one great point for feeders at home to bear in mind is to keep up the quality and to raise the class of cattle likeliest to be in demand at the season they intend to have their stock ready.

THERE is no wisdom in having very big bullocks of over 100 stones ready just when the weather is likely to be the hottest—that is, during the midsummer months. This class of cattle always command more attention during the cold weather and at Christmas time on account of suet being in demand and fat generally. Whitsuntide, too, though at the beginning of the summer, often proves a good time for selling heavy and well-ripened bullocks. Big joints are often wanted at this time for clubs and parties at village inns, restaurants, and other places. Very small joints are no use upon these occasions, and the little beast is usually more in demand when the greater part of our population are at their own homes and therefore only needing small joints for their respective households.

THE American State Fairs appear to be going with quite their usual amount of success.

(*Continued on page 340*).

MILK RECORDS.

OFFICIAL TESTS under the auspices of the

HIGHLAND & AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of SCOTLAND

These, the most extensive official Milk Record Tests carried out in this country, are doing capital work in showing the best methods of profitable milk production. We have always contended that **A GOOD COW** and **A GOOD CAKE** are necessary for securing the best results, and our opinion, founded on practical experience from many tests made at our experimental farm, is daily receiving ample corroboration from dairy farmers among our numerous customers.

THE GOOD COW & THE GOOD CAKE.

The tests above-mentioned made at the farms, under ordinary conditions, extended over 34 weeks, and 12 herds were entered The first place was secured by our esteemed customer, Mr. A. M. Baird, Garclaugh, New Cumnock, Ayrshire, with the following record:—30 cows averaged 909½ gallons per cow; butter fat 3·94 % (during August 4·32 %). One cow yielded 1,267 gallons, and ten cows averaged over 1,000 gallons.

Our Customer writes:—"I am highly pleased with the result of your Meals and Cakes; in the H. & A.S. Milk Record List we came out at the top of the list, one cow giving 1,267 gallons of milk in 34 weeks, and ten cows over 1,000 gallons of milk in the same period; these were fed on Sircocks' Cake and Meal."

Many of our Customers have won 1st Prizes for Milk Yield and Butter Tests at various shows, including the Royal this year. If you are to secure the best results, you must use the best Cake as well as the best Cow. The combination pays.

SILCOCKS' DAIRY CAKE & MEAL are carefully compounded, well-balanced foods, which will improve the quality and quantity of the milk yield, maintain the condition of the cow, and produce the highest results at the lowest cost. Others have found it profitable to use these foods; we simply ask you to give them a trial, they are sold at a price to meet the economical production of milk.

For further particulars apply to Local Agent, or to—

Messrs. R. SILCOCK & SONS, Stanley Hall, Union St., LIVERPOOL.

The BRITISH OIL & CAKE MILLS, Ltd.

Offices—Cleveland Street, HULL.

Manufacturers of:—

"B.O.C.M." PURE LINSEED CAKE

"B.O.C.M." PURE COTTONSEED CAKE

"B.O.C.M." COMPOUND FEED CAKE

"B.O.C.M." COMPOUND FEEDING MEALS

Pure Linseed and Refined Cottonseed oil.

The brands of the British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd., are a guarantee of the purity and high quality of their different products.

The old brands of the Company, viz.: "E. R.," "Stephens," and "W. H. & W," are still available to any customers who prefer them.

Sold by Cake Merchants and Dealers.

People attend them in large numbers, and attend, it appears from what one sees and hears of them, for the purpose of learning something, and not with the bewildering, meaningless manner that stands out so conspicuously on the countenances of many of our own visitors to shows, who stroll through the place simply as a means of killing time, and without any better object in view. Shows are excellent places for educating all interested in stock breeding, and should be attended at least occasionally by even the greatest expert and the greyest-headed man. We are never too old to learn, and there is always an opportunity to learn something at a cattle show.

Sale of Lord Amherst's Red Polled Cattle, &c.

The celebrated prize-winning herd of Red Polls, belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Amherst, was sold by auction on Tuesday, September 18, Messrs. John Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. There was a large and distinguished company, and the trade for these well-bred East Anglian cattle was better than has been experienced for some time. The older cows sold especially well, prices ranging up to 35 guineas, Lord Cole, Hon. Allwyn Fellowes, Sir W. Corbet, Sir Thomas Gooch, Messrs. Arkle, Hewett, and Micklefield being the principal purchasers.

The younger cows, as well as some of the heifers, also reached good prices, Mr. W. E. Balston, of Potter's Bar, taking seven of the best, among them Didlington Davy 17th, first prize winner at the Bath and West this year, at 85 guineas; Satanita 6th, the second prize cow at Derby, at 65 guineas; and Plume, a three-year-old, at 38 guineas. Other good purchasers were Lord Cranworth, Messrs. Brown and Son, E. G. Pretyman, and Garrett Taylor. The yearling heifers were rather poor, and only realised fair prices. There was a good trade for the bulls, Mr. Balston securing the fine old stock bull, Robin, bred by the Exors. of Mr. P. K. Blafield, at 51 guineas; Sir W. Corbet taking Dax, the first prize yearling bull at Derby, at 28 guineas, as well as Davyson 303rd, the third prize winner at Norfolk this year, for 46 guineas. Good purchases were also made by Lord Radnor and Mr. Micklefield.

The ninety-one cows and heifers averaged £19 4s., the eleven bulls £29 1s. 4d., and the entire herd of 102 head averaged £20 5s. 3d., a total of £2,066.

The Southdown sheep made up to 60s. each for the ewes, and 40s. each for the ewe lambs, Lord Exeter, Messrs. Arkle, E. G. Pretyman, and F. J. Montagu being the chief buyers.

The Large Whites sold up to £5 5s., Mr. Adcock and Mr. Casey being the chief supporters.

Sale of Mr. C. Calder's Aberdeen-Angus.

On Thursday Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co. brought under the hammer at Woodhill Farm, near Thockley, a number of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and also Leicester and Oxford Down lambs, the property of Mr. C. Calder. The weather was not altogether favourable, but the attendance was regarded as satisfactory. After luncheon had been served the sale commenced with the pedigree animals. Seven cows realised £137 0s. 6d., or an average of £19 11s. 6d. each. Three two-year-old heifers were next offered, and brought £57 15s., which represented £19 5s. apiece on the average. The amount yielded by seven one-year-old heifers reached £102 18s., equal to £14 14s. each. The prices obtained for heifer calves worked out at an average of £9 9s., six being sold for £56 14s.

The bull, Perfection of Sands, bred by Mr. Laurence Johnson, of Sands, and which in 1904 carried off second prize at Edinburgh, first at Alnwick, and third at Chester-le-Street, and in 1895 was awarded third at Glasgow, second at South Shields, third at North Berwick, and first and champion gold medal at the Great Yorkshire Show at Hull, was withdrawn at 33 guineas, but was afterwards purchased at 50 guineas, the reserve price, by Mr. Albert Pulling, who represented Mr. Bridges, of Surrey. The remaining lot of pure breds were eight bull calves, which yielded £84, or an average of £10 10s. each. This brought the total for the thirty-two Aberdeen-Angus cattle up to £491 17s. 6d. Of other classes of cattle there were over seventy put up for sale. Heifers made up to £15 10s., and bullocks up to £14 10s. Leicester ram lambs fetched up to £3 15s., and Oxford Down ram lambs up to £4 10s.

Mr. T. H. Bainbridge's Aberdeen-Angus.

Mr. T. H. Bainbridge's well known Eshott Hall Aberdeen-Angus herd having outgrown its accommodation, close on fifty of the animals were on Wednesday disposed by auction at Eshott Hall, Northumberland, in the presence of a large company of buyers, but the prices were not so high as might have been expected, seeing the high class quality of the stock offered. Mr. Bainbridge has spared neither expense or trouble to get the best blood, and that he has done so is proved by his successes at our chief shows. During the five years, 1900 to 1904, Eshott representatives have been present at only six shows—the Royal, the Highland, the Great Yorkshire, and three county shows—and have won ten championships and thirty-three first prizes, the former including five championships at the Royal, Highland, and Great Yorkshire shows.

The animals offered on Wednesday were a choice lot of some of the best blood, and some of the buyers undoubtedly got bargains. The top price was 60 guineas, which sum Mr. Ferguson, Kinnochtry, paid for Electrine, a beautiful cow calved in January, 1902, by Breckan. One of the yearling heifers, Eulalie of Eshott, ran up to 59 guineas, and was then knocked down to Mr. Miller for South America, whilst Erma, a nice-looking cow by Bayard of Addington Park, fell to Mr. Wylie Hill for 55 guineas, but no other animal topped the half-century; the other prices ranging from 12 guineas for a bull calf to 48 guineas for the yearling heifer Melba of Eshott, who was purchased by Mr. Miller. The average per head for the thirty-nine animals sold was £29 9s. 7d., the average of the various sections being as follows:—Eighteen cows £32 4s. 7d., three two-year-old heifers £32 18s., eight yearling heifers £33 5s. 6d., eight heifer calves £19 19s., one bull calf £12 12s., one bull £32 11s.

The Holbeach Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

A choice selection from the registered herd of Lincolnshire Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. J. S. Patchett, of Cherry Farm, Holbeach, was sold by auction at Holbeach on Thursday afternoon in the presence of a large company of breeders. Sixty-five head of cattle were disposed of, and the total realised was 1,122½ guineas, or an average, including calves, of 17 guineas. The top price was 31 guineas, paid by Mr. T. C. Young, of Allord, for Cherry Ruby, the next best being given by Mr. C. Laming, of Holbeach St. John's, who gave 30 guineas for a heifer calf.

The Birtley Aberdeen-Angus.

The Birtley herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, the property of the executors of the late Charles Perkins and Partners, was dispersed by auction on Tuesday at The Springs Farm, Birtley, the auctioneers being Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., Perth. Sixty-two animals were brought under the hammer—namely, twenty-one cows, ten two-year-old heifers, five one-year-old heifers, nine heifer calves, sixteen bull calves, and two stock bulls. Among these were eleven Pride of Aberdeen, three Trojan Ericas, nine Patience of Corskies, and six Islas; also representatives of the following families:—Jilts, Queen Mothers, Rubies, Ruth of Tillyfours, Marthas, Witch of Endors, Nannies, and others. The majority of the cows were in calf to the stock bull, Pundit of Preston, the winner of the championship at the Highland Show in 1904, and many other valuable prizes. The greatest possible care had been taken in the selection of stock bulls for use in this herd, and each had left good stock.

The attendance of buyers at the sale was not very large, but a representative company gathered round the ring. A few of the older cows went at moderate prices, but after that the company warmed up, and, with the exception of a few of the bull calves, the figures obtained were beyond expectation. The top price of the sale was 58 guineas, paid by Mr. Swan, Rockcliff, Darlington, for the big-sized, handsome Pride cow Prejudice of Selaby, which was out of a fine Prince Iliad dam. The prettiest cow in the group, however, was the last one on the list, the prize-winning Irene of Birtley, by Prince of Benton. For her Mr. Beaumont, M.P., went to 50 guineas. In two-year-olds the lead was taken at 43 guineas by Pretoria of Birtley, a beautifully moulded Pride, her buyer being Mr. Bean. A thick-set, justly-proportioned, robust-looking heifer calver made the leading price among the young things, her money to Mr. James Calder of Ardargie being 35 guineas. The champion Pundit was shown in fresh, active form, and although a seven-year old, he should prove cheap at 44 guineas. Mr. Swan was the purchaser. The total amount obtained for the sixty-two lots was £1,371 6s., or an average per head of yearling, £22 2s. 6d.

The Cotterstock Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

On Wednesday Messrs. Dickinson, Regall and Daly brought under the hammer just over eighty animals from the well known herd of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns belonging to Mr. Everett King, at Church Farm, Cotterstock. Being a sale of surplus stock and having been hurried on, besides which the very dry weather had seriously affected the condition of the stock, which were not even in useful store condition, they were by no means got up for sale. There was a steady downpour of rain the whole of the time, and there being but a small attendance, prices ruled low. The pick of the cows, Wainfleet Maud 2nd, went at 37 guineas to Mr. Moore, Nottingham, her calf by Viking going to Mr. Stokes, Warmington, at 15½ guineas. Messrs. Fletcher and Andrews, Uppingham, gave 25½ guineas for an in-calver by Tothby Tom, and Mr. Moore gave 17½ guineas for an in-calving heifer by Scampton Blood Red, and he also gave 30 guineas and 23 guineas for the yearling heifers, Northboro' Lady and Northboro' Ruby. The total sum realised for the eighty-two lots, which included twenty-nine calves, was £956 5s. 9d.

Sale of Mr. W. D. Cruddas's Shorthorns.

The herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. W. D. Cruddas, was disposed of by auction on Thursday, at Haughton Mains, by Messrs. Thornton and Co. With fine weather there was a large number of the principal breeders in the north present. This select herd was commenced in 1879 by the purchase of two cows, Lady Mary and Statira Oxford, at Sir Walter Trevelyan's sale at Wallington, and since he commenced to breed Shorthorns Mr. Cruddas has met with great success, representatives of his collection figuring at most of the shows in the north. The animals were in excellent condition, and the sale was a most satisfactory one.

Some animals belonging to Mr. J. Robson were included in the catalogue, and it was one of these which made the top figure of the sale—namely, 105 guineas, this sum being given by Mr. Teasdale Hutchinson for Flower Girl 41st, by White Heather, a beautiful roan calved in November, 1905. The next best figure was 70 guineas, and this was also paid by Mr. Teasdale Hutchinson, the animal being Haughton Duchess 2nd, sire Rival 2nd, and bred by Mr. Cruddas. Waterloo Cherry, another roan by the sire just mentioned, and calved in February, 1904, fetched 67 guineas from Mr. Cross, Bristol; Mr. F. M. Laing, Corbridge, gave 65 guineas for Rose Madeline 8th, and Waterloo Cherry 7th by Smart Beau fell to the Rev. C. H. Brocklebank, Essex, for 61 guineas. Other cows and heifers made up to 45 guineas, the average working out at £33 10s. 7d. per head. Mr. W. R. Trotter, North Acomb, paid the top price for bulls, namely, 40 guineas for Mr. Robson's Jester by White Heather, whilst the others made from 8 guineas to 30 guineas, with an average per head of £21 15s. 9d. Altogether thirty-seven females and six bulls were sold, and the average price for the lot was £31 17s. 10d. each.

PIGS.

Sale at Walton Hall.

On Thursday a choice draft of Large and Middle White pigs belonging to Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., was brought under the hammer at Walton Hall, Warrington, by Mr. W. Bainbridge, and with a large attendance of breeders good prices were made, the animals, it goes without saying, being of the high quality for which the Walton Hall herd is noted. The lots numbered one short of fifty, and realised the satisfactory average of £6 1s. 4d. per head. Mr. A. White gave 16 guineas for a Large White sow by Peterboro' Sam 2nd; Sir R. Brooke secured Walton Lady Alice 13th at 15 guineas; whilst the other chief prices for Large Whites were 13 guineas (thrice), 12½ guineas, 12 guineas, and 11½ guineas. Middle Whites made up to 12½ guineas, at which sum Walton Rose 13th was knocked down to Mr. Paget; whilst at 1½ guineas less Lord Delamere bought a gilt by Walton Dainty, and Mr. Ayne got Walton Round Hill. Weavers sold up to 3 guineas each.

Some Kerry cattle from Lady Greenall's herd were also offered, and met with a good demand at prices up to 14 guineas.

Nantwich Cheese Fair. Pitch about 60 tons. Prices, finest, 65s. to 70s.; medium, 60s. to 63s.; lower grades, down to 55s.

Masham Fair. At this important north country fair held last week the supply of stock was not so large as usual. A fair demand was experienced for dairy cows, which fetched from £18 to £21 10s. per head; secondary cows from £15 to £17 10s.; while calving heifers were quoted from £11 to £14 10s. per head. The demand for grazing stock of all kinds was a very great one, and business was slow. Yearling bullocks and heifers were quoted from £6 10s. to £7 10s. per head; two year-olds from £8 to £9 10s.; while three-year-olds, forward in condition, sold from £11 10s. to £13 10s. per head. Half-bred Masham lambs sold slowly at from 24s. to 30s. per head; twice-crossed sheep 33s. to 40s.; and half-bred gimmers and ewes from 36s. to 56s apiece. Pure-bred Wensleydale shearling rams were again quoted from £5 to £12, and pure-bred gimmers up to 70s. per head.

NOTE ITS EASY ACTION

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28th ANNUAL

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Malting and Seed Barley Competition (ENTRIES CLOSE OCTOBER 3rd.)

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AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 26.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Lilford's SHORTHORNS at Lilford, Oundle.

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 28.—Sale of SHORTHORNS at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.—The late Sir Wilfrid Lawson's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Brayton, Carlisle.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3.—Mr. John Graves's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Hesket Hall, Wigton, Cumberland.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. H. Shore's JERSEYS, at Whatley House, Frome, Somerset.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. R. W. Hobbs's SHORTHORNS, at Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.—Mr. E. St. John Phillips' Herd of JERSEYS, at Magdalene Laver, Ongar, Essex.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's JERSEYS, at Tring Park.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Sale of about 100 SHORTHORNS at York.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—About 60 JERSEYS at Bletchley.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Sir A Henderson's BERKSHIRE PIGS at Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26. Mr Arthur Hiscock's BERKSHIRE and White YORKSHIRE PIGS at Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEPBREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

TENTH ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE of REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS, under the management of the above Association, will be held on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1906, in the CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT.

N.B.—Please note! Judging commences at 9 a.m., and the Auction at 11 a.m. sharp.

The entries, which number 592 Rams, have been made by the breeders whose names are given below:—The Right Hon. Lord Harris (15), Messrs. P. H. G. Powell Cotton (10), Captain Somerset Webb (5), Messrs. A. Amos (35), J. P. Barnes (12), G. Buley (20), F. de B. Collard (20), G. Farmer (20), C. File (40), J File (10), T. File (8), Arthur Finn (10), L. H. and G. W. Finn (10), G. M. Goodson (14), E. Hambrook (10), S. Kingsnorth (20), J. D. Maxted (10), W. Millen (40), F. Neame (50), J. B. Palmer (10), H Rigden (65), G. C. Swindells (28), J. E. Quested (23), H. Walters (6), T. Wottou (13).

N.B.—The judging will commence at 9 a.m., and the Auction Sale at 11 a.m. sharp on Friday, September 28th, 1906.

Refreshments will be obtained on the Sale ground as usual

Catalogues and full information in respect to the Show and Sale, as well as the Breed as a whole, to be obtained from the Secretary, W. W. CHAPMAN, Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams and Cables: Sheepcote, London.

TO GRAZIERS and PEDIGREE STOCK BREEDERS.—Valuable Estate of 975 acres known as Preston Deanery on the main L. & N. W. Rly., within 4 miles of Northampton (75 minutes of London and 60 minutes of Birmingham) FOR SALE.

The land is entirely pipe drained, and includes about 650 acres of grass, much of it the finest in the Midlands more than fattening a bullock, to the acre while the arable is rich, producing heavy crops. There is a small family residence and three very superior farm houses and sets of buildings, those on the home farm being admirably adapted for stock rearing; the whole in splendid order.

This property will be offered by Auction on October 22. If desired two-thirds of the purchase-money can remain on mortgage at a low rate of interest. For particulars apply to the Auctioneers, NICHOLAS DENYER & Co., 43, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

AUCTION SALES.

BALMER FARM, FALMER, SUSSEX,

About ¾ mile from Falmer Station, on the L.B. & S.C. Rly., and equidistant 4 miles from Lewes and Brighton.

MESSRS. W. F. INGRAM & SON having let the Farm, have received instructions from the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Chichester to SELL by AUCTION at the FORGE BARN, FALMER, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906, at 1.0 p.m precisely:

THE OLD ESTABLISHED FLOCK OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP (No 283 in Flock Book), including 117 full-mouth, 140 six-tooth, 126 four-tooth, 115 two-tooth EWES, 120 STOCK EWE LAMBS, 3 RAMS, and 2 RAM LAMBS, together with the Hurdles and other accessories. COWS, 2 years old, and 12 months-old STEERS and HEIFERS, CALVES, SHORTHORN BULL (17 months), and about 100 head of POULTRY.

THE AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and MACHINERY, and 17 capital CART-HORSES, and about 48 head of STORE STOCK will be SOLD on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1906. Sale to commence at 11 a.m. precisely.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, at 2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes.

KENT.

STROOD ANNUAL STOCK SALE.

MESSRS. COBB will SELL by AUCTION in the Fair Meadow, Frindsbury, near Rochester, within a few minutes' walk of the Strood Stations on the S E. and C Railway, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1906, at eleven o'clock precisely,

105

PURE BRED KENT RAMS, RAM TEGS and RAM LAMBS, from the well-known registered flocks of Messrs. F. Baker, E. J. G. Hulkes, and J. Robinson.

3 KENT RAMS, the property of Mr. J. W. Dickens.

10 HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS, the property of Messrs. R. H. and G. French, and about 2,750

KENT AND HALF-BRED SHEEP AND LAMBS, viz.:—

780 Kent Ewe Tegs,
186 Kent Wether Tegs,
228 Kent 1, 2 and 3-Lamb Ewes,
363 Kent Turnmarked Ewes,
35 Barrens,
145 Half-Bred Tegs,
1,011 Kent and Half Bred Lambs.

The property of Messrs. W. Stunt, C. Lake, J. Pye, W. Miskin, G H. Brooke, C. and L McLean, H. M. Cobb, G. Castle, J. Edmonds, Formby and Co, Ltd, J. Mugeridge, Moore and Miskin, G Smith, T Lingham, J. W. Dickens, J. Loft, M. Mugeridge, G S. Miles, F. Mackelden, Mrs. de Michele, Sir C. Howard, C.B., and Exor. of the late Mr. A. Smith.

Included in the Sale will be the whole of the choice registered flock of Kent sheep belonging to C. J. G. Hulkes, Esq.

Luncheon will be provided.

Arrangements will be made for a supply of trucks at Strood Station.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Bull Hotels, Rochester and Sittingbourne; Angel and Gardener's Inns, Strood; Fountain Hotel, Canterbury; Star Hotel, Maidstone; Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford; Ship Hotel, Faversham; and of Messrs. Cobb, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester, Kent.

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MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these Important Weekly Sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the Sale Ring if desired.

Full particulars to be sent to—
IRELAND'S, Auctioneers
Norwich, Norfolk.

SOCIETIES.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT. At GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 25, 1906.
Entries closed September 11.
R. J. KISBY, Secretary.
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

FROME SHOW.—This GREAT SHOW will be held on WEDNESDAY NEXT,
SEPTEMBER 26, 1906.
Excursion trains from all parts.
Poultry Show same and following days.
T. C HARDING,
Secretary.
Frome.

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Next Session begins TUESDAY, OCT. 9.

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ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION.
THE Inaugural Address will be delivered on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, at 2 30 o'clock, by JOHN MALCOLM, F.R.C.V.S, F.H.A S, Birmingham.
Sir WM. TURNER, K C B, LL.D., &c, in the Chair.
All Friends of the Institution invited.

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SHEEP Hurdles, 2s. 9d.; Cattle Hurdles, 3s.; Fencing of all descriptions at lowest prices; estimates free; Galvanised Barb Wire, 12s. 9d.; Fencing Wire, 8s 3d. per cwt.—DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

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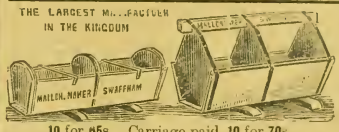

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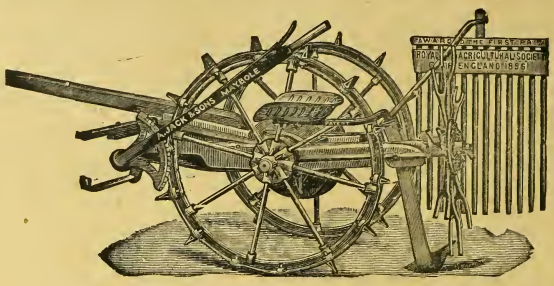

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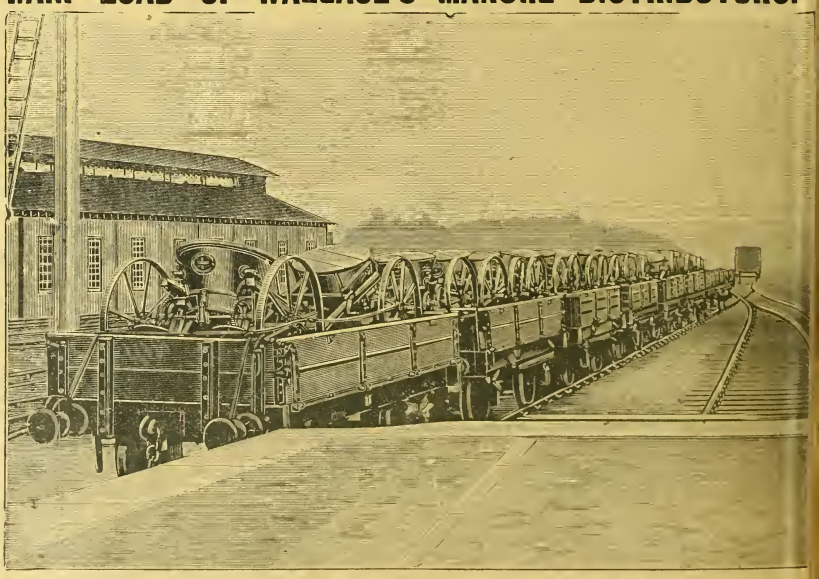

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LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Michaelmas. HOW quickly the seasons roll away. Looking backwards, it hardly seems a year since last Michaelmas, but sure enough it is, and at the moment of writing September is again making its exit. Customs vary, according to the character of the agriculture in different districts, as to the time of taking and giving up farms. In some parts Michaelmas is the time for making changes, and auctioneers find themselves busy in disposing of the stock-in-trade of those who are giving up farming. It is good to be giving up, and enjoying the rest of one's life in quiet retirement, if the farming has paid, and one has ample to retire on; but how different in the case of those who are giving up to save something worse, and because they can farm no longer. It may be the fault of the farmer, or it may be his misfortune, but in either case we can afford to sympathise with a man who, perhaps in the autumn of his years, finds himself obliged to leave a place that he has known as home for a long time, break off his business connections, and begin another life in some humble sphere. Yet there are such cases, and we meet with them at this Michaelmas time.

Giving Notice. IN some districts Michaelmas is the season when notices are given and taken with a view to the making of changes next Lady Day. "I shall give you notice." What an every day expression this is in agricultural circles, but how carefully the threat wants weighing up before it is put into effect. There are times, of course, when there should be no hesitation about it, and we have known men who have threatened to give notice time after time, but they could not bring themselves to do it, and have kept on, hoping that things would improve, until at last no other course remained open to them and the inevitable happened, with the result that needs no explanation. Sometimes, however, it is better to bear the ills we have, than to seek and suffer those we know not of, and it is unwise to give notice in moments of pique or with the object of effecting a certain purpose. We have a case before us now of a farmer who gave notice to his landlord, never thinking for a moment that the latter would accept it, but he did, and the man has had reason since to regret his hasty action. There are many exceptions to the old adage that a rolling stone gathers no moss, because changes are good at times, but we have never known anyone to make much money who is always flitting from farm to farm and in a perpetual state of notice-giving.

Contracts. ONE can learn a good deal about the conditions of the country even from the windows of a railway carriage, and one day last week we observed changes and contrasts in the course of a long ride from the West of England to the North Midlands. All through the west—Somerset, Gloucester, and Worcester—the same conditions prevailed. Acres and acres of stubble pointed to the early completion of harvest, but on the grazing lands a patch of green was a rare exception. Nothing but brown, brown, brown, with never a green blade of grass, and scarcely a morsel of food for the cattle, which wandered aimlessly about the fields. On the arable lands the cabbages presented that blue green appearance which indicates want of moisture, and yellow leaves hung limp and withered from the half-developed mangels. In time the train bore us away from this through smoky Birmingham and the black country on to North Staffordshire and Derbyshire, where arable fields are the exception, and the rich milk-producing pastures are watered by the Trent and the Dove. In these parts farmers are grumbling about the dry weather, but in comparison they have little cause to, for we could not help remarking on the comparative greenness of the grass and the quantity of keep towards what we had seen fifty miles away. In the first place the North Midland farmer has had more rain than his neighbour further south, and secondly, his pastures are cool and possess moisture-holding capacities, which have stood him in good stead during this exceptionally dry season.

Milk Contracts. WE chatted the other day with a farmer who was anxiously wishing that September 29 would come, and we could quite understand it when he informed us that he made a contract last March to supply his milk at a fraction over 5d. per gallon, and for some weeks now he had the doubtful satisfaction of knowing that the dealer was re-selling it at considerably over 1s. per gallon. The man wasn't grumbling; he had made his contract, and was prepared to stand by it, but he would hardly have been human if he had not wished for the time to run out so that he could make another bargain and get some of the pickings out of the high price of milk. He argued that things might have been the other way about, which is quite true, but this season he has not done so well as some of his neighbours, who are members of a dairy association, and all along have been getting the advantage of the unlooked-for rise in milk. Some unsuspecting householders are hugging themselves, that with the advent of the autumn and the prospects of more rain, the milk trade will fall back to its normal condition, but prices are up now, Michaelmas contracts are being signed for the next six months, and farmers who have had to be satisfied with the dealers getting the plunder up to now will naturally be making a bid for a share of it. Some time ago there was a talk of a revival in the cheese trade, but the milk famine has knocked all that on the head, and English cheese is a commodity quite outside the reach of the man in the street.

Michaelmas Fairs. "MEN may come and men may go, but fairs go on for ever," and though some of their glory has departed, still, goose fairs, onion fairs, mops, and fairs which bear no specific name, are household words and institutions amongst us. Looking at the matter of Michaelmas fairs from a business point of view, the outlook is not very promising. There are farmers anxious to sell stock because they have no keep, and they are equally reluctant and afraid to buy store cattle for the simple reason that they have nothing to feed them on. With a host of would-be sellers and very few buyers, it is not surprising that autumn fair business is inclined to be slack and uncertain this season. Of course, since periodical markets and stock sales have become so general throughout the country, the importance of fairs from a business point of view, has to some extent declined, but the pleasure side seems to lose little of its vigour, though we may note many changes. It is the travelling showman who keeps up the fun of the fair, but he is a different fellow to his forefather who catered for our grandparents. It is true that he lives in a van, for no self-respecting showman would live anywhere else, but he is a man of capital, and moves his paraphernalia about by means of a highly decorated traction engine. Instead of the old merry-go-round worked by a skinny pony he brings motor cars into the fair ground propelled by steam and lit up by electricity. Indeed, the showman of the present time is a thoroughly up-to-date individual, and one wonders with the amount of capital he has in his business how he makes it pay. But apparently he does, and by keeping well abreast of the times in the provision of amusement for the country lad and his sweetheart, we may leave it to him to see that the Michaelmas pleasure fair does not become a thing of the past.

Maize as a Forage Crop. WE venture to bear out what a correspondent in our last issue wrote about the value of maize as a forage crop, particularly in a dry season like this. Quite recently we saw a piece of maize, perhaps not quite so good as that depicted in the photograph given last week, as its culture was largely experimental, but the grower has every reason to be thankful that he tried it. We had opportunities of testifying for ourselves how the milking cows appreciated it, for they never left a particle of leaf or stalk, and there could be no question as to their enjoying it. We hardly know how maize would compare with cabbage as food for the production of milk, but

generally speaking cabbage is not good this year, while in many cases it is a failure through the drought, and those who have grown maize find in it an excellent food substitute. The crop is very accommodating in the way of growth, but as our correspondent remarks, rooks play havoc with it, and we have observed that it must be protected in a seed stage from other birds as well. On the whole, however, we look upon maize as being a highly useful green forage crop.

Harvest Home.

ONE day last week we stood in a big old-fashioned barn, having huge rough beams, thick walls, and a pair of large double doors. But the barn in question was not as it is on ordinary occasions, for some attempts had been made at decoration with tinted foliage, red berries, flowers, and festoons of the fluffy wild clematis or old man's beard. Down the centre of the barn ran a long table, and round it sat a number of men and women—perhaps fifty of them—with bronzed, contented looking faces, and appetites in accordance with their healthy appearance. The occasion was harvest-home, and two neighbouring farmers had joined hands in the provision of the feast. It was a pleasure to see the men eat and quaff the nut-brown ale and cider; and when the tables were cleared they leaned back and sent up clouds of tobacco smoke that were qualified to make the black beams of the old barn blacker still. There was music, too, and the waggoners, shepherds, and harvestmen rolled out old country songs, and everyone joined in the choruses with such vigour that the ancient barn rang again. But the supreme moment came when the table was removed and the village fiddler struck up with a well-known polka. At first there were few dancers, and everyone seemed shy, but as they got into the swing of it, one couple and then another got up, and before the fiddler was tired and stopped old men were on their legs and stout, buxom women seizing each other round the waist danced till want of breath would let them dance no more. They were a jolly party, and we venture to think that no single member will quickly forget the harvest home

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Felicitations to Lord Carrington.

I pray that the Earl Carrington will permit me to add my felicitations upon the distinctive honour bestowed upon him by his Majesty. With this the agricultural interest will, I am persuaded, heartily associate itself. No more receptive and sympathetic man than the new Knight of the Garter has presided over the Board of Agriculture. I have heard Lord Carrington described as "a great seigneur and a great democrat." However tense his democratic sympathies may be, they have never a turgid or blatant expression. Tenacity of sentiment is, with his lordship, associated with a bearing singularly courtly and conciliatory. On the other hand, his courtliness never persuades him to a concealment of his view or a subordination of his faith. It is something that we have in a Radical Minister—a man whose personal predilections are as distinctly rural and who has so deep a personal friendliness towards all associated with the land. Some may not appreciate the views he embodied in the remarkable report of the Welsh Land Commission; some may mistakenly believe that his smallholdings' enthusiasm means the inevitable effacement of the farmer; but all who are brought into contact with his lordship must have comprehended that his views are the offspring of a fervid anxiety to redeem the country side, to revive agriculture as an industry and an interest, and to rescue the villages from menacing desuetude. Earl Carrington's optimistic faith in his own purpose is admirably fragrant in these days of pessimists who sedulously refuse to see that the forbidding cloud may have a silver lining. Again, felicitations, my lord, upon the great honour which the King has done his old friend.

Will the Socialists Capture It?

Now, a word of warning to Mr. Winfrey, M.P., and Mr. George Nicholls, M.P. Whether the revival of the trades union sentiment among the rural labourers—and this, of course, is the object of their new agricultural organisation—is desirable or undesirable need not for the moment be argued. The point of view will naturally depend upon political sympathies. My warning is suggested by my knowledge of the methods of the Socialist leaders who now boss trades unionism and trades unionist societies. These leaders are adepts in the art of the cuckoo. Already they have bidden the men who have grown grey in the service of town labour, the men whose breasts bear the scars of many a fight, betake themselves off unless they will toe the Socialist line and lisp pæans to the honour of Mr. Keir-Hardie. Men like Thomas Burt, Henry Broadhurst, Charles Fenwick, W. Randall Cremer, and John Wilson—men who have secured the esteem of every section of the House of Commons by their honourble life and tempered manner—are told that they are obsolete, out of date, and excrescences, and that they must relinquish, willy-nilly, the distinction their labours have won They must say that Keir Hardie is the only possible Mentor, and the Countess of Warwick as the only seraph, and do the behests of one or the other with unfailing fidelity and unquestioning readiness. They must must swear by the Petes, the Bens, and the Harrys who have flung themselves at the head of the labour army or for ever be put down. Well, then, Messieurs Nicholls and Winfrey, how long, if you succeed in your purpose, ere these men will seek to wrest this instrument from you, and order you yourselves out for political decapitation?

An Example from the Towns.

This is the danger—that this organisation may mean the advent of the Socialistic propagandists and tub-thumpers. You will say that such an irruption on the villages would work its own doom, that these fellows are out of harmony with the rural atmosphere. Well, so it was said when these men first made their appearance in organised urban labour; and now they have captured the camp to the very last ducat. They not only demand the tune, but they demand that every man shall dance to it or never dance more. Of course, they themselves a few years ago sought to tickle the ears of the rural groundlings by their fantastic phraseology and picturesque shibboleths, by unctuously mouthing the catch-words "proletariat," "solidarity," and the like; but when they found they fell on barren human soil they incontinently renounced the task. However, their very defeat will only be as an encouragement to them to oust the Nicholls and the Winfreys. They would, indeed, declare that a rural trades union organised on moderate lines and which did not eternally excoriate the landlord and declare the farmer to be an usurper is an anomaly, and forthwith would reach out an avaricious hand for the spoils of the campaign in which they had had neither part nor lot. It may be argued that the rural labourers would no more want them in that day than they wanted them in the day of the previous agitation. Well, this would not rebuke them a bit; their avarice would only take a deepened hue.

Will the Rural Atmosphere Suit Them

After all, however, the onlooker may derive some consolation from this prospect. This would the quicker bring the whole business to ruin. The Socialists themselves, too, would after awhile tire of the rural atmosphere. You see there is no limelight in the village, no publicity, no tickling of vanity; and if these gentlemen have not their vanity tickled they will allow "poor down-trodden humanity" to go on being poor and down-trodden, and they will refuse to recite a single quotation from Shelley, or seek to provoke the stones to vengeful mutiny. Now, Messieurs Winfrey and Nicholls, beware of the men who will pay no more heed to your work beyond thanking you for having given them an opportunity of ousting you.

Whom does Mr. Winfrey Represent?

However, there is one point upon which I think we have some right to ask for information. Whom does Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P., represent in this matter? Let it not be forgotten that he is both the private secretary and the confidant of Lord Carrington — nay, that he is his lordship's selected instrument in connection with the Minister's small-holdings enthusiasm. How far, then, in this matter does he represent the Earl? Is it to be understood that he has a dual personality—that, as private secretary to Earl Carrington in his capacity of Minister for Agriculture, he may be supposed to represent the Board of Agriculture; but that, in his other capacity as propagandist, he represents only himself? For my part, I do not see how he can in either capacity divest himself of the influence of the other capacity. To what extent will the labourers to whom he appeals remember that he is Lord Carrington's political and Parliamentary ally, and attach to his appeal and action the inspiration of his lordship? I repeat that I think we have a right to an answer to these questions.

Will the Earl Consent to this Amendment?

Earl Carrington's declaration that the Land Tenure Bill is more particularly designed with a a view to dealing, not with the generality of estates, but with estates which have fallen into Chancery or are owned by a lunatic, or are in the hands of mortgagees, is to have a sequel which, I ween his lordship never anticipated. This sequel will be an amendment in the House of Lords limiting the application of the measure to estates of this character. Of course, it is easy to anticipate the reply to such a proposal—namely, that this would simply give a new lease of life to the ungenerous landlord, who is not insane or in the hands of moneylenders, or to the landlord who is, unfortunately, often compelled to be exacting and unsympathetic by reason of family charges on his estate. All the same, the proposal is not without a certain specious guile and astuteness. As a fact, the Bill is to be met by guile and astuteness rather than by blunt, remorseless antagonism. I believe that Lord Lansdowne himself now rejects the idea of an intention on his part to have the Bill thrown out without consideration.

Why this Delay?

Surely, the delay in appointing to the vacant Railway Commissionership is unconscionable? Why does Mr. Lloyd George hesitate? Is it that he fears that the man acceptable to the traders would not be acceptable to the agricultural interest? He has among the candidates a man who should be acceptable to both, and who, as a Secretary to the Local Government Board, revealed a most practical mind and a most admirable sagacity.

The death is announced of Mr. H. Denis de Vitre, Charlton House, Wantage, one of the oldest Shorthorn breeders of the present day, he having kept a herd throughout the forty-four years during which he had lived at Wantage. He was always an enthusiastic supporter of the Barmpton Roses, Blanches, and Madelines, which made Townley famous. During all the years that he was breeding cattle Mr. de Vitre kept in close touch with Shorthorn doings, and his knowledge of the history of the breed was quite remarkable.

For the convenience of exhibitors at the Dairy Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on the 9th to 12th inst., the London and North Western Railway Company have made arrangements for through vans for the conveyance of exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 8, from several stations on their line, and also for the return of the traffic in through vans at the close of the show. All information can be obtained of Mr. Robert Turnbull, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London.

An Estate Sale.—That portion of the Toddington Manor Estate belonging to Mrs. Warren Vernon, and comprising some 1,624 acres on the south-east side of the road leading from Toddington to Harlington Station, and beyond, on which there are nine valuable farms, with eight houses and nine farmsteads, was brought under the hammer at Bedford on September 21st. A bid of £20,000 for the lot was offered at first, but this being below the reserve the estate was then offered in various lots. The reserve was again in many cases not reached, but we are informed that several offers were received immediately after the sale, and there is every reason to believe that a number of the lots will change hands very shortly. The sales effected by auction consisted of two lots—viz., the Common Farm, 112a. 1r. 34p., with farmhouse, buildings, two cottages, &c., let to Mr. George Ward at £95, knocked down to Mr. Baisley on behalf of the tenant at £2,500, and a small lot of 2r. 26p. of garden land in Harlington parish, abutting on the road to Sharpenhoe, rent £1 10s. Three bids brought it to £50, at which it was sold to Mr. C. Smith.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

CAKES and other FEEDING STUFFS.

THE extensive use of concentrated feeding cakes and meals forms at the present time a regular part of economic farming.

These materials supplement the fodder crops grown on the farm, enable farmers to keep more stock, and indirectly to raise larger crops by increasing the bulk and quality of the supply of farmyard manure.

During the coming winter, in consequence of the poor crop of hay, artificial feeding stuffs will be much more in demand than usual; their judicious use will prove an absolute necessity as well as a great advantage to many farmers.

Concentrated foods rich in albuminoids and oil supply just the constituents which are deficient in the ordinary bulky farm crops. By their use the farmer gains the important advantage of being in a position to bring his stock to maturity more quickly. As has been remarked by a well-known expert, "if two animals are put up to fatten side by side, one on low diet and one on high, so that one fattens in three months and the other in four, the former will have lived a month longer, and will have consumed during the time a large proportion of food for mere maintenance, which portion is wasted."

THE VALUATION OF FEEDING STUFFS.

(Written expressly for this paper by an eminent authority.)

Farmers often appear to be at a loss as to how to determine which of two cakes or meals of different composition and price is the better; yet this is not difficult to determine.

The nutritive constituents in a feeding stuff are of three kinds—(1) the carbohydrates, such as starch, sugar, and digestible cellulose; (2) the oil or fat, and (3) the albuminoids or nitrogenous constituents. If each of these had the same money value, then by adding the percentages together and dividing the price per ton by this figure we should obtain the value of 1 per cent. of each constituent. This would be termed the "unit" value. The problem, however, of finding the unit value is slightly more difficult, because the three nutrient constituents are not equal either in feeding properties or price.

Opinions differ as to what is the relative value of these three constituents. Taking 1 per cent. of carbohydrates as unity, the value of 1 per cent. of oil or fat is from 2 to 2½ times as great. The albuminoids have a special value, because they contain and furnish nitrogen to the animal body, which neither fat nor carbohydrates can supply. Moreover, the albuminoids can replace fat and carbohydrates when these constituents are deficient. Hence all authorities agree in placing the value of the unit of albuminoids as high as that of the unit of fat—*i.e.*, 2½ times as high as the unit of carbohydrates, while some place it still higher—namely, at 3 times the value of a unit of carbohydrates.

We thus have two standards in which the relative merits of the three constituents are placed, as follows:—

		A Continental Standard.	B English Standard.
1 per cent. carbohydrates	=	1 unit	1 unit
1 per cent. oil or fat	=	2 ,,	2½ ,,
1 per cent. albuminoids	=	3 ,,	2½ ,,

Probably the relative unit values depend mainly on the purpose for which the food is required.

Let us consider some concrete examples. Two compound cakes recently analysed gave the following results:—

Cake I. cost £7 5s. per ton.

Analysis.			Feeding unit, Standard A.
Carbohydrates	43·4 × 1	=	43·4
Oil.....	9·2 × 2	=	18·4
Albuminoids	18·8 × 3	=	56·4
Total feeding units.....			118·2

divided by cost, £7 5s., makes unit cost 1s. 2d.

If we assume that these cakes were bought for fattening purposes, it will be well to compare them by Standard B. The results, then, are as follows:—

Cake I. cost £7 5s. per ton.

Analysis.			Feeding units, Standard B.
Carbohydrates	43·4 × 1	=	43·4
Oil	9·2 × 2½	=	23·
Albuminoids	18·8 × 2½	=	47·
Total feeding units.....			113·4

divided by £7 5s. makes unit cost 1s. 3d.

Cake II. cost £7 7s. 6d. per ton.

Analysis.			Feeding units, Standard B.
Carbohydrates	44·6 × 1	=	44·6
Oil	5·8 × 2½	=	14·5
Albuminoids	16·4 × 2½	=	41·
Total feeding units			100·1

divided by £7 7s. 6d. makes unit cost 1s. 5½d.

Thus the buyer paid over 20s. per ton too much for it.

Cake II. cost £7 7s. 6d. per ton.

Analysis.			Feeding units, Standard A.
Carbohydrates	44·6 × 1	=	44·6
Oil.....	5·8 × 2	=	11·6
Albuminoids	16·4 × 3	=	49·2
Total feeding units			105·4

divided by cost, £7 7s. 6d., makes unit cost 1s. 5d.

It will be seen that the purchaser of cake II. was paying a very high unit price for his cake.

At the present market prices 1s. 2d. is about a fair unit price; now had cake II. been sold at this unit value its price would have been 105·4 units at 1s. 2d. per unit = £6 2s. 11d. per ton. Thus the purchaser was charged £1 4s. 7d. per ton more than the cake was worth.

Dozens of similar cases come before agricultural analysts every year.

This system of comparing the merits of feeding stuffs by nutritive units is absolutely accurate where the two substances to be compared are similar, such as two linseed cakes or two cotton cakes, but it is not so applicable to a comparison of different feeding stuffs, such as a linseed cake with a cotton cake.

It must also be assumed that the substances are free from impurities, as these would materially reduce the value of any feeding stuff.

Compound Cakes and Meals.

The great demand for this class of goods must be assumed to be evidence that they are found advantageous in farming practice, and that good results are obtained from their use, otherwise their consumption would have gradually diminished instead of increasing year after year.

If we consider the subject impartially, this development is what might be expected; many of the manufacturers have acquired great knowledge of the requirements of animal feeding from long experience combined with special study. Some of them have undertaken expensive experiments with the object of ascertaining the results to be obtained from different mixtures of food constituents, and their factories are equipped with the best machinery for cleaning and properly compounding the materials. As the Board of Agriculture says on this subject in their Leaflet No. 74, "the sweet taste and pleasant aroma which accompany compound feeding cakes, and the high degree of relish with which they are consumed by cattle, largely account for their popularity among farmers. Many experienced feeders use large quantities of such cakes with the best results, but they should be bought with more caution than is necessary in the case of pure cakes."

This caution is rendered desirable by the well-known fact that there are some makers who do not scruple to incorporate in their cakes inferior materials, and to make an unfair profit by selling their inferior goods at prices above their real value.

Therefore, while farmers can use with economy and advantage the better brands of compound cakes, calf meals, milk substitutes, &c., they must be careful to deal only with reliable people, and should check the price by the table of unit values which we regularly publish for their guidance.

Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906.

The Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, which comes into force on January 1, 1907, introduces the new obligation on the part of the seller that in the case of any article artificially prepared he must state the respective percentage (if any) of oil and albuminoids contained in the article; this will enable the buyer to calculate the relative value of parcels of the same kind of cake or other cattle food offered to him, an important point in view of the fact that the qualities differ widely, as shown in the analyses of linseed cake published in another paragraph. The exact wording of the clauses in the Act on this subject is as follows:—

Every person who sells for use as food for cattle or poultry any article which has been artificially prepared shall give to the purchaser an invoice stating the name of the article, and whether it has been prepared from one substance or seed or from more than one substance or seed, and in the case of any article artificially prepared otherwise than by being mixed, broken, ground or chopped, what are the respective percentages (if any) of oil and albuminoids contained in the article, and the invoice shall have effect as a warranty by the seller as to the facts so stated, except that as respects percentages the invoice shall have effect as a warranty only that the actual percentages do not differ from those stated in the invoice beyond the prescribed limits of error.

Where any article sold for use as food for cattle or poultry is sold under a name or description implying that it is prepared from any particular substance or from any two or more particular substances, or is the product of any particular seed or of any two or more particular seeds, and without indication that it is mixed or compounded with any other substance or seed, there shall be implied a warranty by the seller that it is pure—that is to say, is prepared from that substance or those substances only, or is a product of that seed or those seeds only.

On the sale of any article for use as food for cattle or poultry there shall be implied a warranty by the seller that the article is suitable to be used as such.

Any statement by the seller of the percentages of the chemical and other ingredients contained in any article sold for use as a fertiliser of the soil, or of the nutritive and other ingredients contained in any article sold for use as food for cattle or poultry, made after the commencement of this Act in an invoice of such article, or in any circular or advertisement descriptive of such article, shall have effect as a warranty by the seller.

Where an article sold for use as a fertiliser of the soil or as food for cattle or poultry consists of two or more ingredients which have been mixed at the request of the purchaser, it shall be a sufficient compliance with the provisions of this section with respect to percentages if the invoice contains a statement of percentages with respect to the several ingredients before mixture, and a statement that they have been mixed at the request of the purchaser.

The Principal Purchased Foods.

Linseed cake is prepared from flax seed after part of the oil has been extracted. It is with justice the most popular of all cakes, being suitable for all kinds and classes of stock. It should always be bought as pure linseed cake, and the buyer should see that the word "pure" is stated on the invoice. The quality even of pure linseed cakes is subject to considerable variation, and therefore the percentage of albuminoids, oil, and carbohydrates should be guaranteed; and if the buyer has several offers he might ascertain their relative commercial value by calculating the respective cost of the feeding units in them. Here are three analyses of pure linseed cakes, showing that the range of quality is wide:—

	A	B	C
Moisture	11·32	12·41	9·17
Oil	14·36	10·95	7·20
Albuminoids	27·42	28·50	34·08
Carbohydrates	32·59	34·13	36·37
Fibre	8·10	8·50	7·58
Mineral matter ..	6·21	6·41	5·60
Total feeding units	137	130½	139

Decorticated Cotton Cake is a cheap and useful food of a very rich character. It contains about:

9 to 10 per cent. of oil,
42 to 45 per cent. of albuminoids,
20 to 25 per cent. of carbohydrates,

and when purchasing, a guarantee of analysis should be obtained as well as a guarantee of purity. It should be fed in combination with a food rich in carbohydrates.

Undecorticated Cotton Cake should contain about:

5 to 6 per cent. of oil,
23 to 24 per cent. of albuminoids,
30 to 35 per cent. of carbohydrates,

and should be bought and used with care. Together with the usual guarantee of purity and valuable constituents, the buyer should have a guarantee of maximum fibre, which should not exceed 20 per cent. It has astringent properties, and is therefore useful in preventing scour in stock fed on young spring grass.

Cotton Seed Meal is a highly nitrogenous feed,

manufactured from the decorticated seed. In America it has been extensively fed to cows for the past twenty years, and is considered as a most economical source of albuminoids. Experience shows that when fresh and in good condition it can be safely fed, in combination with less concentrated food, to all kinds of stock. A cow should not receive more than 2 to 4 lb. a day, with bran or other farinaceous food. It varies much in quality, so buyers should be careful when getting a parcel. Here are four analyses, illustrating the different qualities :—

	Albuminoids.	Oil.	Carbohydrates.
A	39·0	9·78	20·8
B	35·0	8·4	13·9
C	28·5	7·8	16·8
D	17·3	5·6	16·5

Rape cake is highly nutritious, but it is necessary to exercise great care when using it for feeding purposes, on account of the frequent presence of mustard seed with it. When good it can be advantageously employed. It contains about :

7·7 per cent. oil,
30 per cent. albuminoids,
18 per cent. carbohydrates.

Dried Brewers' Grains possess a relatively high feeding value ; they are nourishing and digestible, and are eaten readily by cattle and sheep. In Leaflet 74 of the Board of Agriculture it is stated that "a very exhaustive series of practical feeding experiments both with cattle and sheep have been conducted in this country with dried grains, and almost without exception they have proved more economical than any other concentrated food." According to Mr. Sibson's analysis dried, grains should contain about :

5 to 6 per cent. of oil,
18 to 19 per cent. albuminoids,
45 to 50 per cent. carbohydrates.

Cereals.—Oats, barley, rye, maize, &c., are well known. They are classed as carbohydrates or starchy foods, containing in round figures :—

2 to 5 per cent. of oil,
10 ,, ,, albuminoids,
70 ,, ,, carbohydrates.

There are various other food substances, more or less useful. The analyses will be found included in the following list published by the Board of Agriculture :—

Digestible Constituents in the Commoner Feeding Stuffs.—(Chiefly Wolff's figures.)

Feeding stuffs.	Albuminoids.* p.c.	Fats. p.c.	Carbohydrates. p.c.
Decorticated cotton cake	36·9	10·0	18·7
Undecorticated cotton cake	18·0	5·9	17·7
Linseed cake	24·7	9·6	29·8
Cocoanut cake	20·0	10·0	40·0
Linseed	20·1	25·2	18·9
Beans	22·0	1·4	50·0
Peas	20·1	1·4	53·0
Dried grains	14·9	6.4	33·9
Wet (fresh) grains	3·9	1·3	9·9
Bran (wheat) coarse	10·6	2·4	44·4
Wheat	11·7	1·2	64·3
Oats	8·0	4·3	44·7
Barley	7·7	2·3	57·6
Rice meal	7·0	10·0	43·0
Maize	8·0	4·0	68·6
Malt dust (combings)	18·5	1·1	48·5
Hay (average meadow)	5·4	1·0	40·7
,, (,, clover)	7·0	1·2	38·1
Oat straw	1·4	·7	40·1
Barley straw	1·4	·6	40·4
Bean straw	5·0	·5	35·1
Pea straw	3·2	·5	33·4
Locust bean meal	2·7	1·1	74·2
Potatoes	2·1	·2	21·8
Swedes	1·3	·1	10·6
Turnips	1·1	·1	6·1
Mangolds	1·1	·1	10·0
Treacle (molasses)	11·8†	--	59·9
New milk	3·2	3·6	5·0
Buttermilk	4·0	1·1	4·1
Separated milk	3·9	·4	4·5
Whey	·8	·1	4·9

* Some of these foods also contain amides, but as these are comparatively unimportant, they are included in the albuminoids.

† This figure is got by the usual method of converting nitrogen into terms of albuminoids, but it is very much above the true figure for the digestible albuminoids in treacle.

A Few Remarks on the Valuable Ingredients of Cakes and Other Foods.

The nutritious ingredients of cakes and feeding stuffs are composed of the albuminoids, fats or oil, and carbohydrates, and it is the percentage and condition of these ingredients which constitute the feeding commercial value of all foods.

The *Albuminoids* are nitrogenous compounds forming the material out of which the true flesh, lean meat, and muscle are developed. They are absolutely necessary in the food in order to make good the continual waste of the body, and enable it to make growth. The albuminoids, like the nitrogen in fertilisers, are the most expensive portion of foods, and have to be first considered when buying concentrated cakes and other feeding material.

The *Fat* and *Oil* are heat producers, and stimulate the formation of fat in the animal.

The *Carbohydrates* consist chiefly of starch, sugar, and mucilage, yielding heat and energy, and also producing fat. They are not nearly so potent for these purposes as fat or oil, which are considered to have two and a-half times the value of carbohydrates. The fodders such as hay, straw, roots, &c., contain large quantities of carbohydrates, but are poor in albuminoids, and therefore it is chiefly for the latter that artificial foods are bought.

Fibre and Mineral Matter.—The analyses of foods usually also show these constituents, but they may be left out of account.

Feeding Units.

A calculation based on the total feeding units of a food affords an easy method of ascertaining the relative commercial and intrinsic value of a cake or meal. It is arrived at by adding together the albuminoids, carbohydrates, and oil in the manner explained fully in the article "Valuation of Feeding Stuffs," and dividing the total by the cost of the cake, the result being the cost per unit.

But it must be distinctly borne in mind that while this method is useful in comparing the relative commercial value of cakes or meal of the same kind, it is not applicable to different kinds. It would be as fair to give an equal unit value to the ammonia in a fertiliser derived from a cheap source, such as shoddy, to ammonia obtained from a high origin, such as Peruvian guano or nitrate of soda, as to apportion a uniform value to feeding units in different kinds of food.

To compare the value of one feeding stuff with another of a different character by analysis would be quite misleading, as the value of a cake depends on the origin of the ingredients, and condition, flavour, and palatability all come into consideration, although not shown in the analysis. One food cannot replace another merely because the unit value of the constituents costs less money, and it would be a very "penny wise and pound foolish" policy to attempt to do so.

Rough Tests of Quality.

The only means of ascertaining the exact quality of any kind of artificial feeding stuff is by having it submitted to analysis and microscopic examination, but there are certain methods by which a farmer can get a rough idea on the subject. The Board of Agriculture suggests the following method of forming a rough estimate of the purity and quality of linseed cake :—

1. By inspection with the aid of a pocket magnifying glass and a penknife he can detect the presence of substances other than linseed when these are of fair size. As a rule, however, they are so much broken up as to be difficult of identification. The smooth, shining, dark, generally more or less triangular-shaped seeds of Polygonum can often be seen. The round, dark-brown husks of rape seed are familiar. The seeds of corn cockle are dark brown and very rough on the surface. Corn spurrey is a black seed with an almost smooth surface, and surrounded by a delicate disc. Pieces of straw can sometimes be detected, and sacking from the bags in which the cakes are pressed.

2. The presence of too much sand may be suspected if the cake feels gritty when small pieces are crushed between the teeth. The flavour should be pleasing and not pungent or bitter.

3. A jelly may be made by mixing one part by weight of the cake with six parts of boiling water. The jelly should have a mild taste and should not be bitter or rancid. If the jelly be covered up and warmed gently for some time the presence of mustard may be detected by the smell. Cakes resulting from the chemical process of oil extraction will not always form such a jelly. They are usually very poor in oil.

The Albuminoid Ratio.

The term "albuminoid ratio" is intended to express in a convenient form the proportion which the albuminoid or nitrogenous constituents should bear to the carbohydrates or non-nitrogenous constituents in the composition of foods. The basis of the calculation to arrive at the ratio of any food is the addition of the carbohydrates and fat or oil (the fat or oil multiplied by 2½ to bring it to the same unit value as the carbohydrates), and the total arrived at divided by the albuminoids. Thus taking a food analysis 10 oil, 35 carbohydrates, and 20 albuminoids, it calculates out as follows :—

Carbohydrates	35
Oil, 10 × 2½	25
	60
divide by 20 albuminoids	3

so the ratio is 1 to 3

The proper ratio will, of course, vary with different kinds of animals as well as with the special object aimed at in the feed. Mr. R. Warrington, who was an eminent authority on the subject, suggested the following albuminoid ratios as suitable for various animals :—

Young animals on milk	1 : 3—4
Rapidly growing animals	1 : 5—7
Maintenance of oxen at rest	1 : 14
Maintenance of sheep at rest	1 : 12
Fattening oxen	1 : 9—10
Do. sheep	1 : 8—9
Do. pigs	1 : 7
Horses working on maize will do with	1 : 9
Horses in severe exertion	1 : 4—5
Milking cows	1 : 6—6
General average	1 : 6

These albuminoid ratios may be accepted as a general approximate guide in the economy and practice of feeding, but as the Board of Agriculture remarks, "the experimental work of our great agricultural societies has shown that even albuminoid ratios may vary greatly with the same results, though this is true chiefly from the point of view of live-weight increase rather than from the point of view of profit and loss. They may be modified to some extent by further investigation, and are to be regarded more as a general guide than for slavish imitation.

* * *

As illustrating the need for fresh research and observation in this matter reference may be made to the experience of the Paris Cab Company, who, as the result of many practical trials, have come to the conclusion that the proportion of carbohydrates for a working horse can be increased without prejudice to the efficiency of the animals, and with the result of effecting a great economy. While hitherto it has been considered that the ratio for a hard-worked horse should be 1 to 4 or 5, they have found that it can be safely modified to 1 to 8, 1 to 12, and even 1 to 22 when a

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example : A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Some Familiar Faces in the Feeding Stuffs World.

Mr. A. T. Jones,
Brankside Oil Mills, Hull.

Mr. F. Livingstone,
Molassine Co, Ltd., Mark Lane, E.C.

Mr. T. B. Silcock,
Messrs. R. Silcock & Sons, Liverpool.

Mr. A. S. Ayre,
Waterloo Mills Cake Co., Ltd., Hull.

Mr. R. Williams,
Liverpool Vesta Cake Co.

Mr. W. T. Ayre,
Waterloo Mills Cake Co., Ltd., Hull.

Mr. H. Spencer, Junr.,
Messrs. Isaac Spencer & Co., Hull.

Mr. G. Hughes,
Molascuit Co., Ltd., Fenchurch St., E.C.

liberal supply of sugar (molasses) is added to the food. (See report in our issue of July 9.)

Further information in the same import was afforded by the evidence of Mr. J. Milne, in experiments in feeding cattle, handed in to the Departmental Committee on the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act.

Important Experiment.

The object of the experiment was to ascertain the relative fattening value of the various simple articles, such as oats, maize, linseed, cotton cake, &c., the feeding value of oil in different proportions, the relative value of linseed cake compared with a variety of other mixed foods having the same percentage of oil and albumen, and the most profitable albuminoid ratio.

As regards the most profitable albumen ratio, an experiment was conducted on three farms. Twelve cattle were selected, divided into three equal lots, and fed for sixteen weeks. Lot 1 received ground linseed cake all the time, having a ratio of 1 to 2. Lot 2 received lye fodders, gradually reducing the albumen until a ratio of 1 to 15 was reached. Lot 3 began with the lower proportion, and ended with the higher proportion of albumen. At the end, the results on the other farms did not differ materially, and all went to show that the proportion of albumen in the lye fodder does not control the increase in weight to any great extent. In another experiment the conclusions drawn up by Dr. Aitken and Mr J. Milne were as follows (Highland Society's "Transactions," 1893):—"It is evidently of far greater importance that a feeder should select his cattle from a knowledge of their thriving tendency than that he should select his fodder so as to produce nutrient ratios of 1 to 4, 5, 6, or 7, as the case may be. . . . The mixture of maize, locust bean meal, and linseed meal had a nutrient ratio of about 1 to 9, the linseed cake had a nutrient ratio of about 1 to 2, and there was little difference in the results attained, when lots 1 and 2 had 4 lb. per head given them daily. The daily increase in live weight was very satisfactory, and it is interesting to notice that the live-weight increase of all the lots was almost exactly in proportion to the amount of dry matter consumed."

It was found by experiment that no advantage was found by feeding with a large quantity of oil, as if over half a pound is used daily the surplus was found in the dung. This would be equal to the quantity contained in 5 lb. of cake containing 10 per cent. of oil.

In an experiment on fifty cattle in 1896, ten in each lot, there was no practical difference between ratios of 1 to 3, 1 to 4, 1 to 4·5, 1 to 7·4, and 1 to 10; and in another experiment in 1897 on fifty cattle, ten in each lot, there were no differences, except such as might be expected from individual constitutions, between ratios of 1 to 5·5, 1 to 6·3, 1 to 8·7, 1 to 10·8, and 1 to 11·7.

In experiments made by Kuhn, of Möchern (a German feeding expert), the greatest amounts of fat were produced by rations having the most widely nutritive ratios—viz., 1 of albumen to 4·5 of carbohydrates, and 1 to 20·9, the food in the one case being made up largely of gluten, and in the other of starch.

Much depends upon the quality of the farm fodder, which varies greatly, but if this is of good quality, the precise proportion of albumen in the lye fodder is not of such importance in feeding value to the farmer, as the late Dr. Emil Wolff and others have tried to show, and the ratio need not be adhered to with mathematical accuracy, since the increase in live weight depends more upon the quantity of dry matter digested. A material quality of food is that it is palatable and digestible. The proportion of albumen would affect the value of the excrements, but recent experiments made by Dr. Voelcker and Mr. Hall have shown that about one-half of the nitrogen in food is not recovered in the manure, so that feeding of stock may not always be the cheaper method of manuring land.

Winter Fattening of Sheep.

(*West of Scotland Agricultural College.*)

1. A limited quantity of roots has a high value in sheep feeding.
2. Hay or other fibrous food must be given with roots to regulate digestion.
3. Linseed cake alone to supply concentrated food is too laxative to succeed in a root diet. Linseed cake is specially unsuited for animals requiring short keep.
4. Linseed cake and oats, half and half, are too low in flesh-formers and render the albuminoid ratio of root diet too wide.
5. Decorticated cotton cake and maize in equal proportions is free from the faults of the other food mixtures.
6. The maize in that mixture, however, could probably be exchanged for oats in many cases with advantage.
7. A steady increase of food during fattening is required to ensure progress.

Our Portraits.

Owing to pressure on our space we have been compelled to hold over some other portraits of well-known men in the feeding stuffs trade, and these we hope to give in a subsequent issue.

Manure Value of Cattle Foods.

The quality of the manure produced by cakes and other feeding stuffs fed to stock depends on the percentage of the albuminoids in the feeding stuffs. The richer the food is in this constituent the richer will be the manure produced by the stock, as it is the nitrogen contained in the albuminoids which is returned in the dung as nitrogen or ammonia. Tables are published showing, for the purpose of compensation, the estimated value of the residues derived from feeding different kinds of feeding stuffs to stock.

Treacle or Molasses.

The nourishing quality of molasses has long been recognised. As the Board of Agriculture remark, it can often be very profitably employed, having high feeding value and being much relished by cattle. The use of untreated molasses has, however, the drawback of a tendency to produce "looseness" in the animal, so that it can only be fed in small quantities. To remove this disadvantage, the molasses is treated by special processes, and the improved product placed on the market under various names

Types of Linseed Cakes.

(*From Wye College Report.*)

The following analyses represent cakes of different makes:

	Oil.	Albuminoids.	Carbohydrates.	Fibre.
English make	10 to 13	28 to 39	33 to 36	7 to 8
Calcutta ,,	12 to 13	27	35	9
Russian ,,	9 to 13	29	35	9
American ,,	7 to 8	32 to 36	33 to 34	7 to 9

The Influence of Food on Milk.

The influence of food.—Few questions have attracted more attention from students of milk production than this one. The most extensive series of experiments are probably those carried out at Copenhagen; but the problem has also been attacked here, in America, and in Germany. Liebig's theory that the fat of the body and of milk arose from the digested protein, and the old idea that milk was a direct secretion of the blood, both suggested the possibility of changing the percentage of fat in milk by suitable feeding. It has not, however, been found possible to do this. The Copenhagen experiments lasted for ten years, and over 2,000 cows in all were made investigation; cereals were compared with roots, with oil cake, and with bran; cereals and cake were tested against roots, and roots were given in addition to certain basal rations, but no marked change in the percentage of fat could be

obtained. Some of their later experiments have indeed indicated that a nitrogenous diet may produce a slightly higher percentage of fat than a starchy one, but the differences, even if they exist at all, are only slight. The change in composition observed when animals go out to grass in spring may very likely be due to a large number of causes, and not simply to the change in food.

The quantity of milk is influenced by the food. If the ration is insufficient, the animal may lose weight, but will continue to produce milk, the preservation of the race being always more important than that of the individual. With increasing ration, the quantity of milk produced increases, till finally a limit is reached, dependent on the udder capacity and other features of the animal. The fat and the other solid matter both increase simultaneously, and little, if any, change in the percentage of either can be observed. But the nature of the fat changes, and for butter or cheese-making purposes diet has a marked influence.

The improvement of milk.—From the above considerations, it is evident that no simple scheme can be adopted for raising the percentage of fat in milk from a given herd. An improvement can sometimes be effected by making the intervals of milking more uniform, but usually these are regulated by train departures and cannot be altered. The only reliable method is to introduce some rich milkers, and to eliminate those found to give poor milk.

Thus on going through the herd systematically, one farmer found a cow yielding only 1·7 per cent. of fat, another found one giving only about 2 per cent. of fat; these were fattened off and sold to the butcher, and in their place rich milkers giving over 5 per cent. of fat were introduced, with the result that the mixed milk from the whole herd rose from 2·7 per cent. of fat to 3·2 per cent., where, of course, it was well over the standard and no longer a source of any anxiety.—*Wye College Report.*

Extracts from Reports of Feeding Experiments.

(From Wye College Report.)

Fattening Bullocks.—The reason for cake feeding or for the use of any concentrated food stuffs is, of course, the shortening of the feeding period and the turning over more rapidly of the farmer's capital. The quantity of these expensive foods used must depend on the character of the rest of the food, the age and individuality of the animal, and the skill of the feeder.

The most satisfactory system seems to be to feed younger beasts eighteen to twenty-one months old, commencing with a small amount of concentrated foods and to gradually force them, so that early ripeness is secured and the feeding period made as short as possible. The breed of beast most suitable for this early forcing, this manufacture of baby beef, seems from these trials to be the Devon rather than the Hereford, the latter breed taking more time to finish into a marketable beast.

Report on Milk Investigations.

(Yorkshire Council for Agricultural Education.)

1. A substitution of decorticated cotton cake for maize meal given to cows while at pasture day and night has very little effect on either the quantity of milk produced or on its content of fat and solids not fat.

2. Other conditions being equal, the morning milk is probably as a rule of *slightly* better quality when the stall food is given all at the morning milking than when only half is given in the morning and the rest at the evening milking.

3. The individuality of each cow and its condition during the period of the experiment are important factors in determining the magnitude, and, to a lesser extent, the "direction," of any changes.

4. Bearing in mind the limitations imposed by conclusions (1) and (3), cows receiving decorticated cotton cake to supplement pasturage may be expected to give milk of better quality than cows receiving the same weight of maize meal.

5. The effects of *changes* in the nature of the food and the mode of feeding are most pronounced immediately after the change, but rapidly diminish in intensity.

Relation of Food Consumed to Live Weight Increase.

(Rothamsted Experiments, A. D. Hall.)

Taking the ordinary foods available on the farm, Lawes and Gilbert found that oxen, sheep, and pigs differed greatly in their powers of consuming food and in the rate at which their live weights would increase. During the whole fattening period oxen will consume per 1,000 lb. of live weight 120 to 150 lb. of dry food per week (*e.g.*, in the experiments 25 lb. cake, 60 lb. clover hay, and 350 lb. swedes, and should produce about 10 lb. live weight increase per week. Sheep per 1,000 lb. live weight will consume in the same time about 150 to 160 lb. of dry food (44 lb cake, 52 lb. clover hay, and 70 lb swedes for a production of 17 18 lb. increase per week. The same live weight of pigs consuming 260 to 280 lb. of dry food (300 lb. barley meal) will produce 50 to 60 lb. increase.

These estimates, drawn up from a very large number of trials carried out in the ordinary way of farming have been generally verified by the later exact work of the German experimenters if allowances be made for the superior fattening qualities of English stock. Probably at the present day both the estimates of the amount of the amount of food required per diem and the rate of increase should be raised, because of the improvements that have been effected in the breeds of our sheep and cattle. The modern farm animal is a more efficient meat-producing machine than it was fifty years ago, capable of dealing with more food and of growing more rapidly to maturity.

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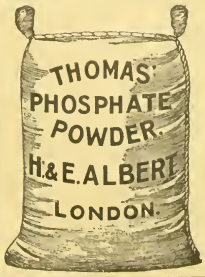

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SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

Frome.

The Frome District Agricultural Society's show has won for itself a wide reputation for its dairy products, notably the cheese of the Somerset make, and for many years now it has held the premier position as an exhibition of Cheddar cheese, and Wednesday's show maintained the reputation well. Side by side with the competitive classes of the society for the English article of staple food—for a few yards only separate—is held the annual Cheddar cheese fair, at which of late years the pitch has never been less than 200 tons. The result is that there is a display of this world renowned make which is interesting to a degree, especially to visitors from big centres. The connection between this great annual sale and the show is strengthened by the society offering substantial prizes for the best lot pitched by a farmer, dairyman, or factory, the lot to be not less than half-hundredweight for each cow in the dairy, or for every cow from which milk is taken to produce the exhibit. The first prize went to a well-known and highly successful maker of Cheddar cheese, Mr. T. C. Candy, Woolcombe Farm, Cattistock, Dorset, who also won the champion prize at the exhibition. The general quality of the cheese pitched at the fair was excellent, and for top qualities quotations ruled from 80s. to 82s. per cwt., sales being effected at still higher prices by Mr. T. C. Candy and other well-known prize dairy farmers. The average prices ran between 65s. and 72s. per cwt.

The weather was all that could be desired for the show, and it is satisfactory to note that the exhibition not only held its own in all departments, but that the entries constituted a record, with a total of 820, which passed the previous high-water mark of 796. The cheese classes were as mentioned, the feature of the show, but they did not entirely overwhelm the other sections, for there were highly creditable displays of both light and heavy horses, whilst cattle were a good lot, as also were both sheep and pigs, though sheep might have been more numerous.

Altrincham.

The Altrincham Agricultural Society's Show is one of the largest one-day shows held in this country, and it certainly grows in popularity, for each year since 1895 has witnessed an appreciable increase in the entries of live stock and produce. For instance, in 1895 these entries were 2,767, in 1900 they had increased to 4,118, in 1904 they were over 1,000 more. Last year the total was the record one of 5,449, but even this was eclipsed on Wednesday last, the total then being 5,496. Such a number of entries speaks volumes for the estimation in which the show is held, and it is no doubt due to the variety of classes provided. These include cattle, horses, both heavy and light and turnouts, sheep, pigs, goats, roots, grain, and other agricultural and horticultural produce, dogs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cats, cavies, implements, &c. With such a wide range, the show is naturally a most attractive one, and on Wednesday, the weather being most favourable, the showyard—a very capacious one — was at times tolerably packed.

Cattle and horses were, perhaps, the feature of the show, and, as regards the former, there was a marked improvement in the quality. Some of the best breeders in the country sent exhibits, and in no case had the judges to award a prize to an animal which was not worthy of a place in a strong class. Mr. G. Harrison, of Darlington, and Mr. T. Atkinson, of Bury, took the best prizes. There were very many excellent dairy cattle, but there was little to stand against Mr. S. S. Raingill's exhibits, whilst Captain L. G. Gisborne and Mr. T. F. Egerton were very successful in the competitions for Channel Islands cattle, of which there was a very good show.

The Hackneys, as usual, made the best display in the horse section. The five-guinea cup offered by Sir Lees Knowles for the best gelding or filly went to Messrs. Carr and Co.'s Boqular Sunrise, whilst the Hackney Horse Society's medal for the best Hackney or pony mare was awarded to Mr. A. L. Goodson's Polly Ailsa, who also took the first prize in the class for brood mares for road purposes with foal at foot. Hunters were not so good as they might have been. Mr. R. Needham's Merrylegs was awarded the Hunters Improvement Society's medal. In a district in which Earl Egerton of Tatton and Mr. James Gould, of Lymm, reside, one naturally expects to find some good shire horses. The show was not disappointing in this respect. Both Lord Egerton and Mr. Gould sent a number of animals, and they were the principal prize-winners; in fact, Mr. Gould secured ten firsts and four second prizes. The classes for sheep were very small, there being but twenty entries. Six hundred and sixty-three dogs were benched, and no fewer than 1,953 pigeons were judged, whilst of farm and dairy produce there was a big display, and although showing some signs of having suffered from the weather, compared favourably on the whole with recent years.

Ashbourne.

The 26th annual show of the Ashbourne Shire Horse Society was held at Ashbourne on Thursday under the most favourable conditions. Entries were fifty in excess of last year, and the muster of Shire horses fully maintained, both in numbers and quality, the high reputation of this exhibition. His Majesty the King, who was at one time president of the society, still shows his interest in the affair by sending exhibits, and last week he had forward a colt foal in the open class, namely, Blondel, a brown foal of nice appearance, but wanting a little in substance, and the judges only thought it worthy of a highly commended card. The first prize was given to one of Mr. Frank Farnsworth's foals, which was such a finely-built specimen that it also secured the challenge cup for the best foal on the ground. Tatton Morning Star, the second colt, was reserve for the cup. Eighteen entries, covering a wide area, were received in the open class for filly foals, where Mr. James Gould's Lymm Starlight was placed first, and one of Mr. W. T. Everard's fillies second after a close competition. The honours of the show fell perhaps to the mare Rolleston Fuchsia, exhibited by Mr Homer Towgood, of Little Shelford, Cambridge. To her went the first prize in the open class for mares foaled before 1902 and with a foal at foot, and the Wainwright gold challenge cup for the best mare or filly in the show. Sir P. A. Muntz, M.P., won the first prize for three-year-old fillies with the beautiful grey filly Dunsmore Quality, a well-known prize winner, and the second prize was won by Mr. R. Deaville, of Shottle, Belper, with Queen Mary, a chesnut filly of not quite the size for the chief place in an open class, but an easy winner in the corresponding class for local fillies. Lord Egerton's Tatton May Queen was second in the two-year-old fillies. This animal has been shown a good deal this summer, and was not, perhaps, in the best of condition, and she was beaten by Bardon Marion, belonging to Mr. W. T. Everard, of Bardon Hall, Leicester, and a filly which shows every promise of making a valuable brood mare. As a whole, the local classes, except in the case of the foals, were not so well supported as the society could wish, but there were a dozen entries for local mares with foals, and some remarkable animals were shown.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. T. C. HARDING,
Frome Agricultural Society.

Gransden.

The Gransdon Agricultural Society's proverbial good luck in the matter of weather did not desert it on Tuesday, for the day was a delightful one, and the show passed off most successfully. The number of visitors was very large, and the show a great success financially. There was a little falling off in the entries, but this was explained as being due partly to the dry season, so many animals not being in condition, and again, the standard at Gransden is now so high that people feel it no use sending any except really good animals. In the cart horse classes some good animals were shown, and it may be mentioned there was very keen competition in the class for nag foals. Cattle were somewhat short in numbers, but some capital sheep were exhibited. Gransden show is famous for its roots, and the mangold and kohl rabi were again well up to the usual standard. Swedes were not particularly good. Much interest was as usual taken in the driving and jumping competitions, but the latter was hardly so good as generally in consequence of the hard ground.

Northallerton.

The show of the Northallerton Agricultural Society is amongst the last of the season in Yorkshire, but is none the less interesting and popular as the thirty ninth show proved, for although the weather was not of the best, there was a very large attendance. Entries, too, were good in quality and quantity, the number being 1,122, or only about half-a-dozen less than last year. Compared with some former displays, the agricultural horse classes were not so good as usual, but included some fine animals. Mr. Thomas Burton's young stock proved invincible; besides three first prizes, he carried off the Shire Horse Society's medal for Sandcliffe Flower, a brown three-year-old filly of full quality. The Coaching Horses were of merit, and the winners of admirable type. Much the same may be said of the Riding classes, especially the Hackneys under six years and the ladies' Hacks. Hunters, however, were the outstanding feature, as was only to be expected in a district so keenly interested in hunting. The cattle included a nice lot of pure-bred Shorthorns, and in every instance representatives of the Gainford herd were found at the very front. The district classes were quite as well filled, and the character on the whole good. Sheep were not quite so strongly represented as perhaps they might have been, though Wensleydales were well in evidence, whilst pigs made but a small show.

South Brent.

Started eleven years ago with the object of encouraging the breed of Dartmoor ponies, the association, which has since become the South Brent and District Dartmoor and Polo Pony, Horse, Butter, Cream, and Honey Society, has not only succeeded beyond expectations in its original purpose, but has established for itself a place amongst the important shows of Devon. At their exhibition on September 21 the entries reached the record total of 159, of which 134 were in the animal classes. The latter were exceedingly well filled, and the quality of Dartmoor and polo ponies and Hunters were of such a high standard generally that the judges had in some cases no little difficulty in coming to decisions.

Good Prices for Coach Horses.—The team with which Mr. T. Hooper Deacon ran the Swindon-Savernake coach during the summer was sold by auction at Swindon on Monday, and fetched some capital prices. The best figure for a single horse was 200 guineas paid for Chemist, Bachelor realised 160 guineas, Confidence 155 guineas, and Brown Bread, a winner at the recent Bath Show, 145 guineas. The best pairs were Toreador and Acrobat, which were sold for 210 guineas; Luxury and Spring Bank for 200 guineas, and Warrior and The Clown for 150 guineas. The average price per head worked out at £88 6s 6d.

At a meeting of the North Cotswold Farmers Association at Chipping Campden on Wednesday, a discussion took place on the change from "home fed" to "home killed" in the army contracts for meat, during which there was severe criticism of the attitude of Lord Carrington, which the chairman described as unworthy of a Minister of Agriculture and inconsistent with his views on the question of the adulteration of butter. The Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture had asked the Secretary of State for War to receive a deputation on the subject, and invited the association to send a delegate. Mr. U. C. Stanley was appointed a delegate. A resolution was adopted expressing the opinion that the change would be very detrimental to the interests of agriculture, and claiming that farmers should be put on an equal footing with British manufacturers, the conditions for all army contracts being "British-made goods."

Imported Adulterated Butter. — Jacob Frederick Van Raalte, provision merchant, of St. Mark's Road, Dalston, attended before the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House police court on Thursday to answer 13 summonses charging him with having imported into the United Kingdom 218 packages of adulterated butter, the some not being conspicuously marked, as required by the Food and Drugs Act. Defendant said that he had acted merely as an agent in the transaction, and was in no way to blame. The Lord Mayor said no doubt it was a hard case, but they had to administer the law as they found it. The importation of adulterated butter into this country in such circumstances was a serious offence. He should impose a penalty of 10s. on each of the summonses and allow 3 guineas costs, £11 15s. in all. The court allowed defendant 14 days in which to pay the money.

SHOW GOSSIP.

At a meeting held in Rushden, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that an invitation be given to the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society to hold their annual show at Rushden in 1907, and that the Rushden Urban District Council be requested to convene a town's meeting in support of this resolution." It was mentioned in the course of the meeting that eight years ago the show was held at Rushden, and proved to be a grand success. At that time the people of Rushden took up the matter heart and soul, and, the weather proving very favourable, the show was so great a success that the Agricultural Society wished to visit Rushden again in 1907. Some discussion took place on the financial aspect of the question, and it was stated that about £200 would have to be raised. It was, however, pointed out that the sum of £28 in hand, left over from the show of 1898, had now increased to about £31, and this would form the nucleus of a guarantee fund, whilst it was considered that little difficulty would be experienced in raising the required amount.

The Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association has now decided on its site at Liskeard for next year's show. From five available sites, three were offered to them to select from. The local committee strongly recommended fields at Addington, extending over sixteen acres, close to the town, and possessing an ample water supply, as well as having the advantage of being level and embracing a good view of the Caradon Hills and the moorlands to the north. The other sites were at Tremabe, on the St. Cleer Road, and at Cartuther Barton, on the Plymouth Road, and the latter was much favoured by the selection committee of the association, as it was contained in one large field, with no intervening hedges, but as there was a strong feeling on the part of the townspeople that the showground should be as close to the town as possible, the committee determined upon the Addington site, and their selection gives general satisfaction locally. The fields include the grounds of the Liskeard Football Club, whose grand stand may, therefore, prove a convenient adjunct.

At Dumfries Horse Fair on Tuesday considerably over 250 horses were offered. There was a large attendance of farmers and dealers, and for horses of the better stamp a good selling trade prevailed. The top figure was £77. Other important purchases averaged about £55 each. A large trade was done in horses of a secondary class, prices for which averaged from £30 to £40.

In the course of a recent speech, the Earl of Plymouth said he had the strongest sympathy with the cry which was being raised of "Back to the land." It was the greatest misfortune that large areas in this country should be uncultivated, or not cultivated to advantage. We had the case of France thrown in our teeth, but he wished to point out that the question could not be determined by the ideal of what we wished to see. We had to deal with economic facts, and in England we rightly insisted on having our food as cheap as possible, whilst in other respects the conditions of the two countries could not be compared.

The Midland Railway Company announce that exhibits for the forthcoming dairy show at the Royal Agricultural Hall will be conveyed to St. Pancras in through vans from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Carlisle, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, Nottingham, Blackburn, Leicester, &c., whilst consignments from branch lines and intermediate stations will be placed in the through vans at the various junctions, thus ensuring direct transit. Rates for the conveyance of the exhibits can be obtained at the various stations on the line. Arrangements will be made for the return of the traffic at the close of the show in through vans. Any information required may be had on application to Mr. W. P. Snow, St. Pancras Station, London.

An Agricultural Labourers' Union.—At a conference of agricultural labourers representing Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Hunts, Cambs., and Suffolk held in July last at North Walsham, it decided to form a union, the objects of which were to secure proper representation upon local bodies, and, where desirable, to assist in providing small holdings, and improved housing accommodation, to shield members from injustice, encourage intercommunication with unions in this and other countries, and to endeavour to improve the social and moral conditions of its members. Branches of the union have already been formed, and members enrolled, and it is quite anticipated after harvest to carry on an active campaign and enrol 5,000 members in the county of Norfolk alone. But it is considered that to satisfactorily establish the union a sum of at least £500 will be required, and an appeal is now being made for subscriptions and donations. These will be received and acknowledged by the treasurer of the union, Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P., Sutton House, Peterborough.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Exclusive Reports.

East Suffolk. WHAT a time it has been for the harvest! Everything is now stacked and thatched in splendid condition, seed clover included. A little threshing has been done, and I should say corn on good heavy land will, on the whole, yield above the average. Beans and peas are exceptionally good. In this district it has been an extraordinarily dry summer, the average rainfall for the last five months only comes to an inch a month. It will very soon be a serious matter now to find food and water for the stock. The muck will soon be all carted on the stubbles, but ploughing them is almost an impossibility. It is not often that we heavy land farmers wish for rain in the autumn.

Lincolnshire (Mid). I THINK we Lincoln Heath farmers may congratulate ourselves and truthfully say we have had a very favourable season. Mainly an arable district, also in many places not blessed with too much soil, and with a limestone subsoil, we are very susceptible to spells of dry weather; but although three weeks or a month later in getting our spring corn in than last year, thanks to welcome rains in the nick of time the barleys have never been really stopped, and have finished a good crop; I should certainly say above the average of the last five years. Wheats, having grubbed a good deal in the winter, are, on the whole, a light crop. Turnips, a most important crop in this neighbourhood, went in under very favourable conditions, and are a full plant and look uncommonly well; in fact, there is every appearance of a big supply of winter keep. Harvest operations, thanks to a fine fortnight, are nearly completed on the high land, but large tracts of corn are still to be cleared in the fen country. Plenty of new corn on the market at Lincoln, but prices are ruinous and with a downward tendency. Wheat, 27s. to 28s.; oats, 17s. to 19s.; peas, 40s. to 45s.

Berkshire. AS far as this county is concerned the summer of 1906 will be chiefly remembered for the deficiency of the rainfall. With the exception of heavy rain on two days during the last week in June, amounting to over 2¼in., no quantity of rain has fallen since March. Consequently all crops, especially on gravelly soils, have suffered more or less from drought. Wheat is not a bulky crop, but will probably yield well from the straw, and the quality is excellent. Barley was much improved by the June rains, and is a full average crop, but in many cases it ripened prematurely, so that the grain will be thin and small. Oats, especially the Winters, which are rather extensively grown in this neighbourhood, are generally good. The corn stood up, enabling the binders to work to the best advantage, and with a continuance of splendid weather, harvest was completed more rapidly than I can remember and at a great saving in expense, and, as last year, almost everything had been secured before the end of August.

Aberdeenshire. IN the earlier portions of the county cutting has been finished and commencement has been made in securing the crop in the stackyard. In later localities cutting is, perhaps, only half done, and the self-binders are busy at work. Crops, generally, are short in straw, and stackyards will be under an average in bulk. This is a matter of great regret in a county where stock keeping engages so much attention. Turnips are doing remarkably well and give every indication of being a good crop. As in the past two seasons there is every prospect at present that there will be a plentiful supply for sheep during the approaching winter and spring. A good supply of roots is a matter of vital importance to the flockmaster, especially if they are to be had at as low a price as has been the case during the past two seasons. Flockmasters are having their innings at present, and the fleecy flocks are booming. How long this state of matters may continue no one can tell, but certainly at present there is no appearance of the boom going off.

North Lincolnshire. 'TIS strange but true how the weather has varied this summer in even a few short miles. I live on the oolitic limestone myself, and about eight miles from the junction of the Trent and Humber, equidistant from each. How often do we see thunder storms coming, when in a moment they seem to divide, half going up the Trent and half up the Humber, thus missing us; consequently my turnips are dried up, leaves all brown, and a poor crop. On the contrary, I this week went only twenty miles, as far as the North Chalk Holds, I found there things looked verdant, the best crop of turnips for many years, and quite a bite on the seeds. Our potatoes have been in the same position—dried up, and now, when they should be ripening, a new growth has started, so some tubers will never ripen, and others have their skins fast now. This will spoil the quality. The buyers are coming round, and are eager, but at low figures; we are inclined not to sell, expecting short crops and higher prices. Edwards are ripe and fit to lift, as for Eldorados, Stars, &c., they are conspicuous by their absence. Milk never was so scarce, and winter foods are dear, so a little should be asked extra per gallon when selling. I have done very little threshing, but neighbours report poor yields of wheat, very good of beans. Alas! I and others did not sell our wool, and now buyers never appear. Trade, however, is good, so we hope for better things.—NORTH LINDSEY.

The Board of Agriculture and Crop Prospects.

The Board of Agriculture has issued a second report, dated September 24, on the crop prospects of England, Scotland, and Wales, and in this state that further reports from the Crop Estimators of the Board tend to confirm the expectations formed in August as to the prospects of all the principal crops with the exception of roots and potatoes. The corn harvest is for the most part over, and the exceptionally favourable weather has generally enabled the crops to be quickly secured in excellent condition. On the other hand, the prolonged drought has had a detrimental effect upon potatoes and roots, and upon the second growths of grass in nearly all divisions of England.

Wheat, which was represented in August as being probably 5 per cent. over average, has declined to the extent of about one-half per cent., but a yield exceeding the average is still expected in each division of Great Britain. Barley seems to have improved by about 1 per cent., and is also represented as being over average in every division. In oats no general alteration is indicated, and the crop is described as above the average everywhere except in the northern division of England and the east of Scotland.

The depreciation in the potato crop, occasioned mainly by lack of rain, is put at about 2 per cent., the yield now indicated being slightly below the average. While mangolds do not appear to have been much affected, turnips and swedes suffered from the lack of rain to an extent which is put generally at about 4 per cent.

The position as regards fruit and hops does not seem to have been appreciably changed since the August report. Hops are still reported as the most deficient crop of the year, but the quality is said to be exceptionally good in most cases.

Summarising the reports and again representing an average crop by 100, the prospects of probable yields for Great Britain as a whole may now be represented by the following percentages: Wheat, 105; barley, 104; oats, 102; potatoes, 99; roots, 101½.

The Locking of Milk Cans.—Owing to so many complaints in the police court, when milk adulteration cases were being investigated, that the cans had been tampered with, the Health Committee of the Sheffield Corporation requested the Town Clerk to write to the railway companies, asking whether they had any objection to the cans being locked during transit to Sheffield. Replies have been received from all the companies, stating that they had no objection, provided that each can had its "tare" conspicuously stamped thereon outside.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

The Thrashing of Barley.

SIR,—I should like to draw the serious attention of those interested in agriculture to the importance of the careful thrashing of barley, more especially after this last harvest, which has been a very dry one, and consequently the corn is more liable to be split and chipped at the ends.

These very bad defects cannot, in my opinion, be too much impressed upon both growers and thrashers, because brewers and maltsters will generally refuse to purchase a badly clipped sample, and even if only moderately damaged it makes shillings difference in the value.

Now, from a competitive point of view, such as are held at the Agricultural Hall and in many provincial towns between October and Christmas, but thrashing is almost, if not quite, fatal, because no matter how good in quality the barley may be, the judges only too well know the serious results that may come from such grain when it is germinated, and they generally pass them over altogether.

As the harvest this year looks like producing some of the finest barleys that have been grown in this country for many years past, I should hope that we may see British grown corn stand higher than that of any other country when it comes to the show bench.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK FLINN,
Chairman, Barley Judges,
Brewers', Maltsters', &c., Exhibition.

Bishop's Stortford, September 24, 1906.

The Butter Tests and Milking Trials at Tring Show.

SIR,—I am loth to trouble you with another letter on the above subject, but in your last issue the gentleman writing under the name of "Notes and Jottings" in referring to these trials again imputes want of care and incapacity not only to me as judge, but also to the staff who assisted me at Tring.

To criticise the records of some of the animals that were sent in for the competition is perfectly legitimate, but to make that a ground for suggesting that the work is carelessly done goes, I think, beyond the limits of fair criticism.

I feel satisfied that "Notes and Jottings" has never seen the trials being carried out at Tring, or he would not have written as he has done.

The prizes in the four classes at Tring amount in value to £200, and from the commencement these trials have been treated as one of the special features of the show. As judge at the first trial and every subsequent year up to this last one, I can state that as far as the society is concerned no care or expense has been wanting to ensure the success of the trials, and I have had a free hand in selecting assistants and everything necessary to carry out the work.

In his last letter my anonymous critic writes, "nothing is said about the butter milk," while further on he mentions "hurry" the "varying thermometers," the impossibility of cooling all the creams down to the same temperature, and of allowing sufficient time to cool the churns down between each churning, basing all his criticisms on his own experience as a judge at churning competitions.

I propose to deal with each point *seriatim*:—

(*a*) At all butter test trials I conduct I keep every lot of buttermilk to see if any cream is present. Should any appear, a second churning takes place, and any butter obtained is added to its respective lot.

There were three such cases at the last Tring Show. This practice is so well known to those who have followed the butter test trials that I do not think it necessary to mention it in my reports.

The non-chromability of some milks is a very difficult question, and is not entirely accounted for by the variations of temperature in churning.

(*b*) There is no hurry in carrying out a butter test trial, although, of course, it is the duty of the judge to see that no time is wasted.

The work at Tring usually commences at 5 30 a.m., and is completed about 1 p.m.

(*c*) The thermometers used are not the ordinary small instruments, but what are known as the R.A.S.E. first prize thermometers. They are guaranteed as tested by the vendors, but they are always tested by me before being used to see that there is no variation, and any incorrect ones are discarded.

(*d*) Eight dairymaids assisted me at Tring this year. Six out of these eight hold or have held appointments as dairy instructresses to their respective county councils. The remaining two are in good places as dairymaids, and have both won first and champion prizes at such shows as the Royal Agricultural Society, the Bath and West of England Society, and the London Dairy Show.

One of the duties of the dairymaids is to see that the creams and churns are cooled down to the temperatures arranged by me. They carry out my orders under my supervision, and I am in a position to state that each lot of cream was cooled down to 52 deg. Fahr., and the churns to a still lower temperature.

To compare dairy experts as the dairymaids at Tring are with competitors in a churning competition is, I think, unfair to the former.

With regard to the average butter ratio quoted in my last letter of all the Jerseys tested in England from 1886 to 1905, the figures will be found on page 510 of the English Jersey Cattle Society's Herd Book for 1905, Vol. 17. The ratio 19·45 only applies to public tests.

While quite in accord with "Notes and Jottings," that it is a most important matter to try and improve the quality of milk, I gave those figures for his consideration, as, in my opinion, to disqualify a Jersey cow with a ratio of 20.00 lb. would be rather too close considering the average of 19.45 lb.

Perhaps, however, Notes and Jottings may have some good reasons for his suggestions, in which case I would ask him to say:—

(1) If 20.00 lb. is fixed as the disqualifying ratio for a Jersey cow what should be the disqualifying ratio for the following breeds, all of which have been occasionally tested by me: Shorthorns, Lincoln Red Shorthorns, Longhorns, South Devons, Red Polled, Ayrshires, Guernseys, Kerries, or Dexters?

(2) How could prizes be intelligently awarded in an open butter test competition where such disqualifying conditions exist?—Yours faithfully,

ERNEST MATHEWS.

Little Shardeloes, Amersham, Sept. 22, 1906.

Motorists and the Roads.

SIR,—Public roads, as the name implies, are maintained to be used by the public as a means of travelling from one place to another, and no class of the community should be allowed to make use of them to the injury of others.

If, as your correspondent "Roadster" says, motors have come to stay, they must be compelled to conform to the laws which control other modes of travelling.

For instance, a few years ago I was summoned to appear before the magistrates, charged with furious driving. No doubt I was "making haste," but the pony I was driving was only 12 hands high, and could not possibly travel faster than ten miles an hour, whilst motors can legally proceed at double that pace. If it be an infringement of the law and dangerous to drive a horse and gig at twelve or fifteen miles an hour, it is equally wrong to drive a motor at that speed.

Motorists must be made to pay for all the damage they do, whether it be covering a person's clothes or other property with dust, frightening a farmer's team of horses with their load into a ditch, or running into a cow, sheep, dog, or other creature that is travelling, but not straying, on the road; and any person's death caused through being run into by a motor should not be considered an accident but manslaughter, if the motor in fault be proceeding at more than ten miles an hour at the time.

As motors increase in number most stringent laws will be necessary to keep the road fit for any person to travel on.—Yours, A. J. R.

Derby, Sept. 26, 1906.

The Value of Cabbage: An Interesting Suggestion.

SIR,—In the issue of the 24th ult. is a paragraph on the value of the cabbage as a feeding crop, especially for the production of milk—and I would add, sheep, poultry, &c., for it is wholesome, nutritious, succulent, and economical—and deserves more consideration than it receives. It has, however, great enemies in caterpillars of various descriptions, especially the white variety, which in some seasons are a perfect scourge, and I may mention 1898 in particular, when travelling through Essex and Suffolk, I did not see a single good sample, nothing but utterly bare stumps, even to the Brussels sprouts. The only remedy advocated is the spraying with Paris green and similar objectionable poisons to kill the caterpillars.

For years I have, in addition to hand-picking, adopted the plan of attacking the cause of the caterpillars—the butterflies. The idea may by some be ridiculed, but is certainly worthy of universal adoption. Each female lays about 500 eggs, and when my children were young I offered them a penny a score for all dead butterflies, and made butterfly-bats for them of a few twigs tied together in a very sprayey form. But I soon had to alter my terms to a penny for fifty butterflies (they would lay some 2,500 eggs to turn into caterpillars), and it provided the youngsters with good pocket-money and healthful exercise, whilst greatly benefiting all cabbage growers in the district.

If each parish or district throughout the country started butterfly clubs on the principle of sparrow clubs, offering a reward for all butterflies killed, which should be instantly burnt, not only children, but adults out of work and others, would find it pay much better than idleness, and would enjoy healthful and exhilarating exercise. It would give many a meal to a necessitous family, whilst immensely benefiting all gardens, market gardeners, farmers, &c. My butterfly bat I make about 2 to 3 ft. long, and always keep it handy, often knocking down six or seven without a miss.

I cannot conclude without a tribute of admiration to my old friend the MARK LANE EXPRESS; its get-up and usefulness is a great credit. My father always thought a deal of it, and I have known it these forty years, and wish it every success.—Yours, &c., OBSERVER.

Essex, September 26, 1906.

Sunflowers as a Farm Crop.

SIR,—A practical farmer has advised me to grow sunflowers, and I would like your opinion of the best way for harvesting and marketing.

September 25, 1906. W. S.

[I do not know whether the practical farmer who advised you to grow sunflowers also indicated a way in which they could be utilised to profit when cultivated, but so far as I know its capabilities in this direction have not been generally discovered. Possibly there is fibre in the stem, fodder in the leaves, and oil may be obtained from the seeds, but as yet the chief use of the latter is as food for fattening poultry, and most people who grow sunflowers for this purpose do not market them, but utilise them on the premises. Sunflowers are gross feeding plants and take a good deal out of the soil, and for growing them on a large scale, the best method is to to make the ground rich with manure and dibble the seed in about an inch deep at the beginning of May. To harvest the crop the heads should be allowed to hang till they are thoroughly ripe, and if used for poultry the best way is to hang up the heads and let the birds pick out the seeds without otherwise touching them If the seeds are wanted for other purposes it is not difficult, though it is a somewhat slow process to extract them from the heads when the latter are ripe. Before commencing to grow sunflowers as a farm crop, however, one ought to feel fairly sure that there is a market for the seeds, and probably the best place to dispose of them would be in districts where the fattening of poultry for market is an industry. Personally, I think it is an open question whether sunflowers would return as good a profit on a farm as some other crops, but you can only prove this by experiment.—RUSTICUS.]

The Doom of the Hop Growing Industry.

SIR,—Please allow me a little space to call attention to the present deplorable condition of the hop trade and to the most serious outlook in regard to the future.

Beyond all question, hop growing as a profitable industry is dead beyond recall The hop crop of 1905, in spite of the fact that stocks were at about the lowest ebb ever known, must have resulted in a loss to English growers of something approaching a million of money. But growers were told that they were succeeding in "keeping the foreigner out." It was an expensive way of keeping him out, and even then it did not succeed, as the table of imports will show. The fact is that the foreigner always does, and always will, dump his surplus here, irrespective of what the price may be. Thus the foreign grower has two markets, and the English grower has (part only of) one market.

Last year the English growth was sufficient for about thirteen months' English consumption, and this year, owing largely to the low prices obtained last year, the English yield is only equal to about four months' consumption. Thus in the two years we have only produced, at the outside, eighteen months' supply. In face of the fact that there was no reserve of stock twelve months ago, these two years combined clearly ought to be years of exceptional profit to growers. If such years do not yield a substantial profit, the losses when the position is less favourable to growers must, in future, be appalling in the extreme. But what will be the result of these two years?

A profit on the two is out of the question, and what is more, even a profit on this year's crop (the smallest since the blight of 1882, when hops sold freely up to £30 per cwt.) seems extremely unlikely. The average cost to the grower of the 1906 crop must be about £10 per cwt., and although plenty of hops are on offer at from £5 to £7 per cwt., there are practically no buyers. Therefore on two exceptionally favourable years for profit making, such is the state of the trade that on both years growers as a body must endure heavy losses.

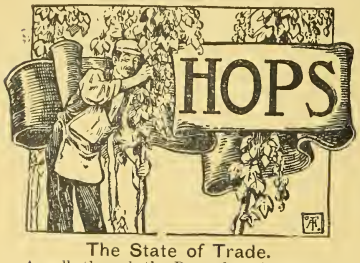
Is their a remedy? Yes, there is one, and only one, and that is to cut the loss, by grubbing the plantations and giving the job up absolutely and entirely, thus leaving brewers in the hands of the foreigner. It will be of no avail to grub a few

acres. Already 25,000 acres have been grubbed with no tangible result on prices. The whole lot must go, not necessarily all at once, but certainly half the acreage should come out this year if the growers' position is to be substantially improved, and then the remainder could go gradually until it is all swept away.

The position of the English hop growing industry is absolutely hopeless, and grubbing, *grubbing, grubbing* is the only real and effectual remedy. "Keeping out the foreigner" is expensive sport, and benefits no one but the brewer, who can look on and laugh.

Having relinquished hop growing, I can now sign myself as an EX-GROWER.

September 26, 1906.



The State of Trade.

A walk through the Borough, and a talk with the traders, reveal a condition of affairs that is almost unprecedented. Merchants tell me that their travellers are sending no orders, as they find that consumers are absolutely refusing to buy, and in most cases will not even look at samples. In reply to my query whether a substantial reduction in prices would be likely to induce business, I am told that as the main feature of the season is the weight of stocks in hand, it is thought that any present concessions would be almost useless.

On the other hand, I hear from factors that their clients are as yet generally very firm in their demands, and that such bids as they have been able to submit are usually refused. Thus suspense, which nearly resembles actual death, is still the rule. We are all hoping for a better time, and looking forward to the possibility of a vague future in which the body corporate may be restored to life. But how frequent has been our experience that "to-morrow is a satire on to-day, and shows its weakness"? My hopes are with our disappointed planters, but I cannot shut my eyes to certain facts which overshadow the brightest hopes, and make me fear that the future will be as disappointing as the present.

The Consumption of Hops

is evidently declining, if we have any confidence in the information derived from the official returns. From these we find that the figures have been steadily falling year by year since 1902, when the quantity of hops used by brewers was first recorded, with the result that we learn that the consumption in 1904-5 was 90,754 cwt. less than 1901-2. This gives us the large proportion of 14 per cent. When we inquire for an explanation of this change, we find it in the fact of the reduced production of beer to the extent of no less than 3,000,000 of barrels, and also in the further fact that the hops used per barrel have been lowered from 2·05 lb. to 1·84 lb., representing 10 per cent.

There seems no reason to doubt that the "wave of sobriety" frequently referred to is a real thing, as not only is the total output of beer diminished, but the consumption per head of the population has fallen since 1900 from 32 gallons to 28 gallons. This is confirmed by the figures referring to spirits, which are diminished to the extent of 24 per cent. All this speaks in plain language to producers of beer materials, and especially should be noted by hop growers, who have no other possible outlet for their produce than the breweries.

Therefore, as I desire to be honest, I cannot discover much encouragement in the probability of

Higher Prices

being realised this season. One of our leading merchant firms says in their circular this week, "although prices remain nominally firm, the tendency is towards lower values." It is impossible to question this statement, which is supported by daily experience. The brewers are well able to hold off buying, and unless they are induced to operate by lower offers, the trade must remain *in statu quo*. What we want is demand; this does not exist, and until it is aroused our growers must be prepared to wait.

In the meantime, there are indications appearing here and there that holders are disposed to give way, as I hear that quotations as low as £5 have been made without finding buyers. It is most unfortunate that in such an expensive year, and with such a very moderate yield, planters should not be able to see any chance of remuneration, and I fear we shall get the results in further extensive "grubbing," which means a lowering of the position of this branch of our agriculture in the estimation of the hop-growing world.

The Crop.

I am confirmed in my opinion, frequently expressed, that we have harvested about 300,000 cwts., by the evidence that is now coming forward.

The editor of our well informed contemporary, the *Kentish Observer*, to whose columns the trade refers and generally relies upon, says in this week's issue, "we feel warranted in estimating the quantity of hops actually picked at between 284,000 and 285,000 cwt., and it is quite possible that the official estimate when issued will put the yield at somewhere about 300,000."

There is satisfaction in the knowledge that although at this figure the crop is below the average, the quality is exceptionally good. The samples that have been examined are full of condition and generally of most attractive colour. A marked feature of the season is the small proportion of seeds in the cones. The weight is thereby diminished, but the additional brewing quality confirms the wisdom of the Bavarians, who banish the male plants from their gardens, and thus secure the supply of lupulin desired by all German brewers, for their light, delicate beers, which alone are appreciated by the German public.

This fact of the superior quality of the present crop is the most promising element in the prospects of our future market, and will, I sincerely trust, have an influence in inducing our consumers to look more favourably upon the growths when the time of action arrives.

The Death of Mr. William Gridley.

this week has spread some gloom through the Borough. He was a veteran in the trade, having been engaged in it for a period far beyond the average. He was called to his well-earned rest at the ripe age of eighty-eight, and leaves behind him the reputation of an honest merchant, whose work was well done. The sympathy and respect of his comrades in business were expressed by universal signs of mourning on Thursday last, the day of his funeral, and by the presence of many of them at the graveside of their valued friend.

America.

My latest news is contained in the following extracts from letters recently received:—

CALIFORNIA.—"We are deep in hop harvest. Have had trouble in getting pickers, there is a greater demand for labour here than I ever knew. It looks as if the scarcity of labour may prevent all of the hops being picked in some places. The estimates are being steadily reduced:—

California is lowered from			90,000	bales to	70,000
Oregon	,,	,,	140,000	,,	100,000
Washington	,,	,,	70,000	,,	60,000
New York	,,	,,	65,000	,,	50,000

This totals 280,000 bales, and it is doubtful if we shall reach 300,000 bales in the U.S.A. this season. Our consumptive demand will reach 250,000 bales, leaving a balance of 50,000 bales of '06 hops for export. It looks as if your country will require 150,000 bales to keep up your reserves. If you require even 100,000 you will have to pay 20 cents and upwards. I hear that English growers will have to get £12 per cwt. to make anything, and sincerely hope they may get it. It is said here that one-half to two-thirds of the Pacific Coast crop has been contracted to dealers at 9 to 11½ cents. That represents a big loss to our growers."

OREGON.—"A look through the hop fields in this State at the end of August caused me to lower my previous estimate of the crop. We had no rain during the month and the sun was very hot, and I consider that Oregon cannot yield more than 95,000 bales. Only the top arms are bearing, but the quality will be good, as the sun will have full chance to perfect the development. Some contracts have been written at 10 to 12 cents, but recently 20 cents have been agreed for. Little actual buying is being done, and there is a general lull in demand. I am of opinion that hops will sell at less after harvest than at present."

WASHINGTON.—"The dry weather continues in Oregon and Washington, and crop estimates are therefore lower. We consider that the United States will produce approximately the same weight of hops as last year. The market is easier in all sections, and while growers are still exceedingly firm in their views and have not lowered their demands, there is little inquiry, and dealers seem a little more anxious to sell than formerly." I have since received a cable message from my Washington correspondents, saying that their market is quiet but steady, and that picking is being interfered with by excessive rains.

A subsequent letter to hand from same friends says:—"Harvesting is now in progress in all Coast States, and we see no reason to change our estimate of about 300,000 bales for the United States. Owing to the more favourable reports which are being received from England and the Continent, our market is quieter, and we think that to-day 17 to 18 cents would be outside quotations. American brewers are as yet very reluctant buyers, claiming, as do the English brewers, that they are heavily stocked. We look for more activity, however, as soon as the crops are harvested."

NEW YORK STATE.—Reports from Otsego indicate a decrease in the yield of about one-fourth from last year. The quality is fine generally, the cones being well grown out. A few sales are reported at from 20 to 26 cents to growers, but dealers are very shy at such prices; and on the other hand, growers appear to be somewhat independent. News of a corresponding character comes from the Waterville and the Cobleskill districts.

The Continent.

The following details of Continental crops are furnished to me by the German Hopgrowers' Association, Nuremberg:—

Bavaria.

SPALT.—The hops are excellent. Yesterday and to-day we have had a little rain, which has freshened up everything. The first sales were made last Saturday and Monday, and several firms have bought at 130s. to 135s.

SCHNAITTACH.—The picking will soon be finished. We shall have on an average one-third crop. Sales have been made in the last few days at 90s. to 100s. The demand for dry hops is very good.

BORRA.—The yield is, as far as quality is concerned, better than was expected, but from estimates we have, only one-third crop against that of last year. There have not been many sales, as the growers do not wish to sell at the prices offered—viz, 70s. to 80s.

NEUSTADT (AISCH).—Only 300 bales of our crop have been weighed on the public scales, and 80s. to 85s. have been paid.

WOLNZACH.—The picking is now finished here. The hops ripened very quickly, and on account of the want of pickers they will suffer as far as colour is concerned. There are many buyers, and about 2,000 bales have been weighed. According to quality, up to 100s., and in one case 120s., have been paid.

Wurtemburg.

ROTTENBURG.—The good weather has quickly ripened the hops, so that picking is now all over. From what we can see already, the hops are sound and well developed and rich in lupulin, and we are not exaggerating when we say that the quality is better than last year. During the drying process the colour is coming out well.

RENNINGEN.—We have now completed hop-picking; early hops have yielded a fine product, but the out-turn did not come up to estimate, which is also the case with late hops.

STUTTGART.—To-day's market was not of much importance. The supply was quickly sold, and realised 70s. to 90s.

BOEBLINGEN.—The hop crop here is much smaller than that of 1905, and one-third is estimated. With regard to quality, this year's crop is quite as good as last year's. No sales have been made yet.

Baden.

HAGNAU.—The picking of the hops is finished here. There has been no important change in prices, which have been on an average 75s. To-day there was an upward tendency, and 80s. were paid. More than two-thirds have been sold. The favourable weather was taken advantage of to pack the hops sold, and about 400 bales have been sent to the public scales.

Prussia.

NEUTOMISCHEL.—The hop harvest has now finished. We estimate from 10,000 to 15,000 cwt.; quality excellent; colour not so good. Business has developed in the last few days; there are some foreign buyers on spot. First sales have been concluded at 80s. to 100s. The growers hold back.

Bohemia.

SAAZ.—Our harvest can generally be termed finished, and only some large growers will be busy till beginning of the coming week. The tropical heat of the last few days will not do any good to the hops. . . . The growers are being paid 120s. to 170s. (first cost), and for choice goods a little more is allowed. On spot there is not much doing.

We may estimate our crop at from 55,000 to 60,000 cwt. With regard to colour and quality the crop is good. Values ruled during last week at 165s. to 190s.

Lord Auckland's Farm Stock.—In consequence of having disposed of the Gravenhurst estate, the whole of Lord Auckland's farm stock at Garston's Farm, Bolney, Sussex, was sold by auction last week by Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell, and the sale—a two-day event—proved successful, being very largely attended by buyers. The live stock included Shire horses, a small herd of Jersey cows and heifers, and other horned stock, and a small flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep and lambs. The Shire horses made up to 75 guineas, the other chief figures being 68 guineas, 67 guineas, 58 guineas, 50 guineas, 48 guineas, and 36 guineas; the Jersey cattle sold up to £15, whilst the price for sheep and lambs ranged from 27s. 6d. to 55s.

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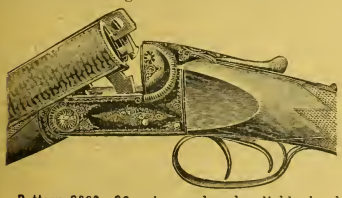

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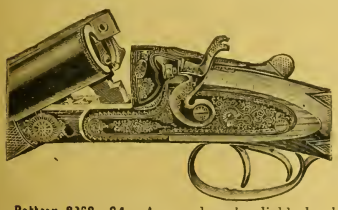

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Midland Notes.

THERE are some rather surprising crop estimates in the latest Board of Agriculture bread-sheet. One had expected to find the poor hay and root yields of the parched east and south of England counterbalanced, to some extent, by weightier crops in the moister northern and western counties; but after such a season one never expected to find English roots as a whole reckoned in the returns as 10½ per cent. of a full crop. Certainly that estimate is far from representing the state of affairs in the Midlands, where 80 per cent. would have been nearer the mark until the September rain came, and that was not enough to make the improvement one would have liked to see. Even now, Oxford, Warwick, Nottingham, and Northampton will be poorly off for roots, especially turnips, which are small, and have been not a little troubled by mildew. Things are more cheerful in Staffordshire; but then when we go to Staffordshire we reach the fringe of the districts to which the season has been moderately kind.

WE are enjoying typical September weather—yesterday sharp frost and the first thick fog of the season, to-day a mild but beautiful reflection of the splendours of the summer. What we are not getting, and what we still need badly is more rain. The downpours we have had were not enough to replenish the springs and wells for more than a short time; in various districts water has even now to be carted long distances for stock, and the heavier soils need a thorough soaking to bring them in to even a moderately workable condition.

IN the circumstances the question of wheat sowing is more than usually difficult. There is no chance, apparently, of sowing in muddy our old saws direct, and the problem is complicated by the extraordinary hardness of the subsoil, which seems as solid as a rock, and would probably prove impervious to heavy rainfall even if it should come. Wheat thrives on a moderately stiff bottom, but this is too solid for anything, and probably many who would now be usually thinking about drilling wheat will prefer to await the effects of a winter's frost rather than entrust anything to ground in so intractable a condition.

THERE is much disappointment and some grumbling at the prices now being paid for the new season's corn. Certainly the averages are low, and the farmer who comes to sell wheat or oats is apt this season to find that even high quality does not help him so much as it should, since good grain in the best of condition is the rule rather than the exception. There is room for doubt, however, as to the barley; apparently the ripening in this case was very generally too rapid and sudden, with the result that "steely" and irregularly shrunken grain is rather common. Growers complain also of irregular ripening, which made it hard to know when to cut the crop, and leaves them now with grain of two colours. There will be very little barley this season of merely feeding quality, but it looks as if the really fine samples for which maltsters are ready to give long prices will be scarcer than was anticipated when the crop was harvested.

WE are apparently to see an unusually keen fight over hop values. Growers in the Midlands who have contrived at great expense to raise anything like a crop are not in the least disposed to part with it in a year of scarcity at prices representing less than the cost of cultivation. There will be forced sales, no doubt, for ready money will be needed, and at the best of times the dealer can generally manage to outlast the grower at the waiting game. But the almost entire absence of sales at the rates offering on Worcester fair day is a significant sign of the times.

MEANWHILE the Midland growers have two points in their favour. In the first place, they hold a crop the level and remarkably high quality of which was quite surprising to visitors from Kent and London who came to the recent fair; in the second, they are gradually breaking down the old prejudice against Worcester and Hereford hops. In all the points the brewer values the hops of the two counties was at least equal to any other, and since the local Hop Growers' Association got to work and circulated the results of its analyses and other tests that fad has gradually come to be recognised even by outsiders who would once have scorned the idea of anything comparing with Kent's.

September 27, 1906.

An outbreak of pink-eye has occured amongst Manchester horses. Draught horses are the principal sufferers, and railway companies and carriers are experiencing inconvenience in consequence. In one stable, where forty horses are kept, fifteen have been attacked, and by other owners there have been many losses.

CHAS. LANCASTER.

Season 1906-7.

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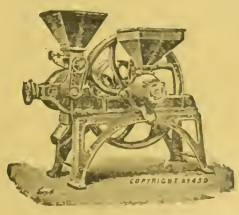

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(147) IPSWICH.

Northern Notes.

TWO farm fires in Yorkshire this week have tended to accentuate the belief that carelessness is allowed to a great extent on threshing days, and the two outbreaks in question may be undoubtedly attributed to a preventable cause. Men are careful to a certain point, then comes a moment of forgotfulness on the part of fireman or labourer. The engine may be left a few minutes, and then the mischief is done. "Trains" of straw are allowed to connect the fire-box with the stacks, and as this year the produce is dry as tinder, once alight it is next to impossible, without extraordinary means at hand, to arrest the progress of a stackyard conflagration. Labourers should be instructed to keep clear of any heaps of straw the spaces intervening between the engine and the stacks, as there is no doubt fires orginate as the result of sparks falling on the loose straw. Much valuable material is thus lost to the farmer in the form of manure.

THE great gathering of agriculturalists representing the North-Eastern Farmer's Federation, which is to be held at Newcastle on October 13, will have a rod in pickle for the President of the Board of Agriculture, who has kindly promised to attend the conference. A great display of feeling is already apparent in the North relative to the alleged arbitrary action of the Board in respect of the Sheep Scab Order. There can be no doubt the North Yorkshire farmers have good grounds for complaint, if any one has, because there has not been a case of scab reported in the Riding since July 1. The farmers do not complain of the compulsory dipping, as it is a necessary precaution. What they do complain of is that when they drive their sheep to a fair or market with a certificate that they had been dipped, the sheep are not allowed to be removed again without further certificates being obtained for every batch of sheep removed. The North Riding County Council has done its best to support the farmers in their objections, but the Board has remained as adamant in its determination not to budge from the terms of the order. Not only has there been no sheep scab, but the Riding has also been entirely free from any outbreak of swine fever for three months. This is a very clean record.

IN the East Riding the Board has successfully grappled with a series of outbreaks extending over a period of more than six months. The disease was spread primarily through the inadvertence of a dealer at Bridlington sending a herd of swine to Driffield Cattle Market. These pigs were sold before the nature of the ailment was discovered, and they carried infection far and near. The dealer was, strange to say, never prosecuted. His action, in marketing ailing pigs, has caused more loss and inconvenience to Yorkshire farmers and dealers than any previous act of carelessness or of wilful exposure that we can recall. It is calculated that fully 8,000 pigs have lost a market. The centre of distribution at Driffield has been closed since March, notwithstanding that above half the district was clear of disease for more than half that period. The pigs that would have come to this market have been sent at greater risk and expense to more distant places, where their owners were often obliged to sell at prices they would refuse but for the greater cost, trouble, and risk of getting their swine home again. The local member of Parliament (Mr. Luke White) recently used his influence with the Board of Agriculture, and with the desired result, viz., the issuing of a modified order, which again throws open the market this week. The hardship of the regulations may be judged by a statement made to me by a dealer, who said he had to come nearly ten miles to the district superintendent of police to enable him to move a pig to a neighbour on the other side of the street.

BREEDING sheep in the North have never been dearer than at present. A farmer, with the accumulated dignity which seventy summers confer, corroborates this statement. He was a seller this week at an auction mart, and his Leicester gimmer shearlings averaged 66s. per head, the highest price per head being 70s. Other sellers had also very satisfactory experience of a dear market, their spare sheep (some of which were culls) reaching averages of over £3 per head. These were for long-wools. It is extraordinary that so many farmers are patronising the short-wooled breed of tups for use in their flocks, when wool is making a high price. They probably consider that a black-faced ram lamb gets early-maturing stock when lamb sells at 1s. and 1s. 2d. per lb, but the majority are pinning their faith to the prospect of a double profit, on wool and mutton. Leicester rams get produce which fattens quickly. Store lambs continue very dear, and are making as high as 2 guineas per head and over.

September 28, 1906.

POULTRY.

The Dull Season.

Those who handle chickens for market are now well into their annual season of dullness; 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. is about the most that fattened birds of average good quality and preparation are worth in the London markets, and the farmers and cottagers who rear them must perforce be content with the miserable price of 1s. 8d. or 1s. 9d. each for chickens nearly double the size of those for which 3s. 6d. was paid in April and May.

This dullness in the poultry department of farm production is coincident with a very busy period in other branches of the farmer's work; the harvest follows the haying with scarcely a pause, and the fullness of work in this and other directions leaves little time or inclination for the serious consideration of what are (at any rate just now) in so many cases regarded as "unconsidered trifles." Even the large rearers of East Sussex, who specialise in chicken production, give them far less than their usual thought and attention during the dull season. The result of this almost unavoidable relaxation of poultry management, when the other work is most exacting, is that the rearer's profit must be—if he will but realise it—almost *nil*, if not worse. Probably one reason why this is not noticed at the time is because the higgler still continues to pay fairly large sums when he calls each fortnight, the largely increased number of birds in comparison with the early season swelling the total so far that the over-busy farmer does not pause to seriously consider that he is now giving two birds for what was then the price of one; and not only is he doubling the number of birds for the same price, but giving an average of probably at least three times the weight so much larger must they be.

The higgler begins to be more markedly critical of size in chickens when the haying commences, he also having hay to make on his own holding, and very often some grain to harvest as well; he can therefore, as the London returns are dropping, afford to temporarily reduce his output and gather in his other profits. Consequently upon two or three visits to the rearers at that period he rejects more than a usual number of the lean fowls put up for his selection by the farmer; these rejected birds are run out again for another fortnight or so at the rearer's expense, making more size without more profit.

The younger and succeeding birds are growing and developing rapidly under the more favourable climatic conditions, and hatching is continued wholesale. In this way the higgler gets matters in advance as regards size for the succeeding few months, and to that extent the rearer gets behind for the same period. It thus happens that in the dull season well-grown chickens may be seen in their hundreds and thousands, upon the fields and along the roadsides, in East Sussex and the other South-Eastern rearing districts; the

It is very common to hear the expressed opinion that chickens sold at 2s. 6d. pay better than those realising 3s. 6d., and there is some reason for the statement. The birds sold at the latter price are reared at the most difficult rearing period, whilst those making half-a-crown are produced when the weather is on the mend and the conditions more favourable, the season being a more natural one for the young; on the other hand, the supply and demand are sufficiently equalised to make it possible to clear them young, and before they have had time to make their cost of production disproportionate to the return.

There is also another opinion, referring more to the 1s. 9d. than the 2s. 6d. chicken, the expression of which frequently finds its place in poultry text books, in the guise of a dogmatic statement, viz., that the cost of rearing in summer is less than in winter. Backed by specious arguments—such as the abundance of natural food in the fields, the reduced risk of loss by disease and adverse weather, etc—this statement appears, on the face of it, to be fairly convincing; but, although it is generally accepted without question, is it really so certain that it is not fallacious and misleading in regard to commercial poultry keeping and the marketing side of the question?

If we accept the farmer's estimate of 1s. per chicken as the actual out-of-pocket cost of rearing an early bird of higgler's size, it certainly looks as though a later-hatched one should not cost so much in hand food; but the bottom is knocked out of this plausible theory when we remember that the early bird is eagerly sought after when he is very many weeks younger, and has consequently consumed so much less meal, than that which is grudgingly bought at the lowest price in the dull season.

I do not think that, in the circumstances, the cost of rearing in summer is appreciably lower than in winter, and I am not so sure that in many cases it is not perceptibly more; if so, taking into account all the incidentals exclusive of actual cost of food, does it really pay to rear for the dull season—that is, does the rearing pay the *rearer?*

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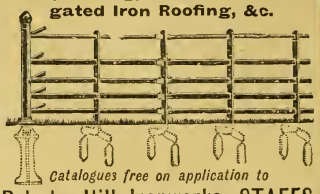

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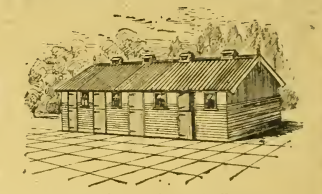

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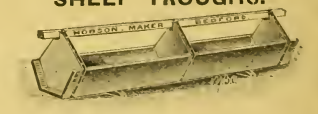

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It is quite easy to prepare. It swells out into a fine creamy substance, the calves are fond of it, and there is no scour.

When the calves begin to eat, we recommend a little dry feeding—a mixture of "Bibby" Cake, Oats and Bran is particularly suitable, the former being at once nutritious and digestible; and calves so reared are always one of the sights of the farm, and make fine well-grown heifers with nice loose skins and plenty of good hair.

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It is the most soluble Calf Meal on the market, and can be made up simply by soaking the meal in cold water for six or seven hours, if this suits the feeder's convenience better than by making up with boiling water in the ordinary way.

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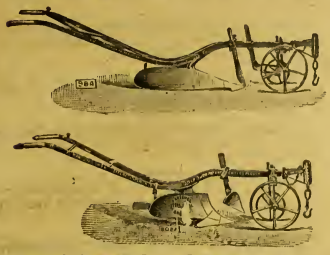

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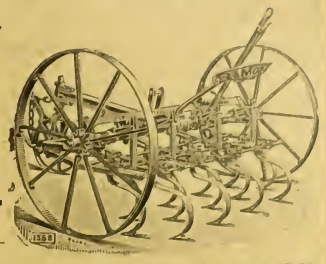

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WINTERING SHEEP ON FEW ROOTS.

Swedes were so generally stricken with mildew in the driest districts of eastern and southern England and even in the Midlands while the drought lasted, and turnips sown in July fared so badly in many places, that probably the prospects of the root crop were never more variable. In Scotland, Wales, and over the greater part of the northern half of England the realisations of abundant roots for winter stock-keeping are considered certain; so much so that in the statement of crop conditions issued by the Board of Agriculture so recently as September 24, the estimate of yield for the whole of Great Britain, although put at 4 per cent. less than a month ago, is still 1½ per cent. in excess of an average crop. Moreover, as was the case last year, the abundance and excellent prospects of swedes and turnips in Scotland, the north of England, and Wales impart an impetus to sheep-fair tradings, causing prices to be well supported.

Owners of breeding flocks in the districts where prospects of roots are worst share in the prosperous state of trade, and will realise satisfactory prices for their wether lambs and off-going ewes, but unless they keep fewer breeding ewes in the ensuing winter, many will have to economise their roots by pulping them and intermixing the pulp with straw chaff. Fortunately, mangels withstood the drought admirably, even in the districts most badly off for swedes and turnips, and will prove an admirable resource. Very satisfactory is it also that there is such an abundance of nice, sweet straw available for fodder. Presumably, with such advantages, few farmers will diminish their breeding flocks owing to apprehensions of root shortage.

In fact, according to the best authorities, breeding flocks should never be diminished because of scarcity of roots. There never was a greater failure of root crops than in 1864, yet the late Mr. John Coleman in his prize essay on Sheep Management in the "Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England" of the ensuing year wrote:—"I saw many flocks during the past winter living on damp chaff with a little artificial food, and doing as well as could be wished, with every prospect of a healthy produce and plenty of milk."

The late Mr. Charles Rendall, of Chalbury, who could grow no turnips on his stiff Oxford clay soil, was accustomed to buy in a flock of in-lamb ewes in autumn whenever he could obtain the sheep at what he considered a paying price, which he fed until they lambed entirely on straw chaff enriched by a corn soup to which a little linseed mucilage had been added. These ewes did so well that, according to Mr. Rendall's own statement, many were fit for the butcher when they lambed. Mr. Coleman was of opinion that a daily dietary of from 6 lb. to 8 lb. of root pulp intermixed with 1 lb. or 1½lb. of straw chaff would be more wholesome for a sheep than a full feeding of all roots.

The instalment of the agricultural returns recently published giving the numbers of sheep in the respective counties, disclose the fact that where the crop of turnips was worst in 1905 there was a decrease instead of an increase of sheep kept for wintering. At least when the collection of statistics for the present year took place, less numbers than in 1905 were found in Beds, Berks, Dorset, Hants, Wilts, Herts, Norfolk, Suffolk, Sussex, and the East Riding. This tends to prove that too many farmers still apportion their wintering of sheep to their turnip crops, instead of endeavouring always to keep the stated numbers best for their farms. The better policy is to make circumstances conform to system rather than bend to the latter, although for the time being it may save labour and expenditure to do so.

Although most of the counties above named are noted for having large breeding flocks, it does not follow that these were lessened; the deficiencies may have been caused by farmers in those counties accustomed to keep what are termed "dry flocks," owing to having few turnips, neglecting to buy in their usual complements. Whether this be so or not, we hope that, owing to the recent rains, the renewed growth of turnips in the districts where they had worst appearance at the beginning of September will cause a shortening of numbers or any other unusual course to be unnecessary.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2. – Sale of Shire Horses, Derby–Thornton's Sale of Shorthorns at Carlisle–Lloyd's Horse Sale at Wrexham – Great Agricultural Sale at Salisbury – Moreton-in-the-Marsh Horse Show–Byworth Farm Sale, Petworth–Bentley Farm Sale.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3.–Horsham Great Market, Special Sale of Heifers in Calf–Stafford Fair–Great Timber Sale at Petersfield–Tolworth Court Farm Sale–Special Sale of Pedigree Pigs, Newport–West Dean Sale of Southdowns, &c., near Seaford, Sussex–Moorfields Farm Sale, Cuckfield – Northallerton and Preston Cattle Fairs–Braintree and Hornby Agricultural Fairs–Peterborough Fair–Large Sale of Farm Poultry, Vindon, Worthing–South Bucks. Agricultural Show Last Day for Entries for the Malting Barley Competition, Islington.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4–Cholderton Sale of Tamworth Pigs – Benniworth Farm Sale, Lincolnshire–Greatham Manor, Pulborough, Special Sale of Aberdeen Angus Cattle–Lloyd's Sale of Heavy Horses at Wrexham–Pevensey Sale of Dairy Cattle–Sale of Mr. Shore's Jerseys, Frome, Somerset –East Cosham Farm Sale–Sale of Southdowns, Lavant–Mr. Locke King's Farm Sale, Okehurst, Billingshurst–Worldham Farm Sale.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5.–Sale of Mr. Hobb's Shorthorns, Kelmscott, Lechlade–Edenhope (Shropshire) Sale of Pedigree Herefords and of Clun Sheep–Annual Stock Sale, Strood, Kent–Pontefract Cattle Fair–Kirkby Lonsdale Horse and Cattle Fair–Bolsover Pig Fair – Shelley Farm Sale, Crawley–Hickstead Farm Sale–Oakham Agricultural Fair.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6–Horse Fairs at Woburn and Nottingham–Cattle Fairs at Woburn, Broughton, Huntingdon, Buckingham, Keswick, and Nottingham–Sheep Fairs at Keswick, Buckingham, and Broughton–Great Agricultural Fair on Petersfield Heath.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8. – Sheep Fairs at Blandford – Cattle Fairs at Swansea, Burkenhead, Billericay, Glastonbury, and Blackburn–Pig Fair at Blackburn–Great Agricultural Fairs at Ludlow and Grimsby –Great Annual Sheep Sale, Falkirk – Lovell Farm Sale, Cuckfield.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9. – British Dairy Farmers Show at Islington, Opening Day –Saul and Selby's Agricultural Sale at Skegby, Notts.–Manor Farm Sale, Reading –East Worldham Farm Sale–Manley's Annual Sale of Hunters at Crewe Hounslow Show–Bere Farm Sale, Soberton–Upper Nash Farm Sale–Kilborough Fairs at Carmarthen, Hay, Denbigh, Kington, Bingley, and Gargrave.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Concerning the fair held on Wednesday, Mr. Challinor reports as follows:—

Pitch, about 45 tons. Attendance of buyers was large and representative. The demand was good, and prices very satisfactory to sellers. Fine Cheshire made 68s. to 72s.; medium, 62s. to 66s.; lower grades down to 57s. 6d. The impression is that a further improvement will follow. The next fair being the show fair, it is expected that at least 160 tons of the county's finest product will be staged and offered for sale.

Brent Pony Fair, held on Tuesday, was well attended, but owing to the want of keep, trade was somewhat slow, preventing such numbers changing hands as in former times. More than the usual number of ponies were sent in, a rough estimate being 500 to 600. Suckers made 25s. to 40s., yearlings £3 to £4, two-year-olds £5 to £6 10s., and three years and upwards according to age and quality.

Notes of the Week.

Congratulations to Earl Carrington—upon whom the King has conferred the honour of a knighthood of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

This may be regarded as a mark of the King's continued interest in matters agricultural.

It is announced that early next month there will be an agricultural conference at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and that the Minister of Agriculture will be present.

This will afford Lord Carrington another opportunity of explaining his views on the various questions which at present are agitating agricultural circles.

We hope he will be able to make a more satisfactory announcement with regard to the army meat contracts.

Mr. Haldane has recently returned from Germany, where he was present at important army manœuvres. He may have ascertained that the German Government, when obtaining supplies for the Army, support the home agricultural industry.

It is the truly patriotic plan, and in the long run much the best for the country.

At the same conference at Newcastle the subject of rural education is to be discussed.

No question involves more important issues. If the curriculum is arranged so as to provide practical knowledge of the rudiments of country pursuits, much good will result.

The difficulty is to get teachers who possess the necessary knowledge, and who can be provided with the opportunity of imparting it.

As far as possible gardens should be attached to the schools, and the power of observation in the pupils should be stimulated.

It is curious to hear that the mysterious steamer *Xema*, fitted out to explore a treasure island with a supposed diamond mine, intended to land an expedition on one of the guano islands on the south-west coast of Africa.

There are several small islands forming a group from which the well-known Ichaboe guano is shipped.

For years the guano has been annually collected, and during the breeding season the birds are carefully protected from disturbance.

About four to five thousand tons of fresh, rich guano are taken off them every year.

It forms a source of regular revenue to the Cape Government, and the guano is in demand as a most valuable fertiliser.

The Journal of the Board of Agriculture is a publication which should be regularly read by farmers.

The September issue is particularly interesting. It contains an instructive article on "Dodder," and much other useful information.

According to all reports, the apple crop is most abundant, and the fruit is in sound condition.

Under such circumstances, one would have thought that this abundance would be reflected by low retail prices for the fruit.

But this is not the case. It is reported that the value of apples is so low that they are not worth the cost of picking or are being given to the pigs, but the retail city price always remains about the same.

It is said that the high retail price is due to what is called the "Covent Garden ring," whose interest lies in maintaining a regular standard of price.

Just as it is reported that the Billingsgate ring would destroy a boat load of fish rather than let the market be glutted and prices forced down.

The "ring" theory is probably somewhat far fetched. The real reason is more likely the lack of cheap means of distribution to the consumer.

There is a good market in London and other cities for any quantity of cheap, fresh fruit if it could be brought to the consumer.

This is where co-operation should step in. Co-operative shops, established by farmers for the direct sale of fruit and fresh market produce at popular prices, would be a great boon, and probably a great success.

It has been suggested that if costermongers, dressed in a neat uniform and supplied with a nice-looking barrow-load of fresh fruit and vegetables, were sent round, a large business might be done.

Such a system would help to open up a direct connection between grower and consumer, and save the burdensome middle charges.

The harvest in cereals this year in Hungary has beaten all records. The output of wheat is 5,260,000 tons. No one should be hungry in Hungary.

An Essex Ploughing Match.—There was a great gathering of ploughmen from Mid-Essex at Witham on Thursday, when seventy ploughs competing at the same time was witnessed. It was claimed that the matches were the largest of their kind that have been held in East Anglia for many years. Several of the ploughmen were over seventy years of age, one being in his eightieth year. It was remarked that there was not a single boy ploughman entered in the classes for those under eighteen, although substantial prizes were offered. Ploughmen employed by Lord Rayleigh, who farms several thousand acres in Essex, carried off all the principal prizes.

[*The Farmers' Diary will be found on the previous page.*]

"EDUCATION'S HARVEST."

(SIR CARNE RASCH'S SPEECH AT THE AGRICULTURAL SHOW AT BUNGAY.)

BROKEN-DOWN FARMER (to his son and heir): "If all the money wasted on your Education had been spent on artificial manure for the land I should not be ruined, and you would have something to start life on. Now we farmers are stony broke, and you, my boy, will have to compete with German Labour and Alien Competition, which is cheaper and better than you can supply, and you ain't fit for the Army or the Navy neither."

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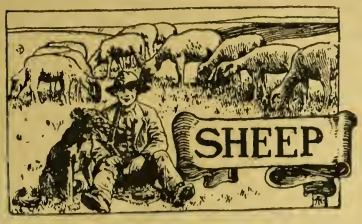


Notes and Jottings.

FOR some months ewes will have to be kept economically, or the lambs will have cost too much by the time they are born; at the same time it is a mistake to let the ewes get too low in condition, as by so doing there is great probability of losses before or at lambing time. Because it is not advisable to have the ewes too fat, it is no reason why they should be allowed to get too poor. Yet there are many who do not draw a proper distinction between these extremes and choose the middle path. We have seen so many instances where a bad lambing time has followed semi-starvation that it is certain that others must have witnessed it too; yet these failures seem to have little influence on the management of some people. In a year like this when autumn keep is very short in many districts ewes will be liable to meet with short rations; and as the winter supply is likely to be scanty, it would be a great mistake to let the ewes fall away too much in condition, as there is not the likelihood of it being convenient to put them on exceptionally liberal diet when the unborn lambs are making a specially heavy tax on their mothers.

IT will be by no means easy to find ewe food, as the young swedes are very small, and the stubbles will give little help, consequently there will be little scavenging for the sheep to perform. It will be necessary to give dry food early this year, and though it will add to the expense, it will prove most profitable in the long run.

TO those who live in arable districts and who have little grass land, it is very amusing to read, as one so often does, that it is impossible to get a good crop of lambs if roots form the main food of ewes during the time the ewes are in-lamb. There are many farms, and, for that matter, districts, where ewes practically never go on grass land in the autumn, for the simple reason that there is none available for them; yet as good falls of lambs are obtained in these as in those more favourable situated in respect to grass. It is certainly more easy to manage a flock where there is grass available and lambs can be produced at smaller cost from grass land, but getting a good fall, in accordance with the aptitude of a particular breed, is mainly a matter of good management. We know districts where good crops of lambs are obtained where, in the later autumn and winter, the bulky food consists chiefly of turnips and swedes, corrected by hay or even less nutritious chaff; but it is wiser to provide rape or cabbages, and it is practically no more expensive to do so. There is nothing really injurious in roots provided they are matured, the only fault with them is that they do not constitute a whole food, and the constituents lacking must be supplied.

HAY is somewhat expensive for ewes, and on a mixed farm it is frequently easy to get a chopped mixture at small expense which answers well. We have on many occasions made a ewe mixture by chopping oat straw, clover haulm from which seed has been taken, cavings from barley containing a fair amount of green stuff such as seedling clover, and adding the clover seed cob, and the dressed chaff from wheat. If this is put into a barn and well trodden by a horse as it is being filled in, so that it becomes thoroughly consolidated, it will sweat a little, especially if a little salt is from time to time thrown in during the filling up, and become a sort of silage, very tempting in smell and taste, which ewes will readily eat. There is an exceptionally big breadth of clover seed this autumn which can be turned into good sheep food if chaffed, but which is of little value if merely put before sheep in heaps for them to "muzzle" for the sweet pieces. It is food of this sort that helps the breeder who has little grass land to help him, for by its means he makes his turnip diet a satisfactory one. As the fœtus puts more tax on the dam a little extra help, as supplied by malt cobbings on cotton cake, may be given.

THE season for applying basic slag is here, and it is advantageous to get it on in good time, as then the small clover patches get a start before winter, and are ready to take full advantage of the manure when the growing period comes round again. Those who are thinking of putting it on pastures being grazed by sheep need have no fear of the sheep suffering even though the manure is applied whilst they are in the field. We carried out a series of trials to see what injury was done to the sheep, and there was not the slightest trace of hurt, although exceptionally heavy dressings were applied, and in one case a sheep was actually dosed with it. White clover is one of the most feeding foods given to sheep, and it should be encouraged at all times in pastures. All pastures can be made to carry a heavy percentage of white clover, provided suitable manure is supplied, whether it take the form of superphosphate, basic slag, potash, or lime, according to the deficiencies of the soil. Nothing adds to the sheep carrying powers of a pasture so much as does the increase of clover.

THE long prices paid for Lincoln Longwool sheep during the present season may suggest that they are without equivalent. Of course, those bought to be sold again in the Argentine will go for much greater sums than have been given here, added to which will be the difference in money value between a gold and silver exchange. Apart from these considerations, the Merino holds the record amongst sheep. The Merino never made strong headway in England, mainly because it is unable to withstand the severity of our coldest winters. Yet in the first half of last century some large flocks were carried in this country, a Mr. Bennett, a Wiltshire member of Parliament, at one time kept as many as 7,000 from stock imported from Spain; but the breed never made headway in the country. Others have got stock from Saxony, and though this was hardier, and generally in a more improved condition, this went the way of the Spanish stock. Given a warm climate, the Merino is a great sheep, and the long prices paid for sheep of British breeds is a high compliment to them when the suitability of the Merino to countries like Australia and the Argentine is taken into consideration.

SIR R. P. COOPER'S SHROPSHIRE SHEARLING RAM,
Winner of First Prize at the Bath and West Show this year.

Robertsbridge Fair.

Over 30,000 sheep and lambs were on offer at Robertsbridge Fair on Tuesday, and with a large attendance and good bidding nearly every lot was disposed of. The highest figure for Southdown lambs was 34s. 6d., and for rams £5. Numerous Kent and half-bred as well as Southdown ewes were sold at satisfactory prices.

Louth Ram Fair.

A large number of rams were on offer at Louth Ram Fair, and some good prices were realised, the best being 20 guineas, which was given for one of Mr. W. A. Ewbank's Covenham rams, sold by auction by Messrs. E. A. Young and Son, others from the same flock making 17 guineas and 14 guineas. Mr. L. W. Stephenson's South Thoresby rams averaged £6 9s. 3d., the best price being 14½ guineas. Messrs. Dickinson, Riggal, and Davy disposed of nine, the property of Mr. E. H. Cartwright, of Keddington, 16 guineas, 14½ guineas, and 12 guineas being paid for the best. Thirty-four rams from the Baumber flock of Mr. W. Taylor-Sharpe was sold, the top prices being 12½ guineas and 13 guineas. Other rams sold by these auctioneers made up to 13 guineas. There was a large show of breeding sheep, ewes realising up to 63s. 6d. per head, gimmers to 59s., and shearling ewes up to 65s.

SALES OF THE WEEK.

Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association Show and Sale.

Ten years have elapsed since this annual show and sale was first started, and without question its importance and popularity increases every year. That this should be the case is not a matter of surprise, because at no other show or sale of the breed can so many representative selections of the principal flocks be seen and compared with so little trouble and with, what is of still more importance to the foreign or colonial buyer, so little expenditure of time. This year's entry represented twenty-five flocks, the largest number that has ever been represented at this sale, and the number of rams entered was 502, as against 367 last year.

The opening event was the competition for the challenge cups and prizes. The Laurence Hardy Challenge Cup, that has been competed for for nine years, has at last found its home, for Mr. D. E. Quested, who won it last year, again repeats his success, and thus finally secures the trophy. The same breeder was second in the competition with another remarkably good yearling ram. The competition in the class for the best woolled ram was thoroughly interesting, but the award that gave Mr. J. E. Quested precedence in this class, though only by the narrowest of margins over Mr. C. File's fine exhibit, was generally approved of. The class for sheep other than yearlings brought out a really good lot. Mr. F. Neame took Lord Harris' Challenge Cup with a grand four shear ram, his two-shear ram, making a bold bid for first honours, had to be content with second place.

The publication of a fixed time for the sale of each consignment was an innovation that worked remarkably well. The result of the sale is eminently satisfactory to the breeders, because, never before so far as can be ascertained, have there been two rams sold for 120 and 75 guineas at any sale of the breed. These two prices were the top ones, but two others made 50 guineas, and quite a number went around 30 guineas. The average of the sale works out at £12 5s. 8d. for 476 rams sold. The best average of the sale last year when 347 averaged £11 18s., was Mr. J. E. Quested's. This year the same breeder takes this proud position, but with an average of much larger amount, namely £20 18s. for twenty-two rams. The top figure in the sale record of this breed is now 120 guineas, at which price Messrs. Denny, of Boro Place, Chiddingstone, took the second prize ram in the cup competition, and the winner of the special prize for best wooled ram. This is a notable price, and one that only a limited number of rams ever make. Mr. C. File gave 50 guineas for the first prize ram and cup winner, a fine ram of excellent type this is, and a noted winner of prizes, including second at the Royal, Royal Counties, and East Kent shows this year. The he old ram went to Mr. A. Amos at 25 guineas; Mr. F. Baker gave 25 and 17 guineas for a pair; Earl of Guildford paid 20 guineas and 13 guineas for two others, Mr. Brook paid 18 guineas, and Mr. Arthur Finn 17 guineas. The range of price in this lot was 120 to 6 guineas.

Mr. F. Neame's lot were sold last in the sale, but they secured the second highest average of the day. Mr. Aicherson's agent, after a contest with Mr. W. W. Chapman, got the top-priced ram of this lot at 40 guineas; the first-named buyer was purchaser of a very choice lot of rams, six in number, all for South America, one at 38 guineas, one at 26 guineas, and others at 21 guineas, 20½ guineas, 20 guineas, and 19 guineas. Mr. R. H. Green got some of the best, one at 36 guineas, and two at 33½ guineas; these were run and c in the Champion Cup competition. Another buyer paid 30 and 15 guineas, Mr. F. Baker 25 guineas, and Mr. Lister Kaye 27 guineas; from this price they ranged down to 8 guineas; the whole fifty rams offered and sold realised an average of £18 17s. 2d.

The third place in the average list was occupied by Mr. Arthur Finn. Ten rams were sent from Westbroke, an average of this year's fine lot of sheep. The top-priced ram went at 50 guineas to Mr. McGaw for Montevideo, whose agent was also successful in getting another one at 30 guineas; the former was one of the best auction prices ever made by this flock, and, seeing it was paid for a choice ram, it was well deserved. Mr. G. H. Green gave 20 guineas, and the remainder ranged down to 6 guineas, with an average of £16 13s. 10d. for ten.

Mr. Charles File met with one of the most satisfactory demands he has ever had at his sale. Mr. Arthur Finn, of Westbroke, took one of his rams at 38 guineas, the best price of this lot, but a ram of sterling merit and quality was one that Messrs. J. Thornton and Co secured, the ram for the special wool prize, the figure here was 35 guineas. One went to Mr. Hawkridge at 20 guineas, a neat and well-known ram. Mr. W. W. Chapman took some six or seven—22½ and 16 guineas twice were the best prices. Mr Chittenden gave 24 guineas, and Lord Verulam 18½ guineas, the remainder ranging down to 8½ guineas, with an average of £16 10s. 4d. for the thirty-nine offered and sold.

For any consignment of rams that numbered sixty-five, all of which were sold to realise a range of prices that only had one below double figures is a distinct indication of a good lot of rams and a real good demand. This was the good fortune of Mr. H. Rigden at this year's sale. Mr. W. W. Chapman gave the top price for a particularly nice yearling ram for South America, 39 guineas. Several other rams were in request, for amongst the prices realised were 35 and 21½ guineas to Mr. R. H. Green for Mr. G. C. Swindell's; 30 guineas to Earl Verulam; 35 guineas to Mr. L. Hardy, M.P., president of the society; and the same figure to another for Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.; 20 guineas for two to Messrs. Brown and Kelsey; and 15 guineas to the Earl of Guildford. The average for the lot was £14 19s. 10d.

Mr J. B. Palmer's consignment found buyers for all, that fine ram, he in the cup competition, making 22 guineas to Mr. S. Kingsnorth; another went to Mr. Willett at 16 guineas; and the remainder ranged to 9 guineas, making the average of £12 16s. 2d.

Mr. A. Amos was hardly so well represented as in former years; his range of price was wide, 75 guineas for that grand ram third in the cup competition was the top figure. Messrs. J. Miller and J. E. Quested were the contestants, and the former got the ram for Mr. Gunther for the Hawkhurst flock; Mr. Quested subsequently took another at 32 guineas; and the remainder sold at from 14½ guineas to 5½ guineas, with an average of £11 9s. 2d.

Numerous other lots were sold at prices ranging up to 23 guineas.

Mr. Cartwright's Lincoln Longwools.

Mr. George Cartwright, of Ragnall Hall, who has a reputation of fifty years' standing as a breeder of sheep and cattle, is quitting Ragnall Hall, and Monday saw the dispersal of his flock of Lincoln Longwool sheep, herd, horses, &c. Eight shearing rams were sold at prices ranging from 4½ guineas to 8 guineas, the latter figure being paid by Mr. Fox, of Sibthorpe. A Lincoln Longwool two-shear ram, for which Mr. Cartwright refused 20 guineas last year, went to Mr. Abraham, of Hawk, for 6 guineas, and Mrs. Greenfield, Little Carlton, paid 6½ guineas for a Hampshire; 241 Lincoln Longwool ewes made up to 66s. each, the lowest figure 50s.; forty cull Lincoln Longwool ewes found purchasers at 52s. 6d. down to 44s. Lincoln Longwool gimmers made as high as 63s. Longwool wethers were in brisk demand, the prices varying from 48s. 6d. up to 64s. Cross-bred lambs made up to 44s. 6d., shc lambs 48s., and he lambs 48s. 6d. Satisfactory prices were obtained for the other farm stock.

Ayr Ram Society.

The annual sale of Blackfaced rams and ram lambs and show and sale of Border Leicester rams and ram lambs, under the auspices of the Ayr Ram Society, took place on Wednesday, and there was a very large attendance of buyers. The Blackfaced shearlings attracted most attention from buyers, and some very good prices were got early in the sale. The Browncastle lot, thirteen in number, were put up fourth lot, and the sheep to which the championship was awarded the previous day, one of the third prize pen of five, brought £53, which sum was given by Mr. G. Willison, Parisholm, Douglas, Lanarkshire Others made up to £22 The first prize sheep in the Blackfaced ram (two shear and upwards) class, the property of Colonel Blair, went to Mr. Kerr, Nesby, Islay, at £14 10s., but the second prize animal made £27, and the third £27 10s. The sensation of the sale was, however, reached when the Borland flock was exposed. The first of the first prize pen of five brought £86, which is the highest price given for a Blackfaced ram in Ayr for a number of years. The ram was bought by Mr. Hamilton, Woolfords. The five averaged £32, and the general average was the highest of the sale. Border Leicesters met with a ready market at prices which brought the general average considerably above that of last year. The first prize animal brought the satisfactory price of £24 10s., which contrasts with £13 10s., the highest last year. The animal became the property in the ring of Mr Coats, East Kilbride. It was bred by Mr. James Dunlop, Midland, by whom it was exposed, and was first prize sheep in the shearling class.

York.

Messrs. T. Walker and Sons' annual sale of breeding sheep at York took place on Thursday. The principal attraction of the catalogue was the pure-bred Oxford Down rams and Oxford Down ram lambs from Messrs. H. and G. Overman, Weasenham, Norfolk. The demand for all classes of rams was not so good as had been anticipated, considering the high prices of other classes of sheep, and several very choice animals changed hands at comparatively low figures. Ten Oxford Down shearling rams from Messrs. Overman's ranged from 4 to 11 guineas each, and seven Oxford Down ram lambs, from the same breeders, realised 5 guineas each. Ten choice pure-bred Wensleydale ram lambs, from Mr. W. J. Green, Childerby Gates, met with fair competition, prices ranging up to £5 7s. 6d. each. The Hampshire shearling rams were a very useful lot, and met with a fair demand at prices ranging up to £5 per head. Leicester ram lambs were not quite sufficiently finished for breeding purposes, and were consequently disposed of at low rates.

Dorchester.

Dorchester Poundbury Fair, held on Thursday, proved an exceptionally full one both as regards attendance and supply, the prolonged spell of dry weather we have had leaving no alternative but for many flockmasters to sell. As a consequence quite 14,000 were penned for disposal, these being absorbed by sales held by Messrs. Ensor and Son and by Messrs. Duke and Son, and, as proof of the actual demand prevailing, scarce a pen of any note remaining over unsold. This result is all the more satisfactory seeing that a very bad trade had been anticipated, but, happily, these prognostications were not realised, as the sheep, despite the unfavourable conditions under which the fair was held, sold very well indeed and better than had been expected, though last year's rates were not realised by from 2s. to 3s. a head, which is less than many had anticipated. A general run for horn ewes was from 52s. to 56s. for the best (Mr. Tucker, St Andrews, reaching the highest figure); secondary drafts, 42s. to 50s.; horn couples, 55s. to 69s. (Mr. A. O. Symes); chilver lambs, 32s. to 40s.; wether lambs, 24s. to 31s.; Down ewes, 39s. to 47s.; Down chilver lambs, 31s. to 36s.; Down wether lambs, 24s. 6d. to 37s. 6d. A flock of horn ewes, belonging to Mr. Masters, Upcerne, was dispersed by Messrs. Ensor, and made from 42s. to 63s. apiece.

In the prize fair Mr. W. Tucker, St. Andrews, won Messrs. Ensor's 4-guinea cup for the best 100 horn ewes in the fair, the second prize of 2 guineas going to Mr. C. Hawkins, Waddon. For the best fifty ewes Mr. F. Samways, Chilcombe, secured Messrs. Ensor's 3-guinea prize, Mr. W. E Riggs, Chelfrome, being second.

Lazonby.

The three days' sale of rams held by Mr. J. Kidd at his Lazonby Auction Mart attracted a large attendance of dealers and breeders, and there was an excellent show, about 221 rams of a very good quality being catalogued. Shearlings were about £1 and lambs 15s. dearer than last last year. Prizes were offered for shearlings and lambs. In the former class Mrs. Wilson, Glassonby, took both first and second prizes, the sheep making £8 and £7. In the lamb class, Messrs. Todd, High Bank Hill, took first prize (£5), and Mr. T. H. Hall, Brackenbank, was second.

The Earl of Chichester's Southdowns.

The old-established flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep belonging to the Earl of Chichester, at Balmer Farm, Falmer, Sussex, was sold by auction on Wednesday by Messrs. W. F. Ingram and Son, in consequence of the farm having been let. The flock, which was of first-class quality, comprised 117 full mouth, 140 six-tooth, 126 four-tooth, 115 two-tooth ewes, 120 stock ewe lambs, 3 rams, and 2 ram lambs. There was a good attendance of buyers, and satisfactory prices were the order of the day. Full-mouth ewes made from 31s. to 38s. in lots of ten; lots of five six-tooth ewes fetched from 37s. to 57s. per head; four-tooth ewes, 46s. to 61s.; two-tooth ewes, 42s. to 51s.; ewe lambs, 24s. to 35s.; and ram lambs from 1½ guineas to 3 guineas, whilst the Rev. F. S. Sclater bought a full-mouth ram bred by the Duke of Richmond and Gordon for 6½ guineas; while Mr. R. Pratt and Mr. Hillman paid 3 guineas and 2 guineas respectively for full-mouth rams, also bred by the Duke of Richmond.

Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Associat on.

The seventeenth annual show and sale of the Wensleydale Long-Wool Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society took place at Northallerton on Wednesday, when the show was one of all-round excellence, the shearlings and lambs being particularly good There were no fewer than 300 entries in the breeders' selling classes. The silver cup offered by Mr. S. H. Rowlandson, the president, was won by Mr. J. W. Greensit, Holme-on-Swale, Thirsk, with a splendid pen of five shearling rams, Mr. E. Horseman, Richmond, being a good second, whilst the President's pen was placed third.

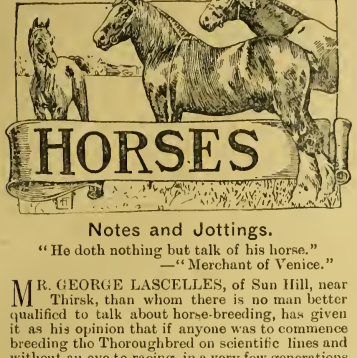
There was a very large company of buyers and the sale proved a good one throughout One of Mr. Greensit's rams was sold for £21, and the ram lambs of Mrs Holmes and Mr. T. B. Earle, second and third respectively in the ram lamb class, realised £9 each. The shearling ewes with which Mr. Horseman won first prize changed hands at £10 each, and the second prize winners of Mr. Trotter made up to £7 5s. each. Mr. Hargrave's first prize aged ram was sold for £10. Mr. Bentham King, Helmsley, sold half a dozen rams at an average of £11 each; Mr. Greensit's five fetched £64 10s.; and Col. Panson's lot close upon £10 each. Mr. Rowlandson's five went for £14 15s., and Mr. E K. Cleasby's entry sold for £61, or nearly £9 a head; £8 was given for a ram lamb bred by Mr. F. E. C. Dobson, whilst £11 was obtained for Mr. Horseman's best lamb, a ewe from the same flock also going for £10.

Sale of the Breadalbane Highland Cattle.

The well-known herd of pure-bred Highland cattle belonging to the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.G., was sold at Styx, near Taymouth Castle, on Thursday in the presence of a large company. The cattle, which numbered forty-five, were submitted in excellent condition and bloom, and included many favourite animals, which have again and again gained special showyard distinction. Several are related with the old strains of Mysies and Phroiseaigs of the second Marquis of Breadalbane, whose famous herd was disposed of at Taymouth in 1862. Bidding was somewhat slack to start with, but became brisker as the sale proceeded, and better prices were obtained. The top price of the sale was 61 guineas for Mysie VIII. of Taymouth, bought by Mr. Thomson, of Skye. The three bulls, Calum Buidhe III. of Atholl, Nigel Riabhach of Airthrey, and Captain of Taymouth, were withdrawn. Thirteen cows and calves averaged £31 3s. 6d.; two three-yearling heifers, £21 5s. 3d.; six two-year-old heifers, £19 5s.; five one-year-old heifers, £14 3s. 6d.; and seven bullocks, £10 11s 6d. The total of the sale was £708 4s. 6d., or an average per head of £15 14s. 9d.

Barnstaple Fair, one of the oldest of such institutions in the kingdom, was opened on Wednesday with the usual time-honoured ceremonials. The ancient Guildhall was crowded long before the appointed time for the assembly of the mayor and corporation for the toast and ale function. Nearly 3,000 sheep and about 400 cattle were penned in the cattle and sheep fair, but the sale was generally slow. Prices averaged, for steers, two-year-olds, from £11 to £14; for yearlings, £8 to £9. The sheep were in a number of cases poor lots. Horn ewes made from 34s to £2; Nott ewes, 37s. to 43s. In the horse fair, also, sales were not brisk. Cart horses fetched anything from £20 to £30.

Birmingham Onion Fair, which opened on Thursday in Birmingham, now scarcely justifies the name of fair. Time was when it was an event of great commercial importance, but after the introduction of railways and the establishment of local markets and cattle sales it ceased to be of much utility. In the old days tons of onions were to be seen on sale in the Bull Ring. But all that has now changed. One might have passed down the historic market last week without noticing a single reeve of onions. As a matter of fact, the total supply in the open street consisted of a single barrow of the vegetable. The trade is now done at the Smithfield market. Here many bags and reeves of onions are to be daily seen at this time of the year. Last week's prices were from 5s. to 7s. per dozen reeves, English onions 4s 6d to 6s. per cwt., Dutch onions from 3s. 9d. to 4s. 6d. per bag, and Valencia 6s. to 7s. per case. Horses were small in numbers and by no means great in quality, there being in fact an absence of really good-class animals.



Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

MR. GEORGE LASCELLES, of Sun Hill, near Thirsk, than whom there is no man better qualified to talk about horse-breeding, has given it as his opinion that if anyone was to commence breeding the Thoroughbred on scientific lines and without an eye to racing, in a very few generations the Thoroughbred would be as nearly strong and would develop nearly as much bone as the Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coach horse. I think there is very little doubt that Mr. Lascelles is right. Those of us who remember the kind of horses Sir Charles Strickland and Sir George Cholmley used to breed; who remember those great horses the Viking—who was bought by the Portuguese Government—and Cedric do not need to be told the possibilities there are in breeding the Thoroughbred horse, and it seems a pity that some of our wealthy landowners do not make the attempt. That it would pay, when the fictitious value of a horse that can win races is taken into consideration, it would be absurd to say. No horse for ordinary purposes can be expected to bring more than from 200 to 500 guineas, and it is only exceptional ones that will bring that amount. And if horses were systematically bred on the lines indicated, there would be fewer exceptional ones, and consequently prices would be lower. As racehorses, it is needless to say, that many of these thoroughbreds would be worth as many thousands as they are worth hundreds for other purposes.

BUT this seems to me no reason why the attempt should not be made, and I think there is not the least doubt that a stud on the lines of those I have mentioned would pay its expenses and leave a little profit, if care was taken in making the original purchases. The mares should not be difficult to get. It is a fact known to the writer that one gentleman who rides certainly over 14 stone rarely rides anything else than Thoroughbreds, which he buys as yearlings at an initial cost of something under 25 guineas, which is his maximum. Many is the good horse he has bought for less than 20 guineas, and it is seldom that he does not get a horse well up to his weight. He has occasionally, of course, bought a filly, and more than one of these occur to the memory as the model of 14-stone Hunter mares.

IT would be much better to buy the mares intended as a foundation for a stud of this sort as yearlings. To begin with, there is the question of cost. If good sound mares were bought the price would be a serious consideration, and it should be unnecessary to point out that to breed from broken-down breeds would mean disaster. The best way to get a stud of thoroughbred mares for breeding hunters and riding horses would be to buy yearlings, break them, and hunt them for a season or two, and commence breeding from them at six or seven years old. They would then be treated naturally from the days of their purchase, and the extra growth they would get from their generous treatment up to the time of sale would do them no harm, but good. After that plenty of liberty and a little corn twice a day would be all they would require till it was necessary to break them in.

OCCASIONALLY a two-year-old that was too slow for racing might be bought, but, personally I should prefer a mare that had never been trained to breed from. To get the right sort of two-year-old at a low price we require an exceptional judgment, for horses change very much in appearance when they are turned out of training, and as this special knowledge is, perhaps, rarer than would be generally supposed, the purchase of two-year-old fillies is likely to end in disappointment.

THE question of suitable sires is one that naturally presents itself, and one unfortunate circumstance connected with modern Thoroughbred breeding is the excessive fees which are charged for the best stallions. Of course, it is impossible to help this; the conveniences of locomotion have a great deal to do with it, and, of course, the amount of money which a "fashionably" bred yearling will bring at the sales has a great deal to do with it. The price of a stallion is entirely a question of supply and demand. Still, with a little care suitable sires might be found at not a very excessive fee. One thing, however, with respect to stallions fees should be altered. The King's Premium horses all have a special fee for half-bred mares, but they charge a big price for Thoroughbred mares, and other horses that travel the country have also the same rules. I have referred to this on a previous occasion, and there is now really no reason why it should be continued. A hundred years or so ago, when a horse was naturally restricted to the mares in his immediate neighbourhood, and when the very best horses—horses such as Hambletonian covered half-bred mares—there was every reason for the two fees; but now it is difficult to see why these should exist, and they certainly have an effect in preventing men from trying to breed thoroughbred Hunters. If a few thoroughbred studs were started on the lines I have indicated, the difficulty about sires would obviously soon cease.

AS throwing some light on the way in which the best horses of the day were at the service of farmers in the long ago, I may refer to the early breeding of Yorkshire Coach horses. When the demand came for the lighter and faster carriage horse, breeders had recourse to Thoroughbreds. And amongst the Thoroughbred horses that were at the service of Coach horse breeders were horses of Mr. Garforth's famous strain, the strain that produced Marcia, the mare over whom song writers enthused as "the good grey mare," and whose "counterfeit presentment" hangs over the door of many a village inn in the county of many acres. Such horses as these would be entirely out of the reach of any but breeders of high-class thoroughbred stock for racing purposes in these times.

IT is an interesting fact, and one which is incomprehensible to a man who knows how insistently breeders of Coach horses have for the last thirty or forty years stuck to the bay colour for sires and broodmares, and how frequently they insist upon describing an obviously brown horse as a dark bay, that in the early days of crossing Cleveland Bays with Thoroughbreds with the object of breeding Yorkshire Coach horses grey horses were frequently used. This Marcia strain, for example, were greys for nearly a hundred years. And for a considerable period there seems to have been no prejudice against breeding from a grey stallion, for down to the middle of the nineteenth century grey sires were frequently used, and even at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's shows grey mares frequently were shown, and occasionally won as coaching brood mares. Perhaps the last grey horse that was extensively used was Duncan Grey, whose name frequently figures in the Yorkshire Coach Horse Stud Book. With this fact before us it certainly does seem curious how the bay colour prevails in the Yorkshire Coach horse, and it would seem to favour the argument that there was considerably more thoroughbred blood in the old Cleveland Bays or Chapmans than is generally admitted. The whole question of colour is an interesting one, and one on which pages might be written.

THE LOOKER-ON.

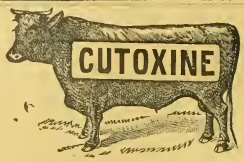
Notes and Jottings.

THE unbroken drought, which has latterly been accompanied by frosty nights severe enough to have given ice of considerable thickness, and followed by scorching sun in the day time, has played sad havoc with the root crops, especially swedes and turnips, and caused farmers to complain loudly of winter keep prospects. The blow to the swede crop is the heavier to bear as these roots gave promise a few weeks back of being more productive than for several years past, and now that over an immense area of the country they are white with mildew, their foliage drooping, and all increase of the bulbs at an end, it is a terrible disappointment. Further, it is a well-known fact that swedes, after passing through this great check in growth and health, lose a large proportion of their nutritive properties.

Mr F. HARGREAVES' GUERNSEY COW, MERTON BEAUTY OF THE VILLAGE, Champion Guernsey Cow or Heifer at the Royal Show, Derby.

ALTOGETHER the stock-breeders' prospects for winter have assumed a very serious aspect, so much so as to affect the price and demand even for milking cattle, which are in thousands of cases an absolute necessity for dairy farmers to purchase, as too many of the milk contracts entered into are so absolutely binding that the dairyman has no means of extricating himself, and to keep up the supply will, with numbers of people, entail a very heavy loss. On the majority of farms it means a terrible long winter, at least so far as the commencement is concerned, for thousands of cattle that in a good average season would have taken good care of themselves up to the middle of November will require to be put upon winter rations early in October, and most of the foods to be purchased are at a high level of prices.

REFERRING to my recent notes on a return to more tillage farming, or rather to more mixed farming and a little relaxing of the all-pasture rage, I notice that admirable farmers' paper, the *Farmers' Gazette* (Dublin), gives an opinion from that very practical and far-seeing member of the Irish Cattle Breeders' Association, Mr. W. Field, which favours a greater amount of tillage, a return to ploughing and cultivating instead of so extensively increasing the permanent pasture, are as being well nigh imperative for the welfare of Irish stock, farmers and breeders. Better bred and better cared for cattle follow in the wake of the mixed husbandry system there is no doubt whatever, and in the face of excessive competition our cattle must be kept up to the mark from every point of view if foreigners are to continue buying our pedigree



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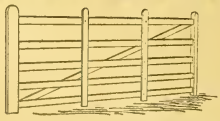

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animals, and if we are to furnish them with such cattle as will breed for them the best beef stock that can be produced. Purely bred cattle quickly degenerate unless their growth and condition is maintained from time to time, and this can be best done upon the mixed farm.

THE question of the dairy or milking Shorthorns that has engaged so much attention of late receives a little discouragement from the American side, where at one of the recent great fairs or shows where very valuable prizes were offered for the best milking Shorthorns under certain easy conditions, there was little or no competition, which rather points to the fact that on the other side the Atlantic the beef Shorthorn is still considered the most valuable and therefore most worthy of attention.

THERE is, however, another probable construction that may be taken as the cause of the lack of competitors, namely, that dairy cattle have been much more carefully bred in America in past years than in this country. Butter tests or yields and also milk yields were made the subject of breeding for and giving prizes to dairy breeds of cattle far more exclusively than in this country up to very recently, and it is known by many who have seen the herds that have been bred upon milk and butter lines exclusively for many years without paying attention to breed, points that the results have not been so eminently satisfactory as was anticipated.

FOR a certain period all appeared to have gone well, the animals maintained the characteristics of their breed, and the yields of milk and butter to have been materially increased, but after a few generations of this one sided breeding, character disappeared to a large extent, and there was no compensating increase of milk or butter, so that a return has had to be made to the "breeding for appearance" side of the question. At the show referred to, however, the prizes were to be awarded upon a scale of points, which gave one-half for appearance, or, as it is sometimes styled, personal merit, the other half for the milk yield. This would appear to be the proper method of making awards, so as to encourage the breeding of the real dual-purpose animal

SO far as can be seen by photographs and learned from those who have seen them, there are few breeds, if any, of dairy cattle in the Western Continent that have maintained their characteristics, and even improved upon them, so far as appearances are concerned, as the black and white Holstein Fresians Many of these cattle have become very symmetrical and much neater generally than we used to see them when our ports were open to them, and according to the records published at the various colleges and dairy tests at the fairs, the quality of their milk as regards butter fats has rather improved.

THE number of sales of pedigree cattle that have taken place recently, and others that are advertised to take place shortly, appears to be quite unusually large. In some instances the cause of such dispersions is due to owners having let their farms, in others, probably, it is owing to the owners of the cattle being tempted to sell on account of the very high prices prevailing generally, especially for Shorthorns. At several sales held recently, however, prices have scarcely been as good as they were a few months ago for these leading breeds. It may be said, perhaps, that this is due to the fact that the herds recently sold have not been quite of so much note in the world of shows, though equally well bred, and this makes a great difference. Then the approach of winter is not altogether as favourable a time for the exporter, and as matters in the way of food are concerned at the present time is not altogether appetising to home breeders. In two or three instances where milk has played a more important part than beef, such as one or two particular sales of Red Polls and South Downs, prices have been better than earlier in the season.

AS regards one of the causes mentioned in the above note as being accountable for some sales of pedigree stock being held—namely, the fact of the landlord having let his home farm—is rather important as affecting the country in general. Such a proceeding points pertinently to an improved condition in farming, such landlords not having been able to let their farms whilst the depression was so keen. On the other hand, the fact of a good home farm being let and a pedigree herd of cattle dispersed may have a bad effect upon the future of our pedigree cattle; a good herd may be entirely lost by such a farm falling into the hands of a tenant who cares not for pedigree cattle, and in the past twenty-five years pedigree cattle breeding landlords have been the mainstay of our herds, and the cause of their becoming so much coveted the world over, which has brought great wealth into our country. We cannot afford to lose one good herd.

(*Continued on page* 366).

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CATTLE—*continued.*

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SHEEP—*continued.*

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(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

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PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

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WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

IBBOTSON, R., can spare 20 or 30 young Tamworth Boars and Gilts by his prize Boars "Knowle Bounder," "Joey" and "Lycidas." Price 2 guineas and upwards.—The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

Galloway Cattle for Patagonia.—Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, Shrewsbury, recently shipped per ss. *Sorata*, from the Port of Liverpool to the Patagonian Land and Estate Company, a number of high class Galloways, including the prize bull War Cry, from Mr. John Wilson, of Tundergarth Mains. This bull was first at the Royal and Highland Shows, and has won numerous other prizes. Mr. Wilson also supplies the four-year-old stock bull Woodland Prince, the yearling bull Mountain Chief, the two-year-old heifer Tidy 8th, and the yearling heifer Queen Stinchar. They also shipped to the order of Messrs. Hamilton and Saunders, Punta Arenas, Patagonia, a Galloway bull from Sir R. W. Buchanan-Jardine, Bart., of Castlemilk, and another from Mr. Andrew Montgomery, Nether Hall, Castle Douglas, whilst Mr. James Wilson, of Tundergarth Mains, supplied the yearling heifers Lizzie 6th and Clara 9th.

If you want a really good Compound Cake, write to CALTHROP BROS., Ltd., 56, Naylor Street, Liverpool, or see one of their agents. They make the best Cakes of the sorts on the market.—[ADVT.]

AMONGST the many changes that have taken place in the customs of our country during the past fifty or sixty years in connection with our cattle, none have perhaps been more radical than those of fairs and markets and the methods of selling. As far back as the middle of the last century the means of selling open to farmers were largely in the periodical fairs that took place, perhaps, the first Monday or Tuesday in each alternate month in remote country districts, and the selling at these places was up to that date mainly by private dealing, and the fairs usually took place very early in the morning, often by four or five o'clock even in the winter when the selling had to be done by what was then in these remote places—by "candle light."

AT the present time these fairs have, to the the extent of 90 per cent. or more, been abandoned, and the business transacted by auctioneers, and at in very many places a much later hour in the day, many not commencing until mid-day is past. Now the question of selling privately or by auction is one that the public appear to have settled, especially in the places indicated, entirely in favour of the auctioneer. The time of holding such sales, however, is worthy of some little consideration. It has always been considered by many farmers and others that our sales are many of them held rather late in the day, more particularly during the winter season when darkness comes on so early.

THERE are several reasons in favour of holding these auctions earlier in the day as there are also in favour of the late ones, but at the present time the most important matter to interfere with the late sale is the wretched motor-car. It is absolutely unsafe to have cattle on the public road after dark with these destructive cars and often carelessly driven on the roads, and it is well worth the consideration of both buyers and sellers, as well as the auctioneer, whether it would not be more prudent to commence a four or five hours, sale at 10 a.m. and finish at 2 or 3 p.m., than to commence at 1 o'clock and finish at 5 p.m. By the former course animals would all arrive at their destination much earlier and with less danger to both themselves and the public, whilst buyer and seller would also reach their homes in more reasonable time.

Aberdeen-Angus Show and Sale at Birmingham.

The English Aberdeen Angus Cattle Association held a show and sale of pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on Thursday, this being their first autumn sale in this city, and the principal object in promoting it was to give facilities to breeders to dispose of their surplus stock of females, instead of being obliged to organise sales at home. In that respect the show was fairly satisfactory, and it is intended, if sufficient encouragement is given to the English Association, to make the event an annual one. The number of entries were forty, but no doubt it would have been much larger had it not been for the fact that many breeders have recently disposed of their herds at sales held in different parts of the country. Trade, too, for Aberdeen-Angus cattle is not brisk just now, and this affected business on the present occasion. The attendance of buyers was not particularly large, and as the demand was quiet prices were low. A few very choice animals of good pedigree were led into the ring, but apart from the prize winners there was nothing of conspicuous merit.

The first class was for cows calved before December 1, 1903, and the winner was Corskie 4th of Wyrley, a cow that has won many prizes. She was bred by the late Mr. L. A. Macpherson, and was shown by Mrs. Macpherson, Wyrley Grove, Pelsall. She is one of the best specimens of the breed, in spite of her age (ten years), but although the bidding for her was keen at the outset it did not last long enough, and the reserve figure not being reached, she was not sold. Mrs. Macpherson also secured the second and third prizes with two six-year-old cows, Pamela of Wyrley and Reenie, which were sold to Mr. G. Drummond, Penshurst, Kent, for 19 guineas and 20 guineas respectively. The heifers calved on or after December 1, 1903, and before December 1, 1904, were a useful lot, and here Mr. G. Drummond took the first award with Polly 2nd of Swaylands, sold to Mr. E. G. Wheeler, who is forming a herd of Black-polled cattle at Claverdon. The next honour was gained by Mr. J. H. Bridges, Horley, Surrey, with Abstract, for whom he got 17½ guineas from Mr. T. F. Johnson, Glenfield, Leicester, but the highest price of the sale was secured by the third prize taker, Pride of Aberdeen 26th, the property of Mr. George Drummond. In appearance she was by no means so attractive as the first and second winners, but she possessed the best pedigree, and this was what the buyers were looking at. There was some brisk bidding for this representation of the Pride of Aberdeens, and she was knocked down to Mrs. Macpherson, of Pelsall, at 32 guineas.

A few smart heifers, calved on or after December 1, 1904, and before December 1, 1905, were shown. The two principal awards were secured by Mr. J. H. Bridges with Madge of Langshott 3rd and Edith of Langshott, and the animals were sold to Mr. T. F. Johnson and Mrs. Macpherson at 25 guineas and 26 guineas respectively. The second winner did not show so well as her herd companion, but her breeding was more fashionable, and for that reason she made more money. There was no demand for the bulls, the top price being 20 guineas given by Mr. Ragg, of Rugby, to Mr. D. Hendry, Bury St. Edmunds, for Gay Monarch of Shimpling, nearly two years old.

Mr. H. S. Tinsley's Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

Another sale of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns took place on Wednesday, the stock offered on this occasion being a splendid lot from Mr. H. S. Tinsley's herd at Hurn Hall, Holbeach, which was founded about twenty-five years ago, and is descended from the celebrated herd of the late Mr. Oliver, of Eresby, which had been carefully bred to type and colour for over 100 years. Taken altogether, the animals were a weighty lot of cattle with considerable good looks, and certainly worthy of better prices than they realised. The top figure was 36 guineas for the cow, Ladybird 2nd, purchased by Mr. Atkinson, Weston, whilst Mr. Ashton, Godmanchester, gave 31 guineas for the bull Bingham Lodge Benniworth, but these were the only prices over 30 guineas, the general range being from 21 guineas to 28 guineas. Altogether eighty-six lots were disposed of, and they realised a total of £1,433 10s. 3d. Forty-two cows, heifers and calves averaged £15 1s. 9d. per head; twenty-two cows and heifers £22 5s.; ten two-year-old heifers £12 10s. 11d.; ten yearling heifers £13 7s. 9d.; and the two bulls £25 9s 3d.

The Late Miss Standish's Jerseys and Ponies.

The choice herd of Jersey cattle, bred by the late Miss Standish at Marwell Manor, Eastleigh, Hants, was sold by auction on Tuesday last by Messrs. Thornton and Co., and resulted in an all round average of £90 14s. for forty-two head. There was a large company present. Mrs. Graham, winner of eight certificates of merit, was purchased by Mr. H. P. Warren, of Northumberland, at 46 guineas, as well as Abbey Queen, a four-year-old cow from a butter test winner at the same price. Mr. Murray Smith also secured two of the best cows—viz., Czarina at 33 guineas, and Guinea Maid at 30 guineas. Among other purchasers were Sir J. Watson, Messrs. Eyre Matcham, Mr. Bonham Carter, who gave 30 guineas for Fabia 2nd, Mr. J. W. Baxendale, and Mr. H. J. Wood. The yearling bull Littleton went to Mr. Warren at 26 guineas.

The show of polo ponies, which were sold by Messrs. Tattersall, came up for good competition, and good prices resulted. Included in the catalogue was the stallion Kentigern, now in his eighteenth year, but still clean of limb. In his day he did well on the flat, winning the Welbeck Stakes at Nottingham two years in succession, and running fourth in the Lincoln Handicap. He has sired some useful stock, and was a bargain at 16 guineas, his purchaser being Dr. Prentice. Another stallion, Rupert, a big winner in the ring, changed hands at 40 guineas, but Riding Star went to the bid of Mr. Phillips at 25 guneas. The pick of the lots were the brood mares, the ten which were sold averaging £28 15s 6d., Mr. John Barker paying the top price, 75 guineas, for Silver Star, a winner at the Royal Show, Derby; while Mr. O. T. Price paid 21 guineas for her good foal by Rupert. Mr. Cooke paid 40 guineas for The Pheasant, another brood mare of quality; and of the remainder the best were Mona, sold to Mr. J. R. Wright for 20 guineas, and Winnie, for which Mr. W. Whiteley, a Devon breeder, went to the same price. The three-year-olds were a small but good group. Mr. Marsh paid 36 guineas for Waterloo, a bay gelding by Rosewater, and a daughter of the same good pony, Rosette, was secured by Mr. Horace Trimmer at 33 guineas. She was the best of the two-year-olds.

The Capton Devons.

The sale of close on seventy head from Mr. H. Bowerman's well-known herd of Devon cattle, at Capton Farm, Williton, naturally attracted a large company of breeders, for it presented an opportunity of buying some splendid specimens of Devons, sold only because the herd had overgrown its accommodation. Cows and heifers, as well as the bulls, were offered in first-class condition, and met with a ready sale at an average per head of £34 10s. Capton Polly, a capital cow, was taken by E. W. B. Portman at 51 guineas. Capton Girl and Capton Buttermaid realised 40 guineas each from Mr. Morgan, Whimple, Exeter, and Mr. C. Morris, St. Albans; whilst Mr. J. Perkins, Tavistock, had to bid 35 guineas before he could secure Capton Bull calf. A number of the other cows and heifers went at prices well over 25 guineas, whilst this sum was topped by six of the dozen bulls offered. Capton Plough Boy

(*Continued on page* 368).

A Practical Experiment

SILCOCKS' FATTENING CAKE & DECORTICATED COTTON CAKE

TEN BULLOCKS (2½ yrs. old),

The Property of
R. BROWNE CLAYTON, Esq., J.P.,
Browne Hill, Carlow.

Weighed November 9th, 1905.

	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
No 1.—Total weight, 5 bullocks ...	49	3	16
No. 2.— Do. do. ...	49	2	11

Weighed January 20th, 1906.

	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
No. 1.—Total weight	56	0	24
No. 2.— Do.	53	3	12

Lot No. 1 was fed and finished on **SILCOCKS' FATTENING CAKE**, costing **£7 2s. 6d.** per ton delivered free in Carlow.

Lot No. 2 was fed and finished on Decorticated Cotton Cake, costing **£8** per ton delivered free in Carlow.

Both cakes were fed in equal portions daily.

The result of this practical experiment will speak for itself, and only illustrates one of the numerous experiments made by our customers and by ourselves at our experimental farm with all kinds of foods, proving the superiority and economy of **SILCOCKS' FATTENING CAKE**—which we claim to be the most profitable cake a feeder can use for rapid and economic fattening.

WE RESPECTFULLY SOLICIT A TRIAL FROM THOSE WHO HAVE NOT YET USED IT, AND ARE CONFIDENT THEY WILL CONFIRM OUR CLAIM.

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realised 37 guineas, Mr. G. Skinner, Combe Florey being the purchaser; Capton Johnny and Capton Sunny Jim fell respectively to the Hon. R. C. Trollope and Mr. Alford, Barnstaple, at 30 guineas each; whilst the others made from 17½ guineas to 28 guineas. A number of Devon steers were also offered and sold well at prices ranging up to 22 guineas.

Sale of Stock in Surrey.

Drafts from the pedigree stock on Sir Walpole Greenwell's Surrey farms were brought under the hammer at Chilmead, Nutfield, on Monday, and with a large attendance of buyers some good prices were realised. Cross-bred Kerry cows with calves averaged £13, Mr. Thrale, Croydon, paying 40 guineas for the Shorthorns Stoneytown Squire and Master Wedlock. Cross-bred steers sold up to £16 a pair, and several pens of Berkshire sows averaged up to £3 and £5 each. The chief lots in the sale were the pedigree Shire mares, and for these Mr. Price and Mr. Young, of Croydon, were the leading purchasers. The first-named paid 67gs. for Hawthorn, and Mr. Young went to 55 guineas for Prince Regent and to 25 guineas for Nailstone Blend. Several pens of Southdown sheep and lambs from the Marden Park flock averaged 12 guineas, Mr. Bennison, of Upper Gatton, paying the top price, £2 16s., for each ewe in a pen of five shearlings.

Mr. Mowbray's Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

On Monday Messrs. Dickinson, Riggal and Davy brought under the hammer at Gosberton, near Spalding, the well-known herd of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns belonging to Mr. R. Mowbray, who has met with success in the showyard. There was a good attendance of farmers and breeders, and although no big prices were realised, the sale was considered a fairly satisfactory one, eighty-three animals being sold for 1,111 guineas, or an average, including calves, of about 13½ guineas. The top price of the sale was 30 guineas, given by Mr. Atkinson, of Weston, Spalding, for a red heifer, twelve months old. Messrs. Lumby and Son, of Donington, paid £7 guineas for a two-year-old red heifer; and Mr. F. Scorer, of Steniigot, Louth, gave 23½ guineas for a red cow, five years old. Fifty cows, heifers, and calves made 673¾ guineas, or an average of 13½ guineas; sixteen two-year-old heifers made 225½ guineas, or an average of 14 guineas; fifteen yearling heifers realised 180¼ guineas, or an average of 12 guineas each; and bulls averaged 16 guineas.

Sale of Lilford Hall Shorthorns.

The major portion of Lord Lilford's pure-bred herd of Shorthorns was disposed of by auction on Wednesday at Lilford Hall, Oundle, by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. The herd was originally started in 1885 with purchases from Earl Spencer's herd at Althorp. Seven years ago a successful sale was held, after which the herd was again revived, and it included several animals of the Kingscote Honey tribe obtained at Sandringham, as well as several from the Duchess Sarah tribe obtained from Althorp. Of late years Scotch strains have been successfully introduced. The herd looked in excellent breeding condition.

There was a large attendance of buyers from all over the country, and business was brisk. The top price of the sale was 200 guineas, paid for Crystal Princess, a superb animal, and champion of the Huntingdonshire Show. The purchaser was Mr. Henry Dudding, of Riby Grove, who also paid the second highest price of the sale when he purchased Duchess of Barrington 92nd, which took second prize as one of a pair of heifers at Northamptonshire show in 1904, for 130 guineas. There was, however, a big drop to the next best figure for cows and heifers—viz., 65 guineas, given by Mr. H. Reynolds for Lady Bective 12th, but the remainder sold at prices well above 20 guineas, and the average for the thirty-three cows and heifers was the satisfactory one of £46. The bulls sold fairly well, ten averaging £25 7s. 2d, but this would have been a very different figure had not the bull-calf Crystal Superior fetched 77 guineas (Mr. P. Rodocanachi) for the other prices did not rule higher than 33 guineas. The total amount realised by the sale was £1,772 8s., or an average per head of £41 4s. 4d.

The Glanusk Herefords.

The late Lord Glanusk's well-known and old-established herd of Herefords was dispersed by auction at Glanusk Park Farm on Thursday. The herd was founded by the late Lord Glanusk (then Sir Joseph Bailey) in 1886, and, as a reference to the pedigrees proved that the soundest judgment was at all times exercised in the selection of the sires, and periodically females were procured from the most eminent breeders of the day. All except the choicest strains of blood was excluded. The sale attracted a very large company of breeders, but prices were somewhat poor, the best for the cows being 32 guineas (twice), 31 guineas, and 27 guineas. It fell to the credit of a yearly heifer—Syracuse—to make the top price of the sale, and this was 52 guineas, at which figure she was knocked down to Mr. Rowlands. Other yearling heifers made 33 guineas, 28 guineas 27 guineas, and down to 15 guineas, while the bulls made up to 40 guineas, Mr. H. Dent paying this sum for Macbeth, the bull at the head of the herd. The others fetched from 10 guineas to 25 guineas.

Sale of Shorthorns at Chipping Norton.

A collective sale of Shorthorns was conducted by Messrs. Thornton and Co. on Friday at Chipping Norton Junction. A large company was present, and for the best animals highly satisfactory prices were obtained, though for some of the more indifferent lots the biddings were slow and protracted. Among the animals were a number from the celebrated herd belonging to His Majesty the King, Windsor, whilst others were contributed by Lord Moreton, Mr. Albert Brassey, Mr. G. H. Simpson-Hayward, Mr. J. Wakefield, and other breeders in the locality. The first lot was Lady Charfield 36th from the Sarsden herd, and made 22 guineas to Mr. R. Stratton. Fortuna 4th, a fine red cow, also of Lord Moreton's, made 51 guineas to Mr. Fitzherbert, and her sister, Fortuna 5th, 60 guineas to Mr. Casares; a heifer calf running with the last-named cow realised 28 guineas to the same buyer. Fortuna 8th, of similar blood, made 62 guineas to Lord Sherborne. Lord Moreton's Coral Beauty 2nd was taken by Mr. Geo. Taylor at 39 guineas.

Of the animals from Windsor, Proud Duchess, of the Scotch Missie family, realised the highest price—viz., 60 guineas to Mr. C. Tindall. Katie went to Lord Reesdals, 25 guineas, and the same bidder took Lady Ardmore 4th, 45 guineas. Mr. E. H. Bailey gave 38 guineas for Daisy, and 27 guineas for Picotee. Mr. Albert Brassey sent half a dozen milky looking red cows, which sold well. Mr. Scott Murray paid 24 guineas for Duchess of Kennett 10th, 40 guineas for Bohemian Darling 19th, and 33 guineas for Maud 17th. A charming roan heifer calf of Mr. Walter Scott's was bought by Mr. T. Garne at 33 guineas, and another by Mr. E. Bishop at 40 guineas.

There were a number of useful bulls, but no high prices were reached, the demand for abroad having slackened at this season. The top price was 37 guineas given by Mr. Turner for Mr. W. M. Scott's Woodborn Monarch. Fifty-two head averaged £28 6s. 9d., and the total of the sale was £1,478 18s 6d.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Abbeyfeale Fair, co. Limerick, on Monday, there was a large supply composed chiefly of 2nd class cattle, which met a fair demand, and nearly all sold. Springers plentiful and selling well. A very small supply of lambs. Milk a good demand. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £3 to £4 2s. 6d.; 3rd class, £2 5s. to £2 15s.; yearlings, 2nd class, £6 10s. to £6 12s 6d.; 3rd class, £3 to £5; two years old, 1st class, £11 2s. 6d. to £13; 2nd class, £8 to £10: 3rd class, £6 5s. to £7; three years old, 3rd class, £7 10s. to £10; springers, 1st class, £16 to £17 15s.; 2nd class, £12 to £15 10s.; 3rd class, £7 10s. to £10 £10s. Lambs, 1st class, £14; 2nd class, £1 7s. to £1 10s. Young pigs, eight to ten years old were in good demand at from 24s. to 28s. each.

Elphin Fair, co. Roscommon, was held on Monday, when well-bred, conditioned cattle suitable for Scotland sold well, and a fair clearance was effected. Prices:—Calves, 1st class, £5 to £5 5s.; 2nd class, £4 to £4 5s.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £9 10s.; 2nd class, £6 5s. to £7; two years old, 1st class, £11 to £12 10s.; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £10 10s.; three years old, 2nd class, £12 10s. to £13; springers, 1st class, £18 to £20; 2nd class, £14 5s. to £16. Lambs, 1st class, £1 17s. to £2; 2nd class, £1 9s. to £1 13s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, 1st class, £2 10s. to £2 15s.; 2nd class, £2 6s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, 18s. to 22s. each.

At Millford Fair, co. Donegal, on Monday, a good demand was experienced for cattle in condition, but these animals were hard to sell. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £2 10s. to £2 17s. 8d.; 3rd class, £1 17s. 6d. to £2; yearlings, 2nd class, £5 2s. 6d. to £6 17s. 6d.; 3rd class, £3 to £3 12s. 6d.; two years old, 2nd class, £7 12s. 6d. to £10 10s.; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £6 15s.; three years old, 3rd class, £7 10s. to £7 15s.; springers, 2nd class, £11 15s. to £13; 3rd class, £9 10s. Lambs, 2nd class, £1 4s. to £1 12s. 6d.; 3rd class, 9s. to 12s. 6d.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, 2nd class, £2 18s. to £2 7s.; 3rd class, 18s. to £1 1s.; two years old and upwards, 2nd class, £2 3s.; 3rd class, £1 5s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, averaged about 17s. 6d.

Oughterard Fair (co. Galway) took place on Wednesday, when there was a larger supply of cattle than usual, and the demand was active, more especially for aged animals in moderate condition, a good clearance being effected at prices in advance of recent fairs. Sheep fair was composed chiefly of horny animals; brisk demand and almost all sold. Prices:—Calves, 3rd class, £1 17s. 6d. to £3; yearlings, 3rd class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 10s.; two years old, 2nd class, £8 12s. 6d. to £10; 3rd class, £6 7s. 6d. to £6 12s. 6d.; three years old, 3rd class, £7 10s. to £9 15s.; springers, 3rd class, £7 15s. to £9. Lambs, 2nd class, £1 5s. to £1 10s; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, 2nd class, £1 18s.; 3rd class, £1 4s. 6d. to £1 5s.; two years old and over, 2nd class, £2; 3rd class, 18s. 6d. to £1 10s.

The 20-guinea cup presented by H.M. the King for the best root crops generally in the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association has this year been won by Messrs. Kinross and Lindsay, of Datchet, whose crops include mangel grown from seed supplied by Messrs. Webb and Sons.

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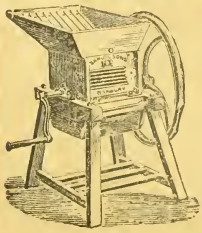

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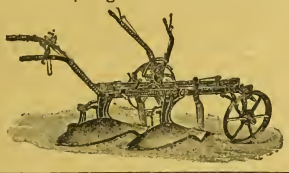

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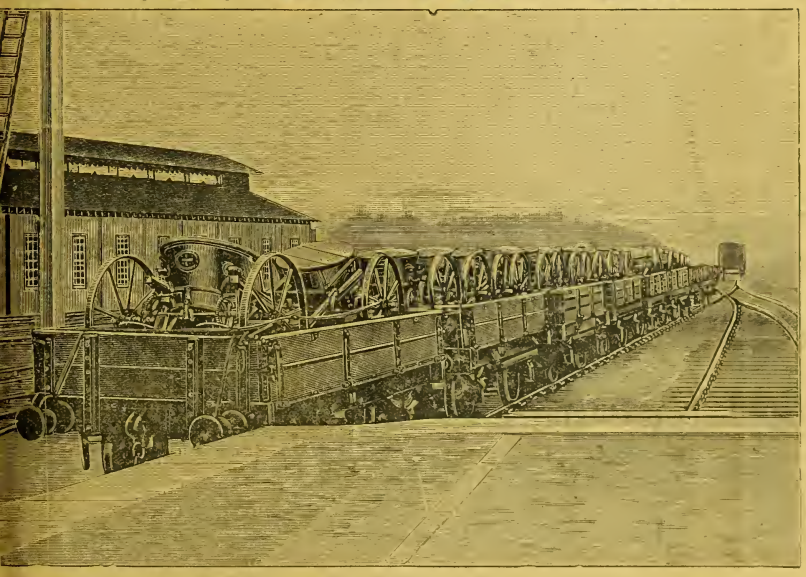
TRAIN LOAD OF WALLACE'S MANURE DISTRIBUTORS.



A DAILY SCENE MORE OR LESS AT CASTLE DOUGLAS STATION DURING SEVEN MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

WALLACE'S MANURE DISTRIBUTORS more successful than ever. This year's output in excess of all previous years. Several important improvements for 1906, and prices reduced.

PRICES AND PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION TO—

J. & R. WALLACE, THE FOUNDRY, CASTLE DOUGLAS.

HOWARD BEDFORD PLOUGHS

FOOT-ROT.

TRADE MARK.

STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.

Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock Masters in the Kingdom.
IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist [illegible] sent post free at the rate of 1s per tin [illegible] per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor,
J. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

SOCIETIES.

DAIRY SHOW.
Agricultural Hall, London, N.
TUESDAY till FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 9 to 12.
CATTLE, GOATS, POULTRY, PIGEONS.
All kinds of Dairy Produce, Appliances, &c. Milking and Butter Tests, Butter-making, &c
Band of H.M. Irish Guards.
Tuesday, October 9, 2s. 6d. from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; 1s. from 6 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 1s. from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Cheap excursions on principal Lines.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, 10th to 14th DECEMBER, 1906, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, 1st NOVEMBER; Post Entries, 5th NOVEMBER. Implements: Post Entries will be received up to 5th OCTOBER. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to
E. J. POWELL, Secretary.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

UNITED EAST LOTHIAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
ANNUAL SHOW of Seed Wheat in Corn Exchange, Haddington, on Friday, October 19, at 11 a.m.
JOHN STIRLING, Solicitor,
Haddington. Secretary.

EDUCATIONAL.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER.
Patron—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.
President—THE EARL SPENCER, K.G.
For Land-owners, Land-agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, &c.
Farming and Colonial Branch.
Estate Management and Forestry Branch.
For Prospectus of Curriculum, Fees, Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, &c., apply to the PRINCIPAL.
Next Session begins TUESDAY, OCT. 9.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—Agricultural Course. Prospectus, Edinburgh Agricultural College; also regulations, degree of BS.c., and Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture.—Apply to CLERK OF SENATUS.

THE UNIVERSITY of LEEDS, and THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

COMPLETE Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in the University and at the Farm from October 15, 1906, to March 16, 1907. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a Special Course for the B.Sc Degree. Prospectus from the REGISTRAR, The University, Leeds.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 6d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd. Auckland. London Manager, R B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

Just published, demy 8vo., cloth, 4s. 6d. net. (post free 5s.).
PRACTICAL FARMING in relation to Soils, Manures, and Crops, with a chapter on Homestead Construction, including a number of plans and sections, by Edmund T. Shepherd, Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institution.—London: CROSBY LOCKWOOD & SON, 7, Stationers' Hall Court, E C.

STATISTIC STATEMENTS and various information on the agrarian economical conditions in Ireland wanted, if possible in the German language. — Particulars from competent persons invited by "S. P. G.," care of Finska Telegrambyrans, Annonsafdelning, Helsingfors, Finland.

"FODDER CROPS," by C. G. Freer-Thonger. Price One Shilling, post free, 1s. 2½d.—W. A. MAY, The "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington St., Strand, London, W.C.

Mark Lane Express

SCALE OF ADVERTISEMENT CHARGES—ORDINARY POSITION.
PER INCH, SINGLE COLUMN:

1 insertion	8/-	
6 insertions at	7/-	each.
13 ,, ,, ...	6/-	,,
26 ,, ,, ...	5/-	,,
52 ,, ...	4/-	,,

☞ Small Advertisements in body type of Farms to Let, Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Secondhand Implements, Machinery, and Agencies, &c. (under classified headings), are charged at the rate of Sixpence per line.

Society Announcements, Auction Sales, at the rate of 6/- per inch.

Paragraph Advertisements at foot of reading matter, One Shilling per line per insertion.

Situations Vacant and Wanted, three words a penny when accompanied by remittance.

Publishing Offices: 3, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

SEED POTATOES.

SEED POTATOES.—Puritans, 80s.; Epicures, 80s.; Sharpes Express, 80s.; British Queens, 60s.; Royal Kidneys, 45s. All the above are grown on Lincolnshire siltland, and guaranteed direct from Scotland last Spring. Recorders, 55s. All free on rails Swineshead. Also Sole's King and Magnet; price on application. Recorders at Whittlesea, 50s. Delivery before the end of November. Settlement April 1, 1907, or 10 % discount for cash. Apply A. J. SOLE, Swineshead Station, nr Boston, Lincolnshire

SEED BARLEY.

SAINSBURY'S NEW WINTER KING BARLEY.—Two-rowed, the earliest barley in cultivation; reselected every year; favourite with brewers for quality and extract; straw strong; not liable to be laid; stand any winter. Began cutting July 16th; very ripe—land planted to a green crop—a great advantage. From a 600-acre farmer: "The barley you supplied me with was the heaviest crop I ever saw. Had five big stacks, with over 20 waggon loads in each off 28 acres." Samples on application price free on rail. Ross, 60s. per quarter; sacks, 1s. each. Cash with order.—J. B. SAINSBURY, White Cross, Ross, Herefordshire.

AGENTS WANTED.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

AGENTS WANTED by an old established firm to sell Linseed and Cotton Cakes, all kinds of Feeding Stuffs and Manures.—Apply ASHWORTHS and SONS, Ltd, Oil Cake Mills, Bone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge, Cheshire.

RAILWAY NOTICE.

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—DAIRY SHOW at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON, OCTOBER 9 to 12, 1906.

The London and North-Western Railway Company have arranged for THROUGH VANS for the conveyance of exhibits to be run to LONDON on MONDAY, OCTOBER 8.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions.

Conveyance rates for exhibits can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Exhibitors are requested to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer all inquiries

Information can be obtained of the Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Euston Station, London; or Mr. F. H. Dent, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

BANKS, INSURANCES, &C.

BIRKBECK BANK.
Established 1851.
Southampton Buildings,
High Holborn, W.C.
2½ PER CENT. INTEREST
allowed on Deposit Accounts.
2 PER CENT. INTEREST
on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book
All general Banking Business transacted. PROSPECTUS, with full particulars, POST FREE.
C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE.
19, Lombard Street, London, E.C.
Established 1782.
Lowest Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
Assured Free of all Liability.
Electric Lighting Rules Supplied.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
SICKNESS,
BURGLARY and FIDELITY
GUARANTEE RISKS
Insured against by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO
Capital (fully subscribed) £1,000,000
Claims paid £5,000 000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary.*
64 Cornhill, London.

NORWICH UNION FIRE OFFICE.
(Founded 1797)
Head Office—NORWICH.
Chief London Offices:
50, Fleet Street, E C.
71, 72, King William Street, E.C.
CLAIMS PAID £19,920,000
Application for Agencies invited.

POULTRY.

20 BRONZE COCK TURKEYS, 6s.; 20 Hen Turkeys, 4s. 9d. Make splendid weights; in perfect health.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

40 MASSIVE GOSLINGS, hatched March, 1906, 3s 9d. Geese for breeding purposes, 8s. 6d. each, to clear; 48 full-grown Ducklings, 1s. 10d.; splendid bargain.—POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe.

150 MARCH AND APRIL FIRST CROSSES.—Langshan, Minorca, Black Leghorn, Orpington, Houdan Rock, Wyandottes, Minorcas, and other good laying crosses, specially selected 2s. 9d. each, 32s. dozen; carriage paid. Mr. Cockerill, Crick, writes, August 30: "350 pullets to hand. Shall be pleased to recommend you. I have had pullets from you for several years, and find them champion layers." All birds sent on approval with pleasure. Every bird in perfect health. Live delivery guaranteed. Male birds, 3s. each.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

PLEASE NOTE.—All birds on approval. Deposit money, and see the quality of birds you are buying.—MILLHOUSE POULTRY YARDS, Ullesthorpe, Rugby.

MISCELLANEOUS.

DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURERS.—Best Galvanised Wire Sheep Netting, from 5s. 3d. per 50-yard roll; satisfaction guaranteed. DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BASIC SLAG. Percentages phosphates guaranteed; lowest prices to any station; write us to-day.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO., LTD. (established 50 years), Bone Manure Manufacturers, Cannock, Staffs.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro Farmer writes:—"After using a 1/- Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or cats won't touch it. Price 6d, 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, Broad Street, Reading.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

POULTRY Houses on Wheels, 7 ft. long, 5 ft. wide, 6 ft. high, nest boxes outside, 65s. carriage paid.—For other sizes write for Catalogue to WHITLOCK BROS., Great Yeldham, Essex.

BASIC SLAG, all grades.—Kainit, Supers., Boiled and Dissolved Bones, etc. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, etc., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1s. per lb., over 3 lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

MILK! MILK!! MILK!!!—WELFORD & SONS' DAIRY COMPANY, Limited, can always entertain offers of reliable dairies of well-cooled MILK. Full supply of BRASS-PLATED CHURNS provided. CHEQUES WEEKLY. Call, or write full particulars to the Secretary of the Company, Chief Dairy and Offices, Elgin Avenue, London, W.

VESICO SUDORIFIC is the most famous remedy in the world for curing Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, Curb, Windgall, Tumours, Strained Sinews, and Strengthening Legs of Horses without blemish or needing rest. Price 2s. 6d. to 5s., of chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & Co., Temple, Bristol.

LADDERS, with wood sides and galvanized, steel tube rounds; 22 rounds or under, 6d. per round, carriage paid for cash.—JONES, Patentee, Sedgley.

KEEP YOUR PIGS SO THAT THEY WILL KEEP YOU.—And undoubtedly the best way to do this is to mix with the food for each Pig one of WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS once or twice a week according to age. The result will astonish you. Sold in packets—7 powders, 6d., post free, 7d.; 16, 1s., post free, 1s. 2d.; boxes—48 powders, 2s. 9d., post free, 3s.; 144, 8s., post free, 8s.—Sole Proprietors, STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.
Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 3d.; 3 ft., 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 1d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s 8d.; 3 ft., 7s 9d.; 4 ft., 10s. 3d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft., 9s 5d.; 3 ft., 13s. 5d.; 4 ft. 17s. 10d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, with centre strand, strong, 10s. 4d.; medium, 9s. 3d. per 50 yard roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.
Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 53s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt.; galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard.
Spendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality, 5 ft, 1s. 5d.; 6 ft, 1s. 8½d., 7 ft., 2s.; 8 ft., 2s. 8½d; 9 ft., 2s. 8d.; 10 ft., 3s. Ridging, 21d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s. cwt.
Galvanised Cisterns, corrugated steel 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs at very low prices. Lists free.
J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. H. Shoro's JERSEYS, at Whatley House, Frome, Somerset.

FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. R. W. Hobbs's SHORTHORNS, at Kelmscott, Lechlade, Glos.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.—Mr. E. St. John Phillips' Herd of JERSEYS, at Magdalene Laver, Ongar, Essex.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Tho Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's JERSEYS, at Tring Park.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Sale of about 150 SHORTHORNS at York.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—About 60 JERSEYS at Bletchley.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Sir A Henderson's BERKSHIRE PIGS at Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26.—Mr. Arthur Hiscock's BERKSHIRE and White YORKSHIRE PIGS at Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

NORWICH,
NORFOLK.
IRELAND'S NORWICH HILL AUCTION MART.
Established 50 Years.
Special Autumn Store Cattle Sales, Every Saturday,
Commencing SEPTEMBER 22, 1906.

MESSRS. IRELAND solicit consignments for these Important Weekly Sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the Sale Ring if desired

Full particulars to be sent to—
IRELAND'S, Auctioneers
Norwich, Norfolk.

KENT.
STROOD ANNUAL STOCK SALE.

MESSRS. COBB will SELL by AUCTION in the Fair Meadow, Frindsbury, near Rochester, within a few minutes' walk of the Strood Stations on the S E. and C Railway, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1906, at eleven o'clock precisely,

105
PURE-BRED KENT RAMS, RAM TEGS and RAM LAMBS, from the well-known registered flocks of Messrs. F. Baker, E. J. G. Hulkes, and J. Robinson.

3 KENT RAMS, the property of Mr. J. W. Dickens.

10 HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS, the property of Messrs. R. H. and G. French, and about

2,890
KENT AND HALF-BRED SHEEP AND LAMBS, viz.:—

780 Kent Ewe Tegs,
246 Kent Wether Tegs,
284 Kent 1, 2 and 3-Lamb Ewes,
363 Kent Turnmarked Ewes,
35 Barrens,
145 Half-Bred Tegs,
1,033 Kent and Half Bred Lambs,

The property of Messrs. W. Stunt, C. Lake, J. Pye, W. Miskin, G. H. Brooke, C. and L McLean, H. M. Cobb, G. Castle, J. Edmonds, Formby and Co, Ltd., J. Mugeridge, Moore and Miskin, G Smith, T Lingham, J. W. Dickens J. Loft, M. Mugeridge, G. S. Miles, F. Mackelden, R. Goord, A. Langridge, Mrs. de Michele, Sir C. Howard, C.B., and Exor. of the late Mr. A. Smith.

Included in the Sale will be the whole of the choice registered flock of Kent sheep belonging to C. J. G. Hulkes, Esq.

Luncheon will be provided.

Arrangements will be made for a supply of trucks at Strood Station.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Bull Hotels, Rochester and Sittingbourne; Angel and Gardener's Inns, Strood; Fountain Hotel, Canterbury; Star Hotel, Maidstone; Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford; Ship Hotel, Faversham; and of Messrs. Cobb, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester, Kent.

AUCTION SALES.

SOMPTING.
(2½ miles from Worthing and about 1½ mile from Lancing Stn.).
The valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, known as
THE HERMITAGE,
with stabling, coachhouse, two greenhouses, and about 15a. 2r. of excellent MARKET GARDEN LAND, and 15 cottages, situate on the main road from Brighton to Worthing, and let to A. P. Burry, Esq., and H. H. Wadman, Esq., at a rental of £180 per annum, tenants doing all repairs, which

MESSRS. WOODHAMS, SON and PARKS have received instructions to SELL by AUCTION, at the TOWN HALL, WORTHING, on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1906, at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon.

Particulars, plan, and conditions of sale can be obtained of Messrs. Phillips and Chessman, Solicitors, 23, Havelock Road, Hastings, or at the Auctioneers' Offices, 51, Havelock Road, Hastings.

By Order of the Executors of Sir J. Blundell Maple, decd.
IMPORTANT SALE OF LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK,
200 Tons of Prime Old Meadow Hay,
12 Useful Cart Horses, Nag Mare,
28 Fat Devon Steers,
24 Young Devon Steers,
30 Shorthorn Devon Steers, 2½ years old,
8 Cows
150 Crossbred Sheep,
and the Valuable Implements and Machinery for a farm of 600 acres.

MR. HARRIE STACEY will SELL the above by AUCTION at Petridge Wood Farm, Earlswood, Redhill, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 and 5, 1906.

Catalogues may be had of the AUCTIONEER, Redhill Reigate, and Tadworth, Surrey.

HAY, POTATOES, HOP POLES, HORSES, CATTLE and SHEEP.

BUTTON'S FARM WADHURST
(S E. and C. Ry.).

MESSRS. H. J AUSTEN & SONS will SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, at ONE o'clock p.m.,

10 Stacks of Meadow and Seed Hay, about 230 tons.
60 tons of Potatoes, Up-to-Date.
70,000 Hop Poles.
11 Horses, including two pedigree Shire Mares.
59 head of Cattle, including eight Pedigree Jerseys.
505 Dorset and cross bred Sheep and Lambs.
Implements and Effects. For J. C. Drew, Esq., of Wadhurst Hall.

Catalogues may be obtained of Messrs. AUSTEN and SONS, Auctioneers and Valuers, Wadhurst, Sussex.

SHIRE HORSES.
WANTAGE, BERKS.

BELCHER, ADKIN & BELCHER will SELL by AUCTION on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1906, at 3 o'clock, 17 SHIRE MARES, mostly bred by Edward Ormond, Esq., at his Chain Hill Farm, including 3947 Chantress, 3083 Capable, 35530 Dahlia, 19166 Actress, 19305 Belle, 20053 Handsome, 26483 Mettle, 26420 Magnet, 25623 Chaffer, 35398 Clara, 35343 Cheerful, 36562 Mary, 34443 Constance. The sires used were principally Boer 13874 and Lockinge Warrior 15700.

Some of the progeny from these mares have proved of high quality.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers. Wantage.

WANTAGE. BERKS.
OCTOBER 5, 1906

BELCHER, ADKIN & BELCHER will include in Chain Hill Farm Sale, by permission of E. Ormond, Esq., the following valuable SHIRE BROOD MARES:—32925 Lockinge Janetta, bay, foaled 1899, by Lockinge Manners 16780 out of 24188 Lockinge Jeane, purchased at the 1905 Lockinge Sale for 500 guineas; and Charming Lass, bay, foaled 1893, by Calwich Topsman 8959, out of 35268 Bury Lassie II., the property of Jas A. Hill, Esq., of Antwicks Manor, who is giving up keeping Shires.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Wantage.

AUCTION SALES.

LETCOMB MANOR, WANTAGE.
Mr. William Silver's Registered Hampshire Down Flock of 173 6-tooth, 198 4-tooth, 214 2 tooth, and 443 LAMBS will be SOLD by AUCTION on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1906, at 2 o'clock, by

BELCHER, ADKIN & BELCHER, of whom Catalogues may be had at their Offices, Wantage.

AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE. Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crossed Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP.—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

HIGHLAND CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PONIES.

ANY class of the above can be supplied on short notice and at moderate prices.

ANGUS CAMERON, Live Stock Agent, &c., Fort William, Inverness-shire; or, Taynnilt, Argyllshire.

TENDER.

TENDERS are invited for an exclusive licence from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to occupy the Ashmore Islands (lying off the coast of Western Australia in latitude 12° 14′ S., longitude 123° 6′ E.) and to remove guano and other fertilising substances therefrom. Tenders should be on the basis of a fixed royalty per ton of guano removed, the sum payable in any one year not to be less than a fixed amount whatever the quantity of guano removed during that year.

The term of years for which a licence is desired should also be stated.

Further information may be obtained at the Colonial Office, Downing Street, S W.

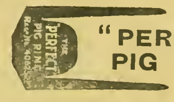
The Secretary of State for the Colonies does not bind himself to accept the highest or any tender.

Tenders should be delivered in sealed envelopes, inscribed "Tenders for Ashmore Islands," at the office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., before 12 o'clock noon on Wednesday, October 31.

No particular form of tender is required.

"FODDER CROPS."—1/-, post free, 1/2½.—W. A. MAY, "Mark Lane Express" Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

THE ONLY HUMANE PIG RING THAT PREVENTS ROOTING. HAVING ENORMOUS SALES.

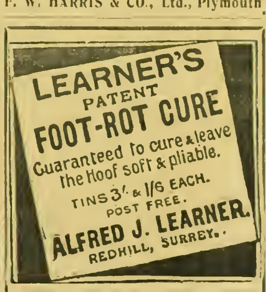


THE "PERFECT" PIG RING.

PRICES FROM IRONMONGERS:—

No. 1	2	3	4	5	6	
4½d.	5d.	6d.	8d	10d.	1/2	per doz.

F. W. HARRIS & CO., Ltd., Plymouth



BRADFORD'S PATENT
"DIAPHRAGM" CHURN.
Awarded the FIRST PRIZE by the ROYAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND at best Churn trials.

At the 1905 DAIRY SHOW the users of this Churn won 18 PRIZES out of 33 offered Including Champion Prize and Lord Mayor's Cup, which have been won by users of the "Diaphragm" Churn five years in succession.

Quick speed Churns, Butter Workers, and all Dairy appliances. Catalogues post free.

THOMAS BRADFORD & CO.,
140 to 142, High Holborn, LONDON
130, Bold Street, LIVERPOOL.
Victoria Avenue, MANCHESTER.
Crescent Iron Works, SALFORD.

ABSORBINE
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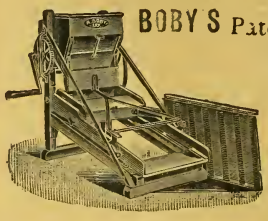

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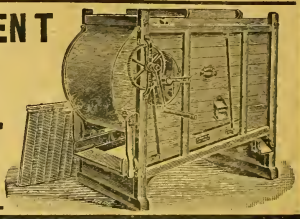

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PRICE 3d. PER SINGLE COPY.

LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Game and Root Crops.

IN a season like this it is a rare pleasure to walk through a good piece of roots, but we had that privilege the other day, and though the field was small it contained some of the best mangel we have seen this year. Unfortunately, however, there was one thing which told against them, for a large number of the best roots were gnawed and pecked at the sides, and we made a right guess in conjecturing that this was the work of game. Indeed, as we walked through we put out two or three hares, and several pheasants took wing and made for the adjoining covert. In referring to this instance we have nothing to say against the reasonable pursuit of sport on part of landlords, but we could not help expressing sympathy with the farmer over his mutilated roots. Every one knows that mangels damaged in this way will not keep, and when a large percentage of the roots are mutilated it is a serious matter, particularly in a season when every mangel is valuable. We could not help thinking that the advice from the landlord to put out the game, but not shoot anything, was poor compensation.

Hiring Fairs.

ON the first day of October we walked through a certain town where once upon a time farmers and farm hands used to congregate on the occasion of the Michaelmas fair for the purpose of hiring. It is true that there were more people about than usual, and some of them had a piece of whipcord in their buttonholes, indicating the fact that they were carters available for service, but for the most part the fellows hanging about the pavement might have been farm hands or anything else, and we saw very little hiring done. One old fellow who had never missed a fair for fifty years and did not intend to miss one as long as he lived, according to his own statement, stood at the corner of the street entertaining a number of opened-mouth listeners with a description of the glories of the fair in its palmy days, and he finished up with "but there things ain't wot they used to be." In this we can bear the old fellow out, particularly where hiring fairs are concerned, for masters adopt other ways of engaging servants now, and though the above institutions still hang on, they appear to be gradually wearing themselves away to the end.

Burning Stubble.

PASSING through corn-growing districts at this time of the year it is no uncommon sight to observe smoke ascending from smouldering fires on every side, and the misty air of autumn evenings is laden with the aroma from the above. The smoke from town chimneys and factory flues is unpleasant and often poisonous, but the smell of that which arises from the burning stubble on the rubbish fire in the wayside cottage gardens has an aroma of its own which is pleasant to the nostrils. The farmer's main object in burning stubble and refuse which have have been uprooted since the corn was harvested is to dispose of it, but in the ashes that remain, particularly where the fire is a smoulder rather than a burn, there is an element of potash which, when turned into the ground, becomes a plant food. How often may one observe, in a field of green corn, patches here and there where the growth is taller and greener than elsewhere. The difference in appearance may often be explained by the fact that these patches mark the spots where couch or rubbish fires were, and the effect is seen on the crop which follows.

Root Competitions.

THE time is approaching when judges will be visiting farms to inspect the crops of roots which are entered in the competition for prizes offered by various societies. Whether their task will be made lighter or heavier by the scanty character of root crops generally this year, remains to be seen, but we do not anticipate that they will be burdened with so many entries, because there is a reluctance on the part of many farmers to enter anything in competition that is not up to the mark. Generally speaking, however, there are good roots to be found when the judging day comes round, and the very fact of there being a competition is in a measure responsible for this. We take it that competitions are good, because when there is a prize to be won or some honour to be gained, a farmer, or any other man for the matter of that, puts forth a greater effort than he would probably do otherwise. Does he gain by it? Of course he does, for whether he wins a prize or not he reaps an advantage in the heavier weight of produce he secures from the ground by extra cultivation.

The Pig Trade.

IT is a curious thing about pig-keeping that those people who are engaged in it follow each other like a flock of sheep. When prices are low and pork abundant the game is not considered to be worth the candle, and it is dropped wholesale, and then when things veer round and pork is up there is a general rush for pig-keeping. It is said that the man who makes money out of pigs is he who goes in strongly for them when everyone else is giving up, and there is probably a good deal of logic in it. It is quite likely that the present boom in pork is in a measure due to the meat scandals in Chicago, which has undoubtedly had an effect on the bacon trade, but there are other things besides which have bearing on the scarcity of pigs. In the days when milk was kept at home for the purpose of cheese and butter-making, pigs were more or less essential, but now every drop of milk goes from so many places as soon as it can be cooled, and there is no by-product for the pigs. Just how long the present high prices will stand remains to be seen, but it must be remembered that before we can breed pigs we must have sows, and the country is by no means glutted with the latter.

Is the Rain Too Late?

FOR weeks and weeks past farmers have been waiting, hoping, and longing for rain, which has come at last. As we write a gentle downpour is falling on the parched earth, and thoughtful housewives are congratulating themselves on having tubs filled and soft water to wash with. Doubtless, farmers are thankful that the spell of drought is broken, particularly those members of the fraternity who have been spending time and money of late in carting water for the cattle, but some are saying that so far as crops are concerned the rain has come too late. When one looks at the miles of burnt-up pastures it seems doubtful whether there can be much grass on them this season, and even in the event of this, will there not be a danger of stock being scoured by it? As for roots, well, mangels and swedes have had a severe check, but these crops can do a lot of growing in October, when conditions are favourable, and though gross weight per acre will probably be light, they will benefit to some extent by the welcome downfall. Nevertheless, the farmer, though thankful for the change, cannot help dwelling on what would have been had the rain come a month ago.

In Cider-land.

IN the orchards in the west of England now one sees waggons drawn up under the apple-trees, and the red-cheeked fruit as it falls from the branches is picked up and deposited in the conveyance till the waggon is filled, and then the latter is drawn away to the mill where the juice is abstracted from the fruit for making into cider. The harvest of the cider fruit is early this year, as the dry weather has brought along the apples quickly, and many of them have ripened prematurely and fallen before their time. Good cider is certainly a very wholesome and palatable liquor, but the fact remains that one needs hardening and educating to drink some of the liquor that is made and consumed on west country farms. Perhaps this is why the man in the street prefers beer to cider, for though he can get good, bad, and indifferent beer, it does not vary to the extent of cider, and lack of uniformity is certainly a reason why the latter

beverage is not more largely consumed outside the counties where it is made. Cider, however, is the beverage in the west, and during the next few weeks the grinding of fruit and filling of hogsheads will be a routine task on many a farm.

Potato Disease. ACCORDING to a generally accepted theory, it is in a wet season that we should expect potato disease, and in a summer of drought and sunshine we might reasonably anticipate being quite free from it. But the dreaded blight cares nothing for theories, for it seems to come when it likes, and this season, strange though the fact may sound, there is a good deal of potato disease about. By this we do not mean to say that attacks are anything like as bad as they have been in times past or might have been had the rainfall been greater; but disease there is, even amongst varieties which are supposed to possess powers for resisting it, and the situation is not easily explained. We have dug a number of varieties of late, some of which were free from taint, but others were affected, and quite the worst in our case is British Queen. In many respects this is a fine potato, as it is a heavy cropper and its cooking qualities are unquestioned, but it shows quite a marked prevalence for disease and cannot be recommended. It was in August when we first observed indications of the blight when we had a few thunderstorms and gloomy, close weather, and probably it was these conditions that started the trouble.

Autumn Tints. WE can all afford to be a little sentimental at times, and even those who have seen the picture on many an occasion before, can hardly survey a wooded landscape clothed in all the beautiful colours of autumn without being moved to admiration. There are delicate shades which no artist could convey to canvas, and in the hundred hues and tints there is nothing that clashes or offends the eye. It would seem as if nature, knowing the end to be near, had summoned forth all her energies to make the dying days of the leaves the most beautiful. And with it all there is a touch of sadness. We have enjoyed the glories of this beautiful Indian summer, and hoped that it might last just a day or two longer, but with the knowledge that the end might come at any moment, and in the close of nature's summer we may find a parallel in human life, as well as lessons for us to learn. Nature fights manfully to the last; she passes out with a flourish of trumpets, so to speak, but when the tinted leaves at length rustle mournfully to the ground, it is with the satisfaction of life's work well done. Could human nature wish for a better end?

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Mr. Collings and the Radicals.

Mr. Jesse Collings should be a proud man this day. A review of the trend of Liberal opinion shows a growing sympathy with the proposals of his Purchase of Land Bill. Indeed, I would go so far as to assert that, if a canvass of the party were made, it would be found that a majority of the Liberal M.P.'s are in favour of it. Of course, very many of these politicians would prefer the substitution of a rigid and emphatic "shall" for the variable and vacillating "may." All the same, however, Mr. Jesse Collings' general desire that the creation of farmer-proprietors and small-holder-proprietors should be undertaken by the nation and that the nation's resources and the nation's funds should be utilised in the effort, has a general acceptance. Frankly, I think those friends of Mr. Collings—I need not specify them—who desire to represent this matter as a Unionist ambition, are unwise. As a fact, it might well be kept apart from partisan designs and partisan programmes. It is an economic question which has no more to do with the conventional party shibboleths than it has to do with a Bach fugue. We are all land reformers now—all united in the desire to retain the people on the land, to rescue the soil from unnecessary fallowness, and to avert the blighting menace which hangs over the countryside. Mr. F. A. Channing may be said to be the chief exponent of what for the moment I will call "Radical land-reform"; but many of Mr. Channing's own proposals have their echo in Mr. Collings' Bill. As a fact, it would be quite possible to amalgamate the two measures without destroying the cardinal proposals of either. Both politicians—representative men in their respective parties—subscribe to the idea of the nation's resources being utilised in the matter. Both subscribe to the idea of having farmer-proprietors as well as small-holder-proprietors.

County Councils and Small Holdings.

Perhaps, before we see the Government adopting a bold Purchase of Land Bill, we shall see a Small Holdings Act Amendment Bill introduced. There is no doubt that there is a growing dissatisfaction with the ineffectiveness of the Act of 1892. Whether that ineffectiveness is due to the inherent character of the measure or to the antagonism of the county councils—which, by the way, are really the final authority with the measure of 1892, as with the Allotments Amendment Act of 1890 and with the Parish Councils Act—need not for the moment be debated. There are critics who aver that the failure of all three measures is really due to a spirit of carping suspicion and jealousy; but these critics need not receive the distinction of a rebuking and refuting argument. It is undeniable, however, that, though fourteen years have passed since the Act of 1892 came into force, only eight county councils have acquired land under its provisions; that land is of so small an area as to mean that the Act has only brought into this special cultivation forty acres in each of the fourteen years of its existence, and has only placed on the land twenty small holders in each twelve months. It is undeniable, too, that many of these authorities have declared that it has not been found practicable to put the Act into operation. Well, the Government is, I know, being pressed to make the Act practicable, and to permit of no possible excuse on the part of any authority for neglect. This definite declaration on the part of so reliant an authority as Professor James Long has, I also know, been dragooned into the duty of emphasising this appeal. "Last year," quoths the Professor, "432,000 acres of farm lands were bare-fallowed—*i.e.*, uncropped, and although the figures do not exist—as they ought to do—possibly we have five times this area in the hands of owners and tenants which is practically allowed to remain waste, abandoned to Nature, and growing delightful crops of thistles and docks, daisies and buttercups, knapweed and pimpernel, and other species of plants interesting to the botanist but heart-breaking to the sound agriculturist."

A Safeguard against Contumacy.

Of course, in any future Parliamentary discussion of this matter, we shall have a considerable importance associated with the question as to what authority should be vested with the power of carrying the new Act into operation. Should it be the county council, the district council, or the parish council? (You see, although I have said that the attacks made upon the county councils need not be discussed, I have been compelled to indirectly recur to the matter.) I perceive that one Radical newspaper-disputant has pronounced strongly against the county council, because, forsooth—list to this, ye county councillors—"it fulfils the part of the House of Lords in rural districts." By this resounding sentence is meant that the county councils are opposed to the principle of small holdings. Well, if I remember aright—unfortunately I have not the measure by me as I write—Mr. Channing's Bill would provide entirely for the matter. Should any of the local administrative bodies fail in its duty, this measure would enable twenty ratepayers to, by formal petition, set the Board of Agriculture itself at work. I do not contend that this provision is necessary—this, indeed, would be an admission that these attacks on the county councils are justified; but, at all events, it would be a sufficient safeguard against contumacy. It would be an adequate protection against any possible class prejudice, against any possible malicious desire to thwart the appeasement of that land-hunger which, it is averred (is this the case?), is the most striking of our village life.

English and Scottish Land Reform.

It is quite possible that certain of these land reform enthusiasts will seek to take a short cut towards securing the legal alterations they desire. Why, I have heard it asked, should not an amendment be proposed extending certain proposals of the Scottish Small Landowners Bill to England? Well, there is a very good reason why this should not be done. The Scottish agrarian system and tenure differ gravely from the English system and tenure. As a fact, you would require not one amendment but a score of amendments, and each would open out a new opportunity of criticism for the vigilant and alert-eyed antagonists of this Scottish Bill. The words, "and this enactment shall apply to England," would afford a splendid occasion for renewed assault, whilst in the House of Lords the measure will inevitably be declared to be such a hotch-potch as to only deserve incontinent rejection. If English legislation is to be effective that legislation must be independent of the proposals applying to Scotland. The main principles could be reflected, but their application must be distinctive, and in each instance be in harmony with the national characteristics and national economy. Ministers, indeed, revealed prescience in not attempting to apply one uniform system to the whole island. There is not an economist of distinction or a land reformer of reputation who has not always recognised that land legislation for England and Scotland must be distinct, and, apart from the acceptance of cardinal principles, independent.

Proposal by Lord Carrington's Lieutenant.

As I write, my attention has been called to a proposal by Mr. R. Winfrey, M.P., in reference to the method to be pursued in extending our English system of small holdings. Mr. Winfrey—who is an authority on this matter, inasmuch as he is responsible in a great degree for the remarkable network of small holdings which exists in South Lincolnshire—may be said to be endowed with a double-dosed suspicion of the local bodies. He would apparently trust none of them—he evidently believes that all and each would be possessed by so dense a prejudice that they would gloat over every opportunity of thwarting the intention of the Legislature. He would, in his own phrase, "make Parliament itself the propelling force." Of course, Mr. Winfrey does not mean that Parliament itself should decide whether the request of half-a-dozen villagers for small holdings ought to be conceded. "A new public department must," says he, "be set up, or a new branch of the Board of Agriculture be created, and Commissioners appointed with knowledge, tact, and determination to see this great work (that is, the solution of the small holding and housing problems) accomplished during the next twenty years, Commissioners directly responsible to Parliament, and the nation must find the money and the credit to accomplish the work." It will be interesting, at all events, to see how far this suggestion coincides with the proposal of the Small Holdings Commission. Mr. Winfrey, however, did not speak without some authority behind him. He, as the private secretary of the Minister for Agriculture, would hardly have made so piquant a suggestion without having first secured the approval for it of Earl Carrington. Is his lordship, however, moved by the same apparently ineradicable distrust of the local authorities as is his standard-bearer? Does he believe that many farmers only go on to these local bodies with the express anxiety to frustrate the intention of Parliament?

PUBLICATION RECEIVED.

A small but interesting pamphlet, printed for private circulation, has come to hand from Messrs. J. MacLehose & Sons. It is entitled "The Adulteration of Butter," and the object of the writer, Mr. Allan Barns Graham, jun., is to prove to Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., and his Committee that public health demands (1) an end to the milk-blended butter trade, (2) the upholding of the 16 per cent. water limit, and (3) the total prohibition of boracic acid in butter.

Oil in Sheep Dips.—In a letter to Mr. F. D. Acland, the Board of Agriculture state "that the pouring of a small quantity of oil on the surface of a dip bath, previously made up and mixed in the proportions approved by the Board for sheep scab, is not a process which would be open to objection."

THE DAIRYMAN'S WEEK.

The Dairy Show—8157 Entries—Prize Money £2400—Butter and Milk Tests—The Milking Contests.

Never before has the interest in this annual event—one of London's established institutions—been so keen and widespread. No exhibition held in the Metropolis appeals more strongly alike to Londoners and to those whose homes lie among more peaceful scenes. To the latter, now so largely represented at Islington, the Dairy Show is an occasion looked forward to with eager anticipation, whether their speciality be cattle for the special purposes of the dairy, goats, poultry, cheese, cream, honey, butter and butter-making, milk and milking, or any of the multiplicity of interests that are this week exemplified at the Agricultural Hall.

Everyone connected with the great dairy industry is catered for, and herein lies one of the secrets of success, on which the Marquis of Winchester (this year's president) and his colleagues on the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association are heartily to be congratulated.

Altogether 8,157 entries are catalogued in the 533 classes provided, the prize money amounting to over £2,400, besides a number of valuable cups. The competitions are so large, indeed, as to necessitate the employment of seventy-six judges to determine the merits of the rival exhibits and competitors. Then there are numerous stands, occupying a considerable area, with an immense assemblage of articles of a non-competitive character so far as prizes are concerned.

The primary interest centres, of course, in the cattle classes, wherein 240 head are accommodated, an advance of fifty-eight compared with last year. The chief dairy breeds are represented—Shorthorns, Jerseys, Guernseys, Red Polls, Ayrshires, South Devons, Kerries, Dexters, and other pure or crossed breeds—three distinct sets of prizes being provided for all of these.

One series will be awarded on the first day of the show by inspection—*i.e.*, as the result of external appearance and consideration of the apparent milk-yielding powers and other points.

The second and more valuable set of prizes depend upon the facts ascertained by actual trial, extending over two days, of the quantity and quality of milk produced, certain allowances being made for the time that has elapsed since last calving.

The third and last series of premiums for cattle are in connection with what are known as "butter tests," the precise butter-yielding capacity of each animal being thereby determined. It is by such means, amongst others, that the Association is doing commendable work in carrying out its principal object, namely, encouraging the breeding and rearing of stock for the special purpose of the dairy.

In addition, a number of extra prizes are offered, so that it is possible for a single cow to win £10 by inspection, £15 by milking trial, £10 in the butter test, a 5-guinea champion cup offered by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, the Barham challenge cup value £50, and the Spencer challenge cup value 50 guineas, with a further £8 8s. if the owner of the animal happens to be a tenant farmer.

It might have been anticipated that the recent scarcity of milk and the high prices ruling for cheese would have caused a material diminution in the bulk of the latter article staged. Yet as regards the principal British varieties this is not so, a fact which may be attributed to the anxiety of farmers to carry off honours at Islington.

Altogether 255 lots, from a ton downwards, are pitched. A revival in the Lancashire cheese trade is responsible for the provision of a special class for that variety, and thanks to the co-operation of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society and the Preston Cheese Show Association, it has attracted as many as eighteen entries.

The competition amongst makers of Cheddar cheese in the south-west of Scotland and in Somerset is as keen as ever, and the classes for Stilton, Wensleydale, and Cheshire cheese are also well filled. There is, however, a notable falling off in the exhibits of double Gloster, single Gloster, and Leicester cheese.

Samples of butter have been collected from the best dairies in the United Kingdom, as well as from several of our colonies, the latter including New South Wales, Victoria, and New Zealand. With these exceptions, all the produce in the show is of British and Irish origin. In order to test the keeping quality of the exhibits, many of them were required to be delivered four days before the show opened. Ireland contributes largely to this section.

There are several extremely ornamental designs in butter, and attractive displays of cream, honey, and of bread mixed with skim milk instead of water, the object of the latter being to encourage the utilisation of skimmed or separated milk in this direction. Notwithstanding the spell of dry weather, a great collection of mangolds, swedes, and other roots, &c., used in cattle feeding is on view.

In consequence of the number of entries for the various butter-making contests several of the classes have been sub-divided and additional prizes offered. These competitions will be in progress each morning, afternoon, and evening of the show (ending on Friday next), and involve 199 different "churnings," not counting those dairy-maids who, by virtue of winnings on the earlier days, will be entitled to enter for the Champion Contest and the coveted Lord Mayor's Cup, the latter being accompanied by a £5 money prize.

One of the most noteworthy features of this year's Dairy Show remains to be mentioned—viz., the wonderfully spirited contests among milkers, to the number of 121, of whom seventy-five are women, eight girls, twenty-eight men, and ten boys, all animated by the desire to show their skill in the humble but necessary art of milking the cow.

The fact that so many women are coming to

SHORTHORN HEIFER, PROUD DUCHESS,

Winner of First Prize at the Royal Show, Derby. Born February 16, 1903; sire, Beauty's Pride; dam, Rolleston Duchess; bred by and the property of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent.

London from Scotland, Wales, and twenty-five English counties as far apart as Northumberland and Cornwall in order to demonstrate proficiency in their calling as milkers is in itself remarkable. They compete for prizes (mainly contributed by Lord Northbourne) ranging from £15 downwards, and certificates will be given to each competitor who is, in the opinion of the judges, an expert milker. In awarding the prizes the judges are instructed to give points, according to a fixed scale, for the manner of approaching the animal and style of work, cleanliness, and clean stripping. The milkers' contests will take place on the afternoons of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, at half-past seven on the mornings of Wednesday and Thursday, and at seven o'clock on Friday morning.

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Other attractions include the band of the Irish Guards, demonstrations in trussing and preparing poultry for market, the making and baking of milk scones, and an infinite variety of exhibits connected with the dairy and the poultry industries. The dimensions of the show are, in point of fact, only limited by the present capacity of the Agricultural Hall.

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The list of over 2,000 exhibitors comprises the names of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Duchess of Abercorn, Duchess of Newcastle, Earl Cadogan, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Earl of Plymouth, Earl of Radnor, Countess of Craven, Countess de la Warr, Countess of Leitrim, Marquis of Winchester, Lord Carew, Lord Middleton, Lord Rothschild, Lord Wenlock, Viscount Enfield, Lady Evelyn Cotterell, Lady Greenall, Lady de Rothschild, Lady Stanley, Lady Smyth, Lady Wantage, Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Sir Samuel Boulton, Sir Walter Corbet, Sir Charles Seely, Sir Mark J. Stewart, Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand, Hon. Mrs. Murray-Smith, Major-General Fitzhugh, Colonel Sandbach, Captain Lionel Gisborne, Captain H. M. Heathcote, Captain St. John Hornby, Captain Smith-Neill, Dr. H. Corner, Dr. Herbert Watney, &c.

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Comparative Entries.

	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Cattle...	203	164	182	240
Milking and butter tests	186	167	217	247
Goats	30	46	51	51
Poultry	2,860	2,678	3,068	3,347
Pigeons	2,485	2,426	2,440	2,573
Poultry and pigeon appliances... ..	—	—	—	55
British cheese ...	269	250	268	255
Bacon and hams ...	79	46	49	39
Butter	555	556	641	578
Cream...	59	44	52	42
Skim-milk bread, &c.	83	140	121	159
Honey, &c.	125	122	124	118
Egg and butter packages	17	20	—	—
New and improved inventions ...	24	43	22	17
Vehicles for conveying milk ...	27	25	—	—
Roots	144	184	170	156
Butter-making contests	150	172	206	199
Milkers' contests ...	36	55	66	121
	7,332	7,138	7,677	8,157

Importing Butter from Siberia.

In view of the large quantity of butter consigned from the Siberian stations for export, the Minister of Ways and Communication has ordered the constitution of a special committee at Omsk for the distribution of refrigerated waggons amongst the most important exporting firms that send butter from those parts.

At Omsk a council is being called of the representatives of the butter trading firms and of the railways to give detailed instructions to the committee charged with the distribution. It is reported from Barnaul that the foreign exporters in the steppe district are very much alarmed at the difficulties in the way of exporting butter from Siberia, and the Altaisk Dairy Company has concluded a loan with the Siberian Railway of £500 for the purpose of building a cold store in Barnaul.

They fear, however, says *Ice and Cold Storage*, that when they have their cold store others will be built in other parts, and according to the statutes of the Altaisk Society it must accept butter to be stored from the town station of the Siberian Railway in the cold store at 25 per cent less than for other dairymen. An agitation is on foot for a cold store also at the Novo-Nikolaievsk Station of the Siberian Railway.

OUR DAIRY BREEDS OF CATTLE—CHEESE MAKING—BUTTER MAKING—MILK SELLING—FEEDING.

By the time these lines appear in print the great annual show of the British Dairy Farmers' Association will be in evidence at the Agricultural Hall, London, when all interested in dairying will have the opportunity of seeing what the dairy pretensions of several of our breeds of cattle are, especially as regards their merits for milk and butter-producing. I say several of our breeds of cattle, which would, perhaps, be more correct if some were substituted for the several, as the main breeds represented there are the Shorthorn and Jersey, the latter followed by the sister Channel Island breed from Guernsey. It gives considerable cause for regret that two or three other very important dual-purpose breeds are usually so scantily represented that a fair estimate of their capabilities cannot be obtained.

Dual-Purpose Cattle.

In the atter category the Ayrshire, South Devon, and Welsh, and perhaps the Kerry may be added as being amongst the number. Then, in addition to the cattle that produce the milk for manipulation into butter, and for consumption by the public in its pure state, there will be demonstrations of separating the cream from the new milk mechanically, also churning and making up the butter. Cheese-making, which is one becoming more extensively patronised, I believe, is not included in the dairy demonstrations at Islington; but the other processes of separating, churning, cooling milk, and butter-making, in addition to the cattle that are shown, cause the exhibition altogether to be one of the most instructive of the year to the dairy farmer, and more particularly to the amateur dairy farmer.

It is rather unfortunate, or at least it would be much more instructive to the public, if the cattle that are being tested for milk and butter production were all fed alike, or what would perhaps be still more instructive, if the kind of foods used and the quantities consumed by the various breeds and individuals were made public. Such an innovatian would be of immense benefit to everyone interested, not only as regards increasing our knowledge of the cost of feeding each particular breed on the average, but as assisting very much in teaching which kinds of food and manner of feeding are proving most successful. However, so far this latter addition to the programme of the show has not as yet been introduced, so that visitors must be content with seeing and learning what is open to them.

Cheese Making.

Cheese-making in the earlier days of the last century—indeed, up to the middle of the century, and for some years after that—was one of the leading dairy industries of this country, and held sway as being also the most profitable until, roughly speaking, the seventies of last century came in, at which time the importation of American cheese became so extensive as to flood the markets of this country and reduce prices to a level that prohibited a profit being made upon its production except under very favourable circumstances. It is a very true old adage that when things get to the worst they usually begin to improve, and so it has been with cheese-making. The very dark days of this industry closed just in advance of the close of the century, and gradually became brighter until, at the present time, cheese-making has again become successful.

Numbers of farmers have during the past few years commenced cheese-making; some on account of the price having become remunerative, others on account of the very low price obtaining for butter; and yet others on account of the worry and expense of sending new milk away by train every day of the year, and for about half the year only, obtaining what may truthfully be termed a starvation price. Some few farmers who were cheese makers in their younger days, stuck to the bridge that had carried them safely over the trying seasons with which we were visited between 1879 and 1900, and these farmers to-day are probably in a better position than most of their brethren. At the present time this industry has a great deal to recommend it, and those dairymen who are pursuing it are making as good or better profits than any other farmers.

For cheese-making purposes the Shorthorn and the Ayrshire breeds are most used and considered the most profitable, though in the palmy days of the old Longhorn that breed was found to be capable of producing a greater weight of cheese per acre than the Shorthorn, and the product was always of a superior quality. Amongst the reasons that commend cheese-making to the notice of dairy farmers at the present time are—first, the greater ease with which its manufacture can be carried out, owing to improvements in cheese-making materials or the apparatus that economises labour to an almost incredible extent. Then there is also the very important economies of labour and other expense in not having to provide horses and carts as well as utensils to convey the milk to the station, and also the cost of carriage of that article are saved.

Further, another very welcome and important economical matter comes in in the fact that during the three dead months of winter little or no cheese is made; the cows and their owners and assistants are resting, and the pocket that has to be so heavily taxed for the production of milk and butter at that season is also at rest, the products of the farm being sufficient to carry the dairy through their holiday season. Once more a better price is obtained for cheese than for many years past, and another great, very great, addition to the profitable side of the balance-sheet is the great number of pigs that can be kept upon a cheese-making farm, and latterly, indeed for a long time past, pigs have, as the old saying has it, literally been gold, and with the severe sanitary restrictions now prevailing as to the keeping of pigs, the high prices are likely to continue for a long time to come.

Butter Making.

We will next take a glance at the butter-making industry. This industry has suffered to an almost incredible extent by the immense importations of butter from practically every quarter of the globe. Europe generally, Arabia, Canada, our colonies of Australia and New Zealand, and latterly the Argentine, are all flooding our markets, and several of these countries some people will tell us, are supplying us with a superior article to the home-made product. This latter statement I, for one, however, do not in the least support. Where English or British butter is made from the right breeds of cattle, properly fed and cared for, and their milk properly manipulated, with a strict observance of cleanliness, there is none of the imported article that is fit to bring into comparison.

It has been pretty well proved, both privately and in public, that the Channel Island breeds of cattle are the most profitable in butter production, these yielding both quantity and quality superior to any other breed. The drawback to the more extended employment of these breeds of cattle, however, lies in their utter worthlessness for any other purpose, which consequently leaves a heavy bill for wear and tear of the animals themselves. A very good way of making the best of things in this respect has been adopted by some farmers, which lies in the mixing of about 20 per cent. of Channel Island cattle with the dairies of Shorthorns, Ayrshires, and other breeds giving milk of a less rich description.

Butter-making has also one or two valuable side products in the way of the separated milk which makes a good bulk food either for the rearing of calves or for pig keeping. The best foods for butter production have been proved on the whole to be during the summer grass, and if anything else is needed the addition of a little linseed or decorticated cottonseed cake.

In winter the best sweet hay *ad lib.*, a good feed of pulped carrots or parsnips, which adds to the colour as well as the quantity of the butter produced, linseed cake or a little decorticated cottonseed cake and maize meal whichever is found most convenient and economical, and with any or all of these feeds a pound of molasses per day dissolved in boiling water and poured over them, completes an admirable bill of fare, suiting the animals as well as their produce. Where due care is exercised, as stated above, in the feeding and care of the cattle and their milk and cream, as well as in the breeds of cattle used, there is still a reasonable profit obtainable from butter-making. The British public, too, are becoming better educated now in the matter of taste, and are becoming more keen everyday in their demand for pure butter, as against butterine and other substitutes that have so long been usurping the place of the pure article.

Milk Selling.

The last dairy industry to be alluded to is that of milk-selling, a business that has of late years assumed most extensive dimensions throughout Great Britain. The increase of population on the one hand, with also a greater use of milk as a food, coupled with the difficulty of importing the pure new article, are each items in favour of a continued and further increasing demand for milk. The prohibition of town dairies, too, in so many places has thrown the general milk supply of the country almost entirely upon the hands of farmers.

This branch of the dairy industry has proved very successful in the hands of some farmers, whilst with others it has been equally as unsuccess-

ful. It is a business that demands a keen business man at its head, requires continual watchfulness, keen judgment as to the selection of the animals, such judgment to be begotten of great and long experience both in the selection of the animals, as stated above, and also in their management and the superintendence of the labour required in milking, as well as cooling the milk properly, and being punctual in its delivery to the railway station.

When all this is done to the best of a clever man's ability, there still remains as a set-off the intense worry in keeping up contracts, the difficulties of keeping the milk safe from adulteration in other hands, and also the fact that, so far as the farm is concerned, there are no by-products to add to the total bulk when all the milk is sent away.

The best breeds of cattle for the milk seller have proved themselves to be upon good land the Shorthorn, upon medium land the Ayrshire, whilst where a higher price can be obtained on account of its richness, the Channel Island breeds also do well, and one or two others, as the South Devon, Welsh, and Kerry, and, where they can be obtained, Dutch cattle also.

The best foods for the milk seller to use for his cattle have been found to be grass during summer, supplemented when necessary by green food, such as vetches, rye, lucerne, or other green food; in autumn, thousand-headed kale and cattle cabbage, and during the winter season, hay and straw chopped, with a liberal ration of pulped mangels or turnips, and also brewers' grains where they can be obtained. To these bulky foods, concentrated articles such as linseed cake in moderate quantity, decorticated cottonseed cake, or any home-grown corn ground into meal. Molasses are also a great aid, and assist in giving richness and colour to the milk, counteracting in a measure the poorness that usually accompanies a too liberal diet of mangels.

Preservatives in Milk.

The Local Government Board for Scotland has issued a circular directing the attention of the local authorities to the subject of the addition of preservatives to milk, in which they suggest that the local authorities should cause samples of milk to be taken with a view to ascertaining the presence of substances commonly in use as preservatives—for example, formalin and boron preservatives.

Vendors of milk, it is pointed out, may attempt to evade a prosecution by making a declaration that the milk contains some added preservative, and the Board would suggest the desirability of sampling in such cases.

Where preservatives are reported in milk thus sold, the question will arise whether, in view of the nature and quantity of the preservatives added, it can be considered that the article has been rendered injurious to health, or that the purchaser has been prejudiced to an extent which would justify the institution of proceedings under Section 3 or Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, notwithstanding the declaration made at the time of the purchase.

In this connection the board are advised that, as regards formalin and boron preservatives, the presence in milk of formalin to an amount that is ascertained by examination within three days of collecting the sample to exceed one part in 40,000 (one part of formic aldehyde in 100,000) raises a strong presumption that the article has been rendered injurious to health, and that the purchaser has been prejudiced in the above sense.

Similar presumption is raised when boron preservatives are present in milk to an amount exceeding fifty-seven parts of boric acid per 100,000 or forty grains of boric acid per gallon. In concluding, the circular states that it appears desirable that the addition of preservatives to skimmed milk, separated milk, and condensed milk should be watched and controlled on similar lines.

Cheese Prizes at the Bath and West Show.

At a recent meeting of the Dairy Committee of the above-named society the prize list for the Newport (Mon.) Meeting, to be held on June 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 next was considered, and it was resolved to recommend to the society's council that separate classes be included for three Cheddar cheeses not less than 56 lb. each, made in 1906; three Cheddar cheeses not over 56 lb. each, made in 1906; three Cheddar cheeses not less than 28 lb. each, made in 1906 by a student who as received instruction in any County Council Cheese School or in the Western Counties Cheese School; three single Gloucester or Wilts cheeses, made in 1907; eight loaf or other truckle cheeses, made in 1906; three Caerphilly cheeses made in 1907; and three cream or other soft cheeses.

DAIRY TOPICS.

The summer that is past, whilst it was highly favourable for corn, was not so beneficent for dairying, for it gave us a rather severe spell of drought which, while it lasted, burnt up pastures to such an extent as to very greatly affect the milk supply, and the result has been higher prices for this most necessary commodity in many parts of the country. In fact, the situation is still one that is receiving earnest attention, and, seeing that there there has been little, if any, improvement of late in feeding prospects, farmers are agitating for higher prices. As one of our Dorset correspondents remarks, pastures are particularly barren and bare, and the prospects for autumn and winter feeding are disheartening. Hay and chaff will shortly be required, and this means a long, expensive winter.

To come nearer home, we may quote a Central Bucks farmer, who informs us that milk is dried up, cake is very dear, and dairymen's prospects are bad. Other quotations might be given, but they would be on similar lines to those above, so that townspeople, who of late have been paying a little more for their milk and are looking forward to a reduction, will be disappointed.

So serious has been the situation, with the scorching sun to contend with almost daily, that it will take weeks to rectify the mischief even now, and, as the season is so far advanced, the outlook for autumn keep is none too encouraging, in spite of the splendid rain, for not only is there little if any grass, but the roots have been at a complete standstill, and in some cases completely withered away for want of moisture, many of the roots being now little bigger than they were at the end of June or beginning of July, scarcely any perceptible growth having been made in the interval.

The inquiry for milch beasts continues good for the best, but this is forced on buyers simply to enable them to keep up their milk supplies, which they are only able to do by augmenting their dairies, and even then they find a difficulty in doing so, owing to the greatly diminished supplies dairies are yielding. In these cases the dairy farmer, as well as well as the town milk purveyor, have to pay up to £22 apiece for good animals specially adapted to meet the pressing needs of the dairyman, ranging down to £16 or £17 for useful milchers of a more ordinary stamp. Distinctly plain cows, though in some demand, do not market at all well, it being the best, and best only, that are in request. Some are back as low as £10 or £12 apiece, but these sell very indifferently.

The scarcity of milk has naturally affected the manufacture of butter and cheese, and this year quality rather than quantity has been the rule. The drought has not only been felt in England, but also in practically every country from which our butter comes, and as a result higher prices are predicted for yet another of the chief commodities of the Englishman's table.

One of the greatest changes of the past thirty-one years consists in the vast swallowings-up butter and cheese making have experienced owing to the dominating, all-pervading requirements of the direct-supply milk-trade. This is a revolutionary change which has taken place apart from dairy show influences.

Still those farmers who send the whole of their milk away by rail, can find in comprehensive articles exhibited the improved utensils necessary to their calling, and especially the refrigerators, which should always be used to abstract the animal heat when, after being drawn from the udder, the milk has immediately to be sent off. If this were generally done and scrupulous cleanliness observed in preventing dirt either from the hands of the milkers or from the udders of the cows from affecting the lacteal fluid, it would keep much better and be brought into consumption in a perfectly healthy state.

GUERNSEY COW, EXPRESS.

Winner of First Prize at the Bath and West Society's Show this year. Born March 26, 1905, sire Rydale 4th, dam Lively of the Fouillett; bred by Mr. W. Robin, St. Peter's Port, Guernsey; the property of Mr. E. A. Hambro, Hayes Place, Kent.

Cheshire Farmers and the Price of Milk.

Cheshire dairy farmers, of whom there are roundly 2,000 in number, consign their milk to the large towns under contract, which is made twice a year, for a winter and summer supply. The summer contracts are now running out, and in view of the contracts for winter and the altered conditions of trade, Mr. James Sadler, secretary to the Cheshire Milk Producers' Association, has addressed the following official circular to his members, which include practically all the large dairy farmers in the county:—

It has been thought desirable to remind members that milk for sale is likely to be both scarce and dear in the coming winter. The principal causes of this scarcity may be summed up as follows:—(1) Hot dry weather in August and September; (2) high price of Cheshire cheese; (3) larger consumption of milk. Nearly the whole of the Midland and Southern counties are burnt up, and there is very poor prospect of winter keep. Result—London and Birmingham buyers will have to come north for their supplies of winter milk. During the last month panic prices have been paid, varying from 10d. to 2s. per imperial gallon; milk is being delivered now at 1s. per gallon. The payment of these high figures has temporarily filled the market, but the scarcity is not past—the conditions remain—for while the heat is gone, its abiding effect is manifest. Retailers have in many cases put up their prices. No milk should be sold this coming winter at less than 10d. per gallon.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Highways Question.

SIR,—The society which "Roadster" refers to in his timely letter ought to exist, if it does not. Is he perhaps thinking of the Roads Improvement Association, which aims at securing wider and better highways and enjoys the support of such bodies as the Automobile Club and C.T.C.? Locally we have a county league for the protection of the public against fast motor driving and its inevitable concomitants in the way of blinding dust and the like, and other counties which have not done so already might do worse than follow our example, for no amount of public opinion can be effective unless organised and focussed to a point. Now certainly is the time for getting to work, since presently we shall have a new Motors Bill, and before it comes to be drafted the views of country people ought to be very plainly and definitely made known.

Sooner or later we shall probably see a great deal of highway improvement and re-organisation. In recent years road traffic has grown enormously in volume, and probably doubled in average speed, so that the roads which barely sufficed for our ancestors in the stage-coach and post-chaise days are no longer anything like adequate to our needs. But it is necessary to guard ourselves if we are to avoid an altogether unjust share of the cost of these inevitable improvements being placed upon our shoulders. A system under which the rich county boroughs are cut off from the county and actually barred from contributing towards the cost of county roads—of which their citizens are often the chief users—is plainly an absurdity. The doctrine of national roads laid down by the Royal Commission on Local Taxation was accepted also by the Departmental Committee on Highways appointed a year or two ago by the Local Government Board; and it is that ideal which agriculturists and country people generally should strive to realise.

In the meantime, there is the pressing question of dust to reckon with. May we not hope to see the Chambers of Agriculture bestirring themselves this way during the winter?—Yours faithfully,

September 29, 1906. WARWICK.

Insect and Fungoid Pests.

SIR,—In his reference to the brown-rot fungus in apples, which no doubt is spreading, your correspondent, "Severnside," observes that it is little permanent use for one grower to wash his trees and burn affected fruit while his neighbours' orchards on either side remain uncared for to spread the infection. It is too true, and the remark may be applied to every other pest that affects fruit trees. The amount of general carelessness which exists over this kind of thing is simply deplorable, and if co-operation is needed in anything it is in the fighting of common insect foes.

Go where you will in the West of England this season and you hear complaints about the bushels and bushels of grub-eaten apples that have fallen prematurely ripe to the ground. In fact, I never remember a season when the codlin moth caterpillar has done more damage, and what concerted action is taken to stop it? Practically none. Now and then one sees a grower who has planted a young orchard endeavouring by means of washing and spraying to keep his trees clean; but what chance has he when over the fence there is an older orchard that is a perfect nursery of American blight and every other pest that apple life is heir to? As a matter of fact, those who would make an attempt to keep down these common pests are discouraged from doing so by those who are careless and unconcerned.

A few far-seeing people realise what the effects of the pear midge will one day be in the orchards of Herefordshire, but their voices are like that of one crying in the wilderness so far as any concerted action is concerned. When we read of the amount of money that is annually spent in America on the spraying and washing of fruit trees to destroy insect pests, the sum seems enormous, but the outlay is essential and justified, and the result of it is those enormous cargoes of fine fruit that come into this country and drive the scrubby home-grown apples out of the market.

It is pleasant to be able to point to an instance in which the effects of co-operation in this matter are plainly to be seen even in England. In that well-known fruit growing district in the Evesham Valley, growers naturally suffer through the ravages of various insect pests, notably the caterpillar of the winter months. In travelling through the Evesham district in winter one hardly sees a fruit tree without a grease band round it, and by this simple remedy millions of insects are caught every season. It is true that some of the growers injure their trees by putting the grease on the bark instead of on proper paper bands, but, with here and there an exception, everyone realises the importance of grease-banding, and one shudders to think what would be the result if this method of combined action were stopped.

Some people scoff at the idea of grease-bands, but the Evesham fruit grower is as wide awake as most people, and you may depend upon it that he would not spend money on the work if there was nothing in it. It would be a good plan if similar combined efforts were tried in other districts. WEST COUNTRYMAN.

September 29, 1906.

Foreign and Colonial Competition.

SIR,—It seems to me your Aberdeenshire correspondent "J. B." shows that he does not keep himself well informed when he declares farmers do not defend their rights or let their demands be made known and expressed in sufficiently loud terms, otherwise "J. B." would have known that a powerful association, which has the support of arable farmers, the Aberdeen County Council, and the representatives of many millions of British consumers, has been working and agitating for years, and last session of Parliament supported a Bill for the repeal of legislation that more than any other crushes agriculture by making cattle fattening unprofitable.

It is our legislators, and not the farmers, who are to blame, for the Premier and half the Cabinet, and in fact the whole of the Liberal Party, if we judge from their action in 1896, are pledged to the repeal of the embargo upon the importation of Canadian store cattle, which, if given effect to, would bring the price of home-bred stores down to the same price as the imported Canadian stores, which would allow the fattening of cattle to leave a fair return, and by providing a profitable market for roots and forage for the holdings, give arable farming a new lease of life.

But instead of this our legislators have introduced a Land Tenure Bill for England that under the specious name of freedom of cropping legalises bad farming, and in Scotland a Small Holdings Act that will prevent any landlord creating small holdings, as it makes the tenants of all small holdings eligible under the Bill dual proprietors, while the former landlords are made only rent receivers. The Act will also dislocate the present system of land tenure in Scotland, as the Act gives the Commissioners power, against which there is to be no appeal, to break tenants' leases with their landlords by taking their best land for the creation of small holdings. The Bill also provides large sums for the payment of the Commissioners, who are to be empowered to put in force the old law of hypothec, whereby in the event of the failure of one of their landholders, they will have a prior claim on his estate before landlord or other creditors.

"J. B." may rest assured the British people will never allow any restrictions to be placed upon the importation of dead meat and fat cattle that are calculated to decrease the quality and number. All that farmers can expect, and have a right to get, is free raw material to compete with the foreign and colonial importations of the finished article. But instead of this, both the English and Scotch Bills referred to propose to establish dual ownership and small holdings, a system that is opposed to economic law, and has proved a dismal failure in Ireland.—I am, &c., P. L. G.

Edinburgh, September, 27, 1906.

Forestry and Municipal Trading in Zurich.

SIR,—Referring to my letter in your issue of September 3, will you allow me to state that I have been induced to follow up this subject in consequence of a note recently addressed to me by a member of the London "Central Unemployed Body" (Mr. John Davidson), from whose communication I infer that there is a likelihood of the Woods and Forests Department being approached on the question of the possible utilisation of forestry for the employment of rural labour. In order to obtain some expert views I recently sent to Mr. Ralph Pearson, Deputy Commissioner of Forests in India (son of the well-known authority on this subject, Colonel Pearson), some extracts from *Stadtforstmeister*, Herr U Meister, the Zürich Chief Ranger's recent work on the communal forests there. It is a matter of common knowledge that Zürich is a model town for this as for other municipal enterprises.

"The extraordinary long period during which these Zürich municipal woodlands have been subjected to a forestry system, worked methodically and carried on with some *esprit de suite*," says this Zürich expert, "imparts to their history in the circumstances an importance which—far surpassing the bounds of mere local interest—is of a nature to supply most valuable contributions to the history of forestry in general."

In addition to the ordinary sylvicultural operations, the Zürich Municipal Forest Administration has also introduced, as regards the principal part of their woodlands, the system of selling the wood *after* previously working it up and converting it into a form ready for use. "Hence," the writer proceeds, "they are carrying on to-day a saw-mill for preparing timber for building purposes; sawed wood (planks, boards, &c.) and finished wood for general uses; and, side by side therewith, a plant for the impregnation of wood (*i.e.*, creosoting it) on the Boucheric system, in order to improve suitable qualities of wood by impregnation for structural purposes; a mechanical wood-turning plant for transforming the existing large stock of wood from broad-leaved trees—especially ash wood—into tool-handles, in which form it will be found to have a readier sale; further, the manufacture of wood pulp; and lastly, a mechanical wood splitting plant for cutting up the billets (or small logs) into firewood, which, in a legally prescribed regulation form called *Reif-Wellen*, finds a direct sale to customers in Zürich and its neighbourhood, and is delivered *direct* to their house or yard."

This system of "intensive" highly developed utilisation and the working-up of the raw material naturally necessitates a larger staff and a more complicated organisation than is the case in ordinary forestry.

Of course it must be fully recognised that not only public opinion, but the different conditions prevailing in this country would prevent the ready adoption of such an elaborate system of municipal trading here; and it must also be admitted that at Zürich the question of usufructuary, exercised conjointly with proprietary rights, which presents apparently, insurmountable difficulties both in the New Forest and, as regards mining privileges, in the Forest of Dean also, has been settled long ago. But in the Alice Holt Forest none of those obstacles exist, and on this area and similar Crown lands I venture to think some practical steps might be taken. There is no doubt that we are centuries behind the Continent in this matter.

In an extremely interesting comment on some translations of mine from Herr Ulrich Meister's work, which I sent to Mr. Ralph Pearson, he admirably sums up the duty of the State on this subject in the following sentences:—

"The slow progress that forestry makes in the United Kingdom is not so much due to the fact that waste lands are not available, but to the fact that the public has no example to follow, as is the case of Zürich and many other Continental places. In other words, the English public is not educated to forestry. To educate the nation to forestry must be a slow business. As has been experienced in India, it can be helped by teaching to a certain extent; but no real progress will be made until real 'live,' well-managed woods are there to teach and accustom the public to forests (in their proper sense). The duty to form such woods is clearly the duty of the State."

In this last sentence Mr. Pearson trenchantly points the way! This is the practical step which should engage the attention of all those who are interested in the question of scientific forestry, and are at the same time hoping to find in this direction a contribution—even though it be in a humble way—towards the pressing problem of "Back to the land!"—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.
(of Scottish Arboricultural Society).

Reform Club, S.W.,
September 28, 1906.

P.S.—By way of enforcing and emphasising one of the points touched on above, allow me to cite from a work that has reached me since yesterday—one by M. Ch. Broilliard, perhaps one of the most highly-respected and able authorities in France. Speaking at p. 627 of "Le Traitement des Bois en France" on "Usufructuary Drawbacks" [*Dangers de l'Usufruit*], he says epigrammatically:—"*Si l'indivision tend à conserver les forêts, l'usufruit en amène la dégradation.*" This I would freely render as follows:—"If joint ownership (*i.e.*, Crown and commoners, or Crown and miners, as the case may be) be a good thing, as it largely is, for preservation purposes (from century to century), an overdose of the usufructuary concomitant is apt to bring about in a forest degradation and abuse!" C. H.

Feeding Milking Cows.

SIR,—I should very much like to know what feed for cows in milk would be most profitable—grains are dear. I have plenty of good oat straw, hay, and roots. I should be pleased to have an idea of what proportions of any mixture would make good rations and produce a good flow of milk.—ANXIOUS.

*** In the first place it may be well to point out that there are almost as many methods of feeding dairy cows as there are days in the year, and different dairy farmers have their own ideas as to which are the best rations for the production of a steady flow of milk. It is difficult, and indeed undesirable, to lay down hard-and-fast rules, because much depends on local conditions, and the diet of cows should never be monotonous. Changes of food during the winter are advantageous, but they should be effected gradually.

Many farmers look upon grains as essential, and the fact that there has lately been a run on this material owing to the shortage of grass is responsible for the high price. You can, however, form a good ration with the material you have at hand, and I give the proportions of a daily mixture as an example, but it is, of course, open to variation or change:—42 lb. of swedes, 19 lb. of hay, 14 lb. oat straw, and 4 lb. crushed oats. If milk is short you would probably find about 3 lb. decorticated cotton-cake increase the yield, and by way of a change you could give 3 lb. of malt combs per day and 3 or 4 lb. of chat potatoes, if you have them, instead of so many swedes or mangel. Malt combs make a useful change, as they give flavour to the food and act as an appetiser, making the cows more anxious to feed and increasing the yield of milk. I think the above will give you a good general idea as to the mode of feeding with the material you have at hand or can obtain; but if you would like to go into the matter more thoroughly for yourself, you would get a good deal of useful information on the subject by getting Leaflet No. 79, on rations for farm stock, published free by the Board of Agriculture. RUSTICUS.

Samples of Feeding Stuffs.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform me whether the enclosed sample is genuine "Maize Gluten Meal," also what percentage of albuminoids, carbohydrates, and fat it contains. I have had no experience of its feeding value, and I am anxious to know whether it is worth the money charged for it, and in what proportion I can use it so as to get a properly balanced food; hence my desire for the percentage of albuminoids, &c.—Yours truly,
WATCHFUL.

[The sample sent seems to be genuine quality. The analysis of maize gluten meal is approximately:—

Oil	8½	per cent.
Albuminoids	25½	,, ,,
Carbohydrates	53	,, ,,

and the present price, according to the quotations for "Feeding Stuffs" in this Journal (see market supplement), is £5 10s. per ton, so that the cost of the feeding unit is about 10d., which shows that it is a cheap material.

Our correspondent does not say for what purpose he intends to use it, but if for milking cows he might try, as a beginning, mixing 2 to 4 lb. per ratio with the ordinary food, and increase the proportion gradually, if it yields good results.]

SIR,—Having read in your Journal that you will analyse feeding stuffs for farmers, I have sent under separate cover a sample of barley-meal. Would you be kind enough to let me know what it really is, as I bought it for barley-meal?—Yours truly, J. A.

[The sample appears to represent a fairly good barley-meal, but it would require a detailed analysis to ascertain if it is absolutely pure. We must point out to our correspondent that we only undertake to analyse samples for our regular subscribers in cases *where there is good reason to suspect an attempt to defraud*, which we do not gather to be the case in the present instance.]

Education and Manure.

SIR,—The sketch in the MARK LANE EXPRESS last week by Mr. Harry Furniss is remarkably well executed, and very superior to some cartoons, which prompt the idea that the artist must have selected his material for the work from a Berlin wool shop.

But with all due deference to the clever draughtsman, the British farmer will not compete with his German or other foreign rival by a less amount of education.

At the general election in January last a great deal of nonsense was talked and silly pictures displayed as to the big loaf and the little loaf. The reason of the cheap price of bread is that steam communication brings to the sea coast abroad as much grain in a few hours as in the so-called "dark days" mules could carry on their backs or oxen drag in a lumbering wagon in many months.

We should all be pleased to see agriculture prosper; more manure may be requisite, so by all means apply it, and philosophy for the desideratum.—Yours truly, FIELDER.

October 5, 1906.

A Correction.

SIR,—In your last issue two mistakes in words (probably from misreading my writing, which I know is very bad) occur in my letter under the heading of Tring Butter Tests and Milking Trials.

1. Non-chromability should read non-churnability.

2. Averege is not, I think, my mistake.—Yours faithfully, ERNEST MATHEWS.

Little Shardeloes, Amersham,
October 4, 1906.

Damage by Hailstorms.

SIR,—May I appeal to you to open a subscription list on behalf of those who have so terribly suffered from the recent hailstorm in the devastation of their crops, which came so suddenly upon us at a time when everything looked prosperous and just ready to harvest. The damage done by this hailstorm in Huntingdonshire alone has been under-estimated by valuation to be £15,000. On medium-sized farms the loss is from £600 to £800; to small holders in many cases it has destroyed practically their all, and they have nothing after the present harvesting wages and rent is paid on which to live on and farm the land for the next year.

The fund has been generously responded to locally, and something like £1,500 has been contributed, but being a small county, and practically dependent upon agriculture—which, as you are aware, has not been for several years past in a flourishing condition—we are not in a position to help ourselves to be of much benefit in the calamity which has fallen upon us. I should be trespassing too much upon your valuable space to enlarge upon the loss of the various crops on which we are dependent by going into details, but I should like to say that from threshing of what was, previous to the hailstorm, a crop of wheat of five quarters to the acre, and the same of barley and larger yield of oats, one quarter to the acre has been the result, and other crops have been equally damaged in comparison.

Being a heavy sufferer myself, I speak from facts in appealing to you and your numerous readers' sympathy. It is an axiom amongst agriculturists of their generous and patriotic nature to help those who, through no fault of their own, have experienced heavy loss, and I feel it needs no words of mine to dilate upon the subject to help them to realise the conditions in which we are unfortunately placed.

Being one of your old subscribers, a member of the Hunts Chamber of Agriculture, and a collector for the Hailstorm Relief Fund for relief of farmers and allotment holders, contributions will be thankfully received and officially acknowledged by me, or through our hon. secretary, Mr. Gerald Hunnybun, Huntingdon, or either of the banks in the county, and I trust my appeal will not be in vain towards such a worthy object.—Yours, &c.,
B. TOMPKINS.

Wooley Manor, Huntingdon.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. T. H. VAUGHAN MORRIS, Kington Horse Show.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

At Whitchurch Cheese Fair on Wednesday there was a pitch of 52 tons of good quality, and with an urgent inquiry every lot was sold. The following were the prices:—Best, 70s. to 75s. per cwt.; medium, 65s. to 69s. Nothing was lower than 60s. At the corresponding fair last year prices ranged from 63s. down to 50s. per cwt.

SHOW GOSSIP.

At a meeting of the Lincoln City Council in committee on the 28th ult. it was unanimously decided to invite the King to visit the show of the Royal Agricultural Society at Lincoln next year, and to ask His Majesty to open the new Grammar School in Wragby Road during his stay in the city.

The winter show of the Royal Dublin Society is to be held on Wednesday and Thursday, December 12 and 13, and, as in the case of their other shows, the society has arranged a liberal prize schedule. This provides eight classes for infed cattle, four for artificially or outfed, one for infed, artificially sheltered or outfed cow of any age, and four classes for Kerry, Dexter, and small cattle infed, outfed, or artificially sheltered. In each of the classes mentioned the prizes will be—first £5, second £3, and third £1. There are seven classes for sheep with prizes of £2, £1 and 10s., and sections for dairy produce, honey, and farm produce grown in Ireland, whilst there are also special county prizes for malting barley ranging in value up to £20. Entries close Thursday, November 1, at single fee, and the following Saturday at double fees.

The Council of the Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Counties Agricultural Society have decided to hold next year's show on July 25 and 26.

The Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association have resolved to award £213 in prizes for Red Shorthorn cattle at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln next year, and as the Royal Society offer £78 the total for Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns will be the respectable one of £291. There will be twelve classes, and in each the awards will be first prize £10, second £6, third £4, whilst in all except the class for bulls calved in 1903 there will be a fourth prize of £3. In addition there will be a champion prize of £10 for the best bull and a similar prize for the best cow or heifer.

The Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association have also issued a printed form showing definitely the prizes it will offer at the Royal Show for Lincoln Longwool sheep, and from these we see that the total is £122, whilst the Royal Agricultural Society will contribute £72, making the total prizes £194. Prizes will be given for the best two-shear rams, shearling rams, pens of five shearling rams, pens of three ram lambs, pens of three shearling ewes, pens of three ewe lambs, pens of three yearling ewes shown in their wool. In addition, prizes consisting of pieces of plate, value £15 and £10 respectively, will be awarded for a group made up of one exhibit from not less than four classes of Lincoln Longwool sheep exhibited in the above classes. The show being held in the home of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns and Longwool sheep, there should be an extraordinary good display of both.

The Royal Veterinary College, Edinburgh.

The opening ceremony of the eighty-fourth session of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College Edinburgh, took place yesterday afternoon. Sir, William Turner, Principal of the University, presided, and sketched the career of the college down to the recent change in its constitution. The Town Council, he said, was now no longer the administrative body. The funds of the college had been transferred to a representative board. The Town Council elected certain members, keeping up the old historical association. The affairs of the college would now be conducted by men who represented the town and the University. This board had a wide and comprehensive basis, and he trusted that in its management the veterinary education in Scotland would greatly thrive, and that the college would retain its place as a veterinary college of high standing.

Mr. John Malcolm, F.R.C.V.S., Birmingham, delivered the opening address of the session. He pleaded for the college obtaining from the State some assistance similar to that given to London and Dublin. As to the prospects of the profession, the idea prevailed in many quarters that the profession had seen its best days, but he pointed out that public appointments, civil and military, showed no signs of decrease, while notwithstanding all they heard the motor had not yet displaced very many horses, whatever it might do in the future. The Board of Agriculture's statistics for 1905 showed the number of agricultural horses in these islands to be greater than at any former time—(applause)—and although the partial return for 1906 showed a slight reduction, it excelled any other former return except perhaps that of 1895. It seemed to him that there was not only no justification for depression, but good grounds for regarding the outlook as encouraging.

Midland Notes.

RAIN to-day follows upon thirty-six hours of it—almost continuous and sometimes heavy—on Monday and Tuesday. Now at last enough has fallen to soften the caked and baked heavy lands destined for wheat and other winter crops; but there will be little chance of getting the advantage of a stale furrow this season, for the work will be pushed through as rapidly as possible now that a start can be made with it.

THERE has been not a little difficulty this autumn in cultivating stubbles, but, fortunately, weeds are less plentiful than usual on ordinarily well-cultivated holdings, for even they dried up and withered during the prolonged hot drought. The deep-rooted and hardy couch grass is still a trouble and an eyesore however; it seems as though nothing could kill that. But war has been systematically waged upon the enemy lately either with the tine harrow or by the hand-picking process, which some experienced farmers still stick to, and the acrid and pungent smoke that drifts across the fields bears witness to the work accomplished.

THESE are busy days in the agricultural world, for sales are many, and so are fairs, though one does not hear of any great number of changes in farm tenancies. But, then, in the Midlands we have more Lady Day and Candlemas tenancies. No other date would suit the pastoral holdings in Warwick, Leicester, and Stafford so well, and even arable Nottingham follows the same custom. The Michaelmas tenancies are increasing however. In Worcester and Oxford the autumn quarter has always been usual, and in Warwick, Northampton, and Salop it is a more common time for making a change than it used to be; which makes it the more satisfactory to hear of comparatively few removals.

SO far as hiring is concerned most of our Midland fairs are to all intents and purposes things of the past. Fair or "mop" or "statty" day is still a general holiday, and in these days of cheap railway excursions visitors come to fixtures like those at Birmingham, Burton, Gloucester, and Stratford-on-Avon from far afield; but few are the lads one sees with whipcord or wool in hat or button-hole proclaiming them carters or shepherds in search of new employment. The skilled man of to-day has seldom need to offer himself in open market, and the younger generation seem to think it beneath their dignity to do so.

NEVERTHELESS, the carter, shepherd, or dairyman seeking a new berth, or anxious to re-engage himself to an old master, generally does so at this time of year; and lately one has seen some quaint cartloads of cottage furniture on country roads. Moving is a quick business with the average farm hand, as, indeed, it must be where cottages are so few as they are in most of our villages. Nowadays there is no opportunity for houses to stand vacant long, and in point of fact one usually finds the old tenant moving out and the new one moving in the same day.

PERHAPS with the passing of Michaelmas and Old Michaelmas we may see the markets for corn recovering a little. The coming of Old Michaelmas accounts year by year for much unfortunate haste to rush new wheat off to the market regardless of the state of trade. When many financial obligations fall due all at once there is no option for the farmer who sinks all his capital in his business and does not keep a large balance at the bank. Evidently he must sell something, and usually the new corn is the most readily available thing to dispose of.

JUST one expense will be lighter than usual this year. "Michaelmas pay night," when all the extra wages that have accumulated during harvest are paid off is still a great day, but this year the harvest was everywhere so quickly gathered in that the bonuses to men engaged by the day or week will not be large. On the other hand, the regular hands who are paid a fixed bonus for the harvest work, and the migratory hands who contract sometimes to clear a given acreage for a lump sum previously agreed upon, made a good thing of it this year, for they earned their money easily and rapidly.

MILK contracts are being renewed on better terms than dairy farmers have been able to obtain for some time past, and we shall probably soon be hearing grumbles from town consumers, who seem to have supposed, in their ignorance of rural affairs, that the first shower of rain would be enough to restore the days of plenty and bring down prices with a run. It is sincerely to be hoped, for the sake of everybody concerned, that Midland producers will stand fast in their demand for reasonable prices. "Association rates" ought to be the rule with all, whether society members or not; and owners of dairy herds in Stafford, Warwick, and Leicester are the more strongly placed, since it is practically certain this autumn that buyers will do no better for themselves by going north to Cheshire as so many do. "No milk should be sold this coming winter at less than 10d. per gallon," says the secretary of the Cheshire Milk Producers' Association. Yet it is safe to predict that dairymen nearer home will be accepting less where they are not protected by a strong association.

October 4, 1906.

SHOWS.

Royal South Bucks.

The seventy-fourth show and ploughing matches of the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, of which the King is the patron, were held on Wednesday near Burnham Beeches, the ground for the ploughing being all the better for the heavy rain the day before. The attendance throughout the day was excellent, and great interest was taken in the matches, which began on ground close to the showyard at 8 a.m., and were not finished until after luncheon. The horse section was also of interest, Mr. A. J. Flowers and Mr. R. C. Gurney, who were the judges, having some especially good groups brought before them, but in each class—including that for the best team which had been worked in the ploughing matches—the first prize went to the exhibit of Messrs. Headington Bros. (Cippenham). Their winning mare also won the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society, her foal being reserved. The King gave a prize of five guineas for the best ploughman in the field, and it was won by John Baldwin, of Farnham Royal. The King's prize—a cup valued at 20 guineas—offered for the best collection of roots, the growth being taken into consideration, was won by Messrs. Kinross and Lindsay (Datchet), with a very weighty collection, the Up-to-Date and Dalmeny Beauty potatoes, and the Drumhead cabbages, which form part of the produce, being especially fine. Mr. Kinross had three times previously in ten years won a royal cup for farming. The most notable award in the labourers' and cottagers' section was that for the longest service in one employ. Henry Joyce, who has been in the service of Mr. G. A. Scott (Langley) for forty-seven years, won the chief prize. Sarah Ware, seventy-four years of age, who had been in domestic service for twenty-two years, and Mary Dean, a widow of sixty-seven, who had brought up six out of her eight children, were also winners of premiums.

Dorchester.

Beautiful autumn weather favoured the sixty-fifth annual show of the Dorchester Agricultural Society, and the gate proved a record one. The classes were well filled, but there was a falling off in the number of horses, which was mainly noticeable amongst the cart horses, but the quality was well up to the average. The silver medal of the Shire Horse Society was taken by Mr. W. J. Chick, of Stratton, with a splendid animal. The light horses were an excellent show. Mr. T. H. Miller, the well-known North Dorset breeder, scored some marked successes. There were some notable entries, though less in numbers than at the previous show, but they exhibited all the characteristics of the type which promise soon to be recognised at the great shows.

In the class for Devon cattle Mr. W. H. Bond, Dorchester, took the first for bulls and the bronze medal for the best exhibit in the section. Mr. A. Hiscock, of Motcombe, secured the premier honour for Shorthorn bull, the silver medal with the same exhibit for the best animal in the cattle classes, and a bronze medal for the best in the Shorthorn classes. The Channel Islands breeds were much stronger than usual at this show, and were a special feature. The competition in Herefords has of late years dwindled down to very small proportions, and in all probability the class will be dropped altogether next year. Mr. A. Hiscock, Motcombe, showed an animal in the milking classes which yielded 43 lb. of milk. The new class of Dorset Down sheep, opened last year, was represented by some good specimens.

The Scottish Agricultural Conference.—The annual conference of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture and Associated District Societies with the President of the Board of Agriculture will take place on Wednesday next within the hall of the Highland and Agricultural Society at Edinburgh at eleven o'clock, Mr. J. A Dewar, M.P., presiding. As in previous years, numerous resolutions will be proposed, and Earl Carrington will reply to the questions raised. The annual dinner of the Chamber will be held later in the day, and Earl Carrington will be the chief guest. The resolutions to be put at the meeting deal with a variety of subjects, including the Land Tenure Bill, the foreign meat question, butter manipulation, law of trespass, motor cars, &c.

Northern Notes.

NORTHERN farmers are looking forward with great interest to meeting Lord Carrington at their conference next week in Newcastle. One of the subjects for discussion, as already noticed in these columns, is the question of land tenure. The farmers of Durham and Northumbria have a better appreciation of this subject than have the farmers of Yorkshire. In the last-named county one really thinks it would be a painful incident to many of the old standards to hear of the relations between landlord and tenant being subjected to any radical change; and as a class it is not for a moment to be expected they would move a finger until great pressure, or at any rate considerable convincing argument, was brought to bear upon them in relation to this most important matter. Lord Carrington's mind is pretty well known. He has already shown that the need for legislative interference between landlord and tenant is absolutely necessary if the latter are to be protected against deprivation of the fruits of their labour.

THE old Acts of Parliament have wholly failed to give any security that an improving tenant shall continuously reap the benefits of his good treatment of the land, or that he shall retain the property right in his improvements the law professes to give him. The farmer has long needed security for his capital and absolute freedom for applying it fully and in the best way to his work. It is surprising the number of sitting tenants on large estates who will submit—out of fear of being turned adrift—to conditions which no other men employing the same capital would ever dream of being subjected to.

WE have known, and know at present, tenants who have succeeded their fathers on large holdings who are begrudged reasonable improvements of their farmsteads, without being themselves contributory to the cost. These farms are generally on estates owned by spendthrift landlords who live above their incomes, and whose estates are encumbered by reason of advances from money-lenders. It is quite time a revolution took place in the law of landlord and tenant, and the Land Tenure Bill, on which the Earl Carrington is almost certain to speak on the 13th, is a measure for which no apology is needed.

AS we travelled along from Yorkshire to Newcastle last week-end women were observed in the fields making hay. This would be the second cutting. Further north we were surprised to hear, not that the weather was favourable for harvesting operations, but that there was any corn still to be gathered in. But it was so. Surely it would be the "tail end" of the harvest. There appears to have been far greater activity in threshing in Yorkshire and Durham than in Northumbria.

THE results of the operation are represented to be 5 per cent. above the average. The threshings in the last-named county, which are never extensive in September, have been mainly inaugurated because of the short supplies of old straw for bedding and thatching.

IN sympathy with other parts of the country, the price of milk has been raised to householders in the north. As soon as the pastures began to give way milk was raised to 2½d. per pint, a 25 per cent. increase. In rural districts 1½d. is charged, and this price has ruled for a long time. The competition is very keen in small towns, and as there is no combination amongst the small retailers, any attempt on the part of individual dealers to put on the extra ½d. is quickly followed by a dwindling trade, and the person is fortunate if he gets his custom back after once having tried to impose the extra ½d. on his customers.

IT is really marvellous the number of people who embark, and with apparent success, in the milk trade; one recruit to the ranks in a small town in Yorkshire is a solicitor, with a herd of about twenty cows. One is afraid the benefit of the rise in the price of milk goes very largely into the pockets of the middleman. This is quite the wrong channel, for the middleman is not the person in any way affected by a good or a bad grazing season and the dearness or otherwise of feeding stuffs. The dry weather does not affect him, and his demand for a more liberal profit ought to be resisted.

THE Cheshire dairy farmers have adopted the right course, and in a circular to the members of the Milk Producers' Association say that milk will be very scarce this winter, and that the Midland and Southern buyers will have to come north for their supplies. Milk is being delivered now at 1s. per gallon. The retailers, it says (in Cheshire), have in many cases put up their prices, and it is

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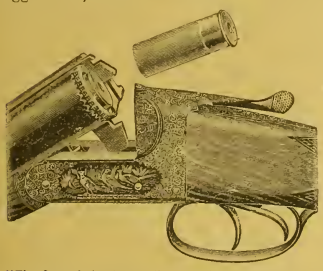

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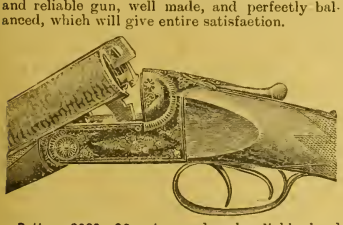

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advised that no milk should be sold this coming winter at less than 10d. per gallon.

IN 1891 the Markets and Fairs (Weighing of Cattle) Act was passed, rendering compulsory the provision of weigh-bridges for live stock in the public markets. At the time it was expected the buyer and seller would equally be inclined to change the old method of selling by lump to the only, as it seems, rational method of disposing of anything which has to be resold by weight. But we are in some affairs a stupid people, and the old practice is still adhered to with a tenacity that is worthy of a sanor cause. In twelve years the percentage of cattle sold by live weight has increased by about 11 per cent., the practice at the present time only covering 18 per cent. of the cattle sold in public markets. Weigh-bridges have to be maintained at considerable cost, whether used or not, and in many instances the fees charged do not cover the cost of the oil with which they require to be lubricated.

FOR a long time there has existed a burning desire in the minds of enthusiasts for a curriculum in country schools more adaptable to their children than are the subjects taught in urban schools. The East Riding Education Authorities are fostering an idea of this sort, and the clerk, Mr. John Bickersteth, who, by the way, is the son of the late saintly Bishop Bickersteth, of Ripon, takes a practical interest in nature study, presiding last week at a county society meeting on the subject. Intelligent masters in the village schools give their pupils interesting lessons on plant life and botany which cannot fail to impress the minds of the youngsters under their care with the wonders of the natural world.

October 5, 1906.

Black Scab in Potatoes.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have received information that the disease of black scab of potatoes, which was first observed in this country in the autumn of 1901, has spread among some of the gardens in North Wales during the present season.

They wish to warn all persons interested in potato growing of the dangers that may arise from the neglect of precautions against the further increase of the disease, and to say that a leaflet containing a description of it, with an illustration, and advice as to measures to be taken may be obtained gratis and post free on application to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. Letters so addressed need not be stamped.

Forestry at Cirencester.

During the recent vacation of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, the first of a series of annual excursions was made with some students of the college and the Professor of Forestry (Mr. F. C. M'Clellan) to the German forests. Amongst those visited were several in the Oberförsterei of Darmstadt, the well-known oak and pine woods at Viernheim, the large coppice in the Odenwald, now under conversion to high forests, and some of the Heidelberg Woods. The excursions are to be varied in successive years.

In addition to these excursions, the students, who have the advantage of Lord Bathurst's large woods as instructional area, almost adjoining the college, are expected before their final examination for the diploma to avail themselves of the opportunities afforded by the respective owners and managers of visiting the Berkeley and Colesbourne Woods and the Forest of Dean, and, further afield, the Brocklesby Woods, in Lincolnshire, and the catchment areas belonging to the Waterwork Departments of the Birmingham and Liverpool Corporations in Wales, now being planted up. They have thus the opportunity of seeing and studying the systematic management of both private estate woods and other woods in various parts of the country, at home as well as abroad.

Cattle and Sheep from Denmark.—At a public meeting held in Deptford on Thursday, Mr. D. Amos, a member of the Greenwich Borough Council, presiding, the following resolution was adopted:—"That this meeting calls for the removal of the restrictions now applied to the importation at Deptford Market of cattle and sheep from Denmark and the Netherlands, feeling convinced that such removal would benefit the wage-earners and shopkeepers of this and neighbouring boroughs and the consumers of meat throughout the whole metropolis." It was stated by the chairman that Denmark and the Netherlands were clear of the foot-and-mouth disease, and that no case of the disease had ever been traced to the Deptford Cattle Market. The exclusion meant an annual loss in wages alone of £200,000. The President of the Board of Agriculture has, it may be mentioned, already been approached in this matter without success.

CHAS. LANCASTER.

Season 1906-7.

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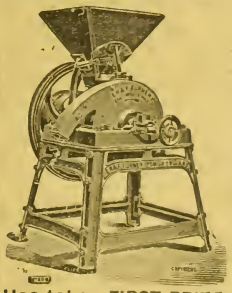

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THE CHAMPION RAM for 1905 (BRED BY MR. TOM CASSWELL) and the CHAMPION RAM for 1906 (BRED BY MR. HENRY DUDGEON), sold for 1,450 GUINEAS, were DIPPED IN BATTLE'S DIPS. WHY? BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST.

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Weather, Crops and Stock.

Nottinghamshire. THIS has been an exceptional season, and I fear also a disastrous one. There was a good seedtime, and everything appeared favourable up till the end of May, when dry weather set in and continued till the end of September. Only 13¾ inches of rain fell from January 1 to October 1, and three parts of this fell in the first three months of the year. In every other county one heard of good rains, but none came our way with the exception of slight showers at long intervals. The result has been that the hay crop was light, pastures were burnt up, and the root crop a failure, with the exception of mangolds, which are a little over half a crop. Ditches and ponds, and in some cases wells, have been dry for months. Dairy farmers and milk sellers have suffered severely, and their receipts have fallen off considerably, whilst at the same time they have had to buy increased quantities of feeding stuffs as well as having to commence on their haystacks. The hay and corn harvests were well won, and as regards corn, barley has been a good crop, oats and beans fair. but wheat is not up to average.

Bucks (Central). OUR graziers say that this season is about the worst they have ever had—grass being dried up, and water in many places very short, the cattle have not got fat, and the price of beef is miserable—3s. 4d. per stone, and some of it less, even heifers that are nice meat and nice weights. The milk has dried up, and cake is very dear, so that the dairyman's prospects are bad. The harvest is turning out about an average one hereabouts, but wheat is not yielding quite so well as anticipated, whilst barley has not been much thrashed. Mutton has been selling fairly well. Wheat is at a very low price ; it must be very good to make 28s. per qr. We have been very much dried up, and could scarcely plough, but have had a rare rain, which will do an immense deal of good, enabling ploughing and planting to be done, and freshens up the roots. Swedes are a poor crop, and got very blue, and in some cases blighty. Mangolds are a fair crop, but not heavy in some places, it having been too dry for them on the stone brash land. This rain will fetch up rye and tares where planted, and improve the young seeds.

Dorset. THE drought has at length broken up, and we have had a beautiful downpour with all appearance of more to follow. It is most acceptable for the preparing the land for wheat ; the autumn sown crops, such as trifolium, rye, winter barley, vetches, and the young grass seeds, were sadly in want of rain. I do not anticipate it can benefit to any great extent the root crop, which must be written down as very indifferent, although I have seen in more favoured localities a few good pieces. Pastures are particularly brown and bare, the prospects for autumn and winter feed are disheartening. Hay and chaff will shortly be required. This means a long, expensive winter. I am giving straw chaff to cattle with a little mixture of corn and cake, and breeding ewes are eating hay twice a day; they have up till now done wonderfully well on short rations. Store sheep have kept up well in price, numbers short. There appears to be a demand for good heifers with calves, as the supply of milk has run short. Young cattle are well nigh unsaleable. The long haulage of water has been an expensive item. With the high price of feeding stuffs and shortness of roots and grass, I am looking forward to winter with great apprehension, and wonder where rent, labour, and expenses are to come from, unless out of capital.

South Hunts. YESTERDAY (Tuesday) was indeed a joyful day for the residents on the high lands in this drought - ridden county ; for months we have suffered from the scarcity of rain, our roots had suffered and our pastures had long ceased to grow any feed. It is true that the stock throve tolerably well on the little roast meat which they were enabled with great toil to pick up, but everything was crying about for that downfall with which we were at last blessed yesterday. The face of the country is quite changed already. Now the horse-ploughs will be started to prepare for winter beans and winter oats, which most probably will this season be more generally sown. The clover lands will hardly be fit for the plough until the present rain has soaked in, or perhaps we may require still more moisture so terribly thirsty had the soil become. We hear that the corn is generally yielding about as expected quite an average crop both on the uplands and the fen lands.

Radnor. WE have had an exceptionally fine summer this year. It has been a grand harvest of both hay and grain with the best crops that have been for a good many years. The roots were looking well in this neighbourhood until about a fortnight ago, and since then the weather has been rather too dry for them. There seems a good many people complaining about their potatoes not keeping well this year. Sheep have been selling wonderfully this summer, although the ewe trade has not finished as good as it started. Fat lambs and wethers sell readily at a good market price. The trade on cattle in this neighbourhood has been very slow, especially store cattle, but are hoping that after this fine rain which we have had that the cattle trade will improve.

Brough Hill Fair.—Fine weather was associated with this great Westmoreland horse fair on Monday, when the attendance of people on business or pleasure bent constituted a record for recent years. The show of horses was about an average one in point of numbers and included a fair proportion of good class animals suitable for 'bus and general town purposes. The pick of the market were well looked after by dealers, exchanging hands at prices ranging up to £60. The bulk of the farmers' horses, however, were disposed of at from £25 to £40, but among this class business ruled slow. Light horses of all descriptions were numerously represented, but few, if any, very high figures were touched, the general run being from £15 to £35. The sheep penned consisted mostly of Blackfaced and Greyfaced lambs, which were priced respectively at 16s. to 17s. and 33s. to 35s. per head. There was an increased show of young Shorthorn and Highland cattle.

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Fertilisers & Feeding Stuffs

POTASH SALTS.

IN a recent issue we treated rather fully the subject of basic slag, and we propose now to handle potash salts, another essential element of plant food, in a similar manner.

In looking through the agricultural literature of the first half of the last century one is struck by the absence of any reference to several fertilising materials, which are now household words in farming circles, so that while we find, in back numbers of farmers' journals, the relative merits of guano, bones, farmyard manure, soot, &c., often discussed, there is no allusion to potash salts in the now well-known forms, although the advantage of applying the small quantities of potash derived from wood ashes and seaweed was recognised and acted on.

It is, therefore, not a matter of wonder that much of the arable land and old pastures became gradually impoverished in available potash and the crops, especially on light land, showed a tendency to deteriorate. Fortunately—or may we say, providentially?—at the time when the deficiency of potash was beginning to be seriously felt, supplies from a source hitherto undreamt of, and sufficient to satisfy all the requirements of agriculture were discovered in the Harz mountains of Germany.

PIT HEAD OF POTASH MINE.

The Stassfurt Potash Mines.

The German Potash Industry celebrated its jubilee last February, having been begun in 1856. The mines had been worked long before, but only for common salt, and in that year a stratum of salts, hitherto unknown, but which proved to be potash salts, was reached. At first no importance was attached to the discovery, and little did the miners realise that they were the pioneers of an industry which would benefit the whole world, and develop into one of the most important of the German Empire. We give a couple of illustrations of the work of the mines.

From a return made by the German Agricultural Society, it appears that the use of the potash salts in that country soon became extensive. In 1885 it had reached the quantity of 68,000 tons; ten years later it was 480,000 tons, and in 1905 the quantity had grown to over a million and a quarter tons of the natural potash salts. By its aid, in combination with basic slag and superphosphate, large tracts of light sandy land, hitherto regarded as useless, have been brought under successful cultivation.

The German farmers are so sensible of the advantages which cheap potash gives them, that bitterly they have been growing uneasy at the large exports, fearing that the deposits may be exhausted. They petitioned the Government to levy a heavy export duty, but it is satisfactory to note that the German Government are not disposed to hamper the industry by adopting such a measure. The deposits are so extensive that there is no fear of exhaustion.

As was natural, as the potash mines were discovered in Germany, the potash salts derived from them were first experimented with in that country, but trial parcels were soon shipped over here. In 1881 we find the late Dr. Voelcker in his evidence before the Royal Commission of Agriculture that sat during that year, saying: "Yes, I believe that it (kainit) will be used more largely than it has been; it will be very useful in the reclamation of waste lands, especially peaty land, in conjunction with superphosphate or bones. There is a great future for it." And a few years later the Experiments Committee of the Norfolk Agricultural Society reported:—

"Potash added to super and nitrate gave an additional 3 tons (mangolds), and to the super and sulphate of ammonia 5 tons per acre. From that time forward the use of Stassfurt potash salts has become more and more general, and has entered into the general practice of crop cultivation.

The average consumption of potash salts, calculated as pure potash, in different countries is given as follows per 100 acres:—

Germany	273 lb.
Belgium	142 ,,
Holland	265 ,,
Denmark	103 ,,
Great Britain...	52 ,,

In view of these figures it will be noted that in the countries where the most intensive system of crop growing is practised, there is the greatest demand for potash, and it appears evident that its more extensive employment in this country would be attended with advantage.

Is Potash Essential to Plant Life?

A glance at the following analysis of the ash constituents of some of the principal crops shows that this question must be answered in the affirmative:—

A crop of	Contains in its ash lb. per acre. Phosphoric acid.	Potash.
Mangels { roots 22 tons	36·4	228·8
Mangels { leaf	16·5	77·9
Total crop	52·9	300·7
Potatoes 10 tons ...	36	128
Clover hay 2 tons ...	24·9	83·4
Meadow hay 1½ tons ..	12·3	50·9
Turnips { roots 17 tons	22·4	108·6
Turnips { leaf	10·7	40·2
Total crop	33·1	148·8
Oats 45 bushels and straw	19·4	46·1
Wheat 30 bushels and straw	20·7	35·7
Barley 30 bushels and straw	20	34

On this subject Dr. Aikman writes:—"Of all the ash constituents of plants, potash is the most abundant, as it forms on an average about 50 per cent. of the total ash of plants; the ash of plants, indeed, was for long the chief source of potash. Certain plants remove very large quantities from the soil. Of these plants, roots, potatoes, the vine, the tobacco plants, and hops may be mentioned as examples. It is present in large quantities in the grain of cereals, although not to the same proportional extent as phosphoric acid. It is found in the plant's extremities, such as twigs and new leaves, in the greatest abundance.

For potatoes, clover, mangels, beans, and other Leguminæ the dominant fertilising constituent is potash, and care should be taken that it is always present in the soil in ample supply and in readily available forms.

Soils Specially Suitable for Potash Applications.

The soils to which applications of potash have been found to produce the best results are poor, light soils, moor lands, and pasture lands. On the latter, when combined with dressings of phosphate of lime, it exercises a remarkably renovating effect, stimulating into active growth the best kinds of nourishing verdure and checking the development of coarse rank grass and mosses. Its value on chalk lands has been often demonstrated. Heavy clay lands usually contain a sufficient natural supply of potash, but it is often so closely bound up with other minerals, that it is not in an available condition for plant food. On clay soils it is prudent to make experiments on a small scale before incurring any important outlay in the purchase of potash salts. It may be found that it is not necessary to apply extra potash for cereals, while for crops of which potash is the dominant element it is always judicious to give them the benefit of a little extra supply.

Potash salts give the best results when the soil is plentifully supplied with lime, so farmers should see that the soil is not deficient in lime. In recent years farmers have been inclined to neglect the good old practice of liming, to the prejudice of their soils and the crops.

When should Potash be Applied?

Kainit should be applied in the autumn or quite early in winter. This is an important point to be remembered, because otherwise the material does not have the opportunity of producing the best results.

Sulphate of potash and muriate of potash may be applied either in the autumn or spring as most convenient.

Two experiments to test the advantage of early application of kainit were carried out in Ayrshire and Lanarkshire. The Ayrshire experiment was conducted by Mr. Robert Byran, Orchardton, Ochiltree, on a "deep heavy loam." There were two plots, the top dressing for both plots being the same, viz. (per acre):

5 cwt. kainit.
2 cwt. superphosphate.
1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia.

On one plot, however, the kainit was applied on November 23, while the other plot only received its kainit on March 17. On the latter date the necessary phosphates and ammonia were also given to both plots.

Two crops of grass were subsequently cut and weighed during the season, the results being:—

	Winter-applied Kainit. Tons	Cwts.		Spring-applied Kainit. Tons	Cwts.
First cut	10	19	..	7	10½
Aftermath	4	10¼	...	3	12
Total crop (fresh) ...	15	9¼	..	11	2½
In favour of early application	4	6¼		—	

The difference in favour of early application is somewhat surprising, and equals, approximately, 1¼ tons of hay on the two crops. As would be anticipated, the advantage is proportionately less on the aftermath than on the earlier crop. The fact that it is apparent, however, on the second cut, further strengthens the plea for early application on this particular class of land.

There is no danger of the potash being washed out of the soil or carried down beyond the reach of the crops.

When using potash salts, see that the soil is also well supplied with phosphoric acid and lime.

What Form of Potash is Best?

This is a question often asked, but to which it is not possible to give a definite reply, because so many different factors have to be taken into consideration, and particularly the kind of crop and the character of the soil.

For general purposes it may be said that applications of kainit are the most economical and produce satisfactory results, but experience shows that it is not so suitable for potatoes and hops as the more concentrated sulphate of potash.

Kainit can be especially recommended for light soils, liable to suffer from drought, as the large quantity of salt in it has the effect of attracting moisture, thus preventing the soil from drying off so quickly.

On the other hand, when applied to heavy soils it has a tendency to cake the surface of the land, rendering it impervious to ventilation, thus injuring its physical condition, so that on soils of

this description preference should be given to sulphate of potash.

The salt in kainit causes it to use up the lime in the soil, therefore it is important to see that there is plenty of lime and also phosphoric acid in the soil in order to get the best results.

Speaking in round terms it may be said—

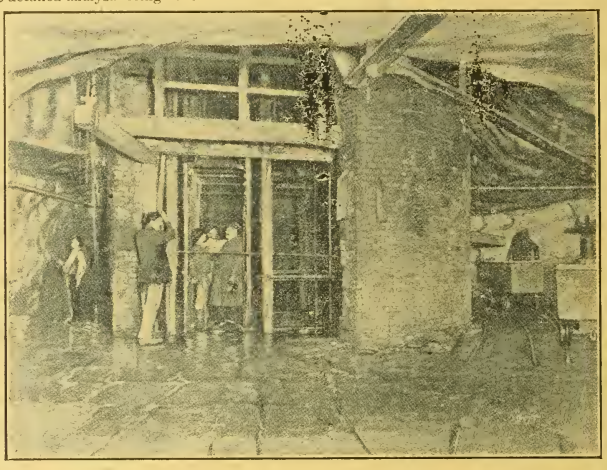
(1) Use *Kainit* in light sandy soils, chalky soils, heath lands, and peaty soils, for mangolds and other root crops, cereals, clover, and pastures, and apply quite early.

(2) Use *Muriate of Potash* on heavy lands for the same crops. It may be applied in the spring.

(2) Use *Sulphate of Potash* on light and heavy soils for potatoes and hops, and for mixing with other fertilisers.

Different Forms of Potash Salts.

There are numerous forms of Potash Salts raised from the mines, but we need only discuss the kinds in general use in this country. These are kainit, sulphate of potash, muriate of potash, and in Scotland potash manure salts, their respective average detailed analysis being as follows :—



PIT BOTTOM OF POTASH MINE.

	Kainit 23 p.c.	Sulphate Potash 90 p c.	Muriate Potash 80 p.c.	Potash Manure Salts 20 p.c.
Sulphate Potash	21·3	90·6	—	2·0
Muriate Potash	2·0	1·6	83·5	31·6
Sulphate Magnesia...	14·5	2·7	0·4	10·6
Chloride Magnesia ...	12·4	1·0	0·3	5·3
Chloride Sodium ..... (Common Salt)	34·6	1·2	14·5	40.2
Sulphate Lime	1·7	0·4	—	2·1
Insoluble Matter	0·8	0·3	0·2	4·0
Moisture	12·7	2·2	1·1	4·2
	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0
equal *pure* Potash p c. just about	13	50	52½	21

so that

1 cwt. kainit yields about 14½ lb. pure potash,

1 cwt. sulphate of potash yields about 53 lb. pure potash,

1 cwt. muriate of potash yields about 56 lb. pure potash,

1 cwt. potash manure salts yields about 23½ lb. pure potash.

Are Potash Salts often Adulterated?

Potash salts are not, as a rule, subject to adulteration, being delivered as imported, but when obtaining supplies of the concentrated qualities sulphate of potash and muriate of potash, it is prudent to have the percentage of potash checked by analysis, as there are occasionally some inferior grades on the market.

When buying compound manures containing potash, it is desirable to scrutinise carefully the guarantee and see that it is stated, in accordance with the requirements of the "Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act," as pure potash, and not as potash salts, or alkaline salts, or sulphate of potash. The use of these terms is apt to mislead the farmer who may not regard the analysis in a casual way. On this point Mr. Wood, M.A., of Cambridge, writes :—"Potash should always be expressed as *pure potash*, but to find it so expressed is very exceptional. All the other terms used are ambiguous and misleading, and only serve to give the manure a fictitious value and to prevent the purchaser from putting his own value upon it. Such expressions as potash salts and alkaline salts are no guarantee whatever, and ought not to be accepted."

Phosphates Useless Without Potash.

Bearing on the above subject, an eminent scientists in discussing the Rothamsted experiments on pasture lands, writes :—

One frequently hears very conflicting remarks regarding the effects of basic slag or superphosphate of lime when applied to pasture lands. With some, the application of phosphatic manures is most beneficial, resulting in a large increase of clovers among the herbage, and more especially of white clover, while with others no good effects from phosphatic manures are observed.

From the unique experiments conducted at the Rothamsted Agricultural Station on grass land, which were started by the late Sir John B Lawes in the year 1856, and have been continued up to the present time (1904), thus extending over a period of forty-nine years, it has been fully demonstrated that basic slag and superphosphate are absolutely of no avail if the land is deficient in available potash Consequently, applications of potash manure, when given in soluble and available form, have had considerable effect upon both the quantity and the quality of the produce obtained.

Taking for illustration five of the twenty-four plots of the experiments with the mixed herbage of grass land, we find some very remarkable results both as to weight of the hay crop yielded, and also in the botanical composition of the hay produced, which affects its nutritive properties for stock feeding purposes.

Rothamsted experiments. Produce of hay, 1st and 2nd crops. Average over the whole period of forty-seven years, 1856-1902 :—

	Hay per Acre. Cwt.	Increase of Hay. Cwt.
Plot 3. Without manure	21·9	—
,, 4. Superphosphate alone ...	23·3	1·4
,, 8. Mixed mineral manure, excluding potash, 1862, and each year since ...	28·7	6·8
,, 6. Mixed mineral manure, with potash, 1869, and each year since... ...	37·4	15·5
,, 7. Mixed mineral manure, with potash, for forty-seven years	38·8	16·9

It is seen from the above figures that, taking the average of forty-seven years, the total produce of hay has been increased by the effect of superphosphate to 1·4 cwt. per acre only. On plot 8, which received a complete mineral manure, including potash, from 1856 to 1861, but in 1862 and each year since the potash was omitted, this shows an increase of hay over the unmanured plot of 6·8 cwt. per acre. While plot 6, which receives a complete mineral manure as plot 7 ; following ammonium salts alone during the first thirteen years, there is a gain over plot 3, without manure, of 15·5 cwt. per acre. Plot 7, which received the complete mineral manure, including both phosphate and potash, for the whole period of forty-seven years, there is an increase of hay per acre over plot 3 of 16·9 cwt.

Experiments have also been conducted at Rothamsted for many years with a view to ascertain if possible by what means the red clover crop can be grown year after year on the same land, or how frequently a satisfactory crop can be obtained, provided suitable manures be applied to the soil. In 1849 four acres of red clover were set apart for experiments which was divided into a number of plots differently manured. It will be sufficient to point out that in this experiment in every case the crop of the first year was a large one, amounting in three cuttings to about 14 tons of fresh green produce, equal to about 3¾ tons of clover hay, without the addition of manure of any kind; when sulphate of potash and superphosphate of lime were employed 18 tons of green produce, equal to nearly 5 tons of clover hay pere acre were obtained. When, however, to the potash and superphosphate were added sulphate of ammonia, or rapecake, which manures so largely increase the produce of our cereal crops, the produce of the clover was less than when the potash and superphosphate were used alone. Here is a striking evidence that in the growth of leguminous crops, such as clover, peas, vetches, beans, sainfoin, lucerne, &c., at any rate some of the large amount of nitrogen which these crops contain, and of the large amounts which they frequently leave as nitrogenous residue in the soil for the food of future crops, is due to atmospheric nitrogen brought into combination by the agency of lower organisms which exist within the root nodules, the nitrogen so produced being taken up and utilised by the clover plants. It is further demonstrated that the development of these lower organisms is very greatly dependent upon a full supply of potash in the soil.

It is also shown that the addition of nitrogen to the manure employed for the growth of red clover is not required, while the application of potash and phosphates is indispensable.

Summary of results obtained in Agdell Field, Rothamsted, under a four-course rotation of crops. Produce per acre.—

Turnips carted from land :—

——	Without Manure.	Superphosphate and Sulphate Potash.	Complete Manure.
Clover hay	13½ cwt.	49¼ cwt.	49¾ cwt.
Bean corn.....	15⅝ bush.	28 bush.	19⅞ bush.
Wheat grain ...	27½ bush.	40½ bush.	42½ bush.
Turnips fed on land by sheep :—			
Clover hay	14½ cwt.	53⅞ cwt.	58⅞ cwt.
Bean corn	16 bush.	18½ bush.	19½ bush.
Wheat grain ...	26⅝ bush.	44⅞ bush.	41⅞ bush.

These figures show most conclusively how the potash in combination with superphosphate increased the produce of clover and of beans on both sections of these experiments. On the land from which the turnips were removed the potash and superphosphate gave an increase per acre over the unmanured plot of 35¾ cwt. of clover hay, 12¾ bushels of beans, and 13¾ bushels of wheat ; while on the portion where the turnips were consumed on the land by sheep the potash and superphosphate gave an increase per acre over the corresponding unmanured plot of 37⅞ cwt. of clover hay, 12½ bushels of beans, and 17¾ bushels of wheat.

The complete manure, supplying both nitrogen and minerals, increased the produce but very little over the potash and superphosphate without nitrogen, and in some cases the nitrogen supply did harm.

Potash in Compound Fertilisers.

Potash may be described as the Cinderella of the three sisters of fertility—nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, because it is almost invariably treated with neglect in the special or compound fertilisers offered by the manufacturers.

The analysis of the ash constituents of plants points distinctly to the necessity of potash, and experiments are continually demonstrating that the best results are obtained by the union of the three fertilising constituents in which potash is liberally represented. The Board of Agriculture evince their appreciation of this fact by recommending in their manual of agricultural experiments the application to the different crops of mixture containing a large percentage of potash, thus :—

Artificial Manures per Acre.

	Nitrogen.	Phos. acid.	Potash.	Equal to potash
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	p. c.
Meadow hay	20	40	20	5
Rye grass and clover hay.....	30	40	30	5
Swedes and turnips.	20	80	40	5
Mangolds	40	80	80	8
Potatoes	40	60	80	11
Wheat	30	40	30	5
Oats	20	30	30	6
Barley	20	40	30	5½
Beans	20	60	60	8

Kainit Spread on Manure in Stables.

It has been found advantageous to occasionally spread a little kainit in stables, cattle yards, and on manure heaps, as the ammonia in the manure is partly fixed by it, and at the same time the quality of the manure is improved by the potash and magnesia in the kainit.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

"A TRUE PLANT FOOD."

Gives immense increase in CORN, ROOT and GRASS CROPS, MARKET GARDEN CROPS, HOPS.

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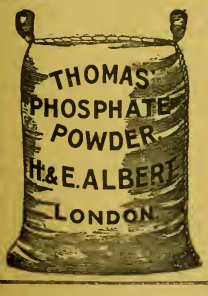

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Volatile Black Drink (for colic, gripes, and spasms in horses and cattle), 19/6 per dozen.

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Before Calving Drench and after Calving Drench, 10/6 per dozen.

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For further particulars of this and other New Breeds of Seed Wheats, as well as Seeds for present and later sowing, see our New Illustrated Catalogue, post free on application.

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Leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep. Trial Pot Free from the Manufactory.

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THE

"BIBBY" CAKE

IN THE FORM OF

"CAKETTES."

"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I want 'Bibby,' please," and if he refuse to supply the genuine article, you had better drop us a line, and we will put you in the best way to obtain it.

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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J. BIBBY & SONS

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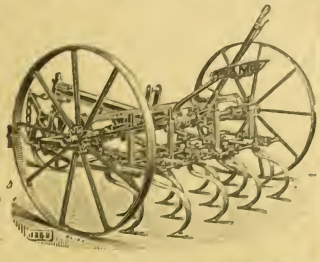

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ESTABLISHED 1832.

OCTOBER 8, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE DAIRY SHOW.

The advent of Dairy Show week naturally brings uppermost the reflection of the changes in everything connected with the dairy industry during the thirty-one years since the first exhibition of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held. A mere handful of far-seeing agriculturists and merchants took action at about the same period that the horse societies had birth. The seventies of last century were noteworthy for progressive agricultural movements, and not the least important was the formation of this far-reaching institution, bristling with educational influences, to convert what had been a much-neglected, despised, toilsome employment into one of the most interesting and attractive of rural pursuits, in which ladies of the highest rank, including Princesses of the Royal blood, could find pastime.

That all-powerful magician the cream separator, which also came into existence in the seventies, proved the grand mechanical revolutioniser so far as butter-making was concerned. The two machines which have promoted the world's progress in the arts of agriculture more than anything else during the past half-century are the self-binding reaper and the cream seperator.

Only a very few of those who formed the British Dairy Farmers' Association now survive to bear testimony to the progressive but arduous struggles of an institution which may truly be said to have grown from a mere pigmy to a giant. At one time it stood in imminent peril of being turned out of the Agricultural Hall, and there was a suggestion which the council took seriously into consideration of moving into the provinces and making the show migratory, but happily soon after the dairymaids' contests in butter-making and other attractions excited the attention of the London public and the gate money increased.

But for this the show would have collapsed when, owing to foot-and-mouth disease, dairy cows outside the Metropolitan locality were utterly debarred from coming to one of them. But the society tided over this difficulty as well as many others, and since holding summer conferences, so attractive on account of the pleasant excursions connected with them, the membership has immensely increased.

Nor is this the only thing which has made the show more popular with British farmers. Its milking and butter trials have proved highly satisfactory in this respect. Most of the leading agricultural societies, it is true, at their summer shows have milking trials, but they have not the same importance as the annual competition which brings all the heaviest milkers in the kingdom to the Royal Agricultural Hall in the endeavour to win the Lord Mayor's Champion and the Barham and Spencer Challenge Cups.

One of the biggest farm fires which have occurred in East Yorkshire broke out on Monday morning on the premises of Mr. Emmerson, of Pickering Dotterill Park, near Filey. The Driffield and Bridlington Fire Brigades arrived on the scene, but were powerless to prevent the spread of the flames until damage estimated at over £5,000 had been done. Thirty-two corn stacks, straw from twelve other stacks, and a hay stack were destroyed. The loss is covered by insurance.

Spanish Farmers and Imported Wheat. — King Alfonso of Spain recently received a deputation of Castilian agriculturists, who represented to his Majesty the evils which threatened to overtake Spanish agriculture unless the Government closed the frontiers to foreign wheat. The harvest, they declared, exceeded the national requirement. The deputation begged the King to use his influence to stop the importation of wheat which had not paid a minimum duty of about eleven pesetas.

Retford October Fair, held on Tuesday, was very largely supplied, there being a good all-round show of cattle and about 6,000 sheep, but horses were not so numerous as in some previous years. Details of the sheep sales appear in another column. Bullocks made £12 to £15, two-year-old steers and heifers £10 to £12, yearlings £7 to £9, and milk cows £16 to £18. The best cart-horses made up to £60, the general run in the fair being up to £45, two year-olds to £40, yearlings £20 to £25, and young foals with the mare up to £15. The quotations in the cheese fair were:—Stiltons, 10d. to 11d.; Cheshires, 7d. to 8d.; Cheddars, 10d.; Gorgonzolas, 8d.; Americans, 4½d. to 6d.; and Trent Sides, 7d. to 8d. per lb.

A tragic incident occurred at a stack fire which broke out in the early hours of the morning at the farm of Mr. Robert Knifton, Chaddesden Moor, near Derby. Mr. Knifton's uncle, a retired farmer, on a visit from Australia, was carrying a couple of buckets of water across the yard, when in the excitement he fell forward and expired. Two stack of oats valued at £80 were completely destroyed, and, considering the great scarcity of water, it was little short of a miracle that some six or eight other stacks were saved.

Royal Veterinary College.

Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, who was accompanied by Sir Thomas Elliott, Secretary of the Department, Major-General Thomson and Major-General Duck, present and past Directors-General of the Army Veterinary Department, presided at the opening of the session of the Royal Veterinary College, Camden Town, on Tuesday.

The introductory lecture was delivered by Professor H. A. Woodruff, who was student and prizemen as recently as 1898. Remarking on the fact, unique in its history, that the college now received a subsidy of £800 from Government just when mechanical traction was more and more every day displacing horse-power, so much so that it was suggested in some quarters that the college would have to be turned into an engineering institution, he claimed that never was there a time when well-equipped and scientific veterinary skill was more needed in the interests of the community.

Recent revelations in connection with the Chicago meat trust showed the necessity in this country for efficient and properly-regulated inspection of meat such as prevailed in Germany and Belgium and in a less perfect degree in France, Italy, Austria, and Spain. For this work veterinary surgeons were far better qualified than medical officers of health or inspectors of nuisances, in whose ranks were included for the purposes of meat inspection such men as plumbers, carpenters, bricklayers, florists, builders, surveyors, stonemasons, and tram conductors.

Another direction in which the services of veterinary surgeons were most urgently required was the securing of a pure milk supply by preventing the dissemination of tuberculous and other diseases from contaminated dairies, and a consequent reduction especially in the rate of infantry mortality.

Replying to a vote of thanks proposed by the principal, Earl Carrington said he thought everyone must agree with the lecturer's remarks about meat inspection. The revelations as to the qualifications of the inspectors were somewhat astounding, and he thought might well be brought to the notice of that great body, the London County Council. As he listened to the remarks about the milk supply, he congratulated himself that it was a matter for the Local Government Board and not his department. Everybody would agree, however, that uniform regulations were needed. He was glad that the officers of the Army Veterinary Department had now received the recognition too long denied them. He would remind the students of the Latin quotation which told them that they must always excel and always be very much better than anyone else. That was more easily said than done, they might reply. They were not all Derby horses like old Hermit, whose skeleton he saw just before he entered that room, and whom he recognised with gratitude and affection, because he once won £1,000 over him. If they were beaten the first time they must try again, and there was no earthly reason why they should not be very well placed in the race for life.

The first of the two hiring mops for Gloucestershire was held on Monday, but there appeared to be but little business in hiring. A few years ago it was usual to see the cross thronged with farm hands, male and female. Last week there were only a few hundred men waiting about, and of these only a very small number sported plaited whipcord in hat or in buttonhole—indicating that they were carters or general hands waiting to be hired—or had tufts of wool stuck conspicuously in the front of their hats, which proclaimed them shepherds out of work.

Notes of the Week.

Must the non-success of poultry keeping be put down to the breeders being careless with their money? One would think so from the number of coins that have of late been found inside eggs (see reports in the daily papers).

A remarkable thing about these coins has been their increasing value. The first report we notice stated the finding of a sixpence, and the latest report (from another district) records a half-sovereign. The next to be found must surely be a sovereign. Or is a five-pound note too much to expect!

The flotation in London of the Nantes Butter and Refrigerating Company (Ltd.), with a capital of £100,000, gives rise to reflections.

The object of the company is to supply British housewives with large quantities of the butter produced, according to the prospectus, in the rich agricultural districts around Nantes.

The registered trade mark of the company is to be "N.B.," representing, no doubt, "Nantes Butter."

But to British butter producers it should mean "Nota bene," because the proposed increased competition is worth noting.

It is a sign to our butter makers that they also must organise and co-operate in order to maintain the reputation of British-made butter, and keep up the sale at top prices of their product.

The British Dairy Farmers' Show opens tomorrow at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, when Londoners will have an opportunity of seeing the high quality of British products.

If consumers were educated up to the point of asking at the retail shop for "British butter," a great many would do so out of patriotism and fellow feeling for the British farmer.

"Buy British Butter" would be a good headline for a leaflet.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England has migrated to new London offices at 16, Bedford Square, London.

Many well-wishers of the society would like to see it enter upon a more energetic and progressive path.

With its great influence it might take a more active part in protecting the interests of agriculture.

For instance, on questions such as the Army meat contracts, and other cognate matters, it should voice the opinion of its many members with no uncertain sound.

And it is suggested that the information it supplies to farmers would be more valuable and up-to-date if it issued a monthly publication, instead of simply an annual journal.

The War Office is calling for tenders for the supply of meat and live cattle for the requirements of the Army. It is to be regretted that Parliament is not now sitting.

The first recorded mention of the potato, under its old form of botata or batata, occurs in a work by Peter Martyr published in 1516.

Describing the natives of Uraba, Darien, he wrote:—"They dygge also owte of the ground certeyne rootes growing of theimselves which they call botatas."

The first autumnal gale of this season paid the country a boisterous visit last Tuesday. It came in the wings of a south-west wind, accompanied by heavy rain.

For the first time for many years the cost of nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia are now about the same.

Yet sulphate of ammonia contains nearly six more units of ammonia than nitrate does. This excess of ammonia is worth at least £3 per ton.

It is an unnatural position, and should cause a run on the relatively cheaper article.

"Seed is the beginning of life."

Farmers should bear this in mind when buying wheat for seed. If the seed is not full of vitality, the grown crop will be poor, no matter how rich the soil may be.

In the year 1812 the price of a quartern loaf was 21½d. What should we say to such a price now?

But in case of a war and a naval reverse it might reach such a price, and go even higher.

The house fly is to be made the object of investigations by the Manchester University Laboratory.

The fly is a pest, and the cause of the spread of many diseases. Low fevers and obscure forms of malaria are attributed to inoculations by it.

Even the Anti-vivisection Society would not object if it should be found necessary to vivisect a few flies.

We are glad to hear that the British section has received a full share of awards at the Milan Exhibition.

The exhibits of the Royal Agricultural Society and Lawes Agricultural Trust have been awarded the "Grand Prix."

Several British firms of agricultural implement makers have also received the same prize or lesser awards.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 25, 1906:—

Period	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended September 29, 1906	129	17	...	...	...	39	18	...	...	16	15
Correspondingweek in 1905	38	13	4	...	...	45	27	...	...	34	25
Correspondingweek in 1904	45	6	6	...	...	49	24	...	...	29	20
Correspondingweek in 1903	77	15	4	...	...	68	31	...	...	6	6
Total for 39 weeks in 1906	4,809	848	308	...	...	1,541	823	...	...	979	677
Correspondingperiod in 1905	2,908	643	676	...	...	1,632	947	...	...	1,027	741
Correspondingperiod in 1904	4,853	1,038	1,089	...	...	2,129	1,196	...	...	1,166	742
Correspondingperiod in 1903	6,140	1,185	1,200	...	...	1,937	1,150	...	...	887	885

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

The members of the Felsham, Gedding, and District Sparrow Club have in the past half year destroyed 3,942 sparrows and 2,824 sparrow eggs. Hitherto 3d. per dozen has been paid for old birds, but for current half-year 6d. will be paid to secure greater destruction.

A disastrous farm fire occurred in the early hours of Tuesday morning at Mr. Hockenhull's premises at Mickley, about four miles distant from Market Drayton. Owing to the scarcity of water available, it was impossible to save anything except the farm buildings. Considerably over £1,000 worth of well harvested hay, clover, and cereals were consumed, this being the produce of more than 100 acres, gathered in seven large barns and four ricks. The outbreak is attributed to incendiarism.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9.—British Dairy Farmers' Show at Islington. Opening Day—Saul and Selby's Agricultural Sale at Skegby, Notts.—Manor Farm Sale, Reading—East Worldham Farm Sale—Manley's Annual Sale of Hunters at Crewe—Hounslow Show—Bere Farm Sale, Soberton—Upper Nash Farm Sale, Kilborough—Fairs at Carmarthen, Hay, Denbigh, Kington, Bingley, and Gargrave.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10.—Worcestershire Shire Horse Society's Annual Show, at Worcester—Cirencester Agricultural College Autumn Session begins—Colne Horse and Cattle Fair—Worksop Cattle Fair—Tewkesbury Great Fair—Elford Farm Sale—Weyhill Fair—Dairy Show at Islington, 2nd day—Bath Cheese Fair—Bolton Cow Fair—Cockermouth Agricultural Fair.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.—Barford Farm Sale, Pigs a feature—Thornton's Sale of Jerseys, Ongar—Chadnar Court: Special Sale of Hereford Cattle, Shropshire Sheep, and of Hunters—Manley's Autumn Horse Sale, Crewe—Great Ram Sale, Malton, first day—Large Agricultural Sale at Button's Farm, Wadhurst—Dairy Show, third day—Fairs at Ashford, Barnsley, Beecles, Glastonbury, Hull, and Holbeach.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12.—Sittingbourne Sheep and Ram Sale—Dairy Show, last day—Sale of Dairy Cattle at close of the Dairy Show—Malton Ram Sale, second day—Fairs at Bedford, Redruth, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick, and Wymondham.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13.—Sale of Pedigree Shire Horses, Crewe—Ireland's Cattle Sale (Stores), Norwich—Fairs at Alston, Blandford, Meltham, and Northampton.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15.—University of Leeds, Autumn Session of Agricultural College begins, at The Manor Farm, Garnforth—Sherborne Wool Fair—Market Harborough Horse Fair—Luton Cattle Fair.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Lord Rothschild's Sale of Jerseys at Tring—Macclesfield Agricultural Fair—Thrapstone Cattle and Sheep Fair.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

SIR,—If a tenant puts up a wooden house against the wall (the wall forming one side of the house, the roof resting on the wall), can the tenant remove his timber, provided he does not injure the wall?—B. WINTER.

October 1, 1906.

[If the timber is driven into the soil and the building or erection fastened to that, the whole is a fixture, and I am of opinion that it could not be removed. On the other hand, if it was constructed so that it merely rested against the wall, it would not be a fixture, and could be removed by the tenant.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

The annual October cattle and horse fair at Alnwick was held on Monday, and was well attended. There was a large offer of Irish grazing cattle, the best changing hands up to £13 for three-year-olds, and £11 10s. for two-year-olds; smaller beasts £9 16s. to £10 10s., and stirks from £7 upwards. Draughts fetched £20 to £30, harness horses £10 to £25, aud cobs and ponies £5 to £15 each.

Burton Statute Fair was held on Monday, when but little hiring was done and was confined to males, but as a pleasure gathering the fair was more popular than ever. For lads wages ranged from £6 to £8, while £10 and upwards was the average for youths with greater experience, and young men commanded £20 to £22. For this class of labour there was a fair demaud.

The Earl of Chichester's live and dead farm stock at Balmer Farm, Falmer, was dispersed by auction on Tuesday at Falmer by Messrs. W. F. Ingram and Son, of Lewes. There was a good attendance, and satisfactory prices were realised for the stock, which comprised several horses, about two dozen steers, a similar number of heifers, and a quantity of implements and machinery. Of the cattle, Mr. Allcorn, Laughton, bought a lot of two-year-old cross-bred steers at £25; Mr. Blunt, Hurst Barnes, two lots at £16 and three at £20 10s., £22, and £26 10s., respectively; Mr. D. Poole, Lewes, four lots at £17, £19 10s., £21, and £26; Mr. Vincent, a lot at £21. Mr. Allcorn bought two two-year-old cross-bred fat heifers at £26; Mr. Blunt, a similar lot at £24; Mr. Poole, two lots at £25; and Mr. Vincent, one lot at £26 10s. Three lots of two two-year-old cross bred heifers, forward in flesh, were sold to Mr. Blunt at £15, £24, and £25 10s., and one lot of three at £35 10s.; while Mr. Poole paid £24 and £26 respectively for two lots of two similar animals.

HORSES.

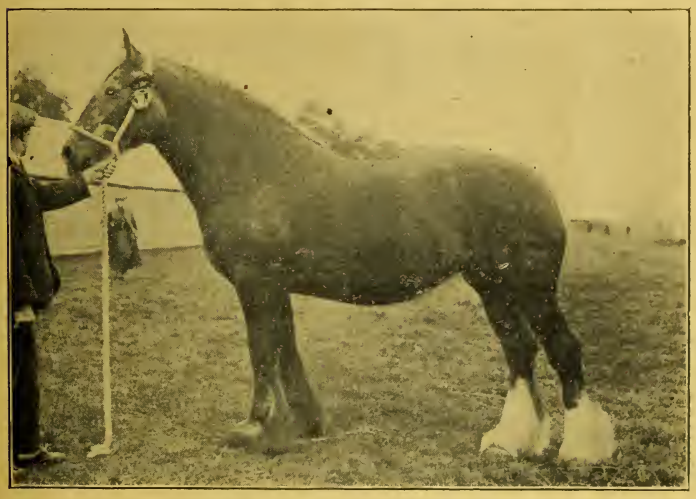
Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

IT is almost too much to hope that secretaries of horse shows and exhibitors will combine to give the public an accurate description of the horses that are shown with correct pedigrees. The way in which entries are made, without even the slightest attempt to identify the horse or to describe him, has been spoken of again and again in the Press, and there is scarcely any improvement in this respect at the general run of shows. What always puzzles me is that small exhibitors do not rise in strong protest against such a manifestly unfair state of things, for they certainly suffer a great deal of injustice. Not very many years ago a horse was entered at a big show as Mr. X. Y. Z., bay horse. A liver chesnut was shown, and won two good prizes. In each of these instances a small exhibitor was second. What really happened was that Mr. X. Y. Z. really intended to show the bay horse, a well-known winner, when he made his entry, but he left himself a loophole. He sold his horse, bought some more, and had not a bay amongst them *good enough to show*, so he showed the chesnut.

IT is a curious thing that so few people can be made to see how valuable a show catalogue may become if it is properly compiled and the proper information given. As they are compiled at present the bulk of them are certainly valueless. It has been my lot during the last few days to go through a lot of old catalogues in order to identify certain horses, and if possible get their correct pedigrees, and a more hopeless task was probably never undertaken. Sometimes the pedigree was given in one way and sometimes in another, as if the only thing that mattered was to get them entered somehow. And these catalogues were of shows of considerable standing and importance. A dealer—he was only a small dealer—once said to me that it would never do for horses to be entered so that they could be identified by the public, because it would injure trade, and I believe that some mistaken notion that if a customer gets to know where a horse comes from, it will make him a shy purchaser, does really exist. Now there is not the slightest doubt that if it is worth a man's while there is scarcely a horse in England that cannot be traced to his dam's side—certainly not a high-class show horse—so why there should be so much mystery about the matter I cannot see.

IT is impossible to deceive the contemporary unless he is willing to be deceived. I was at a show a year or two ago when a horse won in a novice class. There was something "reminiscent" about him, I thought, but said nothing. "What did you think of X.'s horse?" I was asked. "A very good one," was my reply. "Ever seen him before?" was the next question. "Where should I see him?" I asked. "Look in your catalogue when you get home," said my friend. I walked on and met another man. "That horse of X.'s won at ——— two years ago," said he. And before I had got to the gate at least half-a-dozen people whom I met had recognised the horse. If there had been an objection it could only have had one ending. Now, I do not mean to say that the owner of that horse entered him with intent to deceive. It is highly probable that he did nothing of the sort. He put half-a-dozen in, some with names and some without, but all without description, and probably only concerned himself to take his best horses. But if he had been obliged to describe his horse, he would then have known that he wae not eligible.



SHIRE FILLY, DUNSMORE FUCHSIA,
Winner of several prizes, including First and Champion at the Royal Show, Derby. She was foaled in 1903, and is by the famous Dunsmore Jameson out of D'Arcy Fuchsia. Her breeder was Mr. G. G. Atterbury, West Haddon, Rugby, but is the property of Sir P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.

THIS is bad enough, but there is worse than this done. A man in entering his horses, unless he enters them at one of the great London spring shows or at the Royal where he is obliged to be careful, takes so little pains that he very frequently misses part of the pedigree or gives it incorrectly. Now when this is done with intent to deceive, it is punished pretty sharply if found out, but that is only when the owner puts his horse into a class for which he is not eligible by reason of age or some special condition.

ANOTHER instance of insufficient or carcless entry has come to my notice during my researches which is even more unpardonable. A man enters a mare that was very likely to be bred from at several shows. At one place he enters her under one name and at another under another. The pedigree—that is the back pedigree—is sometimes given one way and sometimes another, and sometimes the mare is described as a brown, sometimes as a bay, and sometimes as a chesnut. Now I do not say for a moment that the owner of that mare had the least intention of committing a fraud. I followed the mare the round of the shows, and knew her as well as I knew her owner, and so did hundreds as well as myself. Not only was there nothing to gain by such culpable carelessness, but the owner took care always to explain that she had won here, there, and everywhere. I account for the discrepancy in the descriptions in this way. The first name he had given when making his entry, probably orally, and had forgotten it. Then when entering her again he had given her another. The transposing of the pedigree I attribute to careless proof reading, and the same thing probably accounts for the diversity of colour.

THE instance I refer to is of comparatively recent date, and there has been no difficulty in following the mare, but just imagine the confusion in thirty years' time if she should have been the dam or granddam of some great sire "making history." That pedigrees in show catalogues have been given more correctly since Stud Book days may be admitted, but some of those which appear in the early years of Stud Book activity differ very materially from the Stud Books in show catalogues. Nor is this peculiar to one breed.

BREEDING animals, at any rate, should always be carefully identified. There is not the least difficulty about it. There are plenty of distinctive names—thousands of them—though one would think, from the way in which the changes are rung in some half-a-hundred or fewer, that names are scarce. A distinctive name should be given to every breeding animal that is good enough to be shown, and his or her pedigree should be given, and this should be insisted upon by all show secretaries. And there is another thing. Show catalogues practically are all profit, so it is not too much to ask that they should be decently printed and the proofs carefully read.

FULL of years and full of honours poor old Pearl Diver died a few weeks ago in his South African home. He was bred by Lord Hastings, and was by Master Kildare—Three Pearls. He was only a little horse—standing 15 hands 1½ in, but he was a rare weight-carrier, and his stock inherited his weight-carrying powers. When he went to the stud Sir Walter Gilbey bought him, dirt cheap, at £500, and he was of great service in Essex, where he sired many high-class hunters and polo ponies. He won four Queen's Premiums, and then Sir Walter Gilbey, thinking that a change of blood would be desirable, sold him to Mr. Southey, of Culmstock, South Africa, for £300. To that gentleman the little horse proved to be a mine of wealth, and he quickly worked his way up to the position of the premier racing sire in South Africa It is a great pity, however, that he was ever allowed to leave England, and that he was not available for the breeders of hunters and other half-bred horses till the end of his days, for he was emphatically the right sort for the purpose. He was cheap enough, too at the price Sir Walter sold him for, and he was quite one of the best Queen's Premium horses we have had.

A CUTTING from a Melbourne newspaper of some fifteen or sixteen years ago is of some interest. It records how a mare by a Cleveland bay horse known as Duke of Cleveland—I wonder how many Cleveland Bays in the colony were known by that name?—won the principal jumping prize at the Sydney Agricultural Society's Show. The *Melbourne Leader* goes on to say that the mare was a decidedly well bred looking animal, and that, therefore, the dam must have been thoroughbred or nearly so, and it says there is no reason why Cleveland Bays should not sire good Hunters from mares thoroughbred or nearly so.

THE old newspaper cutting called to mind the best jumper I think that I ever saw. This, curiously enough, was a mare by a Cleveland Bay horse from a Thoroughbred mare, if memory serves, the famous Fanny Drape. I forget the name of her sire, but remember the mare well. She won the jumping prize when the Royal went to Manchester in the late sixties, ridden by the late George Mulcaster, and she jumped a good 6ft. wall at the same place for a wager of a bottle of champagne. She won all over the country, and I well remember Mr. E. Mulcaster riding her at the Cleveland Show at Middlesbrough. After she had won the pole was placed on the top of the posts and the others taken away. Mr. Mulcaster turned her loose, and ran slowly *under* the pole whilst the mare cleared it. She was a big, rather plain-looking mare, brown in colour, but very like a Cleveland in shape. Mr. Mulcaster rode her in a plain snaffle, and I should think she was anything but a comfortable mount, for she went as hard as she could gallop with her neck—which was rather the wrong way up—stretched straight out. Her end was unlucky, for she overjumped herself and broke her back—a fate which her peculiar style suggested.

ONE of the finest jumpers at a show I ever saw in my life was Mr. Duell's Star, a pure-bred Cleveland Bay. She was a very good looking one, but there was no suspicion of the Thoroughbred about her. Her manners were simply perfect. With a snaffle bridle mouth, she was one of the easiest to handle imaginable, and she could be ridden at her fences at any pace her rider liked. She would begin steadily, and just increase the pace the last two or three strides, and "swim" over the fences in elegant fashion. Water jumps were not much in vogue in her day, but she was a nailer at timber, and was a little annuity to her owners. I forget how she was bred; perhaps some of my readers can furnish me with the particulars of her pedigree. THE LOOKER-ON.

The Blagdon Shires.

An unreserved sale of Shire horses from Mr. Clement Keevil's celebrated Blagdon Shire Stud, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, will take place on the premises on Wednesday, November 7. The catalogue of the sale comprises twelve Shire foals, several by Blagdon Benefactor, Lockinge Midnight, Birdsall Menestrel, Dunsmore Jameson, &c.; one, two, and three-year-old fillies; yearling stallions; also two four-year-olds, one by Lockinge Forest King and one by Ercall Wynn; whilst some exceedingly well-bred in-foal mares, which are good workers will also be included. Amongst the above are several promising young animals that have not been exhibited, which are bound to come to the front in the show ring; also Blagdon Princess, the champion mare at Buckingham Show, and the prize-winning foals Blagdon Armour Plate and Flower of Blagdon, &c. Altogether forty-three Shire horses of the best blood will be brought under the hammer by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, and a large attendance of breeders may be expected. Billington, it may be mentioned, is three miles from Leighton and Cheddington (L. & N.W.R.), and five miles from Dunstable (G.N.R.) Stations.

Sale of Shetland Ponies.

A sale of pedigreed Shetland ponies, including the ponies owned by Professor Cossart Ewart, Duddingston, was conducted by Messrs. John Croall and Sons, Limited, at their Royal Horse Bazaar, Edinburgh, on Wednesday. There was a large attendance of the public, and although bidding, as is customary in sales of this kind, was somewhat slow, the prices obtained were fairly satisfactory. Twenty-three ponies belonging to Professor Cossar Ewart were brought under the hammer. Of these five did not fetch the reserve put upon them, and were withdrawn; and the remaining eighteen averaged 11 guineas and a fraction apiece, the highest price being 31 guineas and the lowest 7 guineas Of the other lots offered the highest price was obtained by the Ladies E. and D. Hope for Bravo, a dark brown three year-old stallion sired by Oman; he showed perfect action. Bidding began at 15 guineas and reached 30, the purchaser being Colonel Smythe, Methven Castle. Other prices ranged from 14 guineas down to 5 guineas.

Sale of Clydesdales at Carlisle.

Some good prices were obtained for the Clydesdale horses belonging to Mr. A. Mansell, of Crossrigg, Penrith, brought under the hammer at Carlisle by Messrs. Harrison. The animals included some splendid mares with their offspring, which have taken numerous special and champion prizes at the county and local shows, and there was keen competition for them. The top price was 150 guineas for a yearling en ire colt, sire Baron Solway (11,269), purchased by Mr. Mitchell, of Barcheskie. Mr. Renwick, of Corstorphine, purchased Lady Domino, a beautiful four-year-old black mare, for 130 guineas; whilst Mr. Mandell, of Lockerbie, became the owner of Crossrigg Violet, a splendid specimen of the breed of the best brood mares that has been seen in Carlisle, for 90 guineas. Mr. Robertson, Edinburgh, paid 65 guineas for Lady Magpie, foaled 1898; and 52 guineas for Crossrigg Pansy, foaled 1898; and Mr. Mitchell gave 38 guineas for Crossrigg Lilly, foaled 1905.

Sale at Peterborough.

A sale of Shire foals, mares, fillies, stallions, and geldings, at Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck's Peterborough Repository, met with conspicuous success. About 140 animals were catalogued, and most of them found purchasers. The sale realised nearly £3,000. Mr. Max Michaelis gave 150 guineas for the first prize filly foal, the top price of the day, and the same purchaser also became the owner of Mr. S. Poles' winning colt, New Cut Harold, for 60 guineas. Brood mares made up to 40 guineas, and foals up to 44 guineas, whilst Mr. W. A. Harrison's yearling colt Ciceter Ramber made 53 guineas.

The Braintree Urban Council are considering the abolition of the ancient fairs which are held in the streets of the town in May and October of each year. Both of these fairs were established by Royal Charter, one by King John and the other by Queen Anne. In former years the Braintree fairs were of considerable importance in Essex, but latterly they have degenerated, and the townspeople regard them as a nuisance.

The annual exhibition of malting barley, wheat, and oats, promoted by the Blandford, Milborne St. Andrews, and Winfrith Farmers' Clubs, will be held this year at the Corn Exchange, Blandford, on Thursday, the 18th inst., when nearly £100 will be offered in prizes. The entries close on Friday next, and late entries on the 15th inst., at 9 a.m. Prize lists, entry forms, and further particulars may be obtained of the hon. secretary, Mr. J. E. Torry, Land Agent, South Street, Dorchester.

CATTLE.

Sale of the late Sir Wilfrid Lawson's Herd of Shorthorns.

On Tuesday the herd of Shorthorns bred by the late Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bart., was dispersed in the presence of a very large and distinguished company numbering close upon a thousand people. The herd was brought out in a capital breeding state, and highly satisfactory prices were realised.

Before the sale Sir Wilfrid Lawson said he should like to say a few words to express his thanks to the large company for coming in such numbers to the sale. The day, he said, was a sad one for him, for his late father had taken such an interest in the herd, and he did not like to think of what Brayton would be without Shorthorns.

The total of the sale was 2,393½ guineas, the sixty-eight head averaging £36 19s. 2d. Among these were thirteen cows and heifers from Mr. W. Parkin Moore's celebrated herd at Whitehall.

The older animals made up to 28 guineas, and it was not until Mabel Millicent, lot 7, came into the ring that the half-hundred was reached. She was bought by Mr. W. Thompson, of Moresdale, at 51 guineas. The Rt. Hon. G. W. Palmer gave 55 guineas for lot 9, Brayton Butterfly 2nd, and later 42 guineas and 60 guineas for heifers of the same family. Red Poppy, a thick roan cow, went to Mr. Parkin Moore at 50 guineas; and Mr. Heywood Thompson gave 53 guineas for Lady Barclay, a sweet type of cow of the Mysie tribe. Pretoria Millicent was bought by Mr. W. Thompson, of Ellen Grove, at 71 guineas, and her bull calf realised 30 guineas to Mr. H Riley. Three young cows and heifers were bought by Mr. H. Reynolds for South America, viz., Lady Mary, 55 guineas; Meta Millicent, 60 guineas; and Brayton Butterfly 10th, 70 guineas. Brayton Butterfly 6th was taken by Mr. J. B Oswell to Shropshire at 110 guineas, the best price of the afternoon. Among the younger heifers Mr. J. Kerr got a good one in Poppy at 41 guineas, and Mr. A. Lawson another in Welcome Benson, 35 guineas Mr. Ecroyd gave 45 guineas for Brayton Millicent and 48 guineas for Brayton Butterfly 14th.

The bulls also sold well. The old stock bull Morello realised 60 guineas to Mr. T. Bambridge; Morpheus made 54 guineas to Mr. J. Dickinson; and the remainder made from 30 guineas to 40 guineas. It was considered a most satisfactory sale.

Mr. Shore's Jerseys.

A portion of Mr. J. H. Shore's well-known herd of Jerseys at Wheatley House, Frome, was brought under the hammer on Thursday by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., and despite unfavourable weather there was a good attendance. The herd was established in the year 1878, and is now one of the oldest in the West of England. Frequent visits to the island of Jersey during a period of many years have enabled the owner, with his keen appreciation of all the principles of breeding, to secure the best strains of blood obtainable. The auctioneer, in a few preliminary observations, dealt with what Mr. Shore had done for the particular Channel Island cattle which brought them together, and alluded to his sale in November, 1900, when such an excellent average was obtained. A purchaser at that sale acquired a cow which had up to this year presented him with six calves, every one of which had been exhibited and taken a first prize. Mr. Shore, although so keen and successful with his Jerseys, was by no means a thick-and-thin supporter of the colour craze, preferring to ignore this when necessary in favour of shape and other form points.

There were in all sixty-one lots catalogued, fifty-eight being cows and heifers. Following the long-established custom, the females were first offered, and they went at prices which were certainly bargains to the buyers, for the average of the fifty-eight worked out at only £12 19s.

The bulls fetched poor prices, although there were only three catalogued, the first two—Lucerne's Chief (three years old) and Homestead King—fetched only 6 guineas apiece, both being purchased by Mr. Phillips, a well-known district dealer, whilst the other, Guy Fawkes, a yearling, was passed. Lord Ludlow paid the top figure of the sale—viz., 33 guineas, for Lucerne's Queen, whole colour, calved July 7, 1902, Royal Sovereign—Lucerne's Princess. His lordship also took Linda, another by Royal Sovereign, at 28 guineas; whilst at 31 guineas Mr. H. W. Hill, of Heathfield, Sussex, secured Ville Au Bas Belle 2nd, broken colour, Kilmarnock—Ville Au Bas Belle, which took third prize at St. Owen's Show, Jersey, and highly commended at last year's London Dairy Show. Dr. Corner, who lives within easy reach of the Metropolis, and who may be regarded as a comparatively new recruit in the Jersey world, bought quite a number of the lots, at prices ranging from 8½ guineas to 27 guineas. Other chief prices included 22 guineas for Arum Lily, purchased by Mr. Regnalt, and 25 guineas for Mignonette, who was secured by Mr. Currie, Southampton; the majority of the other lots went at prices well under 20 guineas.

Mr. J. L. Huxtable's Devons.

Mr. J. L. Huxtable, of Overton Farm, Bishop's Tawton, has decided to give up breeding cattle, and on Wednesday his well-known herd of pure-bred Devons were sold by auction, Messrs. Sanders and Son officiating.

The herd was established in 1882, and has been bred with the object of securing size with quality, robust constitution, and dairy properties—an object which has been achieved—whilst animals from the herd have met with success in many showyards, and prize-winners were amongst those offered on Wednesday. There was a good attendance of breeders, and the sale was a satisfactory one, though the two bulls Duke of Overton and Overton Ringleader failed to reach the reserve. Joyful Maid fetched the top price—viz., 35 guineas, and her b.c. realised 20 guineas, the respective purchasers being Mr. P. Skinner and Mr. G. M. Styles. Mr. T. S. Morgan gave 34 guineas for Denty 2nd, and also 31 guineas for Lady Luscott, the latter figure being also the price at which Mr. S. Kidner got Lady Luscott 2nd. Other prices ranged up to 29 guineas.

Lord Radnor's Red Polled Cattle.

The sale of a draft of thirty head from Lord Radnor's Longford Castle herd of Red Polled cattle took place at Messrs. Walters and Rawlence's repository, Salisbury, on Tuesday. Cows and calves made 19½ guineas, 18½ guineas, 16½ guineas, 16 guineas; in-calf cows, 15 guineas, 14½ guineas, 14 guineas, &c.; yearling heifers, 6 guineas to 9 guineas each; bulls, from 11 guineas; two half-bred heifers and calves, 20 guineas and 18½ guineas respectively.

Sale of South Devons at Totnes.

At the autumn sale of South Devon pedigree cattle, which was held at Totnes on Thursday, the mistake of sending in too many animals, which was made at the spring sale, was not repeated, there being an entry of twelve cows and heifers and nearly fifty bulls, which was well within the demand. After such a dry season, the bulk of the animals were in surprisingly good condition, but this year's private sales, and the very inclement weather experienced during the afternoon, doubtless had a tendency to keep down the prices, and, with the exception of the 45 and 35½ guineas given for Mr. Wood's yearlings by Messrs. T. R. Bolitho and F. W. Rowe, none were particularly high, though on the whole they were satisfactory. Many of the lots went to Cornwall, a large contingent of Cornish breeders being present and bidding well for the animals they fancied. Mr. F. W. Rowe sold Merry Boy, the winner of the Devonport Challenge Cup at the Bath and West Show, and many other first prizes this year, for 35 guineas. Mr. W. Morrison's (Brixham) Lixton Favourite, a well-known prizewinner, calved January 8, 1903, went to Mr. Richards, St. Buryan, for 22½ guineas; Mr. Ben Luscombe's (Aveton Gifford) Jack 2392 was got by Mr. Lakeman, Kingsbridge, at 27½ guineas; and his Duke of Devon 2nd, 2349 by Mr. Robins, Tresco, for 25½ guineas; Mr. F. B. Mildmay, M.P.'s Red Prince 2469 to Mr. Batten, Saltash, for 20 guineas; and Lord Nelson 2413 to Mr. Lillicrap, Menheniot, for 26½ guineas; whilst Mr. J. S. Wroth's (Aveton Gifford) Joe Chamberlain went to Mr. Martin, St. Dominic, at 23 guineas. Other sales at over 20 guineas included Mr. E. B. Luscombe's (Woodleigh) Sally's Champion 2491 to Mr. Sobey, Menheniot, 26 guineas; and Mr. J. S Ford's (Yearmpton) Duke of Fife 2359 to Mr. Hosking, St Germans, 26½ guineas.

Lord Amherst's Farm Stock.

Following the successful sale of Red Polled cattle at Didlington Hall a fortnight ago, Lord Amherst of Hackney, through the agency of Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons, on Thursday disposed of the remainder of the live and dead farming stock upon the Home Farm, Didlington, which he has let. There was a representative gathering of agriculturalists, while many doubtless attended out of mere sympathy, obviously regretting the cause for such a gathering, but there were many others who visited the sale prepared to give good prices, well knowing that excellent stock could be relied upon. The implements and

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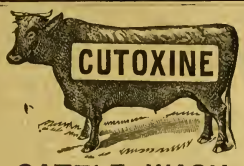

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carriages sold well, while a good demand was experienced for the horses, a bay gelding realising 60 guineas, a brown gelding 50 guineas, whilst the majority made over 30 guineas. The neat stock included a number of Red Polls, the best of which, a heifer, made £17; two others going for £13 apiece, while a fourth fetched 10s. less. £15 and £9 were the prices for the best of the cows. The steers made up to £14 5s., six going at that figure; a second lot, six in number, realised £9 5s. a-piece, yet another batch, comprising four, going for £7 5s. each; 170 Southdown wether lambs averaged just over 29s. apiece, the highest being sold at 34s. for fifty, and the lowest 25s. for twenty.

The Late Mr. Bett's Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

On Thursday Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davey sold by auction the herd of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns, the property of the trustees of the late Mr. Tom Bett, at Benniworth Walk, Donnington-on-Bain, Lincolnshire. There was a large attendance, and the bidding was brisk throughout. The calves were a good lot, and sold readily at prices up to 30 guineas, but the two-year-olds and yearling heifers hardly made their value, the best figures being 30 guineas, 25 guineas, and 24 guineas. Cows and heifers made up to 40 guineas, whilst the best price for a bull was 30 guineas, given by Mr. Proctor for Saltfleet Boris. The following is a summary of the sale:—13 cows averaged £24 14s. 3d.; 23 cows, heifers, and calves, £30 12s. 7d.; 9 two-year-old heifers, £19 12s.; 7 yearling heifers, £16 10s.; and 5 bulls, £26 15s. 6d.; the average for the 57 lots working out at £25 9s. 9d. per head.

Sale of Mr. John Graves' Shorthorns.

On the day following Sir Wilfred Lawson's sale at Brayton, the herd of Shorthorns bred by Mr. Graves at Hesket, Newmarket, was sold by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The hillside farmers came in hundreds, and although the sale was not quite so largely attended as that at Brayton, there was a first rate company, and useful paying prices for a good lot of dairy Shorthorns.

Among the largest buyers was Mr. Harold Sessions, who took into Oxfordshire, lot 1, Strawberry Belle, 25 guineas; Meadow Pearl, 27 guineas; British Primrose, 20 guineas; Bright Blossom, 22 guineas; and Pearl Princess, 24 guineas; also the young bull, Queen's Archer, 29 guineas, and a particularly good bull calf from the highest priced cow at 21 guineas. His dam was Ruth Strawberry, a roan three-year-old heifer which Mr. Thompson bought with good judgment on behalf of Colonel the Hon. W. Lawson for 70 guineas. The Marquis of Winchester's agent paid 55 guineas for Eileen, a grand dairy cow, but a somewhat plain red and white in colour, and a guinea more for Strawberry Cream, one of the best milkers. Fair Charmion, a white three-year-old, was bought by Mr. H. W. Boddington, at 42 guineas. Mr. R. Parker got four young cows, Sweet Vernal, 27 guineas, and Ripe Blossom, 26 guineas, being perhaps the best, and for the young stock Mr. W. Burnyeat kept several of the best in Cumberland. He gave 41 guineas for the two-year-old Rich Blossom by Caldew Prince, also 42 guineas for First Gift and 44 guineas for Sweet Gift; both these were calves by the celebrated bull Good Gift, that realised 850 guineas, a record price, at Birmingham last spring.

The bull trade was not so good, 30 guineas given by Mr. Grice for Bold Archer being the best price. Mr. Turnbull gave 28 guineas for a red yearling, Heirloom, and Mr. H. Riley 24 guineas for a roan, a few months younger. The average was £26 2s. 10d., and the total of the sale £1,377 1s. 6d.

The second of the series of sales of outlying portions of Lord Londesbrough's estate took place at York on Thursday. The properties offered, which form part of the Seamer estate, have an area of 6,410 acres, and comprising a number of farms, small holdings, &c. There was only a moderate attendance, and bidding was not particularly brisk, with the result that the reserve prices were not reached, and not one of the lots was sold.

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Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season. N.B.—The Sale of 43 Shire Horses will be held at above address on November 7, 1906. See advertisement and write for Catalogue.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS GWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

HUNT, Mrs. William, Findon, Sussex.—Carefully inbred Hackneys for sale, suitable for export; moderate prices. Blood: Denmark, Connaught, Danegelt, Lord Derby II.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Lindale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonizer 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners. Royal and other shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK, Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906. 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.)*.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

40 Very Smart EWE LAMBS from the Ryne Hill Royal Prize Winning Flock of registered Oxford Downs for Sale.—Particulars, W. H. TREWEEKE, Ryne Hill, Chipping Norton.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station. G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM TOWNSEND, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Maplederham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

IBBOTSON, R., can spare 20 or 30 young Tamworth Boars and Gilts by his prize Boars "Knowle Bounder," "Joey" and "Lycidas." Price 2 guineas and upwards.—The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Seve al recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

Unique Harvest Festival.—The vicar and churchwardens of Allhallows Barking, by the Tower—the parish church of Mark Lane and the Corn Exchange—are inviting parishioners connected with the corn trade and others to join in a short, simple service of thanksgiving for the harvest on Monday, Oct. 15, at 1.15 p.m., when the Bishop of Stepney has promised to preach. It is surely fitting that corn merchants should give thanks for the harvest; we hope that many will spare half an hour from "the market" for this purpose, and their parish church may be filled with a large and representative congregation. The collection will be given to the Corn Exchange Benevolent Society.

SHEEP.

SALES OF THE WEEK.

Retford.

At Retford October Fair on Tuesday, something like 6,000 sheep were forward. Twelve Lincoln shearling rams, bred by and the property of Mr. F. Ward, Quarrington, Sleaford, sold at prices ranging from 6 guineas to 12 guineas each. A flock of pure-bred Hampshires were offered by Mr. Shaw, Peterborough, and fetched £4 10s. to £6 6s. each. Mr. Ludlow, Mansfield Woodhouse, disposed of his Oxford lambs at £6 6s. each, Oxford shearlings at £8, and Suffolks at £5, whilst some Hampshire ram lambs fetched £4 10s. Lincoln breeding ewes fetched 48s. to 60s. Lincoln gimmers to 65s., lambs 36s. to 45s., secondary breeding ewes 35s. to 45s., and feeding ewes 30s. to 34s.

Wenleydale Bluefaced Sheep.

The Wensleydale Bluefaced Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society's annual show and sale took place at the Hellifield Auction Mart on Tuesday, when about 300 farmers and sheep breeders attended, and some satisfactory prices were realised. Lord Bentinck's first prize winner in the aged ram class became the property of Mr. Inman, of Dundall, near York, at 14½ guineas, and the second prize taker went to the same buyer for £13. Lord H. Bentinck's Blue Prince II. (1006) made £25, the buyer being Mr. Horsham, of Richmond. The second, Lawkland Blue (1052), went to Mr. Inman, of Cundall, for £11. Mr. Burra's premier honour ram lamb realised £14 5s. from Mr. Sedgwick, of Sedbergh. The third prize winner made £24, Mr. Rhodes being the buyer. Other good prices were £16, £12 16s., and £15 5s.

Bridport.

The October fair at Bridport took place on Wednesday, when beautiful weather prevailed, the heavy rains of the previous two days giving way to a fine day, which had considerable effect upon the business of the fair. Messrs. Morey and Sons had several thousand sheep penned in the Fair Field, St. Michael's Lane, and there was a large company present from all over the county and distant parts. The sheep were sold by Mr. George Morey, and the cattle by Mr. W. C. Morey. Off going horn ewes, 35s. to 46s.; horn wether lambs, 27s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.; horn chilver lambs, 33s. to 36s. 6d.; horn rams, 35s. to 3 guineas; Down ewes, 38s. 6d. to 45s.; Down wether lambs, 24s. 6d. to 34s.; Down chilver lambs, 26s. to 34s. 6d.; two-teeth Down wethers, 36s. to 43s.; Down rams, 33s. to 60s.

Inverness.

The Northern Counties Breeding and Fat Show Club's twenty-fourth annual show and sale of pure breeding sheep took place on Tuesday in the auction premises of Messrs. MacDonald, Fraser, and Co., at Inverness. There was a large display of Border Leicester and Blackfaced tups, which were representative of leading Northern flocks. In the Border Leicester section Messrs. Cameron, Westside, Brechin, won the leading prize with a tup of outstanding quality. They also obtained the silver challenge cup presented by Mr. Cameron, Lochgorm, for the best pen of ten pure-bred Border Leicester shearling rams. In the Blackfaced section Mr. G. Smart, Dalbog, Forfarshire, carried away the premier prize with a tup of excellent breeding and quality; the second prize went to Mr. J. M. Allan, Easter Duthil.

There was a large and representative attendance of buyers in the two rings. In the Blackfaced ring animals of the best breeding met a good demand, but for tups of secondary quality trade was slow, and prices showed a marked decrease compared with last year. The top price for a single tup was £19, which was paid by Mr. Perrins, of Ardross, for the exceptionally finely bred first-prize tup belonging to Mr. A. G. Smart, Dalbog. This was the highest individual price secured in both rings for the day. One of the same lot went to Guisachan at £15 10s., and Mrs. Jackson, of Swordale, purchased one at £11. The second prize ram, belonging to Mr. Allan, Easter Duthil, was sold to Sir Kenneth Matheson at £8. The third prize ram, belonging to Mr Macdonald, Balintore, went to Mr. Fraser, Knockie, at £8 10s. Mr. Perrins purchased the highest-priced tup in the Arabella lot at £9.

In the Border Leicester ring an animated trade was experienced, and prices proved very satisfactory to sellers. Major Andrew Mackenzie, of Dalmore, purchased one of the Westside, Brechin, lot at £12, and others from the same place made £9 15s., £9 10s., and £9. Colonel Ross, of Cromarty, C.B., bought one of the Navity lot at £8 15s., and Captain McGregor, Balmenach, purchased one at the same price. Mr. Allan Stittenham bought one belonging to the Countess of Cromartie, Tarbat Home Farm, at £9, whilst Mr. Munro, Muckovie, purchased one of the Allanfearn lot at £12 5s., and Captain MacGregor, Balmenach, one at £10 15s. The other lots also secured satisfactory prices, which ranged up to £9 10s.

The Westdean Southdowns.

On Wednesday Messrs. A. Burtenshaw and Son, auctioneers, of Hailsham and Eastbourne, conducted a successful sale of pure-bred Southdown ewes, lambs, and rams, and other farm stock belonging to the Duke of Devonshire at Westdean Farm, Westdean. The Westdean flock was founded in 1901 by a small draft from the Duke of Devonshire's prize-winning Compton flock, and drafts from the same source have been added annually. In 1902, 100 ewes were obtained from Mr. R. R. Verrall's Falmer flock, and in 1903 100 ewes from Mr. A. M. Singer's Michelgrove flock. Purchases have also been made from other well-known flocks. The rams used had been bred by Messrs. F. N. Hobgen, R. R. Verrall, and Luther Martin, and other rams employed came from the Compton flock, containing Colman, Goodwood, Ellis, and Hobgen blood.

A large company of buyers was present at the sale, and generally satisfactory prices were realised. The best for rams was 9 guineas, paid by Mr. W. Brown for Farmer 2nd, a six-tooth ram, bred by the late Colonel McCalmont. Other rams ranged from 2½ to 7½ guineas. Shearling ewes sold at 56s., 55s., and 52s., down to 42s.; four-tooth ewes, 70s., 62s., 60s., 59s., and 57s., to 52s.; six-tooth ewes, 57s., 56s., and 54s., to 40s.; full-mouthed ewes, from 45s. to 40s.; over-aged ewes, 40s. to 33s.; ewe lambs, 35s. to 24s.; and wether lambs, 35s. to 26s.

The Lavant Southdowns.

Under instructions from Messrs. Waters and Son, who are relinquishing sheep breeding on account of the ill-health of Mr. Isaac Waters, Messrs. Stride and Son offered for sale at Manor Farm, Lavant, on Thursday, the pure-bred Southdown hill flock (Registered No. 230), consisting of about 900 head. The Manor Farm is one of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon's largest hill farms, the Down extending up to the racecourse and the well-known Trundle Hill, one of the highest points of the Southdown range. The flock was established at Lavant in 1895 by the purchase from Mr. Jay, of Flock No. 26, which had long been bred from the best strains of blood. From this solid foundation, Messrs. Waters and Son spared no expense in keeping their flock up to the highest standard of excellence.

There was a large attendance at the sale, and some good prices were realised. Mr. T. Roberts bought a four tooth ram at 7½ guineas, and two ram lambs at 2½ and 2 guineas; Mr. Moore, a ram lamb at 6½ guineas, one at 4 guineas, and one at 3½ guineas; Mr. McKerron, a four-tooth ram at 5 guineas; the Hon. R. F. Nevill, a ram lamb at 4 guineas; and Mr. Dallyn, two four-tooth rams at 2½ guineas. Ewe lambs made from 34s. to 42s., whilst ewes sold as follows:—Shearlings, 42s. to 61s.; four-tooth, 49s. to 65s.; six-tooth, 58s. to 65s.; full mouth, 43s. to 61s.; draft ewes, 31s. to 40s; and over age ewes, 33s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.

Shrewsbury.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. held their final sale of rams and ewes at Shrewsbury on Wednesday. Ewes made 3s. to 5s. per head over the earlier sales, and good rams were in great demand. The small but choice flock of Shropshire sheep, the property of Mr. B. Howard Mander, also came under the hammer, and excellent prices were made. The seventeen ram lambs averaged £10 7s. 8d. Mr. J. J. Brewin paid 42 guineas for lot 3, and 29 29 guineas for lot 7; the Hon. Victor Cavendish paid 25 guineas for lot 5, whilst others, bought by the Duke of Sutherland, Mr A. Tanner, and Mr. F. Bibby, made 20 guineas, 10 guineas, 8 guineas, 6 guineas, &c. Ewe lambs also sold well, and averaged £2 19s. 6d., the best price being 5 guineas per head, bought by Mr. Blatherwick. The breeding ewes were keenly competed for, and averaged £5 4s., the top price, 8½ guineas, being paid by Mr. Bibby, whilst others made 5½ guineas, Mr. R. H. Gwynne; 5½ guineas and 5 guineas, Mr. Brewin; and 4½ guineas and 4 guineas, Mr. Bickford.

Lord Onslow, opening a Conservative bazaar at Perth, on Thursday, said, in reference to the Small Holdings Bill, that it was most unusual and improper even to introduce a measure on a subject upon which a committee was about to report. While he would not divulge the contents of that report, he would be surprised if his signature appeared under proposals analogous to those put forward by the Secretary for Scotland. Speaking of the Land Tenure Bill, he said the only object appeared to be to put money into the pockets of lawyers and estate agents, and do mischief between landlords and tenants. A more useful measure would be to appoint an official to decide between an outgoing tenant and his landlord.

Sale of Captain Clive's Herefords and Shropshire Sheep.

Despite a heavy rainfall, there was a numerous company of breeders at The Valletts, Whitfield, near Hereford, on Thursday, at the dispersal sale by auction of Captain Percy A. Clive's pedigree Hereford cattle and Shropshire sheep. The herd was founded by the late Mr. C. M. B. Clive about the year 1881 with cows of Adforton, The Grove, The Rodd, and the Bage blood, the sires recently in service including Adjutant, Monarch, Twin, Balfour, Whitfield Captain, and Whitfield Chamberlain. The majority of the cows and heifers for sale were in-calf to Whittern Standard, bred by the late Mr. R. Green. There were a hundred Herefords catalogued, every lot but three believed to be eligible for entry in any Hereford Herd Book in the world. The sheep were pedigree Shropshires, all of them entered or eligible for entry in the flock book, and sires having been secured from Lord Chesham, Messrs. Evans (Sherlowe), Beach, T. S. Minton, A. P. Turner, T. Fenn, and Tanner.

The prices realised for the cattle were nothing like so good as had been expected, and many of the buyers got some splendid bargains. Cows and their calves were first offered, and it was this section that secured the top figure of the sale—namely, 52 guineas, a sum paid by Mr. H. A Christy Brecon for Janet. Mr. Pennefather, Kinnersley Castle, got Winnie 2nd for 43 guineas, and also Molly for 32 guineas whilst Mr. F. Crawley, M P., gave 30 guineas for Annie, and a similar sum for Winnie. The above were the cows sold at 30 guineas or over, the majority of the others selling at prices near 20 guineas. Top price for two-year-old heifers was 21 guineas, whilst the best for yearling heifers was 17 guineas, and for bulls 40 guineas, paid by Mr. J. P. Evans for Whittern Standard, the other three bulls going at 23, 21, and 20 guineas.

The sheep sold well, many of the pens of ewes realising over 50s., and some of them over 60s., the two highest figures being 66s., given by Mr. H. Weston (Much Marcle), and 71s., given by Mr. Davis (Crickhowell). Ewe lambs reached 52s. Lord Glanusk gave 6 guineas for a shearling ram, and the ram lambs ranged from 30s. up to £5 apiece.

The Late Sir J. Miller's Shorthorns.

The Manderston herd of Shorthorn cattle, founded fourteen years ago by the late Sir James Miller, Bart., was dispersed by auction on Friday. The sale took place at Buxley, the home farm on the Manderston estate, near Duns, and brought together a representative gathering of Shorthorn breeders. There were in all thirty-two cattle. The top price of the day was 140 guineas, paid by Mr. Duthie Collynie for Scotch Marigold Fourth—a very promising red heifer, which was undoubtedly the best female in the herd. Scotch Marigold Third, a handsome six-year-old red cow, bred by Mr. Duthie, was sold to the Duke of Northumberland for 85 guineas; Loan Fancy, a thick short-legged roan heifer, was sold for 80 guineas to Mr. Lee, of Congleton, and Cherry Princess, another roan heifer, also went at 80 guineas to Mr Dean Willis, Wiltshire. The two-year-old red roan stock bull, Monarch's Fancy, bred by Mr. Duthie, sold at 67 guineas to Mr. C. Dunbar Buller, County Down. The result of the sale was most satisfactory. Twenty-two cows and heifers averaged £51 1s. 7d., bull calves averaged £33 18s. and quey calves averaged £30 19s. 6d.

A conference of fruit growers will be held at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, on October 22, when discussions on Methods of Planting, Fungus Diseases, Insect Attacks, and Strawberry Culture will be opened by S. U. Pickering, F.R.S., E. C. Salmon, F. V. Theobald, and W. P. Wright. The chair will be taken by Laurence Hardy, M.P. Those wishing to attend the conference should send their names to the Principal of the College.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" REGISTER OF FORTHCOMING LIVE STOCK AUCTION SALES.

DATE.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUCTIONEER.	CLASS OF STOCK FOR SALE.	PLACE OF SALE.	NAME OF OWNER.
October				
8	Mr. Waddington, Warminster	Horses	Tytherington, Heytesbury	Mr. P. H. Case.
9		Romney Marsh Rams	Ashford Market	Mr. A. Finn.
9	Mr. E. G. Hothersall, Preston	Horses	Preston	Various.
9	Messrs. Belcher, Adkin and Belcher, Wantage	Hampshire Down Sheep	Letcomb Manor, Wantage	Mr. Wm. Silver.
9	Messrs. H. F. Russell & Son, Pembridge, R.S.O.	Hereford Cattle and Shropshire Sheep	Monkhall, Hereford	Mr. W. M. Andrew.
9	Messrs. H. F. Russell and Son	Hereford Cattle	Monkhall	Mr. G. D. Faber, M.P.
9	Messrs. Saul and B. C Selby, Sutton-on-Trent, Newark	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Skegby, Markham, Newark	Messrs. Casswell Bros.
9 to 13	Messrs. H. Manley and Sons, Crewe	Horses and Foals	Crewe Repository	Various.
9	Messrs. Simmons and Sons, Reading	Horses, Cattle, and Pigs	Manor Farm, Reading	Reading Corporation.
9	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Perth	Shorthorn Bull Calves	Tillycairn, Old Meldrum	Mr. Duthie and Mr. J. Marr.
9	Messrs. Davis, Newland, and Hunt, Chepstow	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Trelleck Grange	Lieut.-Colonel C. M Compton Roberts.
9	Messrs. J. Harris and Son, Winchester	Cart Horses	E. Worldham, Hants	Mr. H. Turvill.
9		Dartmoor Ponies	Okehampton, Devon	Various.
10	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Newton Inch	Messrs. Gordon, Wilson, and Simmers.
10	Mr. F. Charles, St. Albans	Horses	St. Albans Repository	Various
10	Messrs. Perks and Lanning, Waterloo Place, London, S.W.	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex	Mr. T. G. Binney.
10	Messrs. Winterton and Son, Lichfield	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Park Farm, Elford	Mr. W. Slater.
10	Messrs. Wright and Scruby, Cambridge	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Hixton Grange, Cambs.	Mr. F. Diggle.
10	Messrs. Hinks and Lawrence, Sleaford	Shire Foals	Leicester	Various.
10	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Shire Horses	Worcester	Members of Worcestershire Shire Horse Soc.
11	Messrs. R. Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Store Cattle	Carlisle	Various.
11	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Aberdeen	Various.
11	Messrs J. Thornton and Co., London, W.	Jersey Cattle	Magdalene Laver, Ongar	Mr. E. St. John Phillips.
11	Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, Wrexham	Horses	Wrexham	Various.
11	Messrs. H. J. Austen and Sons, Wadhurst	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Buttons Farm, Wadhurst	Mr. J. C. Drew.
11	Messrs. A. D. Edwards, Leominster	Horses, Cattle, and Sheep	Chadnor Court, Leominster	Mr. J. C. Jones.
11	Mr. F. L. Sanders, Chesham, Bucks.	Shetland Ponies	Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks.	Various.
11	Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, Dorchester	Shorthorns and Berkshire and Large White Pigs	Wimborne Dorset	Mr. H. Stanfield.
11	Messrs. Ambrose and Foster, Maidstone	Yearling Rams	Maidstone Fair	Mr. C. P. Wykeham Martin.
11 & 12	Messrs. Boulton and Cooper, Malton	Sheep	Malton	Various.
12	Mr. F. Austen Binsted, Sittingbourne	Sheep	Sittingbourne	Various.
12	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Inverness	Various.
12	Messrs. R. Fawcett and J. W. Sisson, Penrith	Cattle and Sheep	Kirkby Thore, Westmoreland	Mr. W. Graham.
13	Messrs Warner, Sheppard, and Wade, Leicester	Horses	Leicester Repository	Various.
13	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	Perth	Various.
16	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Tring	Lord Rothschild.
16	Messrs. Winch and Sons, Craubrook	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Wardsbrook, Ticehurst	Mr. C. Powell.
17	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorns	Keddington Grange, nr Louth	Mr. E. H. Cartwright.
17	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Jersey Cattle	Bletchley	Various.
17	Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.	Clydesdale Horses	Perth Auction Mart	Various.
17	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Shorthorn Cattle	York	Various.
17	Messrs. J. Risdon and Son, Wiveliscombe	Devon Cattle	Exeter	Members of Devon Cattle Breeders' Society.
17	Messrs. R. Harrison and Sons	Store Cattle	Carlisle	Various.
17	Messrs. Ambrose and Foster	Sheep	Maidstone Fair	Various.
18	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, Louth	Shire Horses	Ruddington, Nottingham	The late Mr. P. L. Mills.
18	Messrs. Sowden and Burnan, York	Horses	York	Various.
19	Messrs. A. Mansell & Co., Shrewsbury	Cattle and Sheep	Shrewsbury Cattle Mart	Various.
19	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck	Shire Horses	Peterborough Repository	Various.
19	Messrs. R. Harrison and Sons	Shorthorn & Cumberland Bulls	Carlisle	Various.
23		Hereford Cattle	Barley Court, Leominster	Mr. E. Speakman.
23	Messrs. R Harrison and Son, Carlisle	Galloway Cattle	Castlemilk, Lockerbie	Sir R. V. Buchanan-Jardine, Bart.
24	Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy	Lincoln Red Shorthorns	South Lincs.	Various.
24 & 25	Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck	Horses	Derby	Various.
24 to 26	Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons	Horses	Crewe	Various.
25	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Berkshire Pigs	Faringdon, Berks.	Sir A. Henderson.
26	Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.	Berks. and White Yorks. Pigs	Motcombe, Shaftesbury	Mr. A. Hiscock.
29	Messrs. J. Durrant and Sons, Harleston	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	Harleston Repository	Mr. J. B. Dimmock.

Further Particulars of many of the above Sales will be found in our Advertisement Columns

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Warts.

(*Concluded from page 308*).

The principle on which it acts is by cutting off the supply of blood by which the growth is nourished, thus causing it to atrophy, or die and drop off.

Large warts have blood-vessels of considerable size, and when a clean cut is made the haemorrhage is often great, and may be dangerous.

The success attending removal by ligature depends largely on the degree of tightness with which it is applied. Unless the constriction is sufficiently great to interfere with the blood supply, they will not atrophy, while, on the other hand, there is no necessity to draw the cord sufficiently tight to at once cut deeply into the neck of the growth.

It will easily be understood that the ligature method is not applicable to all kinds of warts. Those that have broad spreading roots or a diffuse base, or warts of the encysted variety, must be treated differently. Only those growing by pedicles can be ligatured; but, as a rule, large growths are pedunculated—that is, grow from a stalk, neck, or narrow attachment to the skin. The material employed varies with the size of the growth. For small excrescences suture silk, or waxed button-hole twist, or flourishing thread, borrowed from the housewife's work-basket, is stout enough. For large excrescences there is nothing superior to the "wax-end" of the shoemaker or harness-maker, or a piece of fine whipcord.

The ordinary "granny" knot, or any other that will slip, is useless, and either the artery ligature or doctor's knot, or the double hitch or scaffolder's knot must be employed.

The last-named is preferable, as if the ends are left long enough to grasp, an occasional pull can be taken at them, and the cord tightened as it cuts into the growth. The double hitch, moreover, requires no tying; it is very simple in its formation, it can be drawn very tight, and cannot possibly slip.

It is made by forming two circles with the silk or cord, the ends being within the connection of the two rounds, and when these ends are pulled the connecting portion presses upon them and keeps them firm. If this explanation should prove unintelligible, any sailor would give a practical demonstration in a few minutes. Removal with the knife or hot iron is quicker, and they are sometimes necessary where the ligature cannot be employed. Some imes they are used in conjunction; first because of the considerable haemorrhage resulting from a clean cut, and second, to prevent a recurrence of the growth. Caustic agents are not, as a rule, satisfactory; their action is slow, they are useless for large growths, and in some situations they are dangerous.

Warts on the teats can be removed in three or four applications of the following dressing:—Arsenious acid, powdered savin, and powdered gum arabic, of each 30 grains; simple cerate, 90 grains. This forms a very adhesive application when made semi-fluid by heat, which can be applied with a small camel-hair pencil direct to the warts without touching the surrounding skin, which must be carefully avoided. It is a good plan to soak the warts with warm water before applying the dressing.

Caustic agents, particularly an arsenical paste, must not be applied to warts on the teats of cows in milk, as some soreness is sure to be caused, and unless the teats were very carefully washed before milking, the milk might get contaminated. If it is absolutely necessary to deal with warts on the teats of a cow in milk, a trial may be made of painting them daily with:—Salicylic acid, ½ drachm; collodion, 3½ drachms, after softening them with warm water. M.R.C.V.S.

Stable Flooring.

Sir,—Will you kindly tell me what you consider the best floor for stable in which good hunters are kept?—Marco.

*** As the question relates to a stable for hunters, it may be useful to quote from "Notes for Hunting Men" what its author, the late Captain Cortlandt Mackenzie, has to say on stable floors:—"For perfect health, the foundation of the stable should consist first of all of a foot or more of hard gravel, on the top of which should lie a bed of good concrete, one foot deep. Above this the flooring, which should, for the purposes of drainage, be at least a foot above the ground level. Local considerations must to a certain extent affect the choice of a flooring, and I do not propose to go into details. The essentials for a good floor are: that it should be impervious to moisture, should afford facilities for surface drainage, should be easily cleansed, should be as near as possible level, and not slippery. The old-fashioned cobble-stones are objectionable, as they are difficult to clean. Ordinary bricks are porous, wear irregularly, and so afford receptacles for filth. One of the best bricks I know is the blue Staffordshire brick, which has a groove running down its centre. This has the advantage of making the drainage run down the brick and not along the joints." Blue Staffordshire bricks are more expensive as a stable flooring than materials locally available, but where "good hunters" are in question expense is generally a minor consideration. Further, there is nothing so durable, and therefore so economical in the end, and these bricks approach more nearly to the ideal perfect stable flooring than anything else we know of. We occupied a stable so paved for many years, and found it most satisfactory, while it promised to prove practically indestructible.

POULTRY.

Popular Breeds.

In the spread of poultry keeping, many breeds which are formally unknown have worked their way into the front ranks of popularity. It is a fact that all the most popular breeds of the present day have some excellent utility qualities to recommend them; and those breeds which are useless, either as layers or table birds are declining in popularity.

This is very significant, and proves that utility poultry keeping is receiving the practical attention of interested people in all grades. Those breeds which were at one time popular, but which have deteriorated from the utility point of view owing to having had various points about them developed with a view to their becoming typical show birds at the expense of their useful qualities, have had to take a lower place in the esteem of poultry keepers, and are at the present time steadily declining.

If fowls are to be popular they must possess some qualities to recommend them, as beautiful feathering and perfection of markings is not sufficient to ensure success. It is only necessary to recall a few of the breeds which have declined in popular faxour to prove the truth of this statement.

When we consider those breeds which are popular to day, we find that each has some particularly good quality to recommend it. Amongst the non-sitting breeds, Leghorns, Minorcas, Ancona, Andalusians, Hounans, and Campines are the most popular, and all are excellent layers; then amongst the heavier breeds the Wyandottes are splendid layers, and the Rocks extremely hardy and good layers and fair table birds, and the Langshans lay beautifully coloured eggs and a good number of them; and Dorkings are largely kept for crossing to produce table birds of good quality.

And then we have the popular Orpington in all its varieties, which has become the most popular of all breeds, and is more largely kept than any other for utility purposes, as well as for show, which owes its popularity entirely to its combination of excellent laying and table qualities with a pleasing appearance.

At one time Brahmas and Cochins were largely kept, not only for show, but for home use. These have been superseded by breeds which have good table qualities, flesh of fine texture, and good flavour, and by much better layers; and at the present time these breeds are only kept by a few who adhere to their original fancy for the heavily-feathered birds or for showing.

Then the Black Spanish are almost extinct, as they were bred with such large white faces that in time many of the birds became blind, and their appearance being studied in preference to their useful qualities, they deteriorated from good layers into very indifferent birds, and to-day are dying out.

Then the Spangled and Pencilled Hamburghs were kept by very many people years ago, and were considered the most profitable lays to be obtained then. Now they have been entirely superseded by breeds which lay larger eggs, and are only kept for exhibition, save in a few cases where people have become attached to them, and keep them merely because they are fond of them, and put up with their small eggs. There are several other breeds which are going down in popular favour on account of their deterioration in useful qualities.

Huddersfield October Cattle Fair was held on Thursday, when the number of animals penned was 299 horses, 479 beasts, and 43 pigs, against 272, 345, and 38 at the October Fair of 1905. The prices realised were as follows:—Best draught horses, £50 to £60; ditto secondary, £25 to £30; best Hackneys, £35 to £45; secondary kinds, £25 to £30; best milch cows, £14 to £18; seconds, £10 to £13; stirks, £6 to £8; fat cattle, 5d. to 6d per lb.; store pigs, 12s. to 16s.

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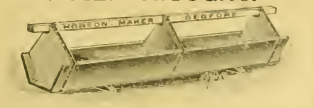

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Round the Borough.

Is it possible to discern a ray of brightness struggling to pierce the clouds that have hung over us during the last month? I rejoice to hear that more inquiries are being made this week, and that offers of business have been more numerous.

Although there is at present very little definite light, there is certainly a ray of hope, which encourages me to look forward to further development, and the possibility of the establishment of steadiness in the position, which has recently been sorely wanted. As "the drowning man clutches at a straw," so I welcome the slightest indication of reaction, and of a check to the ruinous downward slide from which we have suffered. It is at such a critical moment as this that the faith and strength of holders will be tested.

Some of them are getting tired of waiting, as I hear of pressure to sell, that is not a good sign. If buyers have arrived at the conclusion that perhaps the bedrock is reached, we shall soon see some revival of demand. It is this we require, and if such movement can once be started it will not be long before stability will be attained, and improvement in values will certainly follow. But (and there is much hanging on to this little word) the business is entirely in the hands of the brewers. Some hops have been bought by merchants at moderate prices, and if they can sell them with profit they will buy again, and the trade will be generally stimulated.

On the other hand, should the persuasive powers of their travellers be insufficient to secure orders, their hands will be crippled, and the market will feel the distressing effect. It seems therefore that growers would be well advised to wait the issue of events, they can hardly lose by a further exercise of patience, and it is just on the cards that they may gain.

In the meantime it must be admitted that the immediate situation is as unsatisfactory as it can be. It is hardly safe to quote prices, as the tendency towards drooping is too evident. We cannot now hear a whisper of the quotations with which the new market opened. Day after day rumours of lower, and still lower figures are circulated. Sales of excellent hops are reported at £5.

I am credibly informed that offers of 90s. are being made, with the prospect in some cases of this cruel price being accepted. The larger and more substantial planters are, however, not yet opening their samples, and as the bulk of the crop is in their hands, their decision must have some influence when they make up their minds to move. We are waiting with some anxiety the publication of

The Official Returns,

which are due within the next few days. Many opinions are expressed, and some betting is passing as to the figures.

As far as I can gather, it is thought by traders that the published returns will probably be somewhat below the actual crop. These annual estimates are never accepted with much respect, as it is known that the system of estimating is not reliable. Planters are under no obligation to make returns, and the whole matter is settled by the estimators, who are not sufficiently remunerated to make it worth their while to devote much time to their enquiries.

Nevertheless, as this is the only official declaration, we expect it with a certain show of interest, and shall doubtless be in possession of such information as it affords before another week has passed.

Foreign News.

America.

The volume of business in hops continues to be very small, both in the town markets, and the country districts. Buyers and sellers are wide apart in their views of value, but the general tendency is downward, and it is expected that no activity will be aroused until the demands of growers are considerably reduced.

The harvest in New York State being concluded, estimates of the crop are fairly reliable. From the Waterville district it is reported that the yield is from 15 to 20 per cent. higher than last year, while the Cobleskill returns show that there is a reduction from last year of about 20 per cent. From all sections we are informed that the quality is exceptionally good, the cones are rich in lupulin, and, with the assistance of favourable weather, the harvest has been gathered in prime condition.

Nuremberg.

Although a large amount of business has been done, the supplies are more than sufficient to meet the demand, and during the past week values have receded to the extent of from 5s. to 10s. The reduction is more marked in the lower qualities, choice samples retaining their quotations more easily. A fair amount of business is passing for England, the qualities shipped being of medium character, buyers paying about 70s. to 75s. The latest report speaks of a general absence of activity.

France.

The first hop fair of this season was held at Dijon, Sept. 20. Comparatively few planters attended, and they were not anxious to sell at the prices offered. With some difficulty a few lots were bought at 100 to 105 francs. The quality of the crop is generally satisfactory, the yield being a little more than half that of last year.

Belgium.

This market seems to have been seriously shaken, judging by the prices recently quoted. The Alost railway authorities cannot understand the small quantities they are called upon to handle. Growers are uneasy, dealers cannot obtain orders from their customers, and a correspondent says that if the brewers continue their present policy of abstention, the small Belgian crop will weigh so heavily on the market that it is impossible to foresee to what low point values will fall.

In Poperinghe business is also very dull, with a marked tendency to lower quotations. Some shipments of Belgian hops have been made to England at very moderate rates, sellers being much disappointed in the results of their negotiations, having expected that the small English crop would have created an active demand with remunerative prices.

The first free hop market of this year, organised by the Comice Agricole D'Asseche, was held on September 25, and was well attended by brewers, dealers, and growers. These meetings are supported by Government, and are encouraged by prizes offered for the best exhibits. The verdict of the jury who awarded the prizes was to the effect that there is much improvement this year in the picking and curing, but that the cones are light, having failed to recover from the effects of the cold spring and the severe attacks of vermin. Washing has been more generally practised with good results, but the Belgian planters are feeling the competition of Germany.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Bandon Fair (co. Cork) was held on October 3. Average supply of cattle; demand fair at low prices. Calves, 1st class, £3 17s. 6d. to £4; 2nd class, £3 to £3 5s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s. to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £5 15s. to £7 2s. 6d.; 3rd class, £4 17s. 6d. to £5 5s.; two years' old, 1st class, £10 to £12 5s.; 2nd class, £8 5s. to £9 7s 6d.; 3rd class, £6 15s. to £7 10s; three years' old, 2nd class, £12 17s. 6d. to £13. Small sheep fair; demand not so good for lambs as in recent fairs. Lambs, 1st class, £1 11s to £1 12s. 6d; 2nd class, £1 4s. to £1 8s. 6d.; over twelve and under twenty-four months' old, 2nd class, £1 15s. to £2 2s.

Ballinasloe Fair, co. Galway, was held on October 3. Average-sized fair composed chiefly of lambs; demand moderate for those in good condition, but slow for all others. Brisk demand for ewe hoggets suitable for breeding, and almost a complete clearance of this class effected. Lambs, 1st class, £1 13s. 6d. to £1 18s.; 2nd class, £1 5s. 6d. to £1 11s.; 3rd class, £1 to £1 3s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months' old, 1st class, £2 9s. 6d. to £2 13s. 6d.; 2nd class, £2 to £2 8s.; two years' old and over, 3rd class, £1 5s. to £1 10s.

Londonderry Fair was held on October 3. Large supply of cattle; demand slow, and very few changed hands. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 7s. 6d. to £9 15s.; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £7; 3rd class, £3 to £3 10s.; two year-olds, 2nd class, £8 5s. to £9 10s.; 3rd class, £5 15s. to £6 5s.; springers, 1st class, £17 12s. 6d.; 2nd class, £11 to £14 5s. Very few sheep. Lambs, 1st class, £1 16s. to £1 17s.; 2nd class, £1 8s. to £1 11s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months' old, 1st class, £2 15s. to £2 17s. 6d.; 2nd class, £1 17s. 6d. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks' old, averaged about 24s. 6d. each.

Ballinasloe Fair, Galway, was held on October 4. Small supply of cattle, chiefly Kerries, for which there was a slow demand, and the great proportion of the inferior class failed to find purchasers. Shorthorn cattle of good quality were all sold. Yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £10 15s.; 2nd class, £9 15s.; 3rd class, £5 10s. to £6; three-year-olds, 3rd class, £6 10s. to £8 5s.

Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

At the last meeting of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union the chairman, Mr. Colin Campbell, referred to the recent interview their deputation had had with the Minister of Agriculture on the subject of the meat supply for the Army, and said that his lordship intimated that if the union would send a resolution he was prepared to forward it to the proper quarter. Mr. Campbell now moved a resolution expressing the great disfavour with which the union viewed the proposal to substitute "home-killed" for "home-fed" meat for the Army, and pointing out that as all other requisites for the Army had to be of British manufacture the union asked, as a matter of common justice, that the meat supply should be put on the same footing. The resolution further pointed out that if the system which obtained at Aldershot and other places were extended, namely, the buying of live cattle locally, to be killed by army butchers, it would wholly prevent the fraud which in many instances had been successfully practised to the great detriment of the British farmer, and would confer a great benefit on agriculture in general. The chairman mentioned that at the interview Lord Carrington read a memorandum from the Secretary of State for War, which stated that it was absolutely impossible to tell in many cases which was home-killed and which home-fed meat, and that if they wanted to be sure the authorities would have to employ a whole army of detectives.

Mr. Wood said he thought Earl Carrington begged this meat question entirely. He as good as told them that for the past five years they had been paying for home-fed meat which they had not been getting, and that the guarantees which the contractors gave were not worth the paper they were written on. If such were the case why should not the Army kill their own meat? He seconded the resolution. This was unanimously agreed to.

The secretary read a letter from Colonel B. Scott, R.E., on the subject of Army meat, in which the writer suggested that the difficulty of distinguishing the carcases could be overcome by allowing the feet to be retained on foreign animals and branding them. Something similar to this was done in India to distinguish the carcases of sheep from goats.

It was resolved to thank Colonel Scott for his letter, and to send him a copy of the resolution passed at that meeting.

The chairman suggested that as a Bill was to be brought before Parliament for the taxing of motor vehicles they should consider the matter at their next meeting, and see if they could not send up a resolution on the subject. They all knew what an increasing curse motors were on the roads, so that it was hardly safe, especially at night, to go on them

Mr. C. Featherstone said he should not move in the matter unless the money raised by the tax were given them to spend on the roads.

It was agreed to place the matter on the next agenda.

Mr. Bellwood drew attention to the recent order on sheep-dipping which had been made in another county, and said it was probable they would have a similar order made affecting them. He considered it a disgrace that they should have sheep scab in this country when Australia could keep clear of it, but the orders ought to be drawn up so as to cause agriculture the minimum of inconvenience.

It was agreed to consider this question at the next meeting, and that in the meantime a copy of the Board of Agriculture Order recently issued should be sent to each member of the union.

Shorthorn Prices in the Argentine.

It is questionable if the Shorthorn boom in the Argentine is not to some extent subsiding. This, at all events, is what is said on the subject by the *River Plate Review*:—

"Prices realised for imported pedigree stock this season are causing any amount of uneasiness amongst importers and dealers. We have had some of the best stock offered at various auctions, and rates in every instance fell far below what was anticipated. The fact of the matter is that the business is now overdone, and the supply is far in excess of the demand. Our estanceiro friends have bridled their enthusiasm for high figures, knowing very well that if they do not get supplied at their own price at one sale, there are plenty of others yet to come. The people that will suffer most are the new firms who have come in on the tide, bringing large lots of animals on the supposition that numbers will tell. It must be remembered that Argentine buyers in England have been busy outbidding each other on every possible occasion, so that there is less margin than usual for a drop in prices on this side. Further, a good many of our biggest establishments now buy in England through agents, and hence do not need to be represented at the Buenos Aires auctions."

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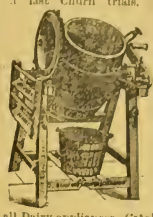

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E. J. POWELL, Secretary.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

NORWICH FAT CATTLE SHOW. 30th Annual Exhibition of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, &c., Agricultural Hall, Norwich, November 22nd, 23rd, & 24th, 1906. Last day of Entry for Stock and Stand Space, October 27th. Prize Lists, Entry Forms and all particulars of the Secretaries CALEB BARKER & Co, East Harling, THETFORD.

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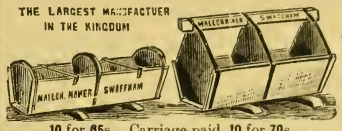

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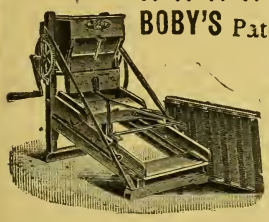

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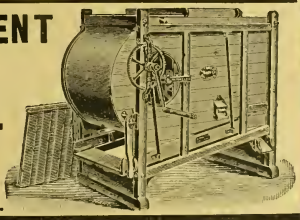

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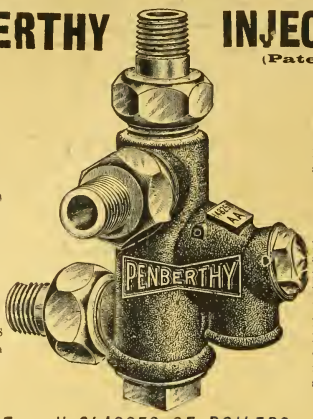

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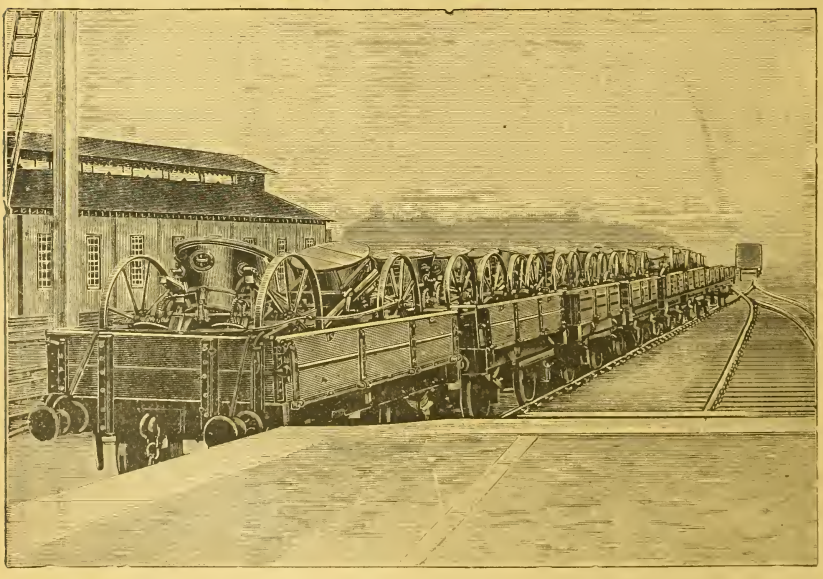

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LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Work for Wet Days. At last the rain has come, and for more than a week past we have nothing but gloomy skies and a downpour of wet more or less continual. Of course, we welcome the change, though with a pang of regret we bade adieu to the Indian summer, and rejoice to see all the springs filling up and a plentiful supply of water. For a long time past a kind of saving up has been going on of jobs that could be done on wet days when outdoor work would be impossible. The moment has arrived for these indoor tasks, and we find farm men busy amongst them. In the West of England it is not an uncommon thing to devote wet days at this time of the year to the grinding of the apples, which are picked up in the orchards daily, for the purpose of cider-making, and mills of both ancient and modern type are now busy at work. But in districts where cider-making is no part of the farm curriculum there are plenty of wet day tasks to be performed. Perhaps all the machines used in harvesting have not been cleaned, oiled, and put away, and if not, here is a job that well repays for the time spent over it. It is a good rule to have at least one overhauling of cowsheds and stables during the year, and they are all the sweeter and cleaner for a coat of good limewash on the walls. Then there are odds and ends in the way of repairs of carts and tools, the making and repairing of hurdles, and so on and so on. In very truth there is no need to stand idle when rain is pelting down and outside work is impossible.

Autumn Ploughing. A FEW weeks past, when the ground was dust dry and as hard as bricks, farmers were asking in pessimistic tones whenever they would be able to get started with the ploughing, but the opportunity has come, as it invariably does, and when weather permits it is a common sight now to see one, two, or more teams in a field breaking up the stubble and exposing the soil to the influence of the weather. A good deal of rain has fallen of late, and though it may not have penetrated the subsoil it has thoroughly moistened the upper crust which the ploughshare turns over in a crumbling, friable condition. What a master hand in agricultural work a good ploughman is! He knows nothing of science and arts or things outside his own little circle, but in his way he is indispensable, and it is a pleasure to see him manipulate his plough and his team, and draw a furrow as straight as if he had used a pencil and ruler. We hear that in the ploughing competitions which take place at this season of the year, that it is mostly men of long experience who carry off the honours, and that there is often difficulty in getting competitors in the classes for youths and young men. This is a pity, for it is the lads who drive the teams to-day, whom we hope will be the ploughmen in the future.

The Pride of Labour. THERE are two ways of looking at work. One man does it in order that he may earn money at it to supply him with the necessities of life, and because the conditions of society demand that men shall work to live. (It is surprising all the same how many there are who seem to live without doing much work.) There is something wanting, however, about a man whose only object in working is to earn wages. It is the lack of pride and interest in the work, which, like onion in the stew, gives it flavour, and makes it more palatable. The backbone of Britain to day are the men who labour not only because they are obliged to do so, but because they have a liking for the tasks they perform and take a pride in doing them well. It will be a bad day for farmers if the day ever comes—let us hope it never will—when there are no shepherds who take as much interest in the flock as if the sheep were their own, stockmen who possess an inborn love for animals, carters whose prime object in life is to turn out a creditable team, labourers who take a pride in laying a hedge or thatching a rick in a way that cannot be improved upon, and ploughmen who can draw a furrow straight and true as a hair. Happily there are plenty of men of the above stamp now, though people say they are not so plentiful as they used to be, and we wonder whether in all cases farmers realise what treasures they possess in such men. The question is an open one.

Training Young Farmers. NO one is more ready to admit than we are that there is a scientific and theoretical side to agriculture in which the farmers of the future should be educated, and, perhaps, the present generation has lost and is losing something, because this part of their education was neglected at the beginning. What we want to avoid, however, is the sacrifice of the purely practical at the altar of science or theory. The other day we saw a young squire who is wealthy and owns a large estate, guiding a plough and receiving a lesson from a man who can hardly write his own name. We rejoiced in the sight, and were pleased to see a 'Varsity student guiding a plough. He will not have to earn his living as a ploughmam, but if he knows how to do it himself he will know when the work is done properly. Teach the young farmers everything in laboratory and class room that may be useful to them, but do not let them get the impression that it is *infra dig* to work. There is not a single operation on a farm that a farmer should not be able to perform himself, even though there may be no necessity for actually doing it; and do not let us forget that a very essential part of a young agriculturist's education is that which the ordinary farm lad acquires in the daily round of labour.

An Interesting Suggestion. IT is a common thing when a person is troubled with some injurious insect pest, and seeks advice as to its eradication, to turn away disappointed when an expert suggests such a simple remedy as catching and killing. Yet in many cases this is about the most useful and practical advice that could be given. In a recent issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS a correspondent drew attention to the losses suffered in certain districts through the caterpillars of the cabbage butterfly, and he suggested as a remedy the destruction of the latter. We can imagine some people smiling at the bare idea of keeping a butterfly bat for the purpose of knocking down cabbage moths, but when one realises that the destruction of one female insect means also the death of a number of hungry caterpillars, there is nothing absurd about the idea at all. We ventured to suggest a few weeks ago that some of the Nature study in village schools might be turned to practical account, and mentioned the collecting of queen wasps as a case in point. Here we have another illustration. In the old days children used to glean and do other little things which brought some grist to the family mill, but now the popular idea seems to be set against any form of wage earning so long as the children are under the care of the schoolmaster. We do not see the force of it; and our view is that the giving of prizes or payment for queen wasps, cabbage butterflies, and other injurious pests would be a practical and useful form of Nature study.

Mushrooms. WHILE fields were dried up and brown, mushrooms were not abundant, but rain has pushed the edible fungi into growth and mushrooms are much more plentiful in the markets. The man in the street who buys his mushrooms from the greengrocer is apt to think that the farmer must do fairly well out of them, or is silly if he does not; but, as a matter of fact, except in a few cases, farmers do not make merchandise of the mushrooms that grow on their holdings, though there is no real reason why the fungi should not be treated as a crop. Some years ago we knew a man who dressed his ground so as to encourage the growth of mushrooms and these he picked and sent to market, but the difficulty he had in protecting his crop from the public was extraordinary.

Notice boards were no good, and the trespassers who figured in the local police-court and were fined, were treated as martyrs defending public rights. The unfortunate mushroom grower won for himself an unenviable character and was nicknamed "Fungi," which stuck to him as long as he lived. In many cases it is not mushrooms that cause the trouble, because the pickers like blackberry gatherers are not always so particular as they might be, and have no regard for the farmer's fences or other parts of his property. In these circumstances it is not surprising if the farmer treats mushrooms as an intolerable nuisance.

Pond Mud as Manure. THIS season a number of thoughtful people have taken advantage of dry weather and waterless ponds to get the mud cleaned out of the latter. The advantages are twofold. In the first place the water-holding capacity of the pond is improved and the water is cleaner and more pure; and secondly, the mud taken from the pond is useful on the land. Some people make a point of carting this alluvial deposit straight on to the ground, but a better course is to treat it properly in the form of a compost heap before doing so. Time should be allowed for some of the moisture to drain away, and to make a good mixture the heap should be turned and lime added. A small proportion of the latter will sweeten and pulverise the compost and destroy any insects that may be lurking therein. Besides having a valuable mechanical effect on the mud the lime will be beneficial on the land when the compost is carted out and spread. Of course, it all means labour with both men and horses, and perhaps this is why many mud heaps are never used, but are left and in time become grassed over, but if properly treated a good compost is worth much more than the time and labour spent in preparing it.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

A Review of the Radical Strength.

It is perhaps well that we should for a moment review the strength of the Radical anti-peers—should see whether there is any real vitality behind what Balzac calls "the weird discords of their antiphony"—who now promise fire and fury against the Upper House unless it does their behest in pleasure or in pain. Let us not forget the fact that there is likely to be a great change in the character of the electorate. The Plural Voters' Bill, which mathematically restricts every elector to one vote, may not become law at once; but what will become effective almost immediately is the decision of the various revising barristers which has called into existence the persons euphoniously described as "latch-key voters." In London and the suburbs this is alone said to mean the addition of a hundred thousand persons to the electorate. It is no use indulging in illusions. The vast majority of these voters will belong to the class from which Radicalism and Labour draw their recruits. And do not indulge too optimistically in the conviction that the Liberal and Labour quarrel will vitiate this colossal strength. If we are to believe Mr. Winston Churchill, the second ballot hovers on the horizon; and the second ballot would be the death of any adventitious value from Progressive splits. My anxiety is not to invoke spectral fear, not to call hobgoblins from the electoral depths. My anxiety is rather to let you know how it is that men like that stormy petrel of Radicalism, Mr. Lloyd-George, jauntily hails a tussle with the Lords as likely to lead to what he pertly describes as "the tackling of the landlords"—to the prevention (I quote his picturesque language) "of a state of things on the land which means that the sustenance of the labouring man is often sacrificed to the sport of the idle few, that almost as large a share of the produce of the soil goes to pay for the permission to cultivate it as is allotted to maintaining the labourers who till it through the sweat of their brow."

Will Mr. Asquith Penalise the Land?

"Fear came upon me and trembling," quoths the Prophet Job, "which made all my bones to shake. Then a spirit passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up: It stood still, but I could not discern the form thereof. An image was before mine eyes; there was silence, and I heard a voice." Heaven forfend, I be deemed to wish to reduce my readers to this condition of dire, appalled, palsied trepidation. It is, however, the wisest providence which seeks to comprehend the resources of your opponent's armoury and his intentions. The Land Tenure Bill was originally scoffed at because of what was described as "its innocuity"; it was declared to be a forcible-feeble product likely to be as fertile of good as the Dead Sea fruit is of sweetness. Now, it is distorted into the significance and moment of being the cupola of the ark of the tenure-covenant. All this is to justify a more vindictive and remorseless purpose against the Lords if the Bill be lacerated. I am neither uttering warning nor admonishing; I am only stating what I know. Already, in anticipation of the mutilation of the Bill in the Lords, a movement is on foot to induce Mr. Asquith to heighten land taxes, say, to the taxation of all kinds of land values, in his next Budget. The chief hope of the situation from the Conservative point of view is, of course, that the assertive Socialist and Labour Parliamentarians will arrogantly and pertinaciously insist on their fads having the first place in the Radical scheme. In that event there will be wigs on the green. This preoccupation would be a blessing in disguise. The phantasists, romanticists, nationalisers, and revolutionaries would not then be able to spare a second from their exchange of gory vituperations.

I have purposely in these first two paragraphs outlined the actual and possible Parliamentary and electoral situation, so that we may comprehend with some sense of forethought the rival prospects of the future.

Are the Canals to be Nationalised?

And so gradually the secrets of Pandora's box are being revealed, and so gradually the scheme of Penelope's web is being woven. If Mr. Winston Churchill—and this ebullient young gentleman is too conscious of his own importance to be without some knowledge of the intentions of the Cabinet-hierarchy—is to be believed, we are on the eve of the promulgation of a scheme of canal nationalisation. Whether it will proceed on the lines of the plan of Sir John Brunner and his colleagues I do not, of course, know, for Mr. Churchill is uncharacteristically reticent. Perhaps his friend, Mr. Lloyd-George, the President of the Board of Trade—who plays the part of Damon to Mr. Churchill's Pythias—has not confided more to him. At all events, the agricultural interest will not have cause to complain if the resources of the State are to be utilised—either in conjunction with private capital or independently—in reviving the natural and artificial water-ways of this country, and thus in reviving another competitive means of internal traffic which either the jealousy and cupidity of great railway concerns or the foolish indifference of the community has so long allowed to remain derelict. How many of my readers will hail this as a wiser utilisation of the State's resources than attempting to reproduce the principles of the Irish agrarian economy in England? Most, I opine. The revival of the canal system under the ægis of the nation should be a direct boon to the agrarian population in all its complexions. But we haven't got it yet. Vaunting ambition sometimes o'erleaps itself.

Will Army Meat be Home-Fed?

Have we reason, after all, to indulge in hope? I am, in this interrogation, referring to the attitude of the Government in regard to the supply of home-fed meat to the Army. "If," said Lord Carrington to the Scottish Chambers of Agriculture, "the change can be effected"—that is, the condition that the meat is home-fed be restored to the contracts—"it would be done, but if, in the interest of the public, it could not be done, he would not be a party to any 'hanky-panky' arrangement." "The interest of the public," a somewhat Jesuitical phrase, which one is a little astounded at finding in the mouth of a man of the sincerity and calibre of Lord Carrington—means the saving of the estimated loss of £150,000 a year. Well, let it be represented as a "bounty" (if the word be not too heratodox and smack too much of the corn law days). Let it be regarded as the annual grant to the great liners is regarded—as a method of safe-guarding an assured home-supply in time of stress? Certainly, we are justified in assuming from the phraseology which he employed that that the Minister of Agriculture has already actively interested himself in the hope of persuading the Minister for War to adopt—providing his economical instinct be not offended—what Lord Carrington has himself described as "the *status quo ante*." If this be so, Lord Carrington himself must be congratulated upon his courage and upon his fidelity to the interest of which he is the executive chief. It is a happy portent of future generosity.

Is the Gombeen-Man a Bogie?

Of course, there is much in Lord Lansdowne's contention that the landlord might, in the future, be confessed to be a much more lenient creditor than the gombeen-man, an undesirable personality who might find in a national system of small holders an unrivalled opportunity for exploitation. The gombeen-man has been admittedly one of the most sinister excrescences upon the Irish land system. His avarice has helped to wreck the purpose alike of Mr. John Bright, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. George Wyndham, and has sufficed to secure for his own never repleted purse much of the profuse philanthropy of the English exchequer. Cannot, however, the gombeen-man be checkmated? Is he an excrescence inevitable to any British system of small holdings? We have already a illustration in English law that the avaricious and vindictive money-lender—the man who wants not merely the pound of flesh for which he contracted in the bond, but half a dozen pounds of flesh with a sufficient quantity of life-blood as juice—can be countered. In this case until the whole of the instalments were paid—yes, even if they were secured by an annuity—the eventual and final property in the land would remain with the State. Mortgage could not, of course, be forbidden—this would mean, indeed, that a bad season might inevitably spell ruin to the most desirable and thrifty of holders; but permission to enter into a mortgage could be so surrounded by conditions as to make an English edition of the pernicious Celtic gombeen-man simply impossible. If it be impossible for a democratic Legislature to exact protective conditions in the interest of the holders then the Legislature is a fallow futility. I present these views to Lord Lansdowne, one of the men whose very sagacity England would enlist for the purpose of constructing these safeguards.

More Claim for the Motorist.

Are we to see an active development of the pretensions of the motorist? I ask this question because of the remarkable contention of that enthusiastic motorist, the Hon. A. Stanley, M.P. "The roads," quoted he, "must adapt themselves to the traffic, and not the traffic to the roads." Is this so, forsooth? Is vehicular traffic to be the only consideration, and of a vehicular traffic which, under the existing circumstances, contributes little towards the upkeep of the roads through which it scurries, leaving only an evil smell and a demoralising trail of dust to indicate its recent presence? If this be so, what should prevent the introduction of the ordinary locomotive to the roads? Why should we have a speed limit at all? The Hon. A. Stanley's contention presumes two things: The first is—what an agreable doctrine for the *nou veau riche*—that the roads are the supreme property of the wealthy, of the people who can readily secure for themselves fiery, snorting cars. The second is that, rich or poor, the pedestrian has no rights. The Hon. A. Stanley and his associates—who, by reason of their extravagance of pretension, are themselves the parent of much of the prevailing embittered sentiment antagonistic to motors—forget that the Legislature has never failed to recognise the right of pedestrians by demanding that no vehicles should run to the danger of the public, and, further, by insisting that where they did run to the danger of the public (as in the case of railways) it should be along a highway constructed and maintained at their own expense.

The Lincolnshire Farmers Union

OFFICIALS

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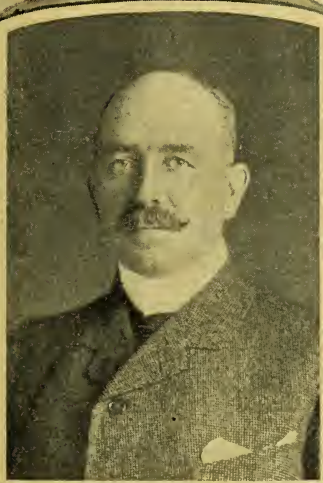

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LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

A Step in the Right Direction.—Its Formation and Progress.—The Future.

BEFORE setting out the object and aim of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union it will perhaps be well to explain the circumstances that led to its inception. Probably ever since there was such an industry as farming it has been usual when two farmers met together to make the same stale old remark that, though times had been bad with them they were getting rapidly worse, and that of a surety "something" would have to be done. It never seemed to occur to them *what* that "something" should be, or by whom that "something" should be accomplished. In the autumn of 1904 some half-a-dozen farmers were talking together, and precisely the same remark was made again. It, however, occurred to them to consider *what* that "something" must be, and by whom it should be brought about. They thought that the proper and only persons to do it were the farmers themselves; what they thought should be done is set out below.

A meeting was held shortly afterwards at Lincoln, at which the "union" was formed: proposed rules were drafted. The unanimous opinion was that the "union," if taken up by the farmers in their own interest, would supply a very much felt and long-needed want. Almost the whole of the meeting showed their practical sympathy with the movement by subscribing substantially to start the "union" on its way. The first annual general meeting was held in the Corn Exchange, on January 27, 1905. It was largely attended, and it was felt that as the "union" was only in its infancy it was a distinct success through being attended by such an enthusiastic and representative body of farmers from all parts of the county.

It is the express wish of the "union" that it should be most clearly understood that it is not working against any class of persons or any existing institutions, the Chamber of Agriculture for instance; they feel that they are working towards the same end (the benefit of agriculture), and that, therefore, if only on that ground, there should be a common sympathy between them.

Many schemes have at various times been started with the object of bettering the state of agriculture as an industry, but through some incomprehensible lack of common sense, and inability or disinclination to combine, farmers have allowed them all to end in failure. It is thought that now, owing to the very bad times through which the very great majority of them have passed, and are still passing, there is a different feeling amongst them, and that they are at last beginning to see the utter futility of carrying on their calling with any prospect of success without that consideration which all other trades and professions have adopted with such very great advantages to themselves.

Much the most notable of the schemes started in comparatively recent years was the one in which the late Lord Winchelsea was the prime mover. This (the "union") movement differs from it in one most important particular, in that it only accepts the *farmer* as a member. Lord Winchilsea took in the *landlord*, the *tenant*, and the *labourer*. In the opinion of the "union," no scheme could possibly succeed which took in all these three classes, whose aims and objects, to a certain extent, must of necessity differ.

While the members of this "union" recognise to the fullest extent the genuine and cordial relations which exist, and have existed, on many estates between the landlord and his tenants for many generations, and which they most earnestly hope for ever will exist, they recognise that that excellent state of affairs does not obtain on all estates, and in all cases they are not able to see eye-to-eye with them. Although the interest of the master and his man are in the main identical—their getting a living out of the soil—it is not for many reasons thought feasible to take the labourer as a member into the "union."

Happily, in this country at any rate, a good feeling exists between the man and his master, and there is every reason to hope that on both sides the same happy relations may continue, for on the other hand whilst the master cannot do without labour—and the better and more willing it is, the better—on the other hand the labourer has the good sense to see that unless his master has good labour he cannot get a living, and so is unable to give employment and make his men comfortable. The men recognise that in this they have identical interests. It may not here be out of place to state that in some statistics got out by Mr. Fox for the Board of Trade (February 17, 1905), that while the average wage of the agricultural labourer over the whole of England is 16s. 9d., the average for Lincolnshire is 18s. 8d. This shows an increase of 4 per cent. since the year 1898.

It may be stated without any possible fear of contradiction that the first and by far the most important object of the "union" is to bring about *combination* among farmers. Given combination, there is nothing which the agricultural industry will not be able to accomplish, and it should be borne in mind that it is by far the most important industry in this country, and that it has more capital embarked in it than any other trade, and that more persons of all classes are dependent on it than any other. Without combination its condition must of necessity drift from bad to worse, and it must finally become bankrupt. This would not only spell ruin to those engaged in it, but it would also be a great national disaster.

Almost every profession, trade, or industry has its own peculiar trade organisation. In consequence when any particular trade is in need of help from Parliament for the betterment of its condition it is able, through being organised, to speak to its Parliamentary representative with no uncertain voice, and *tell* him what to do, not to do as farmers have done from time immemorial, do nothing, or at most tell the member, if ever they happen to see him, that in their own private opinion "something" *might* be done. This condition of things does not give the member a chance to do anything, even supposing he was able and willing to do if he could, for he does not even know what the majority of his agricultural constituents really require.

Legal Aid.

Cases frequently occur which affect farmers as such; many of these are of great interest and importance to them as a body. In the opinion of the "union," cases of this class, after due and proper investigation by the committee, should be undertaken, either wholly or in part, by it on the the members behalf and the whole or part of the costs defrayed by it as should be agreed.

At present many actions are brought against individuals, which should it have been known beforehand, that in all probability the "union" would fight it, never would have been brought, or ever heard of. This is a matter of great importance, for with the "union" at his back it would inspire the member with a confidence which at present he lacks.

Taxation.

That the burden of taxation falls at present levied, more heavily and more unjustly on agriculture than any other industry, is, unhappily, only too well known to all of us. The land we farm to us represents, what to any other trade is its raw material, out of which we manufacture our finished product in the shape of corn, meat, &c. In no other instance is raw material taxed. In our case it is, and heavily.

The "union" is thoroughly of opinion that the bulk of the present taxes should come from the Imperial exchequer. In many county parishes the Education Act and its attendant rates has proved itself anything but the benefit it was asserted to be. It is also of opinion that the least the Government could do would be to make the Agricultural Rates Act *permanent*, and not of a temporary character as it is at present. The sum assessed for local taxation is £160,000,000. The sum assessed for income tax is £500,000,000. This shows that for the purpose of local taxation only one-third of the wealth of the country has to bear the burden of these taxes.

Railway Rates.

One of the greatest curses from which agriculture suffers is the form of extortion extracted from it in the shape of "railway rates." These rates are not laid on the basis of what the carrying can be done for, but what the railway company think "the traffic will carry." They pile the rate on as much as they possibly dare. They only stop when they see an immediate likelihood of killing that particular industry altogether.

Take the potato trade in the Spalding district as an example. Goods are carried from India or America to inland towns for the same price as in England they are carried for 100 or 200 miles. The companies say that if we co-operate and sent truck loads, instead of small consignments, they would treat us better; but one fails to grasp this argument when such things as truck loads of cake are charged for at the present exorbitant rate.

Exclusion of Canadian Store Cattle.

A renewal of the agitation is now being attempted to induce the Government to allow the importation of Canadian store cattle for feeding purposes. It is to the interest of the agricultural community, or at any rate of much the greater portion of it, that they should continue to be excluded as at present, so that our own herds, which are at present healthy, may not be exposed to the risk of that awful scourge, pleuro-pneumonia. Should their entrance be permitted, small farmers who annually rear a few stores for sale would be by far the greatest sufferers.

Foreign Meat.

For many years much has been written about the marking of foreign meat. It is a well-recognised fact that foreign meat is a vital necessity to the well-being of the nation. Producers of English meat have, as a measure of the barest justice, a right to demand either the marking of it, or the licensing of the vendors. The public could still please itself which sort it bought, but it would then know, that if it paid the English price, it would get the English meat. It is a most curious fact that though tons of foreign meat are daily supplied into the various towns, it is never possible to buy any, except at one or two insignificant shops in that town, which could not by any stretch of imagination sell the quantity which comes. The mystery is, what becomes of it?

Pure Beer Bill.

A wide-spread opinion prevails that at a future date the now defunct "Pure Beer Bill" should be reintroduced. All that is wanted is that "beer" should be made of barley-malt, hops, and sugar. Other decoctions can still be made of any ingredients preferred, provided that they are not called beer, and other ingredients declared. It is worthy of remembrance that when this Bill was before Parliament many county members, for some unexplained reasons, were the friends of "the trade" first and their constituents afterwards. This seems to point out the very patent moral that what "the trade" accomplished in Parliament on that occasion in its own interests, could have been quite as easily accomplished had there been at that time an agricultural party to look after *its* interests.

Boundary Fences.

The law as it at present stands is defective as to boundary fences. It should be made compulsory for the occupier to keep his boundary fences and water courses in a proper state of repair and scoured out.

Agricultural Research.

Both in America and on the Continent a much larger sum of money is allocated by the Government for agricultural education and research and experimental farms than is done here. In the budget for the current year the U.S.A. has allocated to these matters the sum of £1,265,000; France, £1,750,000; England, £119,337. Much valuable information is so derived which is of the greatest benefit, but on account of its cost it would have been impossible to obtain by the individual farmer.

Sheep Worrying.

A Bill is greatly needed giving compensation to the owners of sheep worried by stray and other dogs, and sanctioning their summary destruction. The dog licenses should be more rigidly enforced, and more discrimination exercised in the giving of exemptions. It is a notorious fact that scores of useless curs are now exempted whose owners have neither sheep nor cattle to tend.

Objects and Aims.

To briefly summarise the foregoing the objects and aims of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union are:—

LOCALLY.

(1) One of the principal objects of the Union is to give legal and other aid to its members in all suitable cases.

(2) Co-operation with a view to a reduction in premiums for Fire, Employers' Liability, and other insurance.

(3) The Union intends to organise the co-operation of its members for the sale and purchase of Agricultural produce and necessaries.

PARLIAMENTARY.

It is the intention of the members of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union to vote for no Parliamentary candidate unless he unreservedly pledges himself, if returned to Parliament, to support to the utmost the whole of the following programme:—

(1) That the Agricultural Rating Act be continued until the whole system of rating is dealt with on the basis of agricultural land being treated as raw material.

(2) That the whole cost of Education, under the Education Act shall be borne by the Imperial Exchequer.

(3) That the Maintenance of all Public Roads shall be paid out of the Imperial Exchequer.

(4) That Preferential Railway rates for Foreign Produce shall be abolished.

(5) That all Vendors of Foreign Meat shall be Registered, prominent notices to that effect shall be displayed in their shops, and all Foreign Meat shall be sold as such.

(6) That the beverage called "Beer" shall be made wholly and solely from Barley-Malt and Hops.

(7) That the Regulations now existing respecting the Slaughter of all Foreign and Colonial Cattle, Sheep, and Swine at the port of entry, be continued.

(8) That a Bill is needed ensuring the purity of

Butter, its freedom from Moisture, and embodying better regulations for Testing Milk.

(9) That a Bill is urgently needed to enforce the better control of Stray Dogs, and to make the granting of exemptions for so-called Sheep Dogs more stringent.

(10) That a Bill is needed allowing the Production of spirit for Motive Power without the present excise duties.

(11) That a Bill is urgently needed for the Better Control of Motors on the Highways, to secure the bodily safety of the public.

(12) That a Bill is needed to provide more Funds from the Imperial Exchequer for Agricultural Research.

The above were submitted to all candidates in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutland at the General Election.

The Union has supported the Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Bill, the Dogs' Bill, Beer Bill, and Land Tenure Bill, though taking exception to Clause 6, and will in future continue to watch the progress of Bills relating to Agriculture before Parliament.

Officers of the Union.

CHAIRMAN.

Colin Campbell, Stapleford, Newark.

VICE-CHAIRMEN.

E. W. Howard, Ingleby Hall, Saxilby, Lincoln.
G. A. Bellwood, J.P., Bishop's Norton, Kirton Lindsey.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

G. Bartholomew, Thorpe-on-the-Hill, Lincoln.
J. D. Blanshard, Bardney, Lincoln.
J. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, Newark.
W. E. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, Newark.
W. T. Brown, Haddington, Lincoln.
W. B. Burtt, Wellingore, Lincoln.
C. Clarke, Scopwick, Lincoln.
J. H. Copping, Timberland, Lincoln.
H. W. Cottingham, Broxholme, Lincoln.
A. W. Dean, J.P., Dowsby Hall, Bourne.
C. Featherstone, Nocton, Lincoln.
W. S. Fox, Potter Hanworth, Lincoln.
J. T. Glew, Springthorpe, Gainsboro'.
F. Godson, Temple Bruer, Lincoln.
G. E. Hides, Thorpe Tilney, Lincoln.
R. A. Holmes, Skellingthorpe, Lincoln.
J. C. Mountain, Wellbourn, Lincoln.
G. Powell, Temple Grange, Navenby, Lincoln.
H. Rawding, Eagle, Lincoln.

BRANCHES.

Stamford.—J. Thurlby, Baston, Market Deeping, chairman; J. Turner, Little Bytham, Grantham, hon. sec.
Bourne.—C. E. Andrew, Austerby, Bourne; H. Goodyear, Austerby, Bourne.
Wragby.—C. H. Turnor, J.P., Panton Hall; H. Mawer.
Blyton and Corringham.—H. J. Robinson, Dunstall, Gainsboro'; H. T. Sleight, Pilham, Gainsboro'.
Newark.—A. Stretton, Sibthorpe; H. Hopkinson, Muskham.
Market Rasen.—J. Birkitt, Thornton; J. H. Nettleship.
Retford.—W. W. Cranfield, Morton, Retford; J. C. Smalley, Bellmoor.
Sleaford.—S. E. Dean, Threckingham Manor, Folkingham; George Widdowson, Swaton, Folkingham.
Boston.—J. Bowser, Frithville; E. Crawford, Wyberton.
Grimsby.—George Marris, Kirmington, Brocklesby; Captain G. P. Jennings, Binbrook, Market Rasen.
Grantham.—Willingham Fowler, Grantham; W. B. Mason, Somerby.
Brigg.—W. C. Wood, J.P., Wootton Dales, Ulceby; Duncan J. Dodds, Elsham, Lincoln.
Horncastle.—W. Taylor Sharpe, J.P., Baumber; W. Sarby, Horncastle.
Kirton Lindsey.—F. F. Nicholson, Willoughton Manor, Lincoln; W. Everett, Kirton Lindsey.
Donington.—T. Harrison, Donington; S. Hansard, Bicker, Boston.

Secretary, H. W. PALMER,
C. and C. Bank Chambers, Lincoln.

Rules of the Union.

1. The union is formed for the purpose of watching over and defending matters affecting farmers, and to take such action as may be thought desirable for their welfare. All party politics and all sectarian matters, except those bearing on agriculture, shall be avoided.

2. The entrance subscription to be at the rate of ½d. per acre on land farmed, maximum subscription £3. No one to be eligible as a member unless he is carrying on the business of a farmer in actual practice, and farming not less than ten acres of land. The minimum subscription to be one shilling.

The annual subscription, after the first year, to be as follows:—10 to 50 acres, 1s.; 50 to 100 acres, 2s.; 2s. per 100 acres or portion thereof up to 1,000 acres; over 1,000 acres, 6d. per 100 for the excess.

No member to be entitled to vote who is in arrears with his subscription.

Honorary members accepted at a minimum subscription of 1s., and allowed to attend meetings and join in discussions, and not allowed to vote.

3. The business of the union to be managed by a central committee of twenty members, with power to add to their number, six of whom shall form a quorum; in case of a tie, the chairman to have the casting vote. The central committee being elected at the annual general meeting, and to be eligible for re-election provided they have attended at least three-fourths of the meetings during the year.

4. The annual general meeting to take place in January each year, in Lincoln.

5. That a special general meeting may be called at any time by the committee, who shall direct the secretary to convene such meeting by giving not less than seven days' notice to each member of the union.

6. A member may be expelled by a majority of three-fourths of those present at any general meeting of the members.

7. That a majority of the members present is required to pass any vote or resolution, the chairman to have the usual casting vote.

That no rule shall be altered or withdrawn, except at a general meeting.

That all rules of the union shall be entered in the minute book and signed by the chairman.

8. That the union shall not enter into any legal proceedings for the benefit of a member unless ordered to be taken by a two-thirds majority of a meeting of the central committee, specially convened, consisting of not less than twelve members.

9. That any member wishing to bring any subject before a general meeting of the union, must give notice to the secretary in writing, fourteen days before such meeting.

10. That all expenses of the union shall be paid by the central committee out of the funds of the union; all accounts to be passed by the central committee before being paid.

All cheques to be signed by two of the following:—The chairman, the hon. treasurer, and one member of the central committee, and countersigned by the secretary.

11. The accounts of the union to be made up to December 31 each year, and a balance sheet submitted at the annual general meeting.

12. The duties of the secretary shall be to convene and attend all meetings of the union and of the committee, to take and record minutes of all business transacted, to prepare reports, collect the funds of the union, and pay them to the treasurer's account, and generally to carry out any directions which he may receive from the chairman or committee.

13. That no member can withdraw from the union without giving six months' notice in writing to the secretary, expiring any December 31.

14. That the union be registered.

Formation of Branches: Proposed Rules.

1. A branch may be formed in any district with the consent of the central committee, subject to the rules and regulations of the union.

2. Each branch shall elect annually a chairman, hon. secretary, and local committee, who shall attend to all matters affecting the interests of the members of that district, and report to the central committee. The hon. secretary to give notice of meetings, conduct the correspondence, keep minutes, and assist in collecting subscriptions.

3. No independent action shall be taken by any branch without the consent of the central committee.

4. The chairman and hon. secretary shall be *ex-officio* members of the central committee, and each branch may appoint one other member of central committee for every fifty in excess of the first fifty members.

5. No expenses shall be allowed, except such as appertain to meetings (including postage and stationery), and particulars of all such expenses must be sent to the secretary of the union to be dealt with according to Rule 10.

6. The annual branch meeting to take place in November or December of each year.

7. Members shall elect to which branch they will belong. All members of the union are free to attend branch meetings, but only members of the particular branch to vote.

8. The secretary of the union to send a special list of members entitled to vote at each branch to the hon. secretary thereof.

Annual Report.

The last annual report of the union will give an idea of the good work which this body has already accomplished, and demonstrate the energy and thoroughness with which it is worked. The secretary (Mr. H. W. Palmer) said:—

"In presenting my first annual report, reference must be made to the balance-sheet, which works out on the right side, in spite of the fact that many subscriptions are not collected, owing to the impossibility of one man doing all the collection.

"Several branches are now getting into working order, and by this means the collection will be greatly facilitated.

"Early in April our pamphlet was published, together with a large number of cards, setting forth the objects and aims of the union.

"Next we turned our attention to meetings in in market towns and villages, the first being held on May 1 in Boston, since then meetings have been held at Saxilby, Harby Navenby, Metheringham, Caenby, Sleaford, Horncastle, Grimsby, Corringham (twice), Branston, Ruskington, Welton, and Spilsby—these before harvest; since harvest, Billingboro', South Kyme, Blyton, Bassingham, Bourne, Grantham, Spalding, Eagle, Wragby, Retford, Newark, Stamford, Timberland, Swinderby, Market Rasen, &c., and branches have been formed at Stamford, Wragby, Newark, Horncastle, Corringham, Bourne, Grantham, Retford, Market Rasen, Boston, and Grimsby, although in several of these they are not fully established. The Press has readily assisted the movement, special thanks being due to the whole of the local papers, the *Yorkshire Post*, *Nottingham Guardian*, *Nottingham Express*, and *Sheffield Telegraph*. In addition, the *London Daily Mail* has given us a special article, and the *Agricultural Supplement of the London Standard* has promised in the future, as in the past, to further our interests. The *Chester Chronicle*, and other distant papers have published our programme *in extenso*, and our pamphlet has travelled as far afield as New Zealand.

"At the Darlington Convention, October 21, the union was represented by the chairman, Mr. Geo. Powell, and the secretary; and the chairman received a very hearty reception when speaking on the Pure Beer Bill.

"The Board of Agriculture invited us to attend the Hull Show, where they had a pavilion, and the secretary there met three members of the Board, besides representatives from the Derbyshire Dairy Co. and the Holderness Agricultural Club.

"As a mutual protection society much good has been done, though only one case has gone before the court, and this is still *sub judice*.

"However, one member obtained compensation, £8 10s., by means of the union's name; another received £5, when he had only been offered £1; and the union forced an insurance company to pay a claim in full, where they had only offered half.

"Further members have been threatened with judicial actions, but on the union undertaking their defence no more was heard of it.

"A list of twelve questions has been submitted to all candidates in Lincolnshire, Notts, and Rutland, and undoubtedly the strong position taken up by the union over the election will bear good fruit in the future.

"Early in December the union joined with the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture and the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce in sending a deputation to Germany to study the question on sugar beet. Three out of the four delegates were members of the union. The report will shortly be published.

"Branch rules are now submitted to the meeting for confirmation, and I cannot help claiming that if new branches take up the movement with as great a zeal and enthusiasm as some of those already established, considerable strength will accrue to the union, and next years' report will show a membership of thousands where to-day we have hundreds."

The Future.

The foregoing are a few of the things which, in the opinion of the "union," would substantially reduce the depression of agriculture if they were carried into law. This list by no means exhausts the measures which might be taken up with advantage, but merely gives a few instances of those measures which should be pressed on candidates in agricultural constituencies. Self-preservation is the dominant instinct of the human race. The "union" most earnestly urges every farmer in the county to exercise to the full that instinct. *With* organisation *all* things are possible for him, and a brighter future assured. *Without* it, nothing that is of advantage to him can by any remote possibility occur.

As sure as day follows night, so sure is it that without that organisation which the "union" so earnestly advocates, the condition of farmers individually, and agriculture in this country as a whole, must rapidly go from bad to worse, and that through their own culpable neglect the greatest, the oldest, and the most necessary of our national industries will be allowed to be extinguished.

The "Mark Lane Express" and the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

We have pleasure in announcing that in future all official reports and communications of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union will appear regularly and promptly in the columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

The farmers of Cornwall are suffering from the damage and mischief caused to their crops by wild pigeons, and it has been suggested at a meeting of the County Farmers' Union that a combined onslaught should be made on the birds on two or three fixed days, with a view to reducing their numbers.

Midland Notes.

THE rush of harvest work being past, the agricultural discussion season is upon us, and among other bodies our country farmers' associations are reassembling. Many members of the Staffordshire Association will be glad to hear of the proposal for meeting in future a little earlier in the year. In this case milk and milk contracts are the chief things to be considered, and an earlier meeting might often help to stiffen the backs of members with Michaelmas contracts to make. It is interesting to note that at the Staffordshire meeting the enterprising county secretary (Mr. E. Smithells) was urgent in advising adoption of the factory system.

WHICH, by the way, is a reminder that one has heard nothing more of late of the scheme for starting a farmers' co-operative dairy factory at Bagworth in Leicestershire. That seemed to promise success when the provisional committee was framed. Let us hope, therefore, that "No news is good news."

THE Nottingham Association, I understand, is also thinking of a mutual assistance scheme on the lines of the Eastern Counties Agricultural Co-operative Association, one of whose experts made a great impression on the farmers of the county to whom he lectured last winter. But the county association sadly needs more members. A balance of under a sovereign in hand at the end of an economical year means that the officials have not much to work with.

THERE is a chance, it seems—probably a very strong one—of interesting developments in connection with the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute at Kingston, Derby. When the Leeds University authorities thought of starting an agricultural department, the college at Kingston was approached without effect, and it is understood that Birmingham University has also made overtures of the same nature. But it has already been recommended by Mr. Brook-Hunt, his Majesty's inspector, that students at Kingston ought to be able to take a degree on leaving, and now that Nottingham is also thinking of establishing an university of its own, the college would probably please all its friends and supporters by joining hands with the new institution.

AT present, I hear, nothing definite has been decided upon. But greatly as the Kingston College has flourished under Principal Blackshaw, it would probably take still higher rank as part of a great modern university, and it need hardly be pointed out to Nottingham people how much their proposed university would gain by the inclusion of so well managed and completely equipped a faculty of agriculture. At present the college is run by the county councils of Notts, Derby, Leicester, and the Lindsey division of Lincs, and the value of the experimental and research work which it conducts on farms in the four counties is well recognised by practical men.

TURNING to the other side of the country, our hop-growing friends will be sorry to hear of Lord Cobham advocating withdrawal of a useful privilege which the Worcester County Council now allows them. Up to the present time hops have been stored at the Shire Hall at periods when the regular market accommodation has been overtaxed without any harm being done to any one; and apparently there is no very pressing fear of the walls of the building being overstrained by their excessive weight. It is a point, of course, which has to be considered; but one trusts that the Standing Joint Committee will not withdraw the present facilities without stronger evidence of danger than has been suggested yet.

THE Board of Agriculture circulates a notice to the effect that black scab is showing itself among the potatoes of North Wales. By all accounts this is identical with the "yellow wart disease," the presence of which in Warwick and Worcester was noted in this column as far back as the middle of August, and possibly earlier. There seems to be no room for doubt that this fungoid disease is spreading, and that its presence will make it more than ever necessary this season for growers to be very careful indeed when their seeds come on. Like all fungus pests, the "yellow wart disease" is more easily picked up than got rid of.

MAY I be allowed in self-defence to make a small correction? In this column last week I am made to speak of farmers waging war on the deep rooted couch grass by the old process of hand-picking. It should be, of course, hand-forking. Doubtless my handwriting is to blame; hastily written the two words might be mistaken one for another.

October 11, 1906.

DAIRY.

The Preservation of Milk Samples.

Since in the case of composite testing samples of milk are collected together in one bottle and have usually to be kept for some time before a test is made, one of two courses must be followed:—Either the milk must be allowed to sour and be tested in that state, or a preservative can be added in order to prevent it from becoming sour.

The latter is, on the whole, the preferable method, and since the period of preservation is often ten days or a fortnight the preservative must be of a powerful nature; and, further, since the sample is merely to be used for testing purposes, the poisonous character of the preservative used will be no objection beyond the merely general one of the desirability of keeping poisons out of all connection with food substances.

The substances which are most frequently used for the above purposes can be roughly divided into four classes, according to their character:—

(1) Those which are true germicides, whose purpose is to at once actually destroy all germs with which they come into contact. In actual use there are really only three substances of this class: Chlorine gas, bromine (a liquid), and corrosive sublimate.

(2) Antiseptics proper, which are often used in diluted form, and then only check the development of bacteria without entirely destroying them. This can be effected by using them in a strong or pure form. To this class belong carbolic acid or phenol, creosote and thymol, a fragrant, white, non-poisonous body largely used in surgery.

(3) Deodorants, as their name implies, have as their specific use the doing away with the smell which often accompanies decomposition. This is often affected by substances containing a large proportion of oxygen, and of this class permanganate of potash is the most frequently met with.

(4) Preservatives proper whose properties are similar usually to those of antiseptics, but milder and less poisonous. They may thus be used in foods in small quantities, or if sufficiently diluted. Of this class there is a considerable number, and they are very widely used. Such are salicylic acid, formalin, benzoic acid, boracic acid, borax.

It is open to question as to how far these substances which are so frequently added to food are injurious to the human system. It is unquestioned, however, that when absorbed into the system in large quantities their presence is undoubtedly injurious, and more especially so when consumed by young persons and those whose digestions are delicate. Of the two methods followed when composite samples are necessary, the use of preservatives has the advantage over the allowing the sample to become sour. The sour sample can, of course, be utilised by neutralising the acidity by means of an alkali—caustic soda or ammonia; but in practice the presence of this added alkali gives rise to a possibility of error in making the test which is greater than that possible if the milk has been preserved instead of allowed to become sour.

The most convenient form of preservative is that of pellets, and these are now easily obtainable. Those of corrosive sublimate, one of the strongest and most poisonous of preservatives, are very soluble, and as a precaution they contain a brilliant colouring material, which is imparted to the milk in such unmistakable fashion that the possibility of mistaking it for good milk is reduced to a minimum. They are further obtainable in three strengths, which are utilised according to the time the sample is to be kept.

Another very serviceable preservative is bichromate of potash. This has also the advantage of a distinctive colour—a brilliant yellow—and hence the possibility of mistaken use of the milk containing it is rendered practically impossible.

American chemists even use chloroform occasionally to preserve samples, and it is found to be successful, though its use in England is not common.

In using these preservatives care should be taken that when fresh milk is added to the sample bottle containing the preserved milk the new should be thoroughly incorporated with the old, so that the effect of the preservative may be uniform throughout the whole of the milk. Special care is needed, however, in mixing them to avoid churning the milk in any way.

LLANDALE.

National Diploma in Dairying, 1906.

The eleventh annual examination for the National Diploma in the Science and Practice of Dairying was held by the National Agricultural Examination Board at the Midland Agricultural and Dairy College, Kingston, Derby, for English students from the 24th to the 28th ult., and at the Dairy School for Scotland, Kilmarnock, for Scottish students from the 1st to the 5th inst. Fifty-five candidates entered for the examination: Thirty-two at the English Centre and twenty-three at the Scottish Centre.

As the result of the examination the following thirty-three candidates succeeded in satisfying the examiners, and have thus become entitled to receive the National Diploma in Dairying:—*English Centre.*—Walter Biffen, George Ramsey Bland, Mrs. Anne M. E. Bowmer, Charles Robert Dewey, Miss Maude Elizabeth Dobson, Robert Fenton, George E. H. Ferry, Miss Gertrude Marion Freeman, Harold Gathorne, John Miller Lonsdale, Miss Hilda France Newbigin, Miss Edith Noble, Miss Alice Hannah Pimlott, Wilfrid Sadler, Robert William Staniforth, William Sugden, Miss Frances Mary Taylor, Miss Tannie Wood, Victor Lionel Yates. *Scottish Centre.*—Miss Edith Anderson, John Anderson, John Cochrane, Miss Catherine M. Dallas, Miss Margaret Turnbull Dougall, John Dunlop, Miss Mary Finlayson, Miss Lilias Lees, Thomas Limond, James Mackintosh, Miss Grace Robertson, Wilfrid George Sandeman, John Hunter Smith, Miss Lily Strang.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Pitch about 45 tons. Sharp sale, all cleared in forty minutes. Prices:—Best, 70s. to 75s.; medium, 64s. to 68s.; lower grades, down to 60s.

Agricultural Imports.

The following account shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended Saturday, October 6. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

ANIMALS (living).—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves, 11,307 (12,372); sheep and lambs, 4,927 (5,039); horses, 186 (332).

FRESH MEAT (cwt.).—Beef, 91,434 (113,876); mutton, 79,108 (71,283); pork, 9,740 (11,724).

SALTED OR PRESERVED MEAT (cwt.).—Bacon, 74,816 (106,732); beef, 1,493 (3,518); hams, 11,192 (17,949); pork, 2,242 (3,445); meat, salted or fresh, 10,787 (14,592); meat, preserved, 10,712 (5,614).

DAIRY PRODUCE (cwt.).—Butter, 73,438 (85,071); margarine, 16,376 (22,736); cheese, 64,237 (66,766); milk, fresh (31); milk, cream, 80 (64); milk, condensed, 16,860 (20,457); milk, preserved, 47 (290).

EGGS (Great hundreds).—258,000 (399,638); poultry (value), 2,108 (1,813); game (value), 2,242 (3,325); rabbits, dead (not tinned) (cwt.), 15,259 (34,561); lard (cwt.), 25,482 (44,870).

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL AND FLOUR (cwt.).—Wheat, 918,200 (1,368,100); wheat meal and flour, 307,100 (346,700); barley, 551,000 (508,800); oats, 160,400 (184,200); peas, 81,039 (84,660); beans, 16 700 (38,240); maize or Indian corn, 1,027,000 (692,700).

FRUITS, RAW (cwt.).—Apples, 120,721 (85,461); apricots and peaches, 71 (—).

HAY (tons).—1,980 (2,739); straw (tons), 2,155 (1,076); moss litter (tons), 1,305 (1,392); hops (cwt.), 2,607 (4,071); locust beans (cwt.), 7,548 (48,920).

VEGETABLES (RAW).—Onions (bushel), 190,363 (210,091); potatoes (cwt.), 23,780 (22,863); tomatoes (cwt.) 10,355 (12,339).

The Cultivation of Tobacco in England.

A correspondent who recently inquired of the the Board of Agriculture whether the Government would encourage the home farmers to carry out experiments in tobacco growing, in view of the success attending such experiments begun on Lord Walsingham's home farm twenty years ago, received the following reply?—

"SIR,—I am directed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to advert to your letter of 17th ult., and to say that the cultivation of tobacco in this country is prohibited for revenue purposes; but that in 1886 and 1890 experiments were conducted in many parts of England, by permission of her Majesty's Treasury, for the purpose of ascertaining whether marketable tobacco could be grown. In a few cases the experiment was apparently successful, but in by far the greater number it was a complete failure, and inasmuch as reports of expert advisers went to show that the plant could never be cultivated in this country to compete successfully with tobacco grown in warmer climates, the permission was withdrawn, and has not since been renewed.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, T. H. ELLIOTT, Secretary."

Cheaper Mutton?—At a meeting of the Colonial Consignment and Delivery Distributing Company held on Tuesday, Sir E. M. Nelson said that sheep were increasing both in Australia and New Zealand, and the result would probably be that next year there would be larger shipments and probably very cheap mutton in this country, which meant that the price would have to go down both in Australia and New Zealand. The colonial farmers did not like to recognise that, or, at any rate, they were not anxious that the price should go down too soon; but he thought probably they would find it inevitable

EARL CARRINGTON AT THE SCOTTISH AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE.

The annual conference of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture and Associated District Societies with the President of the Board of Agriculture took place on Wednesday in Edinburgh and was very largely attended. Mr. John. A. Dewar, M.P., honorary president of the Chamber, presided, and was supported by several other Scottish members of Parliament, whilst, as mentioned by Mr. Isaac Connell (the secretary), there were represented in the conference not only the Chamber of Agriculture, but fifty-five affiliated societies from every county in the country, aggregating a membership of about 1200, the percentage of farmers being ninety-five and the remainder landed proprietors and factors.

The President of the Board of Agriculture (Earl Carrington) was accompanied by Sir Thomas Elliot, Permanent Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, and Mr. L C. Floud, private secretary to Sir Thomas.

The Land Tenure Bill.

Several subjects were down for debate, and Earl Carrington closed each discussion with some comments. The first resolution dealt with the Land Tenure Bill, and after some speeches Lord Carrington said he understood that the position was that Scotland practically approved of the Land Tenure Bill, but that the Chamber thought there ought to be a Scottish Bill, and that Mr. Munro Ferguson's Scottish Bill would better meet their views. One of the great objections advanced was to the compensation for disturbance clause. Now, he understood that the general tenure in Scotland was under nineteen years' lease. Well, under that arrangement Scotch farmers had a certain amount of security for their holdings. But farmers in England held their farms on yearly, and in some instances on half-yearly tenancies. The claim of compensation for disturbance as amended in the Bill of the Government would not be any nebulous claim. It was a monstrous hard thing that a man whose family had spent 600 years on the land should wake up some morning to find that he was given twelve months' notice to quit. To turn out that man without compensation, or with only meagre compensation, for his improvements was a hardship, a cruelty, and a shame. In the different parts of Great Britain farmers lived under different conditions, and he would implore them not to set their faces, because they were in good heart, against a proposal to compensate people for disturbance. After all, the proposal was only to compensate them for the cost of removal. Because they did not approve of the Bill, let them not have it knocked out of the Bill altogether Then he understood there was another objection. The meeting practically approved of the proposal that Mr. Munro Ferguson's Bill should be applied to Scotland. Well, he did not think it would be difficult to adapt the Government Bill to Scotland. Mr. Ferguson's Bill provided, and in the opinion of the Chamber it was generally considered that the landlord ought to pay a lump sum of money as compensation to the outgoing tenant. The proposal was that the landlord should pay that, and that it should not be put on the ingoing tenant to cripple him. That was very good in theory, but if they came to think of it, after all, that money went to the benefit of the incoming tenant. Now, they must be just to the landlords. It was said the landlord could get an increased rent. But what was to prevent a landlord saying, "All right, the compensation is £500 and the rent £500; therefore the first year's rent is £1,000 and the next year's £500." Then, as to having a Scotch and an English Bill. There was a great deal of opposition to the Bill, and altogether his lordship supposed that at the present moment he was about the most unpopular man in the South. Was it wise, was it a tactical measure in the circumstances, to divide their forces and to have two Bills?

The Chamber, notwithstanding this speech, passed a motion declaring that the Land Tenure Bill, as amended by the Committee on Trade, contained provisions which it is not expedient to extend to Scotland, and welcoming the introduction of a separate measure applicable to Scotland alone.

Selling Foreign Meat as English.

A resolution was next adopted demanding "That his Majesty's Government should take such steps—legislative or otherwise—as shall effectively protect the British producer and consumer against the fraud of foreign meat being sold as British, and that the sale of boneless meat should be entirely prohibited."

Lord Carrington said it was impossible for the board to take proceedings unless they obtained the co-operation of agriculturists. It was true that tuberculous animals could be imported into this country, and that was very bad, but it was a matter for the Board of Trade. It would be a strong measure to prevent the importation of any particular kind of food, and would only be justified by very great danger to the public health, but he would give every consideration to the matter, and do his best. (Cheers.)

Army Meat Contracts.

A resolution was next passed by a large majority that the War Secretary be requested to take the first opportunity of restoring to the Army contracts the condition that meat supplied for the Army must be home fed. Earl Carrington said that he held very strong opinions about the matter. If the mutton and the beef supplied to the British Army was to be home fed it would necessitate an increase of £150,000 a year on the Army Estimates. He asked could it be done? Did they think the British public would stand an increase on the Army Estimates of £150,000? As a Government they would do all they could for agriculture, but he absolutely refused to be a party to any legislation which would hoodwink or throw dust in the eyes of the public for agriculturists. As their representative in the Government, he would put the whole thing fairly and squarely before his Majesty's Ministers, and if it could be done it would; but if, in the interests of the great majority of the public, such a thing as this could be done, then he absolutely disassociated himself from any sort of hanky-panky.

Blended Butter.

In reply to a resolution urging the Government to introduce legislation to give effect as soon as practicable to the recommendations of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on this subject, except recommendation 15, which the conference did not approve of, Lord Carrington said the only objection seemed to be to the committee's recommendation with regard to blended butter. That was a very difficult question, and it would undoubtedly be a strong measure to prohibit the sale of an article which was not injurious, which was cheap, and for which there was a public demand. They would do their best to pass at the earliest possible opportunity a Bill which, he hoped, would be satisfactory not only to British but to colonial producers.

The Milk Standard.

This was the next subject, and concerning it the following resolution was agreed to:—"That the Board of Agriculture's regulations regarding the milk standard have not proved satisfactory in operation; and further, that the law should be amended to the effect of enabling the successful defender in a milk prosecution in Scotland to recover expenses, as is presently competent in England."

Lord Carrington, in reply, said he thought this was a state of things which ought to be remedied at the earliest possible opportunity. The matter was one that did not concern him, but the Scotch Minister. He did not know whether the Scotch Office would bring in a measure of the kind next year, but, if he might suggest it, their president should sound his Scotch colleagues, and bring forward a Bill, to which, he thought he was justified in saying, the Government would put no opposition in the way.

Small Holdings.

After a discussion on the subject of the Small Holdings (Scotland) Bill, which everybody professed anxiety to promote, though diversity of opinion was shown in the question whether land purchase should accompany their formation, a resolution was carried by a large majority favouring small holdings where a demand for them exists, but expressing the opinion that fuller opinion should have been obtained on this subject before legislation was introduced.

Lord Carrington said the Bill was a Government Bill, and therefore he was in favour of it. He did not say it was a perfect Bill, but it was an honest endeavour to deal with an ancient difficulty of most formidable proportions. He congratulated them on the discussion that he had just heard. It had been very temperately argued, very earnestly argued by men who knew what they were talking about, and who had very strong convictions on the subject. He need hardly say that all those arguments would be most carefully considered by the Government, and he congratulated himself on having had an opportunity of listening to a discussion of so much interest, and which, he hoped, would be profitable not merely to themselves, but to the country and the Government as well.

Access to Mountains.

A resolution having been passed against the Access to Mountains Bill now before Parliament, Earl Carrington said he would bring the resolution before Mr. Bryce, the author of the Bill. He did not know what the law was in Scotland, but in England a tenant could not prosecute a trespasser unless he proved damage. Trespassers were there also a horrid nuisance. They went all over the place after mushrooms, and did a certain amount of damage, but he thought all this showed the necessity for different regulations in different countries. If the general opinion of Scotland was against this Bill, he did not think any Government would be idiotic enough to run its head against a stone wall.

The Motor Speed Limit.

Finally the question of the speed of motors was discussed, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"While expressing satisfaction that the Motor Car Commission have approved of the principle that motorists should contribute towards the upkeep of the highways, this conference very strongly disapproves of the Commission's recommendation to dispense with the present speed limit, and adheres to former resolutions against the compulsory lighting of all slow-going vehicles."

Lord Carrington said with regard to a speed limit he was not prepared to give an opinion. In France there was no actual speed limit on the highways, but the local authorities were enabled to regulate the speed through their own localities, and he believed they came down as low as five miles an hour. Any breach of those laws was very severely punished. He should bring what he had heard before his right hon. friend the Secretary for Scotland, who would take counsel with his friends and give the most careful attention to all their opinions.

Votes of thanks to Lord Carrington and Mr. Dewar terminated the conference.

Every Labourer his own Master.

Earl Carrington subsequently attended the annual dinner of the Chamber and Associated Societies, and, in replying to the toast of the Board of Agriculture, said the House of Commons had spent more time on agricultural questions this session than in the whole of the last six years put together. No industry could be in a sound condition which did not offer opportunity and encouragement to the small man to improve his position. He looked forward to the day when every agricultural labourer might have a chance of becoming his own master. The policy of the Government was one neither of confiscation nor spoliation. In placing new men on old acres they had no intention of displacing or injuring the present race of tenant farmers, who had fought a gallant fight against the repression of the last thirty years. He bespoke the help of the Scottish Chamber to carry into operation the Prime Minister's aspiration that the land might become less the pleasure ground of the rich and more the treasure house of the nation.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," *3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

Tenant's Fixtures.

SIR,—In your issue of the 6th inst., "Barrister-at-Law," in replying to a query, states that, "if the timber is driven into the soil and the building or erection is fastened thereto, the whole is a fixture and cannot be removed, &c."

I would, however, remind "Barrister-at-Law" that Section 34 of the Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900, enacts that after the commencement of the Act, 1883, the tenant, subject to certain conditions, may remove any fixture or building before or within a reasonable time after the termination of the tenancy.

It is assumed the querist is the occupier of an agricultural holding to which this Act applies.—

Yours faithfully, LAND AGENT.

October 9, 1906.

[There was nothing in our correspondent's letter to show me that he was a tenant of an agricultural holding within the meaning of the Agricultural Holdings Act; on the contrary, the inference was that he was not. I presume that by Section 3, Section 34 of the Act of 1883 is meant, and Section 4 of the Act of 1900. The erection, alteration, or enlargement of a building is an improvement to which the consent of the landlord is required. I am obliged to my correspondent; I was aware of these sections, but they are not of universal, and of only special application.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

His Majesty the King annually presents two 20-guinea cups for best root crops in the Royal South Bucks and Royal East Berks Agricultural Associations. This year the Bucks cup has been won by Messrs. Kinross and Lindsay, of Datchet, and the Berks cup by Messrs Cotterell, Bros., of Ruscombe, and in both cases the winning crops were the produce of Messrs. Sutton's seeds exclusively.

Northern Notes.

ACTIVITY is the watchword on the farm just now. In Northumbria this week we passed fields where belated patches of corn remained ungathered; and travelling as we had done a hundred miles from the Humber, the sight of cereals still uncarted seemed extraordinary, and as if something were amiss with the farm economy in the north. Even in Yorkshire haycocks were to be seen standing like gaunt sentinels in the otherwise bare fields, with in the distance a copse or a bit of wooded wold, where the autumn tints showed up magnificently under the early morning sun, as it dispersed the mists and cast shadows over the stubbles.

NICE rains have fallen, and nights as well as days have been warm, so that vegetation has prospered under the beneficent influences of a mild autumn. More rains would be welcomed for the roots on dry situations, which catch much sunshine; but it is simply marvellous what great progress bulbous crops have made during the last three weeks from the Tyne to the Humber. A large cultivator says he expected about half a crop of turnips; now his fears are dispelled, and there will be, he says, an ample growth for all his needs.

CATTLE and sheep are doing remarkably well, and the mildness of the atmosphere is prolonging the period when stock may be allowed to keep the pastures prior to the winter housing. Grass lands have the last ten days assumed an aspect almost, one might say, of luxuriousness, and in strong contrast to their midsummer appearance. In the stock markets the beef trade is anything but cheering. There are not many good "beefy" cattle on the markets yet, but the prospect is not a good one for prices.

MUTTON has gone down several points in Yorkshire markets, and fat sheep are making shillings per head less than a fortnight previously. Lambs continue to be the great feature of the cattle markets in the same county, and at an East Riding Mart about 4,000 were penned on Wednesday, and farmers tumbled over one another's heads in their eagerness to buy the best. Good longwool lambs at 42s. to 44s. per head ought to realise something in the spring to bring a profitable return. If they realise the same price plus the wool most of the purchasers would probably be satisfied. Dealers are said to be making heaps of money out of these transactions, but it should not be forgotten that railway charges are a serious item, and a lot of money may be easily dropped if the sheep have to be moved once or twice.

NORTHERN agricultural ranks are all the poorer for the loss of one who has been a prominent figure for at least thirty-five or thirty-six years. We refer to Mr. G. W. Clark, of Great Driffield, who was without doubt one of the best-informed and practical farmers in the east of Yorkshire. Mr. Clark had farmed for fifty-two years, and it is said he paid in person 104 half-year's rents at the audits of the Dent family, of Ribston Hall, Wetherby. He established and carried on with great success the firm of G. W. Clark and Sons, stock auctioneers, and the late Earl of Londesborough entrusted him with the dispersal of his stud of Hackneys some years ago. The deceased had a great capacity for retaining facts, figures, and dates connected with farm and stock, and as a valuer his services were in great demand. He leaves a widow and two sons.

I WAS speaking to a Yorkshire farmer the other day, whose land lay in the track of the devastating hailstorm which occurred locally just upon harvest, when the cereal crops were at their ripening stage, and were ruthlessly cut down, and the grain scattered to the extent in several cases of over 90 per cent. The farmer referred to had a field of fifty acres sown with oats. To some the sequel may seem to be an idle story. He had calculated upon a yield of eight quarters per acre, and it had actually been valued at seven quarters, so that the prospective produce would have been equal to 350 quarters at least. The game was not worth the candle, but out of curiosity more than for any other reason, he decided to put the crop through the machine, and pray with what result? When every available corn was measured, it bulked to 23 quarters. Other fields suffered similar damage, not quite so destructive; the top of roots were flattened as if a roller had gone over them. No such storm had visited the farm or the district previously for at least a hundred years—at any rate, there is no record to be found, and the "oldest inhabitant" has no recollection of one, nor any story handed down from his forbears.

THE potato harvest is in full swing. Already, a northern report says, crops have been entirely lifted in early localities, and upon the whole reports are favourable. On dry soils crops will, there are good grounds for believing, be fairly free from disease. In keeping the malady at bay, the drought of September was of real service. The autum has been exceptionally favourable to tubers. When the weather is dry for lifting, sorting is more easy, and thus the risk of loss from disease in the pit is diminished. In one district we passed through this week, a number of boys were observed digging up the tubers with their hands—a truly primitive method. One was glad to see that mangolds had in numerous instances been secured 'ere the advent of frost.

October 12, 1906.

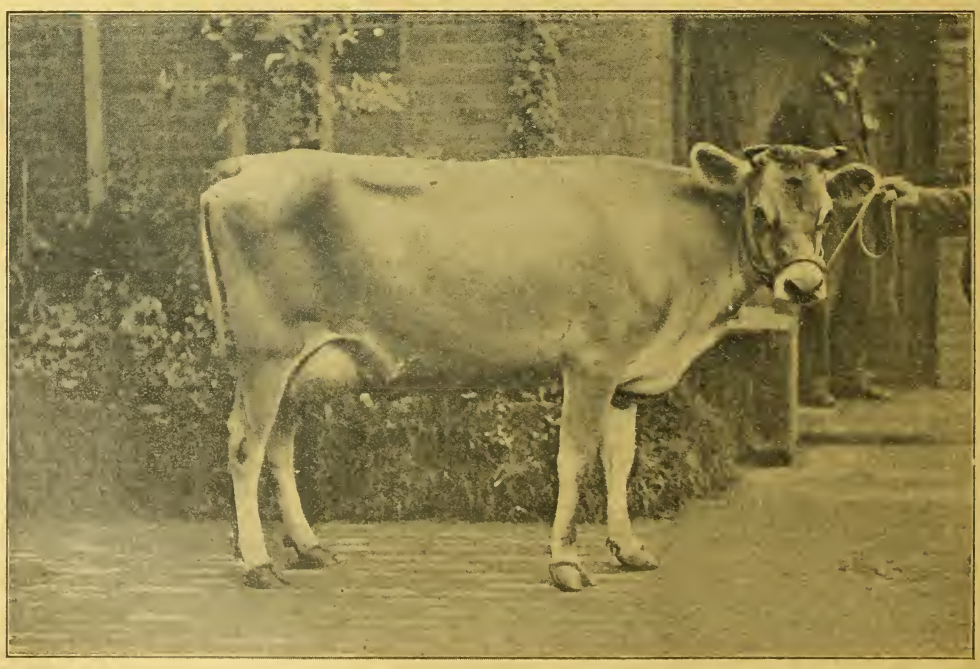
PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Wesh Mountain sheep have at last got a "Flock Book," and the first volume gives promise of a long life for this, the latest of flock books, as it contains the entries of over 150 rams in addition to some ewes. This number, all things considered, is very good for a beginning, and no doubt it will be increased as the book gets better known. Illustrations of well-known prize winners of the breed are given, as well as a description of some well-known flocks, and altogether the flock book is a credit to the compilers. Application for copies should be made to Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, Llwyn, Llanfyllin, S.O., Mont.

Messrs. Crosby, Lockwood, and Son, 7, Stationers' Hall Court, Ludgate Hill, E.C., have just issued "Practical Farming in Relation to Soils, Manures, and Crops," by Mr. E. T. Shepherd. The primary object of the work is to provide an inexpensive, but at the same time concise and reliable, handbook for land agency candidates preparing for the examinations of the Surveyors' Institution, and this object it certainly fulfills, but we think it will also be appreciated by other than land agency candidates, for it contains much useful information. It is published at 4s. 6d. net.

In "Inexpensive Rural Cottages and Buildings for Small Holdings" (the *Land Agents' Record*, Ltd., 149, Strand, W.C., 12s. 6d.), Mr. S. Taylor, F.S.I., gives plans and estimated costs, with explanatory chapters thereon, of cottages and buildings for small holdings, which, whilst inexpensive to erect and maintain, are adapted to meet the requirements of a large proportion of the country, and particularly desirable in the interests of rural workers. This volume should certainly aid in the erection of better houses for agricultural labourers, and is therefore welcome.

The offices of the Royal Agricultural Society of England are now at 16, Bedford Square, London, W.C.



JERSEY HEIFER, POST OBIT.

At the Dairy Show last week Post Obit won the First Prize in the Class for Jersey Heifers, not exceeding three years old, bred in Great Britain or Ireland; the Blythwood Challenge Bowl for the best Jersey Cow or Heifer, in milk, bred in Great Britain or Ireland; and also the Third Prize in the English Jersey Cattle Society's Butter Test. She is 2 years 5 weeks old, is by Gay Boy out of Post Stamp 6th, and was bred by her present owner, Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry, Stowell Park, Pewsey, Wilts.

CROSS-BRED DAIRY COWS, MAUD AND MIRIEL 2nd.

The two cows shown above are the cross-breds with which Mr. Dunbar Kelly, Coombe Farm, Kingston-on-Thames, won First and Second Prizes at the Dairy Show last week. Miriel 2nd also won Frist Prize in the Milking Trials and Second Prize in the Butter Test, whilst Maud was highly commended in the Milking Trials.

THE DAIRY SHOW.

The general display of cattle at the thirty-first annual exhibition of the British Dairy Farmers' Association is on a more extensive scale than for several years past, yet decidedly smaller than in the early years of the society's existence, when the restrictions imposed upon the exhibits were less stringent. In quality there is practically with all the breeds represented a greater tendency each succeeding year to ignore breed character altogether, and to exhibit only such animals as are likely to acquit themselves successfully at the pail or the churn, however unsightly they may be in the way of symmetry, or however far they may fall short of being fairly good representatives of their breed. The judges, howwell ever, in making the inspection awards kept in mind the breeding of the animals, and in one or two cases this was especially the case, whilst with one or two breeds the judge had apparently been fixing his awards so that they might as much as possible agree with the performances of the animals at the pail or the churn. This latter theory of awarding the inspection honours is entirely wrong and contrary to the intention of giving prizes for the best animals of each respective breed by inspection, these prizes being intended as a check upon the neglect of breed character that so frequently occurs through the enthusiasm attending the catering for winning a milk or butter-test prize. Both systems, or a combination of characteristic breed points with a capacity for milk and butter production must be maintained, or we shall quickly go to the wall with our dairy breeds. Once lose the breed points of any animals and it is but a question of time ere you lose the results that the breeding of those points secure to you.

Shorthorns.

The catalogue commences with this good old breed, the pedigree class of cows taking precedence. There was a good entry of these, numbering twelve, and they were, upon the whole, more of a dual purpose character, and less of the usual excessive flesh about them; and also, generally speaking, there was more shapeliness and less coarseness at the udders. Mr. George Taylor secured first prize with one of the old Barington family, a nice cow, and with good udder; both the other prizes were awarded to entries from Lord Rothschild's herd Red Rose 3rd and Broadhooks 3rd, the latter cow taking second, both these were neat, well-bred cows, and their bags of good shape too, and their condition quite the happy medium. Of the non-pedigree cows, Mr. Dunbar Kelly had the best in Damsell 2nd (which sounds very like a pedigree) of unknown breeding, a cow with good symmetry and quality as well as milk vessels. The second and third cows, shown by Mr. Nelson and Mr. Raingill, were both of very good dual-purpose character, the second prize one being evidently a great milker. Several other good cows were exhibited in this class. Shorthorn heifers seldom give a good account of themselves at Islington, and the present year is no exception to its predecessors, Lord Rothschild in pedigree and Mr. John Wilson in non-pedigree stock taking the lead. Mr. John Evens had also some magnificent milking Lincoln Reds, one of which carried off second prize.

There were only five bulls of this breed catalogued, and but one prize awarded; this was given to Lord Rothschild's Roeket, a roan with good symmetry and coat as well as quality.

The milking prizes of this breed were awarded to (in the pedigree class)—first, Mr. Taylor's Barrington Duchess 31st, that was first by inspection; second to the same exhibitor's Melody C; and third to Mr. C. E. W. Adeane's Priceless Princess. In the non-pedigree class Mr. J. B. Nelson's Red Rose, which was second by inspection, carried off first prize, and also the Barham Challenge Cup for giving the greatest number of points; second prize for milking went to Mr. Sheppy's Model Lily, he in the inspection class; and third for milk to Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Damsell 2nd, which was first by inspection. Of the heifers Lord Rothschild's Lady Vivian obtained the first milking prize.

Shorthorns competing in the butter test were all eligible, the prizes being open to any animal in the four classes Mr. J. B. Nelson's Red Rose also won first prize in this competition, quite a record. She is about six-and-a-half years old, had been fifty days in milk, and yielded 64·12 lb. milk in the twenty-four hours which produced 2 lb. 7¾ oz. of butter, giving a ratio of 26·06 lb. of milk to 1 lb. of butter. This is a very satisfactory record in every way. The second butter prize was won by Mr. F. Stanhope's he and important cow Dairymaid, a six-year-old that had been in milk sixty-two days, and yielded 48·10 lb. of milk, from which 2 lb. 3 oz. butter was produced, which gives a ratio of 22·22 lb. milk to 1 lb. of butter, being richer than many of the Channel Island cattle.

Jerseys.

There was a very good display of this breed as is invariably the case, the Jersey being especially adapted for winter dairying, the cow class was well filled, and the judge gave a very decided preference throughout for those animals that were most typical representatives of their breed, Captain Gisborne's Unaware was the first prize winner, a very representative Island Jersey in shape, quality, and udder, and well shown. Mr. J. H. Smith Barry had also a beautiful cow placed second, Lady May, a grey and white of very good shape and rich colour, with also a capital udder. Earl Cadogan's third was also very fine in quality and breeding, as well as milk appearance. English bred heifers were a very good class, Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry obtaining both first and third prizes with heifers showing good symmetry, and especially fine milk vessels with quality. Between there was placed Boronia, a very good heifer of Dr. Corner's, bred by Mr. Freeman Thomas. The Island bred class of heifers was not of quite average quality. Indeed, there were a number of rather inferior animals in them. The best, however, were of a robust character for Island stock, and, with a good show for the dairy, these were shown by Mr. Oswald Mosley, Mr. John Pal'ot, and Messrs. Fowler, De La Perelle, & Co. Bulls of this breed, owing to the restrictive conditions, were few in number. Capt. Gisborne and Mr. Miller Hallett had the prizewinners, and it is satisfactory to state that these bulls had been winners in open competition during the summer.

In the milking trials of this breed, Earl Cadogan's Reindeer's Bessie, third by inspection, carried off the first honour, Dr. Herbert Watney's Blackberry second, and Mr. W. M. Cazalet's Miss Bessie third. The butter test of this breed did not come out, on the whole, either very impressive or very satisfactory beyond the results of the prize-winners, only two other animals being awarded certificates of merit. The butter-test prizes were won by Dr. Watney's Guenon's White Thorn, first with 38 lb. 2 oz. milk in twenty-four hours, from which 2 lb. 5¼ oz. of butter were made, giving a ratio of 15·15 to one of butter. Blackberry, from the same herd, carried off the second prize with 29·10 lb. milk in the twenty-four hours, from which 2 lb. 2 oz. of butter was weighed, which gives the remarkable ratio of 1 lb. butter to 13·94 of milk. The first prize cow had been in milk 137 days, and the latter 144 days. Third butter test prize was won by Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry's Post Obit, first by inspection in the heifer class (English bred), which at two years and five months old yielded 34 lb. milk in theday, which yielded 1 lb. 13¼ oz. of butter, giving a ratio of 18·59 to a pound of butter. This heifer had been in milk 177 days, so that her record was a most satisfactory one.

Guernseys.

This breed was very poorly represented from a numerical point of view, only some eight or nine animals being present. The quality, however, and milk properties were fairly satisfactory. Mr. E. A. Hambro's Queen of the Roses was first in the cow class, and Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Lady Roberts second; these animals had not a separate butter test competition, but were competing against all other breed. Lady Roberts, with eleven summers to her credit, was reserve, after being in milk 173 days yielded 33·11 lb. of milk, which produced 1·5¼ lb. butter, giving a ratio of 25 lb. milk to 1 lb. of butter. Three heifers were shown, but only a second prize was awarded, this to Mr. E. A. Hambro's Hayes Olive 2nd.

Red Polls.

This breed made decidedly the best display they have ever given of themselves at the Agricultural Hall, and were certainly the third best breed shown.

In the inspection class Lord Rothschild was first

MILKING TESTS.

Class and Animal	Actual Weight of Fat in lbs.		Actual Weight of Solids, not Fat, in lbs.		Points.	Awards.
	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.		
Class I.—Shorthorn Cows—						
Mr. G. Taylor's Barrington Duchess 31st	1·08	1·07	2·86	2·77	126·7	1st Prize, Shorthorn Society's Extra Prize and Tenant Farmer's 2nd Prize.
Mr. G. Taylor's Melody	·87	1·10	3·15	3·06	123 3	2nd Prize and reserve for Shorthorn Society's Extra Prize.
Mr. Adeane's Priceless Princess	·86	·99	2·23	2·20	109·4	3rd Prize.
Lord Rothschild's Red Rose 3rd	·82	·86	2·4	2 28	108·3	Reserve.
Mr. J. Wilson Royal Maiden 4th	·76	·77	1·87	1·80	87·0	Commended.
Class II. — Shorthorn Cows not eligible for Class I—						
Mr. G. Nelson's Red Rose	1·10	1·36	2·95	2·6	133·8	1st Prize, Barham Challenge Cup, Lord Mayor's Cup, 1st Tenant Farmer's Prize, Reserve for Spencer Chall. Cup.
Mr. J. Sheppy's Model Lily	1·00	1·10	2·66	2·66	123·5	2nd Prize.
Mr. Dunbar's Kelly's Damsell 2nd	1·15	1·11	2·5	2·54	119·1	3rd Prize and Reserve for Tenant Farmer's Prize.
Mr. J. Littleton's Daisy	1·16	·98	2·38	2·08	115·5	Reserve.
Mr. J. Evens's Burton C. Star 2nd	·96	1·17	2·36	2·14	110 1	Commended.
Class III.—Shorthorn Heifers—						
Lord Rothschild's Lady Vivian	·71	·60	1·55	1·33	75 7	1st Prize.
Class IV.—Shorthorn Heifers not eligible for Class III.—						
Mr. J. Evens's Burton Cowslip IV	·62	·67	1·72	1·5	73·7	1st Prize.
Mr. J. L. Shirley's Maud	·56	·56	1·57	1·48	68 1	2nd Prize.
Mr. J. Evens's Pride 3rd	·47	·51	1·41	1·50	63·9	3rd Prize.
Mr. G. B. Nelson	·44	·59	·94	1·19	58·0	Reserve.
Class V.—Jersey Cows—						
Earl Cadogan's Reindeer's Bessie	1 05	·84	2·12	1 9	97 9	1st Prize.
Dr. H. Watney's Guenon's White Thorn XIII.	·84	1·17	1 60	1 63	97·5	2nd Prize.
Mr. W. M. Cazalet's Miss Bessie	·96	1·00	1·82	1·66	97·4	3rd Prize.
Class VIII —Guernsey Cows—						
Mr. E. A. Hambro's Queen of the Roses.	·86	·87	2·0	1·88	95·0	1st Prize.
Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Cherry Tart II.	1·08	·83	1·72	1·75	94·3	2nd Prize.
Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Lady Roberts	·74	·76	1 63	1·42	88·6	Reserve.
Class X.—Red Polled Cows—						
Lord Rothschild's Jenny Jones	.78	1·17	2·36	2·36	115·7	1st Prize.
Class XI.—Red Polled Heifers—						
Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Lucy	·50	·66	2 04	2·00	73·0	1st Prize.
Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Wanderess.	·52	·53	1·26	1·26	58·5	2nd Prize.
Lord Rothschild's Davy 288th	·45	·44	1·36	1·21	56·5	3rd Prize.
Mr. G. D. Smith's Strensham Unity	·43	·44	1·18	1·20	54 3	Reserve.
Class XII.—Ayrshire Cows—						
Mr. W. Nisbet's Dalbbble Daisy Bell	1·06	·90	2 30	2·16	104·1	1st Prize.
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Crocus	·78	·76	1·90	1·84	88 6	Reserve.
Class XIII.—South Devon Cows—						
Mr. T. Cundy's Iris	1·00	1·04	2·80	2·60	133·1	1st Prize, Lord Mayor's Cup for any other breed than Shorthorn, and reserve for Barham Challenge Cup.
Mr. T. Cundy's Primrose	1.04	·90	2·70	2·10	—	Reserve.
Class XIV.—Kerry Cows—						
Countess De la Warr's Buckhurst Gem	·96	·87	2·02	1·83	95·0	1st Prize.
Duchess of Newcastle's Hardwick Jeannie	·82	·96	2·04	1·73	92·1	2nd Prize.
Countess De la Warr's Buckhurst Peaceful	·93	·84	1·85	1 ·80	88·5	Reserve and highly commended.
Class XV.—Dexter Cows—No award.						
Class XVI.—Cows not Eligible to Compete in Foregoing Classes—						
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Miriel 2nd	·94	1·16	2·38	2·46	120·1	1st Prize and Spencer Challenge Cup.
Mr. J. Littleton's Maggie	·85	1·04	2 30	2·30	106·1	2nd Prize.
Mr. W. Nisbet's Goodly	·95	·85	2·28	2·15	104·9	3rd Prize.
Capt. Smith-Neill's Doctor	1·00	·86	1·95	1·70	104·8	Reserve and Highly Commended.
Messrs. Rumbal & Son's Hatfield Lass	·93	·88	2·26	2·30	103·1	Highly Commended.
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Maud	·62	·89	2·60	2·44	100·7	Highly Commended.
Class XVII.—Heifers not Eligible for Preceding Classes—						
Mr. J. L. Shirley's Spot	·62	·66	1·60	1·50	71·5	1st Prize.
Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Violet	·58	·63	1·47	1·50	69·1	2nd Prize.
Mr. W. Nisbet's Dewdrop	·36	·54	1·47	1·47	66	Reserve.

and second with the very milk-like cows Jenny Jones and Ethel 3rd, whilst the Earl of Radnor carried off the third honour with Donna. These three cows were aged respectively thirteen years, nine years, and ten years of age, so that their constitutions must be exceptionally good to have withstood the strain of milking and breeding all these years. The two former cows were bred by Mr. T. Fulcher and Mr. Garrett Taylor, and the latter by Mr. J. A. Wallington. There were no less than thirteen entries of heifers, mostly of a very milky-looking class. Lord Rothschild's first, Sir Walter Corbet's second, and Mr. A. J. Smith's third were each of them good heifers for general purposes.

Ayrshires.

This class has been so unsatisfactorily represented at the Dairy Show for a number of years past that it is quite a question if it would not be better struck out of the catalogue, and a class for Lincoln Red Shorthorns, we venture to suggest, would be an excellent substitute. Only four or five Ayrshires were shown, and these were not exactly typical of their breed as present day type is concerned. The first cow, however, is no doubt a very heavy milker, this was shown by Mr. Nisbet. No other prize was awarded.

South Devons.

For the first time this breed were allotted a class to themselves, and five very fine cows in size and dairy properties came forward. In symmetry they are capable of considerable improvement, but the fact that one of them was reserved for the Barham Cup being recorded the second highest number of points, proves how good they were at the pail. Mr. W. P. Vosper and Mr. Thos. Cundy were the exhibitors and divided the prizes.

Kerries.

There was a very nice class of cows of this breed. The Duchess of Newcastle and the Countess De la Warr being chief exhibitors, and dividing the spoils. The cows showed a great deal of quality and good milk results.

Dexters.

These were well represented so far as quality is concerned, but in numbers they ran very short, and one or two of the best of them were unable to do their best in the way of milk yield. The Duchess of Devonshire and Mr. Martin J. Sutton held the best animals which were well shown, and received honours in the order named.

CHEESE.

It was scarcely to be anticipated, with the present short make of cheese and the huge demand for it, that entries would be booming, but the decline was very small indeed. The Dairy Show is now come to be regarded as the final trial of strength between English and Scotch Cheddars, and by reason of this the Council ought to be exceedingly careful in the selection of their judge not to offend the susceptibilities of either section. If a judge is drawn from Scotland and another from the West of England, then the fight is on its merits with the umpire to decide, but when one district is ignored, as it was this year, there is ground for the origination of an acrimonious feeling, such as undoubtedly pervaded the Cheddar section of the Hall on this occasion, and which nearly went so far as to cause a general understanding amongst West of England makers to either break membership or else refrain from exhibiting. Certainly it was hard lines to have a Scotch judge and a North London man as colleagues and both tending towards a make of cheese which is deemed best in the fertile districts of the west of England. At the Frome show this year the excellence of the make was generally commented on, and by a full body of expert judges, six of them. Mr. Theodore Candy was awarded the championship of the show with what has been considered to be the best lot of cheese exhibited there for many years past. Imagine the surprise manifested when it was found that he was awarded only a commended card, and nearly all the rivals he had vanquished at Frome were placed before him. It was, as a Zummerzet maker termed it, a "stunner." The pitch in the class for fours were about as usual in numbers, and they looked a very even lot. The first prize went to a peculiarly dark cutting cheese sent by Mr. Daniel Hood, Kirkcudbright; the second was an exceptionally choice Scotch Cheddar, firm cutting, yet rich and beautifully clean. Mr. Robert Stevenson evidently sent of his best. Mr. James McAdam, Castle Douglas, was third with a nice typical Scotch Cheddar, not quite showing so much quality on the iron as Southern makes. Mr. James Smith's was a grocer's cheese. All these awards went to Scotland. Then came Mr. Frank Portch for fifth place with a nice, clean, sound Somerset Cheddar. Reserve went to Mr. Walter W. Keel. Messrs. Cary and Portch were v.h.c., as was also Mr. Joseph Candy, and Mr. W. C. Spencer, who has hitherto been exceedingly successful this year, and brought down to the same level was Mr. J. W. Banwell, the second prize taken at Frome, and then in the rear, very much in the rear, was the champion at Frome. The Cheddar truckle class was very representative, and little, indeed, could be said about Mr. Alexander Cross's first prize lot or Mr. Robert Stevenson's Scotch exhibits, which latter took third, they were even, firm, clean, and full of quality, as was also Mr. Joseph Candy's Somerset lot, which was sandwiched between them. Some of the West of England truckles were rather new, but very clean. The Stilton class was, indeed, fine, it was rather riper than usual, and the majority of the exhibits were beautifully moulded, Mr. J. C. Wilford's first prize was very rich, rather close in the skin, but the quality was all that could be desired,

Wensleydales were not a large class, and some of the exhibits were insufficiently ripened, the first prize lots of Mrs. Maria Willis were very nice but they lacked the all-necessary mould for epicure palates The finest class of cheese in the show so far as quality went was that for the Cheshires; the entries were not over large, but the class was attractive, although one or two of the exhibits were obviously very new. Mr. Frank Heath sent a fine one, with rich, crumbly, finely-flavoured curd, and he had to lose no points to get there so close were the other competitors on him.

This year an innovation was introduced in the form of Lancashire cheese, hitherto a practically unknown commodity at the show. The Lancastrians mean to push this make which consists of a rather loose-cutting flaky white cheese. Mr. Chris Collinson was the winner. A county expert was near this cheese ready and willing to give all information in connection with it. The entry and

quality were certainly encouraging enough to make this class a feature of the show. The Double Gloster, which last year produced one of the finest exhibits in the show, this year was somewhat on the down grade, the entries being small, though all were noticed by the judge. The thin Gloster class was a great deal worse, as here the entries totalled two only. In the last class Mr. Charles Harris was first; in this one the table turned in Mr. George Prout's favour, and so it was practically a case of honours divided.

The Leicesters were represented by two school makes, and that from the Warwickshire County Council Dairy Schools.

The Caerphilly class was not quite so large as in previous years, but they were much more true to type, the curd cleaner and shorter, and less Cheddary, the prize winner most fittingly was a Welsh lady, Miss Annie Thomas, whose cheese cut nice, short, and porous, though it was rather singular that such a well-known Cheddar maker as Mr. Henry Cannon, Somerset, should come in second. The cream cheese class was more than disappointing, several of the exhibitors thinking that soured drained cream in lumps with a repugnant flavour constituted prize cream cheese; there were only about a couple of toothsome lots in this dainty class, others being edible, and some not even this. Despite the attempts made to foster the Continental makes, they do not flourish; thus there were only five entries in the Gervais class, but some of these were very representative of the make.

The unripened soft cheese class filled rather better, the curd evidently having been very cleanly handled. There were various makes shown. It was well perhaps that there was not quite such a large entry in the ripened class, and that it was shown under glass, else another series of an odiferous character would have been added to that of the hams and the goats in the butter section of the hall. There were only four entries of ripe, whilst there were nine in the unripened class. The average consumer would have thought that there might have been the same number in each.

The cheese fair is a most important section of the cheese, but it was not quite as full as usual, as most farmers could sell all their make at home. There was a good trade for what was sent however.

A careful analysis of the awards will show that the same judges varied their decisions of the same maker's cheese in the fairs class. Mr. Head was put second, the fourth prize taken by Mr. James Smith was now advanced to first, and so on, right through the fair, the general result being most mystifying to everyone else but the judges. The Stilton Cheese Fair was rather small here, the awards went to confirm those already awarded in the Stilton class. It is to be hoped that another year the judging will be sufficiently advanced, so that the awards in the Cheddar classes can be made known before the close of the show.

The collections of dairy produce have very much dwindled of late, there being but one entry, that of Messrs. Aplinand Barrett, Yeovil, which was well worthy of the gold medal bestowed on it. The collection of dairy produce made by students at the British Dairy Institute, Reading, was interesting and educational.

THE BUTTER.

A great improvement as regards space and light has been made by bringing the butter down from the upstairs room and now displaying it all together in the large and well-lighted St. Mary's Hall. But it can be by no means deemed an up-to date arrangement of what should be the head dairy society in the world to stage butter in close proximity to such savouries as smoked and dried hams and goats. The bread and honey might be allowable, but the other certainly should not. Experts from dairy countries like Australia and New Zealand were rather astonished, and Irishmen declared such could only be seen in England, with some sixty goats forming a square of the fresh butter table; if it had been for the salted it would not have been so bad as this, at least would be preserved or cured, whereas with the fresh it could scarcely be endured. The somewhat peculiar system of lumping prizes somewhat mitigates the attempts of fine differentiation by the judges, but it is rather an anomaly to find one rancid, one superb, and one rather weak-flavoured butter all posing as first in the same class; but this was to be found in the hall. After a very minute inspection of every exhibit we could not but note that the butters were more prepared to meet the eye rather than the palate of the judges. But with such a vast amount of technical education at hand, we were scarcely well content to note the insipids or the other extreme of rankness that was so palpably apparent. Some of the butters, though of excellent flavour, were ignored by reason of their texture. What is evidently wanted is for a business and a theoretical judge to be bracketed. It was observable on the judging day that some of these were engaged in conversation with other than the stewards whilst they were supposed to be carrying out their arduous duties. It would be well another year if the public could be roped back, and thus prevent a harmless proceeding which, however, is likely to be construed into a subject of comment. The staging of the butter was all that could be desired, and effective measures were taken to prevent the public from inserting their stabbers into it. In the class for butter made from Channel Island breeds and their crosses, no salt to be used, many of the butters were insipid, unless heat had been used both as preservative and a flavourer. The prize went to far-off Carlisle for a beautiful flavoured butter, made up in Cumberland fashion, but rather too much polished on the outside and rendered nearly oily. The next first went away down into that county of the apple and cream—fair Devonia—to one of the members of what has been termed the Devonshire Trinity—the Mesdames Bere, Mildon, and Ward—as at whatever show these three appear whatever prize is missed by one is sure to be scooped by the others. But their handle was not quite so long this time, and a number of prizes went outside their scooping. However, Mrs. Ward was first in this class with a very typical butter made from real cream. The other first went to Miss M. K. Harris from the sister county of Dorset. Miss Harris has stood beneath that palm bower and turned the churn in sweet rhythm to the band above, but now she prefers to make good butter at home, though in this instance it would have been better had she put a little more stiffening in it. The seconds found Mrs Mildon in company with Mrs. Franklin, Bucks, and the Earl of Plymouth, Redditch, and there was very little distinction between them But there was variation enough among the thirds, which went to Cheshire, Scotland, and Somerset respectively. Mrs. Ward came out with a commended card only. Several of the other butters here were gone off.

In the next class remarkable differentiation was made by the presence of salt, and particularly as to whether the coarser or finer salts were used. It is certainly hard lines to produce a perfect butter and then spoil its chances by using coarse salt. Here the Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe was first with a rich, creamy, very bright-hued butter. Mrs. Mildon's was quite as rich but rather firmer, whilst as regards flavour and appearance that sent by Miss E. Dickson Parks, Loudwater, can only be adequately described as being lovely. In the seconds Mrs. Robinson's had very fine texture. Miss Harris's was good, but the moisture from salt had still further weakened it; whilst Mrs. Adlam's, though of excellent flavour, was not so well made, the rolling being a wee bit faulty. It was certain that the Carlisle lady would have been higher than third had she not quite put so much Cumberland finish on hers. The Devonian flavour of another butter was not quite so much appreciated, though Mrs. Bere's, from the same county, was very nice in appearance. The butters in this class were, as a rule, better than in the previous one.

In the next two classes for butter made from Shorthorns and their crosses, the first was to be free from salt, and here came long runs of unmentioned that included some that would certainly have been mentioned by other judges. The prizes went to a very firm, close-textured butter sent by Miss Mildon. Miss Harris's was another with a very sweet butter, the other going to Miss G. Hoskins, whose butter had a too distinct ripeness for some palates, and she was decidedly lucky to get placed above the seconds, Mrs. Irving (Cumberland), Mrs. Adlam (Somerset), and Mrs. Bere (Devon); the latter's exhibit was lovely, creamy, and undoubtedly the best she sent to the show. The thirds were most widely distributed, going to Mrs. Emily Lewis, Dangerdine, near Kidwelly, South Wales, who is producing a fine butter that should obtain greater recognition later. Mr. James Gooderham (Derby) and Mr Reland Underwood (Berkhampstead) were also in the running. There was another rattling big class for butter with the addition of salt, that did not quite accentuate flavour as it did in the Jersey classes, and here the judge evidently went for the weaker butters. Mrs. Lewis was advanced, her butter being very creamy Miss Helen Monteith, Stirlingshire, was another with butter that had more of sourishness about it; whilst Mr. William Renne, from the same county, evidently placed his reliance on salt, and plenty of it, and his confidence was not betrayed. The seconds here were again an exceptionally fine lot, Mrs. George Adlam's, Mrs. Bere's, and particularly the exhibit of the Cotswold Sanatorium, Stroud. Some of the other butters here were very porous.

The first of the fights with the Emerald Isle was with the advance guard of the Irish in the class for 2 lb. lumps, slightly salted, to be delivered four days before the show. The mild cured was too much for the sea-borne attack, and gallant little Wales checked it by Mrs. Lewis taking first; Somerset, through Mrs. Adlam, backed her up as second, whilst support was afforded by Mrs. Bere's, third, from Devonshire; Mrs Ward coming to the help of her countrywoman as reserve. There was variety indeed in this class, but not so much gone off as in some of the other perfectly fresh exhibits. The class of the show, undoubtedly, not so much as regards size as of quality, was that for butter made from scalded cream slightly salted. Mrs. Bere was first with a very rich Devonshire creamy butter, rather dark in appearance. Mrs. Adlam's, second, was much cleaner in this respect, and of lovely texture. Lady Rothschild was third with a lovely coloured butter, and admirably worked, whilst Lord Rothschild's reserve lot was equally meritorious. Then came the Irish butters in non-returnable boxes, and, of course, the conditions in several instances were not complied with. The packages were to be non-returnable, and the rolls not to be separately wrapped. One exhibitor carefully subdivided, and each roll wrapped, above all things, in cotton wool. The first prize went to the Drumholm Society, whose butter, however, had run together, but it was far ahead of some of the others.

It was very evident in a number of these Irish butters that a starter had been used. In the class for slightly-salted butter, wrapping to be allowed, in some instances this was of a much too expensive a character, and in others unsuitable; particularly in the large boxes the quality of the paper was at fault, as a large amount of adherence took place. It was also most noticeable the number of boxes that arrived either badly smashed or else sprung and spoiling the appearance of the contents. In fact many of these boxes presented a very non-desirable appearance when opened and set before the judges, and however suitable firkins and handled tubs may be in a grocer's window, they are certainly out of place on an English show bench. There was a very general evenness about the butter, but very few came out on top and away from that same sameness evidently originated by the same starter. This rendered the judges' task a very difficult one. In the 28 lb. cured butter class first prize went to

THE CHEESE SECTION.

the Lechpatrick Co-operative Society, Mr. Charles Prideaux, Dorset, being fourth; however, he turned this to first in the 56 lb. class. A highly interesting feature to English eyes was the colonial butter; the faultless manner in which this was shown deserved all the encomiums bestowed upon it. Despite the enormous distance this had travelled, there was not a box broken, and when they were opened the face of the butter was seen as perfect as on the day of dispatch on the other side. There were close on 150 of these exhibits. The judging gave rise to some comment, as the judge went rather on other lines than is the practice at the Antipodes. But we failed to note a nicer butter than that of the Benalla Dairy Co. for salt butter, and the rich creaminess of Messrs. Sauterbach's fresh butter was a subject of very general comment.

The fancy or ornamental butter was arranged much more tastefully this year, more attention being paid to design. There was a tendency to overdo, and, in one or two instances, to be heavy; but, as a whole, much better work was put in. The second prize floral anchor of Mrs. Carr's was a real work of art as regards modelling. In the non-extraneous class many competitors had forgotten to observe that it was to be adapted for table use. Some of the exhibits would not be very palatable if so adapted.

The cream classes filled well, and more attention, particularly in the clotted cream class, is now being paid to the same and utility of the vessels in which it is sent. The first prize went to a Kent exhibit, though many judges would have preferred the more richer exhibits from Devonshire; some excellent samples from there were unnoticed. In the class for cream other than clotted there was quite a number of sour samples sent; thus, however thick and pleasing they may have been to the eye, were quite otherwise when brought into contact with the tongue. The number of entries as regards cream was thoroughly encouraging.

JUDGES.

MILKING TRIALS.—Wm. Ashcroft, 13, The Waldrons, Croydon; Samuel R. Whiteley, Little Westlauds, Lingfield, Surrey; F. J. Lloyd, F.C.S., Museovy House, 6, Trinity Square, London, E.C.

BUTTER TESTS.—Charles Marshall, Broomhaugh, Riding-Mill-on-Tyne; Joseph Corson, Crystalbrook, Theydon Bois, Essex (representing the English Jersey Cattle Society).

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: J. Paisley, Waresley Estate Office, Sandy, Beds. Jerseys: The Hon. A. E. Parker, The Cottage, Doveridge, Derby. Guernseys: D. Michie, Tichbourne Park Estate Office, Arlesford, Hants. Red Polls and Crossed or Mixed Breeds: D. F. Smith, Estate Office, Easton Park, Wickham Market. Ayrshires: Professor R. J. Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock. Kerries and Dexters: F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge. South Devons: W. H. Pain, Highhouse, Kingsbridge, Devon.

GOATS.—Birkbeck Ravenscroft, The Noke, St. Albans, Herts.

CHEESE.—Cheddar: A. Clement, sen., 27, South Albion Street, Glasgow; Henry Masters, 11, South Hill Park Gardens, Hampstead, N.W. Stilton, Wensleydale, Caerphilly, and Soft Cheese: John Benson, The Dairy, Dale Road, Buxton, Derbyshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, and Leicester: Hugh E. Holt, Exchange Street, Rochdale. Double and Single Gloster: George Aldridge, Gloucester.

COLLECTIONS OF DAIRY PRODUCE.—Henry Masters, 11, South Hill Park Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.

BACON AND HAMS.—Alexander Newington, 7, 9, and 11, High Street, Croydon.

BUTTER.—William Hudson, 251-255, Long Lane, Southwark, E.C. (Colonial Classes); Fred. Hart, Carrs Lane, Birmingham (Commercial Classes); Professor Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock; H. J. Grimsdell, Dorset Butter Factory, Dorchester.

ORNAMENTAL BUTTER AND CREAM.—Mrs. J. W. Lord, Church House, Northiam, Sussex.

ROOTS.—H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop.

INVENTIONS.—T. Latham, Dorchester, Oxon; Fred Ramsey, 4, James Street, Westbourne Terrace, Middlesex.

PRIZE LIST.

COWS AND HEIFERS IN MILK.

Class 1. Shorthorn Cows.—1 and c, G Taylor (Barrington Duchess 31st, and Melody); 2 and 3, Lord Rothschild (Broadhooks 3rd and Red Rose 3rd); r and vhc and c, C R W Adams (Priceless Princess, Nancy, and Oxford Ada); hc, J Wilson (Royal Maiden 4th); H Dudding (Catthorpe Sweetheart).

Class 2. Shorthorn Cows, not eligible for Class 1.—1, D Kelly (Damsell 2nd); 2, G. B. Nelson (Red Rose); 3, S Raingill (Faithful); r and vhc and hc, F J Stanhope (Daisy and Dairy Maid); hc, J Wilson (Tulip); Hudson and Son (Rosy); C E Woodhouse (Duchess); c, J Sheppey (Model Lily); J L Shirley (Susan); J G Williams (Tulip).

Class 3. Shorthorn Heifer, not exceeding three years.—1, Lord Rothschild (Lady Vivian); 2, A Britten (Gretchen); r, J Britten (Mignon Daisy 21st).

Class 4. Shorthorn Heifer, not exceeding three years.—1, J Wilson; 2, r, and c, J Evens (Burton Cowslip 4th, Red Rose 6th, and Pride 3rd); 3, G B Nelson; hc, F J Stanhope (Rose); c, J L Shirley.

Class 5. Jersey Cows.—1, Capt. L G Gisborne (Unaware); 2 and c, J H Smith-Barry (Lady May and Guelder Rose); 3, Earl Cadogan (Reindeer's Bessie); r, J Brutton (Benita 2nd); hc, A Miller-Hallett (Golfina); c, W M Cazalet (Miss Bessie).

Class 6. Jersey Heifer, not exceeding three years.—1 and 3, J H Smith Barry (Post Obit and Marionette); 2, Dr H Corner (Baronis); r, Earl Cadogan (Burgh Mabel); hc and c, A Brutton (Athol 3rd and Shy Lass); hc, Mrs Eyers Morsell (Goal); c, Admiral Hon T S Brand (Yellow Rattle).

Class 7. Jersey Heifer, not exceeding three years.—1, O F Mosley (Miss Loates); 2, J Pallet (Brunette's Lily); 3, Fowler, de la Perrelle and Co (Martina 4th); r, W. M. Cazelet (La Belle Agatha); vhc, J N le Brocq (Sweet Clorane); hc, W Alexander (Mollie Mine and Dulcie Belle).

Class 8. Guernsey Cows.—1, r and vhc and c, E A Hambro (Queen of the Roses, Hayes Express, and Olive Branch); 2 and hc, H M Ozanne (Lady Roberts and Miss Girard).

Class 9. Guernsey Heifer, not exceeding three years.—2, E A Hambro (Hayes Olive 2nd); hc, H M Ozanne (Quality 5th).

Class 10. Red Polled Cows.—1, 2, and hc, Lord Rothschild (Jenny Jones, Ethel 3rd, and Nancy); 3, Earl of Radnor (Donna); r, K M Clark (Sudbourne Comely Belle).

Class 11. Red Polled Heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, Lord Rothschild (Davy 28th); 2, Sir W Corbet (Davy 28th); 3, A J Smith (Rendlesham Lucy); r and hc, G D Smith (Strensham Lapwing and Unity).

Class 12. Ayrshire Cows.—1, W Nisbet (Dalfibble Daisy Bell); r, J Littleton (Fanny).

Class 13. Sandy and Black Cows.—1, r, and c, W P Vosper (Primula 2nd, Ringdove, and Sally 2nd); 2, and hc, T Cundy (Primrose and Iris).

Class 14. Kerry Cows.—1, r and hc, Duchess of Newcastle (Hardwick Jeannie and Killarney 4th); 2 and 3, Countess de la Warr (Buckhurst Peaceful and Gem); hc, Lady Greenall (Walton Twilight).

Class 15. Dexter Cows.—1, Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dot); 2, r and hc, M J Sutton (Henley Sardis and Holme Park Queen); c, Hon Rose E Hubbard (La Mancha Wee Wee).

Class 16. Cows not eligible to comp te in the preceding classes.—1 and 2, D Kelly (Maud and Miriel 2nd); 3, W Nisbet (Goodley); r, S S Raingill (Mayflower); hc, J C.x, jun (Butteress).

Class 17. Heifers not exceeding three years, not eligible to compete in previous classes.—1, W Nisbet (Dewdrop); 2, F J Stanhope (Violet); r, Hon Rose E Hubbard (Addington Magpie).

BULLS.

Class 18. Shorthorn Bull, twelve months old or over.—1, Lord Rothschild (Rock 4); 2 and c, A B and W G Little (Vain Friar and Circe's Pride).

Class 19. Jersey Bull, above one year and not exceeding three years.—1, Capt L G Gisborne (Black Antimony); 2, A Miller-Hallett (Alfriston's Pride); r, A F Perkins (Tizzy); hc, L Currie (Crystlish King).

Class 20. Bull of any other pure breed, twelve months old or over.—1, M J Sutton (Bockmer King); 2, Sir W Corbet (Acton Cossack).

CHEESE.

Class 28. Cheddar.—1, D A Flood; 2, R Stevenson; 3, J McAdam; 4, J Smith; 5, F Portch; r, W W Keel; vhc A Cross, Cary, and Portch, J A White, H White, J Candy, W C Spencer, J W Banwell; c, W Plunkett, W C Spencer, J Harding, T C Candy, W Hunter, S Young.

Class 29. Cheddar Truckles.—1, A Cross; 2, J Candy; 3, R Stevenson; r, Cary and Portch; vhc, T Wither, J Smith, J Burfitt; c, W C Spencer.

Class 30. Stilton.—1, J C Wilford; 2, r, and hc, H Morris; 3, Belvoir Vale Dairies; vhc, W Miller; hc, J Lovett; c, H B Wilford.

Class 31. Wensleydale.—1 and 2, Mrs M Willis; 3, J Stubbs; r, A Rowntree; c, Mrs J W Spensley.

Class 32. Che hire.—1, F Heath; 2, Mrs E Salmon; 3, J Baguley; r, J Williams; vhc, W H Hobson, J Darlington; hc, S Lea; c, J H Bourne, S Charlesworth, G Madew.

Class 33. Lancashire.—1, C Collinson; 2, L Bailey; 3, G B Nelson; r, W Sudell; vhc, J Bee, H Bamber; hc, J Bailey; c, G Whittaker, T Hall.

Class 34. Double Gloster.—1, C Harris and Son; 2, G Prout; 3, N J Sims; hc, G F Goodwin; c, A Stone and Son.

Class 35. Single Gloster.—1, G Prout.

Class 36. Leicester.—1, Warwickshire County Council Dairy School.

Class 37. Caerphilly.—1, Miss A Thomas; 2, H Cannon; 3, Mrs E Lewis; r, M Perry; c, J C Adlam.

Class 38. Cream Cheese.—Equal 1, Lady de Rothschild, Mrs E Dickson Park; equal 2, W Horner, C Prideaux; r and vhc, Mid-Sussex Dairy Company; hc, Eggington Dairy Company; c, C and G Prideaux.

Class 39. Gervais.—1, Little Chester and Burmaston Dairies; r, W C Cooper; c, Miss D G Saker.

Class 40. Unripened Soft Cheese, other than Cream Cheese or Gervais.—1, Miss J Watt-White; 2, Dr H Corner; 3, J Gooderham; r, C Prideaux; hc, Miss Robson; c, D M Elliott.

Class 41. Ripened Soft Cheese, other than Cream Cheese or Gervais.—1, Miss Miss Robson; r, C Prideaux.

Class 42. Cheddar.—1, J Smith; 2, D A Hood; 3, J Sage; 4, H Cannon; 5, R Stevenson; r, H Travers; vhc, J McAdam, T Wither, C Claxton, T C Candy; c, J Bryden, Sir Mark Stewart, W Cochrane, W J Pearce, W Keene.

Class 43. Stilton.—1, H Morris; 2, Belvoir Vale Dairies; r, W M Nuttall; c, W Miller.

Class 44. Collection of British Dairy Produce.—Gold medal to Aplin and Barrett.

BACON AND HAMS.

Class 46. Cumberland and York.—1 and 2, J Smith.

Class 47. Smoked.—1, M Venner and Sons; 2, E E Pigott.

Class 49. Cumberland and York.—1 and 2, Palethorpes, Ltd; r, J Smith.

Class 50. Smoked.—1, W Mitchell and Sons; 2 and 3, Palethorpes, Ltd.

Class 51. Pale Dried (other than Cumberland and York).—1, 2, and r, Palethorpes, Ltd.

Class 52. Pale Dried (other than Cumberland and York).—1, J Smith; 2 and r, Palethorpes, Ltd.

Class 53.—Selling Class for Hams, any Variety.—2, Palethorpes, Ltd; 3, W. Mitchell and Sons; r, J Smith.

BUTTER.

Class 54. Butter free from salt, the produce of Channel Island cattle and their crosses.—1, Mrs Irving, Mrs A A Bere, Miss M K Harris; 2, Earl of Plymouth, Mrs A E Franklin, Mrs G Adlam; 3, Mrs G B Robinson, Miss M Dalrymple, Miss E Masson; hc, Mrs A Morrison, Mrs Smith-Neill, Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, Mrs L R Mildon; c, Mrs F Ward, Mrs E Dickson Park.

Class 55. Butter slightly salted, the produce of Channel Islands cattle and their crosses.—1, Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, Mrs L R Mildon, Mrs E Dickson Park; 2, Mrs G B Robinson, Miss M K Harris, Mrs G Adlam; 3, Mrs W Irving, Mrs A A Bere, Mrs Dickson Park; r and vhc, Mrs A Morrison; hc, Lady de Rothschild, W Davis, Lady Smyth.

Class 56. Butter, perfectly free from salt, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle and their crosses.—1, Mrs L R Mildon, Miss M K Harris, Mrs G Hoskins; 2, Mrs W Irving, Mrs G Adlam, Mrs A A Bere; 3, Mrs E Lewis, J Gooderham, R Underwood; hc, Mrs F Ward.

Class 57. Butter, slightly salted, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle and their crosses.—1, Miss H Monteith, Mrs E Lewis, W Rennie; 2, Mrs G Adlam, Mrs A A Bere, Cotswold Sanatorium, Ltd.; 3, Mrs G B Robinson, Viscount Portman, Mrs L R Mildon; r and vhc, Miss M Dalrymple; hc, Mrs F Ward, Mrs J Ferguson; c, Mrs J Weaver, Mrs Moorman.

Class 58. Butter, slightly salted.—1, Mrs E Lewis; 2, Mrs G Adlam; 3, Mrs A A Bere; r and vhc, Mrs F Ward; hc, Home Produce Dairy, C Combe; c, Dr H Corner, Miss M K Harris, F Ricardo.

Class 59. Butter made from scalded cream only.—1, Mr A A Bere; 2, Mrs G Adlam; 3, Lady de Rothschild; r and vhc, Lord Rothschild; hc, Miss M Dalrymple, C E Keyser, Mrs L R Mildon; c, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Mrs Smith-Neill, J T H Farmer, Mrs Nickels.

Class 60. Fresh Butter, free from salt, in 24 lb boxes.—1, Drumholm Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 2, Granagh Co-operative Society; 3, Aghaslowey Co-operative Dairy Society; 4, Belleek Co-operative Dairy Society; 5, Drumcliffe Co-operative Dairy Society; r, Glenwilliam Co-operative Dairy Society; c, Tamnaskinney Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, C Prideaux, Black Abbey Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society.

Class 61. Mild cured Butter in 24 lb. boxes, slightly salted.—1, P Hawe; 2, C Prideaux; 3, Belleek Co-operative Dairy Society; Kiltoghert Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 5, Ardagh Co-operative Dairy Society; r and hc, Callan Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; hc, Spamount Co-operative Dairy and Agricultural Society, St Aibe's Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; c, Irish Co-operative Agency Society's Rathduff Dairy, Glenwilliam Co-operative Dairy Society, Beltrim Co-operative Dairy Society.

Class 62. Cured butter, not less than 28 lb., slightly salted.—1, Leckpatrick Co-operative Society; 2, Ardagh Co operative Dairy Society; 3, Miss Morgan; 4, C Prideaux; 5, Callan Co-operative Dairy Society; r, Killyman Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; hc, St Aibe's Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Lissanda Co-operative Dairy Society; c, Granagh Co-operative Dairy Society.

Class 63. Cured Butter. 56 lb.—1, C Prideaux; 2, Ballintrillick Co-operative Creamery Company; 3, Tamnaskinney Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 4, Kiltoghert Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 5, Drumholm Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; r, Callan Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; hc, Rose Bower Dairy Company, Pomeroy Co-operative Dairy Society, Fivemiletown and Brookeboro' Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; c, Ardagh Co-operative Dairy Society, Irish Co-operative Agency Society's Rathduff Dairy, Achonry Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, N S Tarrant, Broadford Dairy Factory Company, Leckpatrick Co-operative Society, Granagh Co-operative Dairy Society.

Class 64. Fancy or Ornamental Design in Butter. With foliage or other extraneous decoration.—1, Mr H M Trenchard; 2, Mrs Carr; 3, N Galloway; vhc, Miss Page; hc, J Gooderham; c, Mrs M Custance.

Class 65. Fancy or Ornamental Design in Butter. Without extraneous decoration, adapted for table use.—1, Miss H M Trenchard; 2, Miss B M G Dare; 3, J Gooderham; vhc, Mrs Carr; hc, Miss E G Cook; c, N Galloway.

COLONIAL BUTTER.

Class 66. Salt Butter. One box containing not less than 56 lb.—1 (silver medal), Benalla Dairy Company; 2 (bronze medal), Swan Hill Butter Factory; 3, Melrose Butter and Produce Company; r, A W Sandford and Co.

Class 67. Fresh Butter. One box containing not less than 56 lb.—1, silver medal, Interbach Bros; 2, bronze medal, Euroa Co-operative Butter Factory; 3, Melrose Butter and Produce Company; r, Swan Hill Butter Factory.

CREAM

Class 68. Clotted Cream.—1, Miss E Everest; 2, W Baer; vhc, R Sandford and Son, C and G Prideaux, F and H B Hornby; hc, Mrs A A Bere, J Pepperell.

Class 69. Cream other than clotted.—1, W Spalton; 2, G S Cruttenden; vhc, S Reece and Sons, C Prideaux; hc, H R White, Eggington Dairy Company, Mid-Sussex Dairy Company, Mrs E Dickson Park; c, Eggington Dairy Company, F and H C Hornby.

ROOTS.

Class 85. Six Specimens of Long Mangolds.—1, Lady Wantage; 2, Walthamstow Urban District Council; 3, T Chettle; r and hc, C Tough; hc, P le Feuvre; c W H Freemantle, T W Purser, J B le Feuvre.

Class 86. Six Specimens of Globe Mangolds.—1, Lady Wantage; 2 and hc, T Chettle; 3, H E Romford, r, J Perry; hc, Walthamstow Urban District Council, W H Freemantle, C T Hoare, L J Smith, J Smith, S Smith, J B le Feuvre, T H King, L Phillips, J E Hillis; c, C Tough, P E Mead, J L Brookes, T W Purser, Corporation of Reigate, Hon W G Beckett, MP, A C Morgan, J Weir, W N Powell, N J Hine, J P.

Class 87. Six Specimens of Tankard or Intermediate Mangolds.—1, L Phillips; 2 and 3, Lady Wantage; r and 3, P E Mead; hc, T Chettle, Walthamstow Urban District Council, J Smith, P le Feuvre, J Smith, Corporation of Reigate, J L Brookes, H W Palmer, A C Morgan, J Pe ry.

Class 88. Six Specimens of Swede.—1, Mrs Dring; 2, J Perry; 3, r and hc, R J Gardner; hc, Lord Carew, W Scorer, T Walker, J Eccles, J S Clay, W Steel, R Newman, R Cock, T W Turnbull; c, O F Mosley, T W Purser, W Little, J Carruthers, W S Harmer, J H R Howard.

Class 89. Collection of Roots.—1, J Perry; 2, C E Mead; 3, R W Hudson; r, Borough of Reigate.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Class 90. Any new invention. Silver medals.—James Harding, Buckland Newton, Dorchester, Harding's Improved Cheese-making Apparatus; A C Mundt, Lehrte, Germany, Feeding Trough, with self-acting drinking system; Blackstone and Co., Ltd., Stamford, Side Delivery Rake. Bronze medals: Dairy Outfit Company, Ltd., Filler for Milk Bottles; William Douglas and Sons, Ltd., Putney, S.W., Improved Rotary Pump, for dairy and farm purposes.

BUTTER-MAKING CONTESTS.

Class 91. Section A, Butter-making contest, open to those who have never won a prize at any show wherever held.—1, Miss D Murphy; 2, Miss A W Leighton; 3, Miss A. R. Turney; r, Miss H Milsom.

Class 91. Section B, Butter-making contest, open to those who have never won a prize at any show wherever held.—1, W M Denny; 2, E Tansley; 3, Miss E E Hitch; r, Miss S Price.

Class 92. Butter-making contest, open to students who have attended classes at the British Dairy Institute, Reading, for not less than one month during the last two years.—1, Miss N Yeld; 2, Miss H Milsom; 3, Miss L K Perrett; r, Miss A W Leighton,

Class 93. Section A, Butter-making contest, open to women only.—1, Miss A Gerrard; 2, Miss F M Stubbs; 3, Miss A Roberts; r, Mrs T Miles.

Class 93. Section B, Butter-making contest, open to women only.—1, Miss J James; 2, Miss A W Leighton; 3, Miss M Grigg; r, Miss J White.

Class 93. Section C, Butter-making contest, open to women only.—1 Miss G M Freeman; 2, Miss A Jones; 3, Miss C M R Follett; r, Miss F U Parkinson.

Class 94. Section A, Butter-making contest, open to men and women.—1, Mrs T Miles; 2, Miss E M Todd; 3, Miss A Cope; r, Miss M T Dougall.

Class 94. Section B, Butter-making contest, open to men and women.—1, Miss F M Stubbs; 2, C G Mercier; 3, Miss L K Perrett; r, Miss S Price.

Class 94. Section C, Butter-making contest, open to men and women.—1, Miss K N Nunon; 2, Miss E Noble; 3, Miss M E Comer; r, Mrs J Gooderham.

Class 95. Butter-making contest for first prize Dairy Show winners of 1906.—1, Miss N Yeld; 2, Miss A Gerrard; 3, Miss G M Freeman; r, Miss F M Stubbs.

Class 96. Champion butter-making contest, open to winners of first prizes in the preceding classes or at the Dairy Show of 1905, champions of any year excepted.—Miss F. M. Stubbs.

MILKERS' CONTESTS.

Class 97. Milking contest, open to men over 18.—1, W Elton; 2, E F Schwier; 3, F Houloy; 4, W Parslow; r, P Jones.

Class 98. Milking contest open to women over 18.—1, Miss Nicholas; 2, Miss J Watt White; 4, Miss D E Scott; 4, Mrs H Shepherd; r, Mrs E Jones.

Class 99. Milking contest, open to boys under 18.—1, W Jones; 2, H Allen; 3, T Allen.

Class 100. Milking contest, open to girls under 18.—1, Miss Mary L Nisbet; 2, Miss Margaret L Nisbet; 3, Miss N Lloyd; r, Miss M Morgan.

Class 101. Special Class for Cows of any Breed or Cross in Milk.—1, H S Leon; 2, G B Nelson; 3, S S Raingill; 4, A B and W G Little; r, J Littleton.

[*The result of Butter Test will be found on page 425.*]

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ABSOLUTELY SAFE TO FEED.

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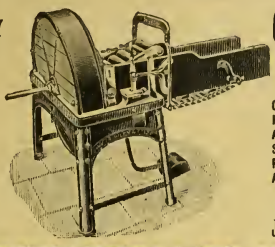

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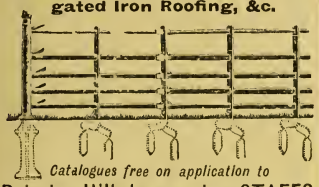

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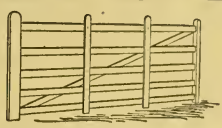

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If with English Oak head and Artree, 2/- each extra.

CREOSOTED FENCING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
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THE PREMIER FEEDING CAKES FOR ALL STOCK.

97 % Pure Linseed Cakes.

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Waterloo Round Feeding Cakes.

Particulars of AYRE BROTHERS, High Street, HULL, *or from the*
WATERLOO CAKE COMPANY, LIMITED, HULL.

"PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE"

IT will be generally admitted that unless the findings of science are carefully tested by the experience of actual practice, that science is more likely to hinder than to help the farmer. This is particularly true in relation to the question of the analysis of Feeding Cakes and Meals, although the proposed amendments in the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act of 1893 will tend to give greater protection to the farmer and improve the position of the honest manufacturer. We do not under-rate the value of the chemist's certificate, for we have always insisted on the importance of a good analysis, and have had **our guarantee printed on every bag**, as well as on the invoice, which, so far as we are aware, has not been done by any other manufacturer. Moreover, we have always asked our customers to have the goods analysed regularly, and in the event of any deficiency being found, we bind ourselves to pay the analyst's fee and **three times the value of the deficiency**—this is our testimony to the value we place on analysis, and to the confidence we have in the quality of our goods. After all, however, the analysis is only the finding of science, and if it were conclusive, then the work of both the manufacturer and feeder would be much simplified; but, as we have often pointed out, it is possible to show a high analysis and yet leave the cake or meal at very low feeding value, and it is here that science must be confirmed by practice. It is no secret that unsound materials (unless absolutely perished) will in most cases analyse as well as sound ingredients, although the former may be of very little value for feeding; while in the case of oil, it may also show a high analysis, and yet prove to be of a kind altogether unsuitable for fattening purposes. You must test the analysis at the feeding trough, you must combine

The following letter from an esteemed customer, who is a very extensive feeder of stock, is typical of many others received:—

[COPY.]

Greengill, Penrith.
25.11/05.

Dear Sirs,

Having used a quantity of your Fattening Cake, averaging up to 100 tons per annum for the last 13 years, I have much pleasure in stating it has given me every satisfaction.

Previous to using your Cake I was a stout believer in pure linseed, but find your quality of Cake gives better results at considerably less cost. Being both a Winter and Summer Feeder, I also see telling results on my grass land, it being both earlier and sweeter where the Cake has been used.

I might say I have used other Compound Cakes costing less money, but find yours the most satisfactory and always analysing according to guarantee.
—Yours truly,

(Signed) THOS. MITCHELL.

Messrs. R Silcock & Sons, Liverpool.

PRACTICE with SCIENCE

if you are to buy to the best advantage as regards price and quality. The feeder's interests are fully protected by our system of doing business, as we not only give a guarantee, but penalise ourselves in the event of any deficiency. Hundreds of farmers bear testimony to the excellence and value of Silcocks' Cakes and Meals for Cattle and Sheep.

For particulars of the various Cakes and Meals apply to Local Agent, or to

R. SILCOCK & SONS, STANLEY HALL, UNION STREET, LIVERPOOL.

ROBSON'S FEED CAKE.

Great care is exercised in selecting the ingredients to make this Cake specially adapted for all classes of Stock.

EVERY FARMER SHOULD TRY IT.

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Sold by Cake Merchants and Dealers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Farmers' Union and the "Mark Lane Express."

SIR,

My sympathy and goodwill, in this way,
Allow me to extend to you to-day;
Relating to the work you have in hand;
Keeping in touch with tillers of the land.

Leading to unity with one consent,
A host of Farmers on improvement bent.
No doubt such combination may effect,
Extensive changes, easy to detect.

Enlightened and concerted action may,
Extend around and gain controlling sway;
Ascertaining to the land they cultivate;
Reforms effecting clearly up-to-date;
Encouraging to enterprise and tact;
So the MARK LANE EXPRESS does wisely act,
Such union to advocate, in fact.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
HENRY TYERMAN.

Pontefract, October 8, 1906.

Scabby Potatoes.

SIR,—Can you tell me what is wrong with the potato I send you, and also what can be done to remedy this state of things? Some of my tubers are worse than the one sent. They were grown in England last year, and were from seed obtained in Scotland the previous year. When I planted them there were no signs of scab. WATCHFUL.

*** The sample potato to hand is badly affected by the scab fungus, which is responsible for the brown, cork-like blotches on the surface of the tubers. Opinions are somewhat divided as to the actual cause of scab, but I am disposed to think that it is largely a question of soil conditions. Your seed potatoes were quite clean, and the crop is scabbed, which seems to bear out the above contention. One theory which I am disposed to favour is that in the first place abrasions are made on the tender skin of the swelling tuber by gritty particles in the soil, and the scab fungus follows and does the rest. Scab is much more prevalent in some soils than others, and it often appears where the medium is of a sharp, gritty nature, or when the culture is faulty. I have also noticed that when coal ashes are liberally applied to ground, the potatoes invariably come scabby. In 1905 I had potatoes on a piece of ground of stony character that had been indifferently cultivated, and the crop turned out very scabby. The ground was well worked and cleaned after the crop was lifted, and this spring seed from the previous crop was planted. The potatoes were lifted a few weeks ago, and they were not scabbed anything like so bad as the year before. There is a theory that the planting of scabbed potatoes produces scabby ware, and the soaking of the seed before planting for a couple of hours in commercial formalin at the rate of ½ pint to fourteen gallons is given as a preventive remedy. On some soils potatoes come scabby in spite of anything that is done, but apart from thorough working of the ground, I have found soot to be one of the best preventive remedies. I would not advise you to use rank manure fresh from cowshed or pigstye, but rather material of a well-decayed nature, and, when the trenches are opened to receive the tubers, apply a liberal sprinkling of soot before closing them in. RUSTICUS.

Insect and Fungus Pests.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "West Countryman," is right in every word he says concerning insect and fungus pests. May I return to the subject again and invite him and your readers generally to draw the only logical conclusion from his remarks. We cannot hope—more's the pity—to see our Board of Agriculture spending money in fighting forest tree pests. It is done in California and elsewhere, we know, but there the State is run as a business concern, and to cry out for that in this country is merely to waste one's breath. Nor is it necessary; for as "West Countryman" truly says, the Evesham district is already showing us the possibility of combined action among growers themselves.

Now if it is possible to avoid hazarding your neighbours' living by turning your own orchards into a breeding ground for insects and disease, it ought to be compulsory to do so. If sheep-dipping is to be required of us by law, why not fruit washing? To keep an orchard which is a veritable nursery for orchard pests—and some of our older ones are no better—is more serious in its effects upon the community than (say) a little petty larceny or the shooting of a partridge without a licence. If these are punishable offences, so should that be, and only by making them so can we hope to force the backward and neglectful cultivator into doing what is expected of him. We have a Diseases of Animals Act; is it too much to hope that some day an improved Board of Agriculture will be found scheduling the more dangerous field and orchard pests, as it now does swine fever and anthrax, and enforcing the appropriate preventive and remedial treatment?—Yours faithfully,

SEVERNSIDE.

Home or Foreign Meat for the Army.

SIR,—It is stated in the public journals of the 11th inst., that at a meeting the President of the Board of Agriculture—I presume merely as an exponent of the Free Trade Government's policy in supplying foreign meat for the army instead of home raised—stated that the result was a saving of £150,000; but this was only one—a half statement—of the whole policy involved in the matter, and, as *half truths*, essentially deceptive. Let us now take note of the facts involved in opposition to this free trading Government's cardinal policy of buying in the cheapest market. Will you kindly give my statements enclosed a place in your next Monday's columns, I thought it prudent, not only in justice to agriculture, but to the whole nation also, that the other half truth should be given immediately on the Government's Free Trade policy in their half truth,—I am, yours very truly, ALFRED WELCH.

Southall, October 12, 1906.

MEAT FOR THE ARMY.

Home-made versus Foreign purchased.

Take 1,000 men requiring ½ lb. beef daily:— 500 lb. 7 days 3,500 lb. Waste and cutting up 340 lb. 3,840 lb. Would require for supply five oxen weekly of 96 stones each.	Brought up 78,000 acres, giving to 8,000 graziers of 100 acres each their living and means of paying rent, taxes, rates, labour, &c.
5 oxen weekly 52 weeks 260 per year for 1,000 men. The Army, 300,000 Oxen, 78,000 of 96 stones each.	Further £1,482,000 kept circulating at home, and which must come back to the taxpayer after distribution through various channels of allied industry.
78,000 oxen to be raised to stores of a value of £12 each would need the produce of 3 roods of medium grass land each one, a further acre each of rich pasture land to raise them up to 96 stones each.	Further valued in above. There would be the much needed offal for our people—viz., hides, killing fat, head, tongues, heart, liver, horns, tail, tripes, feet, &c.; bones and blood for fertilising the land.
78,000, £12 each, as stores—value £936,000.	These all retained in the foreign lands by the foreign meat purveyor.
When grazed to £19 each, 78,000 oxen, £1,482,000, value of the 78,000 oxen raised from home land in one year.	Must not the British public see the great gain to the country in raising from own land the supply of meat for our army of £1,482,000, and of retaining this money in circulation at home, instead of sending it to foreign lands to build up rival industries?
£1,482,000 gain from home land and industry.	£150,000 Free Trade in foreign produce.

A Variable Season.

SIR,—It is interesting, but sometimes a little distressing, to travel through the country and note on one's way how different districts have fared this season. We have been hard enough hit by the hot drought in the heart of England, but a journey on Monday from Warwickshire through Oxford and into Berks revealed an outlook growing progressively darker as one journeyed south and east. Pastures near home are now beginning to look a little greener, but one saw little sign of greenness anywhere on the Berkshire Downs where the rain seems to have come too late to be of any service. Only twice in this journey of some ninety miles was the plough seen at work, and one gathered that a good deal of ground which should have carried wheat this winter is being kept for spring corn instead. Swedes are poor in Warwick, but poorer south, where all sheep keep seems to be depressingly short. Perhaps the best thing to be said at present is that the rye, vetches, winter oats, and other winter crops which have been lately seeded have gone into a warm and generally a comfortable seed bed, so that they ought very soon to be making a sturdy plant. Yours, &c., TRAVELLER.

October 12, 1906.

Yorkshire Prospects.

SIR, Harvest is now a pleasant memory, the weather having been all that could be desired for the ingathering of the crops. The stack yards are fuller this year than they have been of late years, there being some good crops—wheat being the best. Turnips and mangolds are good crops, especially the mangolds, the former suffering from mildew, the early-sown ones being the worst in this respect. The recent rains will have done a great amount of good.

The turnips will have a chance to get away now and give a better prospect for the winter. Potato raising has not yet begun to any great extent; what few have are showing signs of disease. The recent rains that have fallen will have a tendency to spread the disease. The pastures are getting bare owing to the drought of August and September, artificial food having to be substituted to keep up the milk supply.

Land is being prepared for wheat, but none has yet been sown. Cold, wet nights necessitate the laying in of the milk cows. Pork is meeting with a fair demand, making 7s. 6d. per stone; beef trade is slow, making 7s. per stone.

October 8, 1906. ED. HARRISON.

Messrs. Sutton's Experiments in Potato Growing.

The experiments and research in potato growing carried out by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading, are known to all growers of the important but homely tuber. The scale on which these have been carried out is remarkable, not only for their size, but for their thoroughness. Amongst the experiments art the following:—Trials on different soils of Solanum Commersonii, Solanum Commersonii Violet (Labergeric) and "Blue Giant" potatoes. Trials of potatoes which gave the best results in University, College, and County Council trials last season. Comparative trials of several varieties growing from seed harvested last season in the south of England, Lincolnshire, Scotland, and Ireland respectively. Experiment to show effect of seed fully and also partially matured. Experiment to ascertain the result of planting tubers slightly affected with "potato disease" (*Phytophthora Infestans*). Trials to prove the comparative effect of planting small, medium sized, large, and cut sets. Experiments to ascertain the effect upon the crop of picking off the flowers immediately they appear before the seed-berries are formed. Trials to show comparative value of earthing up and growing on the flat. Experiment to prove the possibility of making varieties which do not usually do so, set their blooms and form berries. Trials of "Up-to Date" and varieties which to a greater or lesser degree resemble it. Trials of "Abundance" and varieties possessing somewhat similar characteristics. Experiment to demonstrate the result of planting sprouting tubers as compared with tubers which have not been sprouted, and have become shrivelled.

It was unfortunate that the day which we had the opportunity of inspecting these trials was so wet, as it prevented a large company, which included visitors from all parts of the United Kingdom, from taking full advantage of an unique opportunity. Mr. Martin J. Sutton presided at the luncheon, which preceded the inspection, and he appropriately referred to the motives which induced his firm to give such close attention to the propagation and cultivation of the tuber plant and also to the laborious and often disappointing, though nevertheless interesting, nature of the work. The task of explaining the lessons taught by the results was ably undertaken by Mr. Arthur W. Sutton and Mr. L. F. Sutton, both of whom have had this branch of the firm's huge business under their special care.

The experiments designed to compare the relative yielding properties of the numerous varieties of potatoes in cultivation have produced interesting results, but, as Mr. Arthur Sutton prudently observed, there is a limitation to the application of these lessons owing to the variations in the conditions of growth in different districts. Perhaps the most conspicuous and generally instructive points brought out are those relating to the marked superiority of Scottish and Irish seed—the latter being in some cases more prolific than the former—over South of England seed, and the equally marked advantage of planting immature instead of mature tubers.

A pamphlet describing the results obtained in the potato experiments conducted by Messrs. Sutton is full of suggestions, and is worth the attention of all growers on a large scale. The crops, it may be advisable to add, are grown under ordinary farm cultivation.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

The High Price of Nitrate of Soda.

It is quite evident that during the coming spring the price of nitrate of soda will be substantially higher than has been the case for many years, a fact which will be seriously felt by many farmers who are accustomed to use this fertiliser as a convenient and readily-available source of nitrogen for their crops.

Ten years ago the price was 8s. per cwt.; five years ago it had risen to 9s. per cwt.; last year it was quoted in October at 10s. 9d.; and to-day buyers are asked to pay 12s. per cwt.

It is alleged that this advance is justified by the continually increased cost of production caused by enhanced pay to the miners and other charges at the mines. This is a point we do not contest.

It is also stated that the continually growing consumption of nitrate throughout the world, and the difficulty of proportionately increasing the output is a natural cause of the price advancing. This again we do not contest, but these combined causes, though justifying the rise in price, do not diminish the hardship which it will inflict, especially on cereal growers.

The quantity of nitrate of soda used for agricultural purposes in this country is about 75,000 tons, so that an advance of 30s. per ton means an outlay of over £100,000 to an industry that can so ill afford it.

The sellers of nitrate point out that after all the rise represents only about 2s. 6d. per acre, and that to the individual farmer this is not a serious matter. With this proposition we do not agree, because the margin of profit on cereal growing is so narrow that the farmer has to exercise the greatest economy all round

What then can best be done under the circumstances? It is not a practical policy to suggest that farmers should abstain from the purchase of nitrate. It is a necessity in many cases for successful crop-raising, but we do say that it is very often possible to diminish without prejudice the quantity applied, and sometimes to substitute another fertiliser for it. While the price of nitrate has been advancing by leaps and bounds, that of sulphate of ammonia has remained without change, so that to-day we have the phenomenon that both articles are being sold at the same price. This means that we can buy the unit of ammonia in sulphate at 10s., whereas its equivalent in nitrate costs over 13s., or, in other words, if we apply a top dressing of 1½ cwt. nitrate we are giving to the crop nitrogen equal to 31 lb. of ammonia at a cost of 18s., while if we apply 1¼ cwt. sulphate, we are providing 35lb. of ammonia at a cost of 15s.

Now, in many cases, sulphate of ammonia can be used with quite satisfactory results, or an application of half sulphate and half nitrate is as good a dressing as can be used. The sulphate of ammonia with the superphosphate and, if necessary, potash should be put in with the seed, and the nitrate of soda applied as a top dressing in spring, if the crop requires the additional stimulus. Besides sulphate of ammonia, there are various other forms in which ammonia can be bought, especially in Peruvian guano, and it behoves us to look round and see how far they can be utilised with economy.

We are apparently going to have dearer nitrate for some years to come, and while recognising its great fertilising value and making judicious use of it, we must as far as possible replace it by cheaper substances.

Alcohol for Industrial Purposes.

The new Revenue Act, which is based on the suggestions of the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the use of alcohol for manufacturing purposes, passed through Parliament at the fag end of last session.

It provides for a remission of about 40 per cent. in the cost of spirit used in manufacturing processes, and it is hoped that the change will have a stimulating effect on certain trades which have been unfairly handicapped by German competition.

The manufacture of cheap alcohol in Germany from potatoes is a very important industry. The acreage under this crop is about 8,000,000 acres, with an estimated production of 40,000,000 tons of potatoes, of which probably a quarter is converted into spirit for the use of industries, and the consumption of the spirit for lighting, driving motor-cars, engines, and other purposes is continually increasing.

The acreage under potato in the United Kingdom is given in the statistics of the Board of Agriculture as 1,225,228 acres, with a production of slightly over 7,000,000 tons.

The average yield per acre in the United Kingdom is about 5¾ tons per acre, against 5½ tons in Germany.

Small potatoes and diseased tubers can be utilised for making alcohol, and although the price obtained for them for such a purpose is small, it does not require any argument to show what a great advantage it is to have a steady market for such otherwise waste produce.

In Germany almost every important farm has its distillery, and if potatoes show any sign of disease they are at once put into the still, or they can be sold to one of the big factories.

In Great Britain the county of Lincolnshire has the largest acreage under potatoes, 79,564 acres, which produced last year 394,000 tons, equal to about 5 tons per acre.

It is curious to note that the county with the next largest acreage is Lancashire, with 47,697 acres which produced in 1905 the quantity of 414,000 tons, equal to about 8¾ tons per acre.

This great difference in the yield would seem to indicate that there is room for improvement in the cultivation practised in Lincolnshire.

Under the new Revenue Act, manufacturers in this country have the same chances as their Continental competitors, and it is hoped that capitalists will seize the opportunity to start factories, yielding to them satisfactory returns on their money, and providing work for a number of men in country districts as well as a market for an important branch of farm produce.

Kainit not Injurious to Animals.

After dressing a pasture with potash salts, it is advisable to let a week or so pass, or wait until after a fall of rain, before putting stock in the field, as a matter of precaution, although experiments have shown that kainit and other potash salts are not of a poisonous character. According to experiment, animals will only take kainit in small quantities and refuse food largely mixed with it. In every case where for experimental purposes they have been forced to take large quantities fatal results have not followed.

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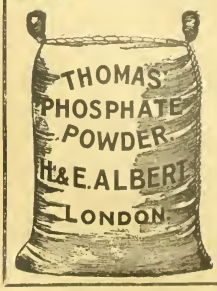

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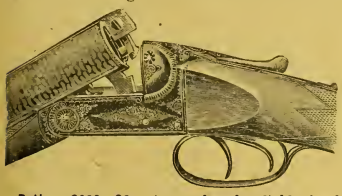

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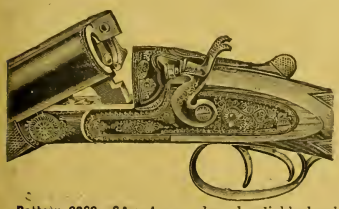

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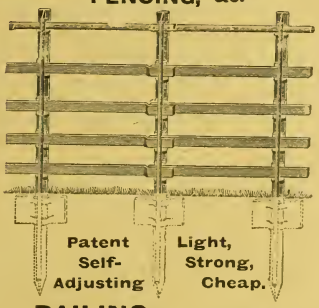

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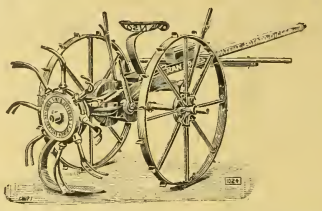

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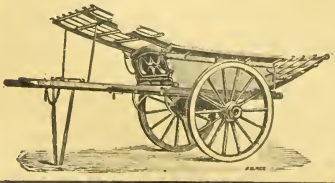

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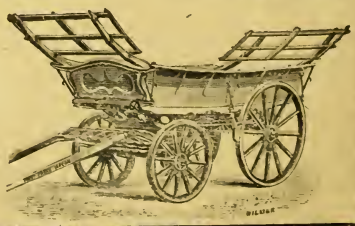

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A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

The formation of a body which will succeed in bringing about a true union of farmers with a view to laying their legitimate grievauces before the public and the Government has always been an ideal with the MARK LANE EXPRESS. On another page we print the history and programme of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union—a body formed as recently as the autumn of 1904, but which has already met with an exceptional amount of success at the hands of the farmers of what is now our premier agricultural county.

The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, which we hope and believe is the forerunner of a similar movement in the other agricultural counties, is not directed against any class of persons or any existing institutions—in fact, they look for support from our various agricultural societies and chambers of agriculture, as the union is working on different lines for the same end, and that the very laudable one of the advancement of the farming industry.

The first and most important object of such bodies as the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union is to bring about combination among farmers. Given this mutual support, there is nothing which the agricultural industry will not be able to accomplish. It should be borne in mind that it is still by far the most important industry in this country, and that it has more capital embarked in it than any other trade, and that more persons of all classes are dependent on it than any other. Without combination its condition must of necessity drift from bad to worse, and it must finally become bankrupt. This would not only spell ruin to those engaged in it, but it would also be a great national disaster of such magnitude as is scarcely realised by our citizens.

Turning to the political programme, we find there is nothing which a farmer cannot support, no matter what his party politics. Amongst the various measures backed by the Union we may instance the "Fires near Railways Act," which comes into force on January 1, 1908; the Butter Bill, the Dogs Bill, the Beer Bill, all before Parliament last session with varying success. A Royal Commission has reported on the better control of motors, and, most important of all, the Bill to introduce foreign store cattle into this country has failed. The Union is to be heartily congratulated on the strong part they played in the defeat of this measure. After attending a deputation to the President of the Board of Agriculture, through the energy of the secretary, the Government and the local members were bombarded with evidence—above suspicion—of the existence of mange in Canada, and undoubtedly this had much to do with the Bill falling through. Further, the Union has approved of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Bill and the Land Tenure Bill, having sent a deputation to Earl Carrington in order to expound their views more clearly.

We have pleasure in announcing that the MARK LANE EXPRESS has been adopted as the official organ of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. In future, all reports, communications, &c., prepared by or relating to the Union will appear regularly and promptly in the columns of the MARK LANE EXPRESS. Such a movement as the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union deserves the whole-hearted support and good wishes of all farmers. We hope that its formation will prove the fore-runner of a gigantic movement throughout the length and breadth of the land, which has for its aim the advancement of agriculture.

THE OCTOBER OUTLOOK.

The copious rains so generally experienced towards the close of last month and the beautiful weather since has proved peculiarly favourable to late autumn culture. Until the rains came a great deal of land was too adamantine for ploughshares to penetrate, in consequence of which farmers are now actively employed with ploughs and drills performing work usually effected in September; and there are matters of urgency in the sowings of winter beans, vetches, and catch-crops which demaud immediate and prompt attention, otherwise their young plants will not make strong growth sufficient to resist winter severity.

Wheat being the most robust of all the cereals to withstand frost is usually the last of the autumn crops to be put in; but on heavy lands the seed corn of this crop should also be committed to the ground in October, because November has the character of being a rainy month and clay soils often get too soft therein to bear the tread of horses or to make any kiud of cropping possible without the greatest difficulty.

The weather of last week could scarcely have been better for thrashing-machine operations, and the period has arrived when brewers commence purchasing malting barleys. Accordiug to reports, there are more than the usual average quantity of fairly good samples to be offered this year. So far as brightness and plumpness are concerned, condition will to a large extent be satisfactory. But some are a little too steely to serve the highest purposes of the trade, and only those that come up to the Burton standard are likely to yield 36s. per qr. As yet there is not much animation in the demand, but market rates are better than those for wheat, and the latter being more weighty to measure, should have preference for stock-feeding if there are

animals on the farm of a character to pay for auxiliary feeding.

In all probability, too many farmers of the districts that suffered most from drought will by dire necessity, owing to shortage of roots and hay, have to call the root-pulper and chaff-cutter into more than usual requisition in the coming winter, and the best market for some portion of the home-produced grain will be that of putting it into the mouths of live stock.

Although the beautiful weather experienced since the present month opened has revived the late-sown turnips and caused roots generally to renew their bulbing functions, the nights are getting too long and the days too short for any magnitudinous results to be expected. There are also considerable failures of turnips wherever the soil was at all cloddy and not worked to a perfect tilth, previous to seeding. Throughout the south-west it has of late been the general remark of farmers that never in the general experience has turnip-plant realisation had such marked sequence to perfect tillage and fine tilth. Where these were wanting absolute failure was the result.

Seldom do our greatest blessings come entirely divested of alloy, and even the beneficent copious rainfall has brought one ill; for where the main crops of potatoes had not been lifted and are still in the ground, super-tuberation has set in and is only likely to have prodigious development. This will perhaps detract to some extent from the general yield, but we hope harvesting in most districts had been sufficiently advanced or was accomplished before the evil manifested itself for very serious results. There is also a complaint that the earliest crops of mangels are throwing up seed stalks to a marked degree in many districts which, when it takes place, detracts severely from the quality of the bulb from which the seed-stalk springs.

On the whole, however, British farmers have seldom if ever experienced an October which has opened with more cheery prospects than the present one. The cereal harvest has proved a grand one well secured. If there is shortage of roots and hay in the south, there is abundance of both in the north of England, as well as in Scotland and Wales. Moreover, the preponderating influence of the wealthier divisions has been sufficient to advance sheep prices everywhere. The situation, too, has become so favourable for autumn culture, that there is every likelihood of this exerting a favourable influence on the crops of the coming year.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Lord Rothschild's Sale of Jerseys at Tring — Macclesfield Agricultural Fair—Thrapstone Cattle and Sheep Fair—Kennel Club Show, Crystal Palace, first day—Ticehurst Farm Sale.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17. — Maidstone Sheep, Ram, and Lamb Fair—Kennel Club Show, second day — Keddington Grange Shorthorn Sale — Thornton's Sale of Jerseys at Bletchley—York Shorthorn Sale —Store Cattle Sale, Carlisle.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Malting Barley and Seed Wheat Exhibition at Blandford —Kennel Club Show, third day—Shire Horse Sale at Ruddington—York Horse Sale—Ayrshire Dairy Show at Kilmarnock, first day.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19.—Great Cattle and Bull Sale, Carlisle—Peterborough Shire Horse Sale—Shrewsbury: Great Cattle and Sheep Sale—Droitwich Foal and Shire Horse Show—Entries close for the Collingham Show.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20. — Agricultural Fairs and Sales at Market Harborough, Canterbury, Ashbourne, Devizes, Colchester, and Sleaford—Chichester Hop Fair—Colchester Cheese Fair — Honiton Dairy Fair—Rotherfield Cattle Fair.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22.—Rugeley Horse Fair —Rugby Cattle Fair—Bridgnorth, Chorley, and Wigan Agricultural Fairs.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23.—Hereford Cattle Sale at Leominster — Sale of Sir R. V. Buchanan-Jardine's Galloways at Lockerbie—Claycross Ploughing Matches, Field Day—Agricultural Fairs at Boroughbridge, Stockport, Tarporley, Brampton, Bolton, Winchester, and Gainsborough—Salisbury Horse Fair.

Notes of the Week.

This year's Dairy Show is one of if not the most successful ever held.

Public support keeps growing in a satisfactory manner, while the exhibits are limited only by the capacity of the Agricultural Hall.

The latter is shortly to be enlarged, and a number of adjoining houses have been bought for this purpose.

Now would be the time to do something to improve the ventilation, as the authorities seem much more reasonable in their attitude to the various exhibition authorities and the public.

Is it uncharitable to suppose that the migration of the Military Tournament to Olympia has something to do with this chastened state of mind?

We look forward with dread to Smithfield week —and fogs—unless something is done to improve the atmosphere of the hall.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Agricultural Society have approached the Corporation of Rochester with a view to holding their annual show at Rochester in 1908.

There was an amusing story some time ago of a confused playgoer who wanted to see "The Spring Chicken," but being unable to remember the title beyond the fact that it had something to do with a bird, was sent by a friend to see Ibsen's play, "The Wild Duck."

Now we hear of an equally astonished old lady who, seeing "The Dairymaids" advertised at the Apollo Theatre, asked the box-office clerk if the "butter test for the Jersey classes" had been decided. She eventually reached Islington just in time.

His Majesty's Government afford facilities for the experimental cultivation of tobacco in Ireland by a refund of one-third of the existing duty.

Similar facilities have been asked for this country, but the Chancellor of the Exchequer will not grant them.

This is preferential treatment, which would not have been expected from this Government.

Our weather prophets must look to their laurels, if Professor Nowark's assertions can be relied on.

He claims to have discovered a tropical plant of a nature so sensitive, that its behaviour foretells for some time in advance, earthquakes, hurricanes, and other natural disturbances.

He is bringing over to this country for distribution throughout the world 1,000 cuttings of the wonderful plant.

It is called "Abrus precatorius nobilis."

When the plant bows its head,
We an earthquake must dread;
When its stem stands erect,
We a drought may expect;
When its leaves are too pale,
It foreshadows a gale;
When its flowers are——
[That's quite enough.—Ed.]

Lincolnshire is the premier county in England for the production of cereals, for acreage, and practically for yield per acre.

It also has the largest acreage under potatoes and beans, and, next to Norfolk, Suffolk, and Devon, the widest breadth of mangolds.

During the last thirty years the land under rotation crops in the country has largely diminished, and the permanent pasture has increased by about 90,000 acres.

The weather has achieved another record, as the minimum temperature of one of the nights last week is said to have beaten previous records.

A group of Yankee capitalists are trying, according to New York wires, to arrange a corner in wheat.

The group is said to control thirty million bushels, and intend to hold it until prices reach a high figure.

The movement, if successful, may indirectly be of benefit to some of our growers, who can sell when the price is forced upwards.

How long do seeds retain their vitality? There is a case reported of some foxgloves having appeared on the site of a disturbed wall. It is concluded that the seeds were 300 years old.

It is said that wheat seeds from Egyptian mummies have been grown, but this does not appear to be thoroughly well authenticated.

Weeds will sometimes spring up in the most unexpected places, evidently from seed which has been lying dormant.

A movement of considerable importance to agriculturists in the midlands is now being promoted in connection with the proposal to convert the University College, Nottingham, into a university with the power of conferring degrees. His Majesty's Inspector in Agriculture has suggested that it would be desirable for the students at the Midland Agricultural College, at Kingston, in Leicestershire, to be able to take a degree in agriculture, and negotiations are now proceeding with a view to the establishment of an agricultural faculty at Nottingham University, when the charter has been granted.

PIGS.

Sale of the Barford Herds.

On Thursday Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, of Dorchester and Wimborne, dispersed Mr. H. Standfield's well-known herds of Berkshire and Large White Yorkshire Pigs, in the presence of a very large company of agriculturists from over a wide area, and a very satisfactory sale may be recorded. The average was £6 4s. 6d. for thirty-nine Berkshires, and £6 14s. 4d. for twenty-four Large Whites. The following is a list of the prices realised and averages:—

Berkshire Pigs.—Sow, Lady de Wet, Mr. Wetherall, 5 guineas; sow, Barford Rosa, Mr. A. Hiscock, 17 guineas; sow, Barford Princess, Dr. Lys, 11½ guineas; sow, Barford Lady, Mr. W. C Martin, 9 guineas; sow, Barford Barbara, Lord Alington, 7½ guineas; sow, Barford Moral, Mr. J. J. Lawrence, 7 guineas; sow, Barford Ethel, Mr. T. Lodder, 7 guineas; sow, Barford Moral 2nd, Mr. James, 7 guineas; sow, Barford Queen, Mr. J. Hansford, 15 guineas; boar (sire Lord Boldre), Dr. McDonald, 9 guineas; boar, own brother to above, Mr. G. Mitchell, 7½ guineas; boar, own brother to above, Lord Wolverton, 6 guineas; sow (sire Lord Boldre), Mr. J. J. Lawrence, 10 guineas; sow (sire Lord Boldre), Mr. A. Hiscock, 9½ guineas; sow, Barford Pastime, Mr. J. P. Chissell, 9 guineas.

Yorkshire Pigs.—Sow, Bagber Long Lass, Mr. S. Rowland, 6 guineas; sow, Barford Dolly, Mr. S. Rowland, 7 guineas; sow, Snowdrop 2nd, Mr. A. Hiscock, 12 guineas; sow, Barford Snowdrop 4th, Mr S. Luther, 11 guineas; sow, Barford Evening Star, Mr. E. Hayter, 9 guineas; sow, Barford Snowdrop 3rd, Mr. G. Habgood, 15 guineas; sow, Barford Chorus, Mr. F. Dowling, 8½; sow, Barford Snowdrift, Mr. Southcombe, 8 guineas; sow, Barford Snowdrop 6th, Mr. J. J. Lawrance, 9½ guineas; boar, Colston Rover 2nd, Mr. H. R. Jesty, 5½ guineas; boar (Sire Barford Emperor), Mr. Cox, 6½ guineas; boar (sire Barford Emperor), Mr. Budden, 6 guineas.

The usual October Horse Fair at Lancaster was held on Thursday, when there was a larger number of horses on sale than for some years past. The horses were a good lot taken all round, a well-known dealer present putting the prices down at from £15 to £40.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have recently despatched to various customers in Chile five blood-red Shorthorn bulls of the highest order of merit, a Dutch bull and heifer specially selected from first-class milking strains, one Arab stallion, one Clydesdale stallion, ten Shropshire shearling ewes, four Hampshire shearling rams, and three Small White pigs.

Mr. Robert Walker, a well-known North Lincolnshire farmer, died at South Ferriby, in his seventy-ninth year on the 6th iust. He was one of the old type of English farmers, was born in the village, and, with the exception of six years, had spent all his life there. He was one of the oldest farmers on the Sutton Nelthorpe estate.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

SINCE my last notes most parts of the country have been visited with copious rains which will do an immense amount of good, restoring the water supply to many thousands of fields and homesteads, and though late in the season, the effect upon the pastures is simply magical. Fields that a fortnight ago were brown and parched, and their surface as hard as iron, are to-day softened, and in many places covered with a rich green herbage that is quite gladdening to behold. Where a little old grass had been left upon the land, cattle will graze it now with avidity, and in such places the ordinary store cattle will be able to be kept from the foldyards for probably two or three weeks to come, labour and other expenses being thus economised considerably, and the animals will do better too.

THE price of beef in the majority of the markets is at a terribly low ebb. I do not think I ever saw as good bullocks at the price before as this week in one of the great grazing county markets, where Shorthorn bullocks, cake-fed, ripe, and of first-rate quality, up to ninety-five stone Smithfield in weight, were offered at 5½d per lb., sinking the offal, and at that offer were hanging on hand until midday. The weather for meat is till very close and muggy, and from this cause would not be without an adverse effect upon the demand; but there must be other very much more potent matter affecting prices to bring them to such a pitch for cattle of this description. The imports into Birkenhead and Liverpool appear to be on a very greatly increased scale as compared with a few weeks since, and this may be the case at other ports also; at any rate, the price is below cost of production.

AS is invariably the case at this time of year, a great number of half-meated, and some positively poor cattle are being slaughtered, that in good seasons would have experienced inquiry from the Norfolk yards; this, too, has no doubt added to the glut in the market. But what can be done to prevent this state of things? We can only hope that the lower prices will reduce the foreign supply for a time, until trade once more becomes active, and that home feeders will as much as possible hold in their stock, improving them by the addition of artificial food, increased until they get into a better state for marketing. The trade of the country is surely not in such a state as to reduce the spending power of the working population, and these are now our largest consumers, so that matters appear to rather point to the oversupply as being at least one of the chief causes of the exceptionally low prices.

TAKING a glance at the result of some of the recent sales of pedigree stock, the prices realised are really very difficult to understand. In these sale reports, however, the condition of the animals is seldom mentioned, a point worth paying more attention to. When a pedigree herd, or perhaps a draft from a pedigree herd is submitted to the public, and a low average results, we are apt to think that that particular breed of cattle is not enjoying the confidence of the public, whereas, perhaps the sale, whether it be a dispersion or a draft, may have consisted of a number of aged cows or a number that were doubtful breeders, coupled perhaps with some rather large proportion of young bulls of not a very high class, or yearling heifers that were not in sale condition. The results have widely different meanings.

IT is rather puzzling to understand, however, the low prices that have for a long time prevailed generally for Red Polls. I notice in your last issue the report of a sale of some thirty head of the above breed from Lord Radnor's herd, where 19½ guineas is given as the highest price for a cow and calf. Surely, with a dual purpose breed to deal with and a great scarcity of milk such a price is very low. At the same sale yearling heifers are quoted at from 6 to 9 guineas, very low prices for pedigree stock. If a note were appended to this report to the effect that a dry season had prevented the animals from maintaining their normal condition, or that the cows had been suckling their calves, and were not in form for taking into a milking dairy, and perhaps also getting on in years, if such was the case the explanation would save the situation a little as regards the opinion the public would get of the breed.

SHORTHORN HEIFER, LADY VIVIAN.

At the Dairy Show last week Lady Vivian (sire, Royal Commander, dam, Lady Munster 4th) won the First Prize for Shorthorn Heifers not exceeding three years old, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book, and a First Prize in the Milking Trials. She is the property of Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring, but was bred by Mrs. L. H. Ho land.

IN the same issue the South Devon sale at Totnes appears to have been fairly successful, or at least better prices prevailed; indeed, the number sold at from 20 guineas to 45 guineas per head was quite satisfactory, and proved that this breed is continuing to increase very much in public favour, whether on account of their milking properties or their dual-purpose character is hard to tell. At the same time, the sale of North Devons at Bishop's Tawton was well supplied, and very fair prices ruling, the best cow realising 35 guineas and her bull calf 20 guineas, several other animals going to 29 guineas, and one or two others over 30 guineas. A note again as to the condition of these would have been instructive, though in this instance it is pretty safe to assume that the animals, being somewhat of a show herd, were brought out in good bloom.

IT is not often that a sale of pedigree West Highland cattle finds its way to the English or Southern press. Indeed, very few sales of pedigree herds of this breed ever appear, yet how many herds of the breed there are in existence! Probably a great number of these are not registered, or, to put it another way, probably very few herds are registered. The English demand for the breed for park and feeding purposes will probably be very slow this year, owing to the quantity of old grass left upon the pastures, even the large parks at noblemen's houses being so very small; yet in travelling a good deal recently more than usual of these shaggy-coated, picturesque, and, we may add, juicy beef producers were seen. The average obtained for the famous herd, the property of the Marquis of Bradealbane, was £15 14s. 9d. for thirty three head, the highest price being 61 guineas. Not excessive figures.

WE read that recently a shipment of ten Ayrshire cows has been made from Scotland to the Imperial farm at Tokio, Japan, five bulls of the same breed also being included in the shipment. It is quite likely that Japan will become a purchaser of many of our breeds of live stock in the near future. Though the island may not be altogether a first-rate one for agriculture and stock breeding purposes, still there is compared with England considerable space. There is also a large population, and whatever the quality of the soil, the climate of the country, or the chief demand of its population, whether milk or meat, we have breeds in England, or rather in Great Britain, that will fill every item the bill may require, and that British stock will be the first to be acquired there is no doubt.

AT last week's London Dairy Show the exhibit of Ayrshire cattle was of a very unsatisfactory nature in all respects. The number of entries was meagre and the animals of a mixed description, varying considerably from what are seen of this breed at the summer shows of the Highland Society, where the breed is usually well represented. One cow certainly gave an extraordinary appearance of milk. What her record would prove in points, pints, and pounds of butter is not known at the time of writing, but as many animals of this breed are known to give a large quantity of milk not lacking in quality, we should not be surpised if this cow gave a rather remarkable account of herself and her breed. As regards the inspection prizes, the most typical Ayrshires, from a breeder's point, were left out in the cold.

WE were also glad to read in another place of the shipment of a collection of Galloway cattle to the Patagonian Land and Estate Company. The Galloway, like some few other of our very good breeds of cattle, has not been patronised half as much as it deserves. A really well-bred and what is commonly called "good-sorted" Galloway takes a great deal of beating from a grazier's point of view. In any part of England they need no shelter in winter; indeed, are better without it unless altogether exceptional weather should prevail. They fatten very rapidly on good keep, and are just as ready a sale as most breeds when finished. We have known steers of this breed purchased at £16 per head one October, lying out all winter with a little hay on the grass, and fattening the following summer into £30 and over per head.

THE public auctions of Shorthorn bulls in the Argentine appears on the whole to have been satisfactory, good averages as well as individual prices having been realised. An average of over £300 for twenty or more bulls from one exporter, at any rate, has a satisfactory sound about it, while over £1,000 for a single individual is also not to be talked of very lightly. It must, however, be remembered that between the purchase here and the sale there the exporter has to dip very deeply into his pocket for quarantine and shipping expenses, as well as feed; then there is also the insurance premiums that have to be paid, and these, to cover all risks, are pretty heavy. The Argentine has been a great field for English stock, and, in spite of adverse reports, there appears to be no sign whatever of any falling-off in the demand, but rather the reverse.

THE long-time axiom of "like producing like" in breeding has seldom been questioned, and in the majority of cases it will certainly be found to be correct. The greatest exception to its correctness that has occurred in my own experience has been in the way of milking cattle. I have known instances innumerable of very heavy milking cows of several different breeds being mated with bulls equally milky bred, and yet the female offspring has proved anything but great or even average in this respect. Why this should be is rather difficult to understand, unless it can be traced and attributed to the way in which the offspring have been treated. When young heifers are too highly fed with the view to giving growth and early maturity, the milk vessels have often been found very deficient and the quantity of milk small when the animal has come into the dairy.

Shorthorn Sales in Scotland.

Record Prices.

The annual autumn sales of Shorthorns in Scotland, or "Shorthorn Week," as it is popularly called, commenced on Tuesday, when, as usual, the sale was of drafts from the famous Collyme and Uppermill herds, the respective properties of Mr. Duthie and Mr. W. S. Marr. Collyme is a name to conjure with in the Shorthorn world, and the reputation of Mr Duthie's herd has been for

BIBBY'S - - "CREAM - - EQUIVALENT" MEAL - - -

FOR

CALF-REARING.

Our Agents are continually hearing some such remarks as: "I want you to send me two more bags of that 'Cream Equivalent' Meal. It is fine stuff, and I should like you to see my weanling calves; they are a splendid lot—a perfect show."

We like to hear talk like this, and do not wish for a better advertisement of this Meal than these "Cream Equivalent" reared calves are all over the country.

It is quite easy to prepare It swells out into a fine creamy substance, the calves are fond of it, and there is no scour.

When the calves begin to eat, we recommend a little dry feeding—a mixture of "Bibby" Cake, Oats, and Bran is particularly suitable, the former being at once nutritious and digestible; and calves so reared are always one of the sights of the farm, and make fine well-grown heifers with nice loose skins and plenty of good hair.

One cwt., costing 15/-, carriage paid, is enough for two calves. It costs about 1/3 more to rear a calf on "Cream Equivalent" than on the cheaper calf foods, while the difference in value of the grown animal is most marked, both as to condition, health, and growth.

It is the most soluble Calf Meal on the market, and can be made up simply by soaking the meal in cold water for six or seven hours, if this suits the feeder's convenience better than by making up with boiling water in the ordinary way.

If you are interested in this subject, write for our new circular, "How to Rear Calves for the Dairy." It will be sent free of cost to any address on receipt of postcard.

Sole Manufacturers—

J. BIBBY & SONS,

Exchange Chambers,

LIVERPOOL.

many years familiar throughout the length and breadth of the land. On Tuesday there were eighteen bull calves from Collynie offered, and seven from Uppermill, and being of the highest standard, prices were, in view of the present Shorthorn boom, expected to be good, but no one anticipated such an extraordinary trade as that experienced.

Hitherto the highest price at these sales was two years ago, when 620 guineas was paid for a calf, but that was entirely eclipsed last week. Mr. Duthie had the high average of £304 15s. 10d. for eighteen calves, as compared with £226 12s. 6d. for the same number last year. There has been nothing like this at these sales, and the top price of 850 guineas also stands as a record. Only three of Mr. Duthie's draft of eighteen did not reach these figures, and all the rest were well into the "hundreds." A splendid start was made with the first calf put into the ring, Prince of the Blood, one of the four Pride of Avons, which realised three figures. He felt the pulse of the market, for a bid from Mr. Simmers, Whiteside, of 200 guineas rushed him up by leaps and bounds to 830 guineas, when Mr. Deane Willis became the purchaser after a keen competition, the runner-up being Mr. Durno, Westertown. The sensation of the day was reached when the ninth bull calf entered the ring. This was Gold Mint, a beautiful roan son of Mr. Duthies 620 guineas Collynie Mint, which was exported to Argentina last year. He was at once put up at 300 guineas, and, after a strong tussle between Lord Rothschild's representative and Mr. Stephen Mitchell, Boquhan, the latter prevailed at 850 guineas, which was the top price of the sale. There was no slackening in the demand as the sale proceeded, for the last and youngest of the calves from Collynie, only five months old, brought 300 guineas from Mr. Duncan Stewart of Millhills. Mr. Marr, with a top figure of 250 guineas and an average of £122 5s for seven calves, also did very well indeed. The total proceeds of the sale for the Collynie draft was £5,486 5s. for eighteen head; and the Uppermill draft realised £855 15s. The result of the sale was, therefore, £6,342, an average over both herds, for twenty-five calves, of £253 13s. 7d.

Newton.

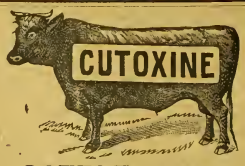
The second sale took place at Newton of Insch on Wednesday, and although prices did not rule so high as on the previous day, another very satisfactory sale has to be recorded. The catalogue consisted of drafts from the herds of Mr. A. M. Gordon of Newton; Mr. John Wilson, Pirriesmill; Mr. F. Simmers, Whiteside; Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combscauseway; and Mr. Merson, Craigwillie; and it was noteworthy that, with the exception of ten cows, the animals offered were under two years old, and most of them were yearling heifers or heifer calves. Trade all through was good, and there was a keen demand for the best class of stock, bidding being very animated for the choicest animals with long pedigrees. Fifteen animals ran well into three figures, and a top price of 700 guineas for a bull calf is not much behind the Collynie record of the previous day. The figure mentioned was got for Newton Comet, a handsome red calf of the Clara family, and got by the home-bred bull Ruddy Star. He was secured by Mr. Phillips, Shipton Manor, Andoversford. Mr. A. T. Gordon's cow, Clipper Duchess 2nd, went to Mr. Scott, Stow-on-the-Wold, at 250 guineas, Mr. Deane Willis giving 240 guineas for the same owner's two-year-old heifer, Beauty; while another heifer made 220 guineas to Dr. Anchorena, Buenos Ayres, and one of Mr. Wilson's heifers from Lower Pirriesmill, 230 guineas, to Mr. Scott. The averages of the various drafts were as follows:—

Newton: Three cows, £66 10s.; five heifer calves, £53 2s. 7d.; six bull calves, £211 8s. Pirriesmill: Five cows, £65 14s. 7d.; one two-year-old heifer, £75 12s; four yearling heifers, £113 13s. 3d.; four heifer calves, £40 13s. 9d. Whiteside: Four yearling heifers, £110 15s. 6d.; twelve heifer calves, £39 18s. Combscauseway: Two cows, £158 11s.; four two-year-old heifers, £138 17s. 3d.; five yearling heifers, £126 8s. 4d.; three heifer calves, £89 12s.

Insch.

After the sale at Newton, the Northern Auction Company, Ltd., conducted a joint sale of Shorthorns in the Auction Mart, Insch, from the well-known herds of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Gordon Castle; Messrs. Bruce, Byres, Cameron and Sons, Westside, Brechin; Morrison, Phingask; Murray, Mains of Lesscendrum; and Still, Strathray. There was a crowded attendance, and good prices throughout. In the Gordon Castle draft Queen of Spey XII. (cow) went to Colonel Smith Grant, Mimmore, for 125 guineas, whilst her magnificent yearling heifer calf Queen of Spey XVI. made the top of the sale, going to Messrs. Dean and Sons, Dunsbyhall, Lincoln, at 190 Guineas. Mr. Dudding bought the cow

If you want a really good Compound Cake, write to CALTHROP BROS., Ltd, 56, Naylor Street, Liverpool, or see one of their agents. They make the best Cakes of the sorts on the market.—[ADVT.]



CATTLE WASH.

Used regularly on the Herds of H.M. the King.

CUTOXINE removes all Dirt.
CUTOXINE prevents accumulation of Scurf.
CUTOXINE improves the Coat
CUTOXINE promotes abundant growth of Hair.
CUTOXINE is absolutely free from Poison.
CUTOXINE destroys Lice and all Parasites.
CUTOXINE immediately cures Ringworm.
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The Secret of Success in the Show or Sale.

Sample Free

THE CUTOXINE AND CANICURA CO., 63, Highgate Hill, London.

EGGS EGGS

Kettlebythorpe, Brigg.

For egg production I cannot speak too highly of your Ovary Tonic, as I have had twice as many eggs this year as I got last, with about the same number of hens. I tried them without it for two months and the number of eggs laid dropped considerably. Please send me half a gallon, for which I enclose you cheque 15/-.

J. FRANKLIN.

PRICES:—1s. (3 oz.), 2s. (8 oz.) By post 1s. 3d. and 2s. 4d. In bulk, 15s. per ½ gall. (equal to ten 2s. bottles), 25s. per gall. Carriage paid nearest railway station.

Of all Corn Dealers, or direct from

LEONARD SMITH & CO.

Poultry Experts, LTD.

58, Bromsgrove St., BIRMINGHAM.

AGENTS WANTED. LIBERAL TERMS.

Radiol

THE NEW CHEMICAL LIQUID.

REMOVES, by radiation, all soft swellings that disfigure a Horse, such as Wind-galls, Bog Spavin, Thoroughpin, Capped Elbow, &c. No blister; no laying up; no hair removed. It is less harmful than water to a Horse's skin, the swellings simply disappear not to return. It makes a worn Horse's legs fine.—5/- *of Chemists, or from*

RADIOL LABORATORY,
St. George's Mansions,
WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.

WIND-GALL *Write for Illustrated Booklet, T.*

KEEP A SUPPLY OF

TIPPERS

CALVING, LAMBING, AND FOALING MEDICINES.

FOR CASES OF DIARRHOEA, SCOUR—HUSK—DIFFICULT PARTURITION—COLIC—INFLAMMATION OF BOWELS—SPRAINS—WOUNDS ETC.

DIRECTION FOR USE ON EACH PACKAGE. LIST FREE

B.C. TIPPER & SON
VETERINARY CHEMICAL WORKS,
BIRMINGHAM.

BATTLE'S

LIQUID, POWDER, and PASTE.

Official Government Remedies for Scab.

BATTLE, MALTBY & BOWER, LINCOLN.

SHEEP DIPS

THE CHAMPION RAM for 1905 (bred by Mr. TOM CASSWELL) and the CHAMPION RAM for 1906 (bred by Mr. HENRY DUDDING), sold for 1,450 Guineas, were DIPPED IN BATTLE'S DIPS. Why? BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.
N.B.—The Sale of 43 Shire Horses will be held at above address on November 7, 1906. See advertisement and write for Catalogue.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS WART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

HUNT, Mrs. William, Findon, Sussex.—Carefully inbred Hackneys for sale, suitable for export; moderate prices. Blood: Denmark, Connaught, Danegelt, Lord Derby II.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS.—COWS of the Seraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal; younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS
COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.).*

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 15s. each. Selections always for sale.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. C. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder. Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a specialty.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd. Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in pig Sows for sale.—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

PIGS—*continued.*

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES.—Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham. G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

TAMWORTHS.

IBBOTSON, R., can spare 20 or 30 young Tamworth Boars and Gilts by his prize Boars "Knowle Bounder," "Joey" and "Lycidas." Price 2 guineas and upwards.—The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk

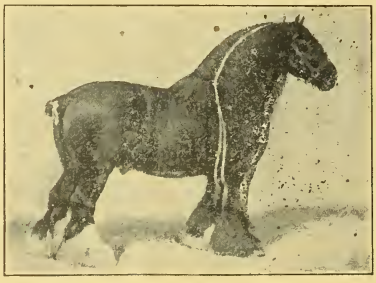
BLAGDON SHIRE STUD,

BILLINGTON,

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.

3 miles from Leighton and Chedington, L. & N.W.R., 5 miles from Dunstable, G.N.R Stations.

CONVEYANCES MEET TRAINS DAY OF SALE.



LOCKINGE MIDNIGHT (19780), one of the Stud Horses.

Unreserved Sale

OF

43 SHIRE HORSES OF THE BEST BLOOD,

On Wednesday, November 7, 1906,

AFTER 12 O'CLOCK LUNCHEON.

MESSRS. SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK (of Peterborough) have received instructions from Mr. CLEMENT KEEVIL to conduct this high-class Sale as above, which will include 12 Shire Foals, several by Blagdon Benefactor (21141), Lockinge Midnight (19780), Birdsall Menestrel (19337), Dunsmore Jameson (17972), &c.; One, Two, and Three-Year-Old Fillies; Yearling Stallions; also one Three-Year-Old by Lockinge Forest King (18867), and some exceedingly well-bred in-foal Mares, which are good workers. ☞ **Catalogues on application.**

PIGS.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS

OF CHOICEST STRAINS.

BOAR, "PROUD SALOPIAN," 1419.

PRIZES WON:—

1st, Royal Cornwall, 1905. 1st, Launceston; 3rd, Bath and West, 1905. 2nd, Wadebridge; Reserve. West Midland Show, Shrewsbury, 1906.

YOUNG BOARS AND SOWS FOR SALE.

PRICES MODERATE.

H. J. CLARKE,

NORBURY HOUSE, NEWPORT, SHROPSHIRE.

Duchess XLVII. at 63 guineas, but had to give 160 guineas for the yearling heifer Queen Esther XXXIV., whilst the grand Collynie stock bull fell to Drauchoreana for 180 guineas. Other prices ranged up to 80 guineas.

Mr. E. St. John Phillips' Jerseys.

On Thursday the entire herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle, the property of Mr. E. St. John Phillips, of Armourie, Magdalen Laver, near Ongar, Essex, were sold by auction by Messrs. Thornton and Co. Jersey cattle have been bred by Mr. Phillips since 1895. The herd has been kept for producing the best quality of cream, which has been sent daily to London. In 1905 there were seventeen cows in milk in the herd, and the cream produced by them was actually sold at an average of over £25 per head, the separated milk being used for calf rearing. Unfortunately, probably owing to the remoteness of Armourie, there was but a small attendance, and consequently the prices realised were very disappointing to the vendor and the auctioneer, for the thirty-three cows only averaged 9 guineas each and the calves 4½ guineas each, whilst the herd bulls were bought in. Mr. Justice Phillimore was the chief buyer, and his herd will be strengthened by the addition of the cows Coronet (bought at 21 guineas) and Begonia and Evening Star, for which 20 guineas each was paid.

Mr. R. W. Hobbs's Shorthorns.

The sale of Shorthorns belonging to Mr. R. W. Hobbs, of Kelmscott, which took place on the 5th inst., proved the most successful since 1900, when an average of nearly £40 a head was obtained; for this year the figure was £38 18s. 3d. for forty-seven head.

The herd was established in 1878 from Mr. Hobbs's father's herd at Maiseyhampton, and good cows have occasionally been added to it from first-class dairy herds. This year the Oxfordshire Society offered prizes for the best herd of over forty dairy cows. The Bath and West of England offered similar prizes at its show when held at Swindon. The first prizes at both these shows were awarded to the Kelmscott dairy in strong competition.

As the herd has very considerably increased, a selection was offered for sale. It comprised about thirty cows, most of which were young cows and in-calf two and three year old heifers; also twenty

choice young bulls, nearly all of which were of a deep red colour. They were bred from families that are well known, and naturally came in for good competition from the large company present at the sale. Solo 47th, a first-rate cow by Vain Soldier, quickly ran up to 130 guineas, at which sum she was knocked down to Mr. S. Sandy, who also paid 62 guineas for Solo 49th, also by Vain Soldier. Mr. Herbert gave 61 guineas for Snowdrop 30th by Ivanhoe, and a similar sum was paid by Mr. J. L. Cross for Marchioness 23rd, yet another get of the sire mentioned above. Other cows and heifers made up to 34 guineas, whilst the bulls ranged up to 41 guineas, this sum being given by Mr. Price for Village Swell by Village Lad. The average per head for the twenty-eight cows and heifers was £39 7s. 10d., and for the nineteen bulls £25 16s. 8d., the total realised by the sale being £1,593 18s.

The Chadnor Court Herefords.

Messrs. A. and D. Edwards on Thursday disposed of the herd of pedigree Hereford cattle at Chadnor Court, Dilwyn, which has been built up with excellent judgment by Mr. J. C. Jones, who in consequence of family arrangements is removing to a farm near Knighton and taking up the whole of the stock there, decided to dispose of the Chadnor Herefords, Shropshires, and hunters. Mr. Jones has not exhibited his Herefords, but they are of the best blood of the day, and their popularity was proved by the large attendance of buyers and the good trade. The best price for cows was 36 guineas given by Mr. Rowlands, Evesbatch Court, for Kitty. Dolly and her heifer calf went to Sir W. Rouse Boughton, at 30 guineas and 20 guineas respectively, the same buyer also giving 31 guineas for Marion 3rd's heifer calf; Mr. C. Coates gave 33 guineas for Dorcas, and other prices for cows and calves ranged up to 29 guineas. The three-year-old heifers and calves made up to 36 guineas, Sir W. R. Boughton buying Kathleen at this figure, while he also gave 28 guineas for her bull calf. The chief prices for two-year-old heifers were 33 guineas, 31 guineas, and 20 guineas; for yearling heifers 26 guineas, whilst for the bull Primate Mr. Rowlands gave the top figure of the sale, namely, 100 guineas.

Stock Sale at Billinghurst.

The annual Michaelmas sales of stock belonging to Mr. H. F. Locke-King, Okehurst, Billinghurst, Sussex, is invariably attended by farmers and breeders from all parts of the county, and the quality of the stock has a reputation which is always well maintained. This year's sale proved no exception to the rule, there being a large attendance on both days. The stock, which was sold entirely without reserve, comprised hackney mares and geldings, fat pigs, pure-bred prize-strain poultry, down calving cows, store cattle, barren cows, fat and store Southdown tegs, and draft Southdown ewes and lambs. The cows were Lancashire-bred Shorthorns, and were being sold on account of Mr. Locke-King relinquishing the milk contract in connection with the Lower Okehurst Dairy. The young Hackneys from the Chandon stud averaged about 21 guineas per head; Shorthorn cows averaged nearly £16; and of the Southdown sheep, tegs averaged about 42s., wether lambs about 33s. 6d., and draft ewes about 30s. 6d. per head.

BUTTER TESTS AT THE DAIRY SHOW.

Shorthorns.

Exhibitor and Name of Animal.	Milk Yield in 24 hours	Butter Yield.	Ratio; viz., lbs. Milk to lbs. Butter.	Points for Butter.	Points for Lactation.	Total Points.	Awards.
	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.					
Mr. G. Taylor's Barrington Duchess 31st	61 2	1 15¼	31·29	31·25	·00	31·25	Highly commended
Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's Priceless Princess	47 11	1 13½	25 86	29 50	6·30	35·80	Reserve and very highly commended
Mr. J. Sheppy's Model Lily	57 7	2 0½	28·27	32·50	·00	32·50	Highly commended
Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Dairymaid ...	48 10	2 3	22·22	35 00	2·20	37·20	Second prize
Mr. J. Evens's Burton Nancy 4th .	46 12	1 11¼	27·44	27·25	3·60	30·85	Commended
Mr. J. Evens's Burton C. Star 2nd	49 3	2 2¾	22·64	34·75	·00	34·75	Very highly commended
Mr. G. B. Nelson's Red Rose.....	64 12	2 7¾	26·06	39·75	1·00	40 75	First prize
Jerseys.							
Mr. A. Miller-Hallet's Golfina	32 12	1 10¾	19·58	26·75	12·00	38·75	Certificate of merit
Dr. H. Watney's Blackberry	29 10	2 2	13·94	34 00	10·40	44·40	Second Prize and £1 butter prize.
Dr. H. Watney's Guenon's White Thorn 13th	38 2	2 5¾	15·15	37 75	9·70	47·45	First prize
Mr. W. M. Cazalet's Miss Bessie ...	—	2 3	17·71	35·00	5·70	40·70	Certificate of merit
Mr. J. H. Smith-Barry's Post Obit	34 0	1 13¼	18·59	29 25	12·00	41·25	Third prize
Other Breeds.							
Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Lady Roberts	33 11	1 5½	25·06	21·50	12 00	33·50	£3 Prize
Lord Rothschild's Jenny Jones ...	51 8	1 10½	31·09	26·50	4·80	31·30	Very highly commended
Earl of Radnor's Donna	29 5	0 13¼	35·39	13·25	12·00	25·25	Highly commended
Mr. W. Nisbet's Dalfibble Daisy Bell	47 11	1 15	24 61	31·00	·00	31·00	Very highly commended
Mr. T. Cundy's Iris	63 15	2 0½	31·47	32·50	11·00	43·50	£3 Prize
Mr. W. P. Vosper's Ringdove	40 3	1 12¼	22·36	28·75	12 00	40·75	Very highly commended
Countess De la Warr's Buckhurst Peaceful	38 0	1 15½	19·30	31·50	·00	31·50	Very highly commended
Capt. Smith-Neill's Doctor.....	43 0	2 5	18·59	37·00	12·00	49·00	First prize
Mr. Danbar Kelly's Mirie 2nd.....	53 11	2 4¾	23·37	36·75	12·00	48·75	Second prize

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

THE colour of horses is a very interesting subject. A practical horseman will tell you that a good horse cannot well be a bad colour, which is, like most epigrams, much smarter in the saying than correct in statement of fact. A washy chesnut I would always avoid, no matter how good he might seem to be. They invariably fail you when the pinch comes. At least I have always found them like the lady in the ballad, if "they didn't fear death, they couldn't stand pinching"; and I know nothing more exasperating than to feel your horse going well and strong under you—feel him take off as well and jump as freely as he did at the first fence you rode him at—and then land, a limp bundle, without the list to put one leg before the other. That is one way the washy chesnut treats you. Another way is to curb up the moment anything in the shape of pressure is put to bear on him. No, in spite of the old proverb so frequently quoted, a washy chesnut is emphatically a bad colour when it comes to hard service, and I have not much greater liking for a mealy bay.

I ONCE heard a dealer take the shine out of a young exquisite who was wanting badly to buy a pony. The pony was an exceptionally good one, a rare mover, and he could run on all day in harness. In colour he was a black, with a white face, and as is frequently the case, he had a wall eye. Now the would-be purchaser, thinking it quite the right thing to find fault with the pony in order to cheapen him, attacked him on the point of colour. "You buy him, sir," said the dealer, "and you can have him any colour you like"; then seeing a paint-pot about, for he had been painting stables, he added, "green if you like, and I'll throw you a pot of paint in if you buy him." My gentleman not knowing his man, bid well below the price asked, and left the pony. But he hurried back to purchase a day or two afterwards, some friend having told him what a good pony he had missed, and found the pony gone. So a whim about colour in this case lost a man the very horse he was looking for.

IT was, however, the great change which there has come about in the colour of horses since the early part of the eighteenth century to which I would wish to draw attention. In the days before the Breed Societies were formed, the General Stud Book and the Racing Calendar, &c., are alone available for statistics about colour, therefore it is with the colour of the Thoroughbred that I first intend to deal. And the first thing I would point out is how the grey colour which predominated amongst our Thoroughbreds 150 years ago is gradually disappearing. Let us just take a few meetings which took place in the early part of the eighteenth century, pitching on them in haphazard fashion. For example, at York in 1713, out of the seventeen horses of which a description is given, no fewer than ten were greys. Other nine or ten horses are not described, but it is quite likely that there would be several greys amongst them. At Hambleton again, three years later, six out of the fifteen runners for his Majesty's Gold Cup were greys, and it must be remembered that the Gold Cup at Hambleton brought the best horses of the kingdom together. Two years later, at the same place and for the same event, seven out of twenty-one runners were grey, and the following year at York, eight out of twenty-four runners were grey. In the Hambleton Cup in 1720, seven out of the eighteen were grey. At York the following year fourteen out of thirty eight runners were grey, and at Hambleton in the same year half the twenty runners in the Gold Cup were of the same colour.

ENOUGH has been said to show how frequently grey horses ran about a couple of hundred years ago. It is not necessary to take one meeting after another at the present day to show the scarcity of greys. Let us take the York August meeting of last year, when one grey ran out of the 149 starters. Indeed, it is a matter of common knowledge which does not require enlarging upon that a grey Thoroughbred is so seldom seen in these days that when he is it is a matter for remark. There can, I think, be very little doubt that chesnuts have increased considerably during the last few years, a circumstance which has possibly its origin in a few big winners having been chesnuts, and in consequence they have been very much patronised. But chesnuts, though they have increased, have not made such a proportionate increase as one would think at first sight. The predominating colour of the modern Thoroughbred is bay, and it is likely to remain so, so long as we have horses like St. Simon, who throughout the whole of his long stud career has only sired one, or at most two chesnuts.

AMONGST Hackneys the chesnut, especially the chesnut with gaudy markings, has increased greatly during the last twenty-five years—indeed, one might almost say since the formation of the Hackney Horse Society, and the commencement of the London shows—by which I do not mean that the increase of chesnut Hackneys is due to these circumstances, but only that it synchronises with them. This is, perhaps, easily explained. A few big winners, and especially a few "great goers," in the modern sense of the words "great goers," were of this not very desirable colour. But it was the showy, if not very level action which took with the public, and regardless of anything else they lost colour and other more useful qualities in the attempt to breed horses with extravagant fashionable action. During these later years there has been a gradual, if slow, increase of the number of bays and browns amongst show Hackneys.

IT is an admitted fact that the Yorkshire Coach horse was originally produced by a cross between the Thoroughbred Stallion and the Cleveland Bay mare. It is also generally recognised that the Cleveland Bay was the result of a system of crossing between the African horse, the Barb, with the Libyan horse, as Professor Ridgway happily describes him. What, however, is not generally known is that the Thoroughbred horses used were frequently greys. This was probably the case more from necessity than choice. In the days when the Yorkshire Coach horse had his origin locomotion was difficult, horses ran and travelled within a narrow compass of their homes as a rule. And so it came to pass that amongst the horses that were used to put a little style on to the heavier Clevelands was Camillus, a grey colt by Hamiltonian out of Faith, a grey mare by Pacolet (grey), her dam Atalanta Pacolet was by Blank out of Whiteneck (grey) by Crab (grey). Many years after Camillus had joined the majority, a great grandson of his, Monarch by Fill da Puta, was used as a cross. Yet, notwithstand-

ing the prevalence of grey in the pedigree of Camillus for generations, it has entirely disappeared amongst his Coaching descendants, if, indeed it was ever there at all. Of course it is impossible to be certain on the subject, for the Yorkshire Coach Horse Society would not admit into their Stud Book a horse of any colour except bay or brown. Still, bay was always the fashionable colour with Coach horses, and though on one or two occasions grey Coach horses have won prizes, even at the Yorkshire the cases have been so exceptional that I do not remember seeing a grey horse shown in a Coaching class. This fact of the grey colour being completely crushed out as it were by the bay of the Cleveland Bay foundation seems a strong confirmation of Professor Ridgeway's theory about the prepotency of the Libyan Bay. Also as a corollary it would seem to support the theory that the Cleveland numbers that hore e amongst his illustrious ancestors.

THE remarkably true way in which Cleveland Bays breed to colour has always been held as a great point in their favour, and as a proof of the purity of their breeding for many generations. And so no doubt it is But "sports" in colour are by no means unknown, though they are of but rare occurrence. When they do occur the colour is always chesnut, but it is a curious chesnut, very nearly approaching a golden bay. Indeed it would almost seem as if the only difference between one shade of bay and the chesnut to which I am alluding is the colour of the mane, tail, and legs. I once heard a man say, after looking a young horse over, "If he hadn't had black legs and a black mane he would have been a chesnut." This, perhaps, best describes the colour I mean. I have known a few of this chesnut colour in my time—not many. I should say some half-dozen at the outside, perhaps not so many, and strange to say they were all of them mares. One was a really handsome mare, and if it had not been for the te l tale mane and tail and the red legs, no one would have called her a chesnut. She was a rare breeder, and she never bred one a wrong colour, neither did her daughters. I do not remember if any of her sons were kept for stallions.

THE "Surgical Anatomy of the Horse" is the name of a book of which the first part has just been issued by Messrs. Williams and Norgate, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden. The author is Mr. John T. Shaw Jones, Lecturer in Charge of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy in the University of Liverpool, and formerly Tutor in Surgery and Demonstrator of Anatomy at the Royal Veterinary College, London. In his preface Mr. Shaw Jones points out that it occurred to him some years ago that students made very little real use of the subject of anatomy in the diagnosis of surgical affections and in the practice of the surgical art. He points out that anatomy and surgery have been taught separately, as subjects independent of each other, and it is to supply the connecting link between the two that he has undertaken the book under notice. Of course, the book is not a complete treatise on the anatomy of the horse, only those parts of anatomy concerned in the practice of surgery being treated of. The first part treats of the head and neck, and the arrangement of the divisions of the subject are clear and easy of reference; the importance of good illustrations is duly considered, and the illustrations given explain the text in an excellent manner. The book is, of course, of a highly technical character, and I have not had time to study it carefully. But as far as I have seen of it, I think Mr. Shaw Jones has done what he set out to do. Though more for a veterinary student than an ordinary horse owner, the latter might spend his time worse of a winter evening than by studying it a little. What would otherwise be dry and perhaps not very easy to follow is made lucid by the excellent illustrations. The price of each part is 15s. Four parts will be issued THE LOOKER-ON.

Mrs. Thompson's Shetland Ponies.

A good draft of pedigree Shetland ponies from the successful stud of Mrs Thompson near Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks, was brought under the hammer on Thursday. The attendance was large, several noted breeders and exhibitors of dwarf ponies being present, but the result was disappointing, for only two lots were sold. They were the 38in. brown mare Lassie and a black colt foal by Vengeance—Beachend Jeannie. Mr. Acland bought both lots at 20 guineas and 9 guineas respectively. There was keen bidding for the exceedingly smart turn-out made up of the match pair of 35in brown ponies Mademoiselle and Buttercup together with an American pony buggy. The ponies, which were a beautiful match, were well driven by Miss Thompson, but the highest offer for the whole turn out was 55 guineas, and the lot was withdrawn. The 35½in. stallion Vengeance, bred by Lord Londonderry, was also withdrawn at 31 guineas. Several foals which looked promising were run up to fair prices, but only one changed hands.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

THE generous rains and warm weather of the past week or two are improving the prospects for sheep keep of all kinds, but there is a serious backway to make up which the most favourable weather cannot accomplish. One of the worst features of the drought in the driest districts is the rotting from mildew (*Peronospora parasitica*), which we have seen with much frequency in widely lying districts. This is a severe blow, as the swede crop is immature and affords little feeding matter at this stage, and it is useless to leave it where it will become putrid in a short time. Moreover, it directly affects the winter's food supply. When one gets out of the districts where drought has been so persistent excellent crops are to be found. Ireland and Wales are full of keep, though occasionally in these moist climates fields may be seen which have been severely punished by the hot weather; they are, however, blessed with an exceptional growth of grass, which will place them in an independent position for months to come. In the southern half of the country there is a striking illustration of the mistake of trusting too much to the turnip crop. The most keep we have seen on any land is where kohl rabi were got in early; while in more than one case in the same field the swedes, not half grown, are stinking from rot.

IN course of conversation with a dealer in the west of Ireland a few days since, he stated that he had never known some of the west and north-west counties to have been drained so hard of sheep as at the present time. Since June there has been a thorough scouring o all districts, as dealers have been having an exceptionally profitable season, for any sheep they could get into their hands left them several shillings in hand. In the mountain districts the Black-faced Scotch sheep are doing much better than the native sheep of twenty years ago. Probably no better results are being obtained than in co. Kerry, where the old short-tailed Mountain sheep has almost disappeared. In point of wool, constitution, and earlier maturity the imported sheep are found much more profitable than the native sheep, and this is recognised by even the smallest breeders. The fewer deaths in winter is alone sufficient to make the breed more popular. The old Cottagh sheep also has practically passed away during the last dozen years, very largely through the agency of the Black-faced crossing, though not entirely, as in districts in which it was then found, a considerable number of Roscommon and other breeds may be met with. On the whole, there seems to be an awakening to the value of sheep farming throughout Ireland, which the poor prices for store cattle have emphasised. Irishmen with their love of a horse and respect for a bullock, have never been a really sheep loving race. Even now, though they see the profit attaching to sheep keeping, they have not yet become a shepherding people in the sense that Scotchmen and Englishmen are.

WITH mangel lifting here, another source of food becomes available for sheep. Mangel leaves are relied upon for sheep food in some districts, while in others they are looked upon as dangerous, and are avoided. There is no reason to suppose that there is any marked difference in the constituents of the leaves, though possibly on some of the clays where there is much potash available, there may be more taken up than on lighter soils. Mangel leaves contain more potash than is found in any of the ordinary farm crops, and it is most likely due to this that scour not infrequently occurs when they are given to animals. Young sheep certainly are liable to scour when they are allowed to eat them freely, and hardy old sheep sometimes suffer in the same way. It is not desirable that they should form the bulk of a sheep's dietary, but should be regarded as an additional food. Where it is intended that the leaves will be given to sheep, it is a good plan to fill in all gaps with cabbages or kohl rabi, or to drill an occasional row of one of these crops at seeding time, so that there will be alternative food; if this provision is made, the sheep will attack the safer food whilst their appetite is keen, and are less likely to suffer. Dry food is certainly most desirable when mangel leaves are being fed; in fact we would never feed them without it. In a season like the present, when many districts have a short supply of winter food, there may be those who are hesitating to use the leaves, although they badly need to make use of anything that is available; if they exercise care, there is no reason why they should not give them to sheep, but if they turn sheep into a field where they can gorge, and allow them no corrective, there is considerable likelihood that they will regret it.

THE price of store sheep is good in spite of shortness of keep in some districts, and it will be as much as some will manage to get them through the winter with much profit on account of the large amount of extra food that will have to be given. In seasons when the food supply is pretty universally short, prices of stores fall so low that every effort that will keep the sheep going until spring food comes in again is worth making, for a life is a life at such time, and prices rise greatly. We remember a neighbour some few years ago who, with a far lighter root crop than ordinary, carried double his usual complement of sheep, because, owing to a failure of winter keep, he foresaw that at the price he could buy in the autumn, could he but keep them alive until keep became plentiful again, he was bound to make a large profit. He got his sheep through all right and made several hundred pounds by doing it. He bought straw and haystacks, chaffed all, and gave bran, malt combings, and maize to induce them to eat the chaff. He eked out the root crop so economically that all got a taste daily—though sometimes it was little more than a finger of turnip—and scarcely had an ailing sheep. They were not very fleshy when food came again, but they soon put on flesh, and he got out of them well.

Sale at Sittingbourne.

The ram supply at this year's annual sale at Sittingbourne was rather larger than usual, and in the absence of the export buyer the home breeders were able to purchase with advantage. Those who have made it a practice to attend this annual sale for some years agreed that seldom, if ever before, had Mr. M. Bursted a better lot of rams from Registered flocks to offer them, and although the averages were lower than last year, it speaks well for the demand to note that the whole of the rams offered were sold.

The best lot of rams entered were those belonging to the Exors. of Mr. W. Elvey, and for them there were plenty of buyers, who secured rams of good merit at prices fully under £2 to £3 per head lower than would have been the case at Ashford sale. Here the top figure was 11½ guineas to Mr. Ledger, who gave 10 guineas for another. Mr. Read gave 11 guineas, Messrs. Gamble and Crauford paid 10½ guineas for two. Mr. Miller purchased at 10 guineas and two at 9 guineas. Another remainder ranged down to 5½ guineas, with an average of £9 9s. 5d. for nineteen.

Lord Harris had the second draft of the Belmount rams on offer. All were sold; and the range of prices was from 12 guineas, at which figure Mr. W. W. Chapman got the top-price ram of the sale. The same buyer took three others at 8½ and 5 guineas, Mr. Tuplow purchased several at from 10 guineas, several others making about 8 guineas and down to 4½ guineas, with an average of £7 14s. 6d. for twenty-five.

Mr. M. Bensted, an old patron of this sale, met a good demand, but at somewhat a lower average than usual. Twenty-six of these rams were offered, and all sold, Mr. P. Cornwell taking the best one at 11 guineas, a real good ram. Mr. Warren gave 10½ guineas, Mr. Seager 10 guineas, and the remainder went from 9 guineas to 5 guineas, giving an average of £7 7s. for twenty-six head.

Mr. P. P. Mainwaring's consignment were not in first-class condition, and consequently failed to secure so good a demand as their type and breeding would otherwise have entitled them to; these ranged in price from 5 to 2½ guineas, and averaged £3 10s. 1d. for seventeen.

Lieut.-Col. Honeyball's Norton Rams, a well-bred lot but lacking in condition, sold at low prices, the average for the seventeen head working out at £2 18s. 9d., at prices from £4 15s. to £2 10s.

The supply of store sheep was a large one. Mr. Bensted's annual sale is becoming increasingly popular with the vendors, for invariably there is always found a good demand. This was the case to-day, and very few of the many lots, whose aggregate total was about 6,000 head, left the ring unsold. So far as could be ascertained, the range of prices for the several ages, &c., were as follows:—

Kent ewe lambs up to 33s., Kent wether lambs up to 31s., Kent ewe and wether lambs mixed up to 29s., half bred lambs from 35s. to 15s.

Bagshawe's Footrot Dressing has by its success earned for itself widespread popularity, and among other places at which it has been used may be mentioned the Royal farms at Windsor. An eighteen-penny bottle contains sufficient to dip 20 sheep, whilst the larger sizes, of course, come cheaper. The dip is made from the original receipt of Mr. J. Bagshaw by Messrs. Grimwade, Ridley, & Co., Princes Street, Ipswich.

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HOPS.

The Official Crop.

We have all been exercised in mental calculations concerning the official figures, and some of us have ventured to back our opinions in the substantial form of a wager or two. The figures being now in our possession, our doubts are resolved and our bets are settled It is not too much to say that the majarity of us are surprised, and are disposed to question the correctness of the estimates. When we are told that the total yield of our plantations amounts only to 245,688 cwt., and that the average is not more 5·26 cwt., per acre. If this be true, we must go back to the famine year of 1882 to find so small a total. In 1890 the average of 53,961 acres was returned the same as we now have it, but since then we have had nothing so low, except in the 1904 season, when the average was 5·91 cwt. I feel some hesitation in venturing to express an opinion opposed to an official dictum, but am compelled to join issue with the present statement, which I cannot accept as really representing the actual yield. The "patchy" character of the growth this season has created especial difficulty for estimators, whether private or official, but I think there is quite sufficient reliable evidence that an average of not less than 6 cwt. has been harvested, which will bring up the real crop to over 280,000 cwt. My view of the position would inclime me to go further, but I adhere to 6 cwt. as a minimum which I feel confident has been realised.

But taking the returns as they stand, and examining them in detail, we find the lowest averages of 3·48 cwt. in Salop and 3·85 cwt. in Hereford, these being manifestly below the known facts. Next comes Surrey with 4·37 cwt., which is probably near the mark. East and Mid-Kent are shown with 4·69 cwt. and 5·00 cwt. respectively. I am aware of some serious failures in these divisions, but am also satisfied that some districts were sufficiently favoured to raise the average much higher. The figure attached to the Weald of Kent, 7·33 cwt., appears as if it should be nearer to the correct average for the whole county. Concerning the figures given for Hants (5·29 cwt.) and Sussex (5·04 cwt.), there does not seem to be much room for question, so far as my information enables me to examine them, but I am sufficiently well informed about the crop in Worcestershire to conclude that the official average of 4·87 cwt. might safely be increased by about 15 per cent.

The returns are, however, issued with the *imprimatur* of the Board of Agriculture, and cannot be altered by critioism. They must remain on record, and will, I trust, have an enlivening effect upon our dull trade, and assist planters in getting in a little "more grist to the mill."

Imports and Exports.

The official returns of our foreign trade for last month show us that the inflow of hops from abroad continues to be active. We have received during September from America 1,406 cwt., and from other countries 7,626 cwt., making a total of 9,032 cwt. This is an increase upon the previous month of more than 3,200 cwt., and also exceeds the imports of September, 1905, by nearly 4,500 cwt. Our exports are falling off, as they only totalled 451 cwt. against nearly 780 cwt. in August, and 1,224 cwt. in the previous September. Taking the two months together, as having most influence upon our new market. I regret to fied that the foreign trade is becoming more and more opposed to our interests, inasmuch as the quantities retained for home sale in August and September, 1906, amounted to 13,558 cwt., and in the corresponding period of last year the total was only 3,756 cwt. Thus we start the season with an additional load of nearly 10,000 cwt., this fact probably explaining to some extent the depression under which our planters are now bowed down. Unfortunately, it is a burden from which we cannot escape so long as fiscal reform is shelved. Our competitors may possess certain advantages over us in the cost of their produce, but under any conditions their surplus must be disposed of, and they naturally look to our open ports for their outlet.

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MESSRS. AMBROSE & FOSTER beg to announce they will SELL by AUCTION at Maidstone Fair, on

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1,234 Kent Lambs,
2 395 Half-bred and Southdown ditto,
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310 Half-bred ditto,
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including a run of 130 Ewes and 30 Ewe Tegs from Mr. George Farmer's Registered Kent Flock; also 120 Ewe Tegs from Mr. S. Skinner.
152
RAMS, including :—
16
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from C. P. Wykeham Martin, Esq.;
27
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from Mr. George Farmer (also 120 Ewes and 30 Ewe Tegs from his Flock);
4
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from Messrs. W. Skinner and Sons;
13
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from Mr. John Robinson;
9
Kent or Romney Marsh Rams and Ram Tegs, from Mr. J. B. Palmer;
14
Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from Messrs. Cannon and Rogers;
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Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from H. B. Hohler, Esq;
6
Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from Messrs. Moore and Miskin;
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Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from G. F. Hohler, Esq.;
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Southdown Ram Tegs, from Thomas Powell, Esq.;
16
Southdown Rams, Tegs and Lambs, from W. M. Gazalet, Esq.;
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Southdown Ram Tegs, from Col. W. W. Hammond, and several other Lots from other Breeders in the District.
96
HOME-BRED BEASTS and
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Sale to commence at 10 o'clock sharp.

Intending purchasers other than clients are requested to forward to the Auctioneers, prior to the Sale, a letter of reference from their bankers.

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HORNE'S GREAT SALE.
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MESSRS. PROTHEROE AND MORRIS are instructed by Messrs. W. Horne and Sons to hold a GREAT SALE of FRUIT TREES and POTATOES on the Premises, Perry Hill, Cliffe, near Rochester, Kent (adjoining Cliffe Station, South-Eastern Railway), on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1906.

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Free luncheon at 11 a.m. Sale at 11.30 a.m.

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500 Well-bred Hereford and Shorthorn Bullocks and Heifers.
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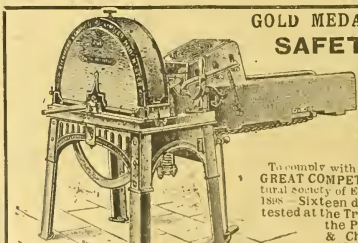

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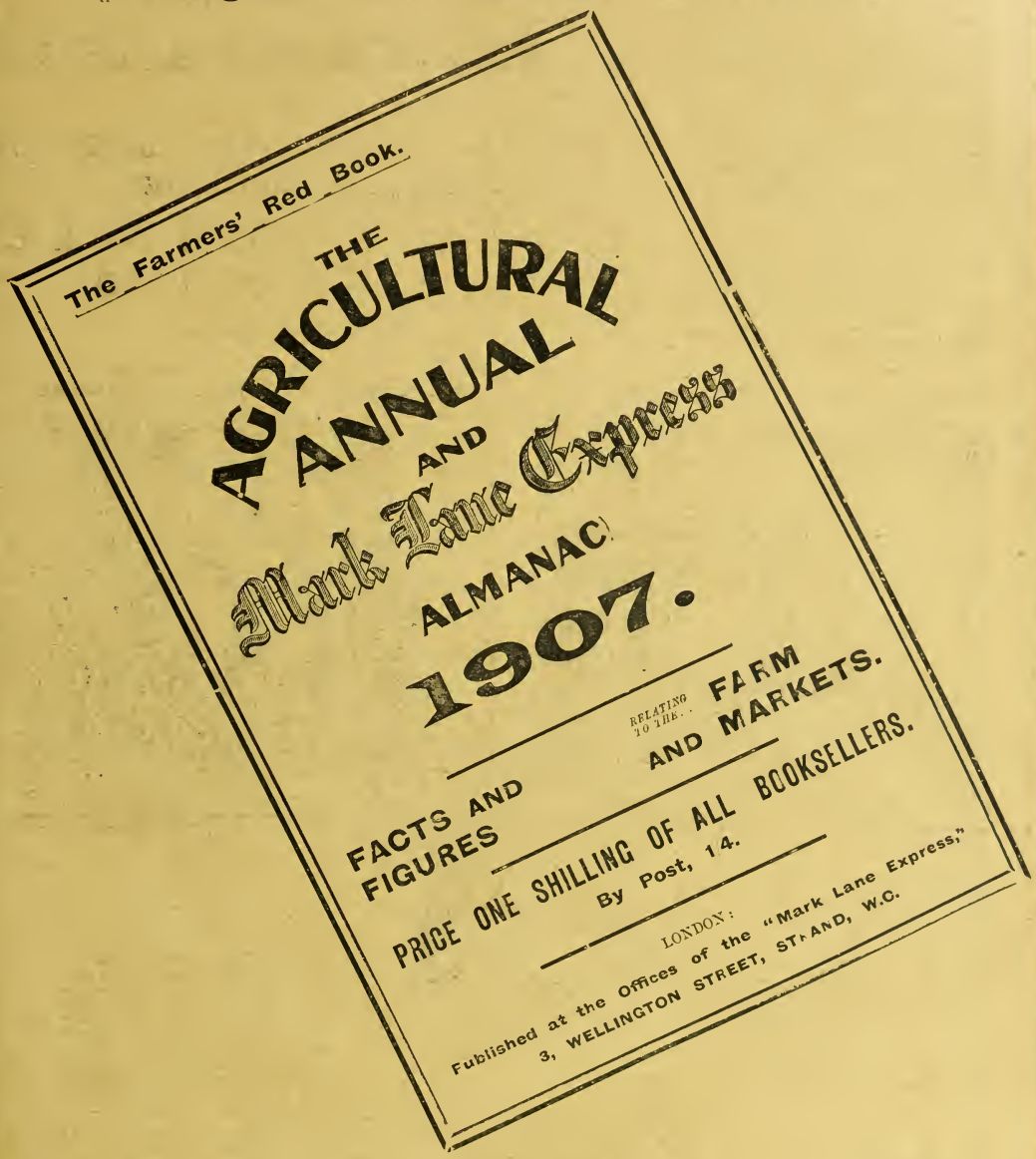

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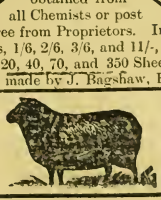

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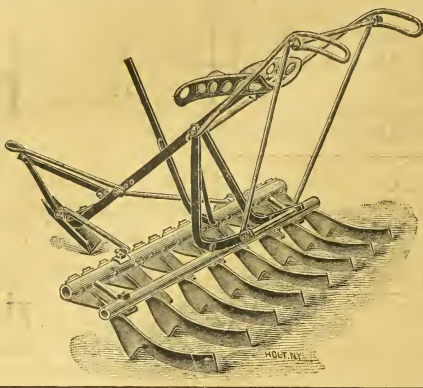

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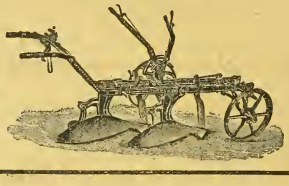

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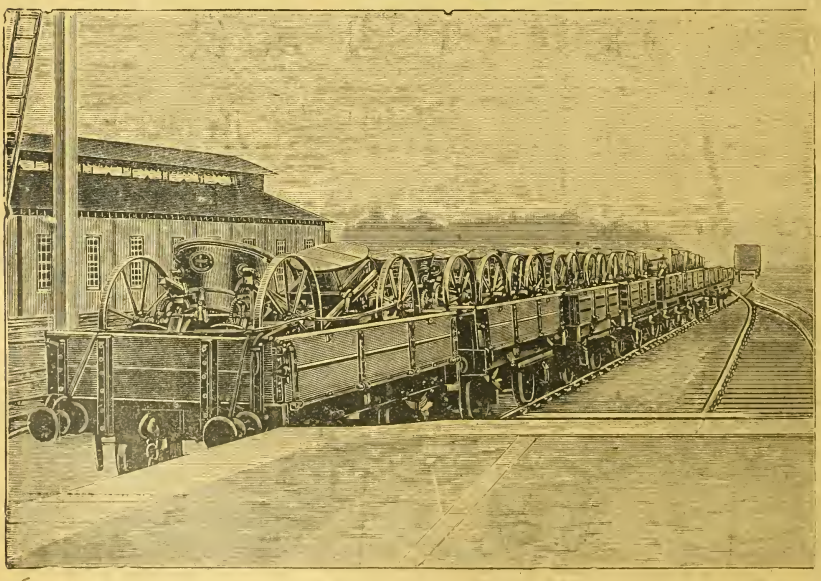

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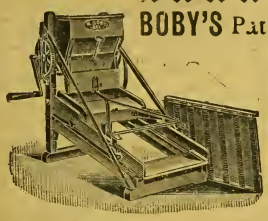

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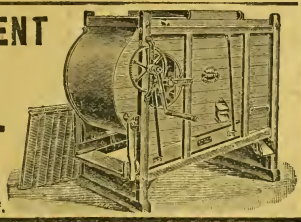

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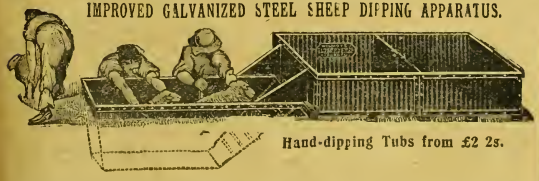

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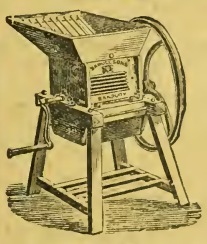

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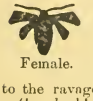

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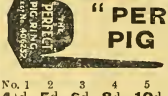

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300 PRIME POLLED BEASTS,
At the Stud Farm, Terrington-St.-John, Norfolk, at 1.30 prompt, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1906.

They consist of two and three year Bullocks and Heifers, a number have been cake fed, the stores are very thick and forward and will make good weights and are a splendid lot.

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SOCIETIES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, 10th to 14th DECEMBER 1906, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, 1st NOVEMBER; Post Entries, 5th NOVEMBER. Implements: The entries for Implements have already closed on October 5. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to
E. J. POWELL, Secretary.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW. The Fifty-Eighth Great Annual Exhibition of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Corn, Roots, and Implements will be held in Bingley Hall on December 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Entries Close:—Implements, Saturday, October 20; Stock, Poultry, &c., Thursday, November 1. Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

NORWICH FAT CATTLE SHOW. 30th Annual Exhibition of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, &c., Agricultural Hall, Norwich, November 22nd, 23rd & 24th, 1906. Last day of Entry for Stock and Stand Space, October 27th. Prize Lists, Entry Forms and all particulars of the Secretaries CALEB BARKER & Co., East Harling, THETFORD.

NATIONAL POTATO SOCIETY'S GREAT SHOW, at ROYAL HORTICULTURAL HALL, VINCENT SQUARE, WESTMINSTER, ON DECEMBER 13 AND 14, 1906.
Schedules are obtainable from W. H. ADSETT, Hon. Sec., Hatton House, Great Queen Street, London.

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VISCOUNT TREDEGAR has fixed the 88th Annual Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 27 and 28, 1906, in the CATTLE MARKET, NEWPORT, MON.
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LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Milking Competitions. WE have got machines for performing a good many tasks on the farm that gsed to be done by hand, but the automatic milker remains in the background, and the manipulation of the cow's teats by the human fingers is the best known means of extracting the milk from the udder. This means that it is essential for the large dairy farmer to have a staff of expert milkers, and with the object of encouraging an interest in this important branch of farm labour milking competitions are held in connection with the dairy show at Islington. We have already pointed out that labour competitions are good as a means of education and arousing interest, and we see no reason why the example set at Islington should not be followed in districts where milking is such an important item of labour. In the old days when all the milk was kept at home it was not so important that the work should be completed in a given time; but now that the liquid has to be cooled and at the station by a certain hour, the farmer must have an expert staff and know their capabilities. "Can you milk?" is the first question asked by the dairy farmer when engaging a new hand, and compared to this other qualifications are of minor importance. In view of this it seems to us that nothing could be more useful in dairy farming districts than milking competitions in order to make the growing youths and girls more expert.

Mildewed Turnips. NOW that we have had rain, and the general effects of the long drought are gradually disappearing, the miserable appearance of many fields of turnips suffering from mildew shows up more plainly by the contrast. Mangolds have very much improved since the dry weather broke up, but in the case of many pieces of turnip, the mildew fungus had got a too firm hold to be easily removed. Of course the repeated washing of the leaves by the recent rains has had the effect of improving matters somewhat, but a lot of mildew still remains in some pieces of roots. Are these mildewed roots good for sheep and lambs? The point is worth considering, but I cannot see how they can be wholesome, at any rate for lambs or sheep under a year old.

Forestry. IT is a good thing to observe that there is a general awakening to the importance of paying more attention to forestry in this country. That there is any waste land in Great Britain at all that might be cultivated and would grow something is a national slur, and it is greater when we realise that there is a good deal of land that might be utilised for growing trees now producing nothing. On every estate of any size there is a certain amount of wood, but the management of this department is very often open to criticism. In fact, in many cases, there is no management at all except mis-management, and the so-called woods are merely fox coverts or game preserves. If forestry is to be taught, however, it must be taught properly, and real, well-managed woods should be established for the purpose. The State is in a better position to carry out this work than any private individual, and there are Crown lands and forests suitable for experimental purposes. Surely there is no reason why the matter should lag.

Poultry on Newly-Ploughed Land. THE usefulness of poultry for destroying ground insects is generally admitted, and the other day we had an ocular demonstration of the fact. Two or three teams were ploughing in a field in which some weeks ago moveable poultry-houses were placed on the stubble. Behind each plough was a flock of hens greedily pecking away on the newly-turned furrows. The ploughshares were turning up wireworm and various other grubs, and as fast as they appeared in view there was a scramble amongst the fowls for the dainty morsel. It would, of course, be impossible to say how many wireworms and other insect pests the poultry disposed of, but the number must have been considerable, and we question whether farmers make enough of their fowls as a means of destroying ground pests. In scores of cases the poultry never leave the precincts of the farmyard for fear—some tell us—that foxes should have them, but with moveable houses and reasonable care they can be protected, and while the fowls are all the better for being moved about, they may be usefully employed in the cause of cultivation.

METHOD OF SELECTING SEED BARLEY.

The Care of Orchard Fruit Trees. IN the orchard counties in the West of England there is a commendable desire on part of persons interested in the matter to develop the fruit-growing industry as a branch of farming. It is a praiseworth desire, but unfortunately there are many obstacles in the way. An orchard apple tree is not a thing that commences to show a profit directly it is planted, but some years must pass before any return can be looked for. Just so, and the farmer argues that his tenure is not secure enough for him to plant trees, knowing that some years must elapse before he can reap any benefit from them, and in the meantime he has the trouble and cost of cultivation. The argument is reasonable enough, but there are two sides to the question, and there are a number of landlords ready and willing enough to plant trees if the tenants will look after them. Do the latter always do this? No, alas! no; as scores of illustrations will prove. The necessary looking after is more a question of timely attention to detail than anything, and this is where there is room for complaint. Young trees are planted and properly fenced against cattle, but fastenings will break and wear out and the stems and branches of the trees are rubbed and bruised on the fences put to protect them. Fences break down and stock gnaw the bark off the trees, pruning is neglected, and rank weeds are allowed to grow up and choke the stems. These are but a few of the items of neglect to which newly-planted trees are subjected, and if an estimate could be given showing how many standard trees have been planted in the past ten years or so, and have failed through sheer inattention, the figures would be startling. Surely orchard tenancy is divided between landlord and tenant.

Basic Slag for Grass Land. A STORY is told about an old gentleman who was a bit crankled on artificial manure getting out of patience with his bailiff, who was a decided sceptic, and exclaiming that the day would come when he would be able to put enough manure in his waistcoat pocket to dress an acre of land. "Very likely, sir," was the dry retort, "and

you'll bring th' crop home in 'tother pocket." How times have changed, to be sure, since prejudice against artificial fertilisers, equal to the above instance, prevailed amongst farmers! Instead of being averse to the use of artificials, the farmer's trouble to-day is that he cannot get as much concentrated manure as he would like, though he has lost not a bit of his faith in the virtues of dung. The time has now arrived for seeing about slag, and in grass-growing soils that respond readily to this fertiliser its use has increased wonderfully of recent years. The farmer is proverbially slow to move, but give him ocular demonstration of the value of a certain thing, and he readily sinks his prejudice in favour of it. Autumn is the time for applying slag on land that is lacking in lime, and in this particular farmers show a willingness to combine. In fact, they can see that by working on co-operative principles slag and other fertilisers can be obtained at a much lower rate than if each one acted as a unit.

The Use of Gas Lime.

IT is at this time of the year that persons who have faith in the value of gas lime see about getting it on the land, but a wide difference of opinion exists regarding the virtues of the above material. In the first place, gas lime is used as a purifier and insecticide for the destruction of ground pests, and to effect this purpose it must be used in a fresh state. But fresh gas lime contains compounds of a poisonous character, and if used too freely may entirely ruin the prospects of plant growth for a year or more. It is doubtless wrong or over-applications that have got gas lime into bad odour in some quarters, but gas lime that has been exposed for some time to the air is a comparatively mild material, consisting largely of gypsum, and if applied at the rate of two or three tons to the acre on stiff, clayey land it improves the texture of the soil, and has a beneficial effect on the next season's crop, particularly if the latter happens to be mangold.

Experiments in Potato Growing.

THE reports on the experiments in potato culture conducted this season by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading, are interesting reading to persons who are concerned with the growing of the cosmopolitan tuber. One interesting trial was that of growing several varieties with rod peelings and dung as manure. It appears that in some parts of Berkshire the cottagers use rod peelings as manure for potatoes with considerable success, and it was decided to put them to the test. The result was that rod peelings produced a heavier weight of potatoes than manure, but, of course, the former are not a commercial commodity, so that the trial was more interesting than useful from a general point of view. Another useful experiment was that to prove the results of planting matured and partially matured sets. Returns were in favour of the latter, and we think that in this direction there is opened up a fresh item in potato culture that will demand the attention of growers in the future. The comparative results of varieties grown from seed harvested last season in the south of England, Lincolnshire, Scotland, and Ireland showed the undesirability of planting seed tubers raised in the South. Most people are agreed as to the advantages of planting Scotch-grown seed potatoes, but it would appear as if the land of the thistle will have a competitor in the future in the growing of seed potatoes, as the merits of seed tubers raised in Ireland for growing on English soil are rapidly asserting themselves. Will Old Ireland rise to the occasion? Let us hope so.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Lord Carrington and Scotch Farmers.

Earl Carrington has the great quality of courage. It is of no small moment that he confronted the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture. That body is against the Scottish Land Bill, against it probably because of the conception—it may be a misconception—that it will operate to the disadvantage of the general farmer. An uncouth phrase, I admit, this of "the general farmer!" By it I mean the farmer whose area is beyond fifty acres. Of course, Lord Carrington has more than once declared that, small-holder protagonist though he be, he is by no means the antagonist of the big farmer or believes that he does not play a useful part in the nation's economy. This fact, however, was apparently forgotten by the Earl's Scottish auditors, and as a consequence he was regarded with somewhat of a suspicious eye. After all, however, there is some excuse for the Scottish attitude. By this I mean that the Scottish Land Bill is the most significant departure in economics ever embodied in a Parliamentary measure. Applying only to the probable cultivators of small areas, it has undeniably rather appalled the men whose acres proceed beyond a hundred. Well, the Scottish attitude was only one of criticism and of suspicion.

Is Dual Ownership a Radical Anxiety?

Is Lord Carrington also a protagonist of dual ownership? I ask this because of a phrase of the Minister for Agriculture in a recent speech. I also ask this question with some foreboding because of the fact that the Land Tenure Bill is but the forerunner of the Liberal scheme of land reform. If Lord Carrington is in favour of dual ownership—and his use of the word "partner" as applied to his tenants is an evidence that he is—then it is morally certain that dual ownership will be embodied in the Liberal scheme. Has it paid in Ireland? Would it pay—and I purposely use this illustration because of Lord Carrington's known anxiety for a specific Welsh Land Bill—in Cymry? The Irish example has not been a success. It may be urged that this is due to its having been an experiment, and that all experiments have associated with them the possibility of failure. It must not, however, be forgotten that it has been so long in operation as to have shed this infirmity of all great purposes. May I put this question specifically to his lordship: Does he, in his future legislative designs, intend to graft on to land reform the principle of dual ownership?

Is a Land Court Justified?

I fear me that Lord Carrington will become the King Charles' head of my article. Well, his lordship is to blame. He is the most ubiquitous chief that ever presided at the Board of Agriculture. In other days I heard the Earl described as a Sybarite. In the present day he is the hardest worked member of the Ministry, and he seeks to justify his Ministerial existence by continuous contact and association with the farmer. Now, with this preface, let me ask his lordship if he behaved with his characteristic generosity in accepting that enhanced rent of a hundred pounds. The story which he told to the northern farmers at Newcastle of a farmer who, dissatisfied with his rent, appealed to the land court, and, as a consequence, suffered an addition of a hundred a year—an infliction which has now lasted for fifteen years—did not seem to me quite a Carringtonian episode. As an appeal to the landlords to accept the principle of a land court the idea was excellent. What, however, of the farmer? and, after all, in the Radical economy the tenant is the chief person to be considered. If, as a sequel to a land court, the tenant is going to have his rent raised—well, beshrew me, my lord, a land court will not have a fascinating guise to most of us. What if an Irish tenant had had his rent raised by a hundred pounds as a result of an appeal to the land court? Well, there would have been wigs on the Parliamentary green.

A Radical Threat.

In my capacity as a journalist I was the guest of Major Arthur Biggs—one of the sanest and prescient land reformers I know—at the National Liberal Club at the land reform dinner on Thursday. The speech of the evening was made by Mr. James Rowlands, M.P., the secretary of the Land Law Reform Association. Mr. Rowlands absolutely justified every assertion I have made as to the character of the Land Tenure Bill. He frankly hailed it as only a precursor, as a portent, as an omen. "I tell you," said he, "that the Land Tenure Bill is only the minimum of what we desire. We shall never again, if this measure be rejected by the House of Lords, be satisfied with anything short of the principles of the Scottish Bill being applied to England. We shall ask that the proposals of the Welsh Land Commission shall be applied in their essence, not merely to the Principality but to England. We shall demand that the most complete expression shall be given to the Three F's. We shall assert that the landlord is but the sleeping partner in a great industry, and is but the trustee of the State." "If I had my way," went on Mr. Rowlands, "I should rather Mr. Channing's Bill were embodied in law than Mr. Agar Robartes' measure. I say this because it has a more distinctive and affirmative character. But in future legislation we shall be even content with Mr. Channing's Bill. Let the House of Lords throw out this Bill, and the act will be the preface to legislation of which the most noble peers never dreamt."

Liberals and Mr. Robartes' Bill.

As these dogmatic assertions were being uttered Mr. Rowlands was surrounded by at least a score of Members of Parliament, and everyone associated themselves with his assertion. Two London members, in the persons of Mr. Horace Myers and Mr. Bertrand Strauss—and your urban politicians are always, of course, your supreme authorities on the land—declared at once that they would hail with joy the defeat of the Land Tenure Bill, because they would regard that defeat as an incentive to more rigorous methods and to a more rigorous policy. They made no profession of great friendship for this Bill. They hailed it, in fact, as little more than the foundation of a structure of reform. They regarded it as but the basis of the edifice. If I were to interpret their speeches, I should say that they regard the Bill as a mere experimental preface, lacking solidity and strength. And, frankly, I believe this epitomises the general Liberal attitude.

Lord Carrington's New Tribulation.

We are to have a sequel to Lord Carrington's declaration of sympathy with his own report as president of the Welsh Land Commission. I find that a number of politicians, including several Parliamentarians, have decided to initiate a movement whose purpose will be to seek the establishment of land courts in England. Of course, I need not say that these politicians are all Radicals. No comment is necessary on the effort; but I may add that Lord Carrington has himself only to blame for this new addition to his tribulations.

The Agricultural Machinery Trade in Sweden.

His Majesty's Consul at Gothenburg, in the course of his report, states that foreign competition in machinery, implements and tools has latterly become very keen in Sweden, especially from Germany and the United States, whence, according to competent reports, fairly good and cheaper goods are supplied. It would appear as though the foreigner exactly knew the cost to the British maker, and was therefore in a position to undersell. The United States having, *via* Denmark, made Sweden their dumping ground for the immense output of their agricultural machinery industry, it is quite natural that the sale of British articles of these kinds should fall off.

Native industry has greatly developed in this direction, and the comparative cheapness of labour and material also conduces towards lessening the British manufacturers' prospects in the market he formerly commanded almost solely. Belgium and Germany have latterly appeared as formidable competitors to British trade in manufactured and other iron. The former country especially, by offering a very honest article and, of course, a lower price, has in many instances proved a severe competitor to English industry. Germany, on the other hand, does not enjoy the reputation of good quality, but her endeavours to satisfy the cry for cheapness have certainly benefited her on many occasions.

At a meeting of the Stockport branch of the Cheshire Milk Producers' Association it was resolved to increase the price of milk by members of the association to 2s. 6d. per dozen quarts. This is an increase of 3d. per dozen quarts on the winter prices.

A Land Tenure Conference.—Mr. James Rowlands, M.P., the hon. secretary of the Land Law Reform Association, has received a letter from the Minister for Agriculture, in which he says:—"I shall be delighted to accept the invitation of the executive committee of the Land Law Reform Association to attend a conference on the subject of the Land Tenure Bill on the 22nd, and I hope that you will express my grateful thanks to your committee for the compliment of asking me. The feeling in favour of the Bill is increasing daily, and I confidently look for the support of the whole of the army of progress in my endeavours to get the Bill passed into law."

MALTING BARLEY AND HOPS AT THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

The Growth of Malting Barley.

Ceres wears a golden crown this year, the result of a beautiful summer, and comes to us in nut-brown October costume, richly laden with the grain which from time immemorial has fed the brewing industry. In olden times October-brewed strong ales were in repute; but the arts of modern life have long since created the far-famed Burton beverage in our own country and the light Lager beer of the Continent. During the twenty-eight years the Brewers' Exhibition has had existence the evolution of this industry has brought revolutionary changes, and British farmers have acquired the knowledge how to grow most successfully the product which should invariably form the main element of the brew, prime malting barley.

Good Seed Essential.

Not until the Brewers' Exhibition demonstrated that some varieties of barley naturally produce plumper and finer skinned barleys than others, and that it is possible by rigorous, persistent selection to raise their quality to a high standard of perfection, were farmers in general impelled to recognise pedigree value in grain as well as in live stock.

Previously the acquirement of malting character was regarded as purely accidental due to seasons, weather, and soil influences. And there are still too many ordinary farmers who still cherish that delusion. To them one sort of barley for seeding purposes would be as good as another. But those who know regard the extra money expended in obtaining improved seed and corn as the best investment they could possibly make.

Crops and Manures.

Nor is this the only valuable lesson a study of the catalogue of the Brewers' Exhibition would give. Very wisely they contain information which every exhibitor is required to render with his entry as to the culture pursued, the crops it succeeded, the manure employed, and the period and character of the seeding. Every one of these conditions have direct or indirect influences on the barley yield, not only in respect to quantity, but quality.

The discovery was made by obtuse as well as intelligent farmers long since that, as a rule, better malting barley could be grown after a previous corn crop than after turnips, especially if sheep in feeding on the latter had left much more manure. Lands in good state of fertility, but not fresh manured, are found best for malting barley, and when some manuring is deemed essential, artificial fertilisers containing phosphates and potash with a very small proportion of nitrate are found better than rich farm-yard dung.

Time of Sowing.

Early sowing has been proved by the statistics of the Brewers' Exhibition catalogues to be very conducive to the successful growth of malting barley. In fact, the proofs recorded are too numerous for this point to be considered at all doubtful. Hence experienced cultivators seize on the very earliest period after the new year has opened, when weather and soil are both fitting for putting their crops in. Not infrequently lands are found in admirable condition in February, and sometimes still earlier, and experience, no less than the catalogue entries, prove the good policy of embracing such opportunities.

Too often those who have neglected to sow then find it impossible to get the like favourable conditions again until late in April. There are records in the catalogue of Chevalier barley having been raised successfully for exhibition purposes from November samples, but the winter four-rowed variety, the ancient name for which was Bere, is best suited for autumn seeding. Probably it was grown in this country for brewing more generally in old times than now. A strong, productive brown beer may be made, but its malt is not available for pale ale manufacture.

Threshing.

The fact that many a farmer spoils a good malting sample by bad throshing renders a word in season to be not out of place in advising very careful oxamination of the setting of the drum of the machine effecting tho operation when it has commencemont. The corns that are broken together with many others simply bruised are worthless for malting, so that it would save money in the end to go to the expense of making two throshings rather than spoil a good malting sample.

No doubt barley is the most difficult of all grain to thresh and prepare for marketing. Agricultural engineers have invented several admirable screens to facilitate the work and to enable those unaware of the services they render to know what ones are mostly made use of. Every exhibitor is required in filling up his entry form to state the kind of screen used for his barley.

Barley at the Brewers' Exhibition.

This department of the Brewers' Exhibition will not only be well worth inspecting during the present week, but will be so replete of object lessons for barley growers that a visit from country to town purposely to con them will be well worth while even by those farmers who are not exhibitors. When the difference in market value between malting and grinding barleys is considered, every occupier of land well adapted to grow the former ought to endeavour to his very utmost to learn all about the culture and conditions by which the best of the best have been grown.

The Barley Prizes.

The barley section of the Brewers' Exhibition, which opened on Saturday, is again well supported by British and foreign growers and merchants. This year there are submitted in competition 341 samples, of which 302 are home-grown and thirty-nine foreign, which exceeds the number of last year's entries by forty-six. The schedule this year shows nineteen different classes, and it may be noted that it is possible for the champion sample to be awarded six cups, two gold and other medals, several diplomas, and upwards of £100 in cash. Moreover, experience has proved that all samples which secure notice from the judges sell at far higher rates, and for this reason it is always advisable for entrants to state the exact stock they hold and the price at which they are agreeable to sell.

At the inaugural luncheon on Saturday Mr. Frank Flinn, the chairman of the barley judges, while expressing great satisfaction with the quality of the exhibits, again drew attention to serious faults in the way in which the barley was dressed. He pointed out that the machines were badly set, and that in consequence the ends of the corns get broken off, with the result that it is rendered unsuitable for the malting floor. He was convinced that this was not due to any defect in the machine itself, but entirely to the way in which it was operated. This year a class had been instituted for the best thrashed barley, with prizes of £4, £2, and £1, half the prize money to go to the man who fed the thrashing machine and half to the man who drove the engine. This, it was hoped, would bring about improvement in the way in which the barleys were dressed.

The following are the prizes as far as they were allotted on Saturday. The remainder, together with the winners of the MARK LANE EXPRESS Diplomas, will appear *in extenso* in our next issue.

The judges were: Frank Flinn, Maltster, Bishop's Stortford; James Grant, Manchester; Edward R. Hill, East Dereham; H. Mackeson, Hythe; Lewis J. Meakin, Burton-on-Trent; C. H. Stafford, Scarrington, near Nottingham; S. N. Thompson, Smethwick; C. Howard-Tripp, Esq., Burton-on-Trent and Romford.

PRIZE LIST.

THE WORLD'S CHAMPION PRIZE (Value £10 10s.).—Oxfordshire Barley (144): Mr. H. G. Hatt, The Vale, Ipsden, Wallingford.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" CHALLENGE CUP.—Oxfordshire Barley (144): Mr. H. G. Hatt.

THE BURTON CHALLENGE CUP.—Oxfordshire Barley (144): Mr. H. G. Hatt.

THE J. K. KING AND SONS' 25-GUINEA CHALLENGE CUP.—Oxfordshire Barley (144): Mr. H. G. Hatt.

THE R. BOBY, LTD., CHAMPION SCREEN PRIZE (£10).—Oxfordshire Barley (144): Mr. Hatt.

RESERVE FOR CHAMPION.—Essex Barley (47): Mr. C. M. Stunt, Belchamp Walter (entered by Mr. W. Cross, Colchester).

CLASS 1. BRITISH MALTING BARLEY (CHEVALIER VARIETY).—1. Oxfordshire Barley (144): Mr. H. G. Hatt. 2. Essex Barley (47): Mr. C. M. Stunt, Belchamp Walter (entered by Mr. W. Cross, Colchester). 3. Suffolk Barley (205): Mr. H. J. Riches, Washbrook, Ipswich. R, Essex Barley (42): Messrs. Parish and Son, Kelvedon (entered by H. T. Eve and Co., Maldon).

CLASS 2. BRITISH MALTING BARLEY (GOLDTHORPE VARIETY).—1. Bucks Barley (242): Mr. W. Purser, Boveney Court Farm, near Windsor. 2. Hereford (253): Mr. F. Bonnor, Bollitree, Ross. 3. Hereford (255): Mr. J. J. Corbishley, Eccleswade Court, Ross. R, Hereford (254): Mr. J. J. Corbishley, Eccleswade Court, Ross.

CLASS 3. COLONIAL MALTING BARLEY. (No entries.)

CLASS 4. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Two Rowed).—1. Bohemian Barley (308): R. Liebmann and Co., 13, Southwark Street, S.E. 2. Austrian Barley (329): Prince Rudolf Liechtenstein, Kroman, Austria. 3. Hungarian Barley (334): S. and J. Reif, Vienna (entered by Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31–32, Crutched Friars, E.C.).

CLASS 5. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Two Rowed).—1. Ouchac Barley (336): Messrs. Woodley, Watney, and Richardson. 2. Asiatic Turkey Barley (314): Messrs. J. Westrope and Co., High Street, Hull. 3. Ouchac Barley (312): Shaw, Son and Co., Ltd., High Street, Hull.

CLASS 6. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Two Rowed).—2. Chilian Barley (337): Woodley, Watney, and Richardson.

CLASS 7. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Other than 2 rowed).—1. Bohemian Barley (305): Liebmann Bros. 2. Bohemian Barley (306): Liebmann Bros. 3. Hungarian Barley (303): Liebmann Bros.

CLASS 8. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Other than 2 rowed).—1. Smyrna Barley (338): Woodley, Watney, and Richardson. 2. Timisian Barley (323): J. Westrope and Co. 3. Smyrna Barley (313): Shaw, Son, and Co., Ltd.

CLASS 9. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (Other than 2 rowed).—1. Californian Barley (326): J. Westrope and Co. 2. Californian Barley (327): J. Westrope and Co. 3. Chilian Barley (341): Woodley, Watney, and Richardson.

The Hop Section.

The show of hops this year is very satisfactory, as regards both the number and quality of the exhibits. We have no less than seventy-three samples on view, the competing growers numbering forty-two. This is a considerable increase on the numbers of last year, and the average quality of the hops shown is an indication of the superior character of the English crop, as the judges testify that never since the competition has been established has there been so fine a selection submitted to their examination.

The list of entries gives the following details:—

Class 1.—East Kent, twelve exhibits.
Class 2.—Mid-Kent, six exhibits.
Class 3.—East and Mid-Kent, seven exhibits.
Class 4.—Weald of Kent, five exhibits.
Class 5.—Weald of Kent, seven exhibits.
Class 6.—Sussex, four exhibits.
Class 7.—Sussex, four exhibits.
Class 8.—Worcester and Hereford, eleven exhibits.
Class 9.—Worcester and Hereford, seven exhibits.
Class 10.—Farnham and country, five exhibits.
Class 11.—Farnham and country, five exhibits.

It will be seen that every district is well represented, and we can well understand that the task set before the judges was not easy, when so many

HOW THE PRIZE ENGLISH BARLEYS WERE GROWN.

No.	Grower.	County.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops 1905	1904	Seed Sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Quantity Grown. Qrs.	Cleaning Machinery.
CLASS I.													
144	Hatt, H. G.	Oxfordshire	Light loam	Chalk	Oats	Roots	J. K. King's "Champ. P. Chev.	8	Stevens' Special	March 10	August 21	—	Boby's
47	Stunt, C. M. (*Entered by* W. Cross, Colchester)	Essex	Light	Gravel	Wheat and Oats	Wheat and Oats	Archer's	12	Packard's	April 6	"	40	
205	Riches, H. J.	Suffolk	Mixed	Stony	Mangold	Peas	Webb's Chevalier	8	None	"	"	21	
42	Parish and Son (*Entered by* H. T. Eve & Co., Maldon)	Essex	Clay	Marl	Mangold Seed	Wheat	Chevalier	8	None	" 2	" 21	30	—
CLASS II.													
242	Purser, Wm.	Bucks	Gravel	—	Swedes	Wheat	Carter's Goldthorpe	10	None	March 8	" 9	—	Smith's
253	Bonnor, F.	Hereford	Sandy loam	Sandstone	Clover	Oats	Champion Prize	7	Webb's	" 23	" 10	400	Boby's
254	Corbishley, J. J.	"	Red loam	"	Oats	Clover	Burton Malting	10	Crone & Taylor's	" 9	" 2	—	
255	" "	"	"	"	"	"	" "	10	Webb's	" 8	" 2	—	

excellent samples had to be compared. But we are informed that the following awards were arrived at with absolute unanimity.

The championship, with gold medal and diploma, goes to Mr. J. Thompson, The Hyde, Woolhope, Hereford, who is, therefore, also the winner of the special prize of £10 offered by Messrs. Sydney Myer and Co., Hereford. This is the first time that the championship has been gained by a Midland Counties grower, and we congratulate the fortunate winner on his well deserved success.

Class 1.—1st prize, No. 8, Goldings, G. Mount, Wootton Farm, Bekesbourne; 2nd prize, No. 12, Goldings, Exors. of G. Whiteman, Tyler Hill, Canterbury; 3rd prize, No. 9, Goldings, S. Neame, Selling, Faversham.

Class 2.—1st prize, No. 18, Goldings, E. A. White, Ltd., Beltring, Paddock Wood; 2nd prize, No. 16, Goldings, W. Rogers, Horton, Kirby.

Class 3.—1st prize, No. 21, Bramblings, W. Lillywhite, Thanington Court, Canterbury; 2nd prize, No. 25, Cobbs, Exors. of G. Whiteman, Tyler Hill, Canterbury.

Class 4.—1st prize, No. 28, Cobbs, Ernest Mannington, Eaglesden, Benenden; 2nd prize, No. 26, Goldings, T. and W. Highwood, Marden.

Class 5.—1st prize, No. 34, Fuggles, Ernest Mannington, Eaglesden, Benenden; 2nd prize, No. 32, Goldings, J. D. Large, Taywell, Goudhurst.

Class 6.—1st prize, No. 39, Bramblings, C. Brissenden, Cousley Wood, Wadhurst.

Class 7.—1st prize, No. 42, Fuggles, E. Ballard and Son, Bartley Mill, Frant.

Class 8.—1st prize, No. 55, Bramblings, J. A. Thompson, Woolhope, Hereford; 2nd prize, No. 51, Mathons, W. F. Pudge, Bishops Froome, Worcester; 3rd prize, No. 46, Bramblings, F. O. Bomford, Leigh Sinton, Malvern.

Class 9.—1st prize, No. 59, Mathons, W. F. Pudge, Bishops Froome, Worcester; 2nd prize, No. 61, Bramblings, E. G. Shew, Bosbury, Ledbury.

Class 10.—1st prize, No 67, Goldings, P. and C. Seward, Weston, Petersfield; 2nd prize, No. 64, Bramblings, G. W. Duncan, The Glade, Bentley.

Class 11.—1st prize, No. 73, Fuggles, P. and C. Seward, Weston, Petersfield.

The prizes offered by Messrs. Webb and Sons, Wordsley, to growers in the Southern districts are taken by Mr. S. Neame, Selling, and Mr. W. Lillywhite, Thanington, and in the Midland districts by Mr. J. A. Thompson, Woolhope, and Mr. E. G. Shew, Bosbury.

Messrs. E. A. White, Ltd., Beltring, offered prizes of £10, £5, and £3 for hops grown with the aid of "Spimo." These were awarded to Mr. G. Mount, Bekesbourne, Mr. F. Pudge, Bishops Froome, and the executors of G. Whiteman Tyler Hill, in the order as named.

The Sheppy Glue and Chemical Works, Ltd., offered prizes of £10 and £5 for hops grown with their manures, and these were taken by Mr. G. Mount, Bekesbourne, and the executors of Mr. G. Whiteman, Tyler Hill.

Not having had an opportunity of examining the exhibits in detail, we must postpone our criticisms concerning them till next week.

Blandford Barley Show.

Some dozen years since it was felt desirable amongst the agriculturists of Dorset to do something alike to improve the grain products of the country and at the same time direct attention to them from outside sources. This could not be done right away, but through the energies of Mr. J. E. Tory, of Dorchester, a most happy combination of the various Dorset farmers' clubs were brought about, and the first show was held at Dorchester. In many respects it was very crude, but it was highly representative of the barley and other grain as then grown in the county of Dorset. Barleys were high coloured and fairly reeking of the sheepfold enough to taint any beers, and, above all, they were very badly threshed and dressed, there being plenty of material left in for the top of the maltster's vat as well as in the bottom of it, the wheat was thin and horny, and contained plenty of clinners as well as other undesirables; whilst the oats were marvellous as regards the various shaped flints they contained.

That first show was an eye-opener as to what the market required and what it did not, and the entries have never been so numerous since, though improvement has to be recognised, still it comes somewhat tardily. Better threshing and far more attention to dressing is now the rule, whilst the old sheepfold barleys have vanished entirely. It seems a pity that prizes are not offered for seed barley. This would direct more attention to the show by the seedsmen, and thus better seed would be distributed in the country, and a few beans might be added. Are these not as useful to make the mare to go as the oats? It would take some of the mawburned ones to prove so effective. The barleys, as a whole, were fairly good, though the season had affected some of them very adversely. The wheats from the strong lands of the Blandford district were very good indeed, especially the red wheats; nearly all were well grown, but some were shown out of condition. The oats were a very poor show. The judges were: for barley, Mr. W. Collis, Alresford, Hants, and J. E. Williams, Salisbury; for wheat and oats, Mr. J. Raymond, Poole, Dorset.

Class 1 was for the best exhibits of malting barley drawn from a bulk sample of 50 quarters. The first prize went to Mr. W. J. Foot, Stourpaine, with a very plump, very kind barley, with a nice curl and rather high coloured, which was grown on loam overlying a chalky loam, grown after wheat in 1905, and roots in 1904, the variety Carter's Prolific, seeded at the rate of 3½ bushels per acre on April 6 and harvested August 20 with a natural weight of 55 lb per bushel. The second went to Mr. C. Trowbridge, Imerne Minister, for a rather harder, more steely barley, and not so good in colour. It was grown on a chalky loam overlying chalk, after wheat following turnips, the variety being Hallett's Pedigree, seeded on February 24 and cut August 11, with a natural weight of 57 lb. The third went to Mr. F. C. Packard, Hanford. The commended card went to a rather two-coloured barley exhibited by Mr. M. N. Tory, Spettisbury.

The prize for the best threshed and dressed sample went to Mr. W. Hunt, Blandford St. Mary. It was beautifully turned out, but was much too high-coloured to be otherwise in the prize list. It was very unfortunate for Mr. J. Vye, White Cliff, that his barley was delivered after this class had been judged, else the awards might have been very considerably altered.

Class 2 was for the best exhibits of malting barley drawn from a bulk sample of 30 quarters. Here the entries more than doubled. Mr. W. H. Hibberd, Canford Magna, was placed first and reserve for the championship of the show with a slightly stained, but otherwise very kindly barley, very plump and nice. It was grown on a sandy loam overlying gravel, after mangolds following turnips, rather an unusual preparation, the variety being Kinner Chevalier, seeded at the rate of 2¾ bushels per acre on April 19, and cut on August 20, showing a natural weight of 56½ lb. per bushel; second went to Mr. W. G. Marsh, Corfe Castle, for a very choice, nice colour barley, very bold and plump. Third went to Mr. G. Bissell Affpuddle for a very nice barley of two shades which was grown on gravel over chalk after roots following wheat, the variety being Webb's Chevalier seeded at 2½ bushels per acre on March 10. A commended card was given to Mr. W. J. Foot, Stourpaine.

Class 3 was for the best exhibits of malting barley drawn from a bulk sample of 20 qr. Here the first prize went to what was undoubtedly far and away the best sample of barley in the show. It was exceedingly kind, very plump, with a big bold berry of such quality as the maltsters desire; subsequently it was given the championship of the show. In a measure this was due to the fine manner in which it was prepared, as to this sample was also awarded the first prize for threshing and dressing. It was grown on flinty chalk after oats following swedes, Hallett's pedigree being seeded at the rate of 3 bushels on January 30 and cut on August 7, the weight being 56 lb. to to the bushel. Mr. N. H. Hibberd was awarded second, but for some unascertained reason was disqualified; third went to Mr. W. Hart, Shillingstone, and a commended card went to Mr. W. J. Spicer, Chettle, but his sample was too ripe and not dressed sufficiently.

The class for exhibits of white wheat drawn from a bulk sample of 25 qr. Here there were several very choice samples. Mr. J. Cossin's Tarrant Raunton was first with a very even, smart berry, in the best of condition; it was an ideal seed wheat. It was grown on loam and chalk after turnips, following ley. The variety, Ambrose Stand Up, seeded at the rate of 3 bushels on November 19, and cut on July 30; weight, 65 lb. to bushel. It was awarded first prize for threshing and dressing, as well as the reserve championship. Second prize went to Mr. T. B. Sprake, Knowle Hill. Mr. J. Cassins was also placed third, whilst commended went to Mr. J. Lockyer, Wyke St. Giles.

The red wheat drawn from a bulk sample of 25 qr., constituted an exceptionally strong class indeed, Mr. J. Shepherd, Long Crichel, headed the class with a magnificent sample of Imperial Standard. It was of that strong character millers desire, and it was clean, hard, dry, and perfectly dressed, but it had to yield to the white wheat in this respect, but it was so much superior in other respects that it was awarded the championship. It was grown on plint and chalk, after rape and turnips following turnips, was sown on November 4 and cut August 21, second went to Mr. T. B. Sprake, third went to the same exhibitor.

The oat class for best exhibit of spring oats drawn from a bulk sample of 25 qr. was a decidedly weak one as a whole, several of the oats being out of condition, first prize went to Mr. W. H. Stokes, Delcombe Farm; second prize to Lord Ailington, Long Crichel; and third prize eo Mr. J. Vye, Durlescombe Farm. The trade in the exchange was very fair, most of the offered lots being purchased at prices ranging from 26s. to 36s.

Method of Selecting Seed Barley.

Our illustration on the first page of this issue was reproduced from a photograph taken in a field of Mr. J. B. Sainsbury's (Whitecross, Ross) new Winter King two-rowed barley, and depicts him with assistants selecting the seed barley. Mr. Sainsbury claims for his new Winter King barley that it is the earliest two-rowed variety known, is a very heavy cropper, and a favourite with maltsters for colour and extract. It will stand any ordinary winter, and has been grown in Scotland with great success. The straw is very heavy, and stands better than most varieties. Mr. Sainsbury adds that clovers succeed better after Winter King barley than spring-sown on account of this variety's earliness, whilst one can obtain a green crop, turnip or mustard, after a crop of Winter King barley.

HOPS.

What is the Outlook?

Traders say there are rocks ahead, which growers will be well advised to be careful about, lest they find themselves stranded. What they mean is, that while brewers are now prepared to buy, their inclination in this direction will only last as long as prices are moderate. Their needs have not increased, and they will certainly cease to operate as soon as the firmness of growers has raised values above what they are disposed to pay. I hear that several of my country friends, who formerly held very exalted opinions as to the future of the market, have now modified their views, and have let some of their hops go at current prices.

I think they are wise in taking this course. Though it is not unlikely that we shall be able to secure a little more money, it will only be done by the exercise of great caution, and I am sure it is not safe to reckon upon the future with too much boldness. I heartily welcome the present revival of trade, which I am glad to believe is not the result of speculation, but of a legitimate consumptive demand. Growers should, therefore, deal with it wisely, they are not standing on ground that is actually and undoubtedly safe, as they have still before them the foreign supplies, which are coming forward, and will certainly continue to come forward in increasing quantity.

It is a very trying and teasing time for all concerned. Merchants will, I am sure, do their level best to uphold the market, as it is distinctly to their interest so to do. But they cannot resist the force of facts, and they know only too well that the brewers are the masters of the situation.

Produce of Hops.

Preliminary statement, showing the estimated total production of hops in the years 1906 and 1905, with the acreage and estimated average yield per statute acre in each county of England in which hops were grown:—

		Estimated total produce.		Estimated average yield per acre.	
		1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.
		cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Kent	East.....	46,236	135,945	4·69	13·05
	Mid	50,152	152,044	5·09	14·53
	Weald...	70,243	155,481	7·33	15·91
Total, Kent...		166,631	443,470	5·69	14·47
Hants		10,263	30,207	5·29	15·27
Hereford.....		24,953	88,802	3·85	12·96
Salop		442	1,626	3·48	12·04
Surrey		3,399	10,248	4·37	12·16
Sussex		22,070	69,059	5·04	14·86
Worcester		17,893	51,961	4·87	13·65
Other counties* .		37	570	0·72	11·18
Total		245,688	695,943	5·26	14·21

* Gloucester and Suffolk.

Foreign Hops

are being freely offered on our market at tempting prices. The value of Belgians has fallen considerably, and there is some pressure to sell them here at competitive rates. The German houses are very active in scouring the country. Their representatives are to be met with everywhere, and although they are not booking many orders, their quotations hinder the business of English merchants. American hops of the new crop are also coming forward, quotations having recently been reduced. I have seen this week an offer of 500 bales of Oregons, the samples showing splendid quality. The price asked was 15½ cents per lb., free on rail on the Pacific Coast, representing about 85s. per cwt. in the English buyers' warehouse. I am also informed that a well-known American house, having an agency in London, is moving heaven and earth to place contracts with brewers for a series of years at about 84s.

SHOW GOSSIP.

A meeting of citizens and residents of Lincolnshire was held in the Guildhall, Lincoln, on the 12th inst., to promote the success of the Royal Agricultural Society's Show, which is to be held in Lincoln in June, 1907. The mayor presided, and he was supported by the Earl of Yarborough, Lord Monson, Lord Heneage, Sir Gilbert Greenall, and others. The mayor announced that there had been a liberal responso to his request for donations. Already the promises amounted to very nearly £4,000. The Earl of Yarborough moved a resolution cordially welcoming the show to the city, and pledging the meeting to promote its success by every means in its power. The resolution was carried unanimously, as also was another that the meeting should form a general committee, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of gi ving effect to the former resolution.

At a public meeting held at Fakenham, it was unanimously resolved that steps be immediately taken to invite the Norfolk Agricultural Society to hold their show at Fakenham next year, and a committee was appointed to arrange matters. It may be mentioned that it is ten years since the Norfolk Show was last held at Fakenham, and as it then proved a success, the society will be sure to accept the invitation offered.

As was only to be expected, the wretched weather experienced by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society for their show at Middlesbrough caused a somewhat big financial loss. The report of the finance committee, which was presented at a meeting of the council last week, stated that the attendance of the public at the Middlesbrough Show was 42,722, being 7,229 less than at Hull in 1905, and 9,461 below the average for the last five years, and that a loss of over £700 had been incurred. The total receipts at the turnstiles, £2,362, and the grand stand, £374, together £2,736, were £438 less than at Hull, and £697 below the five years' average. The loss on the sale of timber, etc., used in the erections was 38¾ per cent., or 8½ per cent. above that of last year, and 6¾ per cent. above the average. The local fund amounted to the handsome sum of £1,621 gross, towards which the Middlesbrough Corporation contributed £250.

The Council requested the Finance Committee and the Stock Committee to consider and report to the next meeting of the council in December as to what reductions, if any, in the expenditure were possible. The question of the best means of obtaining an improved attendance at the shows, in order to ensure their financial success, was discussed, and it was resolved that in future the shows should be held on Saturday, which, being a general half-holiday, it was hoped would result in a larger gate, and they will in future commence on Thursday instead of Wednesday, the show at Barnsley next year being fixed for August 8, 9, and 10. A sum of £2,000 was voted for prizes at the show.

The last of the Westmorland cattle shows, known locally as the "Fellside Royal," took place at Dufton, near Appleby, on Wednesday in favourable weather. The exhibition differs from others in several ways. It is held in unenclosed ground on the village green, no charge is made for admission, and no printed catalogues are issued. The society derives its revenue solely from subscriptions and donations. The premium list is very comprehensive, and contains a class for unbroken Fell-going stags (*i.e.*, young horses). At night a dance and waltzing competition attracted country people from far and near.

Arrangements have been made by Mr. Frank Euren, who is the English secretary of the International Horse Show Society, to hold the first show at Olympia on June 7 and following days, 1907. The show will last for a week, and it will be run on the lines of those which are now held on the Continent and in America.

The following is the list of gentlemen who have been selected to act as judges of live stock at the Scottish National Fat Stock Club's Show, to be held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on Wednesday and Thursday, December 5 and 6:—

Cattle: Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, and cross-breeds: Messrs. James Durno, Jackston, Rothienorman; George Cran, Morlich, Glenkindie; and John M'Kinnon, auctioneer, Blairgowrie. Galloways, Highlanders, and president's prizes: Messrs. Wm. M'Connel, Glasnick, Kirkcowan; Arch. Turner, Kilchamaig, Kintyre; and Duncan M'Laren, Corntown, Stirling. Butchers' cattle and dairy cows: Messrs. John Grisdale, Spittals Farm, Kirkbythore, Penrith; Thomas Lawrie, Windlestrawlee, Edinburgh.

Sheep: Blackfaced, Cheviot, and half-breds: Messrs. A. M'G. Sproat, Baldoon, Wigtown; John S. Johnston, Crailing Hall, Jedburgh; and James Wood, Eansett Hill, Gullane. Crosses and extra classes: Messrs. Wm. Cradock, Holenback, Maxwelltown; Wm. Martin, Dawyck Mill, Stobo; and John Shields, butchor, Alloa.

Pigs: John Brooks, Pinkhill, Corstorphine.

It has been felt for some time past by those interested in the Bristol Cattle Market that some movement should be made to popularise and add to the trade now carried on. During recent years the trade done at Bristol market has been falling into the hands more and more of the dealers, and farmers have not been supporting the market as they used to do in years gone by. One step decided on to make the market more popular is to hold a fat stock show in December, and so far £150 has been allotted in prizes, but if, as it is hoped, subscriptions comes in liberally, additions will be made to the prize schedule. The show will be open to competitors within a twenty miles' radius of Bristol, and judging from the present outlook it should prove a successful fixture. Mr. W. T. Howes, of the firm of G. Nichols, Howes, Co., Brow Street, Bristol, is the secretary.

At a special meeting of the Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association held at Driffield to consider a suggestion from the Royal Agricultural Society that a contribution should be made towards the class prizes for Leicesters at the next Royal Show, it was resolved to provide a class prize of £18, to be met partly from the society's funds and partly from voluntary subscriptions.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. HOWARD SAMMONS, Oxfordshire Agricultural Society.

The meeting held in Banbury Town Hall to make arrangements for the visit of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society next May, was very largely attended, and satisfactory progress was made, for a committee and also the secretaries were appointed, and a site—that used for the society's last show in this town—was selected. The Mayor read some of the details from the last balance-sheet at Banbury, in which it showed the total receipts to be £907 17s. 5d., and that the subscriptions locally came to £610. The town guaranteed £200 and provided special prizes and the band. That meant they had to pledge themselves to raise a similar amount this year. He hoped they would all aim at making the show a success. He thought if they raised about £600 they would do as well as before—or £650. As there is a balance in the bank of £250 from the last show the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society may rest assured that the requisito amount of subscriptions will be forthcoming, and we look forward to a most successful show in the cake town.

An interesting case to exhibitors at shows and show secretaries was heard by Sheriff Lee in the Arbroath Sheriff Court on Wednesday. It was the action of George Bean, a farmer, of West Ballochy, by Montrose, against the president, standing committee, and secretary of the Angus Agricultural Association, as representing that association, for loss and damage incurred by the plaintiff in consequence, he alleged, of the defendants having illegally and unwarrantably refused to allow him to enter his mare, Queen Marcella, under the three-year-old filly class, and thereby deprived him of earning a prize in that particular class.

The defence was that the animal, having had a foal, was no longer entitled to be classed as a filly, but was a brood mare, and accordingly fell to be entered under the brood mare section. The defendants contended that the claim, as stated, was irrelevant in respect that there was no definite statement showing how the actual loss had been sustained, and of consent of parties the claim was altered to the effect that, owing to the action of the defendants, the animal had been deprived of any chance of taking a prize in the filly section.

Witnesses for the plaintiff brought out that in other provincial shows, especially in the West of Scotland and in the Aberdeen Show, the practice of admitting three-year-old fillies with foals was dissimilar to that of the Angus Society; but, on the other hand, it was admitted that the custom of the Highland and Agricultural Society was in effect the same as that of the defenders.

The defence was that the Standing Committee of the society, in issuing their decision, had acted after careful investigation according to the best of their ability, and that, therefore, they were not liable in damages; further, that on the merits of the case the professional opinion and a large proportion of the lay opinion supported the decision of the Standing Committee, and that in any event the plaintiff was personally barred from insisting in his action through having accepted a commended ticket in the brood mare section for the animal in question, no animal being entitled to compete in two sections. A large number of witnesses from all over the country having been examined on both sides, the case was adjourned.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Dairy Shorthorn.

It was decided at the meeting of the council of the Dairy Shorthorn (Coates' Herd Book) Association, held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, during the Dairy Show, to offer in 1907 the same number of prizes for pedigree Dairy Shorthorns as in 1906, with the exception that an increased amount be given to the Royal. The prizes offered will be as follows:—Royal Agricultural Society, £30; The Bath and West of England, £10; The Oxfordshire, £10; The Royal Dublin, £10: The Yorkshire, £10; The Royal Lancashire, £10; and The Tring, £10.

The conditions are:—(1) All cows and heifers competing in any class in which the association offers all or part of the prize money shall be clean milked out to the satisfaction of the stewards at 6 p.m. on the evening previous to the show; (2) On the first morning of the show all cows and heifers are to be milked in the ring in the presence of the judge, who shall also see each cow's milk weighed, and any animal that does not yield up to the association's standard, when milked in the ring, will not be awarded a prize: (3) No animal having been awarded one of The Dairy Shorthorn (Coates' Herd Book) Association's prizes, is eligible to compete for another of these prizes during the same year. The association's standard is as follows:—Cows, four years and upwards, not less than 25 lb. of milk; cows, three years old and under four, not less than 20 lb. of milk; heifers, under three years old, not less than 15 lb. of milk. These amounts apply to animals that have calved within three calendar months of the first day of the show; for those that have calved more than three months the quantity of milk is in each case 5 lb. less,

Hereford Herd Book.

An important resolution was carried almost unanimously at the last council meeting of the Hereford Herd Book Society, viz.:—"That in view of the fact that the English Hereford Book has been closed since the year 1886 to any animal whose sire and dam had not been entered previous to that date, the council of the Hereford Herd Book Society, in the interests of the Hereford breed, invites and recommends the American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, the Argentine Rural Society, and the Uruguayan Rural Society, to alter their rules prohibiting the entry of English-bred Hereford cattle whose pedigrees do not trace to the 13th or previous volumes of the English Hereford Herd Book, and to accept the entry of any cattle which have been entered or are eligible for entry in the English Hereford Herd Book."

The President, in moving the resolution, said the question had been much discussed amongst Hereford breeders, and he thought a great majority of them would be in favour of it. Other remarks were to the effect that the present rule caused a great loss, as breeders had to be so careful in research as to the pedigrees of animals for breeding, and some new breeders had been disgusted on finding that important purchases were ineligible on one side or other of the pedigree. There was evidently a consensus of the meeting in favour of the terms of the resolution, and opinions were expressed that any animals entered in our Herd Book were quite good enough for acceptance by the foreign societies, considering that our Book

had been closed for twenty years against animals whose sire and dam had not been entered.

Devon County.

The Devon County Agricultural Association's Show at Tavistock in May was the largest ever held in the annals of the association, but the financial success was spoilt owing to heavy rain, and the takings were spoilt—£1,000 less than at Exeter in 1905. Still the increased entry fees produced more revenue, and the revised plan of shedding saved a considerable expense in the fitting of the showyard, so that there was no big loss, and the society's year finished with a good balance at the bank. These details were reported at the annual meeting on the 12th inst., when Lord Clinton was elected president for the ensuing year. The 1907 show will be held at Bideford on May 22 and 23.

Wadhurst.

The Bill for the abolition of private slaughter-houses came in for severe criticism at the last meeting of the Wadhurst Farmers' Club. One member described it as "another bit of grandmotherly legislation," and another remarked that such a measure would mean another nail in the coffin of agriculturists, for the result of the Bill passing into law would force the retail butcher into the dead meat markets, to the great benefit of the foreign importer, as he would not be put to the inconvenience that might attach to the using of a public abbatoir erected, it might be, miles from his shop. Eventually it was unanimously resolved—"That this meeting of the Wadhurst Farmer's Club pledges itself to do all in their power to oppose the Bill."

Exeter Horse Show.

That the Devon and Exeter Horse Society's Show at Exeter is a popular one was proved by the large attendance at this year's fixture, when the receipts—thanks to a fine day, a feature so seldom given the show—were £157 odd, as against £80 last year; but subscriptions do not come in as they should do, and at the annual meeting of the society on the 12th inst. Mr. M. B. Ford, one of the hon. secretaries, raised the question of whether or not the show should be continued. It seemed to him, he said, that unless they could find some means of obtaining subscriptions they should seriously consider whether the show should be held another year. Whether there should be a cessation he was not prepared to say. He was opposed to dropping the show, because it would be so difficult to restart it. They had worked all year at a loss of just over £20, instead of which they ought to have been adding to the money obtained in the year when they amalgamated with the County Association. There has been a falling-off of £30 in the subscription list, and another £30 in the entrance fees. He suggested that a subscription list should be opened, and that the success or otherwise of this venture be reported to an adjourned meeting. His remarks were supported by others, and one suggested opening a subscription list at once, but it was eventually decided not to publish a list until early next year.

Suffolk

The Suffolk Agricultural Association believes in no half measures when they issue a publication, as was evidenced by the ideal show programme and catalogue for their exhibition this year, and now they give further evidence by publishing their annual report for 1906 in pamphlet form. The idea is, of course, not a new one, but it is in the contents and arrangement that this pamphlet shows to advantage. A notable and new feature is the inclusion of the judges' reports on the stock and implements at this year's show, and the remarks of these experts cannot but prove useful to exhibitors. Another noteworthy feature is a copy of the illuminated address presented to the secretary, Mr. Robert Bond, in June, in recognition of his valuable services to the society. A full list of awards at the show is also given. The balance-sheet shows that the total receipts for the year were £4,143, a result comparing very satisfactorily with previous years, when the show has been held at Ipswich, viz., 1902, £3,809; 1897, £2,321; 1891, £2,132; 1888, £2,106. The expenses were—Prizes £1,581, working expenses £1,837, including bands £63, military and naval sports £14, motor gymkhana, water display and tug-of-war £13, illuminations £26, sheep-dog trials £55, implement field trials £79. The profit on the Ipswich Show was £691, which now brings the total balance to the credit of the association up to £3,148.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

The annual meeting of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at the Agricultural Hall, on Wednesday, Dairy Show week, the Marquis of Winchester presiding.

Mr. Caddick, in moving the adoption of the report, took the opportunity to refer to the deliberations of the Select Committee on Butter Adulteration, remarking that the delay of the House of Commons in dealing with the matter had been very keenly felt. He hoped the representatives of the agricultural industry in the House of Commons would use their best endeavours to see that early legislation was secured.

Mr. James Sadler (Crewe), who seconded the adoption of the report, complimented the council on what had been done on the present occasion to excite a greater interest in the milking of cows. The milking of cows had become an almost prejudiced employment, and he did hope the association would continue to give every encouragement possible to the milking of dairy cows, because if there was not an ample supply of efficient milkers it would be impossible to carry on the dairy business. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., who attended as the representative of the Board of Agriculture, remarked that formerly he had always been present as a member of the association, or latterly as a vice-president. Having asked the meeting to accept the apologies of the President of the Board of Agriculture, Lord Carrington, who was attending a meeting of agriculturists in Scotland, Sir Edward said he might claim for the President of the Board of Agriculture that he had a very good record indeed. (Hear, hear.) In the past season not only was the fullest possible time given for the discussion of the Agricultural Estimates, but they were passed without a division. Two Bills which the Central Chamber of Agriculture had for years been pressing Parliament to pass—namely, the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs and the Dogs Bills had become Acts of Parliament. On the question of butter adulteration, several Bills had been introduced into the House of Commons, but had always met with the same fate. In the last Parliament, Mr. A. E. Fellowes said the adulteration of butter had increased to such an extent that it was necessary to appoint a Select Committee rather than bring in a Bill. Unfortunately, the late Government never appointed that committee, although it was promised to the Central Chamber of Agriculture. Immediately the present Government came into power they proceeded to the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the butter trade. That committee, consisting of men of different views, presented practically an unanimous report, the recommendations in which concerning the frauds perpetrated upon the public would be embodied in a Bill. It was unwise to legislate in a hurry, and the President of the Board of Agriculture had said it was the intention of the Government to introduce a Butter Bill at the earliest possible moment, and it would be next session. There was enough work left over from last session to occupy the whole of the Autumn Session. (Applause.)

The President said he thought the statement of Sir Edward Strachey was very satisfactory to all of them.

Professor Long said members of a Government were generally antagonistic to the agricultural industry—(laughter)—but he was exceedingly glad that Sir Edward, though he had reached a Ministerial office, had been nothing of the kind. He should like Sir Edward to inform them when the earliest possible opportunity would be.

The Chairman said that would be placing Sir Edward Strachey in a hardly fair position; they must remember that the hon. member said that next session would be a hopeful time for introducing the Bill.

Lord Kenyon was chosen President.

Mr. Stapleton urged the Council to make representations to the War Office to include cow beef in their contract tenders, dairy farmers were suffering from the small demand for cow beef, which, in the case of fat cows, was more nutritious than that of bullocks.

Another member expressed the hope that something would be done to rebut the scurrilous attack upon the British dairy farmer that had been made in some of the London dailies, which among other things, alleged farmers persistently milked tuberculous cows.

Mr. Walker, on behalf of the West of England exhibitors of cheese, complained of the unfair manner in which it had been judged. The West of England cheeses exceeded the Scotch exhibits by more than two-thirds, and yet the two judges came from London and Scotland. The result was that the champion cheese at Frome Show was only commended, whilst the unnoticed cheeses there were brought right to the front.

Mr. J. T. Farmer (Devonshire) thought better prizes should be offered in the milking contests, otherwise they could not expect the competitors to bear the cost of going to London. (Hear, hear).

Midland Notes.

OCTOBER, 1905, left the farming outlook better with us than it found it, and this October will do the same, yet what a difference between the two months. Last year we went about wrapped up in winter garments, for it was bitterly cold with a touch of north always in the wind, and nipping frosts each night. This year, without anything like a real St. Luke's summer, the month has kept for the most part unseasonably warm, so that, contrary to expectation, the leaves are remaining long upon the woodland trees, while autumn hatched insects are more plentiful than one expects at so advanced a date, and though the summer birds are going or gone, the bats have not retired yet to the winter quarters where they hibernate.

OCTOBER last year was a wet month, and this will be gratefully remembered for its rain; so far the two agree. But ploughing then was far forward, and pastures kept their greenness up to a late date in the season. One hears complaints, by the way, from farmers of heavy land that the recent rains have failed so far to penetrate the hard caked subsoil, and that the surface is in danger of becoming water-logged. Certainly the customary tramp of inspection round the farm has been a dirtier and more unpleasant business lately than one looks for as a rule after such moderate downpours as we have had, which looks as though the water was not soaking in as it should.

THE local root and grain shows which are now beginning to be held indicate that the downpours of the last few weeks have brought along the mangel crops very rapidly, and that on the heavier soils a much more bountiful harvest will be gathered than seemed probable a month ago. The Coleshill show yesterday was interesting as marking the jubilee of the local Farmers' Club, and attracted some well-known visitors in the persons of Sir P. A. Muntz, M.P., the Hon. Arden Adderley, and Dr. Wall.

A FALLING-OFF in dairy produce at this Warwickshire fixture was accounted for by the suggestion that dairying is occupying less attention than hitherto in this district. If that be so, the Coleshill neighbourhood is rather an exception—the tendency as a rule is all the other way—and milk production seems likely to increase all the more rapidly as the advantages of combination become more fully recognised.

THAT, of course, is happening now in many quarters. During the period of extreme milk scarcity the contrast between the prices paid to producers who were protected by an association and those who enjoyed no such assistance was too remarkable to escape comment, and the lesson is being turned to account. The Water Orton Association is the most recently formed; and then the same movement has borne fruit at Tamworth, and the Leicestershire producers are also organising. In the end it is hoped so to organise the trade that all the milk which goes to Birmingham—the greatest centre of consumption—shall realise a fair standard price. That ideal is far off yet, but recent developments do something to bring it nearer.

MEANWHILE the new contracts promise to be more remunerative than the old. An interesting case in point is furnished by the Tame and Rea Drainage Board contracts in respect of milk sold off their enormous sewage farm. In this instance, the price obtained for the first nine months' milk represents an increase of a farthing a gallon on last year's rates, and that for the remaining three months an increase of a halfpenny. The Board agrees to supply 150 to 180 gallons a day at these rates.

ONE is sorry to see the school-attendance and hop-picking trouble cropping up again. This week the batch of parents and guardians summoned to Brierly Hill police-court was only eighty-six, which means that the prosecutions this year are less than they were a year ago; but it is a pity there should be any. The hop-picking exodus is so regular a thing in some parts of the Black Country that it is much to be regretted educational authorities cannot see their way to arranging holidays so as to fit in with it.

THE returns of animal diseases are not altogether pleasant reading. Having taken the trouble to look back over the official figures, I find ten Midland counties have furnished sixty-five cases of swine fever since the begining of July. Staffordshire heads the list with fourteen, but Salop with thirteen and Warwick with ten are not far behind, while Worcester and Gloucester account for seven apiece. When the year's statistics come to be made up, it seems hardly likely that any further progress in stamping out this disorder will be shown; on the contrary, we seem to be "advancing backwards"; and meanwhile we must expect the Board's new policy of grouping together the Swine Movement Order areas to hang fire.

October 18, 1906.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Lime Properties in Soil.

SIR,—For some time past the question of the exhaustion of the lime properties in our English soil has been freely ventilated in the public press as having an important bearing on the farming interest, and more especially on the augmenting or decrease of our crops in proportion to its absence or presence. Will you kindly allow me a little of your valuable space to make a few remarks and recommendations that will be interesting and valuable to farmers.

Having this year grown some wheat from pulverised limestone without any soil or any addition whatever that will compare favourably with any farmer's sample, and also a great improvement in the bulk and quality of the straw (more particularly in its power of resisting adverse weather), it must of necessity follow that this will eventually be a great consideration in matters connected with farming, and also to what extent it will pay a farmer to invest his capital in pulverised limestone in preference to artificial manures that only last one year and leave the land in a worse condition than it was previous to their application.

As clover contains a large amount of pure lime, it is impossible to grow a crop if it is not in the land, but by a liberal application it can be grown on any land, and as clover ought to enter largely into the rearing of all young stock it will be seen what an important item this is on all farms, to say nothing of the mechanical benefit derived as the land can be ploughed with one horse less after its application.

I am afraid of trespassing too much on your space, or I could give further evidence if you think it desirable.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
GEO. HAWTHORN.

Small Heath, Birmingham.

WHEAT (exact size). GROWN BY Mr. HAWTHORN.

The Small Holdings Panacea.

SIR,—Now that small holdings—thanks in large measure to Earl Carrington—are much in the air, one meets many people who point in triumph to Belgium and France as shining examples of what can be done in that way. Some years ago Lawes and Gilbert in the R.A.S.E. Journal showed that the success of the Belgian holdings was due in great measure to condition of soil and climate which do not exist here; now M. Jules Méline throws fresh light on the state of affairs in France.

France also has a rural depopulation problem to face, and M. Méline, ex-Premier and ex-Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, discusses it in his "Return to the Land," a copy of which has just reached me. Some of the figures he gives are curiously instructive. In 1862, he tells us, there were 1,134,000 peasant proprietors in the country; by 1882 the number had fallen to 727,000; and in 1902 there were but 589,000. The chief cause of the agricultural depression which induced this remarkable decline was removed, he adds, when the Government consented to place farming on an equality with commerce by means of a protective tariff.

That is a statement worth remembering. Has Earl Carrington, one wonders, considered his fellow Minister of Agriculture's experiences?—Yours faithfully, READER.

October 19, 1906.

The Change in the Farming Class.

SIR,—The grass fields are green all over the Northern Counties of Scotland, and there will be a heavy crop of roots for sheep and cattle feeding, so that the price of both cattle and sheep is high, and store cattle and lambs and old ewes for stock are three times the price they were thirty-five to forty years ago. Thus our Scotch Highland farmers give up driving about the country in their old style of trap and dog cart, and now use only motor-cars, and are appealing to Parliament to get their farms reduced in rents. I and my father belong to a family that has farmed for the last 800 years in Ross-shire, and we paid £2 per imperial acre for land that our forefathers cultivated from waste land, and this same land is now let to others at 20s. per acre. Further, the prices of sheep and cattle, butter and eggs are now three times the money we used to get, and yet we lived well and happy with contentment, with natural affection and brotherly love. The old have passed away and died happy, but have left a cold race behind void of natural affection, with only the love of this world and thirsting after its vanities.

October 17, 1906. INVERNESS.

Insect and Fungus Pests.

SIR,—I quite agree with "Severnside" that nothing will ever be done to effectually deal with insect pests without combination of effort, but, except in a few cases, I think one might as well expect our Board of Agriculture to spend money on fighting these troublesome foes. "Severnside" asks if sheep dipping is to be required of us by law, why not fruit washing? Just so, and much as I agree with "Severnside" as to the desirability of making it compulsory to keep fruit trees clean, I can see many difficulties in the way. As a matter of fact, we do not treat our fruit growing seriously enough, and the slipshod way in which it has been carried on for years has allowed the foreigner to get a foothold in our markets which is firm and lasting. "Severnside" quotes the case of California as an example. Quite so, but in California fruit growing is treated as a business and an industry, not a mere happen and chance adjunct to ordinary farming.

I need not tell "Severnside" that there are scores, yea hundreds, of orchards in the West of England that are crowded with old and insect-ridden trees that are living examples of years of unpardonable neglect. "Severnside" knows all this as well as I do, and supposing a law were passed making it compulsory to keep fruit trees clean, who would the task of dealing with these old specimens fall on? It would certainly be too great a job for either landlord or tenant without State aid, and the object of it would only be to prevent the pests spreading to young trees, because there are hundreds of old specimens growing in orchards that are not worth spending a penny on. We have let things go in that delightfully philosophical way of ours, while foreigners have been raising orchards and treating fruit culture on sound business lines, and now it is difficult to know which way to turn for the best. Last season I had reason to complain about some newly-purchased trees having American blight on them. The tradesman apologised and pointed to an old blight ridden orchard just outside his boundary as the cause. He spends pounds every year in keeping his stock free from the pests that are bred in the old orchard and has no jurisdiction. Of course he ought to have, but in the words of Hodge, this is only one of the things that "don't seem right to me." Oh! if we were only just starting orchard fruit-culture instead of patching up something that has been allowed to go down almost to decay, how differently we might act! I sympathise with "Severnside" and agree with the principles of his arguments, but I much fear that the remedy he suggests will not come in his time or mine.

October 18, 1906. WEST COUNTRYMAN.

Sales of English Wheat.

SIR,—I cannot help writing you a line to say how astonished I am to see in your MARK LANE EXPRESS of last week that the returns from the statute towns of the quarters of wheat sold in September of this year are 15,000 qr. less than in September, 1905, namely, 400,000 last September, 1906, and 465,000 in September, 1905, or 14,000 qr. a month less this year than last in the corresponding period, consequently a very fair comparison. These figures do not quite go to confirm the estimated crop of wheat returned by so many, several returning them from 100 up to 106, but rather confirm my view, that the crop was rather under than over average, and especially when you consider what a fine month the whole of September was for threshing.—Yours truly,

Devizes, October 12, 1906. WM. FOOKES.

A Famous Jumping Mare.

SIR,—The mare Fanny Drape was at one time in my possession, and my object in troubling you with this letter is to correct "Looker-On" in two or three of his remarks on which his memory appears to have failed him. The said mare was from a half-bred mare, and got by A British Yeoman by Liverpool, dam Fancy by Osmond, &c. At the Royal Show, at Manchester in 1868, she was ridden by a brother of her owner, the late Mr. Casson. The late Mr. E. Mulcaster rode her on several occasions, but she was never—in my recollection—ridden by Mr. Geo. Mulcaster. In colour she was a sound black, and a good specimen of a 14 stone Hunter, having strong loins, bloody quarters, big thighs, and clean hocks.

Through her I claim to have owned, trained, and ridden the winner of the first jumping prize in England, which was given by the Brampton Agricultural Society in the year 1867. I have seen two or three horses in my time that could jump higher, but none a greater distance; in a trial jump over water she once covered 28 feet, measured.—I am, yours faithfully,

JNO. P. LAW.

Croft House, Brampton, Cumberland.

SIR,—"Looker-on" in MARK LANE EXPRESS, October 8, says he has forgotten Mr. Duell's Cleveland mare Star's breeding. She was by Barnaby XVIII., dam by Master William II., dam by

Hamilton Hero. I have driven her in harness sixty years since. Star was bred at Low Borrowby, near Hinderwell. The other mares were bred at Plumtree House, Staithes. Water jumps were just coming into fashion at that time; now they are mostly done away with. Star was not trained to jump water, though she won two good prizes at Scarborough first time she was tried in 1873, and several times at Eston over water and timber. Pretty Polly in the Cleveland book has never been beaten. She is of the same strain as Star.

ANOTHER LOOKER ON.

SIR,—I wish to contradict the statement made by "The Looker-On" in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, as to the breeding of Fanny Drape, the famous Cumberland jumping mare. He says she was by a Cleveland bay horse and from a thoroughbred mare, which is not correct.

She was by a thoroughbred horse called A British Yeoman, and he was by a horse called Liverpool.

She was from a half-bred mare got by a horse called Galser, and bred by a gentleman named Issac Drape, of Abbey Town, near Silloth, near Cumberland, and was sold to Joseph Casson, of Burgh-by-Sands, Carlisle, who owned her when she met with the fatal accident.—I am, yours,

BURGH SIDER.

Liverpool, October 16, 1906.

The Importation of Canadian Stores.

SIR,—A letter appeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of October 8 advocating the importation of store cattle into the United Kingdom. If this be allowed, another nail will be driven into the coffin of British agriculture, will ruin the cattle raising industry of this country, and it is doubtful if any advantage to beef-producers would accrue from it, because imported meated beasts would then invade our markets, be slaughtered in every town, and would much more pertinently compete with home-fed beef than imported dead meat does now.

The whole system of importation may be summed up by the following few words:—

Free imports naturally benefit a man as a consumer, but injure him equally as a producer.—Yours truly, A. J. R.

October 16, 1906.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The October number of the Madresfield Agricultural Club's Quarterly is distinctly a show number, for the major portion of its pages are devoted to the society's shows held in August, but there are other interesting items, and, like its immediate predecessors, this new number of the Quarterly is a credit to its compilers and also to the club.

The Calendar of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, Glasgow, for the session 1906-1907 has recently been issued in the form of a small book well bound. It gives full information of the college and the work carried on there, which to intending students and also present students cannot fail to be of the greatest service.

The new volume (number XII.) of the Kent or Romney Marsh Flock Book bears eloquent testimony to the increasing popularity of the good work of the Kent and Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association, for the contents in each of its sections is larger than in any previous volume. It gives details of rams nos. 16,196 to 18,020, ewes 249 to 384, and flocks 1 to 114, whilst other items of interest to breeders of Kentish sheep are included. Copies can be had on application to the secretary, Mr. W. W. Chapman, Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

"A Dissertation upon Guns and Shooting," by Edgar Harrison, provides interesting reading for the sportsman, but its chief feature is perhaps its general introduction to the art of shooting for those who have not yet succumbed to the fascination of the gun. It gives many a useful hint, and is altogether a welcome addition to the sporting library. It is published at 5s. net by Messrs. Cogswell & Harrison, Ltd., 226, Strand, W.C., and 141, New Bond Street, W.

"Book-Keeping Down to Date," by A. Munro, Larbert, N.B., although only issued in September of last year, has now run into a third edition. It merits its success, for it is written by one who knows his subject, is an exhaustive treatise, and is cheap. It is published at 2s. 6d. net by Effingham Wilson, 54, Threadneedle Street, E.C.

After having been in turn a monthly, a quarterly, and issued as circumstances permitted, Messrs. Bibby and Sons' publication now makes its appearance under the title of "Bibby's Annual," and it should prove one of the most popular of annuals, particularly to all who take an interest in matters agricultural. It has been enlarged, and good as have been other issues, we doubt if the present has ever been excelled, for the illustrations are of the very highest quality—quite gems of the printer's art—whilst the reading matter is most varied and interesting. A feature is made of coloured pictures, and these are most commendable; in fact, the annual is an excellent shillingsworth, no matter from what point of view you look at it.

Messrs. Webb and Sons, of Wordsley, Stourbridge, have issued a catalogue of new and improved cereals for the season 1906-7, which contains details and illustrations of their new and improved varieties which have been so extraordinarily successful during the past season, and have secured many high awards.

Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

The monthly meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union will take place on Friday next.

During the month meetings have been held as follows:—October 1, Sleaford and Heckington; October 2, Barnetby; October 3, Newark and Ruskington; October 4, Billinghay; October 5, Stamford; October 6, Retford; October 10, Rolleston; October 19, Gisberton; and for future—October 22, Waddington; October 25, Brant Broughton; October 26, Hykeham.

James Musty, a groom at St. Fagans Stud Farm, was summoned at Cardiff, on Thursday for "gingering" a horse at the Cardiff Horse Show on September 19, and James Rees was summoned for aiding and abetting him, but both gave an emphatic denial to the charge. The deputy stipendiary said that he feared the practice of "gingering" was very prevalent at shows, and persons found guilty of the offence in that court would be severely punished. He would, however, dismiss the present case, giving the defendants the benefit of the doubt, and remitting the costs of the prosecution.

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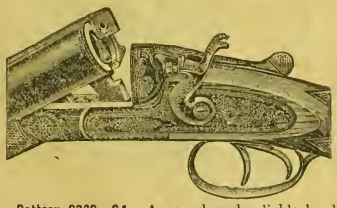

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Northern Notes.

THE ram sales are over in the north, and farmers are now settling down to their autumn and winter occupations, with a day or two of hunting to sweeten the routine of farm life. The turnip flats are already invaded by the young flocks, and these afford most bountcous feed. In Yorkshire the lambs are being put on roots, with a supply of sweet hay available in sheep racks within the fold, a method which counteracts the scouring effect of a green crop. There is always a percentage of mortality amongst lambs at this season, but we are not cognisant of any excess this far.

GRASS is now abundant in the pastures wherever they were not overstocked, and cattle and sheep are able to obtain a good bite, though it is obvious that at this time of year grass does not contain the highly succulent properties which it possesses in spring and summer, and especially needs supplementing in the case of horses. Sheep and lambs are at the present time being folded in comfortable circumstances; the weather, so far, has been comparatively mild, although we have had reminders of an approaching and probably violent change by the announcement that the highest of our hills have already had a slight coating of snow.

WE are all more or less familiar with the ever-increasing expense of poor-law administration; and one is inclined to the opinion that guardians do not exercise so strict a supervision as they might do in the matter of incidentals. We have a workhouse in our mind's eye at the present moment, the front of which might readily be taken for some person's worldly mansion, so gorgeous is it with beds of flowers, rustic seats, and other ornamental devices, including a large hothouse on one side. Such institutions, with their grand fronts and lavish ornamentation which the poor inmates seldom see and do not appreciate, cost a deal of money to maintain, and we contend the money would be spent much more sensibly in providing comforts for the aged inmates. Expenses grow bigger, notwithstanding that inmates do not increase proportionately.

A CORRESPONDENT quotes a striking instance of what has happened in a small parish in North Yorkshire in connection with poor-law and highway expenditure, and he draws a comparison between the amount raised now and forty years back. For the three years ending March 31, 1866, the aggregate amount drawn from the ratepayers was £441 6s. 3d., whilst for the three years ending March 31, 1906, it is £586. In addition, the Government now gives a grant on country roads and also on the pay of police. In considering the increase in this particular parish, which amounts to a rate of 4d. in the £, allowance must also be made for the Agricultural Rating Act, which, coming into operation in 1896, relieved the occupiers of land of half the rates levied in respect of their holdings. But for that it is impossible to say what the increase in the rates of this little North Yorkshire parish would now amount to.

THE conference of farmers associated with the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation, held in Newcastle last Saturday, must have given a great fillip to those present and to thousands who will read an account of the proceedings. The federation is yet in its infancy, but it has already made its influence felt, and its future usefulness, under a strong executive, is fully assured. The federation had an interesting report to present, and a no less suggestive agenda to consider.

ONE of the most important matters mentioned was that relating to the representation of the agricultural interest on electoral bodies. True the landlords, as representative of agriculture, are returned in large numbers to our county councils, but not all of them are practical men, and the tenant-farmers are the people who must be run as candidates wherever their interests lie. "Organised agricultural opinion has given to agriculture," the report said, "the oldest and still the greatest of all industries, something like the same degree of attention and consideration which Governments of the day extend to the better organised industries." The resolution relating to land tenure was practically a declaration in support of the Bill dealing with the subject, a plea for more freedom in the management of holdings. Farmers, it is rightly claimed, should have more liberty in dealing with ground game, in cropping, and in the disposal of produce. They should, in fact, have the utmost freedom, compatible with due regard to the rights of landowners, in deciding how they shall most effectively employ their capital.

"HOW is it that you allow the Danes to get a couple of millions out of us every year when you could put the money into your own pockets?" This question was addressed by a

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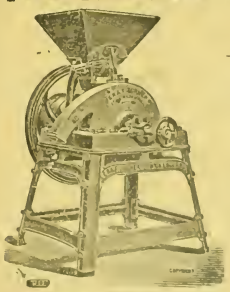

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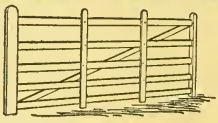

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Leeds doctor to an audience of the Yorkshire Dairy Farmers' Association. It is a plain question, and one to which a straightforward answer might be given: "Because we do not sufficiently co-operate." Co-operation ought not only to be the watchword of farmers, but of milk-producers as well. Dairy farmers at present hold the field against the foreigner, but there is no guarantee that he will do so for long.

THE pasteurisation of milk may open up a vista of hopefulness to our Continental dairymen, and we may in the near future have our milk shipped from Denmark and other places in bottles. The argument in favour of the foreigner is that if milk can be sent a long distance, and still be fit for consumption, the foreigner has his opportunity. The preference given by railway companies to foreign produce in bulk would place the importer in a favourable position as a competitor in large centres of population; and if we desire to keep abreast of all possible competition there is one way only of achieving that desire, and it is by a well-defined system of helping one another.

FEDERATIONS may do something towards bettering the position of agriculturists and dairy farmers. Federation only touches the fringe of the whole matter; there must be active co-operation on a large scale following on the heels of this farmers' "Parliament" just held in the north.

October 19, 1906.

POULTRY.

Poultry Exhibition in Moscow.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries are informed by the Russian Embassy through the Foreign Office that an exhibition of poultry will be held at Moscow in November next by the Russian Poultry Society. The exhibition, which will include an international section, will be open from November 29 to December 4.

Good Prices Expected for Christmas Turkeys.

It is a somewhat ungrateful task to recommend any venture in breeding, for before the time when the stock bred can be placed upon the market plenty of disturbing events may occur. None the less, there are periods when inferences may be drawn some weeks, and some months, beforehand.

At the present moment, when so many farmers are debating whether or no they shall fatten turkeys for the Christmas market, it may be worth noting that the season in Ireland, whence much of the competition comes, has been singularly unfavourable.

It is held by good judges that at the best Ireland next December will be able to send only a moiety of last year's supply. France has not had so bad a period for the young birds; nevertheless, both in Britatny and Normandy, which are the chief provinces upon which we draw, the mortality has been very great, and 75 per cent. of last December's surplus for shipment to England is the anticipation.

In these circumstances farmers in the approaching season ought to get a price compatible with profit. Russia is an unknown factor in the matter, but the quality of Russian turkeys does not come so near to English as does that of French and Irish birds. And, apart from natural quality, the journey, of course, is considerably longer.

Corn Crushing by Tramps.—Recognising the unprofitable nature of stone pounding as a task for tramps, the East Preston (Sussex) Board of Guardians have decided to set their casual visitors to work at corn crushing instead. In former years the tramps who frequented this workhouse used to crush a good deal of corn, the board making a charge of a penny a bushel for the crushing, but the practice was eventually dropped in favour of stone pounding, owing to the difficulty of getting sufficient corn to crush.

Farmers and German Gipsies. — The German gipsies, who have been wandering in the Midlands and North of England for several months past, are still being driven from pillar to post. Upon arriving at Ampleforth, a village in the North Riding of Yorkshire, they encamped as usual for the night. Next morning a number of villagers and farmers in the locality met together, some armed with sticks, and others with guns, and proceeded to the camp. On arrival they gave the gipsies summary notice to quit, but were quickly told in reply that the gipsies intended to remain that day. To show their determination not to be driven away, the gipsies also armed themselves with sticks and axes. One gipsy raised an axe, and was about to make a rush at a man, saying he would strike him down, when a farmer shouldered his gun, and told the gipsy if he stirred an inch he would blow his brains out. Evidently impressed, the king of the gipsies gave orders to drop arms and clear out, and this the whole band did, not forgetting to heap their maledictions on the villagers and farmers.

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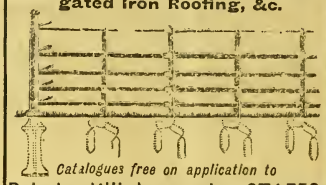

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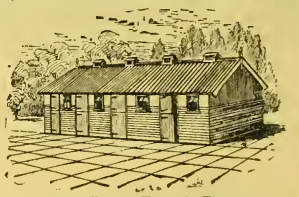

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USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 0	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—		1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Necessity of Care in Using and Buying Cakes and Feeding Stuffs

Although in recent years there has been a general improvement in the quality of the cakes and feeding stuffs supplied to farmers, we still not infrequently hear of unsatisfactory results arising sometimes from the quality of the material being inferior, but sometimes also from their injudicious use. Examples of both these points occur in the recently issued report of the Analytical Department of Midland Agricultural-Dairy College.

It was pointed out that many farmers continue to purchase those foods and manures which cost least per ton, without regard to the real value of their substance. Many, too, are led to purchase inferior articles by the persistence of agents who, to secure commission, often make exaggerated statements, forgetting that in the long run it is the farmer who pays for extravagant expenditure in this direction.

Attention is drawn to the high percentage of water contained in many *Linseed Cakes*, the water having been deliberately added in the process of manufacture. It is an illegitimate source of profit to the manufacturer, and causes the cake to turn mouldy and to keep a much shorter time. It is recommended that buyers should insist on cakes containing not more than 11 per cent. of water, and stipulate for a reduction of 1 per cent. off price charged for each per cent. of water over 11 per cent.

Referring to cotton cakes, it is reported that numerous deaths of young and pregnant animals were traced to the use of undecorticated cotton-cake. Very full examination and analyses of the cakes failed to disclose anything peculiar in their composition, and the losses serve to show how unsuitable these cakes are for the above-mentioned classes of animals. Even with mature beasts undecorticated cotton cakes must be used with care, for in one case full-grown animals were killed through being fed with too much of this cake.

The following are examples of cases which have occurred during the spring of this year:—

	1.	2.	3.
Moisture.....	14·45	13·45	11·50
Oil	5·16	5·03	10·33
*Albuminoids	23·68	24·18	18·87
Mucilage	30·16	30·91	41·74
Woody Fibre.....	21·00	21·13	10·16
†Ash	5·55	5·30	7·40
	100·00	100·00	100·00
*Containing Nitrogen ...	3·79	3·87	3·02
† ,, Sand	0·30	a trace	·50

1. In the first case a cow in-calf was lost. Eight to 10 lb. of the cake had been given per day; other food consisted of good meadow hay and swedes.

The veterinary surgeon reported: "I have examined your cow, and have found irritation of stomach and bowels. All other parts were healthy. The casting of calf was evidently due to the condition of the stomach and bowels."

My report sent with the analysis was as follows: "I have examined this cake for poisonous seeds, &c., and have found none present. The cake is of good quality, and is made from Egyptian seed. Although there is no castor oil or other poison present, I think it very likely that this cake caused the death of the cow and the loss of the calf. Cotton cake (undecorticated) should never be fed to pregnant animals or to young stock; 10 lb. per day is too much for any stock."

2. In this case seven ewes were lost within three days. About ¾ lb. was given per head per day, but some would get a little more than others. The ewes were on white turnips and had a little chaff and a small quantity of malt culms.

The remarks on the analysis were as follows:—"I have been unable to find any poisonous substance in this cake, which is of good quality. Ewes in lamb should never be given undecorticated cotton cake. . . . ."

No. 3 was sold as a "calf meal," and was sent in with the stomachs and intestines of a calf.

The remarks sent with the analysis were as follows:—"This meal contains a large quantity of cotton husk and fibre, which make it a most unsuitable food for calves." The stomach showed signs of acute gastritis, which might have been caused by the unsuitable meal, much of which was present in the stomach. No arsenic or other mineral poison was found.

Use of Household Refuse in Germany.

The refuse from the Munich households, according to a recent consular report, is taken every day by specially constructed and covered vans to the Puchheim Works, a few miles outside the town. The cost of removing the refuse is borne by the local rates. The sifting of the refuse at the works is done by a system of drums, and with such expediency that the daily quantity of 700 to 800 cubic metres is dealt with within ten hours. Most of the matter is turned to account by the chemical works on the spot, such as bones, rags and paper, whilst metal scraps and glass are sold. The men doing the work are provided with gloves and must make compulsory use of the baths on the premises. These are well ventilated and washed with diluted carbolic acid twice a day. The best proof that all hygienic requirements are fulfilled is the fact that during the last seven years not a single case of infectious disease occurred. The quickly decomposing refuse, used as manure, reaches in some places a height of 4 metres, and is used to fertilise a tract of moorland on which the works are situated. There is now—the works have existed for ten years—an abundant crop of potatoes, rye, oats, beets, cabbage, radishes, cauliflowers, and cucumbers. The cultivation of beets is especially successful, as on an average £600 worth per annum are furnished to the Bavarian Beetroot Sugar Works at Regensburg. It is a remarkable fact that the crops on the older fields are of better quality and quantity than those on the newly-manured ground.

Some Familiar Faces in the Feeding Stuffs World

(Held over from our issue of the 1st inst. We regret want of space obliges us to limit them).

Mr. T. B. Lock,
Messrs. T. B. Lock and Son, Yeovil.

Mr. P. T. Qerst,
Redcross Street, Liverpool.

Mr. G. H. Lock,
Messrs. T. B. Lock and Son, Yeovil.

Mr. T. Mellonie,
Produce Owners Trading Agency, Ipswich

Experiments with Lucerne.

Lucerne is without doubt one of the most valuable fodder crops, yielding from 20 to 30 tons per acre of valuable cattle food. It is particularly useful in dry seasons, as its roots penetrate a long way down and find moisture when other crops suffer from drought.

The Missouri Experimental Station have been conducting a series of experiments in connection with its cultivation, and have arrived at the following conclusions:—

1. Lucerne is being grown with success on various types of soil, although many soils are not well adapted to its growth.

2. A knowledge of the peculiarities of the plant will ultimately make it possible to extend its culture to most soil types.

3. Liberal manuring is the key to successful lucerne culture on the upland soils of the State. The manure may be applied before ploughing, and also as frequent top dressings.

4. The value of the crop as a feed, and its high yield where favourable conditions are supplied, make it a particularly desirable crop to grow, at least in small areas, on farms where mixed farming or dairy farming is practised.

5. While lucerne makes a most nutritious pasture crop, it does not lend itself well to pasturing unless certain precautions are taken.

6. When lucerne is grown for hay, difficulty is often experienced in harvesting the first, and sometimes other cuttings, on account of wet weather. The silo may be used in such cases.

7. Stiff subsoils are responsible for most failures reported, because it requires some knowledge of the methods of handling the crop to make it succeed under such conditions.

8. Lucerne is not adapted to soils that are sour, liming, manuring, or drainage being necessary to prepare such soils for the crop.

9. Lucerne grown on upland soils that have never grown the crop or sweet clover is benefited by inoculation. On bottom lands, or lands that are very fertile, inoculation has little or no effect.

10. The surest, and often the simplest, means of inoculation is by means of inoculated soil. The cultures prepared for seed inoculation have in many cases given excellent results, but they are still in the experimental stage, and some skill is required to handle them properly.

11. The best preparation of the seed-bed is that which allows of an early ploughing and the use of a harrow every time a crust forms or weeds start before time to sow the seed. The seed-bed should be much like that for wheat—loose above, but firm below.

12. The best time to sow in this state is between the middle of August and the middle of September, the last week in August usually giving best results.

13 The amount of seed to sow is between 15 and 20 lb., depending upon the quality and the character of the soil, and it is best sown without a nurse crop.

14. Lucerne must be clipped frequently the first, and sometimes the second season, especially on soils to which it is not well adapted. It should usually be cut when the lower leaves begin to turn yellow.

15. Disking occasionally after cutting, with the disks set at a moderate angle, is an aid in keeping out the weeds and grass, but its use is still somewhat experimental.

Perils of Refuse Manure.

Anthrax has broken out on a farm at Bradford Abbas, Dorsetshire. Two cows have died from the disease, and their carcases have been destroyed. The outbreak is attributed to the use, as manure, of refuse from the glove factories of Yeovil.

The Advantage of Periodical Liming.

Writing under the heading, "How long does lime last in the soil," Mr. Hall, of Rothamsted Experimental Station, has contributed to the September issue of the *Journal of the Board of Agriculture* an instructive review of the advantages to be derived from the practice—nowadays too often neglected—of periodical applications of lime.

1. It improves the texture of the soil by coagulating the finest particles of the clay and rendering the land drier and more friable. Drainage goes on more readily, the land is warmer, and it is more readily worked to a good tilth. It is difficult to exaggerate the value of this action of lime on the heavier soils; it often means that it is possible to secure a seed bed when the unlimed land is still too wet to work, and the character of the root crop, particularly swedes, depends more on securing a good tilth than on manuring.

2. The insoluble reserves of nitrogenous and potassic material in the soil are brought into action and rendered available for the plant by the presence of lime.

3. All the leguminous crops usually cultivated on a farm flourish much better when there is a good supply of lime in the soil. Clover, in particular, is very intolerant of acid soil conditions, and is much more subject to clover sickness when lime is deficient. In 1906 alsike clover at Rothamstead was almost a complete failure on a plot where the carbonate of lime had been reduced to about 0·3 per cent., though it was good on an adjoining plot with about 0·5 per cent.

4. It seems to be established that the soil organism (*Azotobacter*), which fixes nitrogen without the aid of leguminous plants and is a great factor in the gain of fertility when land is laid down to grass, cannot develop properly unless there is a good supply of carbonate of lime.

5. Turnips are always liable to "finger-and-toe" when lime is deficient in the soil.

It cannot be doubted that the fertility of many of our fields to-day is due to the liming and chalking that was done by the farmers of the eighteenth and earlier centuries; they, indeed, made the soil, for it is through their labours that it remains in profitable cultivation at the present time. Owing to the very large amounts of chalk and lime which were then applied, it has been possible for later generations to live upon the capital thus accumulated and dispense with any expenditure of their own in this direction. But this spending process cannot continue indefinitely, for natural causes alone—the percolating rain-water—are steadily removing the lime in the surface soil; for example, the Rothamsted soil, which at the beginning of the nineteenth century must have contained something like a hundred tons of chalk per acre, has now less than fifty, and many other soils which started with a smaller initial stock are beginning to run dangerously short. All over the country there is evidence that much of the land, especially on the heavier soils, is in need of liming, and though it would not be wise to return to the old wasteful dressings of six to ten tons to the acre, a much smaller quantity, half a ton or so per acre, could be profitably applied at least once in the course of each rotation.

It is reported that the arrangements for the erection in Lincolnshire of a beet-sugar factory are progressing in a satisfactory manner, although some doubt appears to exist in the minds of many of the farmers whether the prices which they will be paid for the roots will be as remunerative as the results which they can obtain from the cultivation of the usual crops The secondary advantages from beet-sugar cultivation, such as cattle food from the factory refuse and an increased supply of manure should not be overlooked.

Minor Sources of Nitrogen.

In consequence of the high price of nitrate of soda, which is the chief source of nitrogenous plant food, more attention will be directed to sulphate of ammonia, Peruvian guano, and the minor sources of nitrogen derived from various waste products.

The Board of Agriculture has recently issued a leaflet, No. 175, giving some useful information about these waste organic substances:—

They have long been extensively used in Kent for hops, as well as round London by market gardeners for vegetables and fruit, and there seems no reason why they could not be employed with advantage for ordinary farm crops.

They serve the following purposes:—

1. Increase the supply of plant food in the soil.
2. Improve the mechanical condition of the soil.
3. Retain moisture in the soil.
3. Encourage the growth and work of beneficent micro-organisms, upon whose activity the productiveness of the soil is dependent.

Among such substances may be mentioned dried blood, fish guano, ground hoofs, shoddy, waste feathers, greaves, meat guano, rape cake, soot, &c., all of them useful substances when they can be obtained cheap and of a reliable quality.

They are valuable for the organic matter they contain, which slowly decomposes in the soil, being gradually converted into available plant food.

Ground hoofs, dried blood and fish guano are rich in ammonia, and are recognised as such valuable fertilisers that there is always an active demand for them, so that the fertilising constituent in them is not particularly cheap.

But in shoddies, feather waste and hair, the ammonia is considerably cheaper, and if they can be locally obtained and applied without much expense, they are certainly worth putting on the land.

It is necessary, however, to point out that their quality is very uncertain, so that buyers should have a guarantee of quality, and should get samples tested.

Shoddy varies in its contents of ammonia from 13 per cent. down to 3 per cent.; greaves from 3 to 6 per cent.; fish guano and meat guano are variable.

We repeat, therefore, that buyers must safeguard their interests by making sure of the quality they receive.

It seems uncertain whether such waste substances will fall within the scope of the Fertiliser Act, because it is most difficult for a seller to guarantee their contents within reasonable limits, and yet it is just in these waste substances that farmers are most exposed to overcharges and deceptions. It is a matter which the Board of Agriculture will no doubt carefully consider when drawing up regulations for sampling and analysis.

As it is almost impossible for the seller to guarantee the ammonia in waste products of so variable a character, it would seem reasonable that they should be sold at a price fixed per unit of ammonia, as ascertained by analysis of sample.

If a seller chooses to give a guarantee, he must give one well within the margin of chance, or accept the unpleasant responsibility involved if the quality proves lower than expected.

A very exhaustive series of practical feeding experiments, both with cattle and sheep, has been conducted in this country with dried grains, and almost without exception they have proved more economical than any other concentrated food or mixture of foods. Dried grains alone, or, better still, mixed with decorticated cotton cake, have often proved superior to linseed cake both for cattle and sheep.

Nitrogen-fixing Bacteria.

In the annual report of the New Zealand Department of Agriculture the history of nitrogen-fixing bacteria is discussed, and a series of reports are given showing the results obtained from experiments on beans, peas, vetches, and red clover. The results seem to demonstrate (1) that on land which will already produce a good crop of legumes, the inoculation is of little benefit to the crop treated, but (2) it increases the number of nodules on the roots, and consequently the quantity of nitrogen left in the soil for the benefit of a following crop, such as grain or roots, which have not the power of providing nitrogen for themselves; (3) the inoculated seed invariably gave better results than the inoculated soil. The relative merits of inoculation by means of infected soil and by pure cultures are discussed, and directions and precautions to be observed in the use of inoculating material are given.

As Captain Cuttle in "Dombey and Son" used to be fond of saying, "when found make a note of it," so we who are interested in British agriculture might make a note of the following remarks from the report of the English Consul at Dusseldorf:—

"Germany is no field for dishonest dealers in cake, mineral manure, seed, and meals; they get no chance here at all; science has come to stay among the farmers—among all classes of farmers, great and small; they all recognise the absolute necessity and the pecuniary benefit bestowed upon them by having due knowledge of chemistry and making use of this science to know how to judiciously feed their stock, produce milk, meat, or muscle, how to feed the crops with certain quantities of nitrogen, phosphates, and potash, and make use of the many Government technical, scientific, and chemical testing institutions established for the welfare of the community and all who choose to use them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor MARK LANE EXPRESS.

DEAR SIR,—I am sending herewith two samples of Bombay cake, marked respectively A and B.

A, purchased in 3 ton lots August 1; cost £4 17s. 6d. on rail nearest station.

B, purchased from another merchant September 13; cost same price in 5 ton lots.

On lot A bullocks have apparently thrived and done well. With the same quantity of B they do not appear to do so well, and the cake seems of a more woolly nature.

Would you kindly have the samples analysed for me, according to the terms of your gratis offer to regular subscribers and inform me through the columns of your valuable journal the comparative feeding value of each.—Yours truly,

"CAREFAX."

[We beg to apologise for the delay in answering this inquiry. It has been caused in consequence of the attention of our expert having been completely absorbed by his duties at the Dairy Show. He has now examined the samples and found them both satisfactory as regards purity, but the B sample contains more husk and fibre. In this week's issue we gave a report showing the necessity of prudence in the use of undecorticated cottoncakes.]

To the Editor MARK LANE EXPRESS.

DEAR SIR,—I should be extremely grateful if you could kindly send me (or give me the address) the tables which are published giving the value of manurial residues derived from different feeding stuffs, and which you refer to in your issue of October 1.

May I add, as a constant reader of the MARK LANE EXPRESS for more than twenty years, my very great appreciation of its merit, and particularly of its continuous improvements.—Yours truly,

A. P.

[The table referred to appeared in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, Vol. 63, 1902. It is based on the tables of Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert, compiled in 1897, and is accepted by estate agents and valuers as forming the best guide at the present time. The position will, however, be modified when the Land Tenure Bill—which has already passed through the House of Commons and will be considered by the House of Lords this autumn—becomes law.]

Sale of Widnes Chemical Works.

The *Chemical Trade Journal* reports that the business and plant of Messrs. Thos. Hadfield, Ltd., chemical manufacturers, of Weston Point, Cheshire, was put up for auction on the 20th inst., by Mr. George Gaunt, of Liverpool, acting on instructions from Mr. T. S. Sheard, the Receiver appointed by the Court of Chancery. It was sold as a going concern for the sum of £2,500. The business and property had for some time past been for sale by private treaty, but no "deal" was arrived at. The auction was interesting as a practical test of value. A number of buyers from all parts of the country attended with a view of picking up details, but the sale *en bloc* prevented the attainment of their object.

The Nitrate of Soda Position.

The total shipments for the month of September are officially reported to be 86,927 tons, against 108,500 tons during the same month last year, and the quantities in course of being loaded on the first of this month are advised as being 160,626 tons, compared with 155,400 tons at the corresponding date last year.

The stocks available for shipment in Chili are said to be very heavy, amounting to 560,000 tons, against 471,200 tons at the same period in 1905.

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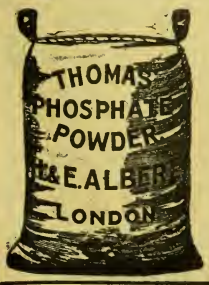

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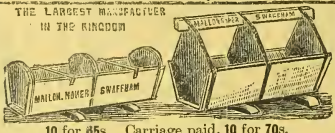

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"BIBBY" CAKE

IN THE FORM OF

"CAKETTES."

"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I must have 'Bibby,' and will not take a substitute."

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

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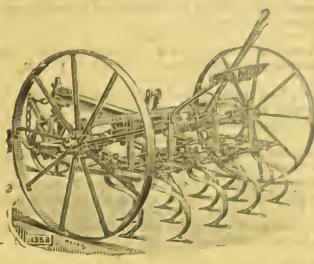

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BREWERS' EXHIBITION, LONDON, OCTOBER 20-26, 1906.

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1896—1900—1903—1905 was grown with

FISONS' (IPSWICH) FERTILIZERS.

SEE STAND No. 1, BARLEY HALL, AGRICULTURAL HALL.

JOSEPH FISON & CO., Ltd, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

OCTOBER 22, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

BARLEY FOR MALTING PURPOSES.

The opening of the Brewers' Exhibition brings into prominence more than one question connected with the cultivation of barley in this country. That a large proportion of 1906 barley is steely, and that mellowness in samples is more than usually rare, is an event which must be ranked among things which we call the fortune of war, and there is another side to this particular matter; the barley of 1906 if it seldom satisfies the aspirations of the fine ale brewers, seldom falls to merely feeding level. Quantity exceeds the average, and it is not at all certain that prices will not prove an improvement on the preceding campaign. What is the leading question raised this October relates to the possibility of largely increasing the growth of barley in this country.

In 1873, the first year for which we have full returns, 2,575,000 acres were devoted to barley, but recently the total has been about 800,000 acres less than this. Now the demand for beer since 1873 has increased by at least 20 per cent., largely by sheer increase in the number of consumers. Consequently the area under barley for 1907 ought to be, at the least, 3,000,000 acres. Why should it not be?

The fault is not with the price which maltsters and fine ale brewers are willing to pay. Their buyers are commissioned to pay a penny per lb. for the fine bright types of barley, whereas wheat at present fetches only ·67 of a penny per lb., and oats are ·63 of a penny per lb. Can farmers raise the type of barley requisite?

The question of a large wheat crop is often one of liberal manuring, but the manuring of barley can easily be overdone, and the limits to farmers' powers of growing malting barley may be said to be these:—(1) fit soil, (2) favourable aspect, (3) good harvesting. The first of these requirements, the geologist assures us, will allow of a great extension of the present very small area. Not only should the 2,575,000 acre standard of 1873 be regained, but it may be extended. There are quite four million acres of British soil naturally fitted for growing good barley.

The second need resolves itself into such an arrangement of the farm as would secure for the barley crop preferential treatment. This demand, it may be submitted, is not unreasonable so long as there is a margin of ·33 of a penny per lb. in favour of barley prices as compared with competing cereals.

Finally, there is the good harvesting, and though a wet August may cause a great discolouration, a determination to stop other work and snatch every occasion to get barley in will in our variable climate make the farmer largely the master of the situation.

There are other points of interest involved, but at present it will be enough if we name the bogey of foreign competition. In the wheat trade, in the oat trade, this is a very real bogey. Mr. Lang, in his latest book on the supernatural, has told us of a ghost which bit. Foreign competition is a ghost which bites. But it only bites the growers of other cereals than barley. Surely this is a matter for farmers to think over. If they will exert themselves and study to grow malting barley, they need never concern themselves "with what the Gaul pretends or what the Russ."

Even if the sample falls below the standard of Burton there need never on English soil and with English food cultivation be a decline below the level of bold poultry barley, and the average price of this we work out at at not less than ·72 of a penny per lb. The barley grower therefore should be in a safe position as far as any grower of cereals nowadays can be. He should always have his chance of an admittedly remunerative price if he gets his barley up to fine malting standard, while even where luck fails and that standard is not obtained, the price realisable for his barley should be somewhat higher per lb. than that secured either for wheat or for oats.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

"Carting Away the Freehold."

SIR,—Will you kindly answer the following in your next issue:—A hires a glebe farm in addition to his larger occupation, and as the glebe land is very foul he burns the rubbish on large heaps and carts some of the ashes on to his home farm. To this the rector objects, as he says it is carting away the freehold. Is A legally entitled to do this? SUBSCRIBER.

October 17, 1906.

Answer: I was highly amused with the vicar's contention that burning the rubbish on the field and carting the ashes away amounts to a carting away of the freehold. I suppose, however, that the vicar considers that the ashes should remain on the fields, or is it the rubbish that he requires? If the ashes improve the field I should not remove them. "A soft answer turneth away wrath."—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Mr. William Child, a successful breeder of Shire horses, was found lying on the road near Gainsborough the other night seriously injured, and died without regaining consciousness. He had attended a stock sale during the day, and it was noticed that his horse was rather restive. It is supposed that the animal became unmanageable on the way home, and threw him.

A largely attended meeting of the committee appointed to formulate the scheme for the erection of a sugar beet factory in South Lincolnshire at an estimated cost of £60,000 was held at Spalding on Wednesday, when it was reported that the negotiations with the railway companies had not yet been completed, and the final selection of a site was therefore deferred for a fortnight. It was announced that numerous applications for shares in the company had been received, and also for dealing with the by-products.

Notes of the Week.

As the date approaches for the opening of Parliament, the voice of the politician is heard more frequently in the land.

It may be noted that agricultural matters are receiving more attention than usual.

Earl Carrington is sparing himself no trouble to convince the farming community of the benevolent intentions of the Liberal party.

In a few months' time we shall know whether this friendly disposition, which we are already convinced exists in Lord Carrington's mind, also extends to the other members of the Government.

Conservative members are similarly posing as the farmer's friends.

Lord Lansdowne in a recent address made the happy quotation from Kipling.

"Great is the sword and mighty is the pen,
But mightier still the labouring ploughman's blade,
For in her oxen and her husbandmen
A nation's strength is laid."

And yet some people venture to think that agriculture is neglected.

Agriculture is the greatest industry in the country, and agricultural prosperity the surest foundation of a country's general happiness.

The Parliament of the country, the richest country in the world, cannot spare more than £120,000 to promote its interests.

Farmers in Bavaria are noting with satisfaction that mistletoe is becoming less abundant.

This is not from an objection to the privilege which a bit of the plant in a particular position gives to a man,

But because of the injury which the parasite has caused to large numbers of apple trees.

The potato crop in Germany amounted to about 42,000,000 tons in 1903, and increased to over 47,000,000 tons in 1905.

The October number of the Journal of the Board of Agriculture contains several articles of a very useful character.

There are about twenty-one margarine factories in England and twelve in Scotland, but the bulk of margarine comes from Holland.

As somebody said, the fault of the Dutch
Is giving too little and asking too much.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23.—Hereford Cattle Sale at Leominster — Sale of Sir R. V. Buchanan-Jardine's Galloways at Lockerbie—Claycross Ploughing Matches, Field Day—Agricultural Fairs at Boroughbridge, Stockport, Tarporley, Brampton, Bolton, Winchester, and Gainsborough—Salisbury Horse Fair.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Sale of Sir A. Henderson's Pedigree Pigs, Buscot Park, Faringdon — Gravesend Fair — Market Drayton Cattle and Sheep Sale—Melton Mowbray Fair—Welsh Black Cattle Show Whitland.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Hackney Sale, Crewe—Bourn Fair — Clitheroe Horse, Cattle, and Sheep Fair—Dorchester Horse, Cattle, and Sheep Fair — Elyport Fair, first day—Great Stambridge Stock Sale—Cranham Stock Sale—Southminster Horse Sale.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26.—Kidderminster Great Sale of Store Stock—Sale of Shire Horses at Crewe—Mr. Hiscoke's Pig Sale, Shaftesbury—Ely Fair, second day — Grantham Cattle and Sheep Fair—Louth Cattle Fair—Tonbridge, Horse, Cattle, and Sheep Fair—Warminster Sheep Fair—British Millers' Association Council Meeting.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27. — Ely Fair, last day—Minchinhampton Cattle Fair—Sending-in day of Entries for the Norfolk Christmas Fat Stock Show.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29.—Agricultural Sale, Harleston — Buxton, Cannock, Helston, Mossley, Totnes, Wellingburgh, and Halybridge Fairs—Midhurst Cattle Fair—Horncastle Agricultural Fair, first day.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30.—Horncastle Fair, second day—Ashford Cattle and Sheep Fair — Preston Cheese Fair — Collingham Farmers' Club Show.

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Old Lady: "Are you sure it is English mutton?"
Butcher: "Well—er—born in New Zealand, Madam, but of English Parents."

The bold and progressive action of the Lincolnshire Farmer's Union is awakening great interest.

Nothing is so contagious as example, and therefore it may confidently be hoped that other counties will follow the lead set by Lincolnshire.

"Union is strength," "United we stand, divided we fall," are truisms old as the hills, and resting on as sure a foundation.

A federation of farmers unions, independent of any political party, and representing only farming interests, would wield enormous influence.

Such a movement deserves the energetic and enthusiastic support of every farmer in the country.

In Germany in the course of last year 96,834 horses and 1,584 dogs were slaughtered for human food.

Beware of alien sausages!

The United States of America allocate for the purpose of agricultural research the sum of £1,265,000.

The United Kingdom the magnificent sum of £119,337. About as much as the London County Council devote to the building of a municipal hall.

At Knaresborough horse fair on Wednesday there was a fair show of horses, and a good demand for the best. Best cart horses made £40 to £65; secondary ditto, £25 to £35; harness ditto, £30 to £40; and ponies, £10 to £20 each.

The Irish Potato Crop. — A deputation from the County Council, Corporation, and Harbour Board of Sligo waited upon the Chief Secretary for Ireland on Wednesday in reference to the distress which is threatened in consequence of the serious failure of the potato crop, and urged the immediate necessity for relief works being instituted. The Chief Secretary (Mr. Bryce) said that the question of distress in consequence of the failure of the potato crop in certain districts in Ireland was receiving the anxious consideration of the Government, and he assured the deputation that the matter they had brought forward would receive proper attention. So far as his present information went, the failure of the potato crops, although serious, was not so bad as some had represented it to be.

The Dr. Fream Memorial.

A meeting of the general committee of the Dr. Fream Memorial was held during the Dairy Show week at the Royal Agricultural Hall, under the presidency of the Earl of Jersey. After considerable discussion it was ultimately decided that the memorial should take the form of a research scholarship, provided sufficient funds were forthcoming, failing which the institution of Fream gold medals and presents of books as prizes for agricultural research work.

It was mentioned that the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries had agreed to undertake the direction of the memorial.

For the endowment of a research scholarship something like £2,500 will be required, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the appeal which the committee are issuing will meet with a speedy and generous response.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

TURNING over some old papers the other day I came across a curious incident in horse breeding such as was entirely new to me, and which I think will be new to most of my readers. Some sixteen years ago the well-known Hackney breeder, Mr. J. Makeague, sent a mare heavy in foal to Mr. William Flanders, of Mepal, Isle of Ely, to be mated with Reality after she foaled. In due time she foaled a filly foal to Lord Derby II., and a fine, strong, healthy filly she was. She was foaled with an udder full of milk, which flowed freely from her teats, and her dam had no more show of milk than a geld mare. Naturally Mr. Flanders was put to his wits' end by such an extraordinary occurrence, but being a man of resource he commenced feeding the foal and managed to keep it alive for a few days.

BUT the most curious thing has yet to be told. At the end of two or three days the mare's milk "came," and of course as soon as she gave signs of milk the foal was put to her. Unfortunately, however, the milk seems to have been tainted—at any rate, the foal sickened and got into a very weak state, and was very like dying. Mr. Flanders was unremitting in his attentions, and they put the mare through a course of physic, and whilst this was going on kept the foal alive by hand-feeding. Then when physicking was over the foal was again put to the mare, and this time with excellent results, and within a day or two, or when the foal was eight days' old, she was beginning to play about a little. A fortnight later mare and foal were doing well, and the udder of the latter was quite dried up.

THE unremitting care and attention of Mr. Flanders, and those about him is, of course, the first thing that strikes one on reading this very extraordinary occurrence; but at the end of sixteen years the question seems to me to be even more interesting than it was at the time, and it presents two or three features which are worth consideration. How many men are there who would have looked upon the situation as hopeless from the first? I am afraid a great proportion of breeders would scarcely have made an effort to save the foal under such circumstances. They would have looked upon the case as hopeless, recorded it, and there an end. So that one lesson is that no matter how abnormal may be some of the circumstances connected with a foal, provided the foal be strong and healthy when foaled, it should, with ordinary care, be reared in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred.

A QUESTION which presents itself to me is that there is very likely always a great risk when a mare's milk is late in coming. Mr. Makeague in the account he gives, says the mare's milk was tainted, and perhaps it was, though perhaps it was not necessary for the milk to be tainted for the food to be affected. My own experience with brood mares has always been that there is a good supply of milk from the first. I do not remember a single instance of a mare of my own, or of a mare coming immediately under my notice, in which the supply of milk from the moment of foaling was not normal. But, however carefully a foal might have been fed, is it not possible that, when it was put on to its dam, especially if a hungry, healthy foal, after three days of hand-feeding, the change of food would have a prejudicial effect? It may, of course, be urged that when the mare had been physicked the foal did well on her milk, but then the foal was over three or four days older, and consequently much stronger.

THE curious thing, of course, is the foal having an udder full of milk. It is not an unknown thing for some animals to make a great show of milk that have never had young—indeed, with young foxhound bitches it is very frequent and sometimes they look so much like nursing mothers that the question has been asked of the huntsman, "What have you been doing to let that bitch have a litter?" In Friedberger and Fröhner's "Veterinary Pathology," one of the most exhaustive books I have come across, speaking of unusual lactation, "it is stated that the secretion of milk and swelling of mammary glands sometimes occurs in many animals in the absence of pregnancy. In single cases this has been observed to arise from the animal having fancied itself pregnant, or that it had given birth. Thus in bitches (pugs) we have often had occasion to notice lactation quite independent of either pregnancy or parturition. Among 70,000 dogs treated in the Berlin Dog Hospital, sixty-five cases of this unusual lactation were observed. The same occurs also in horses, cows, goats, and sheep." But so far as I can gather, these keen observers do not seem to have come across or heard of lactation in a foal.

CONCERNING agalaction or the arrest of milk, they have something to say which the breeder may remember to his advantage whenever or if ever he should have a mare foal without making a show of milk. "Arrest of milk," say they, "is one of the earliest symptoms of internal disease, and especially of stomach with bowel complaint. It also arises from bad feeding, prolonged hunger, as well as from over exertion in work." This, of course, throws considerable light upon the case of Mr. Makeague's foal. The complications set up by disease of the stomach or bowels in the mare and the change of food to the milk, that would certainly be affected if not exactly tainted, are quite sufficient to cause the serious illness of the foal. Whenever a mare is found to have no milk at the time she foals, the wise plan would seem to be to send at once for a veterinary surgeon and have her thoroughly examined, and, at any rate, when the milk does come, she should be put through a courrse of physic when the foal is put to her. Perhaps, too, if the latter is strong enough, a little castor-oil when the change of food takes place would be beneficial. But in all abnormal cases veterinary advice should be sought.

I WONDER how many of my readers have ever had anything to with a Cæsarean horse. I rode one for some years—indeed, she was the first Hunter I ever rode, and as she had rather a curious history, I will relate it. She belonged to a relative who got her dam from a very old friend who was killed by a fall from his horse. The dam was a well-bred mare of what would now be called the Polo pony type, by Dr. Syntax, dam by Ling Cropper. She was as good as she was well-bred, a wiry, fast mare, and as hard and tough as they make them. She bred my relation a foal or two which he did not care very much about, and which he sold, and then she was barren several years. As it seemed certain that she would not breed any more to thoroughbreds, my relative mated her with a short-legged, active cart-horse named Short Legs. Now this horse, though called a cart-horse, was something as different from the cart-horse of the present day, as exemplified in the Clydesdale or Shire horse as could well be. He was a firm stepper and had the cleanest and flattest of bone. I never saw him, but from descriptions I have had of him I should think he was not improbably one of the Northumberland Vardy horses, or at any rate, that he had some of the Northumberland Vardy blood.

THE old mare was in foal to him, but when her time was up it was evident that she could not produce a living foal. The veterinary surgeon who was called in told my relative how to perform the Cæsarean operation, and told him when it was to be done. When the time came the mare was shot and the operation carefully and quickly performed. A grey filly foal was brought to light, and was of course the pet of the establishment. She throve well on cow's milk, with which sugar was mixed, and in course of time she was broken in. What was she like? Well, she had a plain, cart horse head, a very plain one, and her neck was a little the wrong way up, but her shoulders were well placed, she was short coupled, and well ribbed. She was a little short and round on her quarters, but she had the best set of legs and feet I ever saw on a horse. She stood about 15 hands 2 in., and was a beautiful dappled grey.

A NICE old-fashioned stamp of riding and driving mare, you would say from that description, and so said everyone that had to do with her or saw her. Yes, all except the mare herself. In course of time she was put into the "chains," alongside a pair in a plough. In three minutes she had kicked herself clear. Another attempt was made, and she got rid of the chains in even less time, and after a morning's work in which she was emphatically triumphant. Whether any further attempts would have been made to put her in harness it is impossible to say, but it so happened that a hard season's hunting had had its effect upon the stud, and her owner said if she won't do one thing she shall do another. So he rode her, being then three years old, to meet hounds a few miles off in a rough hill country. If she had a sovereign contempt for harness she liked hunting, and the way she jumped a wall or two sealed her fate, and a hunter she became.

AND she was a very good hunter too. She could not gallop fast enough to turn herself," said some of the critics, and perhaps she could not, but if a man had a hard enough heart he could see the end of a good long run when many a flash one was hopelessly beaten. She could jump anything she could put her nose on, she was hunted certainly ten or eleven seasons regularly, and she was ridden by all sorts and conditions—men that could ride and men that couldn't. She was the same confidential mount to them all. If the man wanted to go to hounds, she would take him the shortest way; she did not know how to refuse, and she never fell but once in her life, when she jumped into a bog, which of course caused her to come to grief, especially as the bog was at the landing side of a big wall. I am bound to admit, though I have a very warm corner for the old mare, that I would not care to ride one like her now, for she pulled like original sin, and was a bit of a bone-setter. But she knew her business, and was a two-days-a-week mare most of her hunting life.

WE tried several times to get a foal from her, but without success till the groom who had assisted at her bringing into the world, and who had prospered in life, suggested that we should try her to a cart horse of his—Yorkshire Stingo. This we did, and the result was a filly foal. The old mare had very little milk, and she hated her foal like poison; and after a few days' unremitting attention, in which the end was foreshadowed from the first, she died, and we had had quite plenty of breeding from the old mare. After this my brother rode her for some two or three years as a hack, and she dropped down dead with him, curiously enough, within a mile of the kennels. When she was opened her heart was found to be very small and withered; there was nothing else abnormal about her. She was nineteen years old, approaching her twentieth year, and her legs were as clean as the day on which she first saw the light. As I have said before I never saw such wearing legs in my life. And when I come to think of the unfortunate foal she had I am inclined to think we might have saved it if we had given the mare physic and entirely hand-fed the foal for a few days. I should add that this is the only instance I have known of a Cæsarean mare breeding, and I have been told that the foal would not have lived because its dam was a Cæsarean mare. I do not see why it should not, having once existed; and it must be remembered, in respect to the short-leg mare being a shy breeder, that her dam was a shy breeder also.

THE LOOKER-ON.

The Blagdon Shires.

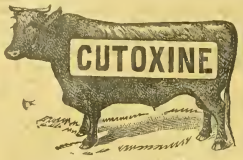
A sale of Shire horses that should attract considerable attention from breeders is to be held on November 7, when Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, of Peterborough, will bring under the hammer just over forty animals of the best Shire blood belonging to Mr. Clement Keevil, of the Blagdon Shire Stud, Billington, Leighton Buzzard. The catalogue includes twelve Shire foals, several by Blagdon Benefactor, Lockinge Midnight, Birdsall Menestrel, Dunsmore Jameson, &c.; one, two, and three year-old fillies, yearling stallions; also two four year-olds, one by Lockinge Forest King, and one by Ercall Wynn, and some exceedingly well bred in-foal mares, which are good workers. Included in the above are several promising young animals that have not been exhibited, which are sure to come to the front in the show ring, also Blagdon Princess, the champion mare at Buckingham Show, and the prize winning foals Blagdon Armour Plate and Flower of Blagdon, &c. The sale will take place at Billington, and be without reserve, so that it presents a good opportunity to breeders. Catalogues may be had of the owner or of the auctioneers.

Sales at the Cheshire Repository, Crewe.

Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons special October prize sales will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday next. Wednesday's sale includes 250 high-class Hunters, including many well-known performers, and who have all been well summered and cob hunted up to date, they are in hard condition and fit to go, being the finest selection offered for some time in any repository.

For Thursday's sale 350 ride and drive horses, match pairs, pedigree Hackneys, show cobs, and ponies have been entered. These are of grand quality, have bone, substance, and manners, including a large number of prize-winners at the leading shows of 1906, and can be highly recommended.

Friday will witness the big show of the week of 125 pedigree Shire stallions, mares, fillies, and foals from the most fashionable blood of the day, including great prize-winners in the show ring; drafts from important studs are sent to this sale, and they should make a record; 175 heavy working town mares and geldings, with great substance and quality, the bulk warranted sound, being specially reserved by farmers and breeders in this district. The sale on this day concludes with 100



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Used regularly on the Herds of H.M. the King.

CUTOXINE removes all Dirt.
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The Secret of Success in the Show or Sale.
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Official Government Remedies for Scab.

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SHEEP DIPS

THE CHAMPION RAM for 1905 (bred by Mr. Tom Casswell) and the CHAMPION RAM for 1906 (bred by Mr. Henry Dudding), sold for 1,450 Guineas, were DIPPED IN BATTLE'S DIPS. Why? BECAUSE THEY ARE THE BEST.

BAYLISS, JONES & BAYLISS LTD.

MFRS. of IRON & WIRE

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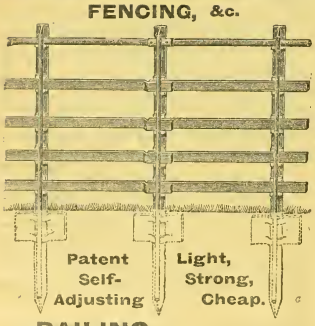

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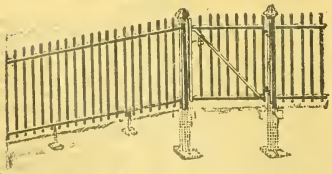

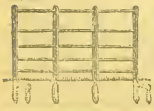

This Railing suits LEVEL also undulating GROUND.

HURDLES, GATES, &c.

WOLVERHAMPTON.
LONDON SHOW ROOMS:-
139 & 141 CANNON ST. E.C.
LISTS FREE.

one, two, and three-year-old colts and fillies, broken and unbroken, with rare substance, many being by pedigree sires; they are of the right sort to grow into massive draught horses. The sale commences each day at 12 o'clock.

Sale of the Blacon Point Clydesdales.

An important sale of Clydesdales from the Blacon Point Stud, Chester, took place at Lanark on the 11th inst. Owing to the death of Mr. Thomas Smith, the owner of the stud, the executors resolved to dispose of the whole of the splendid breeding mares which Mr. Smith retained when he sold his other stock in the spring of 1905. Blacon Point has for long been renowned for its Clydesdale stud, particularly for the high standard of the female stock bred there. The speciality of Blacon Point was mares and fillies, and the rearing of these was a pursuit which Mr. Smith had followed with no small amount of zeal.

The catalogue for the sale comprised 15 animals —7 mares, 3 fillies, and 5 stallions—and they came in for a good deal of competition, the attendance of buyers being very large. Royal Rose, a sixteen-year-old mare, was the plum in the female class, and up till nearly the 500-guinea point the bidding for her from all round the ring was very lively, but Mr. William Smith was not to be shaken off, and, after a keen tussle with Mr. Stephen Mitchell, he secured her at 515 guineas to found a stud in his new home in Cumberland. For the stallions the bidding was also very animated, the top price being realised for British Chief, for which Mr. Stephen Mitchell gave 750 guineas. The sale all over was a highly satisfactory one, as shown by an average of £216 10s. 6d. for fifteen animals. Six mares averaged £172 4s.; three fillies, £51 16s.; five stallions, £368 11s.

Sale of the Ruddington Shires.

There was a large gathering at Ruddington on Thursday, when the last sale of the farm stock of the late Mr. Philo L. Mills took place. The Shorthorns, Shropshire sheep, Large White pigs, and Berkshire pigs were sold during the summer, and the splendid stud of Shire horses, which Mr. Mills was at so much trouble to form, was now dispersed by auction. It consisted of twenty-two brood mares and foals, six foals, three two-year-old fillies, eight brood mares, four yearling fillies, six yearling colts, and six stallions, making a total of fifty-five animals.

As is well known, the Ruddington Shires have for many years taken a leading place among the many great studs of the Midlands, and their dispersal is a matter for general regret. In its formation Harold Premier and Bury Victor Chief played a leading part, and of late years descendants of Hitchin Conqueror have been brought into use. That the stud has been in an eminently satisfactory breeding condition was proved by the number of foals catalogued. Amongst the mares were some very valuable animals, and the foals—fillies and young stallions—are sure to do well.

Unfortunately for the sale, rain fell heavily, and the proceedings were conducted under most unpleasant conditions; but, nevertherless, there was a large attendance of breeders of Shire horses, a few buyers from the United States and the Argentine being also present. The best mares, fillies, and foals sold well, but the demand for stallions was not so good. The highest price was 230 guineas given by Mr. F. E. Muntz for the yearling filly Ruddington Brunette by Intake Albert. The same buyer gave 220 guineas for the famous brood mare Ruddington Heiress by Calwich Heirloom, and 190 guineas for Caper Sauce by Calwich Victor, another well-known prize-winner. Mr. E. Orme secured the fine mare, Knottingley Stella, at 120 guineas, her colt foal being bought for Lord Rothschild at 50 guineas. Mr. Freckleton bought the mare Victorine for 92 guineas. The stallion Boro' Conqueror II. realised 100 guineas from Mr. Williams; Ruddington Conquering Hero, 125 guineas from Mr. Whitehead; and Ruddington Conqueror, 115 guineas from Earl Manvers. The average for fifty-five head was £65 6s. 7d.—total, 3,317 guineas, the results being considered satisfactory.

Pig Sales.

Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. are conducting two important pig sales this week—viz., on Wednesday, a draft from Sir Alex. Henderson's herd of Berkshires, at Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks, and on Friday, Berkshire and White Yorkshires from the herds of Mr. Arthur Hiscock, at the Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset. Both herds are so well known as suppliers of numerous prize winners at our principal shows, that it is needless to enter into a description of them. The animals to be offered will well maintain tho high reputations of the herds, and as those belonging to Mr. Hiscock are to be offered without reserve, breeders have a rare chance of securing first-class stock. Catalogues can be had of Messrs. Thornton and Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.

NOVA SCOTIA

Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, Mr. JOHN HOWARD, 57A, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

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MOLASSES FEED.

PREPARED FROM

Pure Cane Molasses Only. No Peat Moss Used.

INVALUABLE FOR

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, & POULTRY,

BOTH

AS A FOOD AND AS A CONDIMENT.

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Price £4 15s. per ton.

SAMPLE CWT. for 5s. POSTAL ORDER.

All quotations FREE ON RAIL, UXBRIDGE.

GRIMSDALE & SONS, LIMITED, RABB'S MILL, UXBRIDGE.

COOPER'S FOOT-ROT OINTMENT

AN INFALLIBLE CURE.

POST FREE **1/6** PER LARGE TIN.

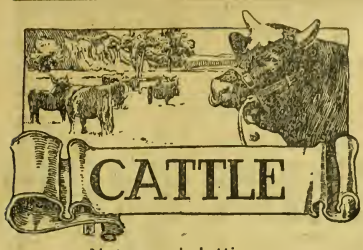
WILLm. COOPER & NEPHEWS, BERKHAMSTED.

Radiol THE NEW CHEMICAL LIQUID.

REMOVES, by radiation, all soft swellings that disfigure a Horse, such as Wind-galls, Bog Spavin, Thoroughpin, Capped Elbow, &c. No blister; no laying up; no hair removed. It is less harmful than water to a Horse's skin, the swellings simply disappear not to return. It makes a worn Horse's legs fine.—5/- *of Chemists, or from*

RADIOL LABORATORY, St. George's Mansions, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.

WIND-GALL *Write for Illustrated Booklet, T.*



Notes and Jottings.

THE arranging of the dates for next year's shows is now occupying the minds and time of many secretaries, councils, and members of different societies, and should do so. It would appear rather to be regretted that some association cannot be formed for regulating this sort of thing. It is quite perplexing for exhibitors, as it is unprofitable to societies, when the dates of holding shows clash so continually with one another. There appears, and one can but say it is natural that it should be so, that there is a great objection to holding shows on a Monday, otherwise if some societies would agree to hold their shows on Tuesday and Wednesday, others on the Thursday and Friday, there would not be so much clashing of our two day county shows. Such an arrangement would enable two of these shows to be held the same week without clashing.

THE arrangement as to show days of the important shows of the Bath and West of England is one that causes a great upsetting of smaller herds upon smaller farms, and in the hands perhaps of less wealthy owners, more than one such man cannot be afforded.

ALL the several points mentioned in the above notes should be well considered by the management of our various societies, and every endeavour made to meet the needs and wishes of exhibitors, for after all it is the exhibitors that make the show and not the visitors. Were the exhibitors to withhold their stock there would be little either to interest or instruct visitors, and the thing would fall into a cold and uninteresting matter, useful to no one. The holding of shows on two earlier days and two later days in the week instead of on the two middle days, as is now commonly the case, and to curtail those shows that extend over a period of more than three days or four at most, are the main points that could be considered, and if practicable to arrange the days as indicated, very much clashing would be avoided and many societies would be much benefited.

GOING from the arrangements of the dates of shows to a section of them that is of very great importance nowadays, and connected with our cattle, is that of the dairy. In the showyards the working dairy attracts a great number of people. Especially has this been the case latterly in the London Dairy Show, and the exhibition of that society held in London last week was visited by many thousands of people who spent many hours watching the manipulation of the milk from the first course, that of milking the cows, to the last one, that of making up the pounds of butter, weighing and selling them to the public; and how very satisfactory it ought to be to these visitors to see what cleanliness is observed in these dairies. After reading of the manner in which other societies. For a show of such dimensions to open on Wednesday or Thursday, and to continue till the Tuesday or Wednesday of the following week, practically spoils two weeks' exhibiting for those of our show breeders and feeders who make a point of exhibiting their wares as much as possible, and there is little doubt that it is on this account that so many empty horse stalls are found at that show. The classes would fill much better if the time of opening and closing could be completed in the one week, and four days is quite enough for any exhibitor's valuable animals and expensive servants to be occupied away from home upon such occasions.

DEVON BULL, PROUD PINK'UN.

Winner of First Prize and Championship at the Royal Show, Derby, this year. Born Jan. 4, 1904, sire Councillor, dam Pink 17th; bred by the late Mr. A. C. Skinner, Pound Farm, Bishop's Lydeard, but is the property of the Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Hestercombe, Taunton.

THE question of the labour is of as much importance to the breeder as the exhibiting of his animals. No one would think of leaving any but experienced and reliable men in charge of their show cattle for a whole week or more; and how many animals equally valuable may be lost or damaged by neglect or by the need of more skilled attendance in the home herd, which, while the head man is at shows, must of necessity be left to others of less experience. In very large herds it frequently happens that there are two or more men equally competent to take charge of the show contingent or the home herd, but with some articles of food are prepared, the dairy has a very satisfying touch about it.

IN the eyes of the practical farmer or his wife or daughter, or the dairymaid that has only been accustomed to the rough-and-ready as well as hurried manner of getting through the various processes of milking, separating, churning, &c., the time occupied in carrying out the work in these model show dairies is the greatest drawback to their value as a place of instruction. Many masters and mistresses or home-made (shall we use the term) dairymaids, when watching the slow movements and great amount of time occupied, are led to say: "Oh, I could not afford to be all that time over my work. I expect the butter to be made and the dairy cleaned in such a length of time so that other business can be attended to." Schedules of conditions for the churning competitions might with great benefit be made a little more restrictive in the question of time occupied.

CLEANLINESS in the dairy and all matters connected with it is a point of very vital importance. How much better customers can be obtained for the produce of a dairy where it is known that the most scrupulous attention is paid to the cleanliness of a dairy and of those connected with it. This cleanliness to be thorough should begin with the cow. During the summer season on most farms the cows are lying out day and night on the clean, green carpet Nature has provided for them, and very little filth can possibly be brought from the sheds to the dairy at that time of year; in winter, however, things are very different; the cattle are lying in the sheds invariably all night, and in many places all day, too, very frequently without bedding altogether, or, at best, with a very scanty amount.

IT is at this time of year that milk vessels become dirty from dirt proper, much filth lodges upon the cow's udders from the dirty bedding or the bare floor, and when milking commences is dislodged from its place and falls into the pail. To brush or sponge the udder before beginning to milk is a very great preventive of this source of dirtiness, and ought to be always done where the lying of the cattle is in such condition as intimated. When there does not appear to be time to brush or sponge the udders, such as when trains have to be caught, or other urgent business is to be attended to, the pails should not be drained of the last atom of their contents. Dirt is heavier than milk, and all settles quickly to the bottom of the pail; any light matter such as bits of hay or straw that may by any chance be blown or fall into a pail are always removed by the strainer.

ANOTHER matter that often affects the cleanliness of the dairy products, even in a more dangerous manner than the dirt from the udder or from the surroundings, is the lack of efficient scalding of the various utensils with boiling water, and also leaving them open in a good wholesome pure atmosphere to air and dry. Many milk churns that have come off the railway with their lids fastened down have a disgusting smell with them, and oft times small delivery cans used in private families are sent out for milk when smelling in a most unwholesome manner. A little Condy's Fluid, boiling water, and an open airy place to dry are generally effective in getting rid of these smells. "Cleanliness is next to godliness," says the old proverb; do not neglect it.

A GREAT difference of opinion prevails with respect to the feeding of cows for dairy purposes. Naturally, the milk seller pure and simple regulates his feeding so as to obtain the greatest possible quantity of milk without regard to quality beyond a sufficiency to enable it to satisfy the analyst. The butter-maker or purveyor of cream in the country has to pay more attention to the quality of his milk rather than the quantity, in so far as he desires the greatest possible quantity of both the articles mentioned. How to feed to obtain these different results is a matter that needs not only great scientific knowledge and study, but also with this actual practical, shall we say working, experience which can only be obtained by the closest possible attention to the cows and their performances.

THE feeding of the cattle during the winter or shed season is a very troublesome business, and needs every care, even when the rations are decided upon. To feed simply with mangels or other roots and hay is a very simple and wholesome way for the health of the stock as well as for producing the best produce; on the other hand, sloppy or soft cooked foods usually result in a greater quantity or volume of milk, often of a poorer quality, but the giving to the cows a portion of their artificial food in the way of drinks such as oatmeal or linseed gruel with a little molasses adds very much to both the quantity and quality of the milk, but, on the other side, is not as wholesome or healthy for the cows, and really ought not to be given to breeding cows at all.

CATTLE that are intended to be kept on as a breeding herd year after year should not be fed upon these warm slops; they sap the constitution, and the animals invariably do badly when taken off them. There is nothing like the natural food, sound good hay, cake or corn, and uncooked roots to make the animals healthy and to carry them on in a condition from which they will not shrink when the day comes for turning them out to grass. It occasionally happens, indeed rather frequently, that it is necessary to mix something appetising with the chopped hay or straw, especially when these have been badly harvested; a funnel full of boiled linseed or corn meal at such times may be used with the greatest benefit by being poured over the chopped fodder, and will not in any way damage the cattle either for present or future feeding or breeding.

Sale of Lord Rothschild's Jerseys.

A large portion of the first-class herd of Jersey cattle, the property of Lord Rothschild at Tring Park, Hertfordshire, was sold on Tuesday by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The majority of the animals were three, two and one-year-old heifers, which included several well-known prize winners,

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

By FRANK LLOYD & SONS.

NEXT WEEK—1,000 HORSES.
CHESHIRE REPOSITORY, CREWE.

FRANK LLOYD and SONS. GREAT OCTOBER SPECIAL AND SELECT SALES.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24.

250 High-Class Hunters, including many special Studs reserved for this Sale, seasoned and genuine animals, fit for immediate work.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25.

350 High-Class Harness Horses, Pairs, Pedigree Hackneys, Show Cobs and Ponies, a first-class selection, including many winners.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26.

125 Pedigree Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Foals.
175 Working Town Mares and Geldings.
100 Two and three-year-old Colts and Fillies.

Catalogues ready. Sales at 12 o'clock.

By JOHN THORNTON & CO.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 24.—Sir A. Henderson's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks.

FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 26.—Mr. Arthur Hiscock's BERKSHIRE and White YORKSHIRE PIGS, at Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1.—Mr. J. A. Frieker's old-established herd of BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Burton, Mere, Wilts.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

By W. & B. HOBBS.

KENT.
ASHFORD ANNUAL SHEEP AND BULLOCK SALE.

MESSRS. W. and B. HOBBS will hold the above SALE in the Cattle Market, Ashford (where a good supply of trucks will be on hand and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock), on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1906.

1,600
Kent and Half-bred Sheep and Lambs, including
350
Good Kent Ewe Tegs; also
225
Capital Home-bred Beasts,
comprising
150 Two-year-old Steers and Heifers,
71 Yearlings to 18 months,
4 Cows and Heifers in- and with Calves.

Luncheon provided.
Sale to commence at 10 o'clock.
Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

By NOCK, DEIGHTON & KIRKBY.

The Oldest Statute Cattle Fair in England, granted by Royal Charter of King Henry III. 1226.

BRIDGNORTH SAINT LUKE'S FAIR.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1906.

GREAT ANNUAL STORE STOCK SALE, on Live Weight Basis.

NOCK, DEIGHTON & KIRKBY will OFFER by AUCTION about

800 HEAD OF CATTLE, comprising some grand rears of two and three-year-old Hereford and Shorthorn Bullocks, Barrens, and Cows and Calves.

1,500 HEAD OF SHEEP, including several large entries of Wethers and Lambs, PIGS and CALVES.

FAT STOCK WILL BE SOLD AS USUAL.

For Order of Sale and full particulars, see Catalogue.

SALE AT 10.30 O'CLOCK TO THE MINUTE.

By SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK.

BLAGDON SHIRE STUD

BILLINGTON, LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.

3 miles from Leighton and Cheddington, L. & N.W.R., 5 miles from Dunstable, G.N.R. Stations.

CONVEYANCES MEET TRAINS DAY OF SALE.

Unreserved Sale of 43 SHIRE HORSES of the BEST BLOOD

ON

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

1906

After 12 o'clock Luncheon.

LOCKINGE MIDNIGHT (19780), one of the Stud Horses.

MESSRS. SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK (of Peterborough) have received instructions from Mr. CLEMENT KEEVIL to conduct this high-class Sale as above, which will include 12 Shire Fillies, several by Blagdon Benefactor (21141), Lockinge Midnight (19780), Birdsall Menestrel (19337), Dunsmore Jameson (17972), &c.; One, Two, and Three-Year-Old Fillies; Yearling Stallions; also one Three-Year-Old by Lockinge Forest King (18867), and some exceedingly well-bred in-foal Mares, which are good workers.

☞ **Catalogues on application.**

By NOCK & JOSELAND.

KIDDERMINSTER.

GREAT AUTUMN SALE OF STORE STOCK. FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 26, 1906.

750 Well-bred Hereford and Shorthorn Bullocks and Heifers.
1500 Shropshire and Crossbred Wethers and Lambs, and In-lamb Ewes.

This Sale will comprise an unusually good lot of home-bred Cattle, principally bunches of very fresh 2-year-old Hereford and Shorthorn Bullocks direct from the breeders.

Order of Sale:—Sheep at 11; Cattle at 12.

NOCK & JOSELAND, Auctioneers,
Kidderminster and Wolverhampton.

By IRELAND'S.

NORWICH,
NORFOLK.

IRELAND'S NORWICH HILL AUCTION MART.

Established 50 years.
Special Autumn Store Cattle Sales,
Every Saturday,
Commencing SEPTEMBER 22, 1906.

MESSRS IRELAND solicit consignments for these Important Weekly Sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the Sale Ring if desired.

Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers,
Norwich, Norfolk.

By ESCRITT & BARRELL.

150 HORSES. 150 HORSES.

LINCOLNSHIRE HORSE REPOSITORY, GRANTHAM.

SALE, THURSDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 25.

70 SPLENDID CART HORSES and VANNERS for town work.
50 HUNTERS, HARNESS HORSES, COBS, &c.
30 YEARLING, Two and Three-year-old CART COLTS and FILLIES.

Sale to commence with unbroken horses at 11.30. Cart horses, 12 o'clock.

Catalogues may be obtained from the Auctioneers, ESCRITT & BARRELL,
Telephone 18. Grantham.

By PROTHEROE & MORRIS.

HORNE'S GREAT SALE.
CLIFFE, near ROCHESTER, KENT.

MESSRS. PROTHEROE and MORRIS are instructed by Messrs. W. Horne and Sons to hold a GREAT SALE of FRUIT TREES and POTATOES on the Premises, Perry Hill, Cliffe, near Rochester, Kent (adjoining Cliffe Station, South-Eastern Railway) on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1906.

150,000 FRUIT TREES and BUSHES of all kinds, including several thousand Standard Apples, Pears and Plums. Also a very fine lot of 40,000 Pyramid Apples 1, 2, and 3-year on English Paradise. About 50,000 Half-standard Apples on Crab Stock; also Pears and Plums. About 40,000 Black Currants, 40,000 Gooseberries (including 5,000 May Duke), 15,000 Red and White Currants, 50,000 Raspberries, 20,000 Asparagus Plants, and several thousand Strawberry Plants; several tons Scotch Potato Seed; about 1,000 Loganberry Plants.

Free luncheon at 11 a.m. Sale at 11.30 a.m.

NOTICE.

The Auctioneers desire to call the attention of Fruit Growers, Market Gardeners, and intending Planters to this important Sale.

It is seldom such an opportunity offers itself for securing new and rare kinds of Fruit Trees, &c., in such large quantities. All are well grown and healthy; they are without doubt the finest lot of Fruit Trees ever yet offered at Cliffe.

Fourteen days will be allowed to clear and settle accounts.

Messrs. Horne and Sons will lift and cart all Lots and put them on rail after the Sale free of charge.

Catalogues free of Messrs. HORNE AND SONS, Cliffe, nr. Rochester; and of the

AUCTIONEERS,
67 and 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning . .

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS

when writing to our Advertisers.

as well as others descended from prizo parents. During the past season no less than twenty-two first prizes have been won by the Tring herd, in addition to one champion and many other minor honours.

Thore was a good and large company, and high prices were the order of the day. Welsh Lady, lot 2, an imported cow and heavy milker, was bought for Lord Rosebery at 42 guineas. Lot 3, Young Privet, realised 32 guineas to Mr. J. de Knoop, who was also the buyer of several other lots, among them May Queen, two years old, 43 guineas, Lily Potter 33 guineas, and Desire 40 guineas, the last pair being the property of Lady de Rothschild, of Aston Clinton. For Sultane 20th, lot 7, a well-known winner and of a celebrated family, Lord Rosebery was again to the fore at 67 guineas. Fanciful, a young imported cow, took the fancy of Baron Schroeder, who gave 44 guineas for her. Other lots that fell to the same buyer were Brilliant, 25 guineas; Hetty, 28 guineas; Heiress, 29 guineas; and Countess, 35 guineas. Blossom, lot 15, a newly-calved cow, also imported, brought 39 guineas from Mr. H. W. Hill, and Sultane 21st, a daughter of lot 7, previously mentioned, 31 guineas from Mr. Milne-Home. Lady Smyth gave 40 guineas for Archery 4th, two years old, by Marigold's Gift, and Mr. J. A. Knight 40 guineas for Gazelle, a home-bred animal of the same age.

Joyful 2nd, a beautiful two-year-old heifer from an extraordinary milking dam that yielded in one year nearly 1,300 gallons of milk, reached 70 guineas, the highest price of the sale, to Mr. Millor Hallett. Sultane 22nd went to Mr. Clough, 33 guineas, and Lustre and Veronica, both yearlings, to Lady Smyth at 35 guineas each.

Bulls were only three in number, but the quality made up for the lack of quantity. Royal Ensign, first at the Derby Royal, realised 50 guineas, and cannot be dear to Mr. A. E. Bond at that money. Gladiator, only highly commended at the same exhibition, brought 5 guineas more, Lady de Rothschild being the purchaser. Altogether forty-eight head averaged £31 3s. 5d., and the total of the sale was £1,496 5s.

Sale of Shorthorns at York.

The closing Shorthorn sale of the present season was held on Wednesday last at the Wool Sheds, York. There were a large number of cattle to be offered, over sixty breeders sending stock, among them being Lord Armstrong, Sir John Swinburne, Hon. H. W. Fitzwilliam, Capt. Dancombe, and Messrs. Whitworth. As at most collective sales, there were a good many second-rate animals, but for those that showed quality as well as good breeding properties, the bidding was brisk. Lot 10, Vanity (Messrs. Denny's), a roan six-year-old, and her roan cow calf went at 100 guineas to Mr G. Lax; Primula (Marquis of Zetland's), to Mr H. Dudding, 40 guineas; Moss Rose (Messrs. Denny's), Lord Moreton, 40 guineas; Dromonby Roan Duchess (Mr. F. E. C. Dobson's), Sir R. P. Cooper, 70 guineas; Virago (Mr. R. Blezard's), Mr. Oliver, 57 guineas; Waterloo Daisy (Mr. R. Blezard's), Sir R. P. Cooper, 70 guineas; Miss Baroness 23rd (Mr. Petch's), Mr. H. Webb, 40 guineas; Lucky Farewell (Mrs. Thornton's), Mr. H. W. Boddington, 38 guineas.

The bulls, taken all round, were up to the average of the autumn sales at York, the highest price—viz., 200 guineas—being paid by Sir Nigel Kingscote for Sir John Swinburne's Emperor of Waterloo 38th, a red yearling. Mr. J. P. Raynar's Conisclifte Victor went to Lord Winchester's herd in Hampshire at 145 guineas, and Sir John Swinburne's Emperor of Oxford 13th to Mr. C. O. Hall at 105 guineas. Among other good prices may be mentioned Royal Sovereign (Mr. M. Furness'), Mr. Rickerby, 80 guineas; Aberdeen (Mr. A. Ashworth's), Mr. H. Dudding, 60 guins.; Pride of Ludwell (Mr. M. Reed's), winner of second prize at the Weardale Show, Mr. C. Murless, 60 guineas; Chiddingstone Victor (Messrs. Denny's), Captain Behrens, 44 guineas; and Farewells Trooper (Mrs. Thornton's), Mr. George Harrison, 46 guineas. The sixty-three cows and heifers averaged £23 3s. 10d., and eighty-four bulls £28 19s. 3d.

Several Guernsey cattle were sold after the Shorthorns at an average price of £25 16s.

Shorthorn Sales in Scotland.

Owing to the exigences of space we were unable to give in our last issue the whole of the week's Shorthorn sales in Scotland, and now take up the thread where laid down.

Aberdeen.

On the 11th inst. the sale was at Killybrewster, Aberdeen, and the catalogue was made up of consignments from ten herds, the breeders represented being Mr. W. Adam, Nether Auguston; Mr. W. Anderson, Saphock; Mr. G. Anderson, West Fingask; Mr. R. Bruce, Heatherwick; Mr. S. Campbell, Kinellar; Mr. G. Campbell, Harthill; Mr. A. Crombie, Woodend; Mr. J. Durno, Jackstown; Mr. J. L. Reid, Cromleybank; and Mr. G. Walker, Tillygreig. The trade was again very brisk, and good prices were realised, though the best fell far short of the previous day. It was 350 gs., which Mr. W. Anderson, Saphock, got for a rich red gem of a Broadhooks heifer by the late Mr. W. S. Marr's Spicy King. The buyer was Mr. Kirkham, the well-known Argentine exporter. Mr. A. J. Balfour's Whittingehame representative gave 175 guineas, and Mr. Peterkin 210 guineas, whilst a good many others realised 100 guineas and over. The general result of the sale was as follows:—Eleven cows averaged £54 2s. 5d.; fourteen two-year-old heifers, £63 18s.; thirty-one yearling heifers, £77 18s.; sixteen heifer calves, £50 13s. 3d.; three bulls, £105; eight bull calves, £103 16s. 4d.

Inverness.

Good prices were obtained recently at the sale at Inverness, when selections from the herds belonging to Lord Lovat, Mr. Fletcher, of Roschaugh, and Mr. Cameron, of Balnakyle, Ross-shire, were offered. Seventy-five animals made £7,402, or £98 per head. A two-year-old heifer from Balnakyle fetched 550 guineas, and a yearling 420 guineas. Three yearling heifers from Beaufort Castle brought 320, 220, and 205 guineas respectively. A bull from Roschaugh realised 280 guineas, and a yearling 100 guineas.

Perth.

Perth was the scene of the final sale of the week, and the fixture proved worthy of such a record week, for competition was once again keen, and many three figure prices were realised.

The herds dealt with on this occasion were chiefly from Perthshire, and the animals belonged for the most part to well-bred families, the young females in particular being of popular colours and full of promise. Mr. A. Robertson, Ballechin, the well-known breeder, was the principal exposer, and he had twenty-one animals forward—two cows, four two-year-old heifers, and fifteen yearling heifers. For the latter an exceptionally good trade was experienced, Mr. Casares buying one for the Argentine at 320 guineas, Mr. Hughes also purchased for that country at 170 guineas; the Earl of Moray gave 210 guineas for another, whilst others went at 180 guineas, 120 guineas, and two at 100 guineas each. Mr. Dudding took the best of the two-year-old heifers, Royal Lily, at 155 guineas, which sum Mr. Kirkham also gave for the cow Rachel of Ballechin, who goes to the Argentine. The best price obtained by the other consignees was 220 guineas, at which figure Lord Calthorpe took out Captain Stirling's twenty-one months' heifer, Keir Mabel, whilst Mr. Grant, Auchancree, got 175 guineas for a heifer calf. The general averages of the sale were as follows:—9 cows, £58 16s.; 7 two-year-old heifers, £74 17s.; 25 yearling heifers, £97 5s. 5d.; 2 heifer calves, £128 12s. 6d.; 1 bull, £36 15s.

It may be added that during the five days Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co. sold 286 head, which realised the remarkable sum of £28,876 1s., or an average per head of £100 19s. 3d.

Mr. Cartwright's Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.

Eighty-two capital Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns from the herd of Mr. E. H. Cartwright were offered for sale at Keddington Grange, near Louth, on Wednesday. Mr. Cartwright's father, who resided at Tathwell, was the founder of the famed Cruikshank Nonpareil family, and Mr. Cartwright has built up the almost equally famed family of Lincolnshire Red Nonpareils. He also took a prominent part in the formation of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Breeders' Association. The animals offered on Wednesday were of high quality, and prices ruled satisfactory throughout. Mr. G. Marris gave 104 guineas for the cow Keddington Favourite 4th, Mr. J. W. Ward 91 guineas for Keddington Skipworth 6th, Mr. Williams 87 guineas for Nonpareil 9th, and Mr. R. Chatterton 76 guineas for Keddington Vain Girl, whilst other cows and heifers made up to 66 guineas. The best of the bulls, Keddington Baron, fell to Mr. B. Simmons's bid of 82 guineas. The averages were as follows:—34 Cows and heifers with 17 sucking calves, £43 6s. 1d.; 18 two-year-old heifers, £37 6s. 8d.; 11 yearling heifers, £33 8s. 9d.; 2 bulls, £52 4s. 2d.

Sale of Jerseys at Bletchley.

Fifty head of pure-bred Jersey cattle from the herds of Lord Rosebery, Earl Cadogan, Viscount Enfield, Captain Gisborne, Mr. Murray Smith, Mr. Butt Miller, Mr. E. Mathews, Mr. Weetman, and other breeders, were brought under the hammer at Bletchley on Wednesday, in the presence of a fairly large company of breeders. Prices did not rule particularly high, for the top figure was 34 guineas, realised for Mr. Alexander's Skylark (Mr. Wilkins); 29 guineas was the sum given by Mr. J. T. Glover, Sutton Coldfield, for Captain Gisborne's Avenal Daisy; and also by Mr. H. J. Thompson, Aylesbury, for Lord Rosebery's Marmora; whilst the other cows and heifers made up to 26 guineas, though several went at prices under the score at this sale. The best of the bulls was Earl Cadogan's Rayon d'Or, for which Mr. C. H. Kenderdine gave 28 guineas, whilst the same consignee's Candidate fell to the Earl of Faversham for 21 guineas. Capt. Gisborne's Professor went at a guinea less to Mr. C. W. Armitage, and Jolly Jack, from the the same herd, was secured by Mr. C. T. Hoare at 16 guineas. The fifty head sold realised close on £1,000, the average per head working out at a little over £18 15s. Forty-five cows and heifers realised £19 2s. 2d. per head, and the seven bulls, £16 14s. 6d.

Sale of the Monkhall Herefords.

Mr. Andrews' Monkhall Herefords were dispersed at Westonbury, Pembridge, on the 9th inst., in the presence of a representative company of Hereford breeders. The stock comprised seventy-six pedigree Herefords of the purest strains of blood, and consisted of thirty breeding cows, with twenty bull and heifer calves, nine two-year-old heifers, nine yearling heifers, the stock bulls Malin 23598, and Soudan 22592. There was a good trade, but no particularly high prices were realised, the best being as follows:—Cows and calves, 30 guineas, 28 guineas, 26 guineas, and 25 guineas; two-year-old heifers, 19½ guineas, 18 guineas, and 15½ guineas; yearling heifers, 26 guineas and 17 guineas; bulls, 36 guineas and 27 guineas.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

At Lisnasket Fair, co. Fermanagh, held October 17, averaged sized fair of young cattle, demand good, especially for calves and one and a half year old heifers, which were nearly all bought up. Calves, first class, £5 5s.; second class, £3 10s. to £4 10s.; third class, £2 10s. to £3 5s. Yearlings, second class, £5 15s. to £7 7s. 6d.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 10s. Two years old, second class, £7 15s. to £9 10s.; third class, £6 5s. to £7. Springers, first class, £16 10s.; second class, £13 10s. to £15 5s.; third class, £9 10s. to £10 5s. Young pigs, 19s. to 24s. each.

At Tuam Fair, co. Galway, held October 16, there was an average sized fair. Demand good for ewes suitable for breeding, supply short, and prices 3s. per head in advance of recent fairs. Two-year-old wethers and wether hoggets were numerous at reduced prices. A good clearance was effected. Lambs, first class, £1 14s. 6d. to £1 18s.; second class, £1 6s. to £1 11s. 6d; third class, £1 to £1 2s. 6d. One-year-old and over, first class, £2 7s. 6d. to £2 13s.; second class, £2 2s. to £2 7s. Two years old and over, first class, £2 15s. to £3; second class, £2 5s. to £2 13s.; third class, £1 7s. to £1 10s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 16, 1906:—

Period				Anthrax.		Foot-and-Mouth Disease.		Glanders (including Farcy).		Rabies.			Sheep Scab	Swine Fever.	
										Cases Confirmed.					
				Animals Attacked.	Outbreaks.	Animals Attacked.	Outbreaks.	Animals Attacked.	Outbreaks.	Other Animals.	Dogs.	Outbreaks Reported.	Outbreaks.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	
				No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	
Week ended October 13, 1906				28	24	...	...	36	27	...	...	13	43	230	
Corresponding week in	1905	1904	1903	18	16	...	...	32	21	...	...	8	9	23	
				34	22	...	...	32	18	...	...	8	13	53	
				17	10	...	...	42	17	...	...	17	21	135	
Total for 41 weeks in 1906				1,028	721	...	...	1,620	874	...	...	323	907	5,114	
Corresponding period in	1905	1904	1903	1,672	779	...	...	1,489	980	...	...	687	658	2,944	
				1,230	701	...	...	2,195	1,240	...	...	1,102	1,060	4,927	
				911	602	...	...	2,015	1,188	...	...	1,227	1,222	6,417	

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season. N B.—The Sale of 43 Shire Horses will be held at above address on November 7, 1906. See advertisement and write for Catalogue.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79963; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS.—COWS of the Scraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal; younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Hobner, Endale, and Sage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowons, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK, Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.).*

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 19 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, Jas. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder. Registered Oxford Downs. Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74·70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station Lancaster.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM. TOWNSEND, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Rycroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

TAMWORTHS.

IBBOTSON, R., can spare 20 or 30 young Tamworth Boars and Gilts by his prize Boars "Knowle Bounder," "Joey" and "Lycidas." Price 2 guineas and upwards.—The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

The annual October fair at Donington was held on Wednesday, when good draught horses, for which the fair is noted, were a small show, and the best did not command more than 65 guineas. Sound yearlings or two-year-old colts and fillies realised £20 to £35; foals, bred in the district, £12 to £14 for the best. Business was slow in the cattle fair. Useful two-and-a-half-year-old beasts made £13 to £14; in-calvers heifers, to £16; and cows, to £19.

At a recent meeting of the executive of the Free Importation of Canadian Cattle Association, held in the City Chambers, Glasgow, it was unanimously agreed to convene a general meeting of the association in London, with the object of taking steps to encourage the reintroduction into the House of Commons of Mr. Cairn's Bill in favour of free importation.

Notes and Jottings.

THOSE buying in sheep in these days have not nearly the difficulties that beset their fathers thirty or fewer years ago. After the series of dry years which have dried up so many water channels, there is little to worry about concerning liver rot. Scab is being gradually stamped out, and with persistent care ought to become as extinct as hydrophobia; and even if it makes its appearance, the means of checking and getting rid of it are much more simple than when every sheep had to be handled.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH disease is almost a bygone scare, yet thirty years ago a farmer never went to his sheep without feeling anxious that the disease might not have made its appearance, which meant, at any rate, six months keeping for no profit; while when he went to market he never knew whether the sheep were a draft from a flock in which disease had appeared, and the particular lot had been sent out to be got rid of for someone else to have the pleasure of nursing them through the bad time that would soon be coming.

IT is doubtless difficult for many to realise in these days, when the sheep stock has been so improved, that at such a recent period, in even good sheep districts, farmers had to be careful in bringing a pen of sheep to look out for those which still showed traces of the imperfections of the old heath sheep, and would inevitably be unthrifty. With linseed cake at £14 per ton, the sheep farmer's difficulties in those days were not imaginary; and when we talk of the good old days we have good reason to be thankful that so much that pertained to them is left behind. At the srme time, the man who assumes that speep farming is a simple business makes a big mistake, for where it is carried on in connection with arable land it calls for as much skill as any section of farming.

IT has been found compulsory to make some sheep keepers dip their sheep as a preventive to scab, and it is well that steps are being taken to make certain slim parties use dips which are effective. It seems incredible that there can be those so foolish in their own interests, or so careless in the interest of others with whom they trade, as to wilfully use inefficient dips; but recent proceedings have shown that such a condition may exist. Considering the trouble and expense being taken to protect foolish people against themselves, such avoidance should be most drastically dealt with.

THERE is little money spent on the farm which is surer in its profitable use than that which is laid out on dipping, and the mixture used represents only a portion of the expense, so that on the ground of saving expense there is nothing to excuse a man. Nor are sellers of effective dips sparing of advertisements, and it is impossible for any one who can read not to have heard of them.

NOW that mangels are being got up, care should be taken in the storing. We often think that undue trouble is taken in some directions, particularly in exactness in taking off the leaves; still the over-care, if a mistake, is in the right direction. Where much valuable sheep food is lost is in not taking care to keep out those which are diseased. There has, undoubtedly, been some increase in the diseases affecting mangels within recent years, though on the whole it is a very sound crop.

IT is a great mistake to put these into the heap or clamp, for it is mainly due to them that heat is generated and disease spread. They ought really to be taken away and at once consumed on pastures where there would be little likelihood of their infecting the farm and causing a spread of disease in the future. We have stored mangels from most classes of soil, and except where they have been unduly forced, as on sewage-irrigated land, have never known them keep badly if allowed free ventilation at first to get rid of the getting-up sweat. It matters little how they are handled if there are many diseased ones, for these are sure to give trouble—if not immediately after storing, they will do so in the spring when the leaves begin to sprout.

WHEN one gets into what seem to be the more inaccessible districts, one always seems to be running against the Shropshire sheep either pure or crossed, showing what a great range it must have. One meets with it in Scotland in places where one would expect to find local breeds firmly established; on the extreme south-west Welsh coast, and even in not over rich parts of Clare and Galway. As a rule, it is more or less crossed, though by no means always so; but it shows how serviceable the breed is in moist climates. When one gets into the drier climates it is far less frequently met with, and it has never become firmly established in the South of England.

THERE is no doubt that its hill origin in a district with a fairly heavy rainfall has had much to do with this. This is another instance, such as we have before mentioned, showing that climate as well as soil has a big influence on breed, and as such the point should be much more considered by those who buy with the view to instituting breeds in other countries. Those interested in breeds should, when they are trying to get a particular breed taken up, try as far as possible to arrange that the animals are selected not merely on show-yard successes, but on features which have been active in making them what they are. There is no doubt that much harm is done when a breed is sent to an unsuitable climate.

IF the difference between conditions met with in districts not far apart in a country like England are so marked, what may be expected in different parts of countries which in themselves are big enough to be almost continents? We do not often see this point dealt with when breeds are being set forward as suitable for export; but it would be better for the breeds if it were.

Malton Sheep Fair.

There was a good show of breeding sheep at Malton Fair. The best to sell were tupping ewes and gimmer shearlings, both of which were very dear. Some grand Leicester shearlings from Mr. W. D. Megginson, of Towthorpe, York, made 68s. to 74s. each (paid by Mr. Marwood), and some good ewes to 68s. each. Mrs. Weldon's Leicester shearlings made to 71s. each, and Mr. Triffitt's Lincolns to 68s. Young ewes made 55s. to 62s. for quality, and Masham gimmers to 58s. Some high-class Leicester ewes from the Wold farms brought 60s. to 68s. each. Cross-bred shearlings made 45s. to 50s., and ewes to 48s. each. Lambs were not a big show, and they were dear; cross-breds 26s. to 32s., and best pedigree Leicester lambs 38s. to 42s.; secondary, 34s. to 36s. per head. Down and Scotch sheep were scarce. Rams had been nearly all cleared on the first day, and those remaining on hand made £4 to £7, and lambs £2 10s. to £3 10s. per head. Gimmer shearlings and young ewes have not been known to be as dear for some time.

Maidstone Fair.

On Wednesday last this annual fair took place in the county town of Kent, and the entry, which was comprised of about 10,000 head of sheep, besides horses and cattle, was of a quality fully equal to the average. Messrs. Ambrose & Foster and Messrs. Waterman were the principal auctioneers, the first-named firm selling upwards of 7,000 sheep and rams, and the latter about 6,500 sheep and rams. The demand for store things was about the same as we have noted at the other sales and fairs of this district, and from our observations it would appear that practically the whole of those offered would be disposed of. Messrs. Ambrose & Foster have secured the bulk of the rams sold at this fair, and this year their entries included the whole of the Kent or Romney Marsh yearling rams. The demand was not quite so keen as was the case last season, but this arose mainly on account of the absence of the export buyers, and the home buyers being left to themselves, took good care to keep the prices within moderate limit. The leading lots of Kent or Romney Marsh rams were those mentioned below. Several smaller lots and remnants were also disposed of at a low range of prices.

Mr. C. P. Wykenham Martin's rams were of first-class merit, and they sold very cheaply. Here the top price was 14½ guineas to Mr. R. M. Wakeley, a real good ram; others from this lot made 9½ guineas to Mr. Fleming, 9 guineas to Messrs. W. Skinner, W. Maxted and Stewart; several made 8½ guineas; Lord Falmouth gave 8 guineas, and the remainder went down to 5½ guineas, with an average of £8 17s. 3d.

Mr. George Farmer, who always sends forward a capital lot, sold better than others, if comparison be made with last year's prices, for this year's average is just about the same, being £8 14s. 9d. for twenty seven head, with the top price of 12 guineas to Mr. W. Skinner; Lieut.-Colonel Honeyball gave 11½ guineas, Mr. F. Mainwaring 10½ guineas, Mr. Alexander 10 guineas, Lord Falmouth 9½ guineas, and the remainder went at 5½ guineas.

Messrs. J. B. Palmer and J. Robinson averaged

£6 15s. 4d. and £4 16s. 6d. respectively for nine and twelve head.

Mr. P. Powell's nine Southdown yearling rams were in good demand; two made 10 guineas to Mr. P. Champion, and the remainder ranged down to 5 guineas, making an average of £7 11s. 8d.

Lieut.-Colonel W. N. Hammond sold seven yearling Southdowns for an average of £6 8s. 1d; 9 guineas was the best price.

Several other lots of these sheep were sold, and also some few ram lambs, but in no case, either for these or the Hampshire Down ram lambs, was there any real demand, and so far as regards this part of the sale, the result was one of the most disappointing the vendors have experienced for many years.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Sweetened Chaff.

SIR,—Will you please give me your opinion of the sample of sweetened chaff which I am sending you by this post as a food for horses, cattle and sheep. It is mixed in the proportion of 3 cwt. of molasses to the ton of chaff, no water added. Do you think this is the best proportion, as the machine with which it is mixed can be varied from half-and-half to 1 cwt. to the ton. The capacity of the machine is about a stone of chaff per minute hand power.

Is such a machine worth £7 to the average farmer? The mixture will not keep many days, please examine at once.

Thanking you in anticipation of a reply.—
Yours faithfully, CHAS. E. HODSON.
Bourne, Lincolnshire, October 15, 1906.

*** The sample of treacled cut straw came to hand in good condition, and appears in its present state to be perfectly palatable. It is presumably open to the user of the machine to sweeten any long fodder he pleases, but if only straw can be employed, it would not be suitable for feeding to horses, whose chaff should not consist of more than one part of straw, preferably good oat straw, to two parts of hay. Further, treacle is not suitable for working horses. It is fattening and laxative, and fat is not wanted in horses. With reference to the question "Is such a machine worth £7 to the average farmer?" we should say not, and we doubt if there would be a demand for it even if sold cheaper. Treacle can often be made good use of when roots are scarce, and, if genuine, treacle is good food for bovines. The Board of Agriculture leaflet (No. 74) on "The Purchase of Feeding Stuffs," says?—"It (treacle) holds about fifty per cent. of sugar, and consequently has considerable feeding value, and it is much relished by cattle. Mixed with water, and used at the rate of a pound per head per day to moisten chaff, it is a very useful addition to a diet." A calculation on the basis of a daily allowance of 1 lb. per head for feeding cattle would give you an idea of the proportion of treacle to chaff most suitable. Putting the average daily allowance of hay and straw at from 28 to 30 lb. for large cows, the proportion of treacle can be estimated quite easily. But does the farmer want a machine to impregnate his chaff with treacle, and would he use it? It is admitted that the sweetened chaff or chopped straw "will not keep many days," and it is obviously messy stuff to handle. Nothing could be more simple and expeditious than the method of using treacle generally practised. It is thinned out with hot water, and poured over the chaff as required for use, and few farmers would invest £7 in a machine to do what the fodder man can do in a few minutes with a bucket and a shovel, and without risk of spoiling a lot of chaff. Further, the number of feeders who regularly employ treacle for stock feeding is not large. It is not always possible to obtain the treacle regularly, and sometimes the price is prohibitive. Moreover, there are now in the market several molasses foods which will keep indefinitely, and which are growing in public favour. The man who resorts to treacle feeding occasionally, when the circumstances are special, does not want a machine for mixing it with chaff, and we cannot see how anything of the kind can possibly be a commercial success. M.R.C.V.S.

The Public Health Committee of the Marylebone Borough Council have decided to recommend the council to communicate with the Board of Agriculture, pointing out the urgent necessity of the amendment of the regulations made by the board, so as to provide for the establishment, for the protection of the public, of an absolute standard of milk.

DAIRY.

Chester Dairy Show.

The Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Annual Dairy Show at Chester was held on Tuesday and Wednesday, and in every way sustained its high reputation. The entries numbered 461, as compared with 441 last year, and with these increased entries the total weight was expected to be close on 100 tons. Actually, it only reached between eighty and ninety tons, the explanation being the obvious one that while there was a greater number of individual cheeses, they were of a smaller size and correspondingly less in weight. Mr. J. Pakeman, J.P., F.R.G.S., of Derby, who is in his thirty-fourth season of judging, and is one of the best authorities in the country, remarked that he had never seen a finer show of Cheshire cheese after a hot summer. The condition throughout was excellent—there being an absence of that wet cheese which has frequently of late years been detrimental to the Cheshire make.

The "blue riband" of the association—the gold medal for the best lot of cheese in the show—was awarded to Mr. Henry Denson, of Poulton, a tenant of the Duke of Westminster. They were a lot of four coloured, flaky, rich, mild, good-conditioned handsome cheese, which were exhibited in the "No barbed wire class." The silver medal went to the same fortunate exhibitor with a coloured lot exhibited in the open classes, which contained no fewer than eighty-eight exhibitors. Mr. Denson has scored former triumphs in the cheese-making art, and previously won the gold medal at this show with a white lot. The "runner-up" lot was Mr. Jos. Jones's, of Dodleston, which was beaten on the vote of the judges on account of being considered not quite so flaky.

The butter exhibits were very good, and the judges singled out three classes — the Channel Islands class, the cottagers' class, and class 15, for occupiers of holdings under fifty acres—as being specially meritorious. "I have never judged finer butter at this show," one of them remarked. "It is a very high class of butter—good in texture, flavour, and make. The class of butter being made in Cheshire to-day is better than it has been, and these shows are doing a useful work in encouraging that tendency." The ornamental butter class furnished some clever examples of working butter into the shape of roses and other flowers, and the introduction of the natural leaves and stems produced a realistic effect. Farm produce and honey were small classes, but there was a good show of eggs.

At the cheese fair on the second day there was a combined pitch of about 140 tons, including most of the prize cheeses exhibited at the show. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the fair opened with a sharp demand, the result being that good prices were realised, finest making from 76s. to 80s., one special lot fetching 82s.; medium 70s. to 75s., and lower grades down to 60s. Mr. Denson's gold and silver medal prize cheese realised from 120s. to 140s., which is £1 higher than last year, and a record for some years, while other first prize lots fetched up to 120s., and lots with and without cards from 75s. to 85s.

The Army Meat Question.

A public meeting, held under the auspices of the Leicester Chamber of Agriculture, took place at Leicester on the 13th inst., to protest against the change in the form of army meat contracts, by which soldiers may be supplied with foreign instead of home-fed beef. The Duke of Rutland, who presided, expressed sympathy with the object of the gathering, and said the change made by the Government in a plan which had worked well for at least five years would affect farmers, graziers, and butchers throughout the country. The excuses made by Lord Carrington for the proposed change were quite inadequate, and the saving which Mr. Haldane hoped to make would be quite out of proportion to the loss that would be sustained by the agricultural interest. The saving would be at the expense of the soldier. After other speeches the two following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

1. "That this public meeting, held in Leicester on Saturday, October 13, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, his Grace the Duke of Rutland, in the chair, protests in the strongest manner against the change recently made in the army meat tender form, under which contractors can supply foreign meat killed at the port of debarkation instead of native home-bred meat." 2. "That this meeting also protests against Mr. Haldane's refusal to receive a deputation on the above-mentioned change so seriously affecting their interests from the Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture, associated in this matter with many other chambers of agriculture and farmers' clubs in England, Scotland, and Wales, and directs its secretary to send them copies of the resolutions, as well as to Mr. Haldane, Secretary of State for War."

Agricultural Conference at Newcastle.

The second annual conference of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation took place in the Great Hall of Armstrong College, Newcastle, on the 13th inst. Mr. J. Knox Lyal, the president, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance, which included the Right Hon. Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The secretary first read the annual report, which was most satisfactory as far as work done was concerned, but the financial position is not as strong as it might be, for the income has been only £27 5s., and the expenditure nearly £28, whilst it stated that the payment of a small salary to the secretary would be a need of the future, for the work was both heavy and difficult.

The report referred with satisfaction to the part the federation had taken in Parliamentary matters, and added "the fact that we are at last bringing agricultural interests into the prominence they deserve by speaking with no uncertain voice and with the force of organised agricultural opinion, has given to agriculture, the oldest and still the greatest of industries, something like the same degree of attention and consideration which Governments of the day extend to the other better organised industries."

The president, moving the adoption of the federation report, said they as farmers wanted no class legislation. They were prepared to take their share of the responsibilities of citizenship and desired liberty to cultivate the land and to make it yield such produce as it was capable of doing.

The report was adopted, and Mr. J. O. Trotter (Bedale) was elected president for the ensuing year.

The Rating System.

Mr. J. Hunter (Newcastle Farmers' Club) moved, and Major R. C. Hedley (secretary Newcastle Farmers' Club) seconded the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—"That this federation considers a revision of the rating system is necessary, so that the excessive burden on land may be reduced and all classes of property bear a fair share of local and county expenditure."

Lord Carrington, in reply, said they were not there to attack any person or class or to advocate any side of politics. They were united in one determination, to do the best they could for the great agricultural interest. Representations had already come to the Board of Agriculture on the subject of the resolution. It was a terrific question to tackle. All he could say was that the Government was pledged to deal with it on an early opportunity. The first step towards it would, of course, be the reform of the present system of valuation. He was glad that it was not a political question. It was a question which both sides agreed must be tackled fearlessly and fully. It was his duty as their representative in the Government to try to get some relief from the unfair burden of rates which pressed so heavily upon agricultural interests. He would give them his word of honour that he would do his best, and he was not without hope that they would in some way get a proper and satisfactory solution to this great and crying evil.

The Sheep Scab Order.

Mr. J. W. Wilkinson (Hexham Farmers' Protection Association) moved—"That having complied with the Sheep Dipping Order, every farmer should be at liberty to move his sheep without restriction." The resolution was carried.

Lord Carrington said he was pleased to hear the speakers say that, in their opinion, it was absolutely necessary that sheep scab should be stamped out. He believed they were unanimous about that. But he understood Mr. Trotter to say that the same orders should be put into force all over the country if necessary again. He would make a note of that. In fact he believed there was some idea of that being carried out next year. He should like to point out, though he hated the word, that the Board had had a distinct mandate from the Central Chamber to enforce universal dipping. He would ask them, as fair-minded men, to go through with the order this year. He did not want to prophesy, but he really did hope that in a year or two at the latest they would get rid of this obnoxious restriction. He hoped that next year they would have an order merely requiring universal dipping without any declaration at all. That, he hoped, would to some extent carry out the requests of the resolution, to which he would give his most earnest and respectful consideration.

Game Laws, &c.

With regard to game laws, land tenure, &c., Lord Carrington said he heartily concurred with a resolution submitted. If they would only back him up he felt certain they would be able to produce a state of affairs which, if not perfect and not approved of by all, would be a pronounced improvement upon that which at present existed.

The Milk Supply.

Referring to the present arrangements, satisfy-

ing neither dairy farmers nor the health authorities, Lord Carrington could not say that he could give any opinion on the subject. He would only remind them that the regulations were brought forward by a committee upon which there were representatives from the dairy farmers. He heard the same thing in Scotland. He thought they had great cause for complaint. He would go into the matter thoroughly, and hoped that on some future occasion he would be able to speak with more practical knowledge, and that they would be able to propose a state of things which would be more satisfactory than the present evidently was.

Education in Rural Districts.

Alluding to a resolution as to the necessity of bringing education in rural districts more into line with the requirements of the scholars, his Lordship said all they wanted was more money to carry it into effect. But with the Income-tax at one shilling he would want some of the most resolute of the gentlemen he saw before him to accompany him in a deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and brave his wrath by asking him for any more money at present. He hoped as time went on they would be able to economise and find money to spend, and that they would be fortunate enough to get some of it.

The proceedings then terminated with votes of thanks.

OBITUARY.

Mr. John Garne.

The death is announced of Mr. John Garne, aged eighty-six. He was a brother of the late Mr. Robert Garne, Aldsworth, and for fifty-four years resided at Filkins, near Lechlade, where since 1873 he bred a good herd of Shorthorns. It was entirely descended from the Pye tribe, so long associated with the family, and which was brought down from Earl Spencer's herd at Wiseton by Lord Sherborne, about the year 1840. It was kept for practical dairy purposes, but when animals were exhibited at the Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire shows they were generally successful. Owing to Mr. Garne's failing health, he gave up the farm in 1902 and retired to a small occupation at Fulbrook. The herd was dispersed in July of that year, an average of £30 2s. 3d. being obtained for sixty-one head.

Mr. A. Brown.

Mr. Andrew Brown, a well-known agriculturist and dealer in hunters, died at Doncaster last week. Mr. Brown, who farmed about 3,000 acres of land in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, was, until a year ago, a prominent figure in the prize-ring and a winner at the Royal and County shows, and there were few better judges of a hunter. He was a veterinary surgeon, but did not practice.

Lord Carrington in Oxfordshire.

On Tuesday the President of the Board of Agriculture addressed two meetings at Thame, Oxfordshire, on the Land Tenure Bill. Speaking briefly at a farmers' ordinary, Earl Carrington said that when Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman gave him his "job" he told him that the Government were going into the land question in real heart, and he did not think they could say that so far as agricultural matters were concerned they had not had a good legislative harvest. But they had only touched the fringe of the question. The great crux of the subject was to give security to the tenant farmer without in any way encroaching upon the undoubted rights and prerogatives of the landlord. The Government had no idea of spoliation or confiscation, and they had no bad feeling against any landlord in the country. All they wanted was to do what was right between man and man. It would not be the slightest good in the world for him to bring forward the Land Tenure Bill in the House of Lords if he had not the tenant-farmers behind him. If they left him in the lurch, and said they did not know whether they were in favour of it or not, then the Lords would throw it out. If, on the other hand, they backed him up, and were in earnest, with good luck they would be able to get the Bill through.

Subsequently Lord Carrington addressed a meeting of tenant farmers, and in the course of his speech said that those who described the measure as spoliation or robbery did not know the meaning of the British language. It was a Bill to protect the good tenant against the bad landlord, and the good landlord against the bad tenant. He was told that it would be wrecked in the House of Lords, but he believed that that Chamber would give the measure a patient and fair hearing. It was not the duty of the House of Lords to emasculate or destroy Bills approved by the industry it was hoped to assist.

Lord Heneage and the Land Tenure Bill.

Lord Heneage, who presided at the luncheon in connection with the Shorthorn sale at Keddington Grange, near Louth, on Tuesday, severely criticised the Land Tenure Bill. He said he had seen with the greatest astonishment that Lord Carrington had been agitating in favour of a private members' Bill which they all thought had been sent to the lumber-room. It was an ill-considered, ill-drafted, and bad Bill. He saw the other day that a Lincolnshire deputation had stated that they were generally in favour of the Bill. What in the world did they know about the generalities of the Bill?

Only a few days previously, unless his information was at fault, one of the private secretaries to Lord Carrington said it would be inadvisable to discuss any parts of the Bill. He could quite understand that, because many parts of the Bill the Government themselves could not digest. He did not believe there was a man in Lincolnshire who knew what the Bill contained. If there was any principle at all in the Bill it meant dual ownership and land commissioners, as in Ireland. Lord Heneage announced his intention, when the Bill reaches the House of Lords of moving its rejection, in order that more time might be devoted to its discussion another year.

West of Scotland Agricultural College.

The West of Scotland Agricultural College reopened for the session on Wednesday under auspices more favourable than ever before in its history. That history is not a long one, the college having been founded in 1899, but it has been somewhat eventful. The premises first occupied by the college consisted of a suite of rooms in the old buildings of the Technical College, John Street. Later the governors purchased for the sum of £3,450 premises at 6, Blythswood Square, and fitted them at considerable expense for the purposes of the college. The increase in the number of students soon rendered the premises too small, and the chemical department was transferred to the Veterinary College, Buccleuch Street. This arrangement, however, was not satisfactory. Application was made to the Scotch Education Department for a building extension grant, and a sum of £1,500 was given. The Carnegie trustees gave an additional sum of £500 for the same purpose. The extensions have now been completed, and were occupied for the first time on Wednesday.

The opening lecture was delivered by Professor R. Patrick Wright, the principal of the college, who gave "Some Lessons from Denmark." Professor Wright was a member of the Scottish Commission which the summer before last visited Denmark, and which made a special inquiry into the success of small holdings.

Sir William R. Copland, who presided over a good attendance, referred to the excellent work done by the college, the successes of its students, and the high standard which was maintained generally.

A general meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture, will be held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Thursday next, at 2.30 p.m., when the subjects to be considered include Motor Traffic, the Sheep Dipping Regulations, and the Land Purchase Bill.

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SOCIETIES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, 10th to 14th DECEMBER, 1906, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, 1st NOVEMBER; Post Entries, 5th NOVEMBER. Implements: The entries for Implements have already closed on October 5. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to

E. J. POWELL, Secretary.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.—The Fifty-Eighth Great Annual Exhibition of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Corn, Roots, and Implements will be held in Bingley Hall on December 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Entries Close Thursday, November 1. Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

NORWICH FAT CATTLE SHOW. 30th Annual Exhibition of Fat Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, &c., Agricultural Hall, Norwich, November 22nd, 23rd, & 24th, 1906. Last day of Entry for Stock and Stand Space, October 27th. Prize Lists, Entry Forms and all particulars of the Secretaries—CALEB BARKER & Co., East Harling, THETFORD.

VISCOUNT TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOWS (Open to all England without Subscription.)

VISCOUNT TREDEGAR has fixed the 88th Annual Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 27 and 28, 1906, in the CATTLE MARKET, NEWPORT. MON.

The PRIZE LIST contains 60 regulated Classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, HORSES, and DONKEYS, the Prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £300 are also offered.

Judges for Poultry, Rev. J. N. WILLIAMS, B.A., and GEORGE PAYNE, Esq.; for Pigeons, FRANK MACHIN, Esq. The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all Particulars, may be had on application to—

G. P. MITCHELL INNES,
Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

N.B.—Entries Close October 31, for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Horses; for Poultry and Pigeons October 27.

TONBRIDGE FAT STOCK SHOW will be held in the Agricultural Hall on MONDAY and TUESDAY, DEC. 3 and 4, when £300 in prizes will be awarded.

Entries close for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Potatoes, Corn, Fruit, Hops, Bread and Butter, Dead Poultry and Eggs, on November 5.

Full particulars of—

T. C. MAYLAM,
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Society Announcements, Auction Sales, at the rate of 6/- per inch.

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LOOK!—You have all helped pay for them before! Military Knee Boots, smart appearance, 7s. 6d. per pair; Naval Knee Boots, very strong, 5s. 6d. per pair; Bluchers, 5s. 6d. per pair; any size; carriage paid. Cash returned if not approved of.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

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THE ASYLUMS COMMITTEE of the London County Council are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply from 1st November, 1906, of Cornchandlery, Hay and Straw, for five months to

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5. Colney Hatch Asylum, New Southgate, N.
6. Hanwell Asylum, Hanwell, W.
7. Horton Asylum, Epsom, Surrey.
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9. Epileptic Colony, Ewell, Surrey.

Printed forms of tender (upon which alone tenders will be received), conditions of contract, and particulars of estimated quantities required, may be obtained at the office of the Asylums Committee, No. 6, Waterloo Place, S.W. Tenders must be delivered at the said office not later than 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 1st November, 1906.

Persons tendering will be required to declare in their tenders that they pay such rates of wages and observe such hours of labour as are recognised and in practice obtained at the date of the tender by the trade unions of the districts where the work is to be done, and where no trade union exists, such rates of wages and hours of labour as are generally accepted as fair in the trade.

The Asylums Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tenders, and reserve to themselves the right to accept such tenders, or part thereof, as they may think fit to select.

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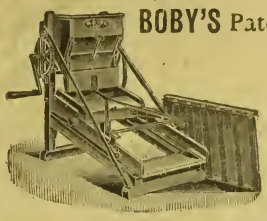

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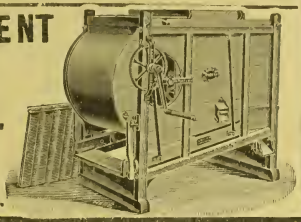

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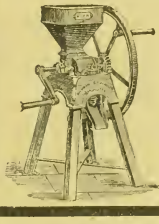

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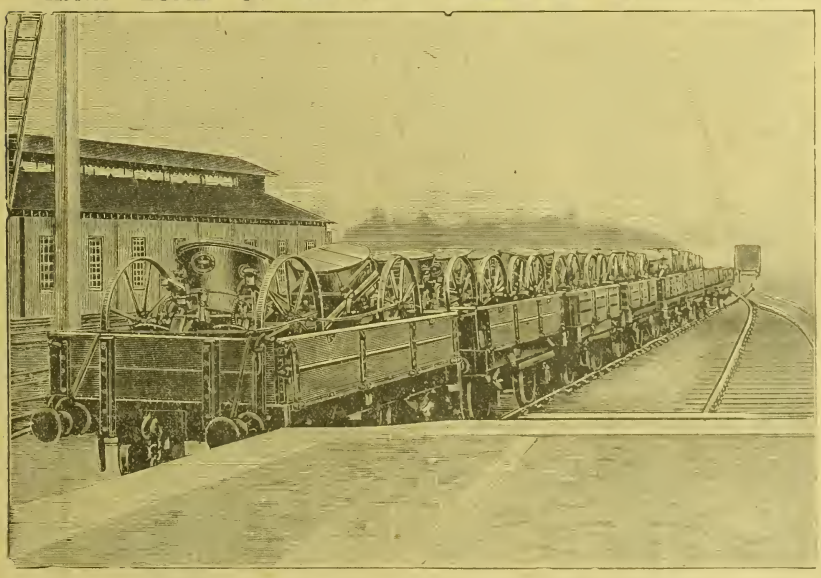

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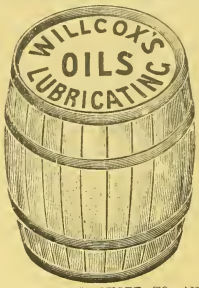

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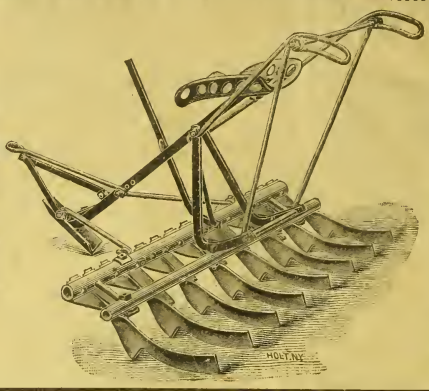

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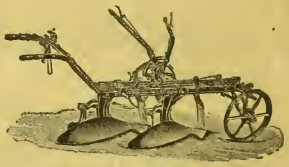

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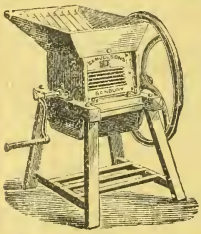

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LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Wasted Force.

SINCE the drought broke up rain has fallen heavily everywhere, on manure heaps as well as on the open ground, and it is not an uncommon sight when passing farmyards to observe streams of rich, brown liquor trickling away from the dung hills, and going to make the docks and nettles in adjoining ditches grow more vigorously than they did before. This is a waste of force, and every gallon of liquid manure lost means so much money thrown away. Can it be avoided? Perhaps not in all cases, but in many it might. It is easy to talk about the advantages of covered yards in which the manure can be kept dry and thus retain all its virtues, but there are hundreds of farmers who have not got covered yards and have no chance of possessing them, so they stand to lose something. Still an effort should be made to stop the waste of liquid manure which is the essence of plant food. It is a fine thing to have a tank to catch the liquid drainings from stables and dung heaps; but everyone does not possess this convenience. Nevertheless, we do not like the idea of good liquid manure running into ditches, and by a little contriving it can be run into a hole dug for its reception, and as the latter gets filled let the liquor be carted out and poured on the grass or over the roots of fruit trees in the orchard. There need be no fear about it doing good, and if applied even in the dead of winter the benefits to the plant found in the liquid manure will be seen later on.

The Strength of Unity.

IS agriculture at last awakening to the importance of unity, and are farmers beginning to realise that if they are to be a strong body they must drop their old method of working as units, and join hands for the common weal? Such a state of affairs seems almost too much to hope for, and yet there is a sign in the heavens, for in a recent issue of this journal exhaustive particulars were given of the establishment of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union. We do not propose here to add anything more to the comments already made on the newly formed union, but our advice to every other county in the country is—Go thou and do likewise. We hear enough about the poor representation of agricultural interest at Westminster—we mean farmers not landlords—and we know that farmers have reasons for complaining about this. The day has gone by, however, for the farmer to look to anyone to help him; he must learn to help himself, and we know of no better way of doing it than for the sturdy members of the fraternity to stand shoulder to shoulder, not antagonistic to the landlord, but working, if possible, with him, because their interests are mutual. Unity is strength, and if every county in Britain had a union strongly supported and fashioned on the lines of that of Lincolnshire, there would be a chance of doing something. It was pitiable at the last general election to see every important industry organised for its own benefit, except agriculture—in our opinion the most important of them all, and for the want of unity its cry was scarcely heard in the turmoil about Education, Tariff Reform, Chinese labour, and other bones of party contention.

Plagues of Wood Pigeons.

EVERY autumn, sooner or later, reports come to hand about the damage done to crops by the hordes of wood pigeons which visit certain districts and swoop down on the fields, spreading devastation right and left. The majority of these birds are aliens, or visitors to our shores, but it is no good putting a Bill before Parliament to prevent their landing. Happily the law does not protect them when they get here, and there is only one means of dealing with the marauders—*i.e.*, co-operation again. What is the good of one farmer here and another there wasting powder and shot in futile attempts to protect himself against thousands of wood pigeons? Such efforts are childish, and the most sensible suggestion we have seen on the subject is that of the Cornwall county farmers' union, which proposes that a combined onslaught should be made on two or three fixed days with the hope of reducing the pigeons. A campaign of this kind was conducted last season by a party of farmers in the Cotswold country, and the result was more beneficial than weeks of desultory shooting on the part of individuals acting alone.

The Care of Drains.

THE other day we happened to be in a field on the lower part of which a large pool of water had accumulated in consequence of the heavy rains. It was suggested that the stoppage of the mouth of a drain was responsible for the flood. Where was the mouth of the drain supposed to be? Nobody knew. In which direction did the drains run? Again nobody knew. Was there any plan of the drainage? There had been one link; it was apparently missing. What an old story all this is! Time and money are spent in draining land, and for a time all goes well. Then the ditches into which the drains empty are allowed to get filled up, the mouths of the pipes are choked with mud and weeds, and in some cases, when the old hands on the place drop out, the very existence of the drains is forgotten. Of course we have an object in writing this paragraph, and it is to advise looking after the drains. When a field is drained, let a proper map be made of the system and preserved, and let it afterwards be the duty of someone to see that the mouths of the drains are kept open, so that they can effect the purpose for which they were intended *viz.*, the carrying away of superfluous water.

Farm Labourers' Prospects.

IT is a reasonable contention on the part of some persons who know what they are talking about, that young men do not leave farm labour because they are averse to it, but simply because it offers no prospect for the future. There is a good deal in this, and the President of the Board of Agriculture realises it, for he recently observed that no industry could be in a sound condition which did not offer opportunity and encouragement to the small man to improve his position. Just so, and Earl Carrington went on to say that he looked forward to the day when every agricultural labourer might have a chance of becoming his own master. Does this mean that every agricultural labourer would become his own master if the chance were offered them? Not a bit of it, but probably the best men would, and, unfortunately, it is the best men now who leave the land because it offers so little prospect for their future. Why should not the intelligent labourer live with the reasonable hope of one day getting a small place and being a farmer himself in a little way? Prospect is what men ask for, and they will drift into the occupations which offer it. Hundreds of youths have left farm labour and gone into stuffy sheds to clean engines. Would they do it if they thought they were going to remain cleaners to the end of the chapter? Certainly not; but they know that cleaning is the first and necessary step on the way which leads to a driver's position and a driver's wages. The instance is a typical one, and we feel that the most likely way to keep men on the land is to offer them a prospect there.

The Value of Experiment.

WE are continually receiving reports of experiments conducted by different persons to find out different things, and while some of these do not serve any useful purpose in agriculture, others are extremely valuable. It is not a difficult thing for scientific experts in agriculture to propound certain theories, but before they can be of any [illegible] they have to be proved by experiment. It is strange and surprising, though never [illegible] that this great constitution the State [illegible] not, afford to experiment for the benefit of the farmer, and so the work [illegible] of

county authorities, business firms, and private individuals. We have before us reports of experiments conducted with potatoes by Sutton's, of Reading, and on fruit by the Duke of Bedford, but if agricultural research were left to the State it is doubtful if much would be found out. To experiment on a large scale is, of course, expensive work, and frequently attended by loss, but in a small way it is different, and there is no reason why every farmer should not be an experimentalist for his own benefit. It is a good thing to be of an inquiring turn of mind, so long as you confine this tendency to your own business, and in the use of artificial manures, feeding-stuffs, seeds, &c., a farmer may learn a good deal for his own benefit by experimenting in a small way.

October. RAIN fell on the first day of October with us, and it has fallen on nearly every day since. The advent of October and pastures burnt and brown, with not a blade of grass to be seen; at the close of the month the same pastures are of that vivid green which we connect with the spring rather than the autumn. When October came in there was a general cry out about dried up wells and empty springs. Now the water supply is replenished, and as the month goes out we hear whispers that we have had rain enough and a bit of fine weather would be acceptable. If October has been wet it has been warm, and fruit trees and plants are doing all sorts of topsy turvy things. We saw a man picking plums a short time ago from a second crop of bloom which came after the first was cut off by frost, and it is quite a common thing to see apple and pear trees in blossom. The predominating wild crops just now are blackberries and mushrooms. In the bramble countries the former still hang thickly and fall because people have got tired of picking them, and as for mushrooms, they are such a glut in the market that mushroom gathering has been given up by many as being an unprofitable task.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

What the English Land Bill will Mean.

"An irreducible minimum!" This is Lord Carrington's latest description of the Land Tenure Bill. It is this description which crystallises into a certainty the expectation that the measure is designed to be but a preface. It must not be forgotten that the Bill has never been heralded in Liberal circles as a panacea for the general ills affecting the land. It is held to be but a remedy for economic excrescences which have attached themselves to the laws and usages affecting tenure. Well, this being so, the prospects associated with the future of the Scottish Land Bill attain a more ominous significance. That Bill will not be passed this session. What is more, I doubt that it will be revived in its present character. What is probable is that it will be made the basis of a measure dealing with the whole island, special clauses being grafted on to the new measure dealing with Scotland. It is well to comprehend what such a Bill would mean. It would mean the utilisation of the financial resources for the State in establishing occupying owners on the land. It would mean the first step — for I assume the same limitations as to the area of the purchased farms would be included in the new measure towards the realisation of Mr. Jesse Collings' ideal, the revival of the yeoman class. It would mean in a great and practical degree, the recognition of the principle of a land court for the establishment of fair rents.

How the Lords Would Strengthen Their Position.

It is well that we should comprehend in this connection the temper of the Liberal party. I was present on Monday at the conference held under the ægis of the Radical-manned Land Law Reform Association, at the Westminster Palace Hotel. One fact stood out in the debate luminous and eminent. This is that the Liberals, be they M.P.'s or be they members of the rank and file, are impatiently eager for some such a measure as this. From Lord Carrington and Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., down to the most inconsequent debater, the Land Tenure Bill was regarded as little more than an anodyne, a mitigant — as only an assuager of an individual ill. How far this temper might be intensified and deepened by the rejection or emasculation of the Bill in the House of Lords is a suggestive matter for speculation. My own view is that if the Tenure Bill be returned to the House of Commons practically intact the more strident legislation may be delayed. The Parliamentary appetite likes a change of diet—the stomach may be sated by a continuous dietary of land reform. Moreover, the House of Lords would then have a legitimate right to insist that the working of the tenure-reform policy should be carefully studied ere taking a leap into an unknown economy, or, rather, ere accepting an economy which, in its Celtic applications, is forbidding rather than fascinating.

Mr. Jesse Collings' Bill and the Radicals.

It is well that we should attune our thoughts to this Parliamentary possibility. I am bound to say that the Radicals have a strategical advantage in the fact that Mr. Jesse Collings' Purchase of Land Bill is subscribed to by undiluted Conservatives like Sir John Kennaway, Sir John Dorington, and, I believe, Colonel Kenyon Slaney. The measure does not, of course, go so far as many Radicals desire, a fact illustrated by the more emphatic legislative suggestions of Mr. George White; but at least it in a considerable degree reflects the ambitions which now enthrall the Radical heart. You can easily imagine the retort of the Radical politicians to the Conservative pessimist who had hailed the new Land Bill as revolutionary, who had claimed for it that it would mean the throwing of Social order into the crucible of chaos, who had limned down pictures of feckless confusion. "My dear sir," would come the reply, "is Sir John Dorington a modernised Camille Desmoulins? Is Mr. Jesse Collings a modernised Mirabeau? Is Colonel Kenyon Slaney a reincarnation of Robespierre?" Of course the fact that Mr. Jesse Collings' Bill is voluntary in character, and simply proposes to invoke the machinery of the State for the purpose of satisfactorily carrying out an arrangement mutually agreeable to both the landlord and his tenant would be glossed over. If it were recalled at all it would be simply to emphasise the fact that, be the machinery voluntary or inflexible, the Bill definitely proposes that the financial and administrative aid of the State should be utilised in the dispossession of the landlords. I don't suppose that Mr. Jesse Collings would be seriously chagrined over this use of his authority as an apology for Radical agrarian schemes. Still, the incident has placed a pretty weapon within the reach of the Radicals; and we may be assured it will not be long ere we see fingers avariciously anxious to clutch it.

Electoral Future of the Counties.

Will the Lords reject the Plural Voting Bill? This is the problem at the moment of writing most concerning the mind of the Commons. One thing is certain—the Government is resolved to permit of no moderation of its desire to secure their ideal of one man, one vote. What is more, it is resolved that a man shall not be permitted to vote in which constituency the party exigencies associated with a bye-election might suggest—he must, indeed, every year definitely declare for which constituency he will vote. Now it is well to confront the meaning of the situation which the passage of the Bill would create. In my view, it means, so far as the counties are concerned, a new lease of power for Radicalism. Cast your eye down the constituencies and estimate how many there are in which a Conservative majority would be assured with the out-voters withdrawn. Probably, Sir Alexander Acland Hood, the chief Conservative Whip, is the most potent political personage in Somersetshire; yet in West Somersetshire he was at the General Election only able to secure a majority of 272. How many would he have secured had he not been able to rely on the out-voters of Taunton and the property votes? It is no use indulging in illusions over the matter. Of course, there might be eventually a restoration of Conservative ascendancy in the counties—territorial ties and family affections are still not without influence; but for the moment the passing of the Bill in its present form would mean the buttressing of Radicalism.

The Dilemma of Lord Lansdowne.

Should the Lords reject the Plural Voting Bill? Well, I do not think they will; and for this reason: Then the Radicals who are anxious that they should, in the cant phrase of the hour, "fill up the cup of their iniquity," who are simply feverishly desirous that they should incontinently eject the Plural Voting Bill, the Education Bill, and the Land Tenure Bill, and who even hope that they will mutilate the Workmen's Compensation Bill beyond recognition by its own parents. These Radicals believe that this drastic and rigorous method would operate to the undoing of the Lords. The Marquis of Lansdowne, who may be described as "the real leader of the peers," is too astute and sagacious a Statesman to, by a general attitude which would be represented as mere perverse antagonism to what would be unctuously declared to be "human progress and the rights of the people," put a weapon into the hands of the shouting schismatics. The embers of hatred to the House of Lords as an institution still retain the glow of heat they had, and it would not be difficult to fan it into a flame, not a devouring flame perhaps, but still a flame of unpleasant menace. In what direction, then, will the Lords' amendment proceed? How will the voting-right of property be safeguarded? For the life of me I cannot see. Remember that, according to the dialectical Mr. Herbert Paul, "it is poverty and not wealth which should have the larger number of votes," and this has become the *mot d'ordre* of a considerable section of the Radicals. These Radicals would insist on any concession to property in the House of Lords being fought tooth and nail. Will Lord Lansdowne defy this temper? If he does he will evoke tornados of wrath. If he does not, the electoral position in the counties of Conservatism and of the landlord class will be grimly prejudiced. 'Tis an unpleasant dilemma, and the Government revealed craft in deliberately fashioning it at the outset of its career.

A Friend of Agriculture.

The withdrawal from the House of Commons of Sir Frederick Carne Rasch—fortunately the event is postponed until the next General Election—will mean the withdrawal of one of the most chivalrous, courtly, and vivacious members of that assembly. One may often have disagreed with Sir Frederick's views—one may even have regarded some of them as belonging to the miocene and pliocene order, but no one could ever question his sincerity or denied him his own claim of being the friend of the farming community. There is a refreshing shrewdness and a breezy common-sense about Sir Frederick's Conservatism that has been the death of many a feather-headed project. His antipathy to what he regards as unwise reform has invariably associated with it the salt of so genial a humour that even the victims of his wit have welcomed his happy girdings. Sir Frederick finds the Parliamentary world sadly out of joint; its passion for change and evolution is to him a disease rather than a virtue. Alas! that he should not be ready to fight anew its restlessness, and to baffle its visionary enthusiasms! The House will be the poorer when he withdraws his kindly courtesy, his fragrant humour, and his yester-year faiths from it.

Boroughbridge Cattle Fair, held on Wednesday, was not so well attended as in previous years, and the show of cattle was also below the average. Calving cows made up to £21 8s.; heifers, £16 10s.; and two-year-old bullocks, from £12 8s.; while half-bred ewes sold up to 45s. 6d.

Claim Against a Railway Company.—At the Marylebone County Court on Monday a Southall contractor sued the Great Western Railway Company for the value of a horse, which, he said, was consigned to the defendants at Hungerford in the best of condition, and was delivered to him a carcase. Evidence was called to support the allegation that the horse was not given a sufficiently long halter in the horse box, and that in consequence the injuries to the neck were caused which led to death. For the defence it was submitted that the halter was sufficiently long, and that the railway company could not be held liable, because no negligence had been proved. The jury awarded plaintiff £45, the amount he claimed.

THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

Malting Barley—Complete Prize List—How the Prize Barleys were Grown —The Hop Exhibits—Winners in the Cider Classes.

THE BARLEY SECTION.

Arable farmers all over the country have this week been interested in the barley section of the Brewers' Exhibition. It is generally agreed that the barley at the present exhibition is a very good lot, and we can go as far as to say that the champion sample is so excellent as to be almost perfect. In our last issue we were able to give some of the awards for both British and foreign barleys, and we supplement this with a complete list of the awards in the section, together with details of how the crops were grown.

Intelligent study of these data will be of practical use to all farmers, showing, as it does, in consecutive succession the county where the seed was grown; the soil and subsoil; the two preceding crops; the variety of seed; quantity sown per acre; the manure used; date of sowing and cutting; quantity grown; and how the sample was cleaned.

The entries in the competition this year number 341 samples, of which 302 are home-grown and thirty-nine foreign. This figure exceeds the number of last year's entries by forty-six. The schedule shows nineteen different classes, and it may be noted that it is possible for the champion sample to be awarded six cups, two gold and and other medals, several diplomas, and upwards of £100 in cash.

The judges were:—Messrs. Frank Flinn, maltster, Bishop's Stortford; James Grant, Manchester; E. R. Hill, East Dereham; H. Mackeson, Hythe; Lewis J. Meakin, Burton-on-Trent; C. H. Stafford, Scarrington, near Nottingham; S. N. Thompson, Smethwick; C. Howard-Tripp, Burton-on-Trent and Romford.

The World's Champion Prize.

Cat. No.
144.—Oxon Barley: Mr. H. G. Hatt, The Vale, Ipsden, Wallingford.

The "Mark Lane Express" Challenge Cup.

144.—Oxon Barley: Mr. H. G. Hatt.

The Burton Challenge Cup.

144.—Oxon Barley: Mr. H. G. Hatt.

The J. K King and Sons' Challenge Cup.

144.—Oxon Barley: Mr. H. G. Hatt.

The R. Boby, Ltd., Screen Prize.

144—Oxon Barley: Mr. Hatt.

Reserve for Champion.

47.—Essex Barley: Mr. C. M. Stunt, Belchamp Walter. (Entered by Mr. W. Cross, Colchester.)

CLASS I. (British Malting Barley: Chevalier).
144.—1st, Oxon Barley: Mr. H. G. Hatt.
47.—2nd, Essex Barley: Mr. C. M. Stunt, Belchamp Walter.
205.—3rd, Suffolk Barley: Mr. H. J. Riches, Washbrook, Ipswich.
42.—R., Essex Barley: Messrs. Parish and Son, Kelvedon. (Entered by M. T. Eve and Co., Maldon.)

CLASS II. (British Malting Barley, Goldthorpe).
242.—1st, Bucks Barley: Mr W. Purser, Boveney Court Farm, near Windsor.
253.—2nd, Hereford Barley: Mr. F. Bonnor, Barling, Bollitree, Ross.
255.—3rd, Hereford Barley: Mr. J. J. Corbishley, Eccleswade Court, Ross.
254.—R., Hereford Barley: Mr. J. J. Corbishley, Eccleswade Court, Ross.

CLASS III. (Colonial Malting Barley). (No entries).

CLASS IV. (Foreign Malting Barley, two-rowed).
308.—1st, Bohemian Barley: R. Liebmann & Co.
329.—2nd, Austrian Barley: Prince Rudolf Liechtenstein, Kroman, Austria.
334.—3rd, Hungarian Barley: S. and J. Reif, Vienna (entered by Woodley, Watney, and Richardson).

CLASS V. (Foreign Malting Barley, two-rowed).
336.—1st, Ouchac Barley: Woodley, Watney, and Richardson.
314.—2nd, Asiatic Turkey Barley: J. Westropo and Co.
312.—3rd, Ouchac Barley: Shaw, Son and Co., Ltd.

CLASS VI. (Foreign Malting Barley, two-rowed)
337.—2nd, Chilian Barley: Woodley, Watney, and Richardson. (No other award).

CLASS VII. (Foreign Malting Barley, other than two-rowed)
305.—1st, Bohemian Barley: Liebmann Bros.
306.—2nd, Bohemian Barley: Liebmann Bros.
303—3rd, Hungarian Barley: Liebmann Bros.

CLASS VIII. (Foreign Malting Barley, other than two-rowed).
338.—1st, Smyrna Barley: Woodley, Watney, and Richardson.
323.—2nd, Timisian Barley: J. Westropo and Co.
313.—3rd, Smyrna Barley: Shaw, Son, and Co., Ltd.

CLASS IX. (Foreign Malting Barley, other than two-rowed).
326.—1st, Californian Barley: J. Westropo and Co.
327.—2nd, Californian Barley: J. Westrope and Co.
341.—3rd, Chilian Barley: Woodley, Watney, and Richardson.

CLASS X. (Special Yorkshire Prizes).
240.—1st, Lord Middleton (entered by Russells and Wrangham, Ltd, Malton).
294.—2nd, Mr. G. M. Green.
296.—3rd, Mr. T. Robinson (entered by C. D. Mills, Ltd., Skeldergate, York).

CLASS XI. (the Colchester Brewing Co.'s £5 5s. Cups).
47.—Mr. C. M. Stunt.
205.—Mr. H J. Riches.
107.—Mr. E Doncaster (entered by C. W. Marsters, Kings Lynn).

CLASS XII. (the Sheppy Glue and Chemical Co.'s Prizes).
84.—1st, Mr. A. W. Miller.
79.—2nd, Mr. A. Marchant.

CLASS XIII. (Stevens' Chemical Manure Co.'s Prizes).
144.—1st, Mr. H. G. Hatt.
216.—2nd, Mr. C. H. Goschen.
222.—3rd, Mr. H. Jennings.

CLASS XIV. (Crone and Taylor's Manure Prizes).
146.—1st, Mr. G. Partridge.
62.—2nd, Mr. T. Bowyer.
254.—3rd, Mr. J. J. Corbishley.

CLASS XV. (Joseph Fison and Co.'s Manure Prizes).

Group A.
211.—1st, Rev. H. Taylor.
171.—2nd, Mr. C. Beere.
286.—3rd, Mr. T. S. Moore.

Group B.
138.—1st, Mr. S. Taylor.
269,—2nd, Messrs. J. Penn and Son.
152.—3rd, Mr. W. A. Mills.

Group C.
283.—1st, Mr. T E. James.
161.—2nd, Mr. T. Rawle.
162.—3rd, Mr. T. Rawle.

Group D.
1.—1st, Mr. G. Duncombe.
63.—2nd, Mr. F. W. Brittain.
64.—3rd, Mr. F. Christmas.

Group E
77.—1st, Mr. H. S. Lane.
217.—2nd, Mr. H. Gosling.
53.—3rd, Mr. S. Chandler.

Group F.
141.—1st, Mr J. S. Cheesman.
4.—2nd, Mr. W. Farrant.
16.—3rd, Mr. A. C. Major.

Group G.
88.—1st, Mr. F Holmes.
95—2nd, Mr. J Thurlby.
264.—3rd, Mr. J. Barnard.

Group H.
101.—1st, Mr. H. F. Parsons.
100.—2nd, Mr. T. Griffiths.
51.—3rd, Mr. H. Butler.

CLASS XVI. (Webb and Sons' Manure Prizes.

Group A.
102.—1st, Mr. H. F Parsons.
233.—2nd, Mr. A. H. Pearce.
59.—3rd, Mr. J. Poulton.

Group B.
185.—1st, Mr. A. E. Gray.
242.—2nd, Mr. R. J. Thurman.
198.—3rd, Mr. T. S. Moore.

Group C.
130.—1st, Mr. F. Holmes.
271.—2nd, The Earl of Ancaster.
150.—3rd, The Earl of Ancaster.

Group D.—(No entries.)

Group E.
3.—1st, The Marquis of Downshire.
148.—2nd, Mr. G. Smithm.
99.—3rd, Mr. T. W. Purser.

Group F.
78.—1st, Mr. H. S. Lane.
71.—2nd, Mr. G. Brooker.
69.—3rd, Mr. G. Brooker.

CLASS XVII.—"Mark Lane Express" Seed Diplomas.

Chevalier Variety.
1.—Beds, G. Duncombe.
6.—Berks, T C. Horn.
3.—Berks, Marquis of Downshire.
15.—Bucks, R. E. Honwood.
16.—Bucks, A. C. Major.
21.—Cambs, J. Scambler.
23.—Cambs, G. Wilson.
29.—Dorset, G. Bissell.
47.—Essex, C. M. Stunt (entered by W Cross, Colchester).
42.—Essex, Parish and Son (entered by H. T Eve and Co., Maldon).
51.—Glos, H. Butler.
53.—Hants, S. Chaundler.
59.—Herefordshire, J. Poulton.
57.—Herefordshire, P. C. Bennett.
61.—Herts, H. Woodman.
63.—Hunts, F. W. Brittain.
65.—Hunts, W. Collett.
80.—Kent, J. Pye.
81.—Kent, J. Pye.
88.—Lincs, F. Holmes.
94.—Lincs, J. Thurlby.
97.—Louth, J. Dolan.
98.—Middlesex, C. Newman.
102.—Monmouth, H. F. Parsons.
101.—Monmouth, H. F. Parsons.
107.—Norfolk, E. Doncaster.
104.—Norfolk, R. Cook.
130.—Northampton, F. Holmes.
133.—Northampton, G. Peasgood.
144.—Oxon, H. G. Hatt.
141.—Oxon, J. S. Cheesman.
152.—Rutland, W. A Mills.
153.—Shropshire, W. Bluck.
154—Shropshire, R. Everall.
155.—Somerset, R. Brett.
161.—Somerset, T. Rarole.
167.—Stafford, F. Horne.
168.—Stafford, J. W Olarenshaw.
205.—Suffolk, H. J. Riches.
211.—Suffolk, Rev. H. Taylor.
217.—Surrey, H. Gosling.
216.—Surrey, C. H. Goschen.
225.—Sussex, H. Jennings.
223.—Sussex, H Jennings.
233.—Warwick, A. H. Pearce.

HOW AND WHERE THE PRIZE AND DIPLOMA BARLEYS WERE GROWN.

CHEVALIER.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops 1905	1904	Seed Sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Quantity Grown Qrs.	Cleaned
					Bedfordshire.								
1	Duncombe, Geo.	Willington	Gravel	Gravel	Barley	Kale and Turnips	J. K. King's "Chev."	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 20	August 1[illegible]		
					Berkshire.								
3	Downshire, Marquis of	Easthampstead Park	Sandy loam	Gravel	Wheat	Mangel	Webb's "Chevalier"	12	Webb's	April 3	Au[illegible]		
4	Farrant, W.	Mortimer	Medium loam	Clay and gravel	Barley	Barley	" "Kin. Chev."	10	Fison's	March 2[illegible]			
6	Horn, T. C.	Shottesbrook	Loam	Chalk	Wheat	Mangel	Carter's "Chevalier"	11	Farmers' Manure Co.'s	" —	" —		
					Buckinghamshire.								
15	Horwood, R. E.	Drayton Beauchamp	Chalk	Rag	Wheat	Sainfoin	Carter's "Prolific"	8	Sulp. of Ammonia	Feb. —	August —	4[illegible]	
16	Major, A. C.	Ditton	Loam	Gravel	Winter Oats	Wheat	" "Chevalier"	11	Fison's	March 5	" 7	—	
					Cambridgeshire.								
21	Scambler, John	Fendrayton	Loam	Gravel	Wheat	Mangolds	Hallett's "Chev."	10	Fison & Sons'	March 5	A[illegible]	—	
28	Wilson, George	Milton	Very light	"	Sohl rabi	Wheat	Webb's "	10	Crone & Taylor's	" 7			

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1905.	1904	Seed Sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown	Date Cut	Quantity Grown. Qrs.	Cleaning. Machinery
					Dorsetshire.								
29	Bissell, Geo.	Affpuddle	Gravel	Chalk	Turnips	Wheat	Webb & Sons' Chev.	12	None	March 10	Aug. 6	—	Baker's.
					Essex.								
42	Parish and Son (*Entered by* H.T. Eve & Co., Maldon)	Kelvedon	Clay	Marl	Mangold Seed	Wheat	Chevalier	8	None	March 2	Aug 21	50	Boby's.
47	Stunt, C. M. (*Entered by* W. Cross, Colchester)	Belchamp Walter	Light	Gravel	Wheat and Oats	Wheat and Oats	Archer's	12	Packard's	April 6	,, —	40	Boby's.
					Gloucestershire.								
51	Butler, Henry	Pauntley Court	Sandy loam	Sandstone	Turnips	Wheat	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 16	Aug. 28	—	Penney's.
					Hampshire.								
53	Chaundler, Samuel	Crondall	Loam	Chalk	Wheat	Fallow	Hallett's Ped. "Chev."	9	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 20	Aug. 18	20	Wallis and Stevens.'
					Herefordshire.								
57	Bennett, P. C.	Ingestone	Sandy loam	Sandstone	Barley	Roots	Chilian "Chevalier"	7½	Webb's Special	March 5	Aug. 16	—	Robt. Boby, Ltd.
59	Poulton, James	Ross	Sandy loam	Sandstone	Barley	Roots	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	8	Webb's	,, 6	,, 15	20	Boby's Champion.
					Hertfordshire.								
61	Woodman, Henry	Wilstone	Gravelly	Gravel	Wheat	Beans	Carter's "Chev."	11	None	March 20	Aug. 16	—	Boby's.
					Huntingdonshire.								
62	Bowyer, T	Southoe	Gravel	Gravel	Wheat	Clover	Webb's "Chevalier"	10	Crone & Taylor's	April 2	Aug. 18	30	Cooch's
63	Brittain, F. W.	Eynesbury	Medium clay	Clay	Potatoes	Barley	,, "Kin. Chev."	8	J Fison & Co.'s	March 1	,, 15	45	Boby's
64	Christmas, Fd.	Gt. Gransden	Clay	,,	Mango'ds	Wheat	,, ,, ,,	8	,, ,,	April 10	,, 18	40	Baker's
65	Collett, W.	Upwood	—	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,	—	Webb's Special	—	—	—	—
					Kent.								
69	Brooker, Geo.	Frindebury	Medium	—	Wheat	Clover	Webb's "Chev."	10	Webb's Special	March —	Aug. —	—	Tett's
71	,, Geo.	Frindebury	Medium	—	,,	Swedes	Hallett's "Chev."	10	,,	,,	,,	—	,,
77	Lane, H. S.	Cliffe	Light loam	Chalk	,,	Potatoes	Chevalier	12	J. Fison & Co.'s	Feb. 7	July 2	40	Boby's
78	,,	,,	,,	,,	Oats	,,	Webb's "Chev."	8	Webb's	,, 22	,, 4	20	,,
79	Marchant, Arthur	Ash	Sandy	Clay	,,	Roots	,, "Kin."	10	Sheppey Gluc Co.'s	March 7	Aug. 8	—	Tindall's & Boby's Percen
80	Pye, Jas.	St. Mary's Hoo	Clay	,,	Peas	Wheat	Hallett's "Chev."	10	Odam's	,, 2	,, 8	—	Boby's
81	,, ,,	,, ,,	Loam	Gravel	Turnips	Potatoes	,, ,,	10	,,	Feb. 22	,, 3	—	,,
84	Spiller, A. W.	Birchington	Chalk marl	Chalk	Barley	Turnips	"Kin. Chev."	10	Sheppey's	,, 14	,, 3	30	,,
					Lincolnshire.								
88	Holmes, Fredk.	Greatford	Loam	Gravel	Wheat	Clover	Webb's "Kin"	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 12	Aug. 7	—	Baker's
94	Thurlby, John	,,	Gravel	Gravel	Mustard	Barley	Chevalier	10	Crone & Taylor's	,, 7	,, 3	50	Cooch's
95	,, ,,	,,	,,	,,	Seeds	,,	,,	11	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 7	,, 3	40	Rainforth's
					Louth County.								
97	Dolan, John	Termonfechin	Light, stony	Light clay and stony	Turnips	Potatoes	Chevalier	11 st.	None	March 5	Aug. 10	40 barrels	G. Sinnes & Co.
					Middlesex.								
98	Newman, C.	Harlington	Loam	Gravel	Wheat	Clover	Carter's "Chevalier"	10	None	—	—	—	Boby's
99	Purser, T. W.	Stanwell	Clay loam	—	Turnips	Oats	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	12	Webb's	March 19	Aug. 1	—	,,
					Monmouthshire.								
100	Griffiths, Thos.	Portskewett	Sandy	Sandstone	Clover	Barley	Chevalier	12	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 26	Aug. 9	150	Boby's
101	Parsons, H. F.	South Brook	Loam	,,	Wheat	Clover	,,	12	,, ,,	,, 22	,, 10	250	,,
102	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	—	Webb's Special	,, 23	,, 11	250	,,
					Norfolk.								
104	Cook, Robius (*Entered by* C. W. Marsters, King's Lynn).	Muckleton	Mixed	Chalk	Wheat	Seeds	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	10	Special	March 7	Aug. 10	—	Boby's and Penney's
107	Doncaster, E. (*Entered by* C. W. Marsters, King's Lynn)	Snettisham	,,	,,	,,	Swedes	,, ,, ,,	9	West Norfolk Manure Co.	,, 12	,, 14	—	,,
					Northamptonshire.								
130	Holmes, Fredk.	Sutton	Loam	Gravel	Barley	Turnips	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	10	Webb's Special	March 5	Aug. 14	—	Cooch's
133	Peasgood, Geo.	Easton	Cracby	Stone	,,	Mangels	Chevalier	11	Crone & Taylor's	,, 28	,, 22	23	,,
138	Taylor, Stephen	Barnack	Loam	Gravel	Turnips	Barley	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	10	Fison's	,, 8	,, 8	30	Boby's
					Oxfordshire.								
141	Cheesman, J. S.	Lower Heyford	Light brash	Limestone marl	Wheat	Turnips	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	April 11	Aug. 17	—	Boby's
144	Hatt, H. G.	Ipsden, Wallingford	Light loam	Chalk	Oats	Roots	J. K King's "Cham. P. Chev."	8	Stevens' Special	March 10	,, 21	—	,,
146	Partridge, G.	Begbroke Hill	Sandy loam.	Gravel	Barley	,,	Hallett's "Ped." Chev.	10	Crone & Taylor's	,, 6	,, 8	25	,,
148	Smith, George	Lewknor	Loam	Chalk	,,	Mangel	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	9	Webb & Son's	,, 26	,, 20	—	Baker's
					Rutland.								
150	Ancaster, Earl of	Normanton	Sandy loam	Limestone	Fallow	Barley	Hallett's "Chevalier"	12	Webb's "Spec."	Feb 12	Aug. 13	118	Rainforth's.
152	Mills, W. A.	Tinwell	Gravelly	Gravel	Barley	Roots	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 16	Aug. 13	—	Baker's
					Shropshire.								
153	Bluck, William	Rowley	Sandy loam	—	Clover	Clover	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March —	Aug. —	—	Boby's
154	Averall, R.	Alberbury	Loam	Red loam	Wheat	,,	,, "Chevalier"	8	Webb's	—	—	—	—
					Somersetshire.								
155	Brett, R.	Lower Lynch Farm	Stone brash	Gravel	Ley	Oats	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	10	—	March 21	Aug. 22	—	Boby's
161	Rawle, Thos.	Porlock	,,	,,	,,	Wheat	E. W. King's "P. Chev."	9	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 10	,, 13	25	Penny's
162	,, ,,	,,	,,	,,	Turnips	Barley	,, "Cham. Chev."	9	,, ,,	,, 17	,, 10	25	Baker's & Penney's
					Staffordshire.								
167	Horne, Frank	Bobbington	Loam	Clay	Oats	Mangolds	Webb's "Chev."	10	Webb's Special	March 15	Aug. 8	—	Boby's
168	Darenshaw J. W.	Penkridge	Sandy	—	,,	Clover	Bradfield "Chev."	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 22	,, 2	—	—
					Suffolk.								
171	Beere, Chas.	Brent Eleigh	Heavy	Clay	Mangolds	Wheat	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	April 7	Aug. 23	—	Ward & Silver
185	Gray, A. E.	Westhaston	Light	Sand	Mangolds	Barley	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	8	Webb's	March 10	Aug. 9	—	Boby's
198	Moore, Thos. S.	Occold	Heavy	Clay	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	9	Webb's Special	March 23	Aug. 23	—	Boby's & Baker's
205	Riches, H. J.	Washbrook, Ipswich	Mixed	Stony	,,	Peas	Webb's Chevalier	8	None	,, —	,, 27	21	Boby's
211	Taylor, Rev. Henry	Lavenham	Heavy	Clay	Wheat	Beans	Lavenham Chevalier	9½	J. Fison & Co.'s	April 4	,, 21	—	Ward's
212	Thurman, R. J.	Semer	Mixed	Sand	,,	Clover	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	8	—	Sep. 28, 1905	,, 6	—	Baker's
					Surrey.								
216	Doschen, C. H.	Addington	Chalky	Chalk	Oats	Fallow	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	10	Stevens' Special	March 29	Aug. 9	—	Baker's
217	Doshing, H.	Botley Park	Gravel	Gravel & Clay	Wheat	Clover & Turnips	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 22	,, 8	—	Boby's
					Sussex.								
222	Jennings, Henry	Broomer's Farm	Green Sand	Green Sandrock	Wheat	Clover	E. W. King's "Chev."	10	Stevens' Special	March 2	Aug. 16	—	Boby's
223	,, ,,	Codmore Hill Farm	,,	,,	Barley	Turnips	J. K. King's "Chev."	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	Feb. 7	,, 6	—	,,
225	,, ,,	Codmore Hill Farm	Green Sand	,,	Oats	Turnips	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	9	Webb's Special	,, 14	,, 1	—	,,
					Warwickshire.								
232	Pearce, A. H.	Milcoto	Sandy loam	Sand	Oats	Roots	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 24	Aug. 22	—	Boby's
233	,, ,,	,,	,,	,,	Wheat	,,	"Kin. Chevalier"	10	Webb's	,, 23	,, 20	—	,,
					Wiltshire.								
235	Coles, Cary	Winterbourne Stoke	Gravel loam	Chalk	Wheat	Turnips	Webb's "Kin. Chev."	12	Stevens	March 26	Aug. 13	40	Tasker's & Boby's
236	Cook, R.	Box	Stone brash	Oolite	,,	Roots	,, ,, ,,	8	None	,, 5	,, 14	150	Le Butt
					Worcestershire.								
237	Corbishby, Geoffrey	Brickhampton	Strong loam	Gravel	Turnips	Oats	Webb's "Chev."	12	Turnips eaten off by Sheep	March 28	Aug. 13	—	—
238	Hughes, W. H.	Wick	Sandy loam	Sandy loam	Mangolds	Wheat	,, ,,	7	Webb's Special	,, 20	,, 15	20	Boby's
					Yorkshire.								
240	Middleton, Rt. Hon. Lord (*Entered by* Russells & Wrangham, Ltd., Malton	Birdsall	Limestone	—	Wheat	Seeds	Webb's "Kin. Chev.	12	Basic slag and Kainit	March 8	Aug. 17	—	Boby's

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops 1905	1904	Seed Sown.	Perks per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Quantity Grown. Qrs.	Cleaning Machinery
GOLDTHORPE.													
					Buckinghamshire.								
242	Purser, Wm. ..	Boveney Court Farm, nr. Windsor	Gravel ..	—	Swedes	Wheat	Carter's Goldthorpe	10	None	March 8 .	Aug. 3	—	Stubbs
					Cambridgeshire.								
244	Beales, H. T. ..	St. Giles' Farm	Mixed ..	Gravel & Clay	Barley..	Roots ..	Garton's Maltster ..	40	Farmyard ..	March 8 ..	Aug.10..	—	Boby's
245	Holland, John ..	Stonen	Skirty ..	Clay ..	Oats ..	Mangolds	Burton Malting ..	9	Special Compressed	March 6 .	Aug. 6..	70	Baker's
					Essex.								
249	Lagden, W. H. ..	Mountnessing	Medium ..	Clay ..	Wheat .	Mangolds	Goldthorpe	9	Colchester's "G Cup"	March --.	August 28	—	Baker's
250	Matthews, Austin (*Ext. by* W. H.	Chignall .. .. . Scruby & Co., Ltd., Harlow)	,,	,,	,, ..	Clover ..	Spratt	8	Guano	,, 28	,, 1	—	Boby's
					Gloucestershire.								
252	Smith, Leonard.	Newent	Sandy ..	— ..	Oats ..	Roots	Garton's Standwell..	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	March—..	August .	—	—
					Herefordshire.								
253	Bonnor, F. ..	Hereford	Sandy loam	Sandstone	Clover ..	Oats ..	Champion Prize ..	7	Webb's . ..	,, 29	,, 10	400	Boby's
254	Corbishley, J. J...	,, ...	Red loam	,,	Oats .	Clover ..	Burton Malting .	10	Crone & Taylor's	,, 9 .	,, 22	—	,,
255	,, ,,	,, ...	,,	,,	,,	,, ..	,, ..	10	Webb's ..	,, 8 .	,, 22	—	,,
					Hertfordshire.								
259	Dwight, F. ..	Berkhamstead ..	Gravel ..	Chalk ..	Mangold	Oats ..	Carter's Goldthorpe	10	None ..	March —	Aug.10..	—	Boby's
					Kent.								
262	Rowbottom, R.E.	Boughton Malherbe ..	Loam ..	Ragstone ..	Turnips	Oats	Maltster	12	Sheep walked	April —	Aug.	—	Clayton & Shuttleworth
					Lincolnshire.								
264	Barnard, Jos. ..	Scawby	Loam ..	—	Turnips	Mangels	Garton's Maltster ..	11	J. Fison & Co.'s	April —..	Aug. 11..	20	—
					Louth County.								
265	Caraher, P. D. ..	Mayne	Medium Gravel Clay	..	Turnips ..	Oats .	Standwell .. .	17 stone	None . .	March 5 .	Aug. 3.	30 brls.	Boby's
266	Hoey, John ..	Annagassan	Clay ..	Stiff Clay ..	,,	Wheat .	,,	16 stone	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 20 ..	,, 20..	—	Ransomes, Sims & Jeffries
					Middlesex.								
267	Purser, T. W. ..	Staines	Clay loam	—	Turnips.	Oats	Carter's Goldthorpe..	12	Fison's ..	March 19 .	Aug. 1..	—	Boby's
					Norfolk.								
268	Brown & Co. .. (*Ext red by*	Downham Market .. T. H. Wenn and Co.,)	Sandy .. Downham Market.)	Ragstone ..	—	—	Goldthorpe	—	—	—	—	20	Boby's.
					Northamptonshire.								
269	Penn, John & Son	Wootton	Lime-stone ..	Lime-stone	Wheat ..	Clover..	Burton Malting ..	9	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 28	August 8	—	Rushton & Proctor
					Rutland.								
271	Ancaster, Earl of	Normanton	Sandy loam	Gravel ..	Kale ..	Seeds ..	Webb's New Binder..	14	Webb's Special	Feb. 7 .	Aug. 3	90	Rainforth's
					Shropshire.								
274	Farmer, J. E. ..	Felton	Ligh loam	.. ..	Oats ..	Turnips	Goldthorpe	12	Kainit..	March 9 .	Aug. 6	60	Boby's
278	Preece, Rd. ..	Cressage..	Gravel ..	Sand ..	Turnips	Wheat..	Webb's "Burton Malting"	10	Webb's Special	March 16 .	Aug. 25	—	Boby's
					Somersetshire.								
283	Jame , T. E. .. (*Ext. by*	Lower Moor .. .. T Babb, *Agent*)	Stone'rash Rocky	..	Wheat ..	Ley ..	Carter's "Goldthorpe"	8	Fison's	March — .	Aug. —	—	Boby's
284	Yandle, W. J. (*Ext. by*	East Quantorhead .. T. Babb, *Agent*)	,,	Gravel	Mang lds	Wheat ..	,, ,,	9	—	,, 23 ..	.. 17	30	.
					Suffolk.								
286	Moore, Thos. S. .	Ossold	Heavy Mixed	Clay ..	Tre'ollum	Wheat ..	Garton's "Standwell"	8	Fison's	March 27 .	Aug. 17	—	Boby's and Baker's
288	Raker, J. J. ...	Gedding	Heavy ..	,, ..	Mangold..	Barley ..	Webb's "Burton" ...	9	Colchester's Special	April 10 .	,, 17	—	Ward and Silver
					Sussex.								
289	Duck, Herbert ..	Grittenham Farm ..	Stiff loam .	Gravel ..	Oats .	Turnips ..	—	12	J. Fison & Co.'s	March 6 ..	Aug. 6	—	Boby's
290	Stanford, G. F.	Shipl y	Light ,, ..	Clay ..	Roots ..	Wheat ..	Goldthorpe .. .	12	None	,, 29	,, 9	—	Cheale & Son & Boby's
					Worcestershire.								
292	Gill, Jas. ..	Lenchwick Farm ..	Red loam	Gravelly ..	Mangolds	Peas ..	Webb's "Burton Malting"	10	Webb's Special	April 14 .	Aug. 25	—	Humphries
					Yorkshire.								
294	Green, G. M. ..	Firby Farm .. .	Sandy loam	Sand ..	Barley ..	Potatoes.	Standwell	10	Roehda'e & Super.	March 28 .	Aug. 21 ..	—	Penney's
296	Robinson, Thos. .. (*Ext. by* C. D.	Northallerton .. Mills, Ltd., York)	Strong ..	Clay ..	Fallow ..	Oats ..	,, ...	8	Superphosphate	" 22 ..	,, 13 .	100	Corbett's
SHEAF CLASS													
298	Purser, W. ..	Boveney Court Farm ..	Heavy ..	—	Swedes ..	Wheat ..	Carter's "Chevalier"	8	None	March 10 ..	Aug. 6 ..	—	Boby's.
299	Lane, H. S. ..	Cliffe, Kent	Light loam	Chalk ..	Oats ..	Patatoes	Webb's ,,	8	Webb's .. .	Feb. 22 ..	July 4 ..	20	
302	Jennings, Henry	Pulborough, Sussex ..	Hazel mould	Sand ..	Mangold	Wheat ..	Webb's "Kin. Ch.v."	—	Webb's Special	,, 26 ..	Aug. 6 ..	—	—

232.—Warwick, A. H Pearce.
236.—Wilts, R. Cook.
237.—Wilts, C Coles.
238.—Worcester, W. H. Hughes.
237.—Worcester, G. Corbishley.
240.—Yorkshire, Lord Middleton (entered by Russels and Wrangham, Malton)

Goldthorpe Variety.

242.—Bucks, W. Purser.
244.—Cambridge, H. F. Beales.
245.—Cambridge, J. Holland.
249.—Essex, W. H. Lagden.
250.—Essex, A. Mathews (entered by Scruby and Co., Harlow).
252.—Gloucester, L J. Smith.
253.—Hereford, F. Bonnor Darling.
255.—Hereford, J. J. Corbishley.
259.—Hertford, F. Divight.
262.—Kent, R. E. Rowbottom.
264.—Lincoln, J Barnard.
265.—Louth, P. D Caraher.
266.—Louth, J. Hoey.
267.—Middlesex, T. W. Purser.
268.—Norfolk, Browne and Co. (entered by T. H. Wenn and Co.)
271.—Rutland, the Earl of Ancaster.
278.—Shropshire, R. Preece.
274.—Shropshire, J. E. Farmer.
283.—Somerset, T. E. James.
284.—Somerset, W. J. Yandle.
286.—Suffolk, T. S. Moore.
288.—Suffolk, J. J. Raker.
289.—Sussex, H. Duck.
290.—Sussex, G. F. Stanford.
292.—Worcester, J. Gill.

CLASS XVIII. (For the best Sheaf of Barley).

299.—1st, H. S. Lane.
302.—2nd, H Jennings.
298.—3rd, W. Purser.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

242.—W. Purser, Boveney Court Farm, near Windsor (Messrs. J. Carter and Co).
240.—Lord Middleton, Birdsall House, York
205.—H. J. Riches, Washbrook, Ipswich (Webb and Sons, Stourbridge).
107.—E. Dencaster, Park Farm. Snettisham, Norfolk (Webb and Sons, Stourbridge).

THE HOP SECTION.

A careful examination of the seventy-three samples of English hops confirms the opinion expressed by the chairman of the judges—viz , that a finer range of qualities have never been seen since this competition was established It is possible that the average colour may have been brighter—that is, the delicate primrose shade may have been more evident; but as this point is of really comparatively little importance, we welcome the ripeness and richness which are the especial characteristics of the present display, and congratulate our brewers upon the excellence of the crop thus indicated, and which has been secured by the perseverance and skill of our growers, under circumstances of exceptional difficulty. To attempt to criticise when all are so good, is not only an arduous but also an almost needless task ; but we may be allowed to say a few words concerning some of the samples that are worthy of special mention.

The champion sample may be described as "primus inter pares," the first amongst its equals. As it came from Herefordshire it was keenly examined by expert growers, especially those who had hitherto been inclined to think that the south was the natural home of all that is super excellent in the growth of hops. But Mr. Thompson has proved that skill and careful personal attention can accomplish all that the judges desire. There was brightness, wholeness, condition, and flavour in the sample which secured the unanimous vote of the experts, and we hope that this success may be the forerunner of many similar awards in favour of the district towards which we must admit that old associations induce some kindly feeling. We are informed by the grower that his hops are cured on kilns of ordinary construction, with open fires, the drying is managed by himself, and he considers his success is due mainly to a plentiful supply of air, and the strict regulation of the temperature which is not allowed to rise too high. The cultivation was assisted by Webb's special hop manure. In addition to the honour of the gold medal, Mr. Thompson gains the prize of £10 offered by Messrs. Sydney Myer and Co., of Hereford, in case of the championship coming into the Midland Counties.

In Class 1 (East Kent Goldings), a fine range of samples was shown, and we think the judges must have been somewhat puzzled in their work of adjudication They placed Mr. G. Mount first, the exors. of G. Whiteman second, and Mr. S. Neame third, and the wisdom of their awards cannot be questioned, although we are inclined to think that Mr. W. Lillywhite's splendid sample is equally worthy of recognition.

In Class 2 (Mid-Kents), Messrs. E. A White, Ltd., are evidently and most deservedly in the first place. The usual high character of this celebrated growth is confirmed in the sample shown, but we cannot help feeling some sympathy for Mr W. Rogers, whose hops are always well in front, that he is compelled to take an inferior position this time, as his samples are most commendable.

Mr. W. Lillywhite stands first in Class 3 (East and Mid Kents) with a sample that presents richness, ripeness, and wholeness, the Exors. of G. Whiteman being placed second. Of the samples from the Weald of Kent, which are comprised in

Classes 4 and 5, Mr. Ernest Mannington takes both of the first prizes, and in each award the merits of the hops are well justified. The samples were grown with the aid of Hop Guano prepared by the Anglo Continental Guano Works. Messrs. T. and W. Highwood and Mr. J. D. Large have the second positions in these classes, and brewers will be well satisfied with the growths represented by these excellent samples.

Sussex presents only eight samples in Classes 6 and 7, and we cannot avoid expressing regret that Mr. Gilbert Eames has not been selected for an award, as his samples appear to be so full of condition and generally so well managed as to be worthy of favourable notice. The judges have, however, placed Mr. C Brissenden and Messrs. Ballard and Son in the first places.

Proceeding to Classes 8 and 9 (Worcester and Hereford) we are confronted with a grand show of 18 samples, which, as a whole, were accepted by the observers as the finest range on the boards. The champion is among them, but the samples that attracted most attention were the three grown by Mr. W. F. Pudge, of Bishops Froome. It is almost impossible to imagine a more perfect demonstration of scientific hop growing than was here seen. Their absolute wholeness is most remarkable, their condition is of the richest, their ripeness complete, and their colour all that can be desired. They attracted the special attention of every visitor, growers from other districts being so surprised at their perfection that doubts were sometimes expressed as to the possibility of the production of an equal bulk. But we are assured by the grower that they fairly represent his growth, and from evidence produced to us we are satisfied of the truth of his statement. The judges, however, did not think fit to decide altogether in their favour, having only given Mr. Pudge the second place in Class 8, and the first in Class 9, while one sample, selected by the grower, and by general opinion as the best of the three, was passed over. We understand that failure in flavour was considered to be their only fault, but we were unable to detect that in this important particular they were in any degree deficient. The lower awards in these classes were given to Mr. E. G. Shew and Mr. F. O. Bomford. Other very excellent samples were shown by Mr. W. L. Pritchett, Mr. T. L. Walker, Mr. J. A. Thompson, and Mr. E. G. Shew. The first prizes in Classes 10 and 11 (Farnhams and Country Farnhams) were taken by Messrs. P. and C. Seward for their Goldings and Fuggles, the qualities of which being all that can be desired. Mr. G. W. Duncan took the second prize in Class 10, and other noteworthy samples were those of Mr. G. Langrish and Messrs. Seward.

Amongst the twenty-four samples to which awards were assigned there were twelve that had been grown with the aid of the "Spimo" hop and fruit tree wash, manufactured by Messrs. E. A. White, Ltd., the same well-known wash being successfully used in the very trying season we have passed through by the growers of thirty-two out of the seventy-three samples entered for competition. Another notable fact is the increase in the application of hot pure air to the curing of our hops. The Sirocco system was largely in evidence, and four of the prize winners had fitted their kilns with the new system invented and patented by Mr. E. G. Shew, of Bosbury, Hereford, this plant being automatic and inexpensive, and apparently very effective. In view of the progress in this direction and of the importance of this part of the process of hop production, we would suggest to the Directors of the Exhibition that the system of curing in use by the competitors should be specified in future catalogues.

Apart from the competition, othlr exhibitors displayed some excellent hops. Messrs. Webb and Sons, Messrs. Gascoyne and Co., Messrs. J. T. Best and Co., and Messrs. Jones Brothers of Northingtown, Worcester, were prominent. The last mentioned are extensive growers as well as merchants, and have secured this year an exceptionally large crop by combating the drought of last summer by extensive and regular irrigation, the water being pumped from the River Severn to their gardens through one-and-a-half miles of 3 in. pipes. The whole of their hops which show most excellent qualities. are dried by their own patent system of hot air.

The preservation of hops, which has become of late years a most important feature in the trade, was demonstrated by some samples exhibited by the Burton Pure Ice and Cold Storage Company. These were both yearlings. One had been stored in the ordinary manner, and was brown, and had lost its fine aroma, which was replaced by a strong cheesy smell. The other, stored in a low temperature, retained its freshness and green colour, having the appearance of a new hop, its flavour being as attractive. The system of storage in vacuo was exhibited by Messrs. George Adlam and Sons, Bristol. The hops being enclosed in vacuum-tight cylinders, from which the atmosphere is entirely exhausted, all germs are destroyed, and the hops are kept in perfect condition to an indefinite period. We were shown samples that had been thus preserved for seven years, which were as fresh in colour and flavour as when they were originally cured.

The exhibit of the E. Clemens Horst Co., of San Francisco, was full of interest by reason of the working model of their elaborate system of curing hops in use in their extensive ranches. They demonstrate that all their hops are cured by natural air alone, the temperature of California being sufficiently high to complete the process without any artificial heat. The drying and baling houses are also automatic in action, the hops being conveyed from point to point by endless bands, so that they are not touched by hand from their arrival from the pickers until their completion in the bales. They claim that as brewers require real brewing value in hops—viz., a combination of strength and aroma—these essential factors are secured, the delicate resins being entirely conserved, and the possibility of under drying or burning being reduced to a negligible point. Analysis shows that hops thus managed contain 23½ per cent. of total resins, of which over 19 per cent. are soft and soluble.

We mention these points that our English farmers may be aware of the competition they have to contend with, and the consequent necessity there is for them to recognise the fact.

CIDER AND PERRY PRIZES.

But slight alteration has been made in the Cider and Perry schedule for this year. With the exception of Class 18—for novices who have never secured a prize at any show—the competition and the rules governing same remain much as before. There are twenty-two classes in all, eight of these being for *bonâ fide* farmers or owners farming their own land; two classes for cider merchants only; and six for both farmers and merchants. The entries reach a total of 131, and the following were judges: Messrs. Joseph Bennett, Down House, Dursley, Glos.; Frank H. Callingham, Cheapside, E.C.; John Ettle, Weston-super-Mare; W. Gaymer, Attleborough, Norfolk; W. J. Grant, Pentonville, Newport, Mon.; Eldred G. F. Walker, Chew Stoke, Bristol.

Prize List.

Champion Gold Medal.—Messrs. J. Slatter and Co., Paxford, Campden, Glos.; reserve, Mr. F. Ballard, Colwall, Malvern.

Silver Medal (Best Cider, Classes 1 to 8).—Mr. F. Ballard, Colwall, Malvern; reserve, Mr. A. E. Hill, Egleton Court, Ledbury.

Farmers' Classes

(Open to Cornwall, Devon, and Dorset).

Class 1.—Bottles: 1, Mr. F. H. Evans, Littlehempston, Totnes; 2, Sir T. H. H. Amory, Bart., Knightshayes Court, Tiverton; 3, Messrs. W. Mann and Son, Broadhempston, Totnes.

Class 2.—Casks: 2, Mr. F. H. Evans; 3, Messrs. W. Mann and Son.

(Counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Monmouth, and Worcester.)

Class 3.—Bottles: 1, Mr. F. Ballard, Colwall, Malvern; Equal 2, Eardiston Farming Co., Ltd., Stockton, Worcester, and Mr. A. E. Hill, Egleton Court, Ledbury; 3, Mr. John Bazley; The Bury, Stoke Prior, Leominster; h.c, Messrs Ridler and Son, Clehonger, Hereford.

Class 4.—Casks: 1, Mr. A. E Hill.

(County of Somerset).

Class 5.—Bottles; 1, Messrs. Tilley Bros., Shepton Mallet; 2, Mr. H. J. Davis, Sutton Montis, Sparkford; 3, Messrs. D. J. Crofts and Son, Sutton Montis, Sparkford.

Class 6.—Casks: 1, Messrs. D. J. Crofts and Son; 2, Messrs. Tilley Bros.; 3, Mr. H. J. Davis.

Special Apple Class.

For the best collection of cider apples:—1, Mr. A. E. Hill; 2, Mr. H. J. Davis; 3 (equal), Mr. J. Davies, Messrs. D. J. Crofts and Son.

Merchants' Classes.

Class 9.—Bottles:—1, Messrs. Tilley Bros.; 2, Messrs. Ridler and Son; r, Messrs. J. Slatter and Co.

Class 10.—Casks: 1, Messrs. W. Mann and Son; 2 (equal), Mr. Thos. Stone, Axe Vale Cider Works, Axminster, Messrs. H. Whiteway and Co., Ltd., Whimple, Devon; r, Mr. Thos. Stone, Axe Vale Cider Works, Axminster.

Farmers' or Merchants' Classes.

Class 11.—Dry cider bottles: No awards.

Class 12.—Sweet cider bottles: 1, Messrs. J. Slatter and Co.; 2, Messrs. F. F. Woodward and Co.; 3, Sir T. H. H. Amory, Bart.; vhc, Mr. A. E. Hill; hc, Eardiston Farming Co., Ltd.; c, Mr F. Ballard, Mr. T. Stone, Messrs. Tilley Bros.

Class 13.—Dry Perry, bottles: 1, Messrs. F. F. Woodward and Co.; 2 (equal), Mr. F. Ballard, Messrs. J. Slatter and Co.; 3, Eardistone Farming Company, Ltd.

Class 14.—Sweet Perry, bottles: 1 (equal) Messrs. J. Slatter and Co., Mr. F. Ballard; 2 (equal), Mr. T. Shipp, Eardiston Farming Company, Ltd.; vhc, Mr. F. Ballard.

Class 15.—No entries.

Class 16.—Cider in bottles containing less than 3 per cent. of alcohol: 1, Quantock Vale Cider Co., Ltd.; 2, Sir T. H. H. Amory, Bart.; r, Messrs. Tilley Bros.; hc, Messrs. J. Slatter and Co.

Class 17.—Collection of Cider and Perry: 1, Messrs. J. Slatter and Co.; 2, Mr. T. Stone; r, Messrs. Tilley Bros.

Class 18.—(Novice Class) Cider or Perry: 1, Mr. H. A. Smith, Stow Hill, Newport, Mon.; 2nd, Mr. J. Davies, Marden, Hereford; r, Messrs. G. Hopkins and Son, Ltd., Kidderminster.

Class 21.—Exhibit in connection with Cider Making: Silver medal, Messrs. J. Slatter and Co., Paxford, Campden, Glos. (subject to two of the vent-pegs being sent to judges for a week's testing).

Northern Notes.

THE spirit of co-operation is in the air. From Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and further north come reports of activity in this connection. This is as it should be. Co-operation is to be the salvation of the British agriculturist. He needs awakening to the spirit of the times, and to a sense of his obligation not only to himself and his family, but he needs to get in touch with the principle of mutuality. What is good for himself is good for his neighbour. One would love to see a more pronounced spirit of brotherhood amongst all classes of farmers, big and little.

A FARMER hearing of something to his advantage in stock-buying, in the grain market, or in other departments associated with his business would be a churlish individual if he hugged the "tip" to his breast, and acquainted not his friend and neighbour. There are jealousies in the farming world we should like to see removed, and nothing will tend to that end more than the spread of co-operative principles.

WE have lately asked ourselves whether it is possible that a body composed solely and exclusively of farmers could come to a conclusion that a co-operative system is valueless. A demonstration of this obliquity of view was afforded by a small Yorkshire agricultural club recently. Appealed to by the Yorkshire Union, the members decided against the adoption of a system of co-operation. This decision seems almost incredulous, and one is absolutely forced to the belief that in such instances—which happily are rare—the clubs contain a large admixture of commercial agents and other middlemen, whose garrulous tongues influence their farmer friends in the wrong direction.

THE assumption of the club in question is contrary to all recent experience. The success of foreign systems of organised agriculture is based on co-operation schemes highly developed in their character. Germany and Denmark are simply saturated with co-operative societies, and the same factors appear in every civilised community except England.

THE evidence in favour of the co-operative principle is overwhelming in quantity, and it has also the merit of being very clear. As a community we are becoming more conscious day by day of the good advantages that must accrue from the acquisition of technical education in relation to farming; and the rising generation who fail to grasp their opportunities may have cause to regret their apathy hereafter. As to the immediate benefit of co-operation, the president of a farmers' club volunteered the statement to the writer, that in the purchase of seed for the use of members a saving of about 33 per cent. was effected, compared with the prices which individual members had been in the habit of paying.

THE terms of the Land Tenure Bill now before Parliament form a fascinating subject for the rural audiences of a politician, although it is difficult to work an audience of this class into a state of enthusiasm apart from a general election. A Radical member in Yorkshire, who had a four figure majority in a rural division last January, was telling his audience this week that the Government is in earnest over the Bill, and that Lord Carrington intends that it shall become law. This Radical member, moreover, intimated that if the House of Lords throw the Bill out—he was certain it would pass the Commons a more drastic measure will be introduced, giving fixity of tenure and setting up a land court for the purpose of adjusting rents.

THERE is a lot of legislation ahead in the farmers' interests if they will only back up the President of the Board, "who might," we have heard it said, "belong to any Government." Farmers must be content to take their reforms from either political party. "A rose by any other name is just as sweet!"

October 25, 1906.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Farming Candidate's Programme.

SIR,—Some little time back, Sir Carne Rasch, M.P., speaking at an agricultural meeting at Bungay, said:—"If farmers had eighty members in the House who were prepared to stand firmly for agriculture, they would not have to sit smiling as one Government after the other put rate upon rate on the land. Agriculturists must do something or they would be wiped out before very long."

And I trust these words will be a warning to all interested in the farming industry, and at the next general election the farming community will be in the happy position to run candidates on the behalf of agriculture pure and simple.

Perhaps the following may give some idea of the programme likely to be adopted by any such candidate:—

1. An entire readjustment of the land tax; that is to say, tax the land at its present value. The tax should be a sliding one, as land is very apt to go up and down in value, as the case may be.

2. In case of great distress, municipal bodies should have power to acquire land by purchase as railway companies have, and thus find employment for the genuine agricultural out-of-works. This would, in my opinion, nullify to a great extent rural depopulation

3. An Agricultural Holdings Bill is necessary. The Bill would give a tenant security in his holding and compensation for vexatious disturbance.

4. A Pure Beer Bill is absolutely necessary as far as the hop industry is concerned. Beer should be made from malted barley, flavoured with hops. Also, it should be punishable to make beer from any farinaceous grain.

5. An Adulteration Bill is required to prevent the adulteration of butter by fats or any other substances, the adulteratoin of milk in any form whatsoever, and of margarine by colouring matter.

6. A Road Bill is necessary, seeing that the main roads nowadays are used by motors from all parts of the country. The traffic is a national one, and not local as in the days gone by; so, therefore, the cost of the roads should come from the National Exchequer.

7. There should be a measure in urban and rural districts whereby the rates may be equally distributed.

8. Secondary education is of great importance; therefore the cost of the same should fall on the National Exchequer.

Trusting you will find space in your influential paper for this letter, which I hope will give your readers some idea of a farming candidate's programme.—Yours faithfully,

J. H. C. WOODRUFFE.

"Ivy Dew," Longfield Hill, Dartford, Kent.

Insect and Fungus Pests.

SIR,—I do not in the least expect to see the Board of Agriculture scheduling fruit and insect pests and issuing spraying orders. But "West Countryman" seems to agree that it were a consummation devoutly to be wished; and are we to refrain from calling out for a good thing merely because we are not likely to get it? For my part, I think not; and in the last day or so fresh facts have been brought before me which suggest directions in which we might usefully make a start. Perhaps, Sir, since this question seems to be arousing some amount of interest among growers, you can allow me a few lines to point out what they are.

First, there is the circular of the National Fruit Growers' Federation, which deals with American gooseberry mildew, and reached me yesterday. This disease, according to Professor Salmon, occurred for the first time in Europe in Ireland in three gardens. This was in 1900; now it is spread over hundreds of gardens in fourteen counties, and its effects are said to be worse than those of the "big bud" now fast driving the black currant out of cultivation. In order to keep England free, the Federation recommends:—(1) Temporary restriction of gooseberry bush imports. (2) "The eradication of the disease in Ireland by the employment of legislative measures similar to those now in force against certain contagious diseases of animals."

Secondly, there is the warning just issued by Professor Collinge, of the University of Birmingham, against the eelworm pest so prevalent in parts of the Midlands this season. "It has been clearly evident for some time past," says Professor Collinge, "that the different species are infecting new areas and rapidly increasing in numbers." Is it too much to demand that the infected land, confined for the most part to well-defined areas, should be so treated during the winter as to afford at least a chance of stamping out these insidious and serious pests before they spread over the whole country?—Yours faithfully,

October 26, 1906. SEVENSIDE.

The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union and the Land Tenure Bill.

SIR,—Some time ago I was asked to become a member of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union and consented, feeling that any attempt to combine farmers for the benefit of agriculture should have all the support one could possibly give.

Though I had made it perfectly clear before joining that I had no time to take an active part in the working of the scheme, the members of the union did me the honour to put me on the committee, and I attended one or two of the meetings this year, but was unable to attend a sufficient number of them to enable me to keep in touch with the general aims and working of the union. At one of these meetings at which I was not present, the committee discussed the Land Tenure Bill, and decided to ask Lord Carrington to allow a deputation to wait on him to express its approval of the Bill, and to discuss some other matters. I was informed that I had been selected to form one of this deputation; this came to me as a surprise, as up to that time I had never spoken a word in favour of this Bill to anyone, but had always expressed myself adversely to it. I, of course, declined the invitation; but in spite of this my name has been printed in all papers connected with agriculture as one of those selected to form the said deputation, and owing to this fact I find it is generally supposed that I am a supporter of the Bill. Far from wishing to undermine the Union, I feel the greatest good is to be attained by such a combination of farmers, and though I am about to criticise some of their procedures in the matter, I wish it to be clearly understood that I am in sympathy with many of their aims. What I do feel is, that the committee, when acting, did not sufficiently ascertain the general views of the members they represented. It seems to me that they should first have discussed the Bill privately, and exchanged their own views on the matter, and then have ascertained, by vote, the opinion of every individual member of the Union, for on a question of such importance they were not justified, unless supported by a two-thirds majority, in laying their approval of the Bill before Lord Carrington. In doing so the committee misled him by causing him to believe that it represented a majority of the Lincolnshire tenant-farmers. Personally, I do not believe this to be the case, and am anxious to see an opinion taken by individual vote. If the committee is then proved right, Lord Carrington will be fully justified in feeling that he has so important an agricultural county as Lincolnshire at his back. I will go further, and say that had the vote been put to each individual farmer throughout the county, not even 20 per cent. of them would have been found in favour of the Bill. In the interests of all concerned, this subject should surely be fully ventilated and an unbiassed opinion obtained, for no one can doubt but that Lord Carrington has the real interests of Agriculture at heart.

As a tenant farmer myself, succeeding father and grandfather, I venture to give an opinion as to what will be the effect of this Bill upon Agriculture in general. It seems to me that with the exception of the clauses having regard to the freedom of cultivation and the sale of all farm products, this Bill would not benefit farmers at all. Moreover, it is unjust to all owners of property, and seeks to benefit one class at the expense of another. I should like to see even more unity than now exists between landlord, tenant, and labourer, although I am proud to say there is, I think, already a greater union and affection existing between these classes than between masters and employees of most trades throughout Great Britain. Long may this state of things continue if we are to preserve the happiness of our country homes and villages, for to prosper we must be a united and not a divided force.

If this Bill should pass in its present form, I am convinced it will be the means of withdrawing capital from the land. For many years our landlords have sunk money in improvements on their estates, and on the whole it is owing to their generosity that a decaying industry has been saved from absolute ruin.

Then, again, take the case of capital invested in mortgages. Put yourself in the position of a trustee having a sum of trust money to invest; you invest on mortgage, the interest is not paid, you as mortgagee foreclose, take over the property and let it. The tenant erects what buildings he likes, you as trustee are called upon to pay for his improvements, and are in the position of finding the whole of your funds invested in a concern with only partly paid-up capital.

Should this Bill pass, it will be the self-evident duty of every trustee to at once call in his money, and reinvest where there is no such liability.

Now if this be so with regard to trustees, would it not be the landlord's first impulse, on behalf of the younger branches of his family, to take a similar step, in order to protect their future interests?

We are told that this Bill will not affect either good landlords or tenants, but with this I totally disagree. In the proposals of this Bill I see precisely what I foresaw in the passing of the County, District, and Parish Councils Acts. I do not for one moment assert that these have done no good, but they certainly entail [illegible] of expenditure to obtain a minimum [illegible] of benefit. The expenses of this Bill must of necessity be heavy. Where is the money to come from? It must be taken from the soil (the raw material), which is now greatly overtaxed, in order to give it to the farmers. This process would involve a large leakage in the shape of expenditure; moreover, it will destroy confidence and friendship, and the result will be disastrous failure. I freely concede that there may be cases in which this Bill would prove a boon to a good tenant under a bad landlord, but the good which would accrue to the few would be far outweighed by the disadvantages to the many. Now I want to be fully understood that I am not condemning the Bill as a whole.

As far as the freedom of cropping and the sale of produce is concerned, I fully agree with its clauses; but I believe if farmers would speak out frankly, they could obtain this without an Act of Parliament.

Years ago we had difficulty in finding a market for hay, straw, &c., on account of the lack of means of transit, neither had we that knowledge of the use of artificial manures which we now possess. We are now in competition as a nation with the whole of the world, and if we are to succeed in holding our own we must bring our knowledge to bear on the subject. The same thing applies to the course of cropping—we must grow what pays best. It is no answer for the landlord to say that if he allows this change he will have his land impoverished, or that he has no means of knowing that a proper amount of artificial manure is returned to the land. If the landlord has a competent agent he should know how the land is being farmed.

These are not days for agents to merely sit in offices and collect rents. They are days of keenest competition, and if the tenant farmer is to be up to date and use increased energy, the agent must be the same, and possess a full knowledge of the estate he is working. For example, take the Earl of Rosebery's Scotch estate, and see the advantage derived there by the advice of a practical agent to the tenantry.

Possessing a rather exceptionally wide experience in agricultural matters, I may say that in my opinion one of the principal ways in which the present Government can assist Agriculture to any great extent is by the relief of local taxation. I have taken every opportunity of expressing my views upon its injustice. The land of this country is grossly and unfairly taxed, and it is the duty of rightminded Englishmen to insist upon the reduction of these taxes. It is monstrously unfair that in country districts public expenditure should to such a large extent be borne by the land.—I am, yours faithfully, ARTHUR W. DEAN.

Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincs., October 26, 1906.

Farmers and the Board of Agriculture.

SIR,—By far the most unsatisfactory subject to farmers at present is the action of the Board of Agriculture with its absurd sheep scab orders and regulations, which are universally condemned in the counties of Cumberland and Westmorland. If a vote could be taken I believe it would go for the abolition of the board, for although Lord Carrington may be anxious to befriend the farmers, I feel certain it will not accomplish what he craves for, that is, bring population back to the land. He is evidently a faddist, and not the only one who at present presides over the general welfare of the country. T. B.

October 24, 1906.

Hay Sale at Haverhill.—The first of what is intended to be an annual auction sale of hay at Haverhill by Mr. C. Boardman took place on Monday, and proved most successful. The buyers were met at the station and driven to the various farms. Bower Hall Park, Steeple Bumpstead, was first visited, and here a large stack of upland hay (1904) sold for £117 10s., and another of 1905 produce made £123, whilst a stump of upland hay fetched £13. Then Baythorne Lodge, K[illegible] was visited, and there two stacks of meadow hay realised £50 and £32; a stack of stover and [illegible] ture, £70, and a stack of hay, [illegible] foin, £21. At Preston's Farm, K[illegible] of sainfoin and stover found a [illegible] at Hazelstub Farm, Haverhill, [illegible] meadow hay sold for £45, and [illegible] clover brought £75; a stack [illegible] Hazelstub Farm realised £[illegible] second-cut clover was knocked down at £[illegible] stacks of meadow hay and [illegible] respectively reached £32 10s. and £50; whilst £23 was the price obtained for a stack of oat and wheat straw.

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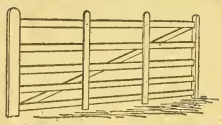

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POULTRY.

The Utility Poultry Club's Competition.

On Monday last the Utility Poultry Club's tenth annual laying competition began in earnest at Rayne, Essex. The birds were given over a week to recover from the effects of their railway journey, and that they desired this period of rest was proved by the fact that the 160 fowls (which are divided into pens of four each) did not lay more than two dozen eggs between them in that time.

On Monday, however, the birds were put on their trial, and, appropriately enough, the first egg was found in the nest of No. 1. Mr. Richardson, the hon. secretary of the club, under whose management the competition is being held, collects, weighs, tabulates, and registers every egg laid by the hens, and so that there can be no mistake as to which hen laid the egg, each egg is laid in a trap-nest and is numbered to correspond with the figure on the hen's foot.

In view of the difference of opinion as to the relative merits of the scratching shed and colony systems, and for greater convenience, the Club decided to divide this year's competition into two sections, providing accommodation for twenty pens in each section. The birds in one section are confined to scratching sheds without runs, and those in the other section in the ordinary portable house with grass runs.

The results of these two sections will be compared with interest by breeders in all parts of the country, but they will have to wait for them in patience, for the competition does not close until February 10 next, thus extending over four months.

The birds are uniformly fed, and no condiments or spice will be allowed, whilst the points to be given are three for every egg weighing 2 oz. or over, two points if 1¾ oz. and less than 2 oz., and one point if less than 1¾ oz. Hitherto any egg weighing over 1¾ oz. scored two points only.

A number of prizes and specials are being offered—including the Tamlin Silver Cup—and these are supplemented by the Gold and Silver Medal and the first and Second Class Certificates of the Club, should the standard reached be sufficiently high, whilst the secretary has offered a prize for every pen of four birds beating the record of 276 eggs, so that the hens have something worth working for.

The Departmental Committee on Small Holdings is now engaged in the consideration of the report drafted by the Earl of Onslow as chairman of the committee.

Rotherfield (Sussex) Fair attracted a good attendance, but business was very dull, and in the open market but few cattle changed hands. At the auction sale bullocks from twelve to twenty months old made from £5 to £10.

Alleged Sheep Stealing.—An extraordinary case of alleged sheep stealing has been before the Quarter Sessions at Ipswich for three days. Frederick Cook, a farmer, and James Rumsby, a labourer, were charged with stealing forty-nine lambs belonging to Robert Hawes, a farmer. The parties lived at Stradbroke and Fressingfield, and the case for the prosecution was that on the night of July 21 the defendants drove fifty inferior lambs a distance of more than three miles, to Hawes's farm, and, leaving them behind, took away forty-nine far better lambs from a flock of 140. The accused denied the charge, and, among other evidence, called a witness to say that, what their council described as a miraculous bit of work, could not have been effected in the time by two men. Three lambs were produced in court for purposes of identification. After deliberating for more than an hour, the foreman of the jury announced that they could not agree, and the case was remitted to the assizes.

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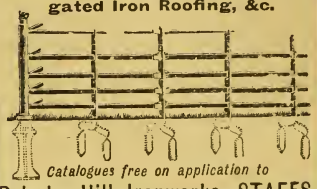

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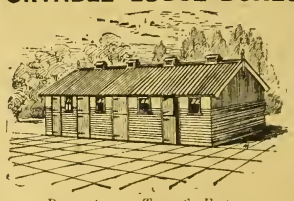

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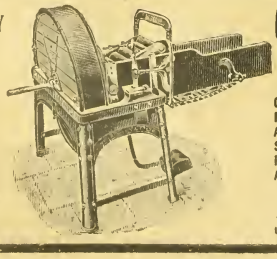

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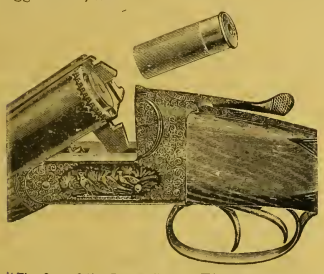

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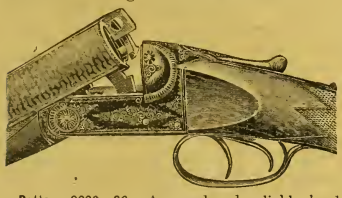

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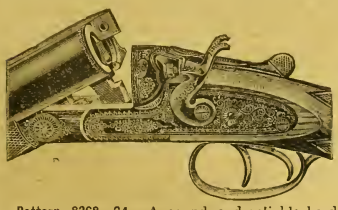

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Midland Notes.

SOME day, perhaps, people will cease to cry out against the British farmer for his unwillingness to try co-operation. The reproach was true enough once, but it is rapidly ceasing to be so; in fact, there are very few industries now which are anything like so well organised as agriculture.

WORCESTERSHIRE was one of the first counties to set an example in this respect, and for some years past Warwickshire and Staffordshire have both boasted farmers' associations which have done capital work for their members. The recent activity among milk producers who supply the Birmingham market has been already noted in this column, and even that is but one aspect of a larger movement. Lately the agents of the farmers' associations have been very busy in the country districts which supply Wolverhampton and other large centres, and by all accounts big schemes are in the air. There is a disposition, indeed, not to be content with struggling with the dealers for trifling improvements in selling prices, but to adopt the bolder course of setting up town depots and retailing without calling in the help of the middleman at all. Well, we shall see what we shall see.

MEANWHILE, a Nottingham friend gives me a cheery account of the latest co-operative movement there. In this case it is not proposed to tackle the difficult question of milk supply yet awhile, and doubtless it is wiser to wait a year or so until the association can accumulate funds enough to work upon more comfortably and efficiently than it could possibly do at present. In the interim it will more than justify its existence by enabling local cultivators of land to buy feeding stuffs, manures, implements, &c., at wholesale prices. It is significant of the practical part which the agricultural colleges are playing nowadays, that Professor J. F. Blackshaw, the Principal of the Dairy Institute at Kingston, Derby, is one of the organisers, and is acting as joint honorary secretary of the new movement.

WHICH reminds me of an incident on the other side of the Midlands, in connection with the Harper Adams College, in which our friends of Staffordshire and Salop are so interested. It is not long since a large party—perhaps 100 or more—representing the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture visited and inspected the large experimental farm and laboratories at Newport. Now the visitors have sent to the Shropshire education authority a formal expression of their appreciation of the work which is being carried on at the college to assist the agriculture of the county. None who knows the west midlands could doubt that their formal thanks are also sincere, for the Harper Adams College furnishes an excellent example of the good influence which can be exercised by such an institution in the district where it is situated.

WE are but a week from drear November, yet trees and hedgerows are still clad in thick and healthy foliage, while grass, mixed seed, and early sown crops flourish as though in spring. So, too, do the roots, which there is much temptation to leave late in the ground, albeit we all know the risk of it, and the additional weight is represented mostly by water and woody fibre. Mangels are being lifted now in favourable circumstances, but after the roots have once been touched by frost they need more careful handling, and in the ordinary course of events the crop should all be carted and clamped within the next few days.

THE question of housing dairy cattle now comes up again, but fortified by the results of the Harper Adams College experiments, an increasing number of stock owners prefer to keep milch kine out in the fields as late as possible. Here is a case where scientific experiment justifies old practice, both agreeing to show that in spite of mistaken humanitarian scruples beasts thrive better when lying out through the cold nights than when tied up under cover. Only, of course, their diet must be generous, with a due proportion of dry fodder and more or less oily concentrated food.

THERE is no such superabundance of apples this season as there was in 1904, when cidermakers were often hard put to it to find sufficiency of casks, but it is very far from being a bad year, and nowadays an increasing proportion of our cider is being made in a more or less scientific and up-to-date way, instead of by the old haphazard, rule-of-thumb methods, which were so uncertain in their results.

October 25, 1906.

The President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has appointed Professor Thomas Hudson Middleton, M.A., M.Sc., to be an Assistant Secretary to the Board, in the place of Dr. W. Somerville, resigned.

CHAS. LANCASTER.

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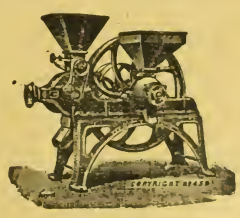

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Moss Litter.

Both straw and moss litter possess the property of absorbing and thus preserving the valuable fertilising material in animal excretions, but it would appear from experiments that the absorptive power of moss litter is much greater than that of straw. It pays to buy a good quality of moss litter, and it should be well broken up when spread as litter, as lumps do not take up the liquid manure.

When applied to swedes, it has been found that 12 tons of moss litter dung produced over 25 tons of roots per acre, whereas an equal quantity of straw dung gave about 2 tons of roots less. Moss-litter dung would appear to be quicker in action than ordinary farmyard manure, and therefore capable to producing better results on quick-growing crops. It should be noted that moss-litter dung should be applied in a moist state to the soil, as if dry it brings about a dry condition of the soil, which would do harm in a dry season.

Soil Preparation.

We must continually bear in mind that in order to raise good crops we must see that the soil is properly prepared as a seed bed. The better the condition of the soil, the better chance has the crop of growing luxuriantly. Gardens produce relatively more than fields, chiefly because the small area of soil enables them to be more worked, and the condition of arable land should be made as nearly as possible to resemble the condition of a garden.

Applying Farmyard Manure.

When farmyard manure is carted from the heap to the field, it is best, if possible, to distribute it over the land without delay, and care should be taken to spread it evenly. Very often the manure before being distributed over the field is arranged in small heaps at little distances apart; in such cases it should not be allowed to remain in the heaps, but should be spread without delay, otherwise the manure will drain, with the consequence that some patches will be over-manured, and the rest of the field will suffer proportionately. The best part of the manure drains out, so that the greater part of the field gets a supply of impoverished manure.

Sometimes, in order to save carting in the spring, the manure is carted out in the late autumn or winter and piled in large heaps in the field. This may be a convenient practice, but involves the risk of considerable loss during storage, unless precautions are taken. The heaps should be deposited on firm, level ground in the field, and should be made deep and firm; they should also be covered with a good layer of soil to prevent evaporation of ammonia and to allow the rain water to run off.

In applying farmyard manure, it is found that moderate dressings, say, of 10 tons to the acre, supplemented with artificials, yields a better result than the large dressings of 20 tons which are often given, and it has the great advantage of increasing the area over which the farmyard manure is applied.

It must always be remembered that nothing can replace the beneficial action of the farmyard manure, although moderate dressings will suffice. The organic matter in the manure gives activity to the bacterial action in the soil in a way that nothing else will.

The crops that benefit most from applications of farmyard are potatoes and root crops; meadows and pastures should also have a dressing every three or four years, with applications of phosphate of lime and potash in the intervening seasons.

Farmyard manure is a very valuable material, as old-fashioned farmers rightly say, "muck is the mother of money," and everything should be done to avoid its waste and loss.

Varieties of Barley.

In 1905 a set of trials were carried out in Lincolnshire by the Midland Agricultural College, having as their object:—

1. To find which variety gives the largest yield per acre.
2. To ascertain which variety gives the highest total money value per acre.
3. To compare the yields on the different soils and with different situations, and to note which varieties withstand the beating of storms without becoming laid.

The trials were conducted at two centres, viz:—at Marcham-le-Fen, where the soil is described as being of a light, warm character, and at High Toniton, described as a high exposed situation, with soil of a heavier nature.

The varieties tested were:—Chevalier (Archer's), Chevalier (Hallett's), Chevalier (Webb's Kinver), Goldthorpe, Hanna (Proskowetz's), Invincible.

The report contains full details of the experiment, the final conclusions being summarised as follows:—

1. Hanna and Archer's Chevalier gave the greatest money-value return per acre.
2. Goldthorpe and Invincible produced the best quality of grain.
3. Hanna produced the best quality of straw.
4. Hanna ripened the first.
5. Hanna showed the least tendency to layering.

Amount of Plant Foods used per Acre.

Variety of Trees	Nitrogen	Phos-Acid	Potash	Lime
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Apple	51·5	14·0	55·0	57
Peach	74·5	18·0	72·0	114
Pear	29·5	7·0	33·0	38
Plum	29·5	8·5	38·0	41
Quince	45·5	15·5	57·0	65
Vines	20·0	12·0	36·0	—
Oranges (fruit alone)	53·8	13·4	55·6	—
Apricots (estimated)	70	12·0	60	100

Protection of Seed Against Rooks.

A short time ago there was considerable correspondence in the agricultural Press on the subject of rooks. It was strongly urged by some writers, that, in view of the serious injury caused by them to the young crops, they should be ruthlessly destroyed; by others it was argued that the good work done by them in the destruction of wire worms and grub compensated for their other misdeeds, and that the balance of Nature should not be upset by their extermination. The latter view is, probably, the more correct. Rooks in limited numbers may be regarded as useful servants; besides, it is not difficult to protect the seed against their depredations. The employment of coal tar is practised for this purpose with success. A solution of 2½ oz. coal tar, 2½ oz. petroleum, mixed with one quart of water per bushel of wheat can be recommended.

The following similar treatment is adopted on a large farm in France, where the treated wheat escapes damage, although serious injury is caused by crows to neighbouring fields notwithstanding the fact that the birds are continually being scared.

The solution is made as follows:—11½ pints of coal tar, 5¾ pints of petroleum, 1½ pints of carbolic acid, to 5 qr. (of 480 lb.) of seed.

The proportions named should be strictly adhered to in order to obtain successful results. Commercial carbolic acid of full strength must be used. The mixture should be made as follows:—Place the coal tar in a pot on a slow fire until it is quite hot and shows signs of boiling, remove it from the fire and add the petroleum while stirring, and finally the carbolic acid. The mixture should be thoroughly well stirred, and it will remain quite liquid after cooling.

In order to treat the grain about 4 bushels of seed should be spread out on a water-tight floor, and a tenth part of the mixture, which will be a little less than two pints, poured on it. This must then be stirred up quickly till each grain is blackened and the whole is about the colour of roasted coffee. Continue in the same way, dealing with about 4 bushels at a time.

The seed cannot, however, be sown in this condition, as it would stick to the cups of the drill, and in order to remedy this add to each 4 bushels of seed about 2 pints of phosphate of lime. When mixed, the grain will be completely dry, and can be sown in the ordinary way. Seed treated in this way will not be touched by crows, though the growth may be retarded by some two or three days. The cost per bushel would be insignificant.

Production of Pyrites for the Manufacture of Sulphuric Acid.

According to *L'Engrais*, Portugal leads as a producer of pyrites. It gives a table of production per country as follows:—Portugal, 377,000 tons; Spain, 262,000 tons; France, 272,000 tons; United States, 237,000 tons; Germany, 175,000 tons; Norway, 130,000 tons; Italy, 112,000 tons; Hungary, 97,000 tons; Newfoundland, 42,000 tons; Canada, 30,000 tons; Russia, 26,000 tons; Japan, 16,000 tons; England, 10,000 tons; Switzerland, 8,000 tons; and Belgium, 1,000 tons.

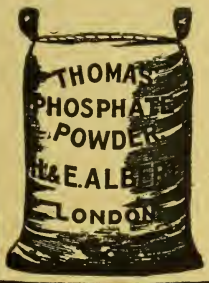
Price of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The quotations will be approximate, as in some cases where large quantities are concerned and carriage is convenient, a buyer may be able to buy a little cheaper, and in other cases where delivery is inconvenient he may have to pay somewhat more:—

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda .....prompt delivery	11	17	6
,, ,, ...forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	10	0
Superphosphate 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,, ...	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	5	0
Bone compound ordinary	3	6	3
Ground hoof-, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano	5	7	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0

ALBERT'S BASIC SLAG.
Original Brand—"THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER."
BRITISH MAKE.
GREAT PHOSPHATIC MANURE,
SUITABLE FOR
ALL SOILS AND ALL CROPS
UNDER SUITABLE CONDITIONS.
Grass, etc., on Light Soils need Potash as well.
Pamphlets (regarding use on all crops) and names of Local Agents on application to—
CHEMICAL WORKS late H. & E. ALBERT,
15, Philpot Lane, London, E.C.



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BASIC SLAG.
Highest Guarantees and RELIABLE.
Ask for LEEDS Brand
From any Agricultural Merchant of repute.
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PERUVIAN GUANO (as imported),
OHLENDORFF'S (Soluble)
DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO,
With Guaranteed Analysis.
Bone Manures, Superphosphate, Bone Meal.
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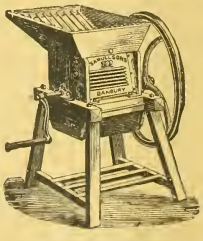

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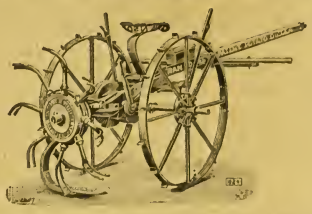

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Agricultural Journal,
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ESTABLISHED 1832.

OCTOBER 29, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

AUTUMN WHEAT-SOWINGS.

Clay-land occupiers have been remarkably busy during the past fortnight drilling seed-corn. Seldom if ever have weather and the land favoured them more beneficently in October. The condition of things is all the more enjoyable as the two previous months made it to be almost impossible for ploughshares to penetrate the adamantine ground, and until the advent of the present month there could be no autumn culture worthy of the name on a large section of the very heaviest soils.

Of course when a large portion of the early autumn has this character, however fine the latter part may prove, only those clay land farmers who have steam tackle, or can hire it, overtake work thoroughly. But this does not affect wheat-sowing so much as some other things. Farmers in modern times do not, as a rule, sow wheat until October, although it appears, according to Arthur Young's Calendar, they were in the habit of doing so at the early part of last century. He wrote therein:—"Upon all cold, wet, backward soils, September is the best season for putting in wheat, provided circumstances permit it. Wheat should not be sown until rain comes in tolerable plenty, and never in a dry season. Upon drier and warmer soils it is better to postpone the business until October."

Very few soils would have been found damp enough in September this year to have been at all in proper condition, even though the usual period of sowing had remained the same. That it is much later than in Young's day is probably not due to any permanent change in the seasons, but rather to the worst lands termed above "cold, wet, and backward," having been either underground drained, and thereby rendered drier and warmer, or having been sown down to permanent pasture. However, for all of a heavy nature still arable, it is a matter of the very utmost urgency that the wheat crop should be put in as early in October as possible, or at any rate in a season like the present when summer seems to return even in the last week, so that clays are found in their best condition unusually late), the work should be completed as early as possible in November. Very often a vast amount of rainfall comes after the middle of the latter month, when the surfaces of such soils as are being treated on become too soft to bear the tramp of horses, and tillage has to be abandoned.

If an autumn like the present had been experienced in the early part of last century—and, indeed, up to a late part in the third quarter of it—considerable breadths would have been dibbled. Some excellent papers on the advantages of dibbling were furnished even to the first Board of Agriculture. When wheat sold for six or seven shillings per bushel the saving in seed corn paid for the manual labour of planting, which was that of a man walking backwards striking holes on two furrows on which he walked, two women or lads following him to drop corns into the holes. Even when the soil was too dry for any other system of seeding the tramp of the operators gave such firmness thereto that the plant almost invariably became firm rooted and grew away strong. That this good system of seeding is gone out of fashion is due as much to the scarcity and greater cost of labour as much as to the low value of wheat grain. Only small farmers with working families would find it economical now.

We seem to be experiencing a cycle of good wheat-cropping years. At least, we have had two successive ones that have stood at the top among the other crops as best yielding, and this admirable seed season will be likely to be one of the preliminary conditions which, it is to be hoped, will lead to another successful year. A favourable seeding, such as we are at present experiencing, usually produces a full strong plant to stand the winter. No doubt the character of the summer determines realisation more than anything else, yet without a good plant the most favourable kerning and ripening might possibly only yield half-average quantities of grain.

Railway Companies' "Owners' Risk" Rates and Conditions.

A conference with reference to this subject convened by the Mansion House Association on Railway and Canal Traffic took place on 23rd inst., at the Westminster Palace Hotel, Sir W. E. M. Tomlinson, Bart. (the president of that Association), in the chair. There was a very large attendance, among those present being Mr. William Field, M.P., Mr. Ernest Gardner, M.P., Mr. Arthur G. Hooper, M.P., Colonel Chas. W. Long, M.P., Mr. H. G. Montgomery, M.P., Mr. E. Parkes, M.P., Mr. Oswald Partington, M.P., Sir Alfred Arnold, Sir H. Gilzean-Reid, and delegates from some eighty Chambers of Commerce and Agriculture and kindred societies.

The provisions of the Railways (Contracts) Bill introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. Arthur G. Hooper, M.P., were discussed and approved, and it was unanimously resolved to extend all possible support to that measure. Resolutions were also unanimously adopted respecting the course of action proposed to be taken with the object of giving effect to that resolution.

On Thursday next a number of [illegible] Berkshire pigs belonging to Mr. [illegible] Burton, Mere, Wilts, will be sold [illegible] Burton, by Messrs. J. Thornton and [illegible] herd is one of the oldest in the country and has supplied many herds with [illegible] from the herd have won numerous prizes and will to be offered on Thursday are [illegible] of the breed, with symmetry, quality, good loin, and constitution. The sale will commence after a twelve o'clock luncheon.

Notes of the Week.

There is much talk about "trusts"—"soap trusts," "book trusts," "meat trusts," &c.

When all the necessities of life are sold by "trusts," more people than ever will have to live "on trust."

"Trust slayeth many a man," the wise man saith.

A little more mutual trust or combination among farmers would sometimes bear good fruit.

For instance, if there had been a Union among milk producers during the recent drought, they would have been able to protect their interests against the wholesale buyers.

But what we do not want is a union of butter with fat, or milk with borax or water.

A milkman was fined last week £100 for selling machine-skimmed milk containing excessive quantities of boracic acid.

If he goes on like that, he will be brought to living in another kind of "Union."

This country is threatened with the visit of another undesirable alien—the "American gooseberry mildew."

If it once gets a footing here, it will be harder to deal with than the German gipsies.

The Board of Agriculture should take steps to prevent its introduction, otherwise it will play "old gooseberry" with the gooseberry trees.

"Good meadows are the foundation of stock-breeding, the staff of agriculture, the riches of the farmer, the jewel of a prosperous country life."

"Poor meadows are a standing rebuke, a hardship to stock, and a source of poverty."

In America there are 400 fertiliser factories, with an aggregate capital of nearly fourteen million pounds.

The value of the raw fertilising material employed by them for their manufactures is about eight million pounds annually.

The first complete fertiliser factory in America was built in 1866.

Some cases of frozen tripe in a decomposed condition were recently condemned at Birmingham.

They formed part of a consignment of 1,000 cases.

It was stated that decomposition must have set in before the tripe was frozen.

No wonder people suffer from obscure diseases when they swallow alien germs of a poisonous character.

To most Englishmen the simple words barley and hops raise in the imagination a delicate aroma and pleasant associations.

It is, therefore, natural that the Brewers' Exhibition should be visited by large numbers of people; indeed, it grows in popularity every year.

The only reflection that damps the pleasure of many visitors is that the growers of the grain and the hops do not get more profit from their labours.

The side-shows of the exhibition excited a good deal of interest; one firm exhibit "British" cigars with the peculiarly British names of Propogana, Flor de Varzes, &c.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30.—Horncastle Fair, second day—Ashford Cattle and Sheep Fair—Preston Cheese Fair—Collingham Farmers' Club Show—Agricultural Fairs at Brampton, Newtown, Lettle, and East Harling.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31.—Saintfield Horse and Cattle Fair—Nuneaton Agricultural Fair—Tadcaster Cattle and Sheep Fair—Southery Farm Sale, Norfolk—Mottram and Colne Cattle and Pig Fairs—Tarrant Ranston Farm Sale, Dorset—Hawes and Shrewsbury Cattle Fair—Entries close for Lord Tredegar's Show.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1.—Agricultural Fairs at Earith, Doncaster, Alston, and Northampton—Ripon Cattle Fair—Devizes Cattle Fair—Newark Cattle Fair—Special Sale of Berkshire Pigs at Mere, Wiltshire—Dorrington Special Cattle Market—Last day for Entries Smithfield Club Show—Last day for Entries Birmingham Fat Stock Show, and Tonbridge Fat Stock Show.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2.—Toddington (Beds.) Cattle Fair—Oakham Agricultural Fair—Mansfield Sheep Fair—North Shields Horse and Cattle Fairs—Lichfield Horse Sale—Yeovil Horse Sale.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3.—Halifax and Saffron Walden Horse and Cattle Fairs—Buckingham Cattle and Sheep Fair—Last day for Entries for Scottish National Fat Stock Show at Edinburgh.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5.—Farmers Club 4 p.m., Address by Mr. John Maclaren on Farm Implements—Agricultural Fairs at Longridge, Elston, Helmsley, Beverley, and Welshpool—Horse and Cattle Fairs at Crewe and Aberystwith—Sheep Fairs at Blandford and Keswick—Weyhill Fair.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6.—Agricultural Fairs at Tregony, Preston, Thurles, and Kington—Preston Great Horse Sale—Meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, Adelphi, 11 a.m.

SHOW GOSSIP.

We would draw attention to the fact that the Smithfield Club entries of stock and table poultry close on Thursday, November 1 next, at ordinary fees, and on November 5 at post entry rates. Entry forms, &c., can be had of the secretary, Mr. E. J. Powell, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

We would remind intending exhibitors at the Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show that the entries of cattle, sheep, pigs, corn, roots, potatoes, poultry, and pigeons close on Thursday next, November 1. The date of application for space for the exhibition of implements, &c., is already passed. The usual liberal prizes are again offered in all sections, including the three 100 guinea challenge cups, the total amount of prizes offered being nearly £3,500. Schedules and entry forms may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

The International Show at The Hague has now been fixed to take place the week after the Royal Show at Lincoln, and will last seven days, commencing on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 2, and ending on Monday, July 8. This will meet the convenience of breeders of horses who will be exhibiting at the International and Royal Shows.

At a recent meeting of the directors of the International Horse Show at Olympia, held under the presidency of Sir Gilbert Greenall, the prize schedule was arranged provisionally, but it will not be issued until the return of the English directors and Mr. Frank Euren from America, at they are going to the New York show to consuls with prominent American exhibitors. The provisional classification is:—Hunters and saddle horses, ponies under saddle, Polo ponies (to be ridden), Hackneys in hand, ponies in hand, Shetland ponies, dealers' classes, Roadsters, children's turnouts and classes for boy and girl riders, single Harness horses, appointment classes, novice Harness classes, ponies in harness, Carriage horses, pairs, tandems, four-in-hands, jumping (steeplechase, high, and wide), bending and polo ball competitions, tradesmen's horses, and foreign horses.

Sheriff Lee on Wednesday gave his decision in regard to the action brought by George Blair, farmer, West Ballochy, by Montrose, against the president, Standing Committee, and secretary of the Angus Agricultural Association, as representing that association. The case was referred to by us last week, and it will be remembered that the plaintiff sued for damages and loss incurred in consequence of the defendants having illegally and unwarrantably refused to allow him to enter his mare Queen Marcella under the three-year-old filly class, and thereby deprived him of any chance of winning a prize in that particular class. The defence was that the animal, having had a foal, was no longer entitled to be classed as a filly, but was a brood mare, and accordingly fell to be entered under the brood mare section.

The Sheriff thinks there is a necessity for some definite rule to guide and bind exhibitors in future. "For this reason," he says, "I think it not unreasonable that the defenders should bear some part of the expenses, which have necessarily been heavy for a small debt case, and according in finding the plaintiff liable in expenses I propose to modify them, and allow the defenders five guineas only."

A meeting was held at Retford on Saturday in connection with the decision of the Notts Agricultural Society to hold their next year's show at Retfort. The local secretary (Mr. R. H. Stockdale) explained that it was proposed to raise a local fund of £400, and of this sum £60 to £65 would be devoted to the local horse classes of the Bassetlaw Farming Society, which had decided to suspend its annual show for 1907 in order to support and make successful the visit of the county society. The first step to be taken was to secure a suitable site; and it had been suggested that the West Retford ground, which was lent by Major Milner for the last show of the Bassetlaw Society, would be well adapted for the purposes, and there was reason to believe it could be obtained. A committee was appointed to view the proposed site and report.

It was decided at the same meeting that a recommendation be made to the county society that the prizes for Bassetlaw should only be open to those residing and farming in the division, and it was pointed out that it would be desirable to have the Bassetlaw classes judged on the second day. It was reported that the local guarantee fund had already received very liberal support, and no difficulty was anticipated in raising the required sum of £400.

South-Eastern Agricultural College.

The annual meeting of the governors of the governors of the South-Eastern Agricultural College was held last week, Lord Ashcombe presiding. The Principal (Mr. M. J. R. Dunstan) reported that the autumn term commenced on October 1 with 113 students (the largest number yet recorded) in residence.

Milkman Fined £100.—At Spelthorne Petty Sessions, Surrey, on Monday, Joseph Winchester, milkman, of Twickenham, was fined £100 for selling machine-skimmed milk containing boracic acid equal to 68½ grains of borax per gallon. It was stated that defendant's customers were absolutely of the poorest class of people. There were several previous convictions against him, and time for payment being refused he was removed in custody.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Ruptured Colt.

SIR,—I wish to ask the advice of your veterinary, through the medium of your paper, respecting a ruptured colt. The said colt, which is a Shire, has been so from his birth, and is in all other respects as nice a colt as one could wish for. I was told when he was foaled that this would probably right itself, but there is as yet no signs of its doing so. Can this be put back successfully when castrated, to *remain*, so as to make a sound horse? I have myself had no experience in this, never having seen one before like it, but am told there are several in our district this season the same. There was no strain at the time of birth other than natural, as the mare foaled by herself, and I am at a loss to account for it any more than as a freak of nature. A CONSTANT READER.

*** The key to the situation is to be found in the postscript to your letter—"Age of colt four months." The case is clearly one of congenital scrotal hernia—the most frequent, but the least dangerous species of hernia. You say:—"I was told when he was foaled that this would probably right itself." You were correctly informed, but as to there yet being no signs of its doing so, you have not allowed sufficient time to elapse. Probably your colt, as well as those of your neighbours who have also had foals produced this season showing congenital scrotal hernia, will come all right in due course, and you should wait on time and Nature.

Professor Williams in his "Principles and Practice of Veterinary Surgery," describes congenital scrotal hernia as "a frequent attendant on birth, augmenting up to the third or sixth month, after that diminishing, and ultimately disappearing. Should it continue with lessening in volume for a year or eighteen months, it may be considered as, and is in fact become, a chronic or permanent scrotal hernia.

In case the swelling, however, instead of being always the same, at intervals diminishes, and continues so to do more sensibly as time advances, it will in the end recede altogether, and though it returns again at times, still, the relapses growing less marked or frequent, at last the gut will enter the ring no more." Your animal is only four months old—a very late foal—and there is yet plenty of time for the hernia to be spontaneously reduced, and, therefore, plenty of time to consider the method of operation for hernia in stallions and castration by what is known as the covered operation. There need be nothing abnormal at parturition to account for congenital scrotal hernia—it can be accounted for by the condition of the parts involved in the fœtus in utero, as we are prepared to explain, if you wish. M.R.C.V.S.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

THERE are some people who are never tired of telling us that, as a horse-breeding nation, we are getting behind the times; that we are not up to our Continental and American rivals; that we have lost our prestige as a horse-breeding nation. Some months ago it was asked in a popular magazine, Are we a nation of horsemen? and the question was answered in a melancholy negative. Commenting upon that article, I was bound to admit that we are not a nation of horsemen in the same sense that we were forty or fifty years ago. Time was when everyone rode, simply because they were obliged to. That time went by, and country people all rode, partly because they liked it, partly perhaps on account of the old tradition. I can remember the time well when very few farmers *drove* to market unless they had some produce to take, or were driving their wives or daughters to do some shopping. If a man had anywhere to go it was the natural thing for him to ride. This has long been changed. The bicycle had something to do with the change, and in the modern craze for being in a bad hurry the motor car gets the rich country gentleman instead of the galloping hack. I can remember when men, young or old, thought nothing of covering seventy miles or more in a day on horseback. I have done it many times myself, and taken it all in the day's work—very likely had a ride on another horse when I got to my journey's end.

BUT how many people do it now? One may safely say that they are getting fewer every year; and so in the sense of the word in which it is used in the article. I have mentioned that we are no longer a nation of horsemen. But all other nations are in just the same position in this respect that we are, and *pace* our critics we are still the stud farm of the world; and we are likely to remain so, though we shall be none the worse for being sharpened up a bit at times.

FOR the last twenty years, or perhaps not quite so many, it has been a well-established fact that a very large number of the carriage horses in the hands of the London dealers were foreigners. Nor was this the case only with London dealers. I know many dealers in northern counties who supplement the home-grown product with importations from Germany and Belgium, and I have even heard it whispered that German and Belgian horses have travelled *viâ* some Yorkshire establishments to London, where they have posed as Yorkshire horses.

NOW I am quite with those gentlemen who say that we should be able to produce the harness horses we require, or most of them, though perhaps I may not agree with all their theories as to how we ought to proceed to breed them. And even yet the breeding of harness horses is a profitable branch of farming, as some of my Yorkshire friends do not need telling. But I cannot agree that the Germans and Belgians are beating us at breeding harness horses, as I have occasionally been told by those of my friends who are of a pessimistic turn of mind. And I do not think we are likely to be beaten by them either. A London dealer said to me only the other day that if a man wanted harness horses his choice lay between a Yorkshire horse and a German flute—a sufficiently expressive, if not elegant, remark. I would be understood in this respect. I have seen some very good German match pairs—very good indeed—though I do not think the best of them were "in it" with Yorkshire coach horses.

AND what are those German harness horses? The best of them are known as the Trakehnen breed. Now what is the Trakehnen horse? Sir Alfred Pease, some sixteen years ago, went to Berlin to the great German Horse Show, and took great pains to trace the German Harness breeds to their source. Now Sir Alfred Pease was no mere theorist. He was a practical breeder with no small experience in the breeding of the Harness breeds of his native country, and anything he had to say on the subject is worth regarding. His opinion was that the Trakehnen breed was by far the best of all the German Harness breeds, and he found that he was a cross-bred horse—one-fourth native, one-fourth of Eastern blood, and half of English blood, of which a considerable proportion, at any rate, was Cleveland Bay. So that English blood preponderates in the best German harness horses, and at the best they are a cross breed which has to depend on constant importations of foreign blood. So it does not seem as if we had a great deal to fear from them; for we still have a sound foundation at home in the Cleveland Bay and his near relative, the Yorkshire Coach horse.

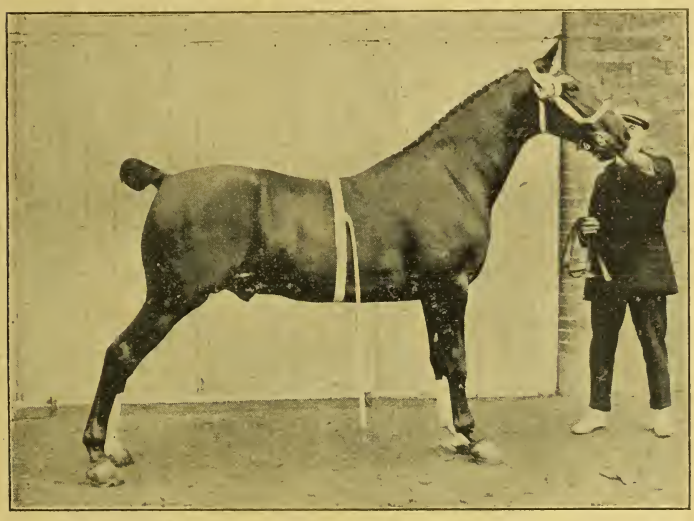
THE bulk of the horses Sir Alfred Pease saw in Germany, and mind he saw the best of them at what was the National Horse Show of the country, were a somewhat cross-bred, mongrel lot, such as did not appeal to him at all. Undersized many of them were and of all colours. But to the practical eyes of the experienced English breeder there was a lesson to be learnt from German horse-breeding, or perhaps two lessons. The first thing which seemed to impress Sir Alfred was the poorness of the result in proportion to the great amount of money spent by the Government on their studs. Here is something for those who are constantly urging the desirability of Government studs here to reflect upon. It is a common thing to hear people say, "See what they do for horse-breeding in other countries." Well, Sir Alfred Pease did see for himself, and was not much impressed. And I would ask, is there any reason to think that in England there would be more result than in Germany? We have been pretty well used to a prodigious amount of cack to but a halfpenny worth of bread in most of our public accounts since the times of Falstaff.

BUT the most important lesson which Sir Alfred Pease would impress upon us is the danger of indiscriminate cross-breeding. This seems certainly to have prevailed in Germany at one time, and the results were plainly to be seen. Sir Alfred emphasises the fact that "unless certain types and distinct breeds are carefully maintained and an ideal type kept in the eye, in attempting to breed one particular class our native breeds may degenerate into herds of mongrels and nondescripts."

PERHAPS these words of warning were never more applicable than in the present day, and perhaps there is no horse breeding that they are so applicable to as the breeding of Harness horses. For the fashionable Harness horse is sometimes one kind of horse and sometimes another. He must be showy; he must have showy action; he must be a good colour; he must be lengthy and well proportioned; there must be nothing approaching shortness of quarter; he must look well in his leather as he stands still; he must knock his curb chain with his knees when he moves, when the craze is for high action. Now there is no single breed of horses in the world that has all these properties, and the temptation to cross in all directions to get them in one animal is very great. Now a very prevalent cross has been to mate a Hackney stallion of good colour with a lengthy, stylish Coaching mare of good quality. I have seen a great many geldings bred in this way, and very good horses most of them were and very easy to sell at highly remunerative prices.

BUT what has always puzzled me when I have seen these good-looking geldings is what becomes of the fillies. "I breed geldings," says one breeder on being remonstrated with for his persistent use of Hackney sires with good Yorkshire Coaching mares. "I have no fancies," says No. 2, "I breed what I can sell." Just so; but I ask again, what becomes of the fillies? No man can ensure breeding colts that will make good geldings. Now if fillies are bred, sooner or later they will be bred from. I need not point out that it is likely to be sooner rather than later, for people do not care as a rule to drive mares—at any rate, they are not so valuable as geldings. Now I do not doubt at all that I shall be told that so long as the mares are not registered in any Stud Book it does not matter if they are bred from. I shall also be told—indeed I have been told—that a cross-bred mare has bred a good horse. That is possible; but I have yet to learn that these cross-bred mares breed one good foal after another as a rule; again, how will the third and fourth generations breed? There seems a great risk of degeneration into "herds of mongrels and nondescripts," for one thing is certain, if crossing is to be successful both breeds that are used in the crossing should be kept as pure as possible, and it is one of the canons of cross-breeding that the first cross is the best.

THE LOOKER-ON.



HACKNEY STALLION, COPMANTHORPE PERFORMER.
Exhibited at the Royal Show at Derby, and also the Hackney Horse Show of this year, where it won a First Prize, by Mr. A. Hall, Copmanthorpe Grange, York. It was foaled in 1904, sire Garton Duke of Connaught, dam Copmanthorpe Lily, and was bred by Mr. G. Hall, Bishop Wilton, Wilberfoss, York.

Sale of Hunters.

Some good prices for Hunters were obtained at Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade's sale at Leicester on the 20th inst. The best lots were those sent from Burton Agnes, Yorkshire, by the well-known breeder, Mr. T. Wickham-Boynton. Peppermint, a lady's hunter up to 13st. 7lb., realised the top price, 260 guineas, and Rainbow, a brown gelding by Hindley, changed hands at 250 guineas, while there was a bid of 200 guineas for Secretary, a six-year-old by Irish Secretary. Farrier, from the same draft, realised 185 guineas. Among the early lots were Gilroy and Nelson, sent up by Miss Ratcliffe, and they were sold at 55 guineas and 45 guineas respectively, while Colonel J. W. Chaplin accepted 56 guineas for Fred Fraser and 45 guineas for Mystic. Another good draft were the Hunters of Captain W. S. Power, D.S.O., Rapier being sold for 65 guineas and Rifleman for 51 guineas, while Sir Hill Child sold the whole of his Hunters for 359 guineas. The Mormon realising 120 guineas and Kilkee 85 guineas, O'Neil, the winner of the regimental steeplechase at Hawthorn Hill in 1904 and 1906, being the bargain of the lot at 31 guineas. Colonel C. J. Long sold The Dane for 43 guineas, and Mrs. Critchley Martin accepted offers of 90 guineas for Duchess and 61 guineas for Jury.

Suffolk Horses at the Royal Show.

At the last meeting of the council of the Suffolk Horse Society, held at Ipswich, a letter was read from Sir Gilbert Greenall re Suffolk horses

at the Royal Show, which caused a lengthy discussion. Sir Gilbert's letter was as follows :—

"A sub-committee, of which I am chairman, has been appointed by the council of the Royal to consider the schedule for next year's show. We hope to increase the prizes throughout the horse sections to £15, £10, £5, but this cannot be done without the assistance of the breed societies, where the entries are small. The Suffolk entries at Derby hardly justify the Stock Prizes Committee in continuing the same classification, unless they have substantial help from your society. If your society could see its way to giving £50 towards the prizes, we could give the same number of classes as last year, with increased prize money, which would, I feel sure, ensure a really representative exhibition of the breed. We are most anxious to maintain a full classification for all our most important breeds, and should not like any classes to be withdrawn without the matter being brought before the different breed societies. I will send you a subscription of £5 if the test can be obtained."

The president of the Suffolk Horse Society (Sir Cuthbert Quilter) remarked that he thought the Royal acted unwisely in reducing the prize money. Considering that the next show was supposed to be an Eastern Counties Show, the Royal ought to give adequate prizes for a breed that was sure to be well represented. It was a great expense sending the exhibits, and a £10 first was not sufficient.

Mr. A. J. Smith thought the Royal had treated the people of Ipswich and neighbourhood very badly by throwing them overboard after having pressed them to invite the show to the place.

The president and other gentlemen spoke in no complimentary terms regarding the way Suffolk had been treated, but the president pointed out that they were to transact business there to the advantage of the breed they represented.

After several suggestions a motion, proposed by Mr. Preston, seconded by Mr. Marriner, was carried to the effect that a £50 challenge cup be given, as last year, with the addition of £25, to form a new class for aged stallions, on the condition that the prize money was increased as suggested.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Cleveland Chamber.

The report presented at the 26th annual meeting of the Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture, held on Tuesday, stated that the number of members on the books was one less than last year—viz., 171. After referring to the two useful measures passed this session, the Dogs Bill and the Fertilisers and Feeding-stuffs Act, the report stated that if the recommendations of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the whole question of butter and butter substitutes were given effect to by Parliament, as promised, next year, they would do much to put a stop to the fraudulent practices which have been tending to destroy the butter industry in this country. As to the importation of Canadian cattle into this country, the report said the question was one which needed the increasing vigilance of all concerned in the prosperity of British agriculture. The Marquis of Zetland was unanimously chosen as president for the ensuing year, whilst it was decided to petition the N.E.R. Co. and the Great Northern Railway Co. with a view to their granting reduced fares to representatives from the provinces to the meetings of the Central Chamber in London.

Gloucestershire Chamber.

The chief subject discussed at the last meeting of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture was local taxation. Mr. William Priday, who introduced the subject, said the rise in the rates had practically wiped out the advantages derived under the Agricultural Rates Act, and for the increase he held the county council mainly responsible. He moved the following resolution :—"That this chamber observes with regret the apathy which appears to prevail amongst ratepayers generally with regard to the great increase in local rates. The establishment of county councils, the multitudinous duties imposed upon them, coupled with their own extravagance, renders it more than ever necessary that the whole question of local taxation should be entirely revised. This chamber would, therefore, urge upon the Government the necessity of including personal property as assesable to so-called local rates, and thus deal with the matter in a comprehensive matter." Several members spoke in favour of the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

Midland Farmers Co-operate.

At a meeting held in Nottingham on the 20th inst., it was decided to start a farmers' co-operative association under the title of the Midland Farmers' Co-operative Association, and the outlook possesses a large and successful association.

NOVA SCOTIA

Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, Mr. JOHN HOWARD, 57A, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Among the speakers was professor J. F. Blackshaw, of the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute, who said that the society should be established in the first place for the purchase of farmers' requirements—feeding stuffs, manures, and implements. It was not advisable to try to control the price of milk until they had sufficient funds. Members of the society must be occupiers of land, and shares would be proportionate to the occupation—at the rate of 6d. per £1 rental; but it was not thought that it would be necessary to call up more than a quarter of that.

Wenlock Farmers.

"It is a proud boast that this the sixty-fifth anniversary of the Wenlock Farmers' Club; during that time there have been many other clubs and shows established—some have gone, others have again sprung up. All have been welcomed heartily; but clubs may come, and clubs may go—we go on for ever." This interesting statement was inserted in the annual report of the committee of the Wenlock Farmers' Club, which was presented to the members at the anniversary of the club. During that long period the promoters of the society have had such support from landlords, tenants, and the public generally that they have been able to persevere in their endeavours to benefit the agricultural interests of the district over which the club's area extends. When the club was started in 1842 the primary object was to have discussions on subjects of interest to those engaged in the agricultural industry, "political questions being rigidly excluded." At that period the members usually met together "when the moon was at the full," and there were some interesting discussions. Agriculturists, however, like people in other walks of life, have found it necessary to move with the times. The ploughing and hedging competitions have been abolished in the Wenlock district, the discussions are confined to the speeches at the annual meetings of the club, and the members have turned their attention to breeding Shire horses and Hunters. In this many of them have been most successful, and Hunters and Shires from the Corvedale district have in recent years realised for their owners good prices. That the Wenlock Farmers' Club may continue and prosper in its good work is the wish of all.

DAIRY.

Kilmarnock Dairy Show.

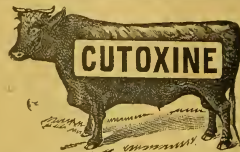
The fifty-second annual show of dairy and other farm produce under the auspices of the Ayrshire Agricultural Association attracted 1,320 entries, a slight increase over last year's aggregate, and also over that of the previous year's—the jubilee show—record entry. Cheese formed the principal exhibit. The entries in this department were precisely the same numerically as at last year's exhibition, the total number being 688. The quality showed all round a decided improvement; indeed, one of the judges stated that the highly commended lot in his class was quite equal to the first prize exhibit in the ton competition last year.

Business in the cheese market was not particularly brisk, and but for the presence of some English buyers it might indeed have been described as rather dull. The ruling prices were :—Dunlops, 65s. to 68s.; Cheddars, 67s. to 70s., with a shilling or two more for prize lots. The English buyers practically made the market in white Cheddars and fine Dunlops, and most of these went to Somersetshire, where, owing to the drought, there was a small back-end make, with a consequent shortage of supply.

The butter exhibits showed quite a marked improvement, and the section was, perhaps, the best seen in Kilmarnock. It was pleasing to note a higher standard of quality in the powdered and salted classes, but there is still room for improvement in the curing department.

Gainsborough Cheese Fair.

At Gainsborough Cheese Fair on Tuesday there was a good show, but the "pitches" were not so large as on previous occasions. Trade all round was fair. Quotations :—English Stiltons, 10d. per lb.; Cheddars, 6½d. to 10d.; Cheshires, 7d. to 8d.; Gorgonzolas, 7d. to 8d.; Trentsides, 7d. to 8d.; good Derby shapes, 6½d. to 8d.; and American States, 5d. to 7d.



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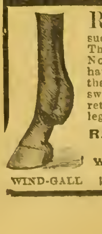
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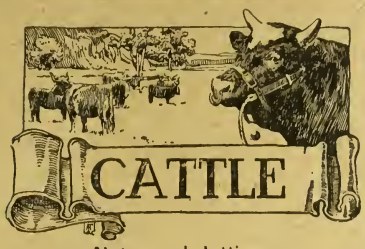


Notes and Jottings.

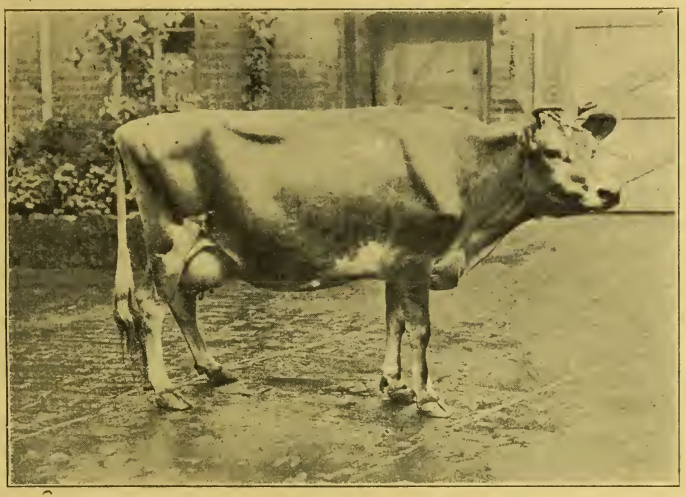
NOTWITHSTANDING the late time of year, the copious rains we continue to have are making a capital impression upon the pastures. The soil was warm, and the soaking rain has made the grass spring with magical haste. When mushrooms are abundant grass always grows, and this fungus has been very plentiful of late. The weather, however, as regards temperature, continues very much of the same character it has assumed throughout the year, extremely changeable one day, excessively close and warm the next, a northerly wind is blowing, and a frosty feeling chills the air. These sudden and extreme changes are very trying to animals of all kinds at any season, but probably more so as we approach winter. These changes give a reminder that fodder or warming food of some kind should not be forgotten.

SEVERAL very good averages of pedigree stock have been made recently. Prominently in these was that of the Tring Park Jersey sale, where something over forty head reached the respectable average of £31 8s. 4d. It is a long time since we have had the pleasure of recording so high an average for so large a number of animals of this breed. Of course the herd has a great reputation, and an enviable reputation, inasmuch as it has a great record of prize winning by inspection, and also has a very prolific and profitable record in the way of milk and butter. The Lincoln Red Shorthorns, also, at Keddington Grange, with an average of £40 per head for a large number, is very satisfactory. This breed is an excellent dual-purpose one when properly cared for and the breeding attended to—that is mating milk with beef.

WHETHER the unseasonable supply of succulent grass or the large amount of other green food that is given to the cattle, such as mangel tops, common turnips, kale, maize, &c., has the effect of causing cows to yield a poorer quality of milk, or whether the scarceness of milk has caused many milk sellers to adulterate their milk by the addition of water is hard to say, but we have not for a long time past seen so many accounts of fines being inflicted as can be found now in most of our daily papers. Rarely a day passes without seeing one or more cases. This is not as it should be. Milk is not by any means a cheap article of food to those who have to buy it at the retail price, and when adulterated it makes a very dear assistance to the daily bill of fare. The restrictions affecting the sale of poor milk are quite necessary.

THE quality of milk at such times as the present, when every means is being taken to increase the quantity, can be made to retain sufficiently good quality at a very moderate cost by adding to the daily food which makes up the bulk of their living, whatever it may be, a few pounds of cottonseed cake. This food is at a very reasonable price, and there is no more direct cariehcr of milk to be obtained. The small sum of about eighteen pence per cow per week would be sufficient to make all the difference between a blue looking poverty stricken quality of milk and a milk yielding a rich yellow cream that everyone so much prizes, and, besides this, the condition of the animals will be much improved.

A GOOD deal is said and written and many different systems are tried for the rearing of calves. First comes the question of whether they should be brought up upon the cow or whether they should be reared at the pail. Next comes the question should they be fed entirely upon milk whole or skimmed, or should they be brought up upon some one or other of the many calf foods that are so freely advertised and so much patronised, or, in a word, how should they be reared? Then there comes also another important question as to management. Should they be allowed free liberty—that is to be turned loose in the field or the fold yard, or should they be tied up or kept in separate loose boxes that could be knocked up at a small cost? There is a great deal to be considered in these many ways of dealing with the calf.



JERSEY COW, UNAWARE.

Winner of First Prize in the Class for Jersey Cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book, at the recent London Dairy Show. Shown by Capt L. G. Gisborne, Home Farm, Allestree, Derby; bred by Mr. W. Alexander. Her sire was Silver King, and her dam Homefield.

ONE point that will help greatly in arriving at a conclusion as to the means to be adopted is to arrive at the purpose for which the calf is to be reared. If early maturity for the butcher is the main point, then nothing can beat the cow. But here comes in a third question—Will it pay? The answer at present prices of beef must undoubtedly be written in the negative. Beef at 6d. to 6½d. per lb will not pay for a new milk diet from birth, and the whole produce of the cow for practically a year. This milk, even in the beef breeds, would be worth from £10 to £12 for the full period of lactation, and when to this amount comes to be added the wear and tear of the cow, the artificial food required for the calf up to its time of being sold, and also the bulky food it would consume, there cannot by any means be other than a great loss incurred.

THEN on the side of skimmed milk and manufactured calf foods there is a certain amount of greater expense in labour and cost of food that helps up considerably to the total bill, but even when every item of these smaller costs is considered the whole does not nearly approach the cost of new milk from the cow. Then as regards development. The calf, we know, grows very rapidly when either comfortably housed or lying in a rich pasture of grass at its dam's side, but there comes a day sooner or later when dam and offspring have to be separated, and at this time a slight shrinkage is practically unavoidable, and it is during these days of shrinkage that the hand reared calf has the advantage, and very nearly, sometimes quite, catches up the more rapidly early grown youngster. In the case of calves to be brought up for dairy purposes there is no doubt as to the less forcing diet of skimmed milk and other aids that give lesser forcing being absolutely necessary, and the after-feeding up to two years must not be too rich and fat-forming.

THEN comes in the further question of management during this time of rearing. A herd of anything from four to eight or ten calves all loose in a pen are quite a terror to the man or men who attempt to feed them from the pail, and not only is there perplexity for the men, but there are always a certain number of the calves that are underlings, and these get but a mighty small portion of the suckling doled out for the lot at so much quantity per head. The result is a very variable herd as regards size; uniformity is not by any means a strong point, and there is sometimes loss by one or two calves doing too well, and falling of red water or black leg, which somewhat resembles that plague in effect. A very excellent plan has been found by the writer and also many others to prevent these troubles—that is by tying up.

THE method adopted where tying up is decided upon is to make up a little stall (a miniature horse stall) with manger and rack for each calf. The partition must be high enough to prevent the calves reaching over, and there ought also to be a raised boarded floor, or what may be called a false bottom to these stalls. This should be made of boards either perforated, or not closely jointed, so as to admit of the urine, and any other liquid that might be spilled, from keeping the bed damp. A damp bed, or indeed a damp house, is very bad for calves, and invariably brings scour, or some other ailment that hinders progress and causes expense one way or other, as well as loss of growth. The floor (bottom-most) should be smooth brick with a good fall, so that all moisture can quickly escape.

CALVES brought up by hand need to be fed from the pail up to from twelve to fourteen weeks old, depending a little upon the food at hand to take them on to end the season of the year. If good feeding, either a few roots (calves cannot digest an unlimited ration of these) or grass are at hand to give them, then whichever is in season will be the first step towards substitution for the pail food, and when the calves have well taken to them and their stomachs have become able to assimilate this food a little linseed cake, or if on rich and succulent grass, a little decorticated cottonseed cake will be all that will be required for some time to cause rapid development and gain of weight. If in the yard or in winter season natural good, sound, sweet hay must take the place of the summer grass.

THE question of dealing with the calf at birth is one upon which many men have many minds. A large number of breeders, more especially those who are breeding dairy cattle, prefer to take the calf away from the dam immediately, not even allowing the mother to see it. There are points in favour of such a plan as well as against it. In favour of it is the fact that the calf usually takes to drinking from the pail much more readily while quite young, and the cow settles down to her work of milk yielding perhaps quite as quickly as she would if the calf were allowed to remain with her for some days. In favour of allowing the calf to remain, however, evidence is very strong. There is a medicinal, so to speak, health-giving tendency to both cow and offspring in the licking of the calf with the rough, rasping tongue of the dam, and the latter certainly obtains a little or perhaps a good deal of satisfaction from the affection so engendered.

THE allowing the cow to have the companionship of her offspring, too, for a time certainly has the effect of giving her the experience of maternal duties and stimulates her affection, often to the benefit of the owner, very much as in the case of a cow calving out in the field or in the box unexpectedly at any time; she will know, as a herdsman said the other day, exactly how to go on with the baby whether I am there or not. The consequence is a hearty, strong calf in two or three hours. A great contrast is here presented when compared with the mother that has never been allowed to nurse her calf for a time; she calves in the open field and may be even vicious with the little animal, or otherwise leave it religiously alone; result, a good calf is so starved as to be past recovery, and so is lost entirely.

Sir R. W. B. Jardine's Galloways.

On Tuesday Messrs. Harrison brought under the hammer at their Lockerbie Auction Mart, a splendid draft of pedigree Galloway cattle, the property of Sir R. W. Buchanan Jardine, Bart., of Castlemilk, the sale being occasioned by one of

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Also a very fine lot of Pyramid Apples, 1, 2, and 3-year on English Paradise. About 50,000 Half-Standard Apples on Crab Stock; also Pears and Plums. About 20,000 Black Currants, 49,000 Gooseberries (including 5,000 May Duke), 15,000 Red and White Currants. 50,000 Raspberries. 20,000 Asparagus Plants, and several thousand Strawberry Plants, several tons Scotch Potato Seed, about 1,000 Loganberry Plants.

Free Luncheon at 11 a.m. Sale at 11.30 a.m.

NOTICE.—The Auctioneers desire to call the attention of Fruit Growers, Market Gardeners, and intending Planters to this Important Sale. It is seldom such an opportunity offers itself for securing new and rare kinds of Fruit Trees, etc., in such large quantities. All are well grown and healthy; they are without doubt the finest lot of Fruit Trees ever yet offered at Cliffe.

Fourteen Days will be allowed to clear and settle Accounts. Messrs. Horne and Sons will lift and cart all lots and put them on rail after the Sale free of charge.

Catalogues free of Messrs. HORNE AND SONS, Cliffe, near Rochester; and of the AUCTIONEERS, 67 and 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.

By IRELAND'S.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.

IRELAND'S NORWICH HILL AUCTION MART.

Established 50 years.
Special Autumn Store Cattle Sales,
Every Saturday,
Commencing SEPTEMBER 22, 1906.

MESSRS IRELAND solicit consignments for these Important Weekly Sales; best market value assured.

Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the Sale Ring if desired.

Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers,
Norwich, Norfolk.

By SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK.

BLAGDON SHIRE STUD, BILLINGTON, LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.

3 miles from Leighton and Cheddington, L. & N.W.R., 5 miles from Dunstable, G.N.R. Stations.—Conveyances meet trains day of sale.

UNRESERVED SALE of 43 SHIRE HORSES of the Best Blood on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1906, after 12 o'clock Luncheon.

MESSRS. SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK (of Peterborough) have received instructions from Mr. CLEMENT KEEVIL to conduct this high-class Sale as above, which will include 12 Shire Foals, several by Blagdon Benefactor (21141), Lockinge Midnight (19780), Birdsall Menestrel (19337), Dunsmore Jameson (17972), &c.; One, Two, and Three-Year-Old Fillies; Yearling Stallions; also one Three-Year-Old by Lockinge Forest King (18867), and some exceedingly well-bred in-foal Mares, which are good workers. Catalogues on application.

The London & North-Western Railway Co are specially stopping the 10.10 a.m. train from Euston Station, London, due at Leighton 11.10 a.m. on the day of Sale.

READERS OF ADVERTISEMENTS

in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning . .

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS

when writing to our Advertisers.

the farms on the Castlemilk estate, where Galloways were bred, having been let. The herd was built up by the late Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., by the use of the two best bulls of the day, and the character of the herd brought together a large number of breeders representative of all parts of the kingdom. In addition to the stock from the farm already mentioned, a few from the main herd were also offered. Most of the cattle were highly bred, and were shown in nice bloom.

For the best of the animals there was a fairly good demand at prices on the whole satisfactory, while for those of ordinary stamp competition was limited. Some of the cows were of good age, and under these circumstances sold well. The top price was 40 guineas for Natalie of Castlemilk, carved January 2, 1902, and she fell to Mr. Cunningham, Tarbrcoch. Mr. Caldwell, Belfast, gave 38 guineas for Luxury of Castlemilk, calved March 11, 1901, and also 28 guineas for Lady Vaudeville 5th of Castlemilk, calved in March, 1903; whilst Mr. Fox-Brockbank gave 32 guineas for Lady Primrose of Castlemilk, born March 24, 1900. Other cows sold at from 12½ guineas to 25 guineas. The best of the two-year-old heifers went at 27 guineas and 26 guineas, one one-year-old heifer made 30 guineas (Lady Primrose 3rd, bought by the Countess of Carlisle), but the best price for the others was only 14 guineas. Heifer calves realised from 7½ guineas to 14½ guineas, and bull calves from 6 guineas to 8½ guineas.

Devon Cattle Breeders' Sale.

The biennial sale of pedigree Devon cattle, held under the auspices of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, took place at Exeter on Wednesday, Messrs. John Risdon and Son, of Wiveliscombe, as usual, being the auctioneers. The entries were not quite so numerous as usual—about 50—but the attendance of breeders and dealers was very fair, the principal counties being represented. For the highest-class bulls the competition was keen, but medium-class animals were not so much sought after. The sale, however, was, on the whole, satisfactory. The range for the choicest animals was from 24 guineas to 34 guineas, and others from 15 guineas to 23 guineas.

Sale of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns at Louth.

A show and sale of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns was held at Louth by Messrs. Dickenson, Riggall, and Davy on Wednesday, where the entry was not a large one owing to the numerous sales which have of late taken place on the premises of some prominent breeders. The first prize animal in the class for cows in-calf, not exceeding three years old, was owned by Mr. L. W. Stephenson, of South Thoresby, and his exhibit was afterwards sold in the sale ring to Mr Shaw, of Marshchapel, for 27 guineas. In the class for females between nine months and two years old, Mr. J. Marriott, of West Lee, Cropwell Butler, was first, Mr. Heywood subsequently becoming the owner of the exhibit for 12½ guineas. Mr. H. Whitworth, of Oxcombe, won both prizes in the class for heifer calves, and Mr. J. T. Marshall, of Withern, won first prize in the class for bull calves not exceeding 15 months old with an exceedingly fine animal, which went to Mr. B. G. Stone, of Elkington, for 30 guineas. The averages were as follows:—Eleven cows with service, £18 13s. 3d.; ten heifers with service, £15 10s. 4½d.; seven young heifers, £8 15s. 6d.; ten bulls under fifteen months, £14 7s. 2d.; four bulls exceeding fifteen months, average £20 16s.

Shrewsbury Store Stock Sale.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. held their second autumn sale of store stock in the Shrewsbury Smithfield on the 19th inst., when one of the finest lots of cattle that have been seen in the Midlands for some time past was offered. The various breeds included grand Hereford bullocks, which made up to £18 15s. each; Shorthorn bullocks, which reached £16 10s; Shorthorn heifers, £16 5s.; polled Angus, £15 10s; cross-breds, £15 5s.; Welsh, £13. The sale was largely attended, and prices for the best cattle were good, but cattle in poor condition did not meet with such a ready demand.

Sale of Mr. Speakman's Herefords.

To the best herds of Hereford cattle dispersed this year has now been added that of Mr. P. E. Speakman, of Birley Court, near Leominster (who is relinquishing farming), it being brought under the hammer by Messrs. A. and D. Edwards on Tuesday last. Mr. Speakman commenced his herd with cows and heifers from The Leen and Court House herds, and there were a number of The Leen cows in the catalogue, chiefly by Pagan by Major Grove; there was also one by Clarence, and a couple by Commander-in-Chief, a bull used by Mr. A. P. Turner, and coming from the Duxmoor herd. It was noticeable that these were among the top prices, the highest figures being obtained for a Newton Moore cow and her bull calf. There were three representatives of the Court House blood in Sophy by Boniface, Berlinda by Advantage, and Birley Sophia by Newton Hope. Mr. John Tudge's Duxmoor Herd supplied two grand heifers, one, Sapphire, being out of the champion Shotover's dam. The herds of the late Mr. John Pitt and Mr. George Bray and the late Mr. J. P. Apperley were also represented. The sires used include Parton and Bardolph, bred by Mr. A. E. Hughes, and the Whittern bull Major Domo, to whom nearly all the cows and heifers were in calf.

There was a good attendance at the sale, and though prices were not out of the ordinary, they came up to those of recent sales. Top figure was 45 guineas, given for Berlinda by Mr. John Morris; whilst for her bull calf Mr. R. Jones, Perthewin, Caersws, Montgomery, gave 23 guins.; Butterfly 2nd went to Mr. Langford, Chirbury at 32 guineas, and Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., got Vanity for 30 guineas. Other prices for cows ranged up to 26 guineas; three-year-old heifers made up to 30 guineas; two-year-old heifers, to 29 guineas; and yearlings up to 25 guineas; whilst the bulls sold as follows:—Major Domo 20179, Mr. Tanner, Shrawardine, Salop, 29 guineas; Bardolph 23278, Mr. F. Colebatch, Kingsland, 26 guineas; Birley Cardinal, Mr. Vaughan, Bushley, Tewkesbury, 23 guineas; Birley Dreamer, Mr. Price, Pengelly, Brecon, 21 guineas.

Store Stock Sale at Kidderminster.

Messrs. Nock and Joseland had a large supply of stock at their sale at Kidderminster on Tuesday. The entry comprised 2,168 head of stock, including 294 cattle, 1,223 sheep and lambs, 128 calves, and 523 pigs. The fat cattle included a grand lot of prime Hereford and Shorthorn bullocks from the Teme Valley and other good feeding districts, fifteen from the Eardistan Farming company reaching £23 17s. 6d. The fat sheep and lambs included some of exceptional quality; twenty grand wethers from Mr. W. Cross (Astley House) made up to 69s. each. The fat lambs made up to 48s. Store lambs met a fair demand, making between 30s. and 37s. 6d. each, whilst in-lamb ewes reached 46s. Cows and calves met a ready sale. A good proportion of store cattle changed hands. Pigs were a firm trade, strong stores being in great demand. Beef met a good demand at about late rates, whilst mutton and lamb sold readily at advanced prices.

Record Weight of a Lincoln Lamb.

On September 18 Mr. C. E. Howard, Nocton Rise, Lincoln, sent a lamb to Messrs. Richardson's fat stock auction at Lincoln. It was purchased by Mr. Goodyear, butcher, High Street, Lincoln, for 76s. When killed and dressed it was found to weigh 120 lbs. The lamb was dropped after January 20 last.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season. N.B.—The Sale of 43 Shire Horses will be held at above address on November 7, 1906. See advertisement and write for Catalogue.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield. Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

SHORTHORN IN-CALF HEIFERS. — Mr. JAMES BYRNE, Wallstown Castle, Castletownroche, Co. Cork, offers for Sale NINETEEN In-Calf Shorthorn Heifers. A number of them are sired by that famous bull, Lord James Douglas, 79828, reserved for Championship at the English Royal Show at York. The Heifers have been served by Mr. Duthie's Golden Crest, 81163; Mr. Deane Willis's Bapton Herald, 82767; and Miss Staples' Dunsmore Goodwin, 85832. Catalogues may be had from Mr. Byrne.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 88184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffearrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS. — COWS of the Seraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal; younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Eadale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowons, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries, championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stainsborough Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb lot for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 lbs each. Selections always for sale.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Roseveddoy, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a specialty.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich, 5 miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS. Boars and Gilts eligible for Herd Book; also Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PARKES SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, established over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station Lancaster

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES.—Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

TAMWORTHS.

IBBOTSON, R., can spare 20 or 30 young Tamworth Boars and Gilts by his prize Boars "Knowle Bounder," "Joey" and "Lycidas" Price 2 guineas and upwards.—The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

Clitheroe October Fair.—The old October horse, cattle, and sheep fair at Clitheroe was held on Thursday in good weather, and there was a record attendance and show. Trade opened slow, but about noon there was a general improvement. Newly calved cattle were quickly disposed of at prices ranging from £16 to £22; ditto heifers, £11 10s. to £17; November calvers, £16 to £22; spring calvers, £10 to £14 14s.; geld cows and heifers, £10 to £15 and £9 10s. to £14; Irish cattle, £4 10s. to £8; Highland Scots, £9 10s. to £13; stirks, £5 to £8 10s.; and bullocks, £6 10s. to £9. Sheep were shown in good numbers. Ram lambs fetched 37s. to 50s.; shearling and two-year-olds, 45s. to 60s.; half-bred ewes, 35s. to 45s.; Cheviot ewes, 18s. to 21s.; and Swaledales, 18s. to 22s. There was a good show of young horses, and these were readily bought. Good, heavy Shire horses made £30 to £50; light horses, £22 to £32; and cobs, £14 to £23. For poorer sorts there was little call.

Notes and Jottings.

THIS truly wonderful summer seems to have no end to it, and so far as the sheep farmer is concerned he is in no hurry to see a change to something colder. Every week of such weather as we have had since rain came, makes matters better, for not only are young seeds which looked very hopeless a few weeks ago, getting firmly established, but there is a good bite on the old leys and pastures, the late sown autumn catch crops are coming on well, and of more importance to actual winter feeding there is a spendid growth in root crops which looked almost worthless. The last month has been the best in the whole season so far as sheep keep is concerned, and many sheep farmers can see their way more clearly through winter than they had reason to hope for a short time since. Even the mangels, which had slowed up in their growth, are finishing out strongly.

ALL this should strengthen the trade in sheep, both fat and store; for there is not the need to hurry out some of the nearly fat ones, and there is a better visible supply of food for the stores. We are optimistic of sheep farming generally; but with the short supply of food over a big part of the country, we thought that many had been buying their stores quite as dearly as circumstances warranted; it is satisfactory, therefore, that the weather has given them a little unexpected help on the eve of winter.

THE Gritstone is to be the name of the reclaimed Derbyshire breed, and it sounds in all ways better than the Vale of Goyt, the title under which the breed made its first public appearance at the Bakerwell Show. The name is apt, as indicating the formation on which the breed is most commonly met with. Registration is to be proceeded with, and all the advantages which accrue from a flock will go with it. It is a most pleasing fact that no sooner is a breed brought under registration than all associated with it become imbued with enthusiasm, competition is set up, and the healthy rivalry ensures improvement.

ANOTHER striking feature in sheep breeding is the very small amount of jealousy that is occasioned. Rivalry may be as keen as man can make it, but criticism is always honest so far as the individual's ideas go, and where disparagement occurs it is because the man's sheep are not correct in some essential feature. With the formation of a flock book every farmer looks at his sheep with a new eye—are they good enough to enter, or can they be made so.

EACH one looks back to see how far the records of his flock go, and this is no waste of energy, for apart from the excellence of their sheep there is no doubt that the unbroken history of Messrs. Wright's flock was a great inducement to the purchaser to give the phenomenal price which he gave. That the Derbyshire men will be less keen than others have been cannot be believed. They have doubtless the grit to make the Gritstone take its proper place among the country's breeds.

THE wetter state of the land will call for special attention to sheep's feet, for whilst the sheep could walk above ground there was little to cause foot-rot; now, however, pastures are constantly wet and soft, and where feet have been neglected foot rot is likely to be set up early. On arable land they sink in deeply enough to get the skin rubbed hard enough to let the germs establish themselves; consequently, there is need for every precaution in the way of paring, or running the sheep through hardening solutions, or occasionally letting them stand on lime, as a means of keeping the disease in check.

WITH some breeds the ewes will be getting too forward to be turned without risk of injury to the fœtus, and the danger increases as time goes on. As with all diseases, prevention is better than cure; and a good start into winter is well worth aiming at. Clogged claws are the greatest inducement to foot-rot, and if the shepherd does not trouble after these he will get far more trouble later on.

BIG weights at Christmas shows are very instructive and suggestive, but nothing impresses one more of the great advancement in sheep keeping than the fact that for years baby wethers have been put on the market at this season. Baby beef is well recognised as the triumph of the cattle breeder; but for a lamb born in the spring, shown in the summer, and sold with the shortened wool of a wether on it, and the weight of a wether about it, by the time it is nine or ten months old; all the result of the ordinary course of farming, to us represents about the finest performance in farming.

OF course the early maturity of animals, as the result of gradual development since skilful breeding was established, rendered it possible; but the best skill in provision of suitable food and the highest form of management are necessary to bring a flock through safely at such high pressure. Yet, as a result of several years' experience, it is not regarded as being anything very special by those who do not remember when it was exceptional. Although the number of sheep kept now does not show great increase over those of bygone years—the yearly output of meat is greatly, almost marvellously, increased since the time when sheep were kept two, three, or even four years before they faced the butcher. It is largely owing to this that so much arable land has been kept in circulation.

THIS is a good time of year to transplant a small acreage of cabbages for early summer lamb feed. For earliest feeding one of the sugar loaf type is best. There are certain risks such as destruction by frost, woodpigeons, larks, &c., but in view of the value of these cabbages, even though they come only a fortnight before those transplanted in spring, it is well worth taking the chances with a portion of the crop. Moreover, a dressing with soot whenever there is a risk of their being eaten off will generally carry them by the danger.

Suffolk Sheep Flock Competitions.

The result of the Suffolk Sheep Society's Flock Competition has now been made known as follows:—

Division I. (flocks which have previously won a cup):—Class A (flocks exceeding 240 ewes)—Challenge cup presented by Col. E. W. Baird, Mr. Percy Eagle, of Risby, the previous holder of the cup and the only competitor.

Division II. (flocks which have never won a cup):—Class A (flocks exceeding 240 ewes)—Challenge Cup, presented by Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Mr. L. F. Davies, of Herringswell, who has the honour of holding the cup for the second successive year. R and vhc, Sir E. W. Greene, Bart., Nether Hall; vhc, Mr. S. Dawson, Stratton Hall. Class B (flocks not exceeding 240 ewes, and not less than 120 ewes)—Challenge Cup presented by Sir Frederick Adair, Bart., Mr. C. C. Smith, of Trimley; r and vhc, the Marquess of Bristol, Ickworth Park; vhc, Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Livermere Park; hc, Mrs. Lowe, Gosfield Hall; Mr. A. W. Ruggles Brise, Spain's Hall, Braintree; and Mr. W. F. Paul, Kirton Lodge.

The Pretyman Challenge Cup for the best ewe lambs, Mr. H. E. Smith, of Walton Grange; r and vhc, Mr. C. C. Smith; vhc, the Marquis of Bristol, Mr. L. F. Davies, Mr. S. Dawson, Mr. Eagle, Risby, and Mr. J. R. Keeble, Brantham.

The Bristol Champion Challenge Cup (gold cup, value 50 guineas), for the best flock of Suffolk ewes, Mr. P. Eagle; r, Mr. L. F. Davies.

Mr. Percy Eagle, who has the distinction of being the first flock owner to hold the champion cup for two years in succession, came into possession in 1890 of the Risby flock, which was established by his father in 1867, and is therefore one of the oldest registered flocks in existence.

Dorchester October Fair.

There were good average supplies of sheep penned at Dorchester October Sheep Fair, held on Thursday, large sales being held by Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, also by Messrs. Duke and Son, Messrs. Symonds and Sampson likewise having their customary auction. Altogether nearly 6,000 were penned, and the sheep, as a rule, came to hand in very fair condition, having greatly benefited by the improved grass keep they have had compared with the barren pastures so generally experienced up to the end of September. The roots have also improved wonderfully, and this circumstance naturally told favourably on business, especially as sheep are still badly wanted in many districts.

Trade was good all through, and prices showed, on the whole, a slight improvement on last year's rates. Horn ewes (draft) sold from 45s. to 49s.; flock ewes, 42s. to 50.; horn wethers, 38s. to 42s. 6d.; horn chilvers, 34s. to 43s. 6d.; horn couples, 53s. to 65s. In Downs the range was from 32s. to 43s.; wether lambs, 26s. to 35s.; chilver lambs, 27s. to 33s. Everything was readily cleared.

PIGS.

Pigs for the River Plate.

The s.s *Saxon Prince*, which left the Victoria Docks, London, recently, carried a large number of Berkshire pigs to the River Plate. Many of them were purchased at Mr. F. H. Jennings' sale at Cockfield, and also at Mr. W. J. Chick's at Stratton. The others were purchased privately from Messrs. D. E. Higham and C. C. Smith, of Kingston, Lisle.

Sale of Buscot Berkshires.

A choice selection of Sir Alexander Henderson's herd of Berkshire were offered by Messrs. Thornton and Co., at the Heath Barn Farm, Buscot, Faringdon, on Wednesday. There was a large company, and the pigs were purchased to go into many different counties. For Buscot Amy, a two-year-old sow, Mr. R. W. Hudson paid 19 guineas; for Pretty Mary, winner of first prize at Dorchester, Mr. W. Harding gave 17½ guineas, and for Buscot Ethel Mr. Charles Morris's agent bid 18 guineas for their growing herd at St. Albans. Among the gelts Capt. Behrens secured one of the best, viz., Buscot Eleazor, to go to Malton, at 10 guineas. There were not many boars on offer, but Mr. Sansom obtained First Catch at 12 guineas, and Mr Hugh Baker Ideal, the second prize winner at Nottingham and Warwick this year, for 9 guineas. The sixty-three head offered realised £423 3s., or an average price of £6 14s. 4d.

SOCIETIES.

Hunters' Improvement.

One of the most interesting announcements made at the council meeting of the Hunters' Improvement Society held on the 18th inst. was that the representatives of the four horse societies who hold the London Spring Horse Shows had, in accordance with the instructions from their councils, met the respective managers of the Royal Agricultural Hall Company and of Olympia, in respect of the Societies' Spring Shows after 1907, and the joint committee had decided to strongly urge upon their councils the acceptance of the offer of the Royal Agricultural Hall Company, who had agreed to increase the accommodation for horses, lengthen the ring, double the seating, &c. This recommendation was adopted by the Hunter council, so that the Agricultural Hall is likely to be the scene of the London Spring Horse Shows for some years to come.

The society also considered the prize schedule for next year's show. The prize money will be £937, covering the representative classes of 1905 and 1906, but eliminating those for which provision was made at the affiliated shows, or which had failed to attract adequate support. The prizes throughout the riding classes were made uniform, and a new class was introduced for mares and geldings, four years old and upwards, not exceeding 15 hands 2 in.

As regards affiliated shows, two schemes of medals whose returns did not justify continuance have been eliminated, thereby retaining four schemes—viz.:—Gold Medals.—Scheme A: Brood mares; or Scheme B: Brood mares (one-day shows). Silver Medals.—Scheme C: Fillies; Scheme D: Mares and geldings.

All affiliated societies will be restricted to the offer of two medals, while the extra grant for registered mares will be withdrawn in view of the conditions applicable to schemes A or B and C. For the best hunter brood mare, and best hunter filly respectively, actually registered or entered in the Hunter Stud Book, while to facilitate competition for these medals the associated society can offer each medal in the form of a class, for which entries would be received at the ordinary time of closing.

The question of the large gold medals offered at national shows has also been considered, and these are to be continued under the conditions in force in 1906, viz., Royal Agricultural Society at Lincoln, two gold medals (a) for the best Hunter mare, four years old and upwards; (b) for the best Hunter filly, not exceeding three years old. Highland and Agricultural Society, one gold medal for the best Hunter filly, not exceeding three years old. Royal Dublin Society, spring, two gold medals (a) for the best Hunter-bred stallion, two years old; (b) for the best Hunter-bred stallion, over two years old. Royal Dublin Society, Summer, one gold medal for the best Hunter brood mare.

Clydesdale Horse.

At the last meeting of the council of the Clydesdale Horse Society a communication was read from Sir Gilbert Greenall asking the assistance of the council in increasing the prize-money for Clydesdales at the Royal Show at Lincoln in 1907. Sir Gilbert stated in his letter that if the society would renew its two champion prizes of £10 each, and give a contribution of £50 to the general prize fund for Clydesdales, he would himself contribute £10 to the fund. It was unanimously agreed to record the thanks of the society to Sir Gilbert for his handsome offer, and to contribute the sum of £50 to the general prize fund, and to renew the two champion prizes hitherto offered at the Royal for Clydesdales.

At the same meeting it was reported that the entries for Volume XXIX. of the Stud Book exceed any record for previous volumes, except in XII., and the secretary was authorised to employ additional help in connection with the forthcoming volume. A communication was read from Lord Strathcona intimating that it was not necessary for the society to issue duplicate certificates for horses exported to Canada. The Customs regulation only requires that the importer exhibit the pedigree certificate, to be stamped by the Customs, and returned to him. The secretary was therefore instructed to issue no further duplicate certificates for Canadian customs purposes.

English Jersey Cattle.

A council meeting of the English Jersey Cattle Society was held at 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, on Monday, the president, Viscount Enfield, in the chair, when twelve new members were elected, and accounts for the payment of prizes and expenses in connection with butter tests were recommended for payment.

The award of medals and prizes for butter tests during 1907 was afterwards considered, and it was agreed to offer similar medals and prizes as last year, the Somersetshire Show being added on the lines of the prizes offered last year to the Sussex County Show. The total sum given by the society for distribution in medals and prizes amounted to £360.

On the proposition of Mr. Richardson Carr, seconded by Mr. Weetman, it was resolved "that a sum not exceeding £100 be voted for awarding prizes to animals bred by exhibitor, sired in England, details of which to be referred to the General Purposes Committee and reported at the next council meeting."

Yorkshire Union.

A meeting of the members of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture was held at the Agricultural Club House, York, on Thursday, when the chief subject discussed was the speed of motor cars on the highway. There was a numerous attendance.

Mr. J. Booth (Pontefract) opened the discussion, moving the adoption of the following resolution of the Pontefract Club:—"That the maximum speed of motor cars be twelve miles an hour, and local highway authorities be invested with power to reduce the limit of speed through towns and villages; that the penalties be increased, and that the owner or hirer, if present when an offence is committed, be liable to the same punishment as the driver." He said they had learned a lot in twelve months. Increasing the speed limit to twenty miles had only increased the impudence of those who were determined to go at what speed they liked to the common danger. "If the speed limit was increased to forty then the fools would go at fifty, and if to a mile a minute they would find that there were some who went at nearly 100.' If the speed was reduced they would reduce, if not entirely do away with, the dust nuisance and the consequent damage to property and crops adjacent to the highways.

The Chairman (Mr. E. Robinson) seconded, remarking that twenty miles an hour was too fast, and that it was not sufficient to be able to summon motorists for driving to the danger of the public.

Mr. J. W. Lett (Welburn) moved as a rider to resolution the following portion of a resolution passed by the Malton Club:—"That the revenue raised from the licences granted in respect of motors be handed over to the authority issuing the same, to be applied by them (or some central authority acting for a group of authorities) in aid of the maintenance of highways under their control." He thought they ought to bring pressure to bear on the authorities to see that the present laws were enforced."

Mr. T. N. Driffield (Brafferton) also moved another rider, which also formed part of the Malton Club resolution, viz.:—"That motors be assessed to duty on a scale according to horse-power." Both riders were accepted by the mover of the resolution.

Mr. W. W. Lupton (Old Malton), however, moved an amendment that the limit be fifteen miles an hour, and this was seconded by Mr. J. Bulmer (Ryedale), and on a vote being taken the amendment was carried by a majority of two votes, and the resolution, as amended, was then adopted.

A resolution was carried protesting against the present limited application of the Sheep Dipping Orders, and requesting that they be made compulsory throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland, whilst a discussion of the Land Purchase Bill was deferred, it being stated that Mr. Jesse Collings had promised to address the Union on the subject at a future date.

The First of the Small Holdings on Crown Lands.

It will be remembered that when Earl Carrington announced his scheme of Crown lands for small holdings, it was mentioned that one of the first of the undertakings would be carried out by Mr. C. D. Rose, M.P. for Newmarket, in Cambridgeshire, as an experiment bearing on the value of the system of small holdings as a means of checking the flow of labour from country districts to the towns by improving the condition and prospects of the rural population. The land, which Mr. Rose has acquired on a thirty-one years' lease for this purpose, is very nearly a thousand acres in extent, and is situated on the borders of Cambridgeshire, between the villages of Burwell and Fordham. Mr. Rose has arranged for the Crown to expend about £1,500 upon the enlargement of the labourers' cottages, where required, the construction of dairies, stables, &c., and the adapting of the buildings for the use of small holders.

The allocation of this land has now been made, and about fifty small farmers, farmers' sons, agricultural labourers, and village tradesmen have entered into possession. Mr. J. H. Diggle, of Moulton, Lincolnshire, who has had experience as steward and surveyor to the South Lincolnshire and the Norfolk Small Holdings Associations, was entrusted with the preparation of a scheme for the division of the estate. Applications were so numerous that the claims of men living outside the immediate neighbourhood had to be rejected. All the occupants were drawn from within a radius of about five miles from Burwell. Arrangements were made to divide the estate into fifty lots, and those were apportioned as follows:—

Thirteen small farms averaging in size a little over 50 acres each, with each of which certain house, cottages, and farm buildings will go. Thirteen acres are reserved for allotments (in addition to 20 acres which were already let out in half-acre allotments), a field is to be set aside for pasturage for the use of cowkeepers, and the rest of the land is let to residents in the village of Burwell in lots varying in size from 3 to 20 acres.

The system of management which is to be most encouraged is "the keeping of cows and the breeding and fattening of stock of all kinds, with a view to keeping the somewhat thin soil well manured and in good heart and condition." The quality of the soil is the least satisfactory feature of this enterprise, and it is only by keeping the land in a high state of cultivation that the best results will be obtainable, and this seems like a handicap to the smaller tenants.

The opinion is freely expressed by persons familiar with land cultivation both in Burwell and Fordham that the soil is not suitable for the experiment, but those who have secured lots seem satisfied, and do not regard the rent, which averages about 25s. an acre, as too high. Lime and chalk abound in the district, and the soil is decidedly light, but it seems to grow both corn and roots satisfactorily.

The Farmers' Club.

The first meeting of the Farmers' Club after the recess will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, S.W., on Monday, November 5, at 4 p.m., when Mr. John McLaren, of Leeds, will read a paper entitled "Farming Implements in their Relation to Labour—a Retrospect."

The annual general meeting of the club has been fixed as usual during the Smithfield Cattle Show Week, and will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, S.W., on Monday, December 10, at 6 p.m., when a paper will be read by Mr. H. Trustram Eve (secretary), entitled "Freedom in Farming, with Special Reference to Selling off Produce."

The annual dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 11, at the Trocadero, Piccadilly, W.

The committee invite suggestions from members as to subjects for papers to be read in 1907, and as these suggestions will be considered at the next meeting of the committee, it is important that they should be received before November 5.

At Ely October Fair on Thursday there was a good supply of horses, and good animals met a ready sale. Agricultural and van horses made up to £45, and nags up to £40. There was also a good lot of Welsh and other ponies, up to £10. Stock were rather a dragging sale, yearlings going at £5 to £7, and stores at £8 to £10. Really good cows were picked up with avidity, realising £18 to £20.

Rufford Estate, situated between Preston and Liverpool, the property of Sir Thomas Fermor-Hesketh, Bart., comprising over 3,300 acres, was offered for sale on Wednesday. The estate includes Rufford Hall and park of 400 acres, Rufford old hall, two hotels, fifty farms, and numerous residences, altogether producing nearly £7,000 yearly. The estate was first offered at auction, and withdrawn at £130,000. Only one farm was sold, the bidding being very poor.

By Lupulin.

The "Mark Lane Express" Hop Reports and the Maidstone Farmers' Club.

The following communication has been received by the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS:—

1, Market Buildings, Maidstone.
October 22, 1906.

SIR,—I am directed to forward you a copy of the following resolution which was passed at a meeting of this Club and chamber, on October 18, 1906.

I have the honour to remain,
Your obedient servant,
PHILIP CHAMPION,
Hon. Secretary.

"Attention was called to the hop trade reports that have recently appeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, and it was resolved to call the attention of the Editor to the inaccurate and misleading nature of the same, and to ask him to publish truer and more accurate reports in future."

To this the Editor has sent the following reply:—

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of your communication of the 22nd inst. conveying a resolution condemning our Hop Intelligence. I should be glad if you could give me some specific report to which exception is taken, or at all events provide me with more data than just the bare resolution.

Yours, &c. ——

As no answer has been received to this note, and as I am held responsible for the hop reports in this journal, the matter has been referred to me. The words "inaccurate and misleading" are sufficiently strong to convey to me (if they were true) a very severe reproof, as they imply an accusation of intentional or careless wrong doing. But I must be permitted to emphatically repudiate them. My contributions on the subject of the hop trade are founded on such facts as I can ascertain from growers, factors, merchants, and brewers. Not from only one, but from many sources I seek my information, and knowing how far these may possibly be effected by unintentional prejudice, I am careful to weigh them all up in order to present to my readers a digest of truth as nearly as I can arrive at it.

I am willing to admit that it is sometimes, and perhaps frequently, difficult to ascertain reliable facts in this business, in which so many contradictions are existent But I am prepared to stand by any statements I make, and do not hesitate to challenge any critic who differs with me.

The truth is not always palatable, and I fear that the objection taken to my reports has this basis. My sympathies are and have constantly been with the growers, whose special interests I desire to promote, but I cannot be persuaded that I should be doing them service by putting forward false or garbled statements for the mere purpose of pleasing them.

Our past history has frequently proved that the industry has deceived itself in "imagining a vain thing," in grasping after the unattainable, and in the shouting of loud words, coupled with blindness to the changes of circumstances. The syndicate of last year is an apt illustration. Commenced with the encouragement of the prospect of success, it failed in the end, because its members refused to recognise the altered condition of things, and very heavy loss resulted. The conditions are not now dissimilar. We have a small crop, which should naturally put growers in the safe position of expecting and demanding high prices for their limited produce. Personally, I would rejoice to see them in this position, but I cannot honestly lose sight of other facts.

Our eventual customers, the brewers, have been well supplied by the superabundant growth of last year, large importations have arrived, and continue to arrive; the information I get from all parts of the hop-growing world convinces me that our competitors have large quantities to send to this, the only great, free market. With these facts staring us in the face, how can we expect that our legitimate desire for higher prices can be fulfilled, and how can I, as a faithful reporter, attempt to mislead my readers by glossing over what I conscientiously believe to be true? Should I do so, I might then plead guilty to the charge made by the Maidstone Farmers' Club; but as it is, I am only in the position of being misunderstood, and therewith I remain content.

The eternal laws which have always governed and will continue to govern the commercial world, are more powerful than any resolutions formulated by the most influential private gathering, and I am confident that if our industry is to prosper in the future, facts must be acknowledged and faced, however unpleasant and difficult they may be. So long as I am permitted to contribute to these columns, I shall do so to the best of my ability, honestly and fearlessly, believing that by this course I shall best serve the interests of those, for whose well-being I have striven through a long series of years.

The Turn of the Tide.

A great change has come over us here in the Borough. After dolefully watching the "slack water" until our patience and our hope were almost exhausted, we heard from afar the rush of the incoming tide, and our hearts responded cheerfully, as we saw the prospect of movement out of the "doldrums," in which we have been held captive so long.

Worcester gave us the first signal, as we learned that at that market, held on Saturday, the 13th inst., a large quantity of hops had been sold. The dead water was stirred by the operations of the largest local buyer, who accepted every pocket he could secure at his own valuation, which, we may be sure, was not higher than he could possibly get accepted. Fired by emulation, some London merchants warmly assisted in the work, other local buyers followed suit, and the market closed with the conviction that the clouds were rolling away, and that a brighter time was at hand.

Values naturally became firmer, and when business began in London the following week the tone of affairs was speedily altered for the better. Many growers were in town, and the merchants were active, making bids. But in most cases their offers were declined, holders being very firm in their demands for advanced prices. Throughout the week the activity continued, with the result that values may now be quoted at least 20s. above the lowest point to which they had fallen.

During the past week we have had the Brewers' Exhibition, bringing many of our country customers to town, but as they are chiefly interested in the show at Islington, they do not give much of their time in the Borough. However, despite this drawback, a fair amount of business has been done, although there is some relaxtion from the activity recently prevailing. I hope and expect that we shall soon see the full flow of business re-established. Holders seem to be rather more willing to listen to offers, and buyers are ready enough for trading, as their clients are placing orders, which, though not large, are sufficient to encourage merchants to look round for hops.

I hear also that the agents of several of the largest brewers have visited the market, and as some of the bigger growths have been dealt with, and others are coming forward, I think we shall soon know of some important results. But, unfortunately, prices do not advance. They remain steady, and that is all that can be said. I am prepared to see in the near future an improvement in values, and although it may be but slight, it will be welcomed as a possible indication of better times to come. In the meantime I would respectfully suggest (*pace* the M.F.C.) that holders should keep their eyes open wide lest perchance they be caught napping. They have powerful and wily foes in the field, who will not hesitate to seize the favourable moment to get an advantage.

The man who stays too long "upon the order of his going" sometimes is not able to go at all, the moral of which seems to be—as soon as a holder gets a favourable offer let him take it. If he does not sell all, let him sell part, and so diminish his risk and secure something for himself.

What is the Borough Doing?

The answer to this query is not difficult, as unfortunately the unsatisfactory conditions of the last fortnight continue. The feeble movement that appeared a few days ago, and that induced me to refer to the possibility of a gleam of brightness breaking through the clouds, speedily collapsed, and has been succeeded by a renewal of dulness most painful to all concerned. Therefore the Borough waits. How the occupants of the several offices really occupy their time it is not pleasant to attempt to describe. Efforts to sell are almost fruitless. Should a possible buyer be seen in the street, his appearance is welcomed by hungry factors, and his course watched earnestly. If he pays a visit, it is usually rather friendly than commercial, and thus the time wags wearily on, without any present results, and almost devoid of any faith in the early future. Some faint hopes were aroused that the unexpected and exceptionally low official estimate of the crop recently issued might stimulate the trade, but thus far no such effect has been produced. Men are now saying that when the figures have reached and been appreciated by brewers, some demand will be thereby created, and in the course of a week or so we shall hear something about it. "So mote it be" is the sentiment that fills the minds of all our traders, who have hitherto only experienced a most disappointing season.

There is a slight evidence of light in the conviction that, although demand is still absent, the market is perhaps a little steadier. The down grade that was so prominent has within the last day or two been apparently arrested. The market car that seemed to be running away down a dangerous slope, is feeling the action of certain brakes, and its career is for the moment suspended. When we know that quotations of 90s. to 95s have been current, and that 80s. to 85s. have been almost anticipated, we must admit that the time has arrived when the brake should be put on with a strong hand. Therefore, having realised the danger, let us hope that it has passed away, and that henceforward our course may be on safe and still safer ground, our confidence being increased, and our stability made manifest.

The Reclamation of Hops.

There is hardly any necessity to emphasise the accepted truism that preventible waste of any useful material is reprehensible. It is, however, abundantly evident that, even under our present advanced conditions of scientific knowledge, there are still remaining many so-called waste substances which must eventually be recovered and brought into use, and we are constantly being reminded of this fact by the revelations that are made from day to day, proving that thoughtful men are aware of the need for further investigation, so that we may carefully follow the example of Nature, in whose operations no waste is permissible.

One of the most recent instances of the utility of these inquiries has been brought under my notice, and is at once commended to me as worthy of the attention, not only of the industry whose interests I seek to promote, but of our customers who consume our produce. We expend much labour, money, and thought in training, cultivating, and curing our hops, and we hand them over to the brewer in the best possible condition for his purpose. He throws them into his coppers, and, as far as he can, extracts from them their preserving and flavouring contents in the manufacture of his beers. When he has done with them he describes them as "spent," and has to make some provision for getting rid of them. They are now a burden to him and he must needs incur considerable expense in removing them. It has, however, been discovered that these apparently useless hops have not been exhausted of their lupulin, but still retain in the nut or seed sufficient of the bitter principle, to make it well worth while to deal with them further. A process has been devised and patented with this object in view, and now that I have seen its details, I am struck with its simplicity, and am surprised that it has been neglected so long.

It is universally admitted that the value of hops in the brewery is measured by their richness in lupulin, and much discussion has arisen as to whether the presence of seeds does not minimise the efficacy of this necessary element. But it has apparently been overlooked that this precious material is furnished by Nature as food for the fruit or seed, the main object of all plant growth being the reproduction of its kind. Fertilisation must be accomplished, and in the case of the hop, this is brought about by the pollen of the male plant. The natural course of growth transfers the lupulinic food to the immature seeds, and they rapidly increase in bulk until the ripening period has arrived, when they represent about 12 to 15 per cent. of the weight of the cured cones. These being at present thrown away as waste, the inventors of the process under consideration propose to reclaim them and utilise the valuable properties they contain. In order to do this a machine has been devised, consisting of a revolving cylinder, heated by steam, the outer circumference of which is formed of metal, perforated sufficiently fine to allow only the hop seeds to escape. The wet, spent hops being placed in the cylinder, it is set in motion, and very speedily the contents are perfectly dried, and the whole of the seeds are separated from the petals and deposited in a receptacle provided to receive them. The dried seeds are then crushed through suitable rollers, and from them a valuable product, containing the essential oil and the bitter flavour, is extracted by further boiling. As far as the brewer is immediately concerned, the object of the invention in avoiding the waste of hops is thus secured, but there remain other purposes to which these hitherto valueless materials can be applied, and from which profit will accrue. The dried petals or bracts, being deprived of the hard seeds, can now be bleached, and used for making white paper, their fibrous character

being very suitable for this purpose, while from the strigs, brown paper can be made. Experiments have also shown that by calcining the dried petals, an excellent vegetable black, used by painters and manufacturers, can be produced. The new process, therefore, offers an attractive prospect for profitable enterprise, and I cannot doubt that when its merits have been practically tested, it will develop into an important industry.

With regard to the possible results of this invention, as affecting the interests of the English hop growers, I cannot at present see the possibility of any injury thereto. Indeed, the reverse is more probable, as the area of use for their produce will be enlarged. We are at present limited as to our outlets, but if brewers can see profit in working the new process, they will be better encouraged to buy hops, and we may hope that the demand for them will be increased.

Another point may perhaps be considered. As the hop seeds can be thus utilised, the objection to their presence in the cones will be entirely removed. Their weight is profitable to the grower, and when the brewer knows that there is further gain to him by treating them as proposed, he will cease to cavil at their proportion being too large. It is for these reasons that I am interested in this matter. I may add that an influential syndicate has been formed for working this invention, and if any of my readers desire further information concerning it, I shall be pleased to arrange for the satisfaction of their inquiries.

NOTES AND NEWS.

A Pig Club and its Secretary.—J. MacDonagh, formerly secretary to the Wiltshire Pig Insurance and Provident Association and the Wiltshire Pig-keepers' Co-operative Trading Society, Limited, Trowbridge, was on Tuesday at Trowbridge charged with having embezzled in July last, while acting as secretary to the above-named associations, the sums of £3 13s. 4d. and 19s. 2d., the monies of the associations. After formal evidence he was remanded.

Ashbourne October Fair for cattle, sheep, and horses was held on the 20th ult., when the best calving cows made up to £21; ditto, secondary, £15 to £16; and calving heifers, £14 to £16. A good show of sheep met with a good market. Store ewes made 45s. to 50s.; store lambs, 28s. to 35s.; rams, £4 to £8; ram lambs, 50s. to £5 each.

At Barnsley on Thursday a Leeds hawker named John Taylor was convicted of obtaining 11s. 6d. by false pretences from Mrs. Hetty Morris, a shopkeeper. Defendant called at her shop, and sold her at 1s. per lb. a quantity of "butter," which he represented as "splendid butter, churned that morning at a farm near Ardsley," but Mr. George E. Smith, public analyst for the borough, said it was margarine. The Bench described the case as a most serious one, and sent the defendant to gaol for one month.

In the course of a lecture given at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., referred to the present unsatisfactory condition of agriculture and its grave effects on the national life, and said the remedy for that state of things was land reform, a reform under which where we now had one owner of land in this country we should have a thousand. The system of landlord, tenant, and labourer had been discarded by every country but our own, and as far as Great Britain was concerned it had broken down.

Yarm Fair.—Owing to inclement weather the attendance at Yarm Fair which extended over three days, was somewhat smaller than usual. There was a good show of cart horses, which were in demand, four and five-year-olds being from £30 to £45 each; two-year-olds, £35; and yearlings, £20. Roadsters were well sold at from £30 to £45 each. There was a quantity of inferior animals, many of which changed hands frequently at various prices. Stags fetched from £12 to £16 each. There was a large quantity of cattle, but business was somewhat slow. The Irish cattle were of an exceptionally good quality, the prices ranging from £8 to £12 each. For English cattle there was a little better demand, and from £9 to £14 was obtained, good bullocks realising £15 each. Milking cows fetched up to £20 each. There was a good show of sheep, but only moderate demand. Leicester tups sold at about £5 each; shearling tups, 90s.; half-bred ewes, 40s.; half-bred shearling gimmers, 45s. to 50s.; half-bred lambs, 20s. to 26s; and Scotch ewes, 18s. to 24s. Irish cattle met a slow sale at £5 to £12 each. Wensleydale cheese, flats made 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; Stilton shapes, 7½d. per lb.

For the convenience of exhibitors at the International Poultry and Pigeon Show, to be held at the Crystal Palace on November 13 to 15, 1906, the London and North-Western Railway Company will make arrangements for through vans for the conveyance of poultry, &c., to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, November 12, from various of their stations, details of which, as well as rates for the conveyance of traffic, can be obtained at any of the company's stations. On Monday, November 12, for the convenience of exhibitors attending the show, a through third-class saloon-carriage will be attached to the 8.30 a.m. from Carlisle and the 4.16 p.m. from Willesden, due Crystal Palace 5.2 p.m. Another saloon will be attached to the 12 0 noon train from Liverpool (Lime Street); passengers from the Manchester district can join the latter at Crewe, departing 1.5 p m. This saloon and through vans, except that from Glasgow, will be worked specially from Willesden Junction, and be due to arrive at the Crystal Palace at 6.25 p.m. The Glasgow van will be attached to the 6.12 p.m. Through train from Willesden to the Crystal Palace due 7.27 p.m. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in through vans at the close of the show. All information can be obtained of Mr. Robert Turnbull, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London.

Vacant Crown Lands.

The report of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, just published, shows that in the financial year ended March 31, 1906, the total receipts for woods, forests, and land revenues, inclusive of £11,091 15s. 1d. brought forward from the previous year, amounted to £963,537 19s. 1d. The total expenditure in connection with the administration of the Crown properties amounted during the twelve months to £151,394 11s. 1d.; payment was made to the Exchequer of £480,000; and a net balance remained of £32,143 8s.

With reference to the agricultural land administered by the Commissioners, it appears that the land in hand for want of suitable tenants consists of 4,280 acres—917 acres in Cambridgeshire, 768 in the Isle of Wight, 490½ in Oxfordshire, 357 in Lincolnshire, 1,157½ in the Isle of Sheppey, 572 in Suffolk, and 16½ acres in Surrey. These farms and lands are cultivated and managed by practical farm bailiffs, under the immediate supervision of the Crown Receivers, a sufficient staff of labourers being employed on each farm. As to their suitability for small holdings, Mr. J. F. F. Horner, the Commissioner signing the report, says:—

I have had some negotiation for letting the farms for small holdings, but at present only one farm has been considered by the applicants to be suitable for that purpose, and for that one negotiations are still proceeding.

It may probably be to the advantage of the Land Revenues that a farm that is in hand and being cultivated by this Department shall be let for small holdings or otherwise, but it must be remembered that on a letting for small holdings of a farm that is in cultivation as one holding practically all the labourers employed thereon are displaced, as it seldom happens that men of that class have the means to become small holders, while small holding tenants do not usually employ regularly labour outside their own families.

It thus may easily happen that as many labourers with their families and dependants may be displaced upon letting for small holdings a farm previously managed as one holding as will be provided for by such small holdings. If the farm is let as one farm, the incoming tenant would usually retain the labourers, or most of them.

THE GUARDIANS of the POOR of the PARISH of ST. MARY, ISLINGTON, are desirous of receiving TENDERS for the purchase of BRAN and POLLARD arising from the grinding of Wheat at the Cornwallis Road Workhouse, Upper Holloway, till the 25th of March, 1908.

Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Tender for ....." and addressed to the Guardians, must be delivered to the Guardians' Offices, St. John's Road, Upper Holloway, on or before WEDNESDAY, the 7th of NOVEMBER, 1906.

Printed Forms of Tender, with conditions of contract and estimated quantities required, must be obtained from the Clerk, as no others will be received.

The Tenders will be opened on Thursday, the 8th day of November, 1906, at a Meeting of the Guardians, who do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order,
EDWIN DAVEY,
Clerk.

The Guardians' Offices,
St. John's Road,
Upper Holloway, N.,
25th October, 1906.

HAY FOR SALE.—Three Stacks of Sainfoin and Lucerne and Meadow Hay, about 70 loads; 20 miles from London.—RUTTERS, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand.

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SOCIETIES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, 10th to 14th DECEMBER 1906, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, 1st NOVEMBER; Post Entries, 5th NOVEMBER. Implements: The entries for Implements have already closed on October 5. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to

E. J. POWELL, Secretary.
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

VISCOUNT TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOWS (Open to all England without Subscription.)

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G. P. MITCHELL INNES,
Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

N.B.—Entries Close October 31, for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Horses; for Poultry and Pigeons October 27.

TONBRIDGE FAT STOCK SHOW will be held in the Agricultural Hall on MONDAY and TUESDAY, DEC. 3 and 4, when £300 in prizes will be awarded.

Entries close for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Potatoes, Corn, Fruit, Hops, Bread and Butter, Dead Poultry and Eggs, on November 5.

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PUBLICATION.

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LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

The Voice of Agriculture. PLEADING and plaintive is the voice of agriculture, the most important industry in the country, instead of being strong, powerful, and commanding as it ought to be; in fact, a veritable power in the land. Agriculture asks for things as favours which it ought to demand as rights, and its gentle murmurings have been heard so long that they have little or no effect on the powers that be. We hear of resolutions being passed at Chamber of Agriculture meetings against the extravagant expenditure of county councils on education and other matters, and when received by these great bodies they are allowed to lay on the table without comment, so great is the notice taken of them. In the same way the requests and resolutions sent from agricultural bodies to Westminster are pigeon-holed away and little more is heard of them till election time, when the farmers' vote is secured on the strength of promises. Dear, dear, it is really surprising how important agriculture is at election time, and how its importance fades when the fight is over and one or the other party is safely in.

Autumn Ploughing. AMID all the changes that have come over agriculture as centuries have rolled away the plough remains, as it ever was, the implement essential for the production of corn and other crops. In make and detail the plough of to-day differs from the plough of the Bible, but the principle is the same as well as the object of use. We are told that steam or petrol will take the place of horseflesh to supply motive power for the plough, just as the railway train has supplanted the stage coach, but the change will not take place yet, and in the mean time we must follow the old order of things. We well remember what a local sensation the steam cultivator caused when it first appeared in our district, but it has never got anything like a monopoly. The presence of steam tackle in fields is common enough at this season, and the power is excellent for working neglected land, deepening cultivation, and breaking up stubborn plough pans, but the steam engine is not everybody's implement for ploughing, and cannot take the place of the horse-drawn contrivance. Get your ploughing done early is good advice, particularly if the medium be retentive, and we like to see the end of it before December is very old in order to get the soil exposed to the pulverising influences of the atmosphere. Another advantage of autumn ploughing is that you can get on the ground almost at any time, whereas after Christmas the land is often so wet and sodden that the work is impossible, or more harm is done than good.

Root and Grain Shows. WHILE writing we have before us the schedule of the forty-fifth annual show of a county root and grain society which is to take place shortly, and we are reminded that the exhibitions of similar institutions are now being held in various parts of the country. Forty-five years! It is a long time to look back upon, and we can only form a mental idea of the conditions under which the first show of the society referred to was held. One thing we know, that acres of land which probably grew the grain for the first shows have long been put down to grass, and then the man in the street was not as independent of the British farmer as he is now for his flour and his bread. Forty-five years ago it is fairly safe to assume that the mangels and turnips and swedes were grown entirely with dung from the stockyard, not hurried into great size as now by means of nitrate of soda and other powerful fertilisers. Whether the roots of the present are any the better is a matter for conjecture. All the same, the grain sections of these autumn exhibitions ought to be good this year after so fine a harvest time, and roots will doubtless be better than was at one time anticipated, as the October rains have helped them along wonderfully. We wish the root and grain societies of the country all success, with the hope that the old ones will keep up their vigour, and that younger institutions will grow in strength and usefulness.

The Value of Lime. IT is significant of the fact that things are not quite as they should be when an authority like Mr. A. D. Hall, of Rothamsted, expresses regret that the good old practice of thoroughly and heavily liming the fields as carried out fifty or sixty years ago has gone greatly out of fashion. This shows that the old farmers, rule of thumb workers though they might have been, carried out an operation that is upheld by some of the greatest scientists of modern times. The advantage of periodical liming as set down by Mr. Hall were given in the MARK LANE EXPRESS for October 22, but we need not go back half a century to remember the time when farmers pinned more faith on this indispensable material than they do now. We can point to a dozen places within a small area where lime kilns once flourished, and remember the time when lime drawing was a regular annual task for the farmer's team, all well within the last half-century. According to Mr. Hall the fertility of many of our fields to-day is due to the liming and chalking that was done by the farmers of the eighteenth and earlier centuries. If we are reaping the benefit of what our forefathers did in the way of liming, how will our grandchildren be affected? Will they have reason to bless this generation for the lime applied to the land? We fear not unless a return to old customs become more general. Little cost and quick returns is the order of things at present, and since basic slag and other artificials came in so much there is no doubt that lime has largely gone out.

Sowing Wheat. FARMERS have been busy of late getting in their wheat, and the rains of October put the ground in excellent condition for drilling in the seed. The methods of preparing ground for wheat are as numerous almost as the days in the year, and they vary to suit the conditions of soil in different localities. In all cases, however, the object should be to put the seed on a clean, firm, seed bed and preparatory cultural operations should lead up to this. Rotations are various. We have recently seen wheat being sown after potatoes and going in splendidly. Wheat also follows barley and invariably does well, because though both crops require practically the same food the barley is a surface feeder, while wheat roots go more deeply into the ground. Clover is a good predecessor for wheat, because the long roots of the former bring up food from the subsoil, and when the grain is sown amongst the ploughed-up clover roots the necessary firmness of the seed-bed is obtained.

The Spirit of Competition. WE have on a previous occasion referred to competition as being a means of education and improvement amongst people connected with agriculture. Perhaps, from a business point of view, the spirit has in some cases been stifled by an overwhelming weight of conservatism which prompts certain farmers to follow in the footsteps of other farmers though the game may be a losing one, but broadly speaking there is plenty of evidence to show that the spirit of competition is very much alive in agriculture. One of the best aims a man can have is to always produce the best and be at the top. The fight for the top place is always a good thing, because if a man does not get it, he obtains something, and is better for the struggle. The spirit of competition asserts itself in all branches of farming—amongst wealthy breeders who win honours with pedigree stock, farmers who distinguish themselves at local shows with [illegible] dairy products, roots, &c., and labourers who strive to defeat their fellows in manual [illegible] connected with farm work. One [illegible] agriculturists is to encourage [illegible]

spirit of competition, and if possible put still more life into it, because we are convinced that it would be a bad day for farming if it were allowed to remain dormant or die out.

Fruit Trees on Arable Land.

COULD cornfields and arable land generally be more utilised for the culture of standard apple and pear trees? The question is an open one, and like Rosa Dartle, we only ask, being prompted to do so through seeing in the West of England, in Hereford and Worcester giant specimens of pear trees dotted about the cornfields and land under arable culture. Perhaps the system first originated in the days when most of the land in the district was under the plough, and corn-growing was a profitable occupation. We take it that the farmer needed pears for his perry, so he conceived the idea of dotting trees in rows and otherwise on his plough ground, in order to get both fruit and corn. In these days there may be no reason to scheme like this, but that the conditions suit the fruit trees is demonstrated in the presence of hundreds of specimens growing on land that has been under the plough ever since they were planted, and in spite of age they are still vigorous, and every year they help materially in the filling of the perry casks.

Lifting and Storing Roots.

THANKS to the rains of October, coupled with the mild weather, mangels and swedes are bigger, and the crops heavier than they promised to be about Michaelmas time. It was desirable to let the roots grow as long as they would, but now that November is here, and there is a possibility of frost at any time, it is time that mangels were safe in their winter quarters. Others share this opinion with us, and of late we have seen a number of farmers taking advantage of fine days for getting up their roots. Care is needed in the storage of mangels. Not that they require any coddling, but the great thing is to avoid storing any diseased specimens, which will soon contaminate a whole heap. Sound mangels rarely fail to keep well in clamp, provided they are got up in good condition—not injured by frost—and are provided with free ventilation to get rid of the sweating that always accompanies the lifting process. Though mangels are better than was at one time anticipated, they are in many cases a light crop, and every root will be valuable before the winter is over.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes and his Assailants.

Of course, I have nothing to do with mere partisanism, with the retaliatory accusations, baulked ambitions, and embittered prejudices of the henchmen of this or that party. I do, however, sincerely deplore this attempt to attribute the notices given to the allotment-holders upon the De Ramsey estate in Huntingdonshire, and the prospective increase of rent to those to be readmitted to those allotments to the chagrined malice of the Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, as a consequence of his defeat at the General Election. I have watched Mr. Fellowes' political career from its inception—there are personal reasons for this; I closely followed the incidence of his policy as Minister for Agriculture. To a courtliness of bearing that has an old-world fragrance associated with it he adds a chivalry of intention that has in the past refused to be allied with the grossnesses of political warfare. As Minister for Agriculture his revealed sympathies were sufficiently broad to enable him to take an interest in the weal of every human element connected with the land. He was no advocate of that extreme landlordism which, now defunct, believed in the retention and extension of grand seignorial privileges and demands. His policy was that of a receptive-minded man, whose generous instincts were fully alert to the denudation of the villages, who lamented the anxious, fascinated gaze which too many of the villagers directed towards the towns, and who was solicitously desirous of doing what he could to arrest the migratory tide. He is no chameleon-tempered man. He is not of the texture which would make of a Mr. Hyde in Parliament a Dr. Jekyll out of Parliament. What may be the purpose of Lord de Ramsey, the brother of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, in practically abandoning his allotments, I do not for the moment inquire. All I know is that to attribute this to the malevolence of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes is to show a woeful misappreciation of the character of as generous a warrior as ever knew how to bear defeat in the electoral lists gracefully and manfully. When I recall the accusations of the week I somehow cannot but revive Ben Jonson's famous lines:—

> "It is a note
> Of upstart greatness to observe and watch
> For those poor trifles, which the noble mind
> Neglects and scorns."

Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes does not need this defence in the household of his friends. I have been induced to make it as one beyond its portals who has watched his career.

Will the Lords Fight the Bill?

There can be no doubt whatever now about the attitude of the Conservative rank and file towards the Plural Voting Bill, and there is no doubt whatever, too, that the tremors bred of its introduction are chiefly the result of anxiety as to the electoral future of the rural constituencies. Frankly, I did not think that the antagonism directed towards the Bill in the Commons was particularly intelligent. As a piece of obstruction, it might be clever to declare that the Bill would disfranchise many a working-man, who, enjoying the fruit of property as a result of his own providence, desired his property-vote to be retained. As a fact, if that property be far removed from the thrifty working-man's home he would be unlikely to mulct himself in the heavy expense of a railway journey and a day's maintenance, together with the loss of a day's pay—and this he must do under the Corrupt Practices Act—for the purpose of recording his vote. It would have been better to have met the position with the blunt, direct declaration that property has its rights as well as its duties—to revise the aphorism of the great Irish administrator, Thomas Drummond—and that one of those rights is the right to vote. It would have been better to declare that it was more necessary than even in these days of democratic assertiveness to protect this right. This argument—and it could have been given a score of Pro-Boer guises—might have touched the national intelligence. To be quibbling over minor issues, and to be afraid to utter the real thought that was behind all this quibbling, did nothing more than amuse. Of course, Sir Edward Carson adopted a bolder line when he declared that this is a Bill for the disfranchisement of the anti-Liberals. Well, this will be its effect. What, thus, will the Lords do? And the peers are now the real and only effective representatives of the county spirit in Parliament. Will their appetite for the slaughter of Radical achievements be sated by their emasculation of the Education Bill? Or will their appetite be only whetted? Well, I repeat that the effect of this measure, if carried, will for the moment be — and nowhere is this appreciated more keenly than in the Conservative council chambers—the banishment in a great degree of Conservative representation from the counties. Will the Lords think the issue worth a fight? Of course, they would be accused of being merely hewers of wood to Toryism. After all, however, this is a Bill designed to joy the heart of the Radical electioneerers of the shires.

Denuding the Land of Healthy Labour.

Of course, it would be captious to criticise the action of the Duke of Westminster in—as the daily Press tells us he has—"spending £150,000 on an estate in the Orange River Colony, which he has equipped with farms and machinery." "He has also," saith the faithful journalistic chroniclers, "sent out eighteen families." "What business is it of yours?" I may be asked. "Surely it is a matter for the Duke's own private concern?" Wherein the general significance of the incident lies is in the light it throws upon the tendency of this estimable pro-colonial and not-so-estimable emigration sentiment. It is not to be assumed that the admirably-intentioned nobleman would send out for the purposes of his experiment—for experiment it can only be—aught but the best-equipped familes, best-equipped mentally, physically, and morally, as well as in the agrarian sense, to be found within the ducal area! Let us assume that his Grace has conferred a benefit upon the Orange Colony by adding this human material to its sparse population; but, if we confess that, we must ask how has his action affected the depleted country-side from which it has been withdrawn? We are all now for making small holding experiments. The Government, by the way, needs the lessons derivable from experience as a guide to their legislative purpose. What if a hundred and fifty thousand pounds had been spent in this direction? What if a hundred and fifty thousand pounds were at the disposal of those who are seeking to evolve a complete scheme of a co-operative agriculture? What if a hundred and fifty thousand pounds were at the disposal of those who would link up villagedom with the great railway centres? You have in these suggestions an admixture of practical investments and philanthropy. Small holdings and allotments are an investment, and men like Major Poore, in Wiltshire, and Earl Carrington, in East Anglia—the one a local Conservative leader and the other a Liberal Minister—have shown what a wise financial encouragement may do for the economic redemption of the rural workers' position, and moreover, what an influence it may be in stimulating affection for the country-side in the halo of mind and limb. May I commend their example to this generous-hearted Duke of Westminster.

England and the Butter-Fakers.

"England wants pure butter." This is the opinion of no less a commercial personage than the president of the Grocers' Federation, a man who, on such a subject as this, must speak with complete and entire knowledge. I commend his assertion to Earl Carrington in the hope that it will still further vivify his own comprehension of the necessity of anti-faking legislation. The commercial magnate based his remark on his conviction that the butter-consumers of England are setting the brazen-face of antagonism towards doctored butter, or against concoctions that are not butter at all, but masquerade in the guise. Now the Netherlands may be said to have been the pioneer in the very remunerative but very discreditable art of butter-faking. Its ability in this direction has not been in any way moderated, and its moral sense has not in any way been quickened to a comprehension of its indecency. It is as willing to supply the spurious as ever. The fact, however, is, I repeat, that the English public are not so willing to accept it. Compare the trade with the Netherlands for the first nine months of this year with the trade of the first nine months of 1905 and 1904. The so-called butter trade of this year showed a diminution of 9,000 cwts. as contrasted with the same period of 1905, and of 48,000 cwts. as contrasted with 1904.

Will the Minister Heed the Lesson?

What lends an added moment, a deepened lesson, to these figures is that the general consumption of butter has not decreased. Even Russia itself—despite her pre-absorptions in revolutionary designs and bureaucratic retaliations — has in the last two years considerably increased her supply of butter to England. The fact is, as I have said, that a gathering antagonism to the faker and the faked has been aroused in the British conscience and in the British stomach. My Lord Carrington has told us that we must not expect the Butter Bill this season. Should not, however, these facts I have given induce him to demand of his colleagues that the Bill should have a first place in the programme of next session? Already the English people are bidding the faked-butter and the faked-butterist begone. Its warning has been couched in very much the same language as Juliet's father addressed to his anæmic daughter:

> "Out, you green-sickness carrion!
> Out you baggage—you tallow-face!"

At Suffolk assizes on Friday, Freak Cook, farmer, Fressingfield, and James Rumsby, labourer, were charged with stealing fifty lambs. The prisoners, it was stated, went in the middle of a July night to a neighbouring farm and changed fifty inferior lambs for as many superior animals. At the Quarter Sessions recently, as we reported at the time, the jury could not agree on the case. The prisoners were, however, now convicted and sentenced, Cook to twelve, and Rumsby to nine, months' imprisonment.

THE FARMERS' CLUB.

Farm Implements in their Relation to Labour—Progress of Agricultural Machinery—"Finality has not been Reached"—Agricultural Societies and Machinery.

"Farm Implements in their Relation to Labour—A Retrospect," was the title of the paper set down to be read by Mr. John McLaren, of Leeds, at to-day's meeting of the Farmers' Club, at Whitehall, S.W. We have been favoured with an advanced proof, and from this see that Mr. McLaren deals very extensively with his subject, but as he remarks, it is one so extensive and important that it cannot adequately be dealt with in a single paper.

In the early part of the nineteenth century, says Mr. McLaren, the machinery of the farm was of the most primitive character. With the exception of scythes and reaping-hooks, which were manufactured in Sheffield, the principal mechanical appliances of the farm were of local make—crude, heavy, and ill-adapted to their work. But when the Royal Agricultural Society, in 1839, commenced to hold its annual exhibitions in different parts of the country, the educating effect soon became apparent. The offer of prizes, with the assurance of a good market, for improved farm machinery acted as a sufficient inducement to the more intelligent and enterprising of the agricultural machinists to improve their productions and adapt them to the requirements of their various customers.

The result was satisfactory to all parties. The manufacturers reaped substantial financial benefit, while the farmers were able to replace their antiquated and inefficient appliances with others lighter in draught, better adapted to their various requirements, and capable of doing more and better work with a smaller expenditure of power. In a very few years many small firms, who had hitherto enjoyed a merely local reputation, blossomed out into huge manufacturers, whose capital, guided by skill and the experience of a rapidly-growing business, was employed in producing wholesale the implements which were formerly made only in small quantities.

The tide of improvement therefore began to flow nearly seventy years ago, and if our review had extended backwards three-quarters of a century, instead of only fifty years, the contrast between then and now would have been much more marked. I may be wrong, but in my opinion the twenty years from 1840 to 1860 witnessed a greater and more important development of agricultural engineering than any fifty years of progress either before or since.

The duo-decade in question witnessed the advent of the corn drill and the horse hoe, as well as the light and graceful ploughs of Howard, Ransome, and Hornsby, which replaced the clumsy, old-fashioned horse ploughs of our grandfathers. They saw the reaping and mowing machine displace the sickle and the scythe. They welcomed the introduction, for all practical purposes, of the portable engine and thrashing machine, which wrought a revolution in the thrashing and dressing of grain. In this period also road traction engines and steam ploughs had already given promise of their stupendous potentialities. In numerous other directions, such as in food-preparing, root-pulping, and corn-crushing, the small seed was planted which has now grown into such an immense tree.

Mr. McLaren then divides his papers into eight leading sections, and deals with each pretty fully. The sections in their order are:—Prime movers, horse implements for cultivation, seed sowing, clearing the ground and keeping down weeds, harvesting and storing the crop, threshing and preparing the crop for market, dairy machinery, and food-preparing machinery. The labour question is also dealt with at greater length than the other sections. Summing up, Mr. McLaren says:

With regard to *prime movers*, I think these are sufficiently developed for all practical purposes.

Finality has not been reached,

but steam, gas, and oil engines may be considered commercially efficient. With regard to implements for cultivation, there is more scope for mechanical power than in any other department of agriculture. This being one of the heaviest operations of the farm, some means should be devised of substituting machinery for the animal power, which is practically universal at present.

Harvesting and storing the crop.—Here is another series of operations requiring considerable power, in which the aid of steam machinery should be made available, especially on land with a comparatively level surface. Cutting and carting hay and corn, hauling out and spreading manure, lifting potatoes, thinning and lifting, topping and tailing turnips offer a wide and varied field for the employment of machinery. I believe there are some of those unsolved problems which would give way to solution if sufficient inducement were offered, but as this paper is primarily retrospective it is scarcely within its scope to anticipate what may happen in the future.

I may be allowed to mention one recent development which may have far-reaching consequences on the future of farm machinery. I refer to the numerous electric power schemes which have been floated in many localities. I believe it will soon be possible for farmers within these districts to purchase the electric current at their very gates. This could be utilised for every purpose for which steam, gas, oil, water, or other engines are at present employed. It is the cheapest form in which power in small units can be obtained, ready at a moment's notice, and capable of doing either heavy or light work. One of the greatest advantages is that no more power is paid for than is actually used. It can also be employed for lighting dwelling-houses or farm buildings with much greater safety than either gas, oil lamps, or candles.

It is not likely that the rates of wages paid to farm labourers will be reduced. It is almost certain they will continue to rise. More attention must be paid to the question of improved cottages, water supply, and sanitation. In some districts these are all that can be desired. In others they are very bad. It is a curious fact that some of the worst houses are on the estates of owners who pose as progressives and social reformers. It is outrageous that on any estate human beings should have to herd together in hovels scarcely fit for cattle, in which decency and morality are out of the question. If the growth of the labour bill, taxation, and the cost of improved housing should increase the figure, further recourse must be had to the use of machinery.

If the leading agricultural societies will resume

The old System of Giving Medals

or prizes for any class of machinery which may be necessary for the development of agriculture, I believe they will not have long to wait for what is required. Just as the awards of prizes fifty years ago improved the plough, thrashing machine, and portable engine, so it would now stimulate engineers to produce and perfect any machinery the farmer wants.

Most of the large agricultural engineering firms of to-day secured their trade by having their specialities tried and recognised by the award of prizes from the Royal and other leading agricultural societies. As a rule each firm specialises in its own particular line, and the prizes obtained not only enabled it to secure a big home trade, but also to capture foreign business, which it finds very profitable. Engineers now find it pays them better to manufacture on a large scale their own particular lines than to launch out in new branches involving costly experiment to perfect new machines, unless they can have the encouragement and assistance of the agricultural societies to bring them before the purchasing public.

In the days of progress, to which I referred at the beginning of my paper, invention was stimulated by the knowledge that a Royal prize would infallibly lead to good business. It is many years since the Society did anything practical in the way of inducing engineers to tackle difficult agricultural engineering problems. It is not enough to give them the opportunity of exhibiting their products at the shows, and trusting to the public to judge for themselves.

The agricultural public is very conservative, and experience shows that it takes a long time to create a market for even a meritorious invention. But if it has passed through a series of trials at the hands of the judges at some of the big national shows, and received the distinction of an award, the position is entirely changed. The consequence of the present system is that most of the big agricultural engineering firms prefer to devote their attention to manufacturing and selling their stereotyped designs instead of spending money in producing new inventions which the public might be very slow to adopt.

The Agricultural Depression

of the last twenty years or so, has not only disorganised the farming industry, but also its handmaid, the agricultural engineering trade. In spite of the best available machinery, it is very hard for the farmer to make a decent living, and it would be impossible for the agricultural engineer, without his foreign trade, to keep his business going at all. We are thus in the curious position of having an industry, with the command of a first-class mechanical equipment, as far as it goes; but this equipment is very little wanted because it will not pay to grow corn.

And so most of our large engineering and implement firms producing these very machines are sending them to foreign countries with virgin soil and more suitable climate, to enable the foreign producer to grow and handle his crops so cheaply that he can destroy the trade of our agriculturists at home.

It seems impossible to form any proper conclusion on this important subject without touching on some of the collateral issues which affect it. The whole question of agricultural labour and machinery is intimately bound up with the political and fiscal conditions which prevail in the country. It is, however, obviously impossible at this time and place to enter upon the larger subject, but we need not shut our eyes to its effects.

In the country our farmers are struggling to make a living on the land, tilled for generations by their ancestors. In all our large towns the authorities are faced with the problem of poverty and want of employment. In the country the land is being laid down to grass because it will not pay to grow corn, and in the towns philanthropists and local authorities are struggling with the difficulty of the unemployed.

Owing to some extraordinary mental obliquity very few people seem to see any connection between the two. But there is, and a very little consideration should bring conviction to the dullest comprehension. The laying down of grass in the country displaces a large amount of labour, which flies at once to the large towns and cities, there to enter upon the grim struggle of existence.

Young and capable countrymen, used to horses, can always find employment in the large railway yards and factories, where such labour is in demand, but they displace the older and less vigorous townsmen whose places they fill, and who are either thrown into the ranks of the unemployed, or have to take refuge in the workhouse.

I assert without hesitation, that if corn growing could be made to pay, these men would be kept at home cultivating the land which is their natural and legitimate work, and the serious problem of unemployment would be within sight of solution.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Cheshire Chamber.

The Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture on Monday passed a resolution stating that the responsibility of farmers who send milk to places by train should end at the station at which the consignee received it. It was contended by one or two farmers that the responsibility for the quality of the article should cease with its delivery to the railway company, but the meeting thought that would be going too far, and that the milk producer would be sufficiently protected if his warranty ended at the delivery station. With a view of increasing interest in its work, the chamber resolved to try the experiment of meeting now and then in other parts of the county. It was agreed that next year the January meeting—the annual meeting—shall be at Crewe, the February meeting at Chester, the March meeting at Knutsford, the April meeting at Crewe, the May meeting at Chester, the October meeting at Crewe, and the November meeting at Macclesfield.

Denbigh and Flint.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society stated that the finance committee were not this year in a position to congratulate the members upon the society's increased financial prosperity. On the year's working there was a debit balance of £20, which was principally owing to the fact that prizes worth £150 were given over and above those at the previous show at Ruthin in 1902. During the year there was a net increase of thirty-five members. The assets of the society amounts to £1,368, over £1,000 of which is invested in the Bank of England. Mr. Godfrey Fitzhugh, Plaspower, Wrexham, is president of the society for the ensuing year, and Mr. Philip Ashworth, Horsley Hall, near Wrexham, vice-president.

East Suffolk Chamber.

Prior to the meeting of the council of the East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture on Tuesday, the Sugar Beet Committee of the Chamber met, when it was reported that the returns from the growers were not yet quite complete. Specimens from many of the plots had already been sent for analysis, and it was expected that the sugar content would prove very satisfactory. Some of the plots, however—those on light land—were reported as producing a very small crop. A committee was appointed to prepare a report; at the meeting of the council it was decided to obtain an adjournment of the discussion on "Sugar-beet growing," at the Central Council, until a definite report was ready. The council decided to oppose the Public Slaughter-house Bill, on the ground that such legislation was u

necessary, and also decided to concur with the Leicester Chamber of Agriculture in a representation to the Secretary of State for War, "That they felt very aggrieved at the change in the Army contracts for meat from home-fed to home-killed, and to urge the necessity of rescinding this alteration." A letter was received from Mr. R. L. Everett, M.P., on the subject of the Land Tenure Bill, and it was decided to call a general meeting to discuss the subject on November 20.

Herefordshire Chamber.

The Council of the Herefordshire Chamber of Agriculture at their last meeting discussed four questions received from the Central Chamber. They did not consider the culture of sugar beet interested Herefordshire, but agreed to support the proposition that the liability of consignors of milk should cease when it reaches the consignee's hands. No decision was come to upon the Workmen's Compensation Bill, the question being indefinite. The question of local taxation was referred to the sub-committee to arrange. The meeting decided to support the Leicestershire Chamber in regard to a deputation to the Secretary of War to express objection to the change in army contracts for meat from home-fed to home-killed.

Holderness.

At the meeting of the Holderness Agricultural Club held on Tuesday, it was unanimously resolved that the club seek to effect the abolition of the statute hirings held before November 23, as verbal engagements entered into before that date whereby servants are hired from Martinmas to Martinmas cannot be legally enforced. The sugar beet question was also discussed, but no resolution passed. A satisfactory feature of the meeting was the election of twenty new members, this bringing the strength of the club up to about 300.

Norfolk Chamber.

The Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture voiced the feelings of Norfolk farmers generally when they passed a resolution that the Public Slaughter House Bill, now before the House of Lords, would, if it became law, have a very prejudicial effect on the producers of meat in this country, and that the Bill should be withdrawn. One speaker drew attention to the fact that twenty years ago there were 1,500 private slaughter-houses in London; to-day there were only 315. Thirty years ago it was no unusual thing to see from 7,000 to 10,000 beasts at market every Monday, and on Thursday a large number. To-day, if they had 1,000 they could not sell them, and the other Thursday there was not a single hoof standing on the market. This was, he said, the effect of the abolition of private slaughter-houses: what would be the effect when they were totally abolished throughout the country it was not difficult to foresee.

Nottinghamshire.

A meeting of the council of the Notts Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, at the offices in Nottingham. There was a large attendance, Earl Manvers presiding. Mr. Stockdale, the local secretary at Retford, attended, and various points were discussed relating to next year's show in that town. A sub-committee was appointed to confer with the Retford committee as to local classes and the site. A sub-committee was also appointed to revise the prize schedule and to select judges. It is intended to issue the schedule earlier than has been customary.

Woodbridge.

A falling off in subscriptions and entries, due greatly to the death of many staunch supporters, was reported at the annual meeting of the Woodbridge Horse Show Society on Wednesday, but nevertheless there was an improved balance (£19) on the right side, after deducting the working expenses of the year. Mr. Clark, of Sudbourne Hall, was elected president, subject to his acceptance of the position. Mr. A. J. Smith was re-elected vice-president, Mr. S. Toller auditor, and Mr. H. H. Green treasurer. An honorarium of £12 was voted to the secretary (Mr. G. Shipman), who was unanimously re-elected.

The estate of the late Captain H. D. Trelawny, a member of the old Cornish family of Trelawny, was sold at Chester on October 27. The estate, known as the Shotwick Park estate, near Chester, comprised a mansion and 1,600 acres of land divided into farm holdings and building lots. The property was divided into forty-eight lots, and the first to be offered was the mansion house and grounds, and several farms and cottages, the whole comprising 1,328 acres, and having a rent roll of £2,426. The opening bid was £50,000, and the final £70,000, at which figure the lot was knocked down to Mr. Maples on behalf of Mr. William Vernon, Birkdale, Southport. The same gentleman made farther extensive purchases, and the total amount realised by the estate was £94,500.

DAIRY.

Nantwich Dairy Show.

The Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's two day show at Nantwich was held on Wednesday and Thursday, and as was the case at Chester, the exhibit, both in quality and quantity, maintained the association's high reputation, and were highly creditable to the exhibitors. Some thousands of cheese were spread over the floor space of the extensive Market Hall, and collectively they weighed about 60 tons. The preference of the county for producing cheese of coloured make was again very manifest, the coloured classes, though not more attractive to the eye than the display made by white cheeses, predominating. One class of coloured, in which the competition of farmers resident in the United Kingdom was invited, contained seventy-seven dairies. Multiplied by four, which was the limit placed upon the number of each dairy exhibited, there were no fewer than 308 cheeses, and the class by itself made up a show of quite respectable dimensions. The white class, in which again the United Kingdom was the limit of the association's sphere of competition, was the next largest class in the show, the entries mustering forty-eight. In commenting on the quality, the judges remarked that the task of judging was this year one of great difficulty, while in some classes there were exhibited cheeses which did not attain the standard which experts insist upon should be the standard by which good cheese should be judged — the colouring of some of the cheese shown was a defect noted — the

general quality was excellent, and that of the prize winning dairies as nearly perfect as possible. In the coloured and uncoloured classes the first prize winning dairies were in each class only a little superior to dairies which were chosen as the winners of the second prizes. All of them were of first-class flavour and texture. The open class for coloured cheese included, said the judge, the finest dairies he had ever judged. In colour, in make, and in texture and flavour they were considered to have attained a standard of quality beyond which it is impossible for the dairymaid's skill to go. In some of the classes cheese made to imitate Cheddar cheese were met with. The judges, however, did not approve the innovation. The association's gold medal went again to a superb dairy shown by Mr. John Dutton, of Swanley. Mr. Dutton easily holds the record at the Nantwich show as the winner for the greatest number of times (eight) of the association's championship. Last year he was barred as a competitor, having won the gold medal the previous year. The second prize was won by Mr. S. Charlesworth, of Leighton Hall, who for some time past has been a consistent maker of first-class cheese, and the third was won by Mr. S. Dutton, of Burleydam, a son of the gold medallist. Between these three dairies there was very little difference in quality, and the judges for a considerable time deliberated before finally placing them. The championship dairy was of very handsome make, and the colour, texture, and flavour of the cheese were perfect. The second and third prize winning dairies almost attained the same high standard.

The butter also made a good display, but was naturally eclipsed by the cheese.

At the cheese fair on Thursday there was a pitch of 140 tons, of which 60 tons was show cheese. Factors were present from all parts of the country, and there was a clearance of both show and fair cheese. The championship dairy in the show made 120s. per cwt., and other prize winning dairies were sold at prices up to 100s. Dairies without prizes fetched from 75s. to 80s. per cwt. In the fair there was a good tone, and finest dairies made from 74s. to 79s., medium lots from 70s. to 73s., and lower grades from 60s. to 65s. per cwt.

A Self-Releasing Hook, Churn Trolley and Carrier.

The main object aimed at by Mr. Pearce in his "Acme self-releasing hook," churn trolley and carrier has been to place on the market, at a reasonable figure, a trolley, simple in construction, that will effectually deal with the easy transport of churns about railway stations, dairies, &c., and thus do away with the wear and tear to floors of same, which inevitably results from the present system of rolling.

The hooks being entirely free from springs, it is impossible for them to get out of order under ordinary use. To pick up or set down a churn in the desired position requires one action only—*i.e.*, tilting the trolley.

They should prove invaluable to railway companies, dairymen, &c., who are constantly dealing with a large number of churns, as by their use a very great amount of manual labour will be saved.

The initial outlay will be soon counteracted by the saving of the aforesaid wear and tear to floors.

The carrier is for getting churns up and down stairs or steep inclines where the trolley cannot be used, and is so made that the churn always maintains an upright position.

The utility of the trolley and carrier is not only confined to milk churns. It can also be adapted for use in factories and warehouses where heavy cans have to be dealt with.

Mid Cheshire Farmers and the Price of Milk.

At a large meeting of the Mid-Cheshire Farmers' Association, held at Knutsford on Monday, it was decided to form a minimum price association to control the milk trade. It was declared that wholesale prices are ruinous, leaving little margin of profit. The scheme was outlined by the chairman providing for a deposit by every member with forfeiture in the event of a price below the minimum being accepted. A district committee was appointed, and it was resolved to approach the Stockport, Macclesfield, and other milk associations in Cheshire, and request their co-operation.

Western Counties Cheddar Cheese School.

The fourth draft of cheese, weighing about 33 cwt., made during July last at the above-named school, carried on at Glendale Farm, near Wedmore, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 76s. per cwt. of 112 lb. 4,077 gallons of milk made 3,963 lb. of green cheese, which when sold at fourteen weeks old, weighed 3,761 lb., showing a shrinkage of about 5 per cent.

The following particulars relating to the manufacture of the cheese will be of interest to cheesemakers:—Temperature of milk when renneted, 84 deg.; acidity of milk when renneted, ·19; temperature of first and second scalds, 88 deg. and 93 deg.; acidity of whey when vatted, ·88; average time when cheese was put in press, 3.30 p.m.

Agriculture in Natal.

According to the report of the Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture, Natal, for the year ended June 30, 1906, great agricultural progress was made during the year, notwithstanding the fact that farming operations were considerably interfered with by the native disturbance. The average value of produce obtained from each acre of cultivated land in 1905 was £4 8s. 11d. The land under cultivation by Europeans in the same year was 372,000 acres, 22,000 acres being under irrigation.

There are approximately 4,000 farmers in the colony; 317 engines and turbines are in use, 135 hydraulic rams, 2,064 maize mills, 866 maize planters, 467 baling machines, and 102 windmills are worked.

The value of the dairy industry to Natal during 1905 was approximately £148,052, represented by: Butter produced, £48,783; cheese produced, £2,466; eggs sold, £24,576; milk sold, £72,227. Particulars are given relating to the production and exportation of arrowroot, barley, beans, and peas, fodder and forage, Kafir corn and maize, oats, onions, plants, and bulbs, potatoes, and fresh vegetables.

The "Mark Lane Express" and the Kentish Farmers.

"Business is Business."

A resolution passed by the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club has been received by our editor, and it is amusing to note that the exact copy of the terms used by the Maidstone Farmers' Club, to which we referred last week, indicate that both have originated from one source.

We should have been better pleased and more completely enlightened if more extended information had been communicated. We are still as much in the dark as we were previously, and therefore have very little to add to our former remarks.

The "MARK LANE EXPRESS" aims at being recognised (as our title expresses) as to "The Farmers' Business Paper." Business is business, and our desire is always to adhere to this principle, without fear or favour. If at any time we are mistaken in our estimate of the course of business, whether affecting hops or any other of the interests we write about, we are open to correction and amendment. But in this case we have no ground to act upon.

The condemnations conveyed in these resolutions are only general and vague, nothing specific is even hinted at, and unless our readers will be good enough to define their objections more clearly, it is impossible for us to deal with them. It must be remembered by our critics that we have at our disposal a much more extensive area of information than can possibly be within the ken of our friends in the country, even when they are assembled in their local club rooms. This information is utilised for their benefit, and the details thus ascertained are carefully weighed before they are put into print.

We have, therefore, confidence in the correctness of the news we publish, and in the present instance we may certainly appeal to the evidence provided by the well-known course of events during the current season for confirmation of our position.

We may emphasize the statement that our warmest sympathies are on the side of British agriculture. We earnestly desire to promote its prosperity, believing that the true interests of the nation are intimately bound up therewith. But our duty as public reporters of passing events compels us to be impartial, and sometimes to bring forward facts that may not always be satisfactory to our readers.

We know that this has recently been the case with respect to the hop-growing industry, the results of this season having been so very disappointing to all concerned. We cannot, however, admit that our statements have been either "inaccurate or misleading," as declared in the resolutions we have received.

We must, therefore, urge our critics to give us, if they can, some indication as to the points they complain of, and we venture to anticipate that when they attempt to formulate their complaints they will find they have been too hasty in their conclusions, and will in the end acquit us of any intention to mislead or of any inaccuracy.

Borough Trading.

Growers, Factors, and Merchants.

A somewhat lively discussion has recently taken place in the columns of one of our provincial contemporaries concerning the alleged "bearing" policy of the merchants, to which is attributed the unsatisfactory range of prices of hops prevailing since the commencement of the season. The editor declared, in an article on "The Hop Industry," that "it seemed fairly obvious that 'bearing' influences were being exercised on the market, and for this the merchants must be held chiefly, if not solely responsible. It was a case of a struggle between individuals acting more or less independently, and a very powerful class of traders who have a common plan of action."

Messrs. Cattley, Gridley and Co. promptly took up the cudgels on behalf of the merchants, and at once repudiated the charge, claiming that their interest in the welfare of hop-growing is quite as important as that of the growers themselves. They also point out that the position, though hard upon growers, is perfectly natural and anticipated by all who have studied the facts of the market conditions, which are attributable to the abnormal English crop of last year, foreign importations, and cold storage. It is denied that merchants have organised any tactics for lowering prices.

The Editor, in his reply, fully admits that there is some sound sense in Messrs. Cattley's explanation, and this is supported by another article which acknowledges that merchants are interested equally with the growers in the prosperity of the industry, but accuses them of endeavouring to assist brewers in the pursuit of cheapness, giving as a reason for this policy that merchants hold many shares in the various brewing companies.

To this Messrs. Cattleys respond, saying that "if the critics were workers in the trade they would better understand the difficulties of selling the home growths with consumers practically independent for some time to come, and foreign hops offering at considerably under English." They also publish a copy of their circular of October 15 in which they recommend their customers to operate without delay. The editor, however, stands to his guns, in saying that merchants are the real offenders in the matter, and that their interest in the industry is purely personal.

There is something to be said on both sides of this discussion by the impartial outsider. In the first place, it is evident that growers are more or less at the mercy of buyers. The reason is not far to seek. They are isolated, and have no internal cohesion. After the months have passed, during which they have been engaged in the cultivation of their crop, spending their money freely in order to achieve success, frequently fighting with serious natural hindrances such as climate and blight, the crop is gathered and brought to market.

Without any organisation for counsel or mutual protection, they come to the Borough, with only limited information as to the surrounding circumstances of the year, and they find themselves with little or no voice in determining the real value of their produce. When they find that the trade is going against them, it is not surprising that there should be whispers of conspiracy, which they are helpless to combat.

Of course, they look to their factors for advice, and I believe that in most cases such advice is honestly tendered, although it is not always accepted.

Factors are their selling agents, and should watch over their clients, and protect them from all the possible machinations of buyers, who are naturally open to take advantage of the weakness of growers, and obtain their hops at the lowest possible prices. It is for such service that factors claim their commissions, which are in the main honestly earned. But agents are useless unless they can find buyers. and this is the anxious business that follows, and I can testify from personal observation to the diligence exercised in this direction.

Thus we arrive at the merchant's office, and we are bound to recognise the importance of his position in the business, when we know that as a rule he is the distributor of our produce to the consumer. He takes the responsibility of advising (by means of his travellers) the brewers to buy. In older times the merchant bought on his own account entirely, and stored the hops on the chance of disposing of them. This is not now so general as formerly, the unfortunate facility with which samples can be borrowed enabling many merchants to send out their offers without incurring any risk, the sale being made subject to the lot being unsold, and thus an element has been introduced into the trade which is, in the opinion of many, very detrimental to the interests of the growers.

The trend of circumstances has therefore brought the consumers into the position of complete control. and until growers are consolidated into a compact body for their own defence they will be practically powerless. Doubtless brewers are influenced to some extent by the advice of the merchants with whom they have traded for many years, and therefore merchants may be held in a degree answerable for the prevalence of dulness or activity in the market. But the altered position of the breweries, their concentration into immense amalgamations, and the consequent changes in their methods of business, are the main causes of the influence they are now able to exercise over our interests.

For these reasons I cannot admit that the Borough is to blame when trade is bad and prices are drooping. It is, of course, open to question whether two sections of traders are necessary, but the long established system still remains, and seems likely to continue. Each man or firm must live by profit, so we can well accept their assurance that the interests of all are closely associated with a strong market, and good prices.

We are all apt to blame others for our own misfortunes, and it is very easy for dissatisfied growers to unload their troubles on to the backs of the Borough traders. Fairly considered, the Borough does its duty to the growers. I am sure it would do better if it were possible, but facts are stubborn things and hard to masticate, therefore we must be content to accept them when we cannot get rid of them.

Home Notes.

From the commencement of the period of activity reported last week to the close of last month a healthy business continued, the market was apparently gaining in strength, and there were bright hopes that higher prices would be realised. Some of the large growths were sold, and the total of business has been fairly extensive.

Unfortunately, this week finds our traders rather inclined to be despondent. They are certainly very sensitive, and are quickly elated or depressed by any change in the commercial atmosphere. At present they shake their heads and bemoan the dulness of the general business, and some of them are talking of lower offers being accepted and of an increasing pressure by growers to sell.

Last week I said that the improvement in values from the lowest point was not less than 20s., and that there was a prospect of still better prices.

To-day I have made many inquiries, and am sorry to find that I cannot hear of any further advance. Prices are evidently standing still, and can only with some difficulty be supported. This is disappointing, but I fear it is true. I ventured to warn holders that they must be on their guard against such a possibility, and I repeat the warning, as it is under such conditions as the present that a slump is initiated, which if not checked will lead to disastrous results.

It seems as if brewers were determined not to go beyond a certain point, and as if they had fixed upon the neighbourhood of £6 as their limit. It is therefore necessary for growers, at this critical moment, to be very watchful of the trend of events, and not to allow any favourable opportunity to pass.

It is generally admitted that a more puzzling market has never been experienced. Factors hardly know how to advise, and many of them are almost sickened by the uncertain prospects. But there is yet hope that trade may revive, and if this condition should happily be brought about, the present rather gloomy clouds will speedily be dispersed. We cannot, however, lose sight of the fact that foreign hops are being offered at low prices, and that a full supply is arriving from the continent. We must also take into account the expectation of considerable consignments from America, and the energy with which the agents of American shippers are pushing their business.

All these points should be carefully considered by our planters who are still holding. As aforesaid, they must be very observant, lest their previous dissatisfaction should become more acute.

Foreign Notes.

America.—Recent letters confirm previous estimates of the crop which is now reckoned at 325,000 bales. According to these figures there will be not less than 125,000 bales, or about 200,000 cwt., available for shipment to England. It is stated that the quality of the New York and California crops are good, but that Oregon and Washington qualities are mixed, the latter pickings being somewhat damaged by mould and red spider. My correspondents say:—"Our markets are absolutely lifeless, and no one seems confident of any improvement in the near future. Brewers, with their heavy carry over stocks, are perfectly indifferent to offers, and dealers, almost without exception, have contracts with growers sufficient to meet all of their early deliveries. Values are constantly sagging without inducing anyone to take hold of stock." A later cable message says—"Our market is very quiet indeed; in fact, there is nothing doing, consumers preferring to wait. We believe the market will go lower."

France.—Business in hops at Dijon, the centre of the trade in the South, is very active. At the opening of the last fair there were many buyers, who operated freely at 80 to 90 francs, but before the market closed the value advanced from 5 to 10 francs. The crop has not come up to expectation, and is being rapidly cleared off.

Hop Manures at the Brewers'.

Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., of Ipswich, write us drawing attention to the remarks appearing on page 470, in lines 4 and 5, where the statement is made that in Classes 4 and 5 Mr. Ernest Mannington took both first prizes. Then the statement follows:—"The samples were grown with the [illegible] hop guano prepared by the Anglo Continental Guano Works." This statement is quite [illegible] correct, continue Messrs. Fison and Co., [illegible] you will see from the Brewers' Exhibition Catalogue and list of awards. It is therein stated that Mr. Mannington's exhibit No. 28 Class IV. is grown with Rabbit flick and artificial [illegible] makers' name mentioned. In Class V., No. 34, the first sample, the manure is gypsum and Fison's special. We much regret that we inadvertently did not do justice to Messrs. Fison and Co. in this matter.

Northern Notes.

JUST the sort of weather we might expect has set in as October closes. A wonderfully open season has favoured all farming operations, whether for ploughing, sowing, storing mangolds, or carting work. Now the rains are falling. For full two days there was no cessation—a steady downpour, combined with a low temperature, produced a sort of "back-end" feeling unmistakable in its import.

THE highways were cleansed, and pastures soddened. Green food had grown wonderfully nearly the whole of October, and there was a better bite than in September. Grass lands look as green now as they did in early summer. No frosts to speak of—and none within the last few days—have been experienced, and herbage, therefore, retains its appetising flavour. With fine open weather the farmers were enabled to make rapid progress with their tillage, the land working much more freely than at the corresponding time last year, when on strong soils the draught was quite heavy.

THE Martinmas hiring fairs are announced in various parts of Yorkshire. Years ago it was predicted these public hirings would soon be a thing of the past. The assertion was glibly made, and probably without a thought as to what method could be substituted for these gatherings to which generation after generation of farmers and labourers had given their patronage.

MASTERS and men will be popping the question about stopping again, this week-end. The love of change seems inherent in the lads born on the soil. Once they leave the parental roof for a "place" they appear to look forward to an annual change of master, hence there are many rolling stones among them; but it is not true in their case that they gather no grist. A farm lad, well-fed and strong of limb, is able by the time he reaches manhood to have saved well over £60 if he is careful in his habits. Then after that he may rise to a foremanship, or may take in the men to "meat," and thus lay by a nice sum of money. One has heard of hinds in Yorkshire who have saved as much as £200 by the time they were forty, and men of a thrifty nature and skilled in agriculture are enabled to set up a little farm on their own account. The post of a hind in Yorkshire is greatly sought after; a popular farmer has scores of applications whenever a vacancy occurs.

THE Holderness Agricultural Club held an interesting discussion on the same topic—hirings—at their meeting on Tuesday, in Hull, and a resolution was adopted with a view to the abolition of those which are held before November 23, "as verbal engagements entered into before that date cannot be enforced." Masters and men are perfectly well aware of the state of the law, and it is also well known that engagements made at the earlier, or what are called in East Yorkshire the "first" hirings, are very generally regarded as morally binding, and are faithfully adhered to, except in a few instances. These "first" hirings are held as a matter of convenience. Who is to abolish them? They are not held under any statutory enactment; and any local authority can issue notices that they will be held, and there is no power—certainly not on the part of clubs—to say them nay.

THE plea of the Holderness farmers is that much valuable time is wasted by the lads and youths getting away and spending a whole working day at these so-called "illegal" "statute" hirings. The plea is a somewhat selfish one; and it will be a rash act on the part of the agricultural interest in the Holderness country if any serious action is taken tending to stir up a spirit of antagonism between master and servant, by interfering with the present arrangements. Is there not a sneaking tendency to treat farm servants as bondsmen, rather than as free agents?

ONE is inclined to think that advantage is occasionally taken of rustic ignorance by a certain class of masters. The men at present have no organisation to combat any grievances they may have; masters may rest assured, however, that as labour becomes more and more an organised factor the agricultural toilers will not be left without "leaders."

THE Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture has elected the Earl of Zetland president. The honour is a deserved one, for his lordship is an excellent landlord, and he and his tenantry live together on the best of terms. Tenant farmers meeting together at their club do not invariably feel free to talk about their affairs in the presence of their landlord; but it appears the Cleveland farmers have no such fears, and it need hardly be said that if they have any grievances—sentimental or otherwise—Lord Zetland would a lend sympathetic ear to them.

AN appeal for help made to these North Yorkshire farmers by the Huntingdon Chamber for help towards assisting distressed agriculturists in that district, whose farm crops were destroyed by the August hailstorm, created some discussion. We in Yorkshire have suffered quite as much—nay more—than our Huntingdon friends, and yet no appeal has gone forth for assistance. Mr. H. T. Allison told the Chamber that some of their friends on the moors had suffered to the extent of £1,000 and over. In the eastern parts of Yorkshire the tale of destruction was even greater. But the landlords there have come to the aid of their tenants; and without wishing to appear in any way dogmatic, one might commend their action to others.

THE chief food inspector to the Hull Corporation has urged the need of a public abattoir for that city, in a lecture delivered to members of the Hull Trades and Labour Council. There is very great force in what Mr. McPhail said about the apathy of rural and many urban councils. Generally speaking, the powers which an authority possesses are those of the Act of 1875, and the amending Act of 1890, and he thought the time had arrived when a plain, intelligent Act should be passed containing the word "shall," and not that incentive to inertia "may."

THE care and provision of our food supplies ought to be a national charge, and it is a standing reproach to the nation that it is not so. The lecturer has done good service to the public by his outspoken utterances about the lurking dangers in milk, meat, and fruit, and he has aroused such a spirit of determination amongst the Labour party that at the municipal elections one of the "planks" of the platform was the question of a public abattoir.

TO-DAY I have received a record of the rainfall for October, which was 4·580 in. Rain fell on eighteen days. The shade temperature showed a variation of 38·5 deg. (69·5 highest, and lowest 31·0 deg.).

November 2, 1906.

Midland Notes.

IT is enough to mention two facts to show how much we are indebted to October. Its temperatures were generally above the average for the time of year, and the rain it brought us totalled 4·3 in. Now 4·3 in. of rain means 430 tons of water an acre, which is a liberal allowance for two ordinary months. In the circumstances it is not to be wondered at if a certain number of our friends cultivating heavy land should have found the surface soil inclined to get waterlogged. But they seem to be few. Nothing could be more eloquent of the dryness and thirstiness of the earth than the rapidity with which ordinary soils have sucked up these perpetual downpours. Considering the quantity of rain the past month has brought it may seem strange that farm work has been so little interrupted. The explanation lies, of course, in the storms and showers coming in the night. Many times we have had soaking downpours at night and still found the land fit for plough, harrow, or drill by nine or ten o'clock next morning.

THERE is some reason to suppose that Midland farmers are again giving a little more attention to beans. The tendency was noted in this column a year ago; it is again evident to-day. True, it does not amount to much; it is only on the eastern side that the fragrant scent of beanfields is at all a common thing. But it indicates that among the many farmers who are much dissatisfied with the current wheat prices, a few are giving a trial here and there to an experimental field of the leguminous crop; and so far as one can gather, the experiment is generally found to work pretty well. Certainly, beans at 32s. or so per qr. ought to pay their way, for the crop yields well enough in Warwick and the adjoining counties.

CONSIDERING how wonderfully the roots have looked up, the farming year ought to turn out more profitable than seemed at all likely during the early autumn. Of course, there have been some heavy and exceptional expenses. One hears of roots which failed altogether, with the result that the fields had to be ploughed a second time for rape, and of the rape in turn coming to nothing and being replaced late in the season with mustard. The last should afford a useful bite of green fodder in due course, but it will be an expensive crop when everything is charged against it. The poor prices realised lately for stores are a source of very bitter complaint; it is true there has been an improvement, but calf-rearing has hardly been a profitable pursuit lately, and without further amendment in this direction sheep seem likely to become more than ever the sheet-anchor of British farming.

EVEN in present circumstances no one could call agriculture a flourishing industry; still, signs are not wanting that the extreme depression of a few years ago is lifting. The agents of large properties have not, as a rule, many farms unlet, and in one or two recent large estate sales a very notable feature has been the way in which tenants have come forward to purchase their own holdings.

MAY I express a hope that a paragraph in the MARK LANE EXPRESS last week as to the care of drains will be taken to heart? It is a subject which would have been touched upon already in these notes had space permitted, for during the last few weeks one has observed so many cases of foul and half stopped open ditches and closed drains with exits so choked up as to make it impossible for water to flow freely from them. The hands, one is told, have been too busy on other work to attend to such matters. But there is a heavy penalty to pay for neglect. How deplorable, too, to see valuable implements lying idle in the open, exposed to the rain and damp air. In the mind's eye I see both reapers and mowers which must have depreciated not a little in value this past autumn.

THE curious thing about such instances of neglect is that the culprit is so often far from a careless man. Often he is conspicuously a hard worker, and a firm believer in the gospel of thoroughness and efficiency. Everyone must respect the man who rents two or three hundred acres, and spends his days toiling on the land like any labourer; but such things as these suggest sometimes that he might have taken a wiser course, and that the vigilant oversight and foresight of a trained brain might in the long run be of more value to the farm than the hard physical labour which takes up so much time and energy.

November 2, 1906.

Downton College Closed.

It is with regret that we learn that the College of Agriculture at Downton has been closed. The college which, although regarded as a public institution, was actually a private enterprise, resting entirely upon the responsibility of Professor Wrightson himself, was opened in May, 1880. Professor Wrightson had every reason to be satisfied with the success of the college until the close of 1899, when it received a blow in the outbreak of the Boer War. The effect of this was not only that a large number of students left the college in order to join the Imperial Yeomanry and other bodies, but it was also marked by a temporary cessation of entries. The immediate consequence was that between October, 1899, and January, 1900, the number of students went down from over forty to about seventeen. After peace was declared the numbers increased, but never regained their previous position.

An effort was made to enlist the interest of the County Councils of Wiltshire, Hampshire, Somerset, and Dorset, in order to transfer the responsibility from one man's shoulders and to firmly establish the College as a public institution. If this had been accomplished the Board of Agriculture would most probably have assisted with a liberal grant. It was, however, found impossible at the time to bring these powerful bodies or any of them into line, and thus a great opportunity was lost.

Professor Wrightson now felt that after twenty-six years of strenuous life in connection with the advancement of agricultural education, that a time had come in which his physical strength could scarcely support such a Herculean task, and he therefore came to the conclusion that as he had opened the college he would likewise close it, and enjoy what few years remained to him in greater quietude.

It must be a matter of regret to many that a college which has done so much for the education of a whole generation of land agents and agriculturists should have ceased, for the present at least, to exist.

We are informed that Mr. P. J. Parmiter has resigned his position and sold his entire interests in the firm of Messrs. P. J. Parmiter and Co., Station Works, Tisbury. The business will be carried on quite as usual at the old address, Station Works, Tisbury, Wilts, with the entire plant, stock, and staff.

Barley Protest at the Brewers'.—In consequence of a protest having been lodged against the awards in Classes 7, 8, and 9 for Foreign Malting Barley, which entries are for any other than "two-rowed," the judges after careful examination have decided to disqualify the whole class in consequence of incorrect description.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Insect and Fungus Pests.

SIR,—If I appeared pessimistic in my former contribution on this topic I can assure "Severnside" that it was my knowledge of the slowness of the powers that be to move in matters of this kind that made me so.

No, "Severnside," we should not refrain from calling out for a good thing merely because we are not likely to get it, because it is said that constant hammering will wear away the hardest stone, and the day may come when the authorities at headquarters will realise that fruit-growers have a case that deserves to be listened to.

What annoys one is that these recommendations are made from time to time for certain things to be done in the interest of fruit growers, and nothing more is heard of them. In fact, they are like pouring water on the proverbial duck's back. But there, let us keep on hammering and worrying, and perhaps if we die in the meantime our children will reap some benefit from the effort.

November 1, 1906. WEST COUNTRYMAN.

Forestry and the Duty of the State.

SIR,—Since my last letter to you in your issue of the 8th ult., on the revival of village industrial life in connection with forestry, I have received a remarkable corroboration of Mr. Ralph Pearson's exposition as to the duty of the State with a view to encourage the creation of scientifically cultivated forests. Mons. Ch. Broilliard, one of the greatest authorities in France on sylviculture, in a letter just addressed to me, entirely supports Mr. Pearson's statement. It may be of interest to your readers to know that this great veteran expert, who has returned for permanent residence to his native village in the high plateau forest district of the Haute Saône, has long laboured by speech and pen as the most competent teacher in the science of sylviculture known, being, as he is, the undisputed head of the French school.

Dr. Frankhauser, the distinguished Swiss Agronome, in an appreciation of the high services to the Continental movement rendered by M. Ch. Broilliard, observes that "while ranking foremost in theoretical knowledge, M. Broilliard proved himself as well capable in actual practice as in the out-door service of forestry. He combines the possession of rare abilities with that of an extraordinary rich store of learning. With all his erudition, he is no armchair philosopher; his theories have been evolved, not in the study, but in the woods. Dr. Frankhauser goes on to say that it was just for this reason that Broilliard's teachings have found such universal favour among practical men, and that all his writings, besides being distinguished by clearness, precision and elegance of diction, bear such a pronounced stamp of original freshness and individuality. What he has written about the organisation and management of the Plenter-Wald and the Mittelwald forests is among the most notable of all that has ever been published on the subject. No one has advocated more successfully than he the extension of the 'periods of stock rotation' and the accumulation of valuable oaks among the 'tall timber' stocks (*oberholz bestand*) of the forests. Above all, we are indebted to him for the development of the 'thinning out' process on the French system. But very few have comprehended as fully as he has the actual physical life of a forest, the special requirements of each species of wood, and the high importance to be attributed even to the meanest among them, as being part of the whole."

I am pleased to add that M. Broilliard gives it as his opinion that, under the municipal system of Zürich, to which I referred in my previous letter, the timber system is well managed by the Swiss Municipality. True, he points out that in the case of Zürich the exploitation of the timber—the working up of the wood—takes place in close proximity to a town where it is consumed and disposed of; and he expresses himself to the effect that in France the cultivation of big timber (*gros bois*) is the most desirable plan to adopt, and that it is above all necessary to await the full development thereof. He adds that, in *his* country, their administration of woods and forests works excellently, it being left to the purchaser himself to clear away the wood. He also incidentally remarks that in France, in order to get rid of the commoners' (*usager's*) rights to wood, a portion of the forest is assigned to them absolutely.

But it is a question how far it would be advisable to adopt this system in England. As M. Broilliard very pertinently says, "the rights of ownership and on enjoyment of forests are so varied and sometimes so peculiar (*et parfois si bizarre*) that the translation of matters connected with them from one language to another is often an exceedingly delicate operation."

I am glad to see, since I dealt with this municipal trading *re* forestry in your columns, that practical attention seems to have been given to this matter by two London Members of Parliament, Mr. Chiozza-Money, and Mr. Pickersgill. Both recommend that, in view of the coming winter, some attempt should be made in the public interest to put to better use our woods and forests, with the result that in the future we might reasonably hope for a revival of what the French call the delicate craft of *boissellerie*—an interesting and useful industry which I have seen in operation in Belgian villages and places in the Austrian Tyrol, such as Berchtengaden.

In proof also of the increased attention that is being given to this subject, I would hopefully point to the deputation which waited upon the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Mr. Bryce, at Dublin Castle in April last, when Lord Castletown—who has already done good service in the matter of tree-planting and the "starting of industries" connected therewith—advocated the creation in the near future of a "*really sound* scheme" of State afforestation.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.

Reform Club, S.W., October 26.

Irish Eggs?

SIR,—There has been a considerable movement in the poultry industry in Ireland, the departments having been very active in introducing new and improved breeds. We are told that great advance has been made in the methods of exporting eggs, and we believe it is true.

It might be a puzzle to some to know what becomes of those not fit for exportation, and we ourselves had wondered. October is admittedly a difficult season in which to get fresh eggs, as so many hens are in moult; but we did not quite expect an experience which befell us a few days ago, and in go-ahead Belfast, of all places. Reaching that city by the night mail, we were rather late for breakfast, and the only occupants of the coffee-room in a well-known hotel in the Royal Avenue; our companion ordered eggs for two.

Then we waited, occasionally pressing the bell, but got no answer; so after waiting nearly half an hour we went down to the manager's office, and asked that breakfast might be hurried up.

Shortly afterwards the waiter came in wearing a rather aggrieved expression.

We said: "You have been somewhat long, waiter?"

"Yes, sir," said he, "it takes a long while to boil eggs at this time of the year."

"A long time at this time of the year—what do you mean?"

"Why, sir, you've got to have a good many boilings before you get four good eggs at this time of the year," said he, with a rather pitying look at our ignorance, but with a candour that would probably not have been appreciated by the manager, and which certainly did not give one much confidence in attacking the four which had passed through the ordeal of boiling without exploding.

This was Belfast, and we were shortly going to spend a week or more in the poor and dirty districts of the West, and our hearts sank within us, for experience in the past had taught us that if one was at all squeamish as to the cleanliness of the kitchen departments, the best way to avoid contact with undesirable matter was to largely adopt the egg diet. As a matter of fact, the eggs in the West were fresh.

The question arose in our mind. Is Belfast the recipient of Ireland's "shop 'uns," or have not the various organisations done quite as much in the improvement of poultry management and egg distribution as some would have us believe?—Yours, &c., M.

November 2, 1906.

What is a Filly?

SIR,—I was interested in the case tried in Scotland which hinged on the question as to what is a filly. Your report hardly furnishes sufficient ground for me to form an opinion as to whether the sheriff was right in only allowing a portion of the costs, but in my opinion he was quite right as a matter of fact.

It seems to me that a filly must be a maiden.—Yours, &c., S. J. W.

November 2, 1906.

In reply to a communication from Mr. Luke White, M.P., on the subject of the irksome restrictions now imposed on the movement of swine in Yorkshire, Sir Thomas Elliott, Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, has written saying that in view of the large number of outbreaks of swine fever in the East and West Ridings of Yorkshire during the present year, the policy of controlling the movement of swine from markets is absolutely necessary, and must be pursued until further improvement is shown.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Horse Accident.

SIR,—A horse fastened by a pair of traces to the off-side corner of a one-horse dray, outside the shafts (in which another horse was fastened), and therefore projecting farther into the road than the dray itself, was run into by one of my carts. Can the owner of the damaged horse claim compensation from me for the damages caused by the accident; or, was the way his horses were arranged illegal in a narrow country lane? I may add that had the dray been fitted with a pair of shafts for each horse, or had the trace horse been attached in front of the one in the shafts, which were in the centre of the dray's front, no accident would have occurred.—Yours, &c., R.

*** I do not know of any illegality in the way of fastening the horse that was injured which would absolve you from the liability of paying compensation. It was your duty to see that you did not run into the horse, but you are not liable if the accident were unavoidable, nor are you liable if the owner of the horse was guilty of contributory negligence, unless the contributory negligence was the proximate cause of the accident. I confess I cannot see why, on the facts stated to me, you should not be held responsible in law for the damage done.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

SHOW GOSSIP.

At a meeting of masters of Lincolnshire packs of hounds it was decided that £150 should be raised by the different hunts for two classes at the Royal show at Lincoln next year, these to be for farmers of over and under 300 acres respectively, for the best managed farm regularly hunted over by any Lincolnshire pack. It has been subsequently suggested that a parade of the various packs of hounds at the Royal would be an attraction.

We understand that at a general committee meeting of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, held on October 27, the Mayor, Corporation, and town of Banbury invited the above society to hold their annual show at Banbury in 1907, and the committee unanimously approved of the suggested date for same—viz., Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14 and 15. There is little doubt that the invitation will be most cordially accepted, and the dates of the show confirmed by the annual meeting of the society on November 24.

The West of England Fat Stock Society's Show at Plymouth on December 12 and 13 should prove a good one, for quite a number of offers of special prizes have been received, and these, together with the society's usual prizes, should make up a good schedule and attract a large number of entries. It has been decided that unless there are four entries in a bullock class, the third prize money be withheld. The prizes in the sheep classes in the past have been £4 and £2, but this year the prizes will be £3, £2, and £1, and if there are not four entries in any one class the third prize will be withheld. The chairman thought, however, that the reduction of the first prize money would keep away the best class of animals.

At a meeting of Welsh Liberal Members of Parliament, held on Tuesday, a resolution giving the Land Tenure Bill general support was passed. The resolution set forth that, whilst Welsh Liberals could not view the measure as a final solution of the question as it affects Wales, the Welsh Parliamentary party nevertheless regard it as an instalment which they was prepared to support so far as it benefited tenant farmers.

Thirsk October Fair, the principal one for cattle during the year at Thirsk, was held on Tuesday in miserable weather. There was a large number of beasts offered for sale; in fact, the best show seen for some years. Trade ruled slow, especially for lean cattle, but anything choice in fat beasts was not bad to sell. Calving cows were very scarce, and met a brisk trade at good prices. Geld cows were somewhat scarce, and although the trade for them was good, the prices were not exceptionally high. Prices:—Year old bullocks and heifers, £5 to £6 10s.; one and a-half year old bullocks and heifers, £6 10s. to £8; two-year old bullocks, £11 to £13 10s.; two-year old heifers, £10 10s. to £12 10s.; fat bullocks up to £15 10s.; fat heifers, £15 to £16 10s.; calving cows up to £21; geld cows, £9 to £12. A few two-year-old Irish bullocks and heifers were offered, but met only a slow trade at prices ranging from £6 to £9 each.

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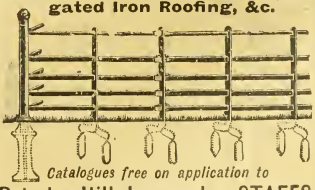

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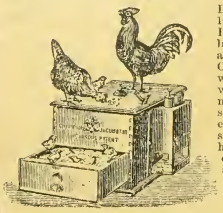

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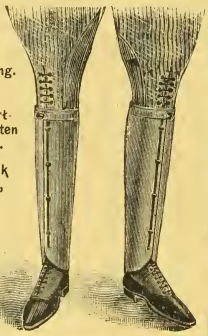

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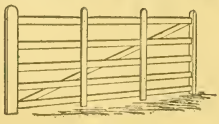

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POULTRY.

The Need of Ventilation in Poultry Houses.

Buildings for poultry should be constructed with reference to ventilation. Fresh air is "living food." This invisible fluid that surrounds us constantly, so that we are hardly conscious of its presence, differs in its life-preserving qualities in no respect from the beef and mutton that we place upon our table. It is, indeed, light and invisible, but its absorption is ceaselessly going on, and hence throughout the twenty-four hours the amount consumed becomes prodigious, and any deficiency or defect in the supply is very soon felt by the whole constitution.

The subject is one of the greatest importance to poultry breeders; indeed, an error in this will seriously diminish, if not entirely destroy, his profits. An error also is very easily made, for economy in building poultry houses is rightly thought to be so important a matter that the temptation is to crowd their inmates as closely as possible.

In the first place, a deficient supply of air results in a depraved constitution; none of the natural processes go on well. The fowl will not lay so well nor raise so large a percentage of chickens, for the reproductive apparatus is among the first points of attack when the system is lowered. A more palpable injury, however, is that the flock becomes much more liable to contagious and epidemic diseases, such as roup and cholera.

The need of ventilating poultry houses is, in many cases, the greater, because they are so often attached to or near stables. But it must be remembered that, however clean be the surroundings, the danger from overcrowding is the same. Air that has been breathed contains matter given off from the lungs that is as destructive as that in the barnyard heap, to say nothing of the fact that the oxygen, the life-giving element in it, has been removed.

In arranging the ventilation of the poultry house, however, care is to be taken to avoid irregular draughts, especially through small openings. The instinct of fowls teaches them to roost out of draughts when it is possible.

Fowls are often kept in close quarters for some special purpose, such as fattening for the table, or to induce laying in winter. But even here it is probably the warmth in the latter ease, and the quiet in the former, that make the experiment successful. No one pretends to consider these conditions natural any more than caponising or cramming, and their use is temporary, and ending with the accomplishment of the purpose. In both these cases also it is by no means certain that fresh air, if warm, would impair the result.

The real test of such treatment is in the condition of breeding stock, and it will be found that these must have ample supply of air all the year or they will disappoint the breeder.

It would be impossible to do without poultry houses, for how would the poultry keeper in small villages get on without them? Farmers frequently do not require to build poultry houses for fowls, they have plenty of out-buildings, but if they would take the advice of one who has tried all ways of housing poultry, they would convert one of the out-buildings into the poultry house and use it for that purpose alone. Fowls which sleep first in one place and then in another are liable to contract disease. Be sure to give the birds plenty of ventilation.

People try to keep their birds as warm as they can, but it is certainly a mistake in kindness. Many persons have an idea that the warmer birds are kept the better they lay. Now this is altogether wrong. It is a mistake to warm the houses artificially. There are a good many oil stoves used for poultry houses, but the birds are not any better for them; they are pampered up and feel the cold much more when they come out of the houses. The best way to ensure the health and happiness of the fowls is to provide them with wooden houses, made of strong boards, without draught, nice and warm round the bottoms, but with plenty of ventilation at the tops, so that there is a free current of air passing over the birds' heads; then they do not feel the cold so much when let out.

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The annual Cow Hill Fair, at Newcastle, took place on Wednesday, when the falling off noticed in recent years continued, stock of all sorts being below the average. Prices ranged from £11 to £15 10s. for three-year-olds, £10 10s. to £14 10s. for two-year-olds, and £5 10s. to £8 for yearlings. About 1,200 were shown. Draught horses made £50 to £60; harness horses, which were a drug in the market, to £40; good Hunters, £80 to £90; cobs, £10 to £30; and ponies, £5 to £20.

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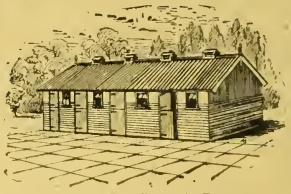

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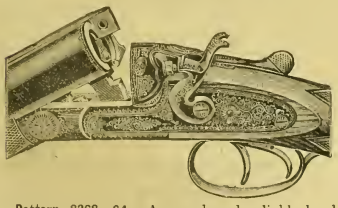

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Ploughing, Hedging, and Ditching Competitions in Shropshire.

The Wem and District Agricultural Association is doing much to revive a real interest on the part of the sons of the soil in the traditions of their industry, and how successful the efforts are was proved at their fifth annual ploughing, hedging, and ditching competition, held on the 26th ult. The entries were more numerous in all classes than before, and the competitors were early on the scene, men and their teams of two and three horses being on the ground by 9 a.m.

Some had an acre to plough and others half an acre, the former using a double plough and the latter a single one. For the start at 10 a.m. no fewer than twenty-two teams were drawn up, and four hours was allowed in which to do their work. Straight as a line each competitor had soon made his "cop," and then all were at it for dear life. It was a sight worth looking at to see all those sturdy fellows, with backs bent to keep the plough to the required even depth, and eye fixed on the long line of the furrow.

Not a whit less interesting was the skill shown by the men engaged in hedging and ditching. There were no fewer than thirty-two of them, each with twelve yards of hedge and ditch to do. Like their comrades at the plough, they handled their tools and dealt with their materials with the adroitness of the skilled workman. If it is said that the younger labourers are losing the skill of their forbears the Wem meeting afforded evidence that told a different tale. Both in the hedging and in the ploughing there were classes for the young fellows. Ploughing, like other things, may run in families. At any rate, there was something like it on this occasion, for the winner of the first prizes for the best plough butt in the young men's class was the son of the winner of the first prize for the best ploughed acre with three horses in the men's section. Needless to say, father and son, Mr. John Arrowsmith and Mr. H. Arrowsmith, both of Moreton Corbet, came in for a real ovation when they went up to the waggon in the open field to receive their well-earned prizes.

It took a long time for the judges to get over the hedging and ditching work—they had some tough bits to decide on in the lengths of the elder men. Laying a hedge requires practice and skill, and here the old men, although perhaps not so fast, surpassed the younger ones. Both old and young did some capital work, and one or two of the lengths were clever and artistic pieces of hedging and ditching. By the time the judges had ended their task the shades of evening had begun to close in over the field, and the prizes were distributed in the half light characteristic of a late October evening.

The Earnings of Harvesters.

An article in the Board of Trade *Labour Gazette* for last month stated that this year's corn harvest was, on the whole, gathered in less time than that of 1905 owing to the exceptionally fine weather, which enabled work to proceed with practically no interruption. Comparatively few extra men were engaged, as most of the corn stood up well, and was cut by the aid of self-binding machines. A number of day labourers were unable to get harvest engagements.

Generally speaking, harvest earnings averaged somewhat less than in 1905. From statistics furnished to the Board, it was shown that on certain farms in the eastern counties 605 men in twenty-three days earned an average of £7 8s. 6d.; in the midland counties 365 men in twenty-five days earned £5 16s. 1d.; and in the southern and south-western counties 358 men in twenty-one days earned £4 9s. 4d. This is exclusive of any food and drink provided.

The eastern counties, where the earnings were highest, comprise the great corn-growing counties of Huntingdon, Cambridge, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, and the payments (which are usually made according to a contract for the harvest) in these counties ranged from about £6 15s. to £8, though more was earned by some men on piecework in the fen districts.

A short harvest, as in 1905 and this year, is a profitable one for the labourer, as he gets back to ordinary farm work at weekly wages sooner than in years such as 1902 and 1903, when the harvest was lengthened by unfavourable weather.

In the midland, southern, and south-western counties the systems of payment are frequently on a time-work basis, so that harvest earnings fluctuate from year to year according to the duration of the harvest, and the longer harvests of 1902 and 1903 would be more favourable to the labourer than the shorter harvests of 1905 and 1906.

The northern counties have been excluded from the statistics, as the majority of the farm servants in the north are hired by the year or half-year, and paid a regular wage, with free board and lodging during the whole of the period for which they are hired, and are given no extra money for harvest, though they are often given extra food and drink.

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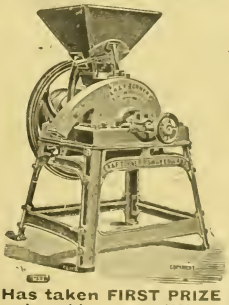

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Send for Lists and Samples to the Makers—
E. R. & F. TURNER, LTD.
(147) IPSWICH.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	12 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	1/10-2/	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Drill Compared with Broadcast Applications of Fertilisers.

It is generally assumed that it is more advantageous to apply mineral fertilisers with the drill, as the fertilising material is thereby placed more directly at the disposal of the young plant. To test the relative efficiency of the two methods, some careful experiments have been made by Professor Stebut on the Government estate at Krotkov. He finds that when applied by the drill, the fertilisers are placed where they are exhausted in the early stages of the growth of the plant, which is stimulated into vigorous development, causing it to make increased demands upon the soil during later periods of growth. Drill fertilising does not increase the supply of plant food in the soil or provide fully for the requirements of the plant, but may result in actual soil exhaustion. Therefore in such cases the whole soil must be well supplied with plant food, the fertiliser applied in the drill acting mainly as a stimulus, enabling the plant to utilise in the later stage of growth the plant food more generally diffused in the soil.

Fertilisers applied broadcast act somewhat in the same way as when applied in the drill, but continue to furnish plant food through a longer period, depending upon the character of the root growth of the plant. If the season is dry there is a danger that some of the fertiliser, when applied broadcast, may not be utilised by the plant, as in the absence of rain the material is not rendered soluble so that it can circulate through the soil.

Board of Agriculture

(*Intelligence Division*).

The Intelligence Division of the Board of Agriculture have just issued the annual report of proceedings during 1905 under the different departments with which the Board is especially associated.

In looking through it one is impressed with the wide range of activity of the Board's operations and also with the idea that farmers in general do not avail themselves of the guidance and assistance of the advisory department of the Board as much as they might.

Among numerous other subjects the Board again refer to the serious question of faulty seeds.

Adulteration of Seed. Purchasers of seeds are reminded that seeds for use on farms and market gardens should always be bought subject to a guarantee of purity, genuineness, and high germinating power.

Purity means that the seeds should consist of the required variety without admixture of other seeds or of sand, dirt, chaff, &c. Impurity is mainly caused by carelessness in separating weed-seeds from the bulk, and from want of care in cleaning and screening. It is one of the most important considerations in purchasing seeds, as impure seed is the cause not merely of a diminished yield, but is responsible for the spread of weeds. Here is an example. Two samples of home-grown clover seeds were examined and were found to contain, in one case only 53 per cent., and in the other 45 per cent. of the true seed. In some samples tested, one which contained less than 1 per cent. of impurity had about 3,000 weed seeds to the pound, while another sample containing 2½ per cent. impurities had 27,600 weed seeds. The number of weed seeds sown to the acre in such cases must be enormous, and, having an equal chance with the crops among which they grow, must be the cause of considerable loss. The presence of 1 per cent. of dock seed in a mixture of grass and clover seed for ordinary leys means ten or more dock plants per square yard all over the field where it is sown. Farmers cannot be too strongly urged to have their seeds tested. Members of agricultural societies can have this done for a small fee, and tests are also made quite cheaply by the Aynsome seed-testing station, as well as by some of the agricultural colleges and stations.

Best Variety of Wheat.

This is a problem which is no doubt occupying the minds of many farmers at the present time, and, as affording guidance on the subject, the Yorkshire Council of Agricultural Education have issued a report on a comparison of thirteen varieties, tested at Garforth during the past season. The trials have now been carried on for eight years, and therefore the conclusions, which are based on the average yields obtained over this period, may be considered as reliable, under similar conditions.

The previous crop in the field where the trials were carried out was "seeds," following a good crop of oats. The land was ploughed in excellent condition early in October, and the varieties were all drilled on October 26, 1905, at the rate of three bushels per acre. New seed was sown, and as usual was pickled (1lb. sulphate of copper to 1 gallon of water to 4 bushels of seed) before sowing. The summary of the crop is:—

1. Of the red wheats the most satisfactory for yield and quality have been Standard Red, Squarehead Master, Red Standup, Browick Grey Chaff, and Red King.

2. There is little to choose between White Queen and White Standup. The latter on account of its shorter and stiffer straw commends itself for land in good condition.

3. It would appear that no great advantage is to be gained from frequent changes of seed.

4. It may be noted that the Canadian wheat, "Duluth," which has now been grown for three years in succession, has improved in yield each year without any appreciable loss of quality. Still bigger yields, however, must be obtained before this variety can be grown with profit: besides, in dull, cold seasons it might not do so well.

Few farmers accumulate as much manure as they desire. Instead of spreading their manure over too much land, it will be better to use it with fertiliser, on less area. In this manner it will not be many years before every acre will double its average yields, and the profits will be larger because the expenses will be correspondingly reduced.

Cattle Food Trade Association.

This newly-formed association held a meeting on Thursday, October 25, at the new Corn Exchange Restaurant, Mark Lane, when the chairman explained the suggested rules and regulations, and proposed their adoption, which was unanimously agreed to. The chief objects of the association are stated to be the introduction of more uniformity in the practices of the trade, to agree upon equitable and convenient forms of contract, and generally to promote the interests of the trade.

We hope the action of the association will tend to suppress the sale of inferior materials, and it will then have the good wishes of all interested in the prosperity of the trade.

Consumption of Nitrate of Soda in Europe.

	1903. Tons	1904. Tons	1905. Tons	1906. Tons
January	51,000	65,000	59,000	90,000
February	212,000	198,000	181,000	194,000
March	244,000	195,000	259,000	251,000
April	163,000	192,000	192,000	185,000
May	110,000	132,000	131,000	137,000
June	53,000	45,000	70,000	68,000
Total for six months	833,000	827,000	892,000	925,000

The market for nitrate is appreciably weaker, and there seems to be a prospect of lower prices before the demand sets in.

Import of Fertiliser Material during September.

	1906.	1905.	1906. Value. £	1905. Value. £
MANURES:				
Bones, whether burnt or not..tons	2,875	3,307	13,771	14,427
Guano ..... ,,	41	6,755	243	29,415
Nitrate of soda ..... ,,	9,550	6,177	105,109	62,854
Phosphate of lime & rock phosphate ,,	39,259	36,726	67,618	54,392

Rise of Cereals and Live Cattle Prices in Germany.

CEREAL PRICES.—Per ton of 2,204 lb.

	July, 1905.	July, 1906.
Wheat	£8 13s. 0d.	£9 2s. 0d
Oats	£7 14s. 6d.	£9 6s. 0d
Barley	£7 0s. 0d.	£7 12s. 0d.
Welsh Corn	£5 1s. 9d.	£6 7s. 6d.

LIVE CATTLE (Good quality).—Per weight of 110 lb.

	July, 1905.	July, 1906.
Ox	£2 8s. 0d.	£2 10s. 0d.
Calf	£2 15s. 0d.	£3 1s. 0d.
Sheep	£2 0s. 0d.	£2 5s. 0d.
Pig	£3 7s. 0d.	£3 8s. 0d.

Prices of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The quotations are approximate and free on rail, London, unless otherwise stated.

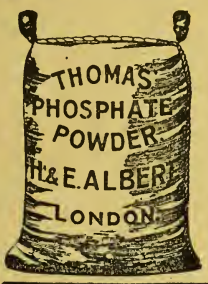
	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda ..... prompt delivery	11	17	6
,, ,, ... forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	10	0
Superphosphate 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	5	0
Bone compound ordinary	3	6	3
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano	5	7	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 33 per cent (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0

Commercial fertilisers are mainly valuable because they furnish to the crops the elements ammonia, phosphate, potash, which serve as nourishment to the plant. These elements are not to be regarded simply as stimulants; they are plant foods.

In spite of political disturbances, the Russian farmers manage to cultivate their beet-root crops. Our Consul reports that the crop this year promises to be larger than usual.

ALBERT'S BASIC SLAG.

Original Brand—"THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER."



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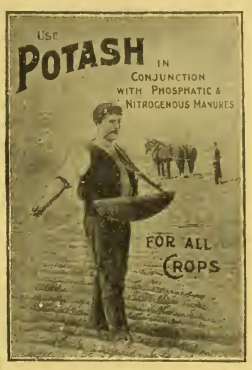
GREAT PHOSPHATIC MANURE, SUITABLE FOR ALL SOILS AND ALL CROPS UNDER SUITABLE CONDITIONS.

Grass, etc., on Light Soils need Potash as well.

Pamphlets (regarding use on all crops) and names of Local Agents on application to—

CHEMICAL WORKS late H. & E. ALBERT, 15, Philpot Lane, London, E.C.



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MURIATE OF POTASH,

FOR ALL CROPS ON ALL SOILS.

Ask your Manure Merchant for Prices or apply to

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NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

Burnard & Alger, Ltd., PLYMOUTH.

MANUFACTURERS OF . . .

Complete Fertilisers for all Crops.

XXX Superphosphate, &c., for Grass Lands.

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Linseed Cakes, Cotton Cakes, Decorticated Cotton Cakes and Meals, and other feeding materials. Basic Slag, various qualities, percentages and fineness guaranteed.

Offices and Works: Skeldergate Bridge, YORK.

BASIC SLAG.

Highest Guarantees and RELIABLE.

Ask for LEEDS Brand

From any Agricultural Merchant of repute.

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DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO, With Guaranteed Analysis.

Bone Manures, Superphosphate, Bone Meal.

SPECIAL MANURES FOR ALL CROPS.

ANGLO-CONTINENTAL (Late Ohlendorff's) GUANO WORKS.

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INTERNATIONAL STOCK FOOD

SIX FEEDS FOR ONE PENNY

Makes CATTLE Quick Growers.
Keeps HORSES Healthy and Strong.
Fattens SHEEP in 30 Days' Less Time.
As a PIG Fattener it is Wonderful.

Prices: 1s. packet, post paid 1s. 4d.; 2s. packet, post paid 2s. 6d.; 4s. packet, post paid 4s. 7d.; in pails, 14s., carriage paid. Poultry Food prices same as for Stock Food. Prices for Veterinary Preparations and Poultry Remedies on application. *Write for full particulars to the Sole Importers for the United Kingdom—*

F. C. Southwell & Co., Ltd., 75, Southwark St., LONDON.

Or their Local Agents.

"A TRUE PLANT FOOD."

Gives immense increase in CORN, ROOT and GRASS CROPS, MARKET GARDEN CROPS, HOPS.

NITRATE OF SODA

Can be bought of all LEADING DEALERS in MANURES.

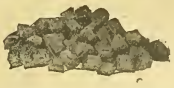
PAMPHLETS GRATIS from the PERMANENT NITRATE COMMITTEE, 3, Gracechurch St., London.

THE

"BIBBY" CAKE

IN THE FORM OF

"CAKETTES."



"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I must have 'Bibby,' and will not take a substitute."

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

Sole Manufacturers—

J. BIBBY & SONS

EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,

LIVERPOOL.

VESTA CAKES & MEALS

SOLD ON { A guaranteed analysis and percentage of "Food units."

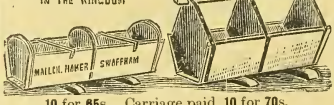
ADMITTED { As giving the maximum of feeding value and as being the most assimilable food on the market.

Apply to the Local Agent, or the—

LIVERPOOL VESTA CAKE CO.

14-20, Blackstock Street, LIVERPOOL.

THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER IN THE KINGDOM



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10 for 65s. Carriage paid, 10 for 70s.
If Creosoted, Sixpence each extra.
Lamb Creeps, with 8 movable rollers, 10s. each, carriage paid.
Illustrated Catalogue post free.

R. MALLON, Station Works, SWAFFHAM, NORFOLK.

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STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock Masters in the Kingdom.
IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor,
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Also GOVERNESS CARS.

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DEAR SIR,—I can assure you that I would not be without the Buggy I got from you if it cost me twice as much. As you know, I have long drives, sometimes as far as 25 miles away, and same back, and I can do that with your Buggy and still be fresh. My present pony has stood me five years, and that is an extra long time for my horse to last me.—Yours faithfully,
Hill Farmer.] THOS. TEMPLETON.

Write for Particulars and Prices—
HUNTER, 122, WEST STREET, GLASGOW.

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For Autumn and Winter Sowing.
A Six-Rowed Barley as hardy as Wheat!

PEDIGREE:—
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"ZERO."

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Carriage paid and 5 per cent. discount for prompt payment.
Particulars of this, also prices and particulars of our new Breeds of Wheats and other Seeds for present sowing, post free on application.

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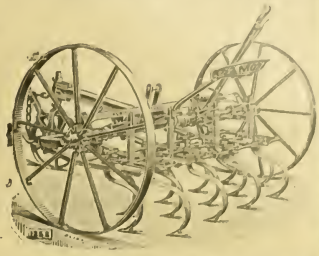

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Complete Illustrated Price Lists free on application to—

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FOR AUTUMN FERTILIZERS,

FOR WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, BEANS, GRASS, and FRUIT,

WRITE TO **JOSEPH FISON & CO., Ltd,**

Fertilizer Manufacturers to H.M. The King, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

NOVEMBER 5, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

NOVEMBER CATTLE AND SHEEP MANAGEMENT.

After All Saints' Day, experienced farmers have always been accustomed to take note of the Calendar, however abnormal in mildness the weather or abundant grass may still be in pastures. The night temperature may suddenly change and prove disastrous without previous warning, and the milk yields of exposed cows be seriously affected thereby, while weakly animals would be liable to contract colds, chills, and other ailments difficult afterwards to get rid of. Late autumn grass is never found possessed of much nutritive property, the reason cow-owners having contracts to fulfil give the animals supplementary food in the shape of cabbages or cotton cake is to prevent yield-diminishment; while those who convert their milk to butter or cheese find it expedient to adopt the same measures.

The custom of strewing cabbages or green maize on pastures at the present period has been much recommended in the past, but it is far wiser to house milk-yielding cows at night and give them what green fodder or auxiliary food is allowed in their stalls, and turning them out to roam the grass-fields in the daytime. Some cow owners neglect to do this to save themselves inconvenience or extra trouble, others because they are short of litter. But in regard to the latter difficulty a little earth laid on the hard flooring of stalls makes a sufficiently comfortable lair for the animals.

Grazing bullocks should at once be put into their winter quarters when November comes if they have not been housed or yarded previously. At least this rule should be observed in regard to those getting advanced in beef-making. If in the richest pastures of alluvial districts there is still an abundance of good grass, the least advanced animals should be told off to consume it, or what is more usually done, sheep are bought to consume it. The more advanced grazing beasts are fed on cabbage or yellow turnips in conjunction with hay and oilcake and meals, or whatever auxiliary feeding stuffs may be deemed cheapest according to nutritive value. The rule of most farmers in regard to root supply for winter cattle grazing is to commence with yellow turnips, giving swedes in the dead of winter and mangels to finish with towards spring.

As to November sheep management, it must of course very much depend on the kinds of arable crops and their abundance which are ready for utilisation. In a great many cases breadths of mustard are being fed off. This has been found healthy fodder for any kinds of sheep, although not so nutritious as rape or kale. Mustard crops are quickly raised in about six weeks after seeding. Thus the latter may be proceeded with in August, after it is too late to sow turnip seed, and the green produce comes very acceptable generally in October, and is usually continued in November until a severe night frost withers the plants and deprives them of leafage. In other cases a considerable portion of the flock are put on common turnips. The greatest possible caution is, however, needful not to give in-lamb ewes too many turnips at this period. Nine-tenths of abortions and still-births of lambs are probably due to ewes having been allowed to have their fill of turnips at this season or to other injudicious feeding. Even when no full feeds of turnips are given, if the animals partake of too much emasculate, sloppy grass, this devoid of hay or other dry food as an alterative, would naturally chill the internal system as badly as partaking of too many turnips. A run on a dry, healthy grass field with racks kept full of hay is best for in-lamb ewes in November, but they might be folded at night behind the other turnip-fed sheep, where they could get a few shells or, if there were none, a few turnips given sparingly would not be likely to prove harmful.

Agricultural Imports.

The following account shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended October 27, 1906. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

ANIMALS (living).—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (14,614), 6,841; sheep and lambs (2,850), 2,391; horses (272), 280.

FRESH MEAT (cwt.).—Beef (86,425), 88,655; mutton (70,817), 59,856; pork (10,881), 12,456.

SALTED OR PRESERVED MEAT (cwt.).—Bacon (95,518), 102,257; beef (2,149), 2,478; hams (21,729), 23,114; pork (3,013), 3,026; meat, salted or fresh (13,822), 11,782; meat, preserved (12,330), 5,856.

DAIRY PRODUCE (cwt.).—Butter (65,409), 68,330; margarine (30,996), 21,271; cheese, (88,975), 73,424; milk, fresh (23), 0; milk, cream (117), 103; milk, condensed (19,172), 17,127; milk preserved (71), 178.

EGGS (Great hundreds).—(389,403), 427,207; poultry (value) (3,935), 3,663; game (value) (2,902), 2,843; rabbits, dead (not tinned) (cwt.) (15,845), 24,905; lard (cwt.) (43,173), 25,963.

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL AND FLOUR (cwt.).—Wheat (1,288,600), 1,405,300; wheat meal and flour (382,000), 215,900; barley (486,000), 789,800; oats, (321,100), 216,700; peas (47,090), 36,340; beans (10,290), 8,190; maize or Indian corn (718,000), 956,600.

FRUITS, RAW (cwt.).—Apples (160,500), 151,817; grapes (60,906), 70,510; pears (94,261), 14,530; plums (557), 8,064.

HAY (tons).—(2,639), 3,379; straw (tons) (1,914), 1,069; moss litter (tons) (1,211), 2,179; hops, (cwt.) (4,449), 6,236; locust beans (cwt.) (14,12[illegible]), 21,637.

VEGETABLES (RAW).—Onions (bushels) (210,135), 194,726; potatoes (cwt.) ([illegible]), 19,699; tomatoes (cwt.) (8,780), 9,[illegible].

Earl Carrington, it is stated, will [illegible] Norwich on the occasion of the [illegible] Cattle Show, and will be the guest of Mr. A[illegible] Fellowes (his predecessor as President of the Board of Agriculture) at Holkham, near Norwich.

Notes of the Week.

The partial destruction of the historic abbey at Selby is a matter of keen regret to the farmers of the neighbourhood.

It was founded by William the Conquerer in 1068, and was one of the finest examples of Norman architecture in the country.

It formed a prominent landmark in the surrounding flat, wide, agricultural district, famous for fat soil from the time the Benedictine monks cultivated the land.

Twenty years ago there was less than half a fowl per acre in England; now, taking Britain as a whole, there is nearly one fowl per acre, says *World's Work*.

It can't be said that the country is overcrowded with fowls. The "smart set" among the hens need not limit artificially the number of their individual families.

The Government of New Zealand is offering a reward of £500 to the man who discovers a new deposit of phosphate of lime in the colony.

Much of the cultivated land is very deficient in this ingredient. The average crop of turnips at the Government experimental farm on unmanured soil for a period of nine years was only 3 tons 8 cwt. per acre.

An application of a small quantity of phosphate of lime brought the crop up to 26 tons.

And the crop was increased to forty-three tons per acre by a dressing of soluble phosphate.

So no wonder the farmers are anxious to have a cheap source of phosphate instead of paying for the imported article.

There are 118 works (*officinas*) producing nitrate of soda in Chili.

"The use of the term 'barn gallon' in a contract renders the seller liable to a penalty," considers the Board of Agriculture.

The total number of samples of butter, cheese, milk, &c., examined under the Food and Drugs Act in 1904 was 84,678, of which 8·5 per cent. were found to be adulterated.

Last year the number was still greater, though the final figures are not yet published.

The Board of Agriculture distributed in the course of last year 1,647,660 leaflets. We hope their various contents have been duly digested.

By the way, the Board have a good agricultural library at their offices in Whitehall Place, and would like farmers to make more use of it.

Under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act 952 samples of fertilisers and 682 samples of feeding stuffs were analysed last year.

The county of Wilts sent the greatest number, 153 samples; while the neighbouring county of Somerset sent only fifteen samples.

The important county of Lancashire had only one sample test, while little Monmouthshire had fifty-nine.

These differences are curious. It cannot be assumed that the progressive Lancashire farmers are apathetic about the quality of the fertilisers and feeding stuffs supplied to them.

Probably the explanation lies in the fact that they have a good local agricultural society, and find it more convenient to apply to the analyst of the society.

Our legislators have again assembled, and it is hoped that they will be able to spare some time from the discussion of the suffragettes and plural voting to attend to agricultural matters.

The heavy rains of the past week have seriously impeded autumn work in the fields.

Otherwise the downpour has been very welcome in many localities, which have been suffering from the long summer drought.

The consumption of potash salts in France amounted last year to 41,000 tons. Ten years ago it was 16,000 tons.

Egypt is now importing large quantities of fertilisers, manufactured chiefly in Belgium. English makers ought to have this trade.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6. — Agricultural Fairs at Tregony, Preston, Thurles, and Kington—Preston Great Horse Sale—Meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, Adelphi, 11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7. — Stiltstead Agricultural Show—Cattle Fairs at Swaffham Buistry, Keighley, and Rochdale—Horse Fairs at Hereford and Rochdale—Mark Lane Corn Exchange Chrysanthemum Show—Raynbud's Sale at Basingstoke—Crewe, Special Horse Sale—Alford Bull Fair — Leighton Buzzard Special Horse Sale.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8.—Diss Agricultural Fair—Horse and Cattle Fairs at Pocklington, Hertford, Leeds, and Romney—Sheep Fairs at Romney and Diggleswade—Cattle Fairs at Sydney and Leominster—Romsey Annual Great Fair—Wimborne Autumn Horse Sale—Danesfield, Special Horse Sale.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9.—Cattle Fairs at Loughborough, Bingham, and Keighley—Chippenham Special Horse Sale — Lord Mayors Day. Farmers should avoid London markets if possible, business being very difficult.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10. — Horse Fairs at Ashby, Leeds, Appleby, and Carlisle—Cattle Fairs at Darlington, Leeds, Carlisle, and Appleby—Sheep Fairs at Hungerford and Appleby—Ireland's Special Sale of Store Cattle at Norwich—Entries close for the Horsham Fat Stock Show.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12.—Stamford Great Fair—Chelmsford, Woburn, and Redruth Cattle Fairs—Bakewell Horse and Cattle Fair—Warwick Horse and Pig Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Leeds, Rugby, Thirsk, and Cartmel—Many "Martinmas" fairs held on this day (for the 11th)—Entries close for Edenbridge Fat Stock Show.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13.—Cattle Fairs and Sales at Epping, Lostwithiel, Kingston, Rugby, Ashburton, Haverfordwest, Penrith, and Downham—Great Agricultural Fairs at Lynn, Hay, and Denbigh—Salisbury Horse Sale—Entries to be sent in for the Ipswich Fat Stock Show—Entries close for Ashford Cattle Show.

SOCIETIES.

Bath and West and Southern Counties.

A council meeting was held at Bristol on Tuesday last.

STOCK PRIZES.

Mr. Sillifant brought up the committee's report dealing with the prizes and regulations proposed for the Newport meeting. The report recommended that classes be added for Welsh Mountain ponies not exceeding 12·2 hands; that the present classes for Black Welsh cattle be increased from three to five, so as to permit of the old and young bulls and heifers being shown in separate classes; and that two classes be added for Welsh Mountain sheep.

DAIRYING.

Mr. G. Gibbons, in the absence of the chairman of the Dairy Committee, moved the adoption of the committee's report, which recommended that a class be added for three Cheddar cheeses, not over 56 lb. each, made in 1906; that the wording of the present class for Cheddar cheeses, made by the students in the society's cheese schools, be altered so as to admit of students in any county council cheese school and in the Western Counties Cheese School competing; and that the class for loaf or other Truckle cheeses be for old instead of new cheese.

ELECTION TO COUNCIL.

Mr. E. W. Farwell, of Laura Place, Bath, was elected to an extraordinary vacancy in the central division of the council, caused by the death of Mr. F. G. Farwell.

HORSE BREEDING.

A communication was read from the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, calling attention to the following resolution of the House of Lords:—"That in view of the importance of the horse-breeding industry to the community in general, and of the necessity for an adequate and efficient supply of horses for military and other purposes, it is, in the opinion of the House, desirable that steps should be taken to improve the breeding of horses by giving effect to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding in their tenth report, especially to those having reference to the improvement of the quality of brood mares"; and expressing a hope that the society would nominate representatives to attend a conference upon the subject, with a view to affording information and advice upon the subject before a scheme is drawn up for submission to the treasury.

On the motion of Colonel the Hon. C. Byng, seconded by the Rev. F. F. Buckingham, it was resolved that Major C. D. Sherston be appointed to represent the society at the Conference.

1907 MEETING.

Mr. C. D. Phillips, as chairman of the Newport Local Committee, stated that the local arrangements in connection with the society's meeting at Newport (Mon.), were progressing most satisfactorily, and that the committee would be in a position to contribute many special prizes specially suitable to the district and which would materially add to the attractions of the show.

Lincolnshire.

The report of the council for the year ended September 30 presented at the annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society stated that the Gainsborough Show was successfully carried through, and, considering that there were six other important exhibitions during the week the entries were considered favourable. Except for the first evening, however, the attendances were very disappointing, and the financial result shows a loss of £244 10s. 8d. The timber was purchased for £1,072 10s., and sold for £635 6s. 10d., showing a loss thereby of £437 3s. 2d., and straw, which was generously given last year, was an extravagant item, costing £43. The society now consists of sixty-nine life members, and 723 annual members. Since last year fifty-seven members had been struck off, with two life members, three vice-presidents, and twenty-one new members added.

The report added:—"The financial position of the society, as shown by the balance-sheet, implies that great care must be taken in future to have a prize list more in accordance with the smaller attendances which are to be expected. There are now so many other attractions and cheap fares offered by the railways to draw visitors elsewhere."

The council had decided to withhold their 1907 show in consequence of the Royal Show being held at Lincoln, and to do what they were able in drawing up a good prize list in regard to the interests of members of the society as well as to benefit farmers and breeders of Lincolnshire. The council therefore drew up a list of special prizes to be competed for by Lincolnshire exhibitors, amounting to £124, also a list for exhibitors of stock beyond what is entered in the open classes at the R.A.S.E. Show, amounting, with the Servants' and Labourers' Classes, to £306, for exhibition on one day only.

The report was adopted, and in connection with the Royal Show it was decided that all animals may be entered in the R.A.S.E. classes also, but in the event of their winning a money prize in those classes they will not be allowed to compete in the Lincolnshire Society's section.

Sir John Thorold was unanimously elected chairman for the ensuing year, and in thanking the members, said he was glad to accept the chairmanship of the Lincolnshire Society in the year that the Royal Show was coming into their own county.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Dan Albone.

It is with regret we have to record the death of Mr. Dan Albone—the inventor of the Ivel Agricultural Motor. He went to his works at Biggleswade on Monday apparently in his usual health, and while speaking over the telephone suddenly fell, and died in an hour. Mr. Albone was one of the first to bring out a lady's safety bicycle in the days of the "ordinary," and in the early days of the "safety" he was one of the most successful racers in the country, winning a great number of prizes and cups. Of late years his attention has been devoted to the Ivel agricultural motor for ploughing and other agricultural work, and with what success is public history.

We feel sure that his death will come as a very severe shock to the many acquaintances he had. He was at the time of his death in the prime of life, being only forty-six years of age.

Mr. Thomas Keeble.

The death was announced on Tuesday of Mr. Thomas Keeble, of Bentley Hall, one of the best-known Suffolk agriculturists. Mr. Keeble, who was in his seventy-fourth year, was a successful breeder of Shire horses, his stock being known all over the country and winning a great number of prizes. He was equally successful with Black-faced Suffolk sheep, and kept his renowned flock until August, when it was dispersed under the hammer. For a period long prior to the Large Black pig coming into prominence in Suffolk Mr. Keeble had a special breed of Large Blacks of his own, which were always admired and greatly sought after, and they were admitted into the class with Large Blacks as a recognised distinctive breed.

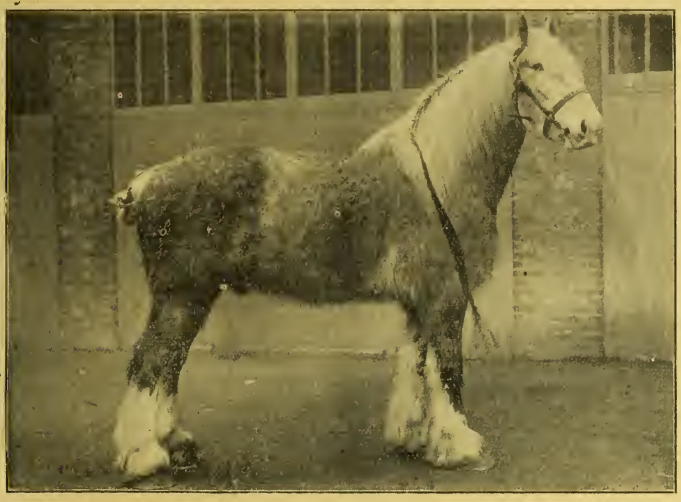
HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

WHY will they do it, these men of light and leading? If a man writes a novel and wishes to show his hero's prowess as a horseman, he straightway makes the horse do things that no horse could do under any circumstances, whilst as for the rider—well, his performances can only be described as miraculous. I have read of a lady being swept off her horse in mid stream and regaining her saddle! This, of course, is physically impossible. But bad as it is when the author takes the horse seriously, it is still worse when he treats him humorously. Mr. S. R. Crockett, for example, seems to see a great deal of humour in a lame van horse taking a fancy to sitting down on his haunches like a dog. I cannot see where the fun comes in myself, and a man who knows anything of horses knows that it is a very unusual thing for them to do.

WHEN a horse resorts to sitting down like a dog, he is either very badly over-marked or he has a very bad "pain in his temper" indeed.



SHIRE GELDING, MADRESFIELD GOOD HOPE.
Sire Madresfield Thumper; dam Madresfield Edith Lass; bred by Earl Beauchamp, Madresfield Court, Malvern, who won with it a First Prize in the Class for Geldings four years old, at the Shire Horse Society's Show this year.

In my long experience with horses, I only know of two instances of horses "sitting down," and I only saw one of them. This was a carting mare which a relative purchased, and which was, I think, the very worst-tempered brute I ever ran up against. Two mares were bought at Northallerton Fair, both good ones, but the mare in question was as good-looking a specimen of the Shire mare as one could clap an eye on. This was in the late sixties or early seventies, when horses were cheap, and the two young mares—they were four and five years old—came home for under £60 the two. They were sadly too cheap—at least, one of them was.

THIS was Blossom, who was first yoked in the horse-wheel of the threshing-machine. I went to see her tried, and I never saw a better puller "hung by the neck." She would start the machine—a heavy one—unaided. But there was an ominous scowl every now and again, and a hind leg lashed out occasionally, and I must say I did not like the symptoms. She next went to plough, and the ploughman, an exceptionally fine hand with a horse, told me that she went well enough, but that he did not like the way she scowled at each end of the field. The next day the fun began. The mare never jibbed; she kept pulling right enough, but she kicked and kicked hard the whole of the morning, getting worse instead of better. Haytime kept her from going to plough or to work of any kind for a few days, for she was not one to put in the mowing machine, and during those few days she showed strong symptoms of being a stable savage. Indeed she would kick sometimes at the man who was taking her corn to her.

NOW my relative was a good horseman, full of expedients, and he was determined not to be beaten. He liked the mare, knew she was worth a lot more money than she had cost if she could be got to work, and make her work quietly he would. Amongst his possessions was a diabolical kind of bit with which one could almost break a horse's jaw. This bit was made ready with string and a halter shank, and was put in her mouth as well as her ordinary bit, and the master undertook the management of it to see "fairplay." Blossom had not gone once round the field when she let drive, and immediately the gag-bit was sharply handled. She shook her head at the pain, was no doubt a little astonished at the cause and effect, and she went a few times round the field quietly. Let no man think he has beaten a wicked horse because the first punishment he gives him makes him pause in his career. Blossom went quietly, but there was an angry glcam in her eye and an ominous whisk of her tail. Then all at once back went her ears, and she kicked in vicious fashion. The punishment was again vigorously applied, and for a time she was quiet. But within a quarter of an hour she was at it again, and the moment the bit was used she sat down on her haunches and screamed with rage. I never heard a horse give utterance to such a noise. A whip vigorously applied made her get up, and she was loosed from the plough and lunged with the chains dangling about her legs. She kicked no little, but the bit was applied and the whip when she sat down, which she did two or three times, and then she went to the plough again and worked quietly for an hour.

IN the afternoon we put her in the cart to lead hay, tying her well down with cart ropes, and still keeping the severe bit in her mouth. "She can't kick herself over the shafts now," said her owner, "so let her kick." She worked quietly enough for a short time, but was evidently "thinking it out." Then as she was standing in the stackyard with a load of hay partly delivered, she gave one kick and made a bolt of it. I ran to get to her head, unthinkingly, but the "let her go" of her owner brought me to my senses, and I saw the danger. She jumped a sunk fence fully 3 ft. 6 in. high, landed all right, and galloped round the field kicking all the time, and, of course, spilling the hay. She stopped, the hay was loaded up again, and she was taken back to the field.

EVERYONE'S back was up by this time—so was the mare's. When she went back to the field she made another bolt of it. Luckily the men let her go. Between the two meadows from which we were leading hay was a very strong, cleanly-cut thorn fence. For some time it was a favourite place for youngsters to lark over as they were coming home from hunting, but it had grown too big and too strong for larking, and it was a formidable jump for a good hunter. Straight at it went Blossom and cleared it handsomely, and the marks made by the cart wheels were easily discernible for many a year. Fortunately in her mad fury she galloped into a haycock, and this upset her. Not a stitch of the harness was broken, nor was the cart broken; so we put her into the cart again, and said "Kick." And she did kick; the sound of her kicking against the cart was like file-firing. And at night when she was taken out of the cart her hock was three times the size, and the now oak fore-beam to the cart was broken.

IT was our last adventure with her, and we sold her to a neighbour who had a large Whinstone quarry. Her vagaries were well known; indeed, her hock, which never went down, was a proof of them, but she was a good puller, and he said he had a man that he thought could manage her, and there would be two fools together anyhow, in which he was quite right. And the man did manage her. He was rough with her always; she had a hard day's work every day, and did not get quite so well kept as she had been with us, and when she "played up," which she did occasionally, he hammered her well with a short whip-stock he always carried. She worked for some time leading stones, but what came of her in the end I do not remember. Of course, she was drugged when we bought her.

THE only case I ever heard of a horse sitting down from sheer distress was on the day when Lord Middleton's hounds had that terrible wold run of some forty miles, when one or two horses were killed, and when tired horses were squandered all over the country. A friend told me that as he was scrambling home on his tired horse he came across another sportsman who called at a village inn for some gruel for his horse. And as he spoke the horse quietly sat down like a dog. His owner got him home that night, and he came round all right. These are the only two horses I ever *knew* to sit down like a dog, and I cannot see the humour of the situation in either case. I have, of course, heard of one or two other cases, but nothing circumstantial about them, and I should doubt their authenticity.

I AM very much interested in the letters referring to Fanny Drape and Duell's Star in the issue of October 22. Mr. Law, whom I have had the pleasure of meeting once or twice when I have been hunting in Cumberland, if I mistake not, and to whom I am writing privately, has set me right about the pedigree. He says the mare was ridden at Manchester by her owner, Mr. Casson. Of this I know nothing, but my authority for stating that Mr. George Mulcaster rode the mare at Manchester was that gentleman himself. As I understood him, he made a bet of a bottle of champagne than Fanny Drape jumped a certain height. I think it was a 6 ft. wall, and he rode her over it, and, of course, won his bet. It may have been that the bet was decided when the public were not in the yard or when the show was over; but Mr. Mulcaster told me that he rode the mare at Manchester under the circumstances I have related.

NOW for the pedigree of the mare. Mr. Law and "Burghsider" have put me right as to her not being by a Cleveland horse, and her sire A British Yeoman was one of the best horses that ever covered half-bred mares in Cumberland. The latter gentleman says that her dam was by Galser, a horse of whom I know nothing. I am, however, confident that there is the authority of a Cleveland Bay stallion card for the statement that there is Cleveland Bay blood close at the top of Fanny Drape's pedigree. When I read Mr. Law's letter I thought it might be the sire of the dam, but "Burghsider" puts that out of court at once. I have the card somewhere, but I have some hundreds of cards, and it is scarcely worth while looking through them, as the mare never bred anything.

DUELL'S Star was a contemporary of Fanny Drape, though I cannot remember whether they met at Middlesbrough when the late Mr. E. Mulcaster rode the latter mare there in 1868 or 1869. It would be interesting to know if the Cleveland breeding of Fanny Drape was in any way similar to Star's breeding. It is by no means unlikely, but it is questionable whether it can be traced at this distance of time. By the way, has not "Another Looker-On" made a slip of the pen when he says he drove Star in harness sixty years ago. Supposing she was three years old when he drove her, this would have made her thirty-seven or thirty-eight when she was shown at the Cleveland show at Guisborough and the first three prizes in the Jumping Class were divided between her and other two. Any information about these matters will be thankfully received. THE LOOKER-ON.

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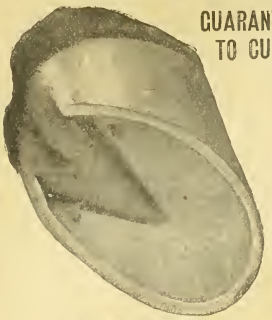
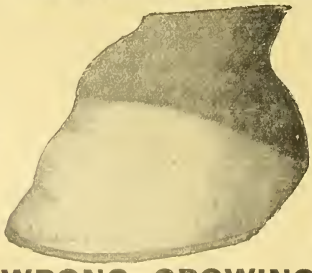


CORNS,

SAND CRACKS

CONTRACTED HEELS



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FROM—

E. F. DEMUTH

83, MANSELL ST., LONDON, E.

Sales at Crewe.

Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons' eleventh annual autumn sales at their Repository, Crewe, on October 24, 25, and 26, proved most successful; 1,000 horses of all classes were offered, and with a large attendance of buyers some good prices were realised. On the first day the catalogue comprised 250 high-class Hunters, the majority having been cub-hunted up to date, and were ready for immediate work. Mr. C. B. Roberts (Burley) and Mr. Rollaston (Leamington) officiated as judges, and awarded the champion cup for best Hunter to Messrs. S. and J. McMorrun, for their chesnut gelding, which was sold for 200 guineas to Captain Swettenham; r, Mr. W. Blockley's bay gelding, 100 guineas; vhc, Mr. Young's gelding, 115 guineas; hc, Mr. J. M. Washington's gelding, 76 guineas; c, Mr. T. Green's gelding, 76 guineas. Messrs. S. and J. McMorran's gelding made 76 guineas, Mr. W. Brown's 96 guineas, Mr. J. C. Carpenter's 86 guineas, Mr. H. Massey's 116 guineas and 106 guineas, Mr. J. Young's 115 guineas, Mr. W. Blockley's 100 guineas, and Mr. J. D'Arcy Hartley's mare 96 guineas, whilst other good prices were obtained.

On the second day 350 high-class ride and drive horses, match pairs, brougham horses, pedigree Hackneys, show cobs and ponies were brought under the hammer. Mr. Pusey (Watford) and Mr. G. Ledson (Bromborough), the judges, awarded the prizes as follows:—Best harness horse, Mr. J. Kershaw's brown gelding sold for 72 guineas; r, Mr. J. Lucas's mare, 70 guineas; vhc, Mr. W. Thornthwaite's gelding, 50 guineas; hc, Mr. P. Jones's mare, 45 guineas; c, Mr. J. Beckett's gelding, 41 guineas. Best cob, 14 hands and under 15 hands, 1, Mr. D. Richards' cob, 57 guineas; r, Mr. E. Bradshaw's gelding, 31 guineas; c, Mr. J. Beckett's gelding, 34 guineas. Best pony under 14 hands, Mr. J. A. Graham's gelding, 24½ guineas; r, the Gwalior Stud's gelding, 32½ guineas; vhc, Mr. W. T. Coombe's mare, 27 guineas; hc, Mr. Capey's mare, 36 guineas; c, the Gwalior Stud's mare, 30 guins.

The last day's sale consisted of 400 heavy horses, the chief feature of which were the pedigree Shires. Amongst the entries were many animals of great merit, possessing size, subtanee, and quality. The heavy town mares and geldings were also a grand lot. The judging was entrusted to Mr. J. B. Hill, Smethwick Hall; Mr. A. C. Sparkes, Altrincham; Mr. W. Allen, Market Drayton; and Mr. T. J. Dutton, Chester, who made their awards as follows:—For the best mare or gelding fit for town work, silver cup, value 10 guineas, Mr. R. Davies, 81 guineas; r., Mr. M. Smith's gelding, 75 guineas; v.h.c., Mr. A. Allan's gelding, 68 guineas; h.e., Mr. F. Beeston's gelding, 58 guineas; e., Mr. R. Davis's gelding, 58 guineas. Best gelding or filly, foaled 1903, 1904, or 1905, non-pedigree, 1, Mr. J. B. Hill's gelding, 43 guineas; r., Mr. A. Wright's mare, 38 guineas; v.h.e., Mr. A. Cooper's filly, 33½ guineas; h.e., Mr. J. Eley's mare, 35 guineas; e., Sir P. Walker's gelding, 26½ guineas. For the best Shire mare, foaled in or prior to 1902, realising 75 guineas or over, a silver cup, value 5 guineas, was awarded to Mr. S. S. Raingill's Grange Good Friday; and a silver cup, value 5 guineas, for the best Shire foal realising 50 guineas and over, went to Mr. Kenneth H. Wright's filly foal by Lockinge Forest King, which was sold for 88 guineas.

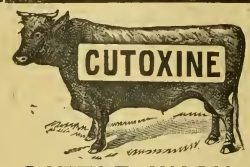
VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Colic Drench for Horses.

SIR,—Can you tell me what the bottle contains which veterinary surgeons give to horses suffering from colic?—W. C.

Answer: Almost every veterinary surgeon has his own special formula for colic drench, and thus the contents of the bottle varies according to the ideas of the prescriber, and, to some extent at least, according to what he conceives to be the requirements of the case. If you want a formula for a colic drink to keep by you for use in emergencies, the following will be suitable:—Tincture of opium, 1 ounce; oil of turpentine, 2 ounces; linseed oil, to 1 pint. Give this as it is, followed by a little warm gruel. Walk the horse about to prevent his rolling, rub the belly with a wisp, and, if necessary, repeat the drench in two hours, but not more than two doses should be given. Understand that it is not claimed that this recipe is better than any other; it may not even be the most suitable under all circumstances, but it is inexpensive, easily procured, will keep good for any length of time if properly corked and sealed, and often cuts short an attack in its initial stage. Colic is, however, a preventable disease, and we would rather furnish you with advice concerning this than recipes for its cure. M.R.C.V.S.



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REMOVES, by radiation, all soft swellings that disfigure a Horse, such as Wind-galls, Bog Spavin, Thoroughpin, Capped Elbow, &c. No blister; no laying up; no hair removed. It is less harmful than water to a Horse's skin, the swellings simply disappear not to return. It makes a worn Horse's legs fine.—5/- *of Chemists, or from*

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WIND-GALL *Write for Illustrated Booklet, T.*

Sale of Berkshires at Motcombe.

A large number of Berkshire pigs from Mr. Arthur Hiscock's well-known herd at Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorsetshire, were sold by auction on October 26, by Messrs. Thornton and Co., and, as will be seen by the list appended, some capital prices were reached, the sixty-nine head averaging 11 guineas each. There was a large company present, notwithstanding the fact of the three sales of Berkshire pigs taking place almost within a week. Some Large and Middle Whites were also sold, and made good prices, although not up to those got for the Berkshires.

The Large White sow, Manor Fair Lady, realised 11½ guineas from Lord Wolverton, and the next sow, Manor Theodora, with a nice litter of nine, went at 15 guineas to Major Chichester, whilst the boar, Pride 2nd, went to Mr. Cox at 8 guineas. The sow British Lady, with a litter of nine, remains in Dorset with Mr. H. Christopher, Broadmayne, Dorchester, at 13 guineas. Church Belle came in with eleven one-day-old pigs, and realised 12½ guineas, to go to Lord Salisbury, Hatfield, who also bought her own sister, Church Lady, at 8½ guineas. In the Middle White section, the sow Warron Madge 3rd went to Mr. Brown, Southampton, at 13 guineas, whilst the boar Manor Royalist was purchased for the Duchess of Newcastle at 8 guineas.

The total number of lots sold was ninety-two, and the aggregate receipts of the sale in the respective classes were as follow:—Berks, 759 guineas; Large Whites, 126½ guineas; Middle Whites, 35½ guineas; total, 921 guineas, or £967 1s. The sale of the Berks averaged 11 guineas each, which, recollecting the fact that some of the lots consisted of very young pigs, and also that only one lot reached anything like 40 guineas, must be considered quite a satisfactory average. The Large Whites averaged £8 6s. each, and the Middle Whites £5 6s. 6d. each—a result that goes very conclusively to show the high estimation in which the Motcombe pigs are generally held, especially as the catalogue this year included a number of very young animals, which naturally reduced the average. The chief sales of Berkshires were as follows:—

Sow Lady Victor, f Mar. 1, 1903; s First Rank F	Lord Wolverton	17
Sow Manor Countess, f April 6, 1905; s Stratton Monarch	Mr G Talfourd Inman	22
Sow Manor Signet, f Aug. 29, 1904; s Grafton Squire 8860	Hon C Portman	27
Sow Manor Duchess, f Sept. 1, 1902; s Cartwright	Duchess of Devonshire	29
Sow Lady Dorchester, f Sept. 3, 1905; s Herrison Harold	Mr A Macan	13
Sow Miss Willmington, f Sept. 1, 1905; s Herrison Ronald	Lord Cawdor	11
Sow Miss Herrison, own sister to previous lot	Mr A Macan	16
Sow Lady Macdonald, f Dec. 10, 1905; s Herrison Ronald	Mr R W Hudson	15
Sow Tavistock Beauty, f Nov. 6, 1905; s Lord Alfred	Capt Morrison	25
Sow Tavistock Grand Lady, own sister to previous lot	Hon C Portman	25
Sow, own sister to previous lot	Mr A Macan	26
Sow, own sister to previous lot	Mr C Morris	11½
Sow Queen of Brilliance, f June 6, 1905; s Compton Squire	Lord Allington	40
Sow Manor Choice Mabel, f Jan. 2, 1905; s Velmore Duke	Lord Carnarvon	26
Sow Lady Bruce, f Sept. 21, 1905; s Lord Alfred	Mr C Morris	12
Sow Lady Brewster, own sister to previous lot	C Wherry	11½
Boar Lord Julian, f July 19, 1905; s Hightide F B	Dr Macdonald	20
Boar Manor Viceroy, f Jan. 8, 1906; s Herrison Ronald	Hon C Portman	26
Boar Manor Chief, f Jan. 4, 1906; s Velmore Czar	Lord Cawdor	12
Sow Miss Ronald, f Feb. 10, 1906; s Herrison Ronald	Mr A Brown	14

Sale of Mr. J. A. Fricker's Berkshires.

The name of Mr. J. A. Fricker has long been associated with the breeding of Berkshires, the herd at Burton, Wilts, having been established over fifty years ago, and until last week no public sale had taken place on Mr. Fricker's farm. On Thursday, however, a choice selection was brought under the hammer, and a large number of breeders travelled to Burton, close to the old-fashioned Wiltshire town of Mere, to secure one or more of the well-known Bright or May Burton strains. The grand lot of old sows (with one exception), all bred on the farm, have seldom been beaten at any public sale, and although only in ordinary condition, made excellent prices. Lot 2, Long Form F, was secured by Mr. Ransome, of Suffolk, at 17½ guineas; Lot 3, Bright's Keepsake, to Mr. F. H. Jennings, at 15 guineas, also to go into Suffolk; and lot 4 to Mr. Arthur Hiscock, at 24 guineas, to join his herd at Motcombe. Lot 14 was considered one of the best pigs offered for sale this season, and was quickly purchased by Mr. Jefferson, of Peel Hall, at 28 guineas, who also secured the two following lots at 8 guineas each. Lot 18 went to Capt. Behrens, in Yorkshire, at 20 guineas, and lot 19 to Mr. A. Macan, of co. Navan, at 16 guineas.

Among other good purchasers may be mentioned the Duchess of Devonshire, Lord Carnarvon, Lord Wolverton, Sir W. Corbet, Bart., Messrs. A. Brown, L. Currie, E. S. Green, G. Wood Homer, J. Lawrence, J. McMonies, and Mr. E Wherry.

The trade was brisk throughout, many of the breeders having sold a large number for exportation during the last few months, and an average price of £6 14s. 9d. was obtained for the eighty-three lots sold, sixty-six of which had been farrowed this year.

BERKSHIRE SOW, BURBIDGE XXII., AND HER LITTER.
Burbidge XXII., with her litter, won the First Prize in the Open Class for Berkshire Sows, in-pig or with litter of not less than six pigs, at the Tring Agricultural Society's Show this year. She was bred and exhibited by the Hon. A. Holland Hibbert, Munder, Watford, and is by Munden Baronet 9472, out of Burbidge XX.

Notes and Jottings.

FOR the past fortnight there has been a generally brighter tone prevailing in the beef markets of the country for both dressed beef and that on the leg, that it is not surprising that in the Metropolitan Market on Monday last a choice consignment of Aberdeens are quoted as having realised 5s. per stone of 8 lb. It is also very satisfactory to note that all other qualities experienced a better demand, and prices were a shade higher. West Highland Scots have touched the 5s. line for several weeks past where brought out ripe and of good symmetry and quality. We use the word symmetry because in the finished bullock it means that he has a good back and well-filled hind-quarters where the best beef lies, and also that he has laid the flesh on pretty evenly.

THE brighter prospect for selling beef during the next few weeks is not confined to England or Great Britain altogether. America speaks in very satisfactory terms of the prospective prices for finished stock for the festive season, Chicago estimating that dollars will be freely parted with to secure the best class of beef steers or heifers of the improved breeds. It has been mentioned in these notes previously, that the foreign cattle landed at our wharves are of much better quality proportionately than the sheep that are sent there. The quotations in the markets at Deptford last week illustrate this in a very marked manner. The best States beasts on offer on Monday last stand at the quotation of 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb., which is only 2d. per stone below the quotation for Herefords and Devons in the Islington Market. Whilst for mutton the best sheep at Deptford are quoted at 4s. 4d. per 8 lb., whilst the best English at Islington reached 6s. 4d.

IT is not quite clear whether the lower proportionate price of the foreign sheep as compared with the home fed ones is due to the better general quality of the latter, or whether it is that sheep do not stand the ocean journey so well as cattle, and therefore come into the market in a more sinking and depreciated condition. One thing that seems to appeal strongly to the impression that a great deal of the better price obtaining for the cattle than the sheep is the fact that the foreign breeders of cattle have been much more liberal in their purchases of our best bulls for getting beef cattle, and for a greater number of years, than the buyers of sheep, the latter in a large number of cases having paid more attention to wool than mutton in their purchase of English sheep. In any case, the improvement wrought in foreign cattle stock by the importation so largely of British bulls has left and is leaving its mark.

A NOTE in last week's issue with respect to the housing of dairy cattle is exactly a repetition of the housing history in our forefathers' time. These dairy farmers of a century ago always kept their milk cows out in the field as late in the autumn as possible, and would tell you, "Yes, the first night the cows lie in the milk yield abates." This is quite true, but there must be a line drawn as to the state and description of the cattle. We should be very sorry to trust a newly-calved cow out in the fields all night during the present changeable spell of weather, when the thermometer will often go down from a mild 50 or even 55 deg. at five in the afternoon to below freezing point ere daylight comes. We have known many a steer, even of the hardiest breed, to be placed *hors de combat* by a freezing temperature in the morning following a mild wet evening of the previous day.

THEN also a good deal hinges upon the food used. When lying out after November 1 or, say, October 20, milch cattle must be prepared for the cold and damp by a good lining of [illegible] food, as cake or meal, and it is quite a question then if the loss of manure occasioned and the souring of the pastures does not more than counterbalance the better yield of milk reported. With store cattle not in milk, there appears to be many advantages accruing to an owner like a good deal of shedding room and labour is economised, and the cattle thrive very much better when the next summer grass appears, and with these, too, it often happens that no expensive cakes are being used, simply a little hay or oat-straw thrown

on the grass. Where cake is used for this class of stock it is generally for the purpose of causing the cattle to pull off a lot of old coarse grass that has been left from the summer feeding.

WHILST upon the subject of the winter dairy and the outlying of the cattle, it is perhaps worth while to make a note that as a rule there are more complaints about bad flavour in butter just at this time of the year than at any other during the twelve months. Many producers of the highest class of butter at other times of the year are often at their wits' end to know why it is that their butter possesses a taint or a flavour that is not only unsatisfactory but even damaging to the credit of the dairy. More often than not—indeed, we may estimate that 90 per cent. of the complaints of the flavour of butter at this time of year are caused by the cows picking up the fallen foliage of trees. The leaves of some trees, notably the horse chestnut, gives a very unpleasant flavour to butter, and at this time of year cows will pick up and often eat greedily the foliage that has fallen and withered under the trees.

BREEDERS of Lincoln Red Shorthorns are rightly making a move to get their breed well represented at the forthcoming Royal Show at Lincoln next year. A good sum of money appears to have been voted to add to the prize list, and there is certain to be a good show of this breed upon the occasion mentioned. The breed is one of our most useful all-round breeds, and is improving rapidly year by year. It is true that the leading honours at the recent London Dairy Show did not fall to a specimen of this breed; nevertheless, those that were shown gave an excellent account of themselves, and in many of the milking trials at other shows during the past two or three years or more, Lincoln Reds have carried off first honours. At Dublin and Belfast, especially, has the herd done well, and it is much to its recommendation that animals sold to Irish breeders are still retaining their good form in their adopted country.

THE display of cattle at the great Argentine Show at Palermo appears to have struck English visitors very much, the native bred Shorthorns being especially good. The Argentine has long been known to produce beef in its best and bulkiest form, and it is pretty certain that this is one of the reasons why these native bred Shorthorns gave such an excellent account of themselves. Many years ago, when the Argentine was in a state of unrest in its government, and before the wealth of its land for agricultural and stock breeding purposes had become known to the world at large, an old schoolfellow of the writer's who had settled there, informed him that he fattened Shorthorns up to a ton weight on grass alone. When development of this kind can be produced by Nature alone, so to speak, animals will naturally make the best of themselves, and probably those that have been bred there, and are perhaps only one remove from their British ancestors would probably make quite as good a show as recently imported stock.

ANOTHER great point in favour of the Argentine as a cattle raising country is its very slight winter. Cattle are practically, according to all we hear, able to make progress the year round on much less exacting terms from house feeding than is the case in England, and where steady progress can be maintained so easily the symmetry of the animal seldom suffers, neither does the wealth of flesh decrease. At home when winter makes its appearance many cattle that are what may be termed well cared for, lose their shape considerably, and it frequently happens that when once lost the earlier refined symmetry is not regained even though considerable expense may be lavished upon the animals.

THE show appears to have been a very extensive one as regards numbers, seventy-one bulls being shown in the three-year-old class of Shorthorns. Prices in the show at auction also appear to have been what must be called most satisfactory, such sums as £1,913 English money being paid in one instance and £2,174 in another, for native bred Shorthorn bulls. Prices very little lower were also paid for other bulls, those quoted being for prize and champion winners. A country possessed of immense wealth in corn as well as a wealthy soil and good climate, and peopled with a people enthusiastic in their stock-breeding enterprise, will surely develop into at least one of the leading cattle breeding countries of the world, both as regards quality and quantity of its cattle. Time will prove to what extent the native bred stock will need replenishing with imported blood.

JUDGING from the different photographs of the stock exhibited at the various shows, this fall in Canada and the States the beef breeds, both Shorthorns, Herefords, and Angus appear to have been wonderfully well represented in numbers and to have been well brought out, and, we may add another very important remark, well selected. The American breeder, whether he be a North or South American, has many advantages over the Britisher in having such large numbers to select from. There is certainly much more opportunity to select one good one or twenty good ones from a herd of several hundred head than from the limited numbers that most people who are breeding cattle in Great Britain have from which to choose their exhibition specimens. In our own country breeding is, we may say, everything; in these larger countries selection is a great deal.

LOOKING over some cattle in Ireland some time ago the owner informed me that in order to get his one steer or heifer for exhibition he mated his cow or heifer with the bull he could find best adapted as likely to make up in the offspring any deficiencies that might chance to be apparent in the dam. Nothing was thought of sending the cow or heifer a journey of a hundred miles or more to obtain a satisfactory mate. This is breeding in the highest sense of the word, and the results obtained justified the steps taken to obtain them. But what a study of needed points was this. The many little ins and outs to be balanced up, the size, the strain, likely to milk; it is all a science, and worth the consideration, and the man who succeeds in breeding a first prize winner and champion when he has but perhaps one female to mate must be reckoned amongst the cleverest of the clever, such success following my Irish friend's choice.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

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Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

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The London & North-Western Railway Co. are specially stopping the 10.10 a.m. train from Euston Station, London, due at Leighton 11.10 a.m. on the day of Sale.

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FOX & CO. will SELL BY AUCTION at the CROWN HOTEL, EDENBRIDGE, on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1906, at Three o'clock (present entries of) about

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Full descriptive Catalogues may be obtained of Messrs. Fox and Co., Land and Timber Surveyors, Edenbridge, Kent. P.O. Telephone, No. 11.

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THE MARK LANE EXPRESS

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Also a very fine lot of Pyramid Apples, 1, 2, and 3-year on English Paradise. About 50,000 Half-Standard Apples on Crab Stock; also Pears and Plums. About 20,000 Black Currants, 40,000 Gooseberries (including 5,000 May Duke). 15,000 Red and White Currants. 50,000 Raspberries. 20,000 Asparagus Plants, and several thousand Strawberry Plants, several tons Scotch Potato Seed, about 1,000 Loganberry Plants.

Free Luncheon at 11 a.m. Sale at 11.30 a.m.

NOTICE.—The Auctioneers desire to call the attention of Fruit Growers, Market Gardeners, and intending Planters to this Important Sale. It is seldom such an opportunity offers itself for securing new and rare kinds of Fruit Trees, etc., in such large quantities. All are well grown and healthy; they are without doubt the finest lot of Fruit Trees ever yet offered at Cliffe.

Fourteen Days will be allowed to clear and settle Accounts. Messrs. Horne and Sons will lift and cart all lots and put them on rail after the Sale free of charge.

Catalogues free of Messrs. HORNE AND SONS, Cliffe, near Rochester; and of the AUCTIONEERS, 67 and 68, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Cattle consigned to Ireland's, Norwich, will be properly fed and carefully attended to.

All cattle weighed upon entry to the Sale Ring if desired.

Full particulars to be sent to—

IRELAND'S, Auctioneers,
Norwich, Norfolk.

Sale of Red Polls at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons twentieth annual sale of pedigree Red Polls at the Drill Hall, Ipswich, took place on Tuesday, when about sixty animals were offered, they being from numerous Suffolk and Norfolk herds. There was a good attendance of buyers. The best animals were in good demand at satisfactory prices. The prizes for bulls calved in 1905 or 1906 were judged by Mr. D. F. Smith, of Easton, who awarded the first to Mr. Alfred Smith, Rendlesham, and the second to Mr. C. F. Newton, Saham, Norfolk, but the second prize animal fetched 8 guineas more than the first prize winner, the respective figures being 28 guineas and 20 guineas. These, together with 20 guineas obtained by Mr. T. Tindal, Methold, were the best prices for bulls, the others selling from 18 guineas downwards. Cows and heifers made up to 24½ guineas, got by Lord Cranworth, whilst another of his cows with a calf fetched 24 guineas, but this figure was beaten by Mr. R. Eaton White, who sold a cow and her calf for 30 guineas: other prices ranged up to 18 guineas.

Kidderminster Store Stock Sale.

Messrs. Nock and Joseland held their special autumn sale of store stock at Kidderminster on Friday, October 26, when they were favoured with a first-class entry of stock, which numbered nearly 600 cattle and 1,811 sheep and lambs. The cattle

included some capital entries of home-bred Hereford and Shorthorn bullocks and heifers in forward condition for winter feeding, and the best quality met a ready sale. Amongst the best lots were 21 two-year old Hereford steers from Mr. Evan Thomas (Kinlet), which made up to £16 5s. per head; 33 Mr. Jos. Blackford (Dunclent), £15; 8 Mrs. Gittens (Stottesden), £13 17s. 6d., and others up to £13 2s. 6d; whilst 6 Shorthorns from Mr. W. Dorrell (Envillo) made £14 15s; 23 Mr. H. Oliver (Elmley), £14 15s.; 90 Mr. J. Green, £14, and several others £13. The sheep and lambs were a very large entry, being several hundreds over the figure advertised, and met a good demand: 60 beautiful Kerry wethers from Mr. T. H. Whitcman (Leominster) making up to 47s. each; 300 Shropshire and Radnors from Mr. A. Hodgetts (Northfield), 45s. 6d.; 100 Shropshires and Hampshires from Mr. J. G. Green, 48s. Store lambs totalled over 1,200 head, the majority ready to go to roots at once; 100 Shropshires from Mr. F. Smith (Worcester) reaching 43s. each; 70 Mr. Mark Southall (Wannerton), 41s.; 200 Mr. J. G. Greeu, 39s. 6d.; 160 Mr. A. Hodgotts, 37s. 6d.; 80 Mr. H. Oliver, 36s.; 20 Mr. W. O. Attwood (Alveley), 34s; 20 Mr. H. Nickless (Woodcote), 36s. 6d. Sixty in-lamb ewes from Mr. J. G. Green made up to 48s. 6d. each.

South Devons for New Zealand.

It is interesting to find that a consignment of the above has just been shipped off from London by the s.s. *Ruapelin* to Wellington, New Zealand, and purchased by Mr. George Pain of that country. This being the first consignment of the breed to that far-off land it is hoped they will arrive safely, and no doubt they will thrive in that congenial clime equally as well as they have in other countries to which they have been exported.

This selection of six heifers (in-calf) was made from the well-known herd of Mr. Fred W. Rowe's, Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. These heifers were all sired by that famous cup-winning bull Merry Boy (1495), champion of the breed at this season's shows. The bull selected by Mr. Lowe to go out with the heifers was sired by a fine cup-winning bull, Saltrem.

The South Devon breed of cattle have come to the front very much of late years, since it has been proved that their combined qualities for producing beef and dairy produce is excellent. The Trevego herd has, amongst other winnings, taken the coveted Championship at the West of England Fat Stock Show against all breeds three times, also first prize at the Smithfield Show, 1905. As milk and butter producers it has been proved by Mr. Thomas Cundy, Devonport, one of England's most successful dairymen at the Royal Dairy Show, London, that the South Devons want a lot of beating.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*).

At Collooney Fair, co. Sligo, held on October 31. Large fair, brisk demand for all classes of cattle, and a good clearance effected. Calves, 1st class, £4 10s. to £6; 2nd class, £4 to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £9; 2nd class, £6 to £7 2s. 6d.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 to £12; 2nd class, £9 to £10 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 to £15 10s.; 2nd class, £11 10s. to £12 15s.; springers, 1st class, £16 10s. to £18 5s.; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £14 5s. Good lambs very dear; 1st class, £1 16s. to £2 2s.

Sale of Mr. J. Dean's Farm Stock.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, of Salisbury, submitted to auction at Chitterne, Wilts, on Wednesday, the greater portion of the live and dead farming stock, the property of Mr. J. Dean. A very large company was present, with the result that a most satisfactory sale was effected. The sale commenced with 200 lots of dead stock, which sold extremely well, elevators making £25 18s. and £17; waggons, £22, £19, £15 (twice), £13, &c.; carts, from £8 10s.; iron water barrels, £9 10s., £8, £6 10s., &c.; a Strawson's sprayer, £12 10s.; broadcast, £10; Albion mowers, from £10; four-horse sets of harness, £14, £11, &c.

A luncheon was then partaken of, the sale being resumed with 225 registered Hampshire Down ewes of the old Chitterne blood. Thirty two-teeth ewes in four lots made 80s., 76s., 72s., and 70s. respectively; 45 four-teeth ewes, 70s., 66s., 64s., 61s, and 59s.; 80 six-teeth ewes, 65s., 64s., 61s., 59s., 57s., and 52s.; 70 regular draft ewes, from 47s. to 54s., the whole averaging 60s. per head. The teams of cart horses made 46 guineas, 45 guineas, 43 guineas, 41 guineas, 39 guineas, 37 guineas, 36 guineas, 33 guineas, and 32 guineas (twice) for the younger horses, older ones making from 31 guineas downwards. A cob turn-out made 42 guineas, and a brown nag mare 24 guineas.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

HEAVY rains have hastened up the conditions of winter sheep keeping, but fortunately frost keeps away, so there is still a rapid growth of roots. November is generally the month when swedes put on their greatest weight, the dying down of the under leaves sending a supply of nutriment to the bulbs. The sheep pens are sticky now, and we reiterate recent remarks as to the necessity of keeping the claws clear of leaf stalks and dirt, or lameness will inevitably be set up.

WHERE the straw coverings of mangel heaps become saturated in the heavy rains, either fresh straw next to the roots, or special care in covering in other ways should be provided, for wet straw is a good conductor of frost, and frost follows wet into a clamp very readily. It is the layer of dry straw that acts as a non-conductor and breaks the influence of frost when the earth covering gets frozen through. There is no food to spare this year in many places, therefore there is greater need of precaution against loss by frost.

NEW ZEALAND has a way of reminding the Mother Country of her duties whether in time of war or peace, and there is generally sanity in the suggestions made by these energetic colonials. "From dingoes, drought, and scab," was the old-time litany of the Australian squatters, for if delivered from these they had easy times. They would probably add rabbits to their prayer now. The New Zealanders have rabbits galore, and have been very severe on scab, and the National Sheep Breeders' Association, at their meeting to-morrow, will deal with a resolution from the New Zealand Sheep Breeders' Association, asking them to use their influence to press the Government to increase their efforts to stamp out sheep scab: The long period of quarantine to which sheep imported from England into Australia and New Zealand is largely due to the existence of scab among British flocks, which acts as a hindrance to the importation of fresh blood. New Zealanders are making money fast, and can afford to spend money on their flocks and it is unsatisfactory that the laxity of a few English flock owners should stand in the way of the good business which might be done with those down under. Such men as those who are associated with the association know well how needful it is to stamp out the disease, and it is only a comparative few negligent men, with no public spirit, who have hindered its extinction. However hard the association presses the matter, its members may be sure of full support from the majority of flock owners.

THE Hampshire breeders boast their "Derby" in the flock competition at Salisbury Fair, and some other societies give prizes for flocks or sections of flocks, but for the extent and comparative usefulness of the breed it is doubtful if any breed benefits so greatly as the Suffolk from breed competitions. It is fortunate in having a number of challenge cups offered by spirited landowners, and the annual competition for these always brings about a good entry. They give those who have not yet reached the stage of exceptional success in the showyard an opportunity of demonstrating that their flocks are in an improving condition, and thus many who hesitate to enter showyard competition have courage to enter when they know that the general level of their flocks is high, while those which have become well known through showyard honours have to demonstrate that not merely can they find a few good animals for exhibition, but that they have good flocks throughout. Not a little of showyard success is due to smart preparation; on the exceptional merit of a few animals, therefore, great good is done when a stimulus of this sort is provided for the man who keeps a good working flock.

AFTER a run round Ireland, where every little association manages to get hold of a grant from one or other of the Government bodies with money at disposal, and where the tenant farmer does not particularly exert himself in matters of self-help, and where over £100,000,000 has been found from British funds to give the tenants the opportunity to buy outright their farms for a less annual sum than they paid previously as yearly rent; and whilst each successive Minister of Agriculture pleads his inability to raise even a trifling further sum for the benefit of British agriculture, one cannot help seeing how unfair the position is to the British farmer.

A CASE in point occurred recently when the newly-formed Welsh Mountain Sheep Breeders' Association had to refuse the invitation of the National Sheep Breeders' Association, great as they saw the advantages would be, on the grounds that with initial expenses to be met they did not feel themselves in a position to pay the affiliation fee.

THE Irish have done practically nothing to develop their native breeds, and have missed much by not doing it. English, Welsh, and Scottish farmers have done one of the finest pieces of work in the world's agriculture in saving the many breeds which have been brought to such high excellence. If it is right to encourage those who have done little for themselves, it is equally right to help those who are struggling under quite as hard conditions, but who are left to prosper or otherwise because they are prepared to work harder.

THERE is no place for sheep on small holdings or there might be more sympathy shown. Farmers are preached at because they do not co-operate enough. A sheep breeders' association is a very worthy form of co-operation; but though money is found out of public funds for co-operation in Ireland, it cannot be found for a Welsh or English association.

IT is satisfactory to see a strong entry of new members to the Southdown Society. Hard times in farming and encroachment by other breeds have lowered the census of the Southdown; but it is by far too good a breed not to be maintained in good number. If all the mutton sold as Southdown out of Southdown-raising districts were really Southdown, one might have great ideas as to the numbers kept. The London quoted price of Southdown mutton is misleading. So-called Southdown mutton, which has only one parent Southdown, and sometimes not even one, is offered in practically every high-class shop at prices far below what the genuine meat fetches in Sussex. This tells much against the interests of the breed.

Kirkby Stephen Sheep Fair.

This historical sheep fair was held on October 27 for the 555th time, the original charter having been granted to Roger de Clifford as far back as in the reign of Edward III. Usually from 15,000 to 20,000 sheep, mostly of the Black-faced type, are penned for sale in the main thoroughfare of the town, but this year the number fell to 8,000 or 10,000, owing to dealers having bought up large flocks before the fair. On account of the scarcity thus occasioned and the prevailing high prices, vendors stood out for advanced figures, and a dear sale resulted. Prices ranged as follows:—

Black-faced wether hoggs, 12s. to 22s.; Black-faced gimmer hoggs, 17s. to 23s.; Black-faced ewes, 24s. to 30s.; Black-faced rams, £2 to £4; Black-faced shearling rams, £4 to £6 10s.; Black-faced ram lambs, £1 to £2; Grey-faced hoggs, 22s. to 30s.; Grey-faced gimmer hoggs to 40s.; Grey-faced ewes to 50s; Wensleydale rams, £4 to £7.

Sheep Dipping: An Interesting Case.

An interesting case in connection with the Board of Agriculture's Sheep Dipping Order was heard before the West Riding magistrates at Barnsley on the 26th ult., Samuel Bridge, farm bailiff, and his employer (Mr. Bingley, Grenoside), and Thomas Bridge and Frank Bridge, farmers, of Langsett, being summoned for breaches of the Sheep Dipping Order by using a sheep dip not approved by the Order. Defendants used a dip of creosote oil, soft soap, and water. When Mr. Bingley was told this was not an approved dip he said it had proved to be the best dip, and he would back his opinion against the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Hamersley, of Leeds, an Inspector of the Board of Agriculture, admitted the defendants could dip as often as they liked with creosote oil, so long as once during each of the specified periods they used a dip approved under the Order.

For the defence, Mr. Bingley said the dip made of creosote oil and soft soap and water had always proved very beneficial. On the occasion of a case of sheep scab he used patent dips without success, and the home mixture referred to succeeded. It was admitted by the county veterinary surgeon that it was a good cure. He submitted they could have no better guidance than that.

On behalf of other defendants, Mr. Hodgson said that for forty years the mixture used by the case had been found to be the most [illegible] of all. He had a list signed by 370 farmers testifying to the efficiency of the creosote oil and soft soap as a dip.

The Bench considered a technical offence had been committed. The case against Samuel Bridge was dismissed, and the other defendants were fined 20s. each and costs. The Chairman (Mr. C. Brady) said the weakness of the defendants' case

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season. N B.—The Sale of 43 Shire Horses will be held at above address on November 7, 1906. See advertisement and write for Catalogue.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield. Doncaster Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S, Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

SHORTHORN IN-CALF HEIFERS. — Mr. JAMES BYRNE, Wallstown Castle, Castletownroche, Co. Cork, offers for Sale NINETEEN In-Calf Shorthorn Heifers. A number of them are sired by that famous bull, Lord James Douglas, 70828, reserved for Championship at the English Royal Show at York. The Heifers have been served by Mr. Duthie's Golden Crest, 81163; Mr. Deane Willis's Bapton Herald, 82767; and Miss Staples' Dunsmore Goodwin, 85832. Catalogues may be had from Mr. Byrne.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Sired Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79963; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Sired Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79963; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls and Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS. — COWS of the Seraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal; younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. BYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers. —Apply, C. F. STERBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MCHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale. — Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

(*Continued on next page*).

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LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM TOWNSEND, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Rycecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES.—Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH & LARGE BLACK PIGS.—For SALE, at reasonable prices to clear, Gilts, Young Boars, and Young Sows of best breeding.—FRANK SUGDEN, Ruckley Estate Office, Shifnal, Salop.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

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was that they did not send a sample of their dip to the Board of Agriculture and obtain sanction to use it. Notice of appeal was given.

Sheep and Cattle Sale at Ashford.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs' annual sheep and bullock sale at Ashford took place on the 26th ult., and was well attended, whilst there was a brisk trade all round. Among the lambs several lots went up to 30s. 6d. from about 27s. 6d. The ewes made up to 48s. for the best, and some good runs were disposed of. The run from Mr. Dee Swaffer of upwards of 200 made 45s. 6d., 45s. 6d., 48s., 46s., 47s., 45s., 36s., 31s., 27s. 6d., 44s., and 40s. 6d., while another good run from Mr. E. H. Long made 47s., 46s. 6d., 47s., 46s., and 41s. Other ewes of not quite first class quality ran from about 27s. to 32s. 6d. The ewe tegs sold up to 55s. 6d., but the majority made from about 30s. to 46s. A good run of Mr. John Hobbs' tegs made 30s., 41s. 6d., 45s. 6d., and 37s. 6d. for the half-breds, and 41s. 6d., 40s., 43s. 6d., 47s. and 42s. 6d. for the Kent wethers.

The principal runs among the beasts were a number of black polled heifers belonging to Mr. John Hobbs, and these, sold in lots of four, made £6 15s., £7 15s., £8 5s., £8 45s., £8 15s., £9 5s., and £8 5s. The two-year old fatting heifers of the same breed made £9 15s., £9 5s., £10 15s., £10 10s., £12., £11 15s., £13, £11 10s., £13 10s., and £14 for lots of two each. Other yearlings ran from £3 5s. to £6 15s.

Southdown Sheep Society.

At the meeting of the council of the Southdown Sheep Society, held at the society's offices, 12, Hanover Square, W., on Thursday, October 25, the chairman (Mr. H. Padwick, read a letter from the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, stating that he would have much pleasure in accepting the presidency of the Southdown Sheep Society for the year 1907-8.

The representatives of the society on the Council of the National Sheep Breeders' Association for the year 1907 were elected as follows:—Mr. Herbert Padwick (vice-president), Sir Thomas Barrett-Lennard, Bart., Mr. Allan Cooper, and Mr. Henry Webb.

PRIZES IN 1907.

The council then took into consideration the question of the prizes to be offered by the society for Southdowns at various shows during 1907, and unanimously decided to offer next year similar prizes to those granted in 1906. The completo list of prizes to be given by the society in 1907 will therefore be as follows:—

Royal Agricultural Society.—Champion Gold Medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best Two-Shear or Shearling Ram; Silver Medal for the best pen of Ewes or Ewe Lambs; Prizes of £10, £5, £3, for Two-Shear Rams; Prizes of £10, £5, £3, for pens of three Shearling Rams.

Royal Counties.—Champion Gold Medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best Ram or Ram Lamb; Silver Medal for the best pen of Ewes or Ewe Lambs.

Bath and West.—Prizes of £10, £5, £2 for Two-Shear Rams; Silver Medal for the best Ram or Ram Lamb; Silver Medal for the best pen of Ewes or Ewe Lambs.

Sussex County.—Champion Gold Medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best Ram or Ram Lamb; Silver Medal for the best pen of Ewes or Ewe Lambs.

East Kent, Essex, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Suffolk, Tunbridge Wells.—Silver Medal for the best Ram or Ram Lamb; Silver Medal for the best pen of Ewes or Ewe Lambs.

The report of the International Conference of Sheep Breeders held at Derby in June last was duly received.

THE ARMY MEAT QUESTION.

The council having been asked for an expression of opinion on the subject of the recent change in the form of army contracts for meat and forage, decided unanimously that they strongly support the following resolution on the subject which was passed at a meeting of the Irish Cattle Breeders' and Stock Owners' Association, and that the Secretary of State for War and the President of the Board of Agriculture be informed accordingly:—

"That this meeting protests in the strongest manner against the change recently made in the Army meat tender form, under which contractors can supply foreign meat killed at the port of disembarkation, instead of native home-bred meat which was guaranteed to be used by the late Government some years ago. We believe the change is a violation of official promises, and most unfair and prejudicial to the agricultural interests of the three kingdoms. We also protest against the feeding of army horses mainly upon foreign oats, straw, and hay, and we call upon the Secretary of State for War to reconsider his decision upon this important question in the interests of the taxpayers, ratepayers, and employers of the three kingdoms."

Twenty-eight new members were then elected.

The flocks of Mr. A. Fels and Mr. Frank Moore, and a now flock started by Mr. F. H. Jennings were accepted for registration without inspection, they consisting solely of sheep brought from registered flocks, while arrangements were made for the inspection of twenty-nine other flocks tendered for registration.

SUGGESTED FOREIGN MEMBERS.

The chairman read a letter that had been received from Mons. R. Eustache, Domaine du Chasnay, par Fourchambault, Nievre, suggesting that foreign members should be admitted into the society, and foreign flocks registered in the Flock Book, on condition that the flocks must be all pure-bred Southdown ewes, served exclusively by English-bred Southdown registered rams. Mons. Eustache expressed the opinion that such action would undoubtedly induce a greater number of French breeders to purchase rams in England, thus tending to benefit both France and England, "another welcome result of the Entente Cordiale."

The secretary was instructed to thank Mons. Eustache for his very interesting letter, and to say that before coming to a decision in the matter the council would be glad to have particulars as to the probable number of breeders who would be prepared to join the society, and as to whether they would be willing to conform to all the rules and regulations of the society in respect of the registration of sheep.

Hampshire Down Sheep Society.

A meeting of the council of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association was held in London on Monday, the Hon. A. H. Baring (president-elect), in the absence of the president, presiding. Twenty-seven new members were duly elected.

Mr. Cary Coles was unanimously selected for the post of president-elect for 1907, whilst the annual meeting was fixed for Wednesday, December 12, 1906, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington.

The reports of the editing and finance committees were presented by Messrs. J. Flower and H. Lambert respectively and adopted.

It was unanimously decided to continue the shepherd's prize competition as heretofore.

A motion by Mr. Kerr to slightly alter bye-law 10, of a technical nature, was carried. A further motion by Mr. Kerr as to the official ear-marking was considered, and finally relegated to the editing committee, Mr. Kerr to consider and report to the council thereon at the January meeting.

Applications from the Royal and Bath and West Societies as to the prize-list contributions were considered, and it was resolved to contribute £20 as heretofore to the Royal Society, with an addition of £3 as a third prize in the two-shear ram class, and £10 to the Bath and West Society in two prizes of £7 and £3 in the ewe lamb class.

Lincoln Longwool Sheep.

The council of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders Association met at Lincoln under the presidency of Sir John H. Thorold, Bart., on the 26th ult., when it was agreed that prizes for three-yearling ewes, shown in their wool, at next year's Royal Show, be increased to the following amounts:—The first prize to be £25, the second £20, the third £15, the fourth £12, the fifth £10, and the sixth £8. In addition there are to be gratuities to the shepherd in attendance upon the winning pens.

Applications for admission to membership were received from several gentlemen, and arrangements were made for the inspection of their flocks.

Welsh Flock Book.

A committee meeting of the Welsh Flock Book Society was held at Chester on October 26, 1906, when the treasurer reported that there was now no money owing to the society excepting the payment for the blocks for the pictures in the first volume of the Flock Book, and a statement of accounts, which showed a balance in hand of £21 16s. 2d., was passed.

Mr. W. Ellis Upjohn was appointed secretary, and Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale kindly consented to continue to act as hon. treasurer.

With regard to Professor Winter's query at the last meeting as to whether all the sheep entered had been inspected, it was found that in several cases inspection judges had inspected their own sheep, so it was decided to make the following instruction:—"That all sheep must be inspected before being entered by an inspection judge, who must sign the entry form, and that no inspection judge may inspect his own sheep."

A letter was read from the secretary of the National Sheep Breeders' Association setting forth the advantages which would be derived from affiliation with their society, the affiliation fee being five guineas. It was decided that the financial position of the Welsh Flock Book Society was not yet sufficiently good to allow them to join the National Society, although the great advantages were apparent.

A letter was also read from Mr. R. N. Jones, of Brynmelyn, Corwen, suggesting that the society should offer a prize or two next year for a pen of Welsh ewes and a breeder's prize for same. It was decided that the society's financial position was not at present such as to warrant this.

The question of selecting judges for shows was deferred till the next meeting. With regard to the inspection of ewe lambs it was decided to follow the same lines as those adopted by the Shropshire Flock Book Society, a copy of which Mr. Conwy Bell kindly supplied.

Volume II. of the Flock Book [illegible], and it was decided the list [illegible] February 1, 1907.

Messrs. Cranfield Bros.' New Mill at Ipswich.

The town of Ipswich is a very busy centre for many trades, of which engineering is the most important as employing the most hands, and milling is by no means the least. Both of these trades have been carried on in the town for a great number of years, but for our present purpose we will not go further back than 1884, which year saw the opening of the first flour mill on the roller system in the district. The enterprise of Messrs. Cranfield Bros. brought this about by the erection of their mill on the dock, which has been running ever since up to April this year, and their wonderful success soon compelled other millers in the neighbourhood to convert from stones to rolls, besides inducing new men to try their luck in a trade which seemed to yield such profitable results.

Messrs. Cranfield in those days were content with a mill which had an output of seven to eight sacks per hour, but as time went on and their trade kept increasing, the output had to keep increasing also until it reached the total of over 2,500 sacks of flour per week. This naturally meant overcrowding the building, which was originally erected with machinery to obtain the required surfaces, and the inevitable result was that a new mill should be erected with ample space for a plant of still larger output, and not only that, but with space for further extending that plant whenever it might be necessary.

In the early days of roller milling there was not a great number of engineering firms who had studied the system, and it was not unnatural that Messrs. Cranfield should decide to place their order for machinery with Mr. J. Harrison Carter, not alone because of his reputation as one of the leading roller mill engineers of the day, but also because they were aware that the machinery, which formed an integral part of his system, was made in the town with which they had decided to throw in their lot.

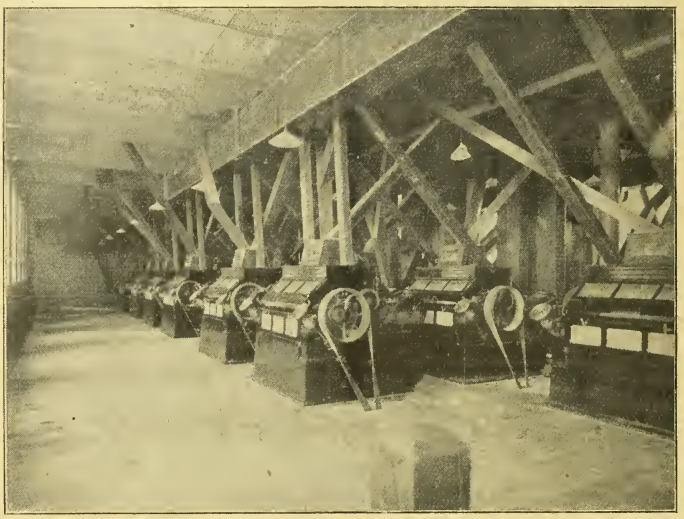
Thus it came about that the machinery which did duty for exactly twenty-two years in the Dock Roller Mills was manufactured by Messrs. E. R. and F. Turner, of St. Peter's and Greyfriars Works, Ipswich. No doubt to the lay mind the fact that this machinery had done duty, and done it well, for all these years would be quite sufficient to ensure the next order being placed in the same hands, but to a keen business firm this is not a natural sequence at all; in twenty-two years many changes take place, and however good machinery made that length of time ago may be, unless the makers have kept themselves up to date and in touch with the most recent requirements of the trade, it might be the worst policy to allow them to install their machinery in a mill which would have to meet the competition not only of the present day, but also of the future for many years to come.

Needless to say, a business-like firm such as Messrs. Cranfield's is well known to be, did not allow mere sentiment to overrule their better judgment, and it was not until they had made a complete investigation and thoroughly tested Messrs. Turner's most recent productions that they decided to entrust the order for machinery for the new mill in their hands.

The new mill is a fine spacious building on the same block of ground as the old one, but further from the quay, the wheat warehouses coming in between, so that the very best use is made of the dock frontage. The entire building is 138 ft. long, the mill itself being 82 ft. long, separated by the rope race (above which is the water tank for feeding the sprinklers) from the wheat cleaning department, which is at the end furthest from the dock. The entire building is 51 ft. wide, and the engine house is built out at right angles to the mill, so that the main drive runs into the rope race.

The engine is a steam engine of the coupled compound condensing type by Messrs. Cole, Marchent, and Morley, Ltd., and the boiler a Lancashire type by Messrs. Ruston, Proctor, and Co., Ltd.; both are for a working pressure of 160 lb. per square inch, and capable of developing 460 h.p.

In the wheat-cleaning department are a complete set of wheat bins for dirty wheat, washed wheat, conditioned wheat, clean wheat, &c., sufficient for the different qualities to be kept separate, and all necessary machinery for washing, drying, and conditioning; separators, barley and cockle cylinders, smutter and brush machine, with mixers fixed under the bin bottoms for giving the right proportions of the different kinds of grain, which is conveyed by means of the mixing worm and an elevator to a finishing brush, and from this latter is conveyed through the rope race to a machine for grading the wheat to the first break rolls.



THE ROLLER FLOOR IN MESSRS. CRANFIELD BROS.' NEW MILL AT IPSWICH.

The breaks are done on 6—60 by 10 in. four-roller mills of Messrs. Turner's latest diagonal pattern, each pair of rolls being provided with double feed, which give a splendid evenly distributed feed right along the rolls, and deliver the material well into the nip of the rolls without the intervention of a feed plate. With a really good feed distribution and automatic hoppers, which are thoroughly efficient, the work of a roller mill is as good as done, and it is unnecessary to say more than that these mills are doing absolutely perfect work.

These remarks apply equally well to the reduction rolls, of which there are fourteen—40 in. by 10 in.—all of which are also fitted with double feed-rolls, and have in addition Turner's patent scrapers, which deliver the stock in splendid condition for dressing. On the two floors above the rolls stand two lines of Turner's latest pattern double purifiers, nine in number, which, whilst embodying all the good points of their older pattern, have several very marked improvements which certainly bring them well to the front amongst such machines.

The hexagonal reels used for the scalping system are placed on the second floor, directly over the brake-rolls, and the centrifugals for dressing are placed on the two top floors in tiers of two; there are fifty-one of these, all of Turner's latest pattern, with self-oiling bearings, finger-beaters, &c.

The present plant has a nominal capacity of eighteen sacks per hour, but the demand for the flour produced by it is increasing so enormously that Messrs. Cranfield are already considering the extension to thirty sacks, the mill being so arranged that additional machines can be put in their respective positions with very slight alteration to the present flow, whilst there will be ample room to get at all the working parts of the machines when the additional machines are put in.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Scotland (Northern Counties). IN the spring time of sowing the seed the weather was extremely cold and boisterous, and in consequence the sowing was later than in previous years; moreover, the potato tubers were also behind their usual time in planting. But thanks to the growth during the favourable weather, and heavy rains in August and dry and beautiful September, yields are equal to any previous season. Very few are diseased, and the size of the tubers is up to the standard in average to any season for the last forty years, so that we can produce a sample of clean, bright, marketable potatoes, not inferior to any sample that I have been sending to the English and foreign markets for the last forty years. But, alas, I do not find the new varieties introduced to be equal in flavour to the old varieties, or in taste, or as palatable. To suit the constitution of the old consumers we have still planted a few of the old varieties, and I find for my own family use that 1 stone of the production of the old varieties are of more value than 4 stone of the new kinds introduced by the most expert of professors. From May till August we had various changes of weather, but enough of rain to make the grass grow. The grains of all kinds were only gradually growing up till August 1, when we had a change of weather; it turned warmer, and from then up to the 10th ult. we had a summer of mild

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temperature with occasional showers, especially at night, so that the corn crops are an average, and in most places more than the average. The turnip crop is more than an average; the potato crop fully an average, but the average is less than in previous years. The digging of late potatoes for pitting is now in progress, and the weather so far has been favourable.

Durham (North-East). THIS season must be characterised as a good one. Both barley and wheat were above the average, but oats in many cases were a poor crop. The weather during August and September was most favourable for harvest operations, but at the same time both root crops and grass suffered by the want of rain. Since October came in, however, we have had some nice showers, and, if this kind of weather continues, the turnips in this locality will turn out a very satisfactory crop. Early potatoes are blankly and decidedly under the average, but the later sorts are apparently much better. The current price so far is very disappointing, but all growers anticipate a rise as soon as the lifting is over. Sheep continue to sell well, but, in sympathy with the fat stock market, there is a slack demand for cattle. Good horses of all kinds are in demand, but undersized and inferior animals are scarcely saleable.

Montgomery. WE are now busy getting up roots. Potatoes, on the whole, are a fair crop; mangels fairly good, but the bulk of the turnips are badly mildewed, otherwise they are a good crop. There are very few fields of roots not mildewed. Ploughing is now going on apace. Beef and stores are very low, and trade is slack. Sheep are going pretty well. Not much threshing has yet been done. We had a glorious corn harvest, and I think there will be a good sample of grain. There is not much keep on the pastures, and stock will soon require something in addition to what they get on them. I hear of very few farms being to let this year in this locality. There is no interest whatever taken here in the Land Tenure Bill, but it is rather different with the Education Bill. All local shows have finished, and all through the season they were very successful.

Worcester. FARM prospects are certainly brighter. After a cold, wet spring we expected a bad season, but the cold spring was followed by a warm and beautiful summer, so that corn crops improved rapidly. Both hay and corn have been gathered in in splendid condition. Wheat is well above an average crop and of grand quality. Barley an average crop and very bright, but a little thin in the grain owing to dry weather. Oats, beans, and peas are good crops. Hay was a light crop, and one drawback to the season has been the shortness of grass, which has made cow stock very low in price. Cattle bought in to graze in the spring are worth very little more after the summer's keep. During the last month roots have been at a stand still for want of moisture and must be a small crop, but in spite of this, sheep of all kinds are dear.

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Fruit has been very partial, except apples, which seem fairly plentiful.

East Yorks. IT has been a fine autumn and a good time for wheat sowing, about half of which is sown. In this immediate neighbourhood we have never really suffered from drought, for all the summer nearly we had showers when needed; grass and seed pastures held out well. Roots also are looking well, slightly mildewed, but are growing now and will take a good lot of consuming. Breeding and fat sheep have sold well and are selling well, but beef has been a bad trade all the way along. Beasts are a necessity to tread straw into manure on our arable farms, but feeding them is no profit at present prices. Corn was got in in good condition, and is yielding fairly, not extravagantly, and we have had better quality samples to show than in some other seasons. Prices are low, as usual, but that we nearly always expect. We had a good harvest; corn was good to cut, and the weather fine, except some farms where the hailstorm in mid-August caught us; incredible damage was done to crops, some wheat and barley only yielding 1 qr. per acre, and oats worse still, all being practically thrashed out of them. Roots were injured, but have recovered a good deal.

North Lincolnshire. INCESSANT rain has stopped all potato gathering for the time, but has done good otherwise. It is also cold, so I hope the disease will not spread. Last week it was so hot and moist that Dates easily succumbed to the blight, and crops clean before are now struck to the extent of one-fourth of the tubers. It is a great pity, as quality and shape never were better. The supply will not cease, as German stuff can fill up the gap, and in the meanwhile I shall pay the rates and taxes (for them). The sheep are all in their winter quarters in the turnip folds, and are doing well: the lung worm, "Strongylus filaria," has been somewhat rampant, carrying off thirty to fifty in some flocks, and less in others. The balls of worms, like threads, were never larger, and lambs must be unusually strong or more must have been carried off. Threshings go on apace, barley doing well, but on wold land bad reports are given of wheat yields. One would have thought a dry season would have suited it thoroughly.

Shropshire. AFTER the long dry weather we have had plenteous rain, which has greatly improved the pastures, but the grass is very short. Although it has been so dry, the mangolds are an average crop; turnips a fair crop, but very inferior quality owing to the drought. Potatoes vary very much; some crops very good, others poor ones. The early part of the harvest was rather unfavourable, but the latter part was exceptionally good. The crops as a rule fairly good; the hay being a fair crop and well harvested. The corn yields very well, but prices are low. Beef continues very low; so do store cattle and milch cows. Sheep are doing well, and are well sold; so also are pigs. Cheese-making is most profitable for farmers; this season the prices are unusually good.

Mid-Cumberland and North Westmorland. THE season is now sufficiently far advanced to enable all parties connected with farming or interested in agriculture to form an approximate estimate of the general effects it has on the welfare of agriculture in the several districts where they reside, especially as it has been so extremely favourable for securing all kinds of produce in a condition fit to put upon the consuming markets, and thereby testing both quantity and quality. First, the hay crop proved much above an average, and the bulk of it was secured in prime condition with the minimum amount of labour, therefore at the least cost. The oat crop (the principal cereal grown) has proved somewhat irregular, and upon the whole slightly below average; it too has been secured in good condition and fit to put on the market, but the owners of steam thrashers universally complain that the yield is disappointing and the quality inferior. The price, too, is low, only 20s. for the best samples of 26 stone to the quarter. The bulk of the potato crop has also been lifted in fine condition, but the result is very disappointing, being little if any more than half a crop of marketable value. In many cases fully half the crop is only fit for pigs or seed. Turnips, on the other hand, are quite a record crop, while still growing over most of the heavy land for which the month of May was so very unfavourable, and will make quite an average. As regards stock, we have had a splendid summer for grass, and sheep of all ages and breeds have paid remarkably well, but cattle with the exception of dairy sorts have in many cases left little for fattening, and the price of stores, which are bound to follow prices of beef, are equally unsatisfactory, in many cases making little more than spring prices. Lamb and mutton on the contrary have and are still making good prices, especially the former. In fact, sheep have proved the sheet-anchor of farmers this season.

Essex. SOMETIMES it is said that farmers always grumble, but I hardly think there is much cause for grumbling this year, nor do I think it is much indulged in just now. We have had a glorious summer and autumn, and although our hay crop was very light, the corn crop has been decidedly good, and harvested under the best of conditions. In many instances the harvest operations were completed in nineteen days. And I have heard of as much as fifty-four bushels of Minchead wheat being threshed to the acre. It is difficult to say which is the best crop of the season, for peas and beans, as well as the white straw crop, have done well. After the dry summer the land breaks well, and a good portion of the autumn sowing is already completed, the seed having gone into an excellent seed-bed. The only thing to complain of this year is the price at which we have to sell our corn. Except for special samples of malting barley there is very little difference in the price per stone of all home-grown corn. Wheat, barley, oats, peas, and beans make just about 9½d. per stone. When shall we as farmers sell and buy all our corn at a uniform weight? Stock, too, have done well this year, sheep and pigs being a specially good trade. It is a pleasure to be able to write so good a report, and may we have many such seasons.

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LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Landlords at Rent Audits. IN reading an account of the late Lord Cranbrook, who passed away at the ripe old age of ninety-two, we learn that up to about two years ago he made a point of always meeting his tenants at their annual rent audit. Only on two occasions did he miss; one was when he had important duties to perform in the House of Commons, and the other followed the death of Lady Cranbrook. This is just how it should be, and we wish that there were more landlords who followed the example of the late earl, whose name was a household word amongst Kentish agriculturists. It is quite right and proper that the business of an estate should be conducted through an agent, but once a year, at any rate, the tenants should have the privilege of meeting their landlord, and what better occasion could there be than the rent audit? In more than one case we fear the acquaintanceship of the tenantry with the landlord is an occasional sight of him—perhaps at a distance, and this is not the kind of thing that is qualified to cement a bond of fellowship between the two which is to the mutual interest of both parties.

Fowls and Foxes. A LEOPARD cannot change his spots, and no amount of persuasion on the part of fox hunters will make poultry keepers treat Reynard as being anything but a thief and a robber. Just as stolen fruit is said to be the sweetest, Reynard seems to enjoy the food he gets by thieving better than that which he obtains in a legitimate manner, and the worst point about him is that he generally kills more than he can eat. Fasten your fowls up at night, is the advice given by the fox-hunter, but we fail to see what solace he would offer to the man who recently adopted this precaution, but let the poultry out in the morning, and had a score of birds killed by Reynard while he was in the house at breakfast. We think the poultry fund of the hunt ought to pay up rather handsomely in a case of this kind. No one can be better acquainted with the anxieties of the man who would keep poultry in a fox-hunting district than the individual himself, and if he goes very long without a loss he may consider himself fortunate. It may be interesting to some readers who have suffered loss to know that one of Reynard's pet aversions is fresh tar, and it is said that if poultry houses are frequently painted with this foxes will give them a wide berth.

Legislation and Stray Dogs. TO say that Parliament is doing nothing for agriculture is wrong, for it is attending to various small matters, and in the New Year the new Dogs' Act will come into operation, which measure has for one of its objects the prevention of sheep worrying and other troubles by stray dogs. But what is a stray dog? that is the question. If you happen to put a few pellets into a quadruped of a mongrel-looking character, that appears to be abroad ownerless and homeless, it is quite likely that an owner will turn up, a pedigree be produced, and you will find yourself in a county court defending an action for damages. Just so; but the new Act will enable local authorities to make regulations for preventing dogs straying at large during the hours of darkness, and the same authorities will have power to enforce a law which will make it compulsory for dogs in highways and public places to wear a collar bearing the name and address of the owner, except in the case of packs of hounds, sporting, and sheep dogs. We hope this measure will serve a useful purpose in doing away with the stray dog nuisance, for though we know that an animal which has been properly looked after will occasionally betray worrying tendencies, it is the wandering mongrel who is no good to anybody that is generally responsible for the mischief.

Eggs. NOW is the season when the man who is told at his hotel that he can have fresh eggs for breakfast without the slightest trouble looks somewhat suspicious at them when they appear, and wonders whether the freshness is supposed to apply to the present or the past. The reason for doubt is of course obvious, for at the present moment poultry-keepers are rejoicing on the one hand at the prices obtained, and regretting on the other that they cannot produce more eggs. They may of course forget that if fowls were laying better prices would not be so high, but these matters of logic are apt to be over-looked when eggs are fetching 2d. each. The man in the street who consumes his one egg for breakfast every morning as a matter of rule wishes that the supply could be regulated a bit more evenly. It is peculiar of him that his appetite for new-laid eggs is not so keen when they are at their cheapest, and when they get to be 2d. each he enjoys his fresh egg but has doubts in his mind whether he is getting value for money. "Why can't the poultry-keepers contrive to produce fewer eggs in the summer and more in the winter?" he argues. Just so; we happen to know a few poultry keepers at the present moment who would like to find out the secret of doing this. We do not think they would be likely to cry it from the house-tops.

Market Dinners. WHAT an institution the market dinner used to be! and how in these days its glory has departed, we would also add, perhaps for the better. Still, we think of the midday meal at the leading hostelry in the market town, where the head of the table was occupied by a leading light in the local agricultural world, and the farmers from round about dropped into their places round the board in a natural manner that was the outcome of long custom. What they ate and what they drank does not concern us here, but in business they were a race of substantial men with capital behind them, and when they met once a week at the market dinner it was a pleasure to see the good fellowship that existed between them. Perhaps some of them sat longer and later than was good for them, because market dinners, like other things were then, as now, open to abuse, but that, as Kipling would say, is another story. The market dinner and similar gatherings flourished in the days before the doctrines of co-operation and combination were preached, but we think, nevertheless, that there was in many respects a stronger bond of unity amongst farmers than exists now.

Planting Orchard Fruit Trees. IN every district where apples will grow we look upon an orchard as being a valuable adjunct to any farmstead, and the present is a good time for planting trees for making new orchards and renovating old ones. Both landlords and tenants should be interested in orchards, for the former in supplying trees improves his property, and the latter, if he looks after them, reaps the benefit of the fruit. Fruit nurseries are now so plentiful that there is no difficulty in getting good trees of the best varieties at a reasonable price, and before planting, a good hole should be got out and the soil be well broken up. It has been proved by experiment that orchard trees make better headway if the turf is not allowed to grow up to the stems for a few years after planting, and farmers will do well to bear this in mind. Another thing is to properly stake the newly-planted tree until it has got a firm hold on the soil, and if it is planted in an orchard where cattle is grazed, proper means should be adopted for protecting it. Indeed, through the neglect of these matters, many pounds spent on fruit trees have been literally thrown away.

Rooks and Seeds. THROUGH all generations of agriculture rooks have betrayed the same tendency to fetch the seeds out of the ground that the farmer has put in, and they show no signs of improving their ways in this respect. In the old days we used to employ lads with clappers to protect the crops, and "rook tending" was a means of bringing a little grist to the agricultural labourer's mill. But now an all wise education system, which does not seem to recognise that

requirements of rural and urban districts, decrees that lads are better employed at school than rook-tending. They may be in a way, but the mother would be glad of the few shillings they would earn, and the farmer would quickly avail himself of this means of protecting his crops. But seeds have to be protected, even though the boys must not be kept from school to do it, and in our issue of October 22, page 475, a recipe was given for treating seed so that rooks will not touch it. Knowing how some of our readers suffer in districts where rooks are, perhaps, more plentiful than they ought to be in the interests of agriculture, we have ventured to draw particular attention to this matter.

The Pig Trade. IT is characteristic of the pig trade that it is always either right up or right down. Just now it is up, or at least prices are, and there is a general desire to go in for pigs. Quite so, but the scarcity of pigs applies also to breeding sows, which are a scarce commodity just now, and sows will have to be bred before pigs will be very plentiful, consequently pork is likely to be dear for some time to come. It is said that the Chicago meat scandals are responsible for the high price of pork and bacon, which in a measure may be correct, but scarcity of pigs has more to do with it than anything. In the old days it was almost necessary to keep pigs on dairy farms to consume the bye products for cheese and butter making, but now that the milk goes away everything goes, and when pigs were down many farmers did not need much persuading to give up keeping them. The people who have done and are doing the best out of the pork boom, are those who did not follow in the sheep-like procession which is characteristic of pig breeders, but went in strong for them when everybody else was leaving off. It is possible that the scale will turn again in time when the stock of pigs has been worked up, and however this may affect breeders, the man in the street would like to get his morning rasher of bacon a little cheaper.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Two Facts in the Tenure Debate.

I am not going to enter into all the infinitesimal incidents—I had almost written incoherences—of the debate upon the Land Tenure Bill. Two facts stand out eminent from my memory of the voluble proceedings. The first is that the mind of a certain type of politician is to-day as resolutely opposed to even a moderate tenure reform as it was in the days of the Farmers' Alliance. The second fact is that there is a strong body of Liberals who find it impossible to nerve themselves into rhapsodical enthusiasm over the measure. As a fact, this Bill has served to again indicate with that old-time clearness and precision which had been somewhat obscured the definite line of cleavage between the two parties in reference to tenure reform. Indeed, it has been protruded into a greater distinction than at any period since the vivid days of the anti-Game Law agitation. We have had the perfervid language of the arch-protagonist of that movement, John Bright himself, repeated in less dulcet tones than that orator employed. It is this which explains why a certain Liberal apathy and indifference is allied with the progress of the Bill. Indeed, the Conservative antagonism to the measure has been in itself as the goading-spur to the party. The Radical cheers and the Radical majorities have been provoked, not by the inherent virtues of the measure—indeed, by but a score of Liberals, who rather reflect the Whig tradition than the present Radical assertiveness and anti-landlordism, men, I mean, of the Whitbread and Nussey type, the Bill is regarded as tepid and fibreless—but by the joy of battle and the desire to rout their foes.

A Word to the Antagonists.

Now, just a word to the antagonists of the measure. And here let me say that certain of those antagonists—I am speaking of the younger men like Lord Turnour and Lord Helmsley, who, of course, have had the great advantage of being buttressed by the remarkable intellectualism of Lord Robert Cecil—have revealed what I must fain describe as a sardonic vivacity, which is an acceptable portent of the future debating ability of the Conservative party. In these immature young men we have the clever and responsible future leaders of the party. We have had vouchsafed a vision of a future dialectical agility which may well induce the Liberal leaders to cogitation and foreboding. All the same, it is well not to overdo the part of antagonism. It is well, of course, sometimes to assume the cap and bells, but it is not well to be the boisterous Merry Andrew. Just in the same way it is well to use adjectives; but it is not well to make them too rumbustious. To call the original provisions of the Bill in regard to game "sheer robbery" is to be guilty of that supercrogation which is nigh unto bathos. There are many of us who would desire to limit the compensation for damage done by game to the actual harm wrought by the birds reared on the estate of the landlords, but it is not necessary because of the Ministerial attitude to indulge in an excessiveness of phraseology which is perilously like levity. There are some of us, too, who believe in the more definite inclusion in the Bill of the principle of worsement—who believe that if the tenant should be able to claim compensation for his improvement, so the landlord should be able to claim damages for depreciation of the holding by either improper cultivation or neglect; but because the Ministers

Sir FRANCIS A. CHANNING, Bart., M.P., who figured in His Majesty's Birthday Honours list.

have not thought it wise to accept the suggestion and prefer to leave the matter to the arbitrator, it is not necessary to speak of their conduct as "wicked, cruel, dastardly confiscation." As a fact, a measure which has received in its general purpose so wide an acceptance from agricultural bodies cannot possess these moral obliquities. These bodies are both Conservative and conservative—they have a severe sense of the just rights of landlords; and assuredly they would not throw the ægis of their appreciation over a measure having this character.

What the Pesterers Want.

Of course, there is a great belief among the Parliamentarians of the Commons that the Bill will be either rejected by the Lords or so emasculated as to be worthless—that is, worthless from their point of view. They believe what I may describe as the Turnour-Rutherford-Banbury position adopted in the Commons—the position, in a word, that the Bill is unnecessary and vicious, and will be provocative of danger to the personal relations of landlord and tenant—will be either accepted or emphasised and accentuated. It is this which explains the restlessness of the Liberal rural M.P.'s, and their desire to exact from Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman binding pledges as to future legislation. It is this which explains the persistent posterings of deputations and individual members. They want not a mere Tenure Bill. They want a Bill of which tenure shall be but a phase and an incident—a Bill which will permit of the compulsory acquisition of land alike for allotments, small holdings, and housing, a Bill which will permit of the expropriation of landlords under more drastic conditions than Mr. Jesse Collings anticipates, and which will permit of the State's financial resources being utilised for this purpose under the distinct authority of a central organised body. As a fact, these Parliamentarians—it is no use glossing over this—think infinitely more of the possibility of such a measure than they do of the Land Tenure Bill. Indeed, the mere fact that in one instance the Bill carries out the very design of Mr. Walter Long, and that it would realise certain suggestions of a committee of which Mr. Chaplin was a powerful member, is to them a source of suspicion. What good can come out of Nazareth? To them none.

The Real Fight of this Parliament.

Of course, knowledge of this temper in the party is the real explanation of the vigorous attack—nay, embittered attack—which Mr. Balfour delivered upon the Scottish Land Bill. The leader of the Opposition knows perfectly well that the anxiety of these Radicals is that this Bill should be made the bases of a measure applying to the United Kingdom. Hence his description of it as "highway robbery." Hence his comparison of its purpose to that of "the gentleman in the street who relieves me of my purse," and, what is more, to a robber who had not the capacity of rightly using what he had pilfered. Frankly, this strenuousness of phrase is quite in harmony with the temper of the party. Toryism has in all its shades revealed that it regards this Scottish Bill as the unclean thing, and the very ardour of this antipathy has served to deepen the appreciation of the Radicals. They have become ecstatic over the proposals of this Bill—every discord of the Tories is followed by a hymned pæan from the Radicals. What do I deduce from this? Why, that when the Government has thrown a sufficiency of sops to the Socialist Cerberus, it will have to set itself, nilly willy, to the grim land problem. I verily believe that when the history of this Government is written, its attempt to solve the Ministry-wrecking problems of the land will be its outstanding story. And, methinks, it may not unlikely provide its epitaph. At all events, Mr. Balfour has plainly shown that the tussle will not be one of rose water. It is to be one of close grip, and the Tory David has the solace that, if petty of stature, he has the citadel of the Lords behind him.

The Trend of the Radical Mind.

"The farmers are more Protectionist than ever!" This was the verdict of a Liberal Member of Parliament who had epitomised for me the sugar-beet debate at the Central Chambers. "This Protectionist sympathy was," said he, "not hinted at in a furtive manner. It was boldly proclaimed. Well, they will go their own gait, of course. But let me ask how they can hope to get assistance for their project with the Radicals in power, when they deliberately associate with it a frank suggestion for a Protectionist policy." How far this description of the debate is justifiable I know not. I thought, however, this conversation was worth reproducing as a revelation of the trend and thought of the Radical mind.

Sir Francis Channing.

Of course, the chief interest in the King's birthday list from an agrarian point of view centres in the baronetcy bestowed upon Sir F. A. Channing. Of course, there be some men who perceive in the distinction a solace for the inability of the Premier to include Sir Francis in his Ministry. I prefer to perceive in it a frank and generous anxiety to recognise Sir Francis's laudable zeal in the interest of co-operation and agricultural reform. No man on the Liberal benches—no, not even Mr. George Lambert—has revealed so unceasing, so vigilant, and so keenly-alert an anxiety to embody the three F's in agrarian legislation. No man on the Liberal benches has so clear and so sagacious a comprehension of the bases on which a scheme of small holdings should be reared. No man on those benches has revealed so direct an appreciation of the Danish co-operative system of culture, and how it might—with its educational prefaces—be grafted on to the existing tradition-laden British system. No Liberal politician has shown so clear-eyed a comprehension of the wiser lines on which the resources of the State should be utilised

in the establishment of yeoman proprietors on the soil. His Tenure Bill, too, is an admirable expression of his conceptions and desires. Better drafted than the Robartes' measure, it is a better reflection of the real anxiety of the Liberal tenure-reformites. His Small Holdings Bill is the most articulate and sensible expression of the Liberal purpose, and has associated with it a cogent reflection of the new baronet's Danish-cum-co-operative ideals. I welcome this honour, apart from the academic and inherited distinctions of Sir Francis, because the recipient has deliberately made his chief Parliamentary anxiety the modernisation of tenure laws and the recalling of fertility to waste, and needlessly fallow land. We may not all agree with Sir Francis's methods. We must assuredly admire the man and his aim

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," *3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

A Horse Accident.

SIR,—The dray of the plaintiff, with horses arranged as aforesaid, occupied practically the whole usable road, and my servant, to get by at all with his horse and cart, must necessarily pass within a few inches of the plaintiff's horse on the off side, which projected quite 2 ft. wider than the dray. At the moment of passing, this horse swerved suddenly to the right, and my cart wheel grazed the said horse's front pastern, slightly breaking the skin only, and that not sufficiently to cause bleeding; the horse walked lame afterwards, chiefly because he was very lame previously, but fortunately on the hind leg (near side), which was not touched at all by my cart.

I have an independent witness who saw and can swear to the above facts.

Now would "Barrister-at-Law" advise me to fight the case? R.

[*** No, I would not, because, admitting that the dray was a wide one, it still had the right to use the road; in other words, it was lawfully proceeding along the road. Now, your cart prepares to pass it, and in doing so your driver passes on his off side at his own risk; the swerving of his horse caused the accident—that was not an unexpected thing. I am still of the same opinion on the facts, but the damage claimed may appear excessive, and if you want to fight employ a smart solicitor and take your chance.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

The Farmers' Club.

The Farmers' Club met at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, London, on Monday, under the chairmanship of Mr. F. E. Muntz, and there was a large attendance to hear Mr. J. McLaren's paper on "Farming Implements in Relation to Labour—a Retrospect." A *résumé* of this paper appeared in our last issue, so need not be touched upon here.

Mr. F. S. Courtney, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. McMaren, which was carried unanimously, spoke of electricity as being the ideal power for farm work, if the question of cost could be satisfactorily solved.

Mr. H. Hailey, in seconding, hoped that the Royal Society would encourage further invention in agricultural implements, which would have the effect of saving labour, now the most important item in carrying on farm work.

Mr. Christian urged that piece-work was more economical for the master and productive of more contentment to the men, and he thought the masters might do something to improve the outlook for the ordinary village labourer. The curse of agriculture, however, was party politics. If they would sink party and go solidly for agriculture they would cease to be "the shuttlecock of both political parties."

Mr. Latham agreed with Mr. McLaren that the use of machinery of the right sort would prove the salvation of their industry.

Mr. Amos thought yearly tenants with their insecure tenure would find it dangerous to instal fixed machinery.

The Chairman said his experience went to show that the advantage in the use of machinery very much depends upon the men who work it. He suggested that co-operation among farmers would enable machinery to be more largely employed.

In acknowledging a vote of thanks, Mr. McLaren suggested that the Royal Agricultural would stimulate invention by offering prizes for machines that would perform operations on the farm at present done by hand.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Park Royal Surplus—Harewood House Still Unsold—Date of Lincoln Show—No Increase in Prize Money—Farm Prizes.

The monthly council meeting was held on Wednesday, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (president) in the chair.

Present.—Trustees: The Earl of Coventry, Lord Middleton, Lord Moreton. Vice-Presidents: H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G., Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, the Earl of Northbrook, the Hon. C. T. Parker. Other Members of the Council: Mr. George Adams, Mr. Charles R. W. Adeane, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. John Barker, M.P., Mr. T. A. Buttar, Mr. R. G. Carden, Mr. Richardson Carr, Sir Richard P. Cooper, Bart., Lieut.-Col. J. F. Curtis-Hayward, Sir H. F. de Trafford, Bart., Mr. H. Dudding, Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Mr. James Falconer, Mr. R. Forrest, Mr. J. W. Glover, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. R. Neville Gronville, Mr. J. Harris, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Mr. J. Howard Howard, Sir Charles V. Knightley, Bart., Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. W. A. May, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. Ralph Palmer, Mr. C. M. S. Pilkington, Mr. G. G. Rea, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. E. W. Shackle, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. H. Tallent, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. A. P. Turner, Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler, and Mr. C. W. Wilson. The following members of the Lincoln Local Committee were also present:—The Mayor of Lincoln (Mr. A. C. Newsum), Mr. A. H. Clark, Mr. C. W. Pennell, Colonel J. S. Ruston, Mr. C. W. Tindall, and Mr. E. E. Tweed (local secretary).

The President said that before proceeding with the business on the agenda, he very deeply regretted to have to inform the council that a letter had been received from Sir Nigel Kingscote to the effect that, by his doctor's orders, he had been compelled to resign active work on the council of the society.

Mr. Cornwallis moved, H.R.H. Prince Christian seconded, a resolution recording Sir Nigel's services on the council, which was adopted unanimously.

Finance: Park Royal.

Mr. Adeane (chairman) reported that the balances at the bank on July 31, 1906, were:—Reserve fund, £2,924 1s.; ordinary account, £18,415 18s. The total receipts for the period had been £5,295 12s. 11d., and the expenditure £19,120 11s. 4d. The balances then standing to the credit of the Society's accounts were:—Reserve fund, £3,123 15s., and the ordinary account, £4,391 5s. 3d., making a total credit balance of £7,515 0s. 3d. Accounts amounting in all to £1,050 12s. 11d. had been passed and recommended for payment.

The secretary had submitted a statement showing the result of the sale of Park Royal estate, from which it appeared that there would be a surplus of upwards of £5,000 after the liquidation of Park Royal, Limited. The committee had considered a request from the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society that members of that society paying an annual subscription of 10s. should be granted free admission to the showyard on the occasion of the Society's Show being held at Lincoln next year, and recommended that this privilege be granted to such of the members of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society whose subscription of 10s. had been paid for the year 1907.

Mr. Adeane, in moving this report, said:—With reference to the sale of Park Royal, he would like to state that after the meeting of the council there would be a general meeting of Park Royal, Limited, to confirm the appointment of Mr. Bond, of Welton, Jones, and Co., the society's professional accountants, as the liquidator. He hoped that the company would be liquidated and finally disposed of by the end of the year, and that it would be possible to present a final report to the council early in the New Year. He might say that the balance, £5,598, has been placed on deposit at the bank as authorised by the council.

The report of the Finance Committee was then adopted.

Harewood House Still Unsold.

The President observed that, before going on with the report of the House Committee, he had a word or two to say to the council. At the last meeting authority had been given to fix the society's seal to the building agreement of Harewood House, but he regretted to inform the council that at the end of September, when the date for the completion of the negotiations became due, the syndicate withdrew their offer. He thought it was only fair to say that there was not the slightest blame to be attached to anyone engaged in the negotiations on their side. The necessary preliminaries had taken some time, then the holidays intervened, and it was a matter of impossibility to get to close quarters with the business at an early date. Since the offer had been withdrawn, steps had been taken to secure fresh purchasers, and with a valuable property like Harewood House fresh offers would be forthcoming. The council, he was sure, would not wish to enter closely into the matter at this moment, and he would venture to suggest that the House and Finance Committees should be asked to continue the negotiations for a sale or lease of Harewood House on the terms already approved by the council.

General Lincoln.

Mr. Cornwallis reported that the General Lincoln Committee had been constituted of the whole council, together with the following members of the Local Committee:—The Mayor of Lincoln (Mr. A. C. Newsum), Mr. W. T. Page, jun., Colonel J. S. Ruston, Mr. Edgar Lubbock, Mr. C. W. Tindall, Mr. A. H. Clark, Mr. C. W. Pennell, and Mr. E. Tweed (local secretary).

The Dates of the Show.

The committee recommended that the Lincoln Show should open on the morning of Tuesday, June 25, and close on Saturday, June 29. The prices of admission to the showyard to be as follows:—Tuesday, June 25, admission 5s.; Wednesday, June 26, admission 2s. 6d.; Thursday, June 27, admission 2s. 6d.; Friday, June 28, admission 1s.; Saturday, June 29, admission 1s.

Railway Fares to Shows.

Letters had been read from the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies asking for the co-operation of this society in their endeavour to obtain the privileges of reduced railway fares for all exhibitors and officials attending shows, and in connection with which the Federation had decided to present a petition to the Railway Clearing House. The committee were in sympathy with the action taken by the Federation in this matter, and recommended that a letter from this society be addressed to the Railway Clearing House advocating the appeal for reduced fares, as set forth in the petition of the Federation.

Stock Prizes, £4,000 or £4,600?

Mr. Reynard (chairman) reported that the committee had prepared a draft prize-sheet, which they recommended should be printed and circulated amongst the council for their consideration in anticipation of the final settlement of the prize-sheets at the December meeting. They recommended that the sum of £4,600 be placed at their disposal for providing prizes for live stock, poultry, produce, &c., at the Lincoln Show of 1907. The Committee recommended that the entry fees in the horse classes, including all the charges for stabling, should be as follows:—

	Members.	Non-members.
For stallions and brood mares	40s.	80s.
For stallions and brood mares, post entries	50s.	100s.
For other horses in breeding classes	30s.	60s.
For other horses in breeding classes, post entries	40s.	80s.
Riding and driving classes ...	30s.	60s.
Pace and action and jumping classes	30s.	30s.

Also that the dates of closing of entries be as follows:—

Horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs:	
At ordinary rates	May 14th
At post entries	May 28th
Riding, driving, pace and action, and jumping classes	May 28th
Poultry at ordinary rates	May 28th
Produce at ordinary rates... ...	May 14th
Produce at post entries (except cider and perry)	May 28th

A letter had been received from the Secretary of the Lincoln Local Committee, intimating that they had generously granted the sum of £900 towards the Society's Prize Fund for the Lincoln Show. The Lincolnshire Agricultural Society have offered £134 for special prizes to be awarded to members of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society in the open classes. Various offers of champion and other prizes by Breed Societies have been received, and the Committee recommended their acceptance with thanks.

Mr. Reynard, in presenting the report, said that the proceedings at the conference on the horse breeding industry in this country were of a preliminary nature, but he hoped that some good would result from the conference. The council would notice that the Stock Prizes Committee were asking for a grant of £4,600, which was £600 in excess of what was granted to them last year. The committee had most carefully gone into the pro-

posal, and considering the very handsome additions from the Lincolnshire Local Committee (£900), the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society (£134), and from the various Breed Societies, they felt bound to endeavour to enlarge their prize list for all classes of stock. He would like to point out that although £4,000 was voted last year for their prize-list, they had received £4,120, so that this addition was the small one of £480 in excess of what had been received last year. He therefore trusted that the Council would see well to vote this amount, as it was hoped that the extra prize-money would attract more exhibits, and make the Royal prize-sheet what it ought to be. With regard to the reduction of fees for horses, there had been very great complaints of late years that they had been too high. There had been a separate charge for the entry-fee and a separate charge for stabling, but now it had been reduced, and the entry-fee included the charge for stabling.

Mr. Parker said that it seemed to him that this was the old battle being started between the Finance and the Stock Prize Committees. If they had a Finance Committee, why not be guided by them? He was of opinion that they should support the Finance Committee and adhere to what they said.

Mr. Wilson appreciated very much the guarded way in which the chairman of the Finance Committee had brought forward his report. He thought their object was to make the show as good as possible, and he believed that it would not be money thrown away.

Mr. Stratton would like to say one word before the report was put to the meeting. He had been unable to attend the Stock Prizes Committee on the previous day, but had he been there he should certainly have opposed the proposition which had been made. Considering the financial position of the society, the action which had been taken with regard to the Special Committee, and the paramount importance of endeavouring to impress upon everybody the necessity for economy, he did think it was premature to increase the amount of the prizes.

Mr. Rowell remarked that, seeing the very handsome way in which the Breed Societies had met them, and the very careful way in which the Stock Prize Committee had gone through the prize list, he hoped the increase would be granted.

Mr. Palmer said that the council must make themselves secure by economy, and heartily supported Mr. Parker.

Sir Gilbert Greenall thought it would be a very false economy indeed if they were not to give a good prize-sheet. All the breed societies had met them in the most handsome way, and if they desired to retain the support of those societies, they must give proper prizes.

Mr. Harrison could not agree with the remarks made by Mr. Parker, Mr. Stratton, and Mr. Palmer. He was as great an economist as any of these gentlemen, but he thought the request of the Stock Prizes Committee was entirely in the right direction.

Amount to be Offered £4,000.

After some further discussion, it was, on a show of hands, decided by twenty-three votes to twenty-one to limit the amount to be offered by the society for prizes of 1907 to £4,000.

The report of the Stock Prizes Committee, with this amendment, was then adopted.

Implements at Derby and Lincoln.

Mr. Bowen-Jones reported that the revised report on the trials of suction gas plants at the Derby Show was being finally corrected, and would be published in the course of a few days.

The committee considered the implement prize sheet and regulations for the Lincoln Show, which, after amendment, were approved. The committee recommended that the implement shedding in the Lincoln showyard should only be allotted in multiples of 5 ft., and that no exhibitor be allowed to take less than 10 ft.

The draft regulations for the trials of swath turners and side delivery rakes were considered, and, after amendment, were approved.

Election of Council, &c.

Mr. Adeane reported that Mr. Thomas A. Buttar, of Corston, Coupar Angus, had been elected to fill the vacancy on the council in the Division of Scotland caused by the resignation of Sir John Gilmour, Bart. The committee had determined by ballot, in accordance with the terms of by-law 82, that the representatives on the council of the various divisions should retire as follows:—

In 1906:—Group "C," comprising the Divisions of Cumberland, Westmoreland, Yorks (East Riding), North Wales, Lincoln, Huntingdon, Cambridge, Oxford, Kent, Warwick, Gloucester, Glamorgan, Somerset, Berkshire, Sussex, and Ireland.

In 1907:—Group "B," comprising the Divisions of Durham, Yorks (West Riding), Nottingham, Leicester, Rutland, Suffolk, Buckingham, Essex, London, Shropshire, Hereford, South Wales, Devon, Wiltshire, and Surrey.

In 1908:—Group "A," comprising the Divisions of Northumberland, Yorks (North Riding), Lancashire (and Isle of Man, Cheshire, Derby, Northampton, Norfolk, Bedford, Hertford, Middlesex, Stafford, Worcester, Monmouth, Cornwall, Dorset, Hampshire and Channel Islands, and Scotland.

The Committee recommended that the Annual General Meeting of Governors and Members should be held at the Hotel Russell, on Wednesday, the 12th December, at 12.30 p.m. To fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Sir Nigel Kingscote, the committee recommended the election of Mr. Cornwallis as a trustee. On the motion of Mr. Adeane the Council unanimously elected Mr. Cornwallis a trustee of the Society.

Mr. Cornwallis said he could not proceed without acknowledging the high compliment the Council had paid him in electing him a Trustee.

Re-Arrangement of Standing Committees.

Mr. Wheeler said that, in accordance with the motion he had given at the last meeting, he begged to move that steps be taken to reduce the number of committees of this council. Many gentlemen were on several committees, and had to go from one to another, and consequently the work had to be rushed. At present thirteen committees met on the Tuesday, and a good many of them went over the same ground, so that there was a great deal of duplication of work. He knew there were some members of the council who did not agree with what he was going to suggest, and he thought, therefore, that the best course would be to refer the matter to the Committee of Selection to carry out. He would state what his scheme was, and perhaps some of the members of the council would criticise it, so that the Selection Committee would have something to go upon. He would suggest the amalgamation of the Finance and House Committees. These two committees had had to work together in connection with the negotiations for the sale of Harewood House and other matters. He would like to see one committee to deal with the whole of the arrangements for the show. That would mean the amalgamation of the Showyard Works, Implement, Stock Prizes, and Dairy Committees. He suggested that, because at the present time all those committees were spending money upon the show, and there was no chairman who had in his mind the total amount spent on the show at one time. Then he would like to amalgamate all the scientific committees, the Chemical and Botanical, and perhaps the Veterinary might go with them, as it was a scientific committee, and in many cases it overlapped the work of the chemical and zoological departments. He would also like to see the Journal and Education Committees amalgamated under one chairman. The Selection and the General Show Committees must remain as they were.

Mr. Carr seconded the resolution.

After some discussion the President pointed out that there could be no great haste in the matter, because under by-law 38, which named almost all the committees they had at present, an alteration of the by-laws would be necessary before they could achieve very much.

Farm Prize Competitions.

Sir Gilbert Greenall reported that the following prizes, amounting to £150, had been offered by the members of the Belvoir, Brocklesby, Burton, Blankney, and South Wold Hunts, for farms hunted over by these packs:—

	1st. £	2nd. £	3rd. £	4th. £
Class I.—For farms exceeding 300 acres	40	25	10	—
Class II.—For farms not exceeding 300 acres	30	20	15	10

(Entries to close on January 1, 1907.)

Particulars of the conditions under which entries might be made could be obtained of Mr. William Frankish, secretary of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln, to whom the entries for these two classes must be made.

A further sum of £150 had been offered as prizes for farms in Lincolnshire, and it was necessary that these matters should be dealt with immediately. If the council would agree to accept these prizes, he would move that a committee be formed to make the necessary arrangements.

Mr. Crutchley said that before the question was put he would like to point out that, so far as he could remember, the judging of farm prize competitions was a very expensive matter, and he presumed that the whole cost of the judging would fall upon the society.

Mr. Harrison explained that all the expenses of judging would be met from outside, and that the society would be put to no expense whatever.

These offers were accepted, and a committee, consisting of Sir John Thorold, Bart., Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., and Mr. William Harrison was appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements.

Report to the Annual General Meeting.

The report of the council to the annual general meeting of Governors and members to be held at the Hotel Russell, Russell Square, W.C., at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12, was prepared, and ordered to be issued.

Dates of Council Meetings in 1907.

It was decided, on the recommendation of the Committee of Selection, that the council meetings of next near should be held on the following dates:—January 30, February 27, March 27, May 1, June 5 (Derby Day), July 31, November 6, and December 11.

Other business having been transacted, the council adjourned until Wednesday, December 12 next, at 11 a.m.

CENTRAL CHAMBER.

The first meeting in the winter session of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Tuesday at the Surveyors' Institute, Mr. T. Courtenay presiding.

Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., moved a resolution advocating the Board of Agriculture to take steps to prevent the importation of gooseberry bushes, at least from those countries where the American gooseberry mildew disease was known to exist. He explained that great loss had been caused to fruit-growers in countries where the disease had obtained a footing, and, owing to the present demand for gooseberry bushes in this country, there was the extreme likelihood of the disease being introduced into this country. On the continent the disease had occasioned serious ravages, and fruit growers were extremely anxious to prevent it spreading in England.

The chairman agreed that every measure should be adopted to prevent the importation of the disease into this country.

The motion was accepted, and a recommendation that the Board of Agriculture be asked to send out leaflets was accepted.

Milk Regulations.

The Dairy Products Committee reported that having considered the report of the select committee appointed to ascertain whether any further legislation was required in order to secure the better control of the trade in butter and butter substitutes, they urged the Government to pass a measure through Parliament giving effect to the recommendations of the Select Committee. Concerning the regulations relating to the sale of milk, the committee further reported that these should be amended so as to provide that whenever a sample of milk taken for analysis was found to be below the limits fixed by the Board of Agriculture, the local authority should, within three days of the taking of such sample, and without notice, obtain a sample from the cows. In view of the unsatisfactory position of this question, the committee recommended that the President of the Board of Agriculture be asked to receive a deputation from the council to urge that the Board should take steps to obtain power to alter these regulations in the direction of safeguarding the milk-producer against prosecution for selling milk which, though genuine, was below the standard, owing to fluctuations due to natural causes.

Mr C. Middleton, in moving the adoption of the report, said he was anxious to save farmers from the irritating and vexatious prosecutions they suffered in consequence of the existing regulations. Recently he gave evidence in a case against a Lincolnshire farmer, who was summoned at a London police-court. On that occasion it was proved conclusively that the farmer sold the milk just as it came from the cow; notwithstanding that, he was fined a small amount, with the addition of the costs, which amounted to £30. Farmers were saying, if this sort of thing continued, they should have to give up dairy farming, for the reason that they did not care to render themselves liable to prosecution.

The report was accepted, and the suggestion that there should be a large deputation to the President of the Board of Agriculture was agreed to.

Mr. Kendrick (Staffordshire) moved that the council express the hope that the Government would give its attention to the growth of sugar beet in the United Kingdom, and that it would support the Sugar Convention. He said that it was quite possible for beet to be grown in this country if it received sufficient encouragement.

Mr. J. Gardiner (Worcester) seconded.

Lord Denbigh contended that beet could be grown of a quality equal to, if not superior than, the best German grown roots. Last year fifty million tons of roots had been grown on the Continent, and the benefits had been enormous to the root-growing districts. Factories would have to be established on a large scale, factories to produce 40,000 or 50,000 tons a year, and that would require a capital of about £70,000. The excise duty on sugar was a bar to such developments. He asked an assurance from the Government that when the Brussels Convention came to an end, they would not agree to anything permitting foreign countries to re establish bounties.

In answer to Mr. Davies (Cheshire), Lord Denbigh said an average of thirteen tons could be grown to the acre and sold for about 19s. per ton.

Mr. Davies remarked that he could grow over thirty tons of mangolds per acre at the same expense of production.

The debate was adjourned until January.

Milk Consignee's Liability.

Mr. Humphreys (Bedford) moved: "This coun-

cil is of opinion that the liability of consignors of milk should cease when it reaches the consignee's hands." Several cases of hardship were quoted. An amendment was moved that the liability of the consignor should cease immediately the milk leaves his hands. It was pointed out that the railway companies would never agree to that, and it was also stated that the rates under "railway companies' risks" were prohibitive. The amendment was defeated, and the resolution carried.

Workmen's Compensation.

The following resolution, moved by Mr. Lord (Ham Street, Kent), was carried: "This council disagrees with the Workmen's Compensation Bill (as amended by the Standing Committee on Law), in that while farmers are liable for compensation even if they only employ one man, other employers are exempt if they do not employ over five."

A resolution urging the Government to deal with the question of local taxation next session was postponed until next meeting.

The council adjourned until Dec. 12.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

Meeting at Stamford.

A meeting of the Stamford branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at the Stamford Hotel on Friday, November 2, when the chairman, Mr. John Thurlby, of Baston, presided over a good attendance. Among those present were Messrs. J. Woolston, G. Hudson (Empingham), J. Turner (Little Bytham), E. Clark (Castle Bytham), T. Rickard (Bourne), A. Ollarenshaw (Horn), W. Tyler (Preston), J. Woolhouse (Barnack), Mawby (Kilthorpe), J. Bassett Rowell (Ridlington), G. Mason (Barrowden), F. G. Mountain (Essendine), &c.

The Chairman referred to the proposals to be submitted to Parliament relative to valuations, whereby independent arbitration was suggested in case of dispute between the respective valuers.

Mr. Ollarenshaw thought that the Union should urge the necessity that, in case of a valuation, full details should be given by the valuer.

Other members concurred.

A lengthy discussion ensued upon local taxation, and Mr. Mawby deprecated the action taken by the Government recently in deferring the question when raised in the House of Commons. He moved a resolution to the effect that the Union urge the matter upon the attention of the Government, and this was unanimously carried.

Mr. Woolston called attention to the question of sugar beet growing and announced that Mr. Sigmund Stein had kindly undertaken to visit Stamford and discuss the question free of charge. He urged the importance of the matter, and said Mr. Mountain, who was present that afternoon, had been to Germany to inspect the methods of the manufacture of the sugar from the raw material adopted there, and had stated that the industry was in a most flourishing condition, the companies paying big dividends.

Mr. Mountain bore out Mr. Woolston's remarks, and Mr. Mawby expressed himself in favour of the idea, but thought it impracticable until the duty, or a large part of it, was removed. Until that was done he had not much hope of the success of the factory in the Sleaford district.

The Chairman said he had been waiting to see the result of the founding of the Sleaford factory before suggesting any action in the matter. If it were successful there was no reason why there should not be successful factories all over the county. He was afraid, however, that unless a factory was established in the Stamford district, the growth of the beet would be unworkable, for there would be no market.

Mr. Woolston replied that the pulp was useful for feeding stock, its saccharine properties being beneficial.

It was eventually decided to invite Mr. Stein to the annual meeting of the Union next month.

Annual Meeting of the Grantham Branch.

The first annual meeting of the members of the Grantham branch of the above Union was held at the George Hotel, Grantham, on Saturday week, when there was a small attendance. Mr. Willingham Fowler presided. Among those present were Messrs. J. B. Mason, J. T. Bettinson, T. Roberts, Grayson, Hipkin, R. C. Bemrose, T. Fisher, T. W. Dowse, C. P. Ingram, C. J. Rudkin, Cambage, Coltman, and H. W. Palmer (secretary of the Union), Lord, R. C. Cooper, Pinder, T. Baker, Cartwright, G. W. Golding, &c.

The chairman said the strong point made by Lord Carrington was that if the army were now fed upon home-bred and home-killed meat it would incur an extra expenditure of about £150,000 annually. Of course that seemed a lot of money, but what could they urge against that extra cost. They would see the better feeding of the fighting forces of the Empire, and that would be one advantage. (Applause.) Another advantage was that the money would go into the pockets of the British taxpayer, and surely the British taxpayer should have the first claim upon the public purse. If they encouraged home breeding and home feeding they would provide British-paid labour, whereas if they fed the army on foreign meat they would not employ home labour. So that they would see that it cut against the interests of working men as well as against the interests of the middle classes.

Mr. T. Roberts proposed—

"That the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union view with great disfavour the proposal of substituting home-killed for home-fed meat in the army, as all other requisites for the army have to be of British manufacture. They would ask, as a matter of common justice, that meat be put on the same footing. They would point out that if the system which obtains at Aldershot and other places was extended, that is, of buying live cattle locally and having it killed by army butchers, it would prevent a fraud which has in so many instances been practised to the great detriment of the British farmer. They would point out that such a system, if brought into force, would confer direct benefit on agriculture in general."

Mr. R. C. Cooper, in seconding, said farmers had to pay rates to keep up the British army, and surely they ought to be the first to be considered in helping to feed the army. (Applause.) There was no other industry in England that would sit with arms folded, knowing that injustice was being meted out to them.

Messrs. Fisher, Bettinson, and Bemrose supported, the latter stating that Lord Carrington was sitting on the fence. He said the farmers were with him, but he (the speaker) differed, for they were not, and Lord Carrington would find it out.

The resolution was then put, and unanimously carried.

Mr. Willingham Fowler was re-elected chairman of the branch, Mr. J. B. Mason hon. secretary, and Mr. G. W. Golding assistant secretary. A committee was also appointed.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. R. CHALLINOR,
Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The entries for the Scottish National Fat Stock Club Show at Edinburgh on December 5 and 6 next are as follows:—Cattle, 158, which is slightly less than last year; sheep, 89; pigs, about 13; roots, grain, &c., 447; stands, 31; and butter-making, 40. The total was 775, said the secretary at a meeting of the club on Thursday, but he expected there would be 800 in all. In 1905 the total was 743, and in 1904, 820.

Framlingham is unable to invite the Suffolk Agricultural Association for its annual exhibition of stock and implements in June next, as the Great Eastern Railway Company would be unable to manage the heavy passenger and goods traffic on the single line. The committee of the association will therefore meet on Friday next, the 16th inst., at the Town Hall, Ipswich, at 2.15 p.m., to receive representatives of any town in Suffolk willing to entertain the association for its 1907 show.

"Business is Business."

"If you have any business, be short and let me hear it." Thus a well known writer expressed, some three centuries ago, his appreciation of our head-line. What do we understand by it? The practical man, living in this busy world, explains its meaning by his actions. He believes in facts, figures, and results. He does not admit vague statements or fancies, but demands the support of realities, such as he can handle and test.

Sentiment, however plausible on the surface, has no place in his consideration of the particular matter brought before him. He can only deal with something tangible, and at once dismisses, as unworthy of his attention and as merely waste of precious time, any subject which is wanting the evidence he naturally looks for.

This is the aspect in which we regard the resolutions of general condemnation that have lately been sent to us by the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Clubs. We have published them, we have asked for detail and proof, but thus far we have been favoured with no further information.

On the other hand, we have received from correspondents letters approving the course we have taken in reporting the direction and trend of events recently affecting the hop-growing industry, but the complaints of the club members have not yet been substantiated.

We are quite ready and willing to receive and carefully consider any real grievance that our readers may be able to suggest. But we have no desire to prolong the discussion, and therefore we now say that we shall look upon the matter as closed, and our reputation as truthful reporters confirmed, unless we receive, before the date of our next issue, details of the complaints to which the resolutions profess to refer.

It is impossible to correct a fault until we are aware what is its character; therefore, we can hardly be accused of persistent blindness unless our eyes are opened. Business is business, and we say to our critics, repeating the words quoted above, if they have any business, be short and let us hear it.

The Borough Market.

The tendency towards weakness to which I adverted last week has, unfortunately, developed to such an extent that hops have been bought at 5s. to 10s. below the prices that were previously ruling. The chief cause of this depression is evidently the slackness of demand. Merchants say that their customers, having operated to the extent of their immediate requirements, are not disposed to go farther in increasing their stocks.

As usual, when demand is checked, holders become more willing to sell, and when these two influences are combined, decrease in values follows as a matter of course. The large growths that have changed hands within the past three weeks have generally realised the best prices of the season, and I congratulate my friends who have exercised such good judgment in selling at the right moment.

The removal of these lots from the market has brought our available supplies into such small compass that we might naturally expect the maintenance of values. But the experience of the last few days has not confirmed our expectation, and we are bound to admit, however unwillingly, that the present prospects are not encouraging.

Doubtless consumers are considering the probabilities of foreign supplies, and are summing up their estimated requirements, and taking their holdings into account. Their hesitation as to enlargement of their engagements may thus be understood, and it appears to me not improbable that we shall be compelled to submit to the annoyance of a slow trade during the remainder of this year.

I earnestly trust, however, that my forecast may be proved to be wrong, and that circumstances as yet unforeseen may bring about a renewal of activity and a substantial improvement in market quotations.

Our Foreign Trade.

The returns just published show that the expected influx of foreign hops has fairly set in, as the imports for October, amounting to 23,002 cwt., are 14,060 cwt. in excess of the previous

month. The total arrivals since the opening of the season are 32,124 cwt., against 18,771 cwt. in the corresponding period of last year.

Our exports have considerably fallen off, being only 1,498 cwt. in September and October, 1906, while in the same months of 1905 we shipped to Colonial buyers 6,236 cwt. The balance of load upon our market is therefore much increased this season, the figure for this year being, thus far, 30,626 cwt. against 12,535 cwt. for 1905.

Although it may be argued that this is hardly a sufficient weight to materially affect us, yet the comparison is unfavourable when we consider the prospects of the trade, especially when we remember that the American import business has practically not yet opened, our chief supplies this year having come from the Continent.

We have reason to believe that America has a large surplus, of which we are bound soon to have evidence. We must also bear in mind that already we are aware that foreign hops of every description are selling at lower prices than the present English currency, and that this competition is likely to become more acute than less as the season progresses.

Such indications and possibilities should be closely observed by English holders, and it is for their information and guidance that I bring these figures before them, hoping that they may thereby be warned in time to the avoidance of future losses.

Hop Markets in Other Lands.

America.

Very little news has come to me across the Atlantic this week. There has been some increase in activity on the Pacific Coast in the better qualities, but the lower grades do not appear to attract much attention at present. Values are therefore rather unsettled, but the tendency is toward lower prices. In New York State the tone of business is in the direction of improvement, and a fair amount of trade has been done at fully previous figures.

Nuremberg.

There has been no cessation of activity since my last report. Business has been well supported by the local demands of consumers, but the chief feature in the trade is the exports to England and America, large orders for these countries having been recently filled. English buyers have chiefly taken Hallerdaus at 62s. to 75s., and America generally selects the better grades ranging from 72s. to 88s. The arrivals of hops during the week ending October 31 amounted to 5,000 bales, and as the sales were of equal figure, there was no addition to stocks.

During the month of October stocks have been increased by about 6,000 bales, but this has not affected values, which have been well maintained. The present approximate currency may be quoted as follows for the highest qualities:—Market hops, 78s. to 85s.; Hallerdaus, 100s. to 105s.; sealed Hallerdaus, 110s. to 115s.; Spalts, 105s. to 115s.; Wurtembergs, 100s. to 110s.; Badens, 105s. to 110s.; Alsatians, 100s. to 105s. Low qualities and mediums range from 65s. to 90s., according to selection. The present position of the market is quiet, but with no change of values.

Belgium.

From a letter received from a friend in Poperinghe, I learn that their crop did not yield half the expected weight, but he adds, "the hops are very good." He also tells me that great efforts are being made in every village to improve their methods of cultivation and curing, lectures being given under the auspices of the Government, the results being very manifest this season.

The markets, both in town and country, are at present very quiet. The brewers are buying but slowly, and exportation has become slacker, consequently prices have been slightly reduced, Alosts being now quoted at 75 to 77½ francs and Poperinghes at 70 to 72½ francs.

The foreign trade of Belgium for September is given officially as under:—

Imports ..... 2,560 cwt.
Exports ..... 1,936 ,,

Of the imports the bulk was received from Germany and France, as England only sent in about 80 cwt. In the exports the figures are practically reversed, 1,443 cwt. being shipped to England, and only a trifling quantity to Germany, the bulk of the balance being taken by France and Holland.

The half-yearly hirings at Morpeth for single servants, male and female, were held on Wednesday, when, notwithstanding the heavy and incessant rain from morning till dusk, there was a large attendance. Masters, mistresses, maids, and men availed themselves of the shelter of the Corn Exchange provided for them on such occasions by a number of philanthropic ladies. Wages for both sexes ruled much the same as they did twelve months ago. Men got from £10 10s to £14 10s., and in special cases £1 more, and lads from £4 10s. to £9 10s. Girls from £3 10s. (first place) to £7 and £8, and women from £7 10s. to £10.

Midland Notes.

FARMERS are so often charged with refusal to move with the times that it is pleasant to find scientific people, moving in new paths, emphatic in their contradiction of the old idea. From Professor Collinge, of Birmingham University, I hear that the new department of economic zoology is already finding much appreciation in the Midlands. It is a fact, I believe, that in regard to certain pests concerning which official leaflets are issued, the University has received many more applications for information this season than the Board of Agriculture.

THE university department, of course, is being worked with energy and on practical lines. When any unfamiliar fruit, field crop, or garden pest appears the farmer or orchardist who suffers would almost certainly be able to identify it by looking through the fine museum of preserved specimens—that is to say, if his note did not bring Mr. Collinge on to the ground the same day, as often happens. It is especially pleasant to find the newest enterprise of all so thoroughly appreciated—the "insectory," that is, where such enemies of insect pests as the ichneumon flies and ladybirds are bred that they may be despatched when needed to districts where they may be of use. If the British farmer were so suspicious of new-fangled ways as his detractors say he might look on such novel enterprise with some distrust. As it is, it is a local farmer's orchard, lent for the purpose, which forms the present breeding-ground, and the department, Mr. Collinge tells us, is already overwhelmed with applications for assistance in this direction.

CONTINUED rain has made the ground much too soft for cultivation for a little time, but for the most part we are far enough forward with the work of the season to be able to endure a few days' delay without much repining. We have had none too much of rain even as it is; even now some of the springs which dried up early in the year are only just beginning to flow again. We are, by the way, not all equally lucky. I hear of districts in Worcester and Warwick where very little opportunity for corn sowing has been enjoyed this autumn. In such cases the wheat acreage will certainly go down substantially, for after the middle of November very little is drilled. Elsewhere it may be different, but local prejudices are all against late sowing.

LIVE stock generally have been making good progress lately, but the warmth and rain of the past five weeks have not been an unmixed blessing. In agriculture is much antagonism of interest, and so the Leicestershire and Warwickshire graziers who delayed buying in stores during the early autumn are now complaining that they have to pay substantially more, and are hardly likely to make much profit.

SHEEP in particular are dear just now, so that graziers who made little or nothing out of them a year ago are very reluctant to pay the couple of shillings or more extra per head that are demanded today. Cattle, of course, have not advanced so much proportionately. But then really good stores are not very plentiful, and neither do fat cattle sell so readily as food mutton. Feeding also is expensive, In Stafford and Derby especially one hears of stock owners who have been feeding for a couple of months past almost as in winter; and the brewers' grains so favoured in this part of the world are now a rather costly food at 6d. per bushel.

SOME very nice fields of kohl rabi suggest again that this crop might be worth more attention. It has apparently justified its reputation as a drought resister this season, and in districts where turnips are much mildewed one has seen kohl quite healthy and flourishing. What a pity that our friends the seedsman cannot bring down the price of seed to something just a little nearer the level of rape or turnips. One and ninepence to half a crown a pound is a good deal to pay when one needs 4 lb. or so per acre. But if the seed seems, as it does to some of us, too dear to buy in bulk, at any rate kohl might be worth a little more consideration for patching up bare spots among the swedes and mangolds.

CONGRATULATIONS to the farmers of the King's Norton, Northfield, Rubery, Rednal, and Beoley districts! For long it has been their fate to cultivate land in what is technically an "urban" district, albeit some of them are miles from a railway station, and their area, as a whole, is thinly populated. The explanation, of course, is that just one corner of it joins Birmingham and boasts both prosperous residential suburbs and a crowded manufacturing and artisan population. As these latter districts practically govern the entire area and show a disposition to launch out into ambitious tramway, secondary education, electric lighting, and similar schemes, the outlook for the purely rural parts, which pay the same rates and get no benefit at all from them has been far from cheerful. The formal proposal this week that the urban and rural parts, so diverse in character, so devoid of any community of interests, should formally part company, comes none too soon. Is it in vain to commend the suggestion to other similarly situated "urban" areas in the Midlands?

November 8, 1906.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

The Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, at a meeting in London, on Monday, considered the report of the conference on the question of horse breeding in the United Kingdom held by Earl Carrington (President of the Board of Agriculture). After giving the matter due consideration they resolved to defer taking any steps pending the receipt of information as to the course the Government will adopt as the outcome of the conference, but in the meantime to submit the premium list for 1907 to his Majesty and the Treasury for their approval.

The number of mares served during the past season was laid before the Commissioners, and in cases where stallions had failed to get the required number the premiums were reduced. The percentage of foals for the 1905 season was presented, and the average considered very good. These figures will appear in the Parliamentary report issued next year.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 6, 1906:—

Period	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended November 3, 1906	17	25	...	...	16	29	...	...	11	35	151
Corresponding week in 1905	16	19	...	...	21	36	...	...	12	12	39
Corresponding week in 1904	20	20	...	...	27	46	...	...	17	6	7
Corresponding week in 1903	5	5	...	...	27	43	...	...	31	19	154
Total for 44 weeks in 1906	772	1,107	...	...	934	1,769	...	...	343	994	5,644
Corresponding period in 1905	826	1,133	...	...	1,051	1,804	...	...	725	692	3,083
Corresponding period in 1904	852	1,300	...	...	1,330	2,350	...	...	1,132	1,085	5,035
Corresponding period in 1903	631	947	...	...	1,268	2,165	...	...	1,301	1,270	6,662

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

In the House of Commons on Tuesday, Viscount Turnour asked Sir E. Strachey, as representing the President of the Board of Agriculture, what was the average weekly wage of the labourers formerly employed by the Crown on the Burwell estate in Cambridgeshire and since dismissed; and what was the size and the rent asked for the small holdings on the said estate which were offered to the displaced labourers, and which the majority did not avail themselves of. Sir E. Strachey, in reply, said the average weekly wage of the thirty-two adult labourers who were employed on the Crown farm at Burwell was 14s. a week. In addition nine lads under twenty were employed whose average weekly wage was 9s. One of the adult labourers was a woman, who was paid 8s. a week. My noble friend has no information on the other matters referred to in the question

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Price of Hops.

SIR,—As a farmer I regularly subscribe to the MARK LANE EXPRESS, and as a brewer I invariably read the hop news it contains. I have not seen the discussion in your contemporary on "The Hop Industry," but knowing as I did the enormous stocks of 1905 hops carried by every brewer of my acquaintance, it was evident throughout the summer that the result of this season's growth could only be disappointment to the growers. That result required no "bearing" on the part of the merchants.

"Business is business," and with 1905 hops in stock sufficient to last to the end of next June at least, it is foolish to suppose that I or other brewers were not sufficiently indifferent buyers to be able to hold off the markets until we were able to guage accurately the probable supply of Continental and American hops, and to judge for ourselves whether on the whole there was likely to be any shortage. One's sympathies may be, and are, with the growers; but so I find people's sympathies are with me when I grow a poor crop of wheat and have to accept an even poorer price—but no one is platonic enough on that account to pay me the more for my wheat.

Merchants have to sell to brewers, and surely commonsense will refuse to blame them for not paying the growers prices which would simply mean that they would have to sell at a loss or not sell at all.

As to whether factors and merchants, that is two middlemen, are required is perhaps another matter. But my own opinion is that neither can be well done without.

That the brewer should buy direct from the grower is an absolute impossibility. I number many hopgrowers among my friends, and I have tried to do business with them, but with never any very satisfactory results.

The grower in the first place wishes to sell probably his whole growth, or certainly the growth of certain plantations. The brewer, on the other hand, wants a certain number of various qualities, and therefore the brewers' requirements do not tally with what suits the grower. But possibly the factor and the merchant might be merged in one? But, in that case, is the grower ready to place himself in the merchant's hands, or is the factor going to provide travellers to show his hops round to the various brewers, and is he prepared to give the six or nine months' credit which brewers require? Growers talk of grubbing up plantations and warn brewers as to the result. But how many farmers have had to turn their wheat lands to other purposes, and though the result may be dangerous to the country as a whole, the miller is not affected by the warning, and why should the brewer be.

Under present conditions only the best land for wheat and hops can continue to grow those crops. Inferior land for that purpose must be turned to other use, and when my hop friends will vote for a thumping duty on wheat, I shall be prepared to reciprocate by voting for a duty on hops.—Yours faithfully, BREWER AND FARMER.

November 7, 1906.

Forestry in France.

DEAR SIR,—I am sending you herewith a letter I have received—an important communication, I venture to think—from Mons. Ch. Broilliard. It speaks for itself. I forbear all comment.—Yours truly, CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.

November 9, 1906.

Letter of M. Ch. Broilliard (Agronomo distingué), Conservateur des Forêts en retraite.

Morey, Haute Saône,
November 5, 1906.

To Mr. Charles Hancock, B.L., Member of Scottish Arboricultural Society.

Monsieur,—I am touched by the kind references the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS has allowed to be inserted in this week's issue of his widely-read agricultural organ.

I certainly think that our method of cultivating and disposing of timber in France is a very good one. We have had plenty of experience, and our methods are the gradually-acquired result of that experience. It has required time to regulate and perfect it. I cannot help admiring our system of cutting away the underwood and the tall timber.

The forest officials put a reserve mark on all the best trees, often very numerous, and only the surplus which is of the least value is felled. Nevertheless, this surplus finds an easy market, and the purchasing contractors cut it down, carefully respecting the reserved trees.

In the case of the fir woods, only the trees to be felled are marked, and the buyers glean them out, so to speak, from the dense forest. All these trees, owing to the competition that obtains, sell well, and, thanks to the honesty of the forest officials and the training of the inspectors (keepers and rangers), the felling is carried on with regularity, and the trade in general may be said to be an honest and upright one.

This is, in the first place, due to the training received by the officials at the Nancy School of Forestry ever since the year 1824. I can only trust that this may continue! Elsewhere—that is to say, in other countries—other customs prevail which may in time give, it is to be hoped, equally good results.

As regards forestry knowledge and initiation into the secrets of sylviculture, this is gained by practical experience in the forest, as is shown by Mr. Fankhauser in his paper to which you refer me. But it is almost indispensable to be prepared for it, by instruction on the ground, and, for this purpose, to have plenty of well-kept forests for young men to study in.

I fear that these are lacking in England! I have there noticed underwood left without method or system—trees of no good dimensions, and picturesque trees, on the other hand, which I have inspected in the country and in the parks, and even a compact forest of larch trees, above Radnor. But all this does not indicate any idea of a well-ordered natural forest—in a good productive state.

We are still far from having attained perfect order or what may be called a system regulated to perfection in most of our woods; but we are tending to this end with more or less success, and careful cultivation of compact masses of timber is happily the rule.

You will surely arrive, without much groping (*sans beaucoup de tâtonnements*), at a good system of sylviculture in England, with the aid of experienced forestry officials of India, such as Mr. Fisher, Mr. Gleadon, and others, and by calling others to your assistance, if necessary. Reafforestation will also afford you interesting and useful studies. All that is required is a persistent methodical spirit—an *esprit de suite*.

Yours truly,
(Signed) CHARLES BROILLIARD.

The Farm Outlook in Hunts.

SIR,—Some of our farmers who were for months crying out for rain would now be glad of a temporary cessation of the somewhat heavy downpour with which we have been blessed of late. Root carting has made some considerable progress, but many acres of kohl-rabi and some extent of mangold land is still uncleared.

Although the long-continued drought affected the growing roots on the lighter land and reduced the weight, if not the quality, yet we hope to store quite an average crop, since the plant of mangolds was especially good and the early season most favourable.

A large proportion of the wheat is sown, and occasionally the drills are already showing from one to the other end of the fields. So far as we judge, the plant appears to be almost too thick; it was up quickly, and each kernel appears to have grown. The rooks and other birds had a full supply of corn on the stubbles, so that the newly-sown wheat was not much disturbed.

More than the usual acreage is drilled with winter beans, as our farmers have found both winter and spring beans paid better than any other crop during the last two years; therefore they argue that more beans should be grown; mayhap they forget that spring beans, and, to a lesser extent, winter also, are a very risky crop, and one which in wet, cold seasons gives but a very poor return of corn, however great may be the crop of straw.

Barley has sadly lost favour with our farmers; the yield has been good of late years, especially so this season, and the condition excellent, but the grain is coarse and hard; the merchants are most unwilling buyers of Hunts barley. Are farmers not growing too much barley? S. S.

November 6, 1906.

Passing Thoughts on Barley Growing.

SIR,—Although the facts adduced from the experiments which have lately been made (see Professor Hall's pamphlet on the subject) are undoubtedly valuable, still it is obvious, bearing in mind the results from a practical point of view of previous investigations, that it would perhaps be unwise to draw any definite conclusions, as this crop, from its delicate nature, is so liable to be affected by the atmospheric changes so often prevailing, both before and also at the time of harvest.

Besides this, barley, from having no outside protection in the shape of chaff as wheat and oats have, is so much more liable to be acted on by other circumstances not applicable to the two grain crops named, over which the grower has no control.

It must also be borne in mind that the use of the self-binders, rendered imperative by the scarcity of labour, has by no means improved the quality of this grain when offered in the market, but in many cases where there is a strong under-growth of clover, or anything else green, they are productive of harm.

It appears to me, from having been a grower as also a considerable buyer for many years, that the three essentials for growing good malting barley are:—First, suitable soil; secondly, favourable seasons; and thirdly, early sowing, neither of which can the farmer make to order.

Then again, I have, after many trials, arrived at the conclusion that no hard and fast line can be drawn as to the application of artificial top-dressing, as different seasons produce such different, indeed, I may almost say, quite opposite results.

Having on several occasions gone through the crops preceding the barleys exhibited for competition at the various shows held in both Wilts and Dorset, I have come to the conclusion that the best quality is generally grown after mangolds.

In conclusion, I trust I shall not be looked on as heretical, but I am strongly of opinion that the value of such shows is often much overrated.

Devizes, November 6, 1906. W. FOOKES.

Home or Foreign Meat for the Army.

SIR,—The army, say 300,000 men, would need the carcases of 78,000 oxen of 96 st., 8 lb. to the stone each, to give ½ lb. of meat to each man daily throughout the year.

The present market value of these carcases raised through home land and labour would be £1,482,000.

The Government decided not to invest the taxpayers' cash in home produce and thus retain it in the country's circulation, which through the multitudinous channels of trade would, circulating again and again, vivifying trade, return to the taxpayer, and be permanently held in the nation's cash circulation.

On the contrary, instead, the Government decided to invest the taxpayers' money in purchasing foreign meat for our army for the purpose of showing, by two skilled sophistical lawyers, an apparent gain to one department of the army of £150,000 in this meat deal, not at all heeding the serious loss brought on the nation by deleting from home circulation cash—£1,332,000—to carry out the deal, and through investing it in foreign lands, rival industries, and circulation, lost to our country for ever.

May not this "free trade" policy of always buying in the cheapest market be characterised as economically unsound and ruinous, and gradually destructive of our home industries?

If, on the contrary, by judicious application of the taxpayers' cash at home the nation would not only have raised the meat required for our army, but at the same time have recovered to productiveness, from derelict lands, a smiling estate of many thousand acres, land and cottages; and the taxpayers' cash retained in circulation, vivifying many trades and industries, would be held at home for ever. ALFRED WELCH.

Southall, October 30, 1906.

Hop Manures at the Brewers'.

SIR,—In your issue of the 5th inst. we noticed a paragraph headed "Hop Manures at the Brewers'" (p. 493), referring to some confusion that had arisen in reporting upon the prize samples in the various classes of hops.

We now enclose a letter from Mr. Ernest Mannington which, as it clears the matter up, you will oblige us by publishing *in extenso* if possible.

We have full permission to use the letter in any way we like.—Yours faithfully,

THE ANGLO-CONTINENTAL
(late Ohlendorff's) GUANO WORKS.

15, Leadenhall Street, London,
November 9, 1906.

The following is the letter referred to:—

Eaglesden, Brenenden, Cranbrook.

DEAR SIRS,—With reference to your letter of this morning and inquiry re prizes at the Brewers' Exhibition, I beg to state that the hops shown in Class 4 were grown with the aid of manure supplied by the Anglo-Continental Guano Works, as was also one example shown by me in Class 5.

The first prize in Class 5 was grown by the aid of manure supplied by Messrs. Fison's.

I trust this is clear, and if I omitted to specify the variety of artificial used in Class 4 it was done inadvertently.—Yours, &c.,

ERNEST MANNINGTON

Barley Protest at the Brewers' Exhibition.

SIR,—Owing to an error in typing the paragraph relating to the above as appearing in your current issue, it is made to appear that the [illegible] and disqualification refer to Classes 7, 8, and 9, [illegible] it should be Class 7 only. Will you kindly correct in your next issue, and accept our apology for the blunder.—Yours faithfully,

DALE, REYNOLDS AND CO., LTD.

November 6, 1906.

Northern Notes.

THE *Times* recently said in regard to the restrictions imposed with the swine fever order, that "it is little wonder pig-breeding is discouraged, and that many farmers are urging that the restrictions are worse than the disease." As a matter of fact, the pig trade is being gradually killed, and before long we shall find in the scheduled districts that the figures are altogether missing from the market returns. If we take the last official return of market prices issued by the Board of Agriculture, and cast up the figures relating to pigs, we find that a grand total of forty-five stores were entered at Hull, Leeds, Newcastle, Wakefield, and York.

TO be quite accurate and fair, these forty-five animals were all entered at Wakefield, while the other four markets were all a blank, so far as store pigs are concerned. Of fat pigs, all presumably ready for the butcher, there was an average for each market of just over 300 head; the pens at Wakefield were empty, and those at Leeds contained thirty-four! Cannot more drastic measures be adopted to stamp out this disease? It is all, more or less, a question of compensation.

IF the pigs in an infected area were all slaughtered after a period allowed for disinfection of the district, a clean bill of health might be given. Under present arrangements, while markets which are kept in a perfect sanitary state are practically closed to stores, a dealer may turn his cart into a temporary "market," and hawk his pigs about the country until he finds a customer. This was done a few days ago in a market which had been shut up over six months, and "opened" under a modified order.

STORE pigs could be sold in the market, but could only be removed under licence, so that in the event of the swine developing disease they could be traced, and the market saddled with being the cause of the outbreak. A dealer drove into this said market with a load of pigs, did not take the horse out of the shafts, and there he could stand defying the inspector, the while bargaining for the sale of his stock. Is it pretended that disease cannot be spread from a cart, which may not have undergone disinfection for weeks, and yet that a market cleansed and limewashed with the greatest regularity may be a prolific source or medium of contagion?

HOW easily we are distressed by causes natural and beneficial in their inception and sequence. A week of rain—and heavy rain too—has sent many farmers into a state of grumpiness, just because they were prevented doing certain things they had set their minds on accomplishing that very week.

SHOULD we be any the better off if fine weather, dull weather, any sort of weather we desired could be obtained to order? We doubt it. It must be conceded that a week of very "trying" weather has just gone by, but the compensating effects of the rains will more than counterbalance the temporary inconveniences experienced during their downfalling.

IN the north, and especially on land with a chalky subsoil, a lot of rain was required to replenish the vanishing springs and the depleted reservoirs and cisterns. Though the precipitation was very copious for a week, its effect upon the becks and small streams is not at all perceptible, an indication that the lower strata was devoid of any great stores of water. The mildness of the season has had a remarkable influence upon vegetation, and one can hardly recall a season of such verdant beauty as that which lingers upon the portals of November. Farmers are conserving their indoor feed, the quantity of pasture herbage enabling a great economy to be effected in the use of cultivated crops.

THE discussion of the sheep colouring question by the National Association this week comes as a reminder of the remarks made to me by a New Zealand flockmaster two or three years ago. After visiting the Royal Show he expressed his surprise at the methods of showing sheep in this country. He contended that visitors, both experts and novices, should have an opportunity of seeing sheep, other than lambs, fully developed, both in carcase and in wool. Their wool, he thought, should not be tampered with, and he was particularly struck with the practice of colouring the various breeds and thereby disguising the natural tendency of the wool.

SOON afterwards the R.A.S.E. passed a resolution that the excessive colouring of sheep was "objectionable." The council of the Lincoln society would have none of this interference, and when the matter was discussed several principal flockmasters almost fell into indignation on the subject, and a resolution was passed pledging members to resent any dictation from outsiders. The custom having obtained so strong a hold on the Lincoln and Down breeds will, if it dies at all, die very gamely.

THE county by-laws in these northern latitudes are yielding a fine crop of police-court cases. The neglect of vehicular lights, straying pigs, negligent drivers, and the rustics who indulge too freely in words which should be tabooed from their vocabulary are the main class of offences and offenders, not forgetting the ubiquitous, scorching chauffeur. Dwellers in the country have small respect for time, and the shortening days lead cartmen and waggoners into error. One had his lamp ready trimmed in his cart, instead of having it lighted and affixed outside.

FIRST offenders do not escape a fine; the police and bench get their pound of flesh. A pig escaped while the farmer was passing the compliments of the day to the representative of law and authority. The policeman was particular to describe the pig as of the "blue and white" breed, which was not, perhaps, a very material point, as the owner admitted the "offence," and paid a crown piece to the county for his remissness of guardianship.

A BUTCHER summoned at Selby for a breach of the Sheep Dipping Order met with consideration from the magistrates, the case being dismissed. He was told, to "study the Orders." The clerk: "He won't understand it when he does," an observation which evoked unrestrained laughter.

November 9, 1906.

Prize Root Competitions.

Messrs. W. R. Smith and Son's (Tattenhall Road Bone Works, near Chester) annual competition for roots attracted a larger number of competitors than usual. Through these the counties of Cheshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, and Denbighshire were well represented by excellent specimens of mangels and swede turnips, grown by the aid of Messrs. Smiths' special manures.

The first prize of £30 for mangels went to Mr. Leonard J. Smith, Newent, Gloucestershire; Mr. H. B. Bomford, of Exhall Court, Alcester, Warwickshire, and Mr. Robert Shepherd, Parkside, Aston, Cheshire, taking equal seconds. The variety staged by each of these three competitors was Garton's Improved Breed of Large Yellow Globe.

In the swede turnip class Mr. J. E. Willis, of Rossett, Denbighshire, staged the heaviest roots, but as he was a previous winner, had to concede a handicap to other competitors: Mr. Arnold Sherwin, of Waverton, took the first prize. Other successful competitors included Mr. Frank Burgess, Arrowe, Birkenhead; Mr. E. F. Bellamy, The Moat, Newent, Gloucestershire; and Mr. H. P. Bomford, Exhall Court, Alcester, Warwickshire.

Handsome prizes were also offered for cheese, the first prize being captured by Mr. Robert Bourne, Bickerton, Cheshire; the second by Mr. Jos. Darlington, Stanwardine, Salop; and the third by Mr. James Blake, Calveley Hall, Cheshire. Mr. G. P. Miln and Mr. Charles Bate acted as judges, whilst Mr. Gordon Smith and Mr. H. A. Longrigg made efficient stewards.

Fruit Growers at Wye College.

Under the chairmanship of Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., a large and representative conference of fruit growers from the fruit-growing counties of England was held at the South-Eastern Agricultural College on Wednesday. Papers were contributed on Planting of Fruit Trees, Strawberries, American Blight and Fungus Diseases. In the latter paper reference was made to the American gooseberry mildew, the appearance of which in England has been noted by the college mycologist (Mr. Salmon), and a resolution calling upon the Board of Agriculture to take immediate steps to prevent further importation of gooseberry bushes and to destroy infected stocks in this country was unanimously passed. The disease appeared in Ireland in 1900, and has made most extensive ravages in that country, and serious alarm is felt by growers that a similar result may ensue in England unless drastic measures are immediately taken.

Sound waterproof covers are essential for every estate and farm, especially for the protection of valuable agricultural engines and machines against the inclement winter weather. Messrs. J. Rands and Jeckell, Ipswich, manufacture these covers in a variety of qualities, all of which are treated with a process making them not only waterproof, but rot-proof. We recommend estate agents and farmers to procure the firm's illustrated catalogue of these goods, for which they are justifiably celebrated. They may be had direct from the head office at Ipswich.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Devon.

The question of subscribing to the Royal Agricultural Society came in for a deal of discussion at the meeting of the Devon County Agricultural Association on the 2nd inst. The association had decided to discontinue their subscription, but at this meeting they were asked to rescind the resolution, for, as one member remarked, the aim of both societies was to benefit agriculture, and they should work hand-in-hand. Another member said there was a very strong feeling among residents of the county in respect of the Royal Society, because twice they subscribed handsomely to receive the society at Exeter, and each time they went elsewhere, notwithstanding that on the last occasion they were asked to invite the society. Major Tucker said what influenced the finance committee in recommending the discontinuance of the subscription was the fact that other similar societies did not subscribe. The rescinding of the resolution was eventually agreed to.

East Sussex Farmers.

The East Sussex Farmers' Club opened their winter session on Tuesday with a meeting at Lewes, when it was reported that the receipts of the past year totalled £72 3s. 10d., and the expenditure £60 8s. 11d., leaving a credit balance of £11 14s. 11d., as compared with a balance of £6 7s. 5d. standing to the credit of the club at the end of the previous year. Officers for the ensuing twelve months were elected as follows:—Chairman, Mr. W. F. Ingram; vice-chairman, Mr. A. Wadham; secretary and treasurer, Mr. Walter Lintott (to whom hearty thanks were accorded for past services). Several new members were elected, including the Earl of Chichester.

Lincolnshire Chamber.

At a special meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture held on the 2nd inst., the Land Tenure Bill was considered, and a resolution that "while they would welcome freedom of cropping, they considered that this Bill as a whole would alienate the sympathy and help of the landlord from the tenant and lead to litigation, which would only benefit the valuers and lawyers," was carried unanimously. The Land Purchase Bill, introduced by Mr. Jesse Collings, was also considered, and after discussion a resolution sent by Mr. Chaplin was carried. The resolution declared that a large increase in the numbers of occupiers and owners of land would be to the general advantage of the country. Other resolutions carried were:—A resolution sent by the Brigg branch expressing a hope that the Government would give its attention to the subject of sugar beet growing, and that it would support the renewal of the Sugar Convention; and a resolution declaring that the liability of consignors of milk should cease when the milk reached the hands of the consignees.

West Riding Chamber.

The West Riding Chamber of Agriculture at their last meeting considered the report of the Central Chamber's Dairy Products Committee on the milk standard, and passed a resolution that the liability of consignors of milk shall cease when it reaches the consignee's hands. As regards the Public Slaughter-houses Bill, one member expressed the opinion that if the Bill became law it would prove a great blow to agriculturists. It would be a great inconvenience, especially for butchers, to be compelled to kill at public slaughter-houses instead of at their own places. It would also be a hardship for farmers within a mile or two miles of a public slaughter-house to have to take a sheep or pig there to be killed. Other members spoke against the Bill, and a resolution that the measure would prejudicially affect producers of meat, and that it ought to be withdrawn, was carried. Resolutions were also passed in favour of the Workmen's Compensation Bill now before Parliament, and in favour of a reform in local taxation.

Warwickshire Chamber.

A paper written by Colonel W. H. Birkbeck, C.B., Inspector of Remounts, on the French remount system for the cavalry was read at the last meeting of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture by Sir H. Gilzean Reid, who moved: "That this chamber is of opinion that, in order to encourage farmers and others breeding the class of horse suitable for military purposes, and to preserve the sources of supply in this country, the Government be urged to purchase a proportion of their annual requirements in the autumn of the year in which the animals are three years old." After a few speeches the resolution was carried unanimously. Sir H. Gilzean Reid presented a report of the recent meeting of the Chambers of Commerce and Agriculture held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, at which the question of railway charges was dis-

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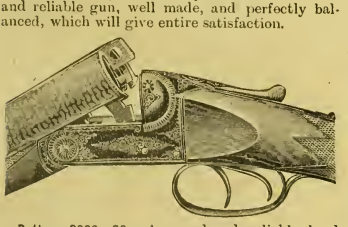

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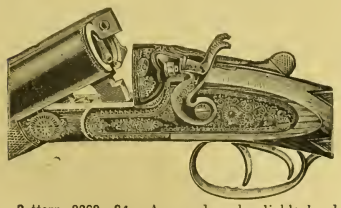

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oussed, and the chamber decided to uphold the attitude of that conference, especially in regard to the contracting-out conditions, under which the railways escaped the payment for damages to goods in transit. By five votes to three the members refused to support a resolution in favour of home-fed meat.

Worcestershire Chamber.

The question of the profitable growth of sugar beet was one of the subjects discussed at the last meeting of the Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture. One member said that if the Brussels Convention abolishing sugar bounties were renewed and the Government would give growers a rebate of 1s. 8d. from the duty, sugar could be produced from beet at a profit. It had been shown, he added, that the English farmer could grow sugar beet to better advantage than Germany, but, he asserted, the money necessary for the provision and equipment of the necessary manufactories would not be forthcoming until there was some guarantee for the future action of the Government. Another member remarked that he saw little likelihood of sugar beet being grown profitably while the fiscal question was in its present unsettled state. Eventually it was agreed to approach the Government as to the course intended to be adopted upon the expiration of the Brussels Sugar Convention, and to urge the Central Chamber to reappoint the committee which formerly had charge of the matter. A proposal that the liability of consignors of milk should cease upon delivery at the forwarding railway station was defeated, and it was decided to urge the necessity for legislation providing that the liability of consignors of milk shall cease when it reaches the consignee's hands, objection being raised to the disability under which producers lay having regard to the refusal of railway companies to allow them to lock their tins in transit. The meeting also passed a resolution against the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Bill.

How Irish Farmers Raise Cash.

Mr. G. W. Russell, of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, gave evidence before the Royal Commission on the Congested Districts of Ireland, described the devices to which the people resorted to obtain cash in remote districts where there were no banks. "Trust auctions," at which the auctioneer would give credit to the buyer, and pay the seller cash (at a discount) were, he said, a feature of the life in some districts.

A party of small farmers in a parish being in need of cash put all their cows together and sent them in the name of one of the party to a trust auction. Then the others of the party attended the auction and ran up the prices, and bought the cows at a good round sum. The buyers obtained three months' credit, and the auctioneer paid the seller. Arriving home the party divided the cash which they so badly needed, and then resold the cows. He knew of one case in which a man took a cow from auction to auction and raised £75 on her.

A meeting of farmers and agriculturists whose interests were effected by the recent Eastern Command manœuvres in the Lewes district was recently held at Lewes, and the proceedings were characterised by unanimity and determination in regard to the question of compensation for loss sustained during the military operations. After an interesting discussion, during the course of which views of a rather emphatic nature were expressed anent the action of the War Department with reference to the claims for compensation made by landowners and farmers in the manœuvres area, it was decided to obtain legal advice in the matter with a view to proceeding to arbitration, more particularly in regard to the claims for compensation in connection with the depreciation in the value of their sheep, caused by disturbance.

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Used on the Herds of H.M. the King.

What it will do.

CUTOXINE removes all dirt, prevents Scurf, improves the coat, promotes abundant growth of hair, prevents skin diseases, cures Ringworm, and destroys Lice and all parasites.

What it has done.

Testimonial from Mr. D. Collyer, Agent to R. K. Rothwell, Esq., Rothwell Estate Office, Preston.

Dear Sirs,—I have pleasure in saying that we use your CUTOXINE for preparing both Shorthorn Cattle and Pigs for exhibition purposes, and find it a most excellent preparation both for hair and skin. Over 59 Prizes have been won during last two months with animals prepared with CUTOXINE.

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THE CUTOXINE AND CANICURA CO., 63, Highgate Hill, London, N.

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8, SOUTH ST., CHICHESTER AND High St., Arundel.

Manufacturer of best and medium quality hammer and hammerless Guns, maker of the celebrated Chichester Cartridge, loaded with any kind of nitro powder to order, at 8/6 per 100. Carriage paid on orders of 1,000 to any Railway Station in England and Wales. Repairs a speciality.

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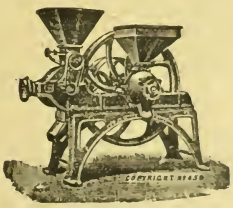

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(147) IPSWICH.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 1

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Soil Suitable for Bone Meal.

It has been proved by numerous experiments that bone meal is most suitable for soils deficient in lime, and its benefit is much increased by the addition of sulphate of ammonia, or admixture with some form of organic ammoniacal fertiliser, such as Peruvian guano, fish guano, meat meal, &c.

In what manner the ammonia serves to develop the fertilising activity of the bone meal has not yet been ascertained. Experiments are now being made to elucidate the matter, and it is probably due to the agency of bacteria in some form or other.

Value of Dead Leaves.

The necessity of preserving the dead leaves to form humus should be strongly insisted on. It has been proved by Grandeau and Henry, two of the Nancy professors, that besides serving as food for earth-worms and other organisms, the activity of which keeps the soil porous, friable, and superficially rich in nutritive mineral matter, dead leaves fix atmospheric nitrogen to the extent of 12 to 20 lb. per acre annually. To deprive an orchard or garden of its dead leaves is like robbing a farm of its dung.

Nitrate of soda contains nitrogen equal to about 18½ per cent. of ammonia. Sulphate of ammonia contains about 21½ per cent. of ammonia. To convert nitrogen into its equivalent of ammonia multiply the nitrogen by 1·2. Thus 10 per cent. nitrogen is equal to 12 per cent. ammonia.

Conservation of Farmyard Manure.

Experiments made by the late Dr. Voelcker showed that 5 tons fresh farmyard manure are reduced to 4 tons if allowed to lie until the straw is half rotten; 5 tons are reduced to 3 tons if allowed to ferment till it becomes "fat or cheesy"; 5 tons is further reduced to 2½ tons if completely decomposed. Bulk for bulk, well-rotted manure is rather stronger than fresh manure, but that slight concentration is obtained at the cost of the weight, as above, and corresponding loss of nitrogen. Chemical analysis has shown that 5 tons fresh farmyard manure contain about 40 lb. nitrogen, and that the nitrogen is greatly dissipated during storage, until when completely decomposed it has lost about one-half of its most valuable constituent.

It is therefore best to use it fresh when possible. Professor Massey, of the American Agricultural Department, writes on this point:—"The place to rot the manure is the soil where you have the soil to absorb everything." He advocates the use of manure applied to the soil, and says that evaporation does not take away much more than the water, and that the manure spread on the surface acts as a mulch. He gives an instance of the successful application of fresh manure to the surface of a heavy clay, thus—"Last summer was the hottest, driest, ever known here, but it was pleasant to see how things grew and flourished. I use all manure as a mulch, either on garden or field. It is spread over the surface, and left there to slightly work in during cultivation." German experiments prove that there is little practical use in employing chemicals, such as kainit, superphosphate, gypsum, &c., to fix the ammonia in manure, the cost being greater than the benefit obtained. The general conclusion arrived at is that excessive loss during storage can be best avoided by storing it in a deep mass in a water-tight dungstead placed in a well-shaded situation, in which the material is firmly compressed. The most convenient and effective way is by treading of cattle.

"Keep it moist, and heal it tight,
It will well your care requite."

The use of a considerable quantity of moss litter is strongly recommended. This substance not only absorbs and retains the liquids but tends to fix the ammonia.

Fertilisers for the Wheat Crop.

When a farmer has an ample supply of farmyard manure, and can spare a moderate dressing of about ten loads per acre for his wheat land, it is not necessary to apply artificials in the autumn; a small dressing of 1½ cwt. nitrate of soda broadcasted in spring if the crop appears backward will suffice. Similar treatment is appropriate if the wheat crop follows a well-dunged root crop or a good clover crop. Under other circumstances, if the grower has no spare farmyard manure—it is often better to reserve this valuable material for potatoes or the root crop, then an autumn application of fertilisers is valuable, and a good dressing is 2 cwt. of superphosphate mixed with 1 cwt. of good Peruvian guano, or fish meal. Potash is not generally regarded as necessary for the wheat crop, but on very light lands half a cwt. of sulphate of potash might with advantage be added to the mixture. Two cwt. of kainit would do equally well, but kainit, unless dry and powdery, is not so suitable for mixing with the other materials.

Potash and Clover.

The advantage of a good clover crop does not cease with the harvest, but remains conspicuous through the rotation. "Were all the merits of red clover in a rotation of crops emblazoned in letters of gold on a large canvas, it would fail to convey to the mind a full estimate of its true value."

How, then, can a good crop be grown? This is the problem Mr. J. J. Willis discusses in his booklet, "Value of Potash for the growth of the red clover crop as indicated by the Rothamsted experiments and as a preventative of clover sickness."

Potash, he shows, to be the dominant requirement of the plant by the fact that a crop of 4 tons of clover hay contains 62 lb. of phosphoric acid and 180 lb. of potash. He gives illustrations and figures demonstrating the great effect of potash in combination with phosphate of lime on clover, and shows that it has been found to be a preventative of the mysterious disease, clover sickness, the origin of which has puzzled scientific men for so many years. The booklet is published by the Potash Syndicate, 110, Strand, London, who, we understand, are willing to supply copies free on application.

Bunt Ball.

It has been calculated that in a single bunt ball—no larger than a grain of wheat—there are about 4,000,000 spores, each of which is capable of causing one wheat plant to be smutted. In a bushel of wheat there are 600,000 to 1,000,000 grains. There are, therefore, in a single bunt ball enough spores, if regularly and evenly distributed, to provide each grain in a bushel of wheat with four to six spores. The great necessity for removing or breaking the bunt balls, so that whatever fungicide may be used can act upon their contents, is obvious.

Indian Wheat Crop—Cheap Fertiliser Required.

According to a cablegram from Lahore, the Indian Government has ordered experiments to be made immediately, with a view to obtaining a cheap fertiliser. The Indian wheat crop, which covers several million acres, is not at present manured, and it is declared that it could be doubled if cheap nitrates were available. It is proposed to utilise the superabundant power of the Kashmir hydro-electric installation to manufacture nitrate of lime on an enormous scale, in the manner invented by Danish chemists, and now being tried in Norway. The Kashmir hills in many places consist entirely of limestone.

The best solution of the problem would be to grow leguminous crops, and thus obtain the required nitrogen from the atmosphere.

Lucerne for Hillsides.

"It is rather a significant fact," remarks the *Farmer's Advocate*, "that those who object most strongly to lucerne, on the ground that it interferes with rotation, are, in not a few cases, men who grow two or three crops of grain in succession from the same field. Lucerne is not recommended to displace clover. Clover should be grown on all the cultivated land in short rotation, bringing it in at least once every four years. The lucerne should be considered an extra supply of fodder, and should usually be grown on the rough, hilly lands unprofitable to cultivate. Being a nitrogen gatherer, it rather improves the land it grows on, especially if a little ashes and possibly bone-meal, are used on the lucerne piece from time to time. When that land is ploughed out of lucerne it will be more productive than when originally seeded down. Meantime, the manure made by the stock that consumed the hay will have gone to enrich other parts of the farm. We know no other means of building up a hilly farm that will compare with the plan of seeding the hillsides to lucerne and feeding the hay or green crop to stock. Lucerne for steep hillsides is one of the best ideas that has ever been introduced into agriculture.

The price of sulphate of ammonia is gradually advancing, but is still relatively considerably cheaper than nitrate of soda. The unit of ammonia in it costs about 10s. 6d., whereas its equivalent in nitrate of soda costs 13s.

Prices of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The quotations are approximate and free-on-rail, London, cash payment.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda ..... prompt delivery	11	17	6
,, ,, ... forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	15	0
Superphosphate 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,, ...	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound ordinary	3	8	9
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, 9 per cent.	5	17	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

The best fertilisers are of little use unless the soil is in a suitable condition to enable the plant to utilise the plant-food they crave. The soil should be in fine condition, and porous; neither too dry nor too wet.

The number of samples sent to the State laboratories of Belgium during 1906 was 34,430.

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GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.
FINE GRINDING.
HIGH SOLUBILITY.

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"A TRUE PLANT FOOD."
Gives immense increase in CORN, ROOT and GRASS CROPS, MARKET GARDEN CROPS, HOPS.
NITRATE OF SODA
Can be bought of all LEADING DEALERS in MANURES.
PAMPHLETS GRATIS from the PERMANENT NITRATE COMMITTEE, 3, Gracechurch St., London.

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PERUVIAN GUANO (as imported),
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DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO,
With Guaranteed Analysis.
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SPECIAL MANURES FOR ALL CROPS.
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Ask for LEEDS Brand
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Complete Fertilisers for all Crops.
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BRITISH MAKE.
GREAT PHOSPHATIC MANURE,
SUITABLE FOR
ALL SOILS AND ALL CROPS
UNDER SUITABLE CONDITIONS.
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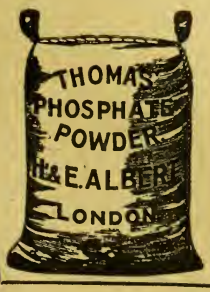
Pamphlets (regarding use on all crops) and names of Local Agents on application to—
CHEMICAL WORKS late H. & E. ALBERT, 15, Philpot Lane, London, E.C.



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Our Agents are continually hearing some such remarks as: "I want you to send me two more bags of that 'Cream Equivalent' Meal. It is fine stuff, and I should like you to see my weanling calves; they are a splendid lot—a perfect show."

We like to hear talk like this, and do not wish for a better advertisement of this Meal than these "Cream Equivalent" reared calves are all over the country.

It is quite easy to prepare. It swells out into a fine creamy substance, the calves are fond of it, and there is no scour.

When the calves begin to eat, we recommend a little dry feeding—a mixture of "Bibby" Cake, Oats and Bran is particularly suitable, the former being at once nutritious and digestible; and calves so reared are always one of the sights of the farm, and make fine well-grown heifers with nice loose skins and plenty of good hair.

One cwt., costing **15/-**, carriage paid, is enough for two calves. It costs about 1/3 more to rear a calf on "Cream Equivalent" than on the cheaper calf foods, while the difference in value of the grown animal is most marked, both as to condition, health, and growth.

It is the most soluble Calf Meal on the market, and can be made up simply by soaking the meal in cold water for six or seven hours, if this suits the feeder's convenience better than by making up with boiling water in the ordinary way.

If you are interested in this subject, write for our new circular, "How to Rear Calves for the Dairy." It will be sent free of cost to any address on receipt of postcard.

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Apply to the Local Agent, or the—
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14-20, Blackstock Street, LIVERPOOL.

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BANKSIDE OIL MILL, HULL.

BEST QUALITY

LINSEED,
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FEEDING MEALS.

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THE BEST METHOD, BUT THE MOST EXPENSIVE

SILCOCK'S (SOLUBLE) CALF MEAL

We only make one quality, viz.—the best. We solicit a trial and invite comparison by practical feeding.
At **12/6** per cwt., carriage paid, it is impossible to obtain better value; equal to most Meals at 5/- to 15/- per cwt. more. **R. SILCOCK & SONS, Union Street, LIVERPOOL.**

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ANOTHER METHOD AND THE MOST PROFITABLE ONE

PRIZE ESSAYS.
Three Prizes—£10, £5, and £3—are offered for short Essays on "The Utility of Superphosphate, used either alone or in conjunction with other Manures, as a Spring Top-dressing for grass lands, and with special reference to its influence on the milk-producing and stock-carrying capacity of the land to which it is applied."—Apply SECRETARY, Fertiliser Manufacturers' Association, 79, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

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"ZERO" SIX-ROWED WINTER BARLEY.

For Autumn and Winter Sowing.
A Six-Rowed Barley as hardy as Wheat!

PEDIGREE:—
WINTER. FAN. SWEDISH.
"ZERO."

Price 3 guineas per Quarter of 448 lbs.
Carriage paid and 5 per cent. discount for prompt payment.
Particulars of this, also prices and particulars of our new Breeds of Wheats and other Seeds for present sowing, post free on application.

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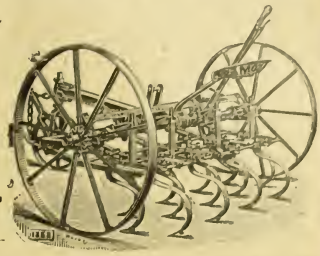

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NOVEMBER 12, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

STATE AID TO HORSE-BREEDING.

The conference which took place at the Board of Agriculture on the last day of October as the natural outcome of the resolution passed by the House of Lords in July last was a most important one. A mere glance at the names of those who, in response to the invitation of Lord Carrington, met him on the occasion would alone be sufficient to make this certain. They represented most of the horse-breeding societies as well as the Royal Agricultural Society, the Irish Department of Agriculture, and several chambers.

Although not open to the Press or public, the fact is perfectly well known that the measures which have repeatedly been urged on former Governments, whereby farmers might find it profitable to breed cavalry remouuts, formed the chief topic of debate. This was tolerably sure to be the case with Sir Walter Gilbey, Mr. Mr. Henry Chaplin, the Duke of Portland, and the Earl of Coventry present to take part in the proceedings, but whether the Government can be induced to buy young horses after being bred by farmers at three years old remains to be seen.

To do so would necessitate a considerable dip into the National Exchequer, or the scheme would no doubt have been adopted long ago. But the sum required, although large, would fall infinitely short of what the Government expends to encourage horse-breeding in Ireland, and what is "sauce for the goose" ought to be "sauce for the gander."

The conference was the result of the following resolution which the Earl of Donoughmore induced the House of Lords to pass:—"That in view of the importance of the horse-breeding industry to the community in general, and of the necessity of having an adequate and efficient supply of horses for military and other purposes, it is desirable that steps should be taken to improve the breeding of horses by giving effect to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding in their tenth report, especially by those having reference to the improvement of the quality of brood mares."

The latter part of this resolution, it will be seen, went beyond the main principle of making horse-breeding more popular, and the inducements whereby farmers more generally would be inclined to make it one of their leading industries. Of course it depends a great deal on the character of the mare as well as the stallion as to what the foal will be. His Grace of Portland has had ample proof of this. After allowing his tenants the use of his high-class Thoroughbred stallions for several years' their outcome of progeny at the Welbeck Shows seemed so unsatisfactory owing to the bad influences of mongrel mares, that he determined on a scheme of action whereby his farming tenants could have the right sort of mares on hire. They had the good sense to respond to his generous offer to be the provider of as many as they chose to have, with the gratifying result that they now breed half-breds of good quality.

But "first catch your hare," quoth Mrs. Glass in her cookery book, and it will be time enough to deal with the question how to improve the quality of farmers' remounts after we have got them. At present there are very few indeed, simply because brooding them has long since failed to be a profitable industry. There is a very general opinion that it might be made so if the Army agents were empowered to take them off the hands of farmers at a much earlier age than they do now. If the recent conference should lead to any practicable results, action presumably will be taken on these lines.

The reports of the Royal Commissioners, no doubt, suggest other schemes. In a very early report after their appointment will be found a lament that the Thoroughbred stallions they were able to place at different stations all over the kingdom were by far too few to be very effective for good. But when they made it, the unprofitableness of the industry and the disinclination of farmers to have anything to do with it had not been so fully apparent as it is now if the Premium stallions available for service at low fees were made fifty or a hundred times as many, it would probably have little effect so far as inducing farmers to take up with half-horse breeding. Horse-breeders who are not tenant farmers get the chief benefit from the service of Premium horses now, and this would be the case however much they were multiplied, unless indeed the scheme first adverted to were established along with it. If the industry were made a paying concern more stallions would, of course, be wanted.

The President of the Board of Agriculture has consented to distribute the medals and certificates to the students of the agricultural classes carried on by the Monmouthshire County Council at Chepstow on December 7.

A valuable consignment of middle-weight Yorkshire pigs was shipped from Liverpool on Saturday last to the order of Mr. Alex. Bruce, of Buenos Ayres. The pigs were selected from Sir Gilbert Greenall's well-known Walton herd, and are of the usual high-class breeding to be found at Walton Hall, Warrington. A very good young boar from the Duchess of Newcastle's herd was also included in the consignment.

At a meeting of Norfolk landowners held at Norwich, it was unanimously resolved "That, in the opinion of this meeting of landowners in the county of Norfolk, the Land Tenure Bill now before Parliament is opposed to the best interests of good agriculture, and that it is calculated to destroy the existing good relations between landlord and tenant, and that it will seriously impair the financial credit of the tenant farmer, and that it will deprive the labourer of any prospect of becoming the occupier of a small holding.

Notes of the Week.

Verily, the man who seems to "boss the show" —to use an expressive, if inelegant term—in this country is the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Irish people want facilities for extending the cultivation of tobacco, the experimental growth of which has proved successful.

The Chief Secretary for Ireland is willing, but appears helpless, and the Prime Minister, when appealed to, says that the application should be addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

So again, when the Government is asked to encourage the introduction of the sugar beet industry, it is the Treasury Office that bars the way.

Similarly in the important Army meat contract question, the President of the Board of Agriculture and the War Minister would be willing to give our soldiers the benefit of British-fed meat, but the Chancellor wants to show an economy.

A paper economy only. Parsimony would be a better name, because it has been clearly demonstrated that, regarded from the point of view of the whole country's interest, it is not economy, but a "penny wise and pound foolish policy."

The other ministers should not bow the knee so humbly, but should press demands for legitimate and profitable expenditure with more persistency.

Cider is a favourite beverage with many people, and much more would be consumed if the public had confidence in its quality.

But it is known that enormous quantities of chemicals are substituted for the juice of the apple; only recently a man was fined for selling cider containing five grains of a deleterious acid to the pint.

Under the newspaper report of the case appeared an advertisement of —— soothing syrup; a very necessary dose after drinking such a chemical mixture, misnamed cider.

The influence of light on the growth of plants is well known. Extraordinary results are being obtained by the exposure of plants to the rays of electric lamps. In Austria the system is passing out of the experimental stage.

It has also been demonstrated that electric currents passed through the soil in proximity to seeds stimulate them to earlier growth and maturity.

Covent Garden Market was treated to an unusual sensation one day last week.

"Would you like some money?" asked a mysterious stranger of a porter, and then forthwith handed him £100 in £5 bank notes.

Afterwards the philanthropist proceeded to distribute largesse in the shape of £5 notes and sovereigns in a manner most gratifying to the astonished recipients.

Who could he be? It was thought it might be the noble owner of the market distributing cash as conscience money for the wealth obtained from the market.

Or that it was in pursuance of a "freak" bet. We've all heard of the man who made a wager with a friend that it was not possible to sell genuine sovereigns in the street for a penny each. And he was right. His friend stood on London Bridge and offered sovereigns for a penny apiece; the passers-by thought it was a "fake," and would not take the bait.

It turns out that the mysterious stranger was a Mr. Yate, of Blackburn; but the why and wherefore of his action have not yet been explained.

A portion of a carcase of a diseased pig offered for sale was so remarkable and disgusting that it is being preserved for exhibition at Cambridge University.

It is thought that it can successfully compete against some of the Chicago diseased animals. Chicago would be easily first in quantity, if not in malignity of disease.

Are the Opposition acting with the wisdom of the serpent in trying to obstruct on pedantic grounds the progress of the Land Tenure Bill?

It may be possible to delay it, but it is bound to pass, and in view of the general feeling among farmers in its favour, the efforts of the Opposition should be directed not to end, but to mend it where desirable from their point of view.

Farmers in the country are watching the proceedings, and will not forget them when the time comes round for recording their vote at the next General Election.

In the "good old times," less than a century ago, there was a tax on salt of 15s. per bushel of 56 lb.

In the year 1818 this was reduced on salt used for agricultural purchases to 2s. 6d. per bushel or £5 per ton, and a farmer wishing to make experiments with it, had to give a formal certificate to the excise officer before he could get a supply.

In that year the Highland Society offered two prizes of the value of 30 guineas to the persons who should make and report the best and most satisfactory experiments in the effects of salts as a manure, and in feeding and fattening live stock.

How would farmers to-day like to pay a tax of £5 on salt. Such "old times" are only rendered good to our imagination by the halo of sentiment.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13.—Cattle Fairs and Sales at Epping, Lostwithiel, Kingston, Rugby, Ashburton, Haverfordwest, Penrith, and Downham—Great Agricultural Fairs at Lynn, Hay, and Denbigh—Salisbury Horse Sale—Great National Poultry Show at Crystal Palace — Entries close for Ashford Cattle Show.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14.—Horse and Cattle Fairs at Leeds, Carmarthen, Epping, and Rugby — Basingstoke Agricultural Sale—Great Horse Sale at Peterborough—York Horse Sale—Hornes Great Sale of Fruit Trees, Cliffe, Rochester—Chesham and Dunstable Cattle Fairs—Entries for the Suffolk Fat Stock Show at Ipswich to be sent in.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15.—Penistone Ploughing Matches—Carmarthen Pig Fair —Crewe Horse Sale—Sale of the Dunsfold Underwoods, Surrey.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16.—Agricultural Fairs at Lincoln and Yeovil—Crew Shire Horse Sale — Entries for Chippenham Cattle, Cheese, and Poultry Show to be sent in.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17.—West Malling Fair — Andover Cattle and Sheep Fair — Horsham Cattle Fair — Warsop Fair — Bedford Cattle Fair — Lampeter Fair — Huntingdon Cattle Fair.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19.—Welshpool Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair—Truro Cattle Fair—Entries close for the Wadhurst Fat Stock Show.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20.—Abergavenny and Carmarthen Agricultural Fairs — Wirksworth Cattle Fair—Entries to be sent in for the Chichester Fat Stock Show —Entries of Bristol Fat Stock Show to be sent in.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Ruptured Colt.

Sir,—I am much obliged for your vet's. reply to my question. Corroborating what I have been told is reassuring to one inexperienced in this matter (from such an authority), as to its yet righting itself by waiting on time and nature. If in case it should become chronic or permanent do I understand rightly that it can be operated on successfully by the process he describes to be known as the covered operation at castration?—Yours, &c., Constant Reader.

November 9, 1906.

Disinfecting Stables.

Sir,—If you would kindly answer me the following questions I should be very much obliged:

(*a*) What is the best method of disinfecting a stable and utensils after a contagious disease?

(*b*) How would you prepare the limewash and how much fluid carbolic would you put in it—say, to a bucket of limewash?

(*c*) How much carbolic should I put in a bucket of hot water for washing down?

(*d*) Last week I killed a cow, and the liver of the cow was full of small black spots. The sanitary inspector said it was diseased, yet there appeared no blood in it. What was the disease?

(*e*) I also had some alamode beef I made in tins, and mould formed over it and I had to destroy it. Was this due to disease? If so, what disease?

November 2, 1906. A. Studd.

Answer: It is unfortunate that your series of questions leave very much to be desired in the matter of detail, and had more information been furnished it would have been possible to have answered them more fully.

(*a*) For example, you should have told us the name of the contagious disease that occurred in the building to render disinfection necessary. In the case of any scheduled disease, that is, any disease dealt with by the Board of Agriculture under the powers conferred on them by the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, the business of disinfection is none of yours. Section 22 (v. and vi.) deals with powers for prescribing and regulating the destruction, burial, disposal, or treatment of carcases, fodder, litter, utensils, pens, hurdles, dung, or other things, and the cleansing and disinfection of infected places and areas, or parts thereof, and the inspector has to attend to it. Perhaps your are taking too much on yourself. In any case, it is desirable that we should know the nature of the disease that has occurred in the stable, and also what is included in the term "utensils."

(*b*) The same remarks apply here. It may be the business of the authorities, and in any case something depends on the character of the infection or contagion. Caustic lime may be of some use, but ordinary whitewash plastered on indiscriminately is simply covering up the pathogenic matter. Limewash is not without its utility, but it is not a disinfectant in the proper acceptation of the term, and it is probably not greatly improved by the addition of carbolic acid of an impure variety.

(*c*) Carbolic acid, and particularly the impure forms generally employed, is practically valueless. Smith says:—"The chief thing in employing carbolic acid is to use it strong enough. Only a certain amount is soluble in water; a saturated solution of the pure crystals gives a solution containing 8·6 per cent. of phenol, but the impure acid sold for disinfecting purposes is by no means so soluble. This is owing to the tar oils it contains, and it is believed that these latter are without any disinfecting properties. A saturated solution of ordinary impure carbolic acid only yields 3·5 per cent. of phenol, which is less than is necessary for the destruction of the spores of resisting microbes. This point should be borne in mind in dealing with anthrax or tuberculosis." Carbolic acid is by no means the best addition to limewash or for a washing-down solution. What would be most suitable brings us again to the question of what was the disease?

(*d*) It is not possible to diagnose a disease from the bald statement that "the liver of the cow was full of black spots." It is difficult to understand what the sanitary inspector had to do with the matter, unless he also acts in the capacity of meat inspector, and in that case you should have asked him to give the disease a name.

(*e*) That mould formed over your tinned beef was due to imperfect cooking, curing, or preserving. Disease would not cause it, and even if it was due to disease the fact of its going mouldy would not enable us to diagnose it. The most awful stuff in the way of flesh, diseased, decayed and rotten, can be so preserved as to mask it, as witness the recent revelations in the Chicago horrors.

With further reference to the disinfection of the stable, which we do not understand had any connection with the cow with the spotted liver, we could perhaps help you better if you tell us all about the case. M.R.C.V.S.

Newcastle Hirings.—The half-yearly hiring for single servants at Newcastle was held on Monday, and was largely attended. There was an inclination for wages to droop somewhat. The demand was strongest for women. Men were engaged from £13 to £17 or £18 per half-year, with board, and boys from £8 to £8 10s. Women received from £7 10s. to £13, and girls from £3 10s. to £7 10s.

The Local Government Board has held an inquiry as to a proposed loan of £1,000 by the Spalding Urban District Council for the purchase of land for allotments. For £975 the council had the option of acquiring 11 acres, let in quarter-acre plots, to forty-three men. Originally there were eighty applicants, and the rent was fixed at £1 per plot, but the council has decided, with the consent of the tenants, to raise the rent to £1 4s. per plot. The total rents will then amount to £51, and the payments for principal and interest absorb £43 18s., leaving a margin of £7 14s., on the year's working. No opposition was offered, and it was stated that there was a large demand for allotments, which had proved very beneficial to the working classes.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

THE season ever since the beginning of July has in many parts of the country been a very expensive one with cattle. The ability to maintain a full supply of milk was quite impossible without resorting to outside means—that is, outside the pasture; then to produce beef was an equally difficult question, so that the year has been a very expensive one to the cattle keeper, this merely mentioned in passing on to what is commonly called, and rightly so, the expensive time of the year when the most economical way of keeping our herds in the condition that best suits them is the one important question. Just simply to buy and use the extraneous food that can be bought at the lowest price is frequently false economy. There are many features that enter into the cost in addition to prices of food (artificial) that has to be decided upon.

ONE of these questions is the keeping of the animals in the condition most suitable—that is, with the milking cow the outside feed, as we will for plainness of speech call it, must be such as at a moderate price will keep up the condition and health of the cow as well as the flow and quality of her milk; and in order to do this it must be manifest to everyone that a mixture of various kinds of food is much better than an overdose of any one kind. These foods, in order to be healthy for the breeding and milking cow (and this is of primary importance), should not be strongly astringent or too relaxing, neither should there be anything contained in the food likely to set up irritation—common cotton-seed cake has frequently been found to do this very seriously; therefore where this valuable food is desired to be used for breeding stock the softest decorticated only should be used.

ANOTHER point that springs up in this economical matter is the manurial value of the foods given. When food is used that as a high manurial, fertilising value as well as assisting the animal, it is much more to be valued than the one-sided menu which only caters for the animal. When poor farmyard manure is used it either requires supplementing largely with artificial of some kind, or otherwise the corn crops produced will be quarters per acre often short of the crop grown from fat rich manure, whilst in the case of roots and other green crops there will often be 50 per cent. better or worse, according to the quality of the farmyard manure that has been used for them. By this it will be seen how important a consideration the manure is, therefore the food used should have a high manurial value if they are to be really economical.

ANOTHER point yet in the practice of herd-keeping economy may be mentioned, that is the preparing of these artificial foods for the animals. Frequently we hear farmers say, "I sell all my corn and buy cakes or meals from the docks or the corndealers, or from some source or other; it is less trouble than grinding my corn at home, and I can save a bit in hard cash in addition." It is quite worth considering whether a mixture of home-grown corn, such as wheat, barley, oats, and beans or peas, with, perhaps, a little maize, which is generally bought at a fairly cheap rate, is not better than any other extraneous food that can be bought, and there is very little doubt, too, that the meals from these home-grown English, Irish, Welsh, or Scotch cereals is not of much greater value than that produced from purchased corn grown in foreign lands.

IF a little home-produced corn meal of mixture be set to steep in water, the water poured over it when at a boiling temperature, and a little foreign grown meal is set alongside, the difference in the two after standing twenty-four hours will hardly be credited by those who have not tested it this way. With all foreign purchased meals there invariably appears a certain amount, often very great, of indigestible matter, made up by mixtures of grain from bad samples, cheaply-purchased oats or barley, which often fill the receptacle used for this testing, with a lot of husks that contain no feed of the slightest value, and when used frequently upset and derange generally the system of the animal. Home-grown corn used in mixture has more frequently been found the greatest economiser all round, and if a little well-ground linseed or cottonseed cake is added the manure will be much increased in value.

GUERNSEY BULL, MERTON SIGNET.

Born May 20, 1904, sire Rueben 2nd, 1416, dam Signalman, 4647; bred by and the property of Mr. P. Hargreaves, Merton Grange, Gamlingay, Cambs. At the Royal Show at Derby this year Merton Signet was the First Prize winner in the class for Guernsey Bull calved in 1904.

ONE more note whilst upon this subject. That is as to whether the meals and cakes used should be given dry or made moist either by steeping or boiling. This is a point that will probably depend largely upon the time of the year, upon the kind of fodder that is being used, and upon the supply of roots available. Up to Christmas prudence would dictate a dry diet whilst there is often a little grass to be had in many places, and whilst there is a good supply of cabbage or mangel tops or other green stuff of this kind available, and whilst the fodder still retains a good deal of nutriment; but when the spring months come in and the fodder is dried by the sunny and windy dales that prepare the seed-time, then it will be found that half or a large portion of the artificial corn would give a much better return if boiled or steeped and used that way, and more especially would this be the case when roots are running short.

THE brighter prospects in the beef market have quickly made their effect felt in the store cattle trade, bullocks in forward condition being now much in request, and, where well bred, are being cleared off at a good figure. Eightpence a stone or a penny per lb. in the price of beef gives a great impetus to the store trade where forward cattle are being handled, and there is fully that difference at the present time when compared with the prices that ruled in many parts of this country and Ireland during the continuance of the drought and before the markets assumed their brighter aspect. We have long thought that the time would come when English beef — or, rather, perhaps we ought to say British beef — would have a proportionately higher value than imported, and it appears probable that, with the reports upon the tinned meats and other matters affecting the imported product, home grown will shortly take the lead much more extensively.

THE Galloway Cattle Breeders' sale at Castle Douglas proved rather a slow occasion as regards prices, yet the sale of a collection of animals from Sir R. W. B. Jardine's herd, which was disposed of by Messrs. Harrison and Son at Lockerbie, realised very fair prices, indeed, what may be termed encouraging; 40 guineas was realised in one instance, whilst 38 guineas in another, and 30 and over in several others, with a general average of £20 3s. 6d. for forty-two head, leaves a much pleasanter recollection behind it. The Galloway is one of the oldest really Scottish breeds, and as such is of great value for crossing where Blue Greys are concerned, whilst where it is desired to keep them in their prime state, and quality has been kept in view, the steers are easily fattened into acceptable and profitable weights. Gentle treatment is very essential in this breed, and an eye for quality and symmetry, which invariably go hand in hand, will help considerably.

THE American State Fairs continue to give very good results in every way. The quality of the several breeds of cattle exhibited appears to be, to say the least of it, of a very satisfactory description, whilst the number of visitors not only assists the gate very largely but also proves how very much the people appreciate the opportunity given them to learn something of these different breeds, not only as to their capabilities of growing and producing milk and meat, but also as to the manner in which they are brought out. A very important difference will at once be observable by the youngest and least experienced person in the fair grounds between those specimens that have come from herds properly cared for and those where little attention, insufficient good food, and slovenly management have obtained.

IN mentioning this we do not do so entirely with a view to encouraging farmers and others all round to exhibit their cattle. The show yard has a profitable side to it as well as an adverse side, so those who have well bred animals that they wish to dispose of, say that keep regularly an up-to-date pedigree herd, will very frequently find the showyard the most economical way of advertising their young stock. It may not always follow immediately upon a show or fair. Many an observing person, when he sees animals that suit his taste from a herd, it may be a new one or an old one, if it pleases him he is pretty certain to take a note of that breeder's address from the catalogue, and when requiring an animal or animals of the breed writes the owner simply from having seen a sample or example of his stock in the showyard.

NO, it is not altogether on account of the showyard that this is mentioned, but rather with the view to pointing out to farmer visitors who are not well up to bringing out their animals in show form that the same difference obtains in the way their animals are brought out for the ordinary fat stock market or as stores that obtain in the showyard. Let the fat cattle be brought out ripe, trimmed a little of their rough hair at top of tail, also a little hair cut off the end of their tails or—as they are more commonly called — switches makes a great difference to their appearance on the market, and gain the buyers' eye is a great matter in the first instance—a peep that attracts often leads to a closer examination that ends in a deal. It must not be forgotten, however, by the new beginner or inexperienced person that the tails of store cattle should never be cut.

RETURNING once more to the American shows, how it strikes one that more attention is not paid to some of our other British breeds of stock. There appears to be right few animals of any breed exhibited except the Shorthorn, Hereford, and Angus. Americans will probably in time learn how very much better some breeds, even of our little known varieties, suit certain districts than do others. When this important lesson has been learned it is quite likely that several of our other breeds will be run upon, as we choose to call it, or boomed. There is undoubtedly throughout the vast expanse of territory in the Western Continent, as well as in Australia

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and New Zealand, many districts that would suit, perhaps, the Sussex, the Devon, or the Welsh much better than they do the at present more popular breeds. Americans, like other nations, may live and learn.

Sale at Aberdeen.

The last sale of pure-bred cattle in the north of Scotland for the present season was held at the Agricultural Hall, Kittybrewster, on the 1st inst., when there were catalogued 19 head of Shorthorns —16 bulls, 1 cow, and 2 heifers—and 58 head of Aberdeen-Angus — 24 bulls and 34 cows and heifers. In the case of both breeds the quality was of a very mixed description, and the demand was purely local. The top price for Shorthorns was 38 guineas, paid by Mr. Copland, Milton of Ardlethen, for the heifer calf Lost Chord, belonging to the Rev. W. A. Spark, Banchory. The two-year-old bull Swaziland, belonging to Mr. Davidson, Baluss, Mintlaw, was sold at 35 guineas to Mr. Garland, Ardlethen. Ten bulls averaged £20 2s. 1d., and one yearling heifer under £11 0. 6d.

In the case of the Aberdeen-Angus, trade on the whole was fairly good for the character of the stock offered. A considerable number of the animals were immature, and for these there was practically no demand. The top individual price was 35 gs., paid by Mr. John Rae, Mountbooly Rosehearty, for a very pretty, evenly-fleshed, yearling heifer, Floweret of Tochieneal, belonging to Mr. George Bruce. The only Erica sold was a yearling bull, Black Eric, belonging to Mr. Macdonald, Allanquoich, and it went to Mr. Booth, Downiehills, Peterhead, at 28 gs., whilst at 29 gs. Mr. Paterson, Tillykerrie, got a Pride of Aberdeen two-year-old bull, Probation, belonging to Mr. John Fowlie, Loanhead, New Deer.

The average per head for the thirty-nine Aberdeen-Angus was £18 4s.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

Gort Fair, co. Galway, was held on November 7. Average-sized fair, composed chiefly of second-class cattle. Demand fairly active, but a good many unsold. Calves, second class, £3 15s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, second class, £6 10s. to £7 17s. 6d.; third class, £3 16s. 3d. to £5 7s. 6d.; two-year-olds, second class, £8 to £11; third class, £6 to £7 10s.; three-year-olds, second class, £11 5s. to £12; Springers, second class, £11 15s. to £15; third class, £9 to £10. Fair supply of sheep, for which there was a very good demand. Lambs, second class, £1 4s. to £1 14s; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £2 8s. 9d. to £2 12s. 6d; second class, £2 3s. to £2 8s.; two-year-olds and over, first class, £2 13s. to £2 15s; second class, £2 10s. to £2 12s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, for which demand was rather slow, sold at from 18s. to 22s. each.

Shropshire Sheep, &c., for Australasia.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, shipped per ss. *Ayric* of the White Star Line, on October 31, to Melbourne and Sydney, a large and important consignment of pedigree live stock. The shipment, which established a record both in numbers and value which one vessel has carried to the Antipodes, comprised first-class specimens of Shropshires, Hampshires, Border Leicester, Lincolns, and English Leicesters, selected on behalf of several noted Australian breeders, and included on account of Mr. Geo. Simonds, of Tasmania, about eighty head (the whole crop) of the ewe lambs from Mr. John Harding's Shropshire flock, the purchase of which was effected by Mr. Simonds in December, 1905, some month or six weeks before the lambing commenced; also a large number (136) of shearling ewes, rams, and ram lambs, selected at the Ruddington and Norton dispersion sales.

The cattle section included the Aberdeen-Angus Erica bull Evcrall, rn at the Derby R.A.S.E., from Mr. J. J. Cridlan's herd, and sired by the champion bull Wizard of Maisemore. Also a grand yearling Aberdeen-Angus bull, Rescobie, bred by Mr. Patrick Chalmers, sired by the Ballindallock bull Elshender (16523), from the noted Risca by Easterfield (12435). Both these animals are destined for Sydney, as also a beautiful yearling Devon bull, bred by the late Mr. A. C. Skinner, and accompanying these was a choice selection of Silver Wyandottes from the late Mr. P. L. Mills' prize-winning yard.

The King has decided to send his fat stock on the Royal farms at Windsor to the Slough Christmas cattle show and sale, which will be held on Tuesday, December 11. His Majesty's consignment will consist of about thirty prime Devon and other bullocks, 200 sheep, and 110 Berkshire and other pigs. The auctioneers will be Messrs. Buckland and Sons.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

THE question was asked the other day, What has become of our Hacks? Hackneys we have in plenty, but where are the hacks—the horses which it would be a pleasure to ride a journey of thirty or forty miles? Certainly we do not see them in the showyard, or very seldom. If we take the classes for so-called gentlemen's hacks at any ordinary show, the sort of horse that is shown would never be ridden by a man who wanted conveying with ease and expedition from one place to another. High action seems to be the only quality aimed at by breeders or recognised by judges, and it does not seem to matter whether a horse puts his foot out or not, so long as he puts his knee up to his chin. It is, I think, a pity that the riding qualities of the Hackney have been so much neglected during the last twenty or thirty years. The breed has undoubtedly suffered from it, and I am quite convinced that Hackney breeding would have been a more profitable industry than it is if the saddle horse had been taken into consideration a little more.

THOSE of us who can go back a few years can call to mind the excellent saddle horses that were shown in the classes for gentlemen's hacks, most of them Yorkshire Hackneys. I wonder how many of my readers remember that beautiful horse Sir George Wombwell used to show and win all over with. He was elegance itself, he moved with that beautiful elastic action that is so charming, and he moved well in all his paces. He was indeed in every sense of the word a gentleman's hack, and though he stood out as one of the best of his kind, there were plenty like him in his day. I am sure that if Sir George Wombwell should see these lines, he will agree with me that where there were any number of good hacks in the days when his famous horse was to the fore, there is scarcely one of the type to be found in the length and breadth of the land.

THE typical gentleman's hack of the present day as exemplified in the showyard is more or less of a harness horse. Very frequently he has heavy, if not exactly badly placed shoulders, his head has to be carried by his rider, he is heavy in the neck, and though he moves well according to the modern standard of action, he is what is called, and rightly called, a bone setter. Many of my readers can recall horses that they have seen winning time after time in the show ring, which, however good they might be in their place, were certainly out of place with a saddle on their backs. In fact, the way that many of them are bitted, and have to be bitted to make them show themselves, is sufficient proof that in a class for gentlemen's hacks they are out of place. A horse that has to be ridden in a "pull devil, pull baker" bit, and that takes hold of it and puts his head in his chest, is no gentleman's hack, and no gentleman would ride him.

THERE are classes at some shows in which the riding type is encouraged, and to Mr. J. H. Stokes is due the credit of initiating these classes. Broadly speaking, the conditions are for horses not more than 15 hands 2 inches in height, built on hunting lines, and they are always judged by the hunting judges. Some excellent saddle horses are shown in these classes, but taking them on the whole they are undersized hunters, which is something different from the hack I have been speaking of. It seems needless to say that the horses we see shown in the classes of Covert Hacks, or Park Hacks, are decidedly not of the type I am speaking of.

BUT though these gentlemen's hacks are so much fewer in number that the type is seldom seen in the show ring, especially amongst the prize-taking division, there are still some to be found, and there would, I believe, be still more shown if a different standard of judging were adopted. During the last two or three years I have seen certainly half-a-dozen fine saddle horses shown, but I have seldom seen them amongst the winning lot. One I certainly saw win, and a very fine horse he was, with that light airy action and elegant carriage which is so rarely seen nowadays in a class for gentlemen's hacks.

NOW the horses I have been speaking of were all Hackney bred ones—and none of them were over 15 hands 2 inches high. And in my travels amongst Yorkshire studs I have occasionally come across horses of the same type. The mischief has begun in many enthusiastic Hackney breeders insisting in season and out of season that the Hackney is the harness horse of the future. To a certain extent this may be the case, but most decidedly the Hackney is something more than that. His great reputation rests on his qualities as a saddle horse rather than as a harness horse. Phenomenon, for example, is painted in the saddle. And though a great mistake has been made in breeding exclusively for harness, and in endeavouring to breed over the normal height, by which I mean to breed horses over 16 hands for harness purposes, it is not too late to get the old type back. I am sure there are plenty of us who would be only too ready to buy such horses as used to be common thirty years ago, horses standing from 14 hands 3 inches to 15 hands 1½ inches, that could carry themselves, that could put their foot out as well as snap their knee, and that it was a pleasure to ride fifteen or twenty miles out and home. Nor when they were tried were they bad harness horses, though it certainly does spoil a saddle horse a little to drive him.

A HORSE that is much driven is apt to go "on his head" when ridden. This has been attributed by some to the collar; but really in ordinary single harness work the pulling against the collar is only light by comparison, and I should feel inclined to put the heaviness in hand which is so often experienced when riding a horse that has been much driven to the bad and heavy hands of the driver. My reason for forming this opinion is that I have in my time ridden several horses that have been driven a great deal. Two of these had been driven in single harness only, and no man need wish to ride better or pleasanter hunters. And one of them, a mare, had her neck set on a little the wrong way up. Yet she carried herself beautifully, with her head quite in the right place if you left her mouth alone. If you did not—well, she ran away or did something equally unpleasant. Now, she had always been driven by men with good hands, and I think she is a fair proof of the correctness of my theory.

TO return for a moment to the question of re-establishing Gentlemen's Hack classes on the old lines. I think this might easily be done. First of all, there should be the height limit of 15 hands 2 in. at the outside; secondly, a horse that appears in "a pull devil pull baker" bridle should, *ipse facto*, be disqualified; thirdly, a horse's carriage of himself should be a great factor in awarding the prizes; fourthly, the way in which the shoulders are used should be considered of much more importance than the snap of the knee, and finally, the judges should be riding men, who would get up and ride. Need I say that it is necessary for a gentleman's hack to have a nice swinging canter. It is *not* necessary that he should gallop.

ON Wednesday next Messrs. Walker and Sons will sell in the Salutation Yard, Doncaster, the whole of the late Mr. A. J. Brown's Hunters. Of these there are forty-one, including his famous show horses, some of which were in winning form as recently as the Great Yorkshire Show at Middlesbrough. Mr. Brown's name as a judge and owner of high-class show horses is too well known to require any comment here, and Messrs. Walker will show such a lot of Hunters as rarely come into the ring at one sale. The Doncaster sale will only be second to that at Leicester, when the whole of Mr. J. H. Stoke's stud was disposed of a few years ago.

IT is not often that I differ in opinions on anything relating to horses and breeding from Mr. T. F. Dale. He is a man of wide experience, and his knowledge of Polo and Polo ponies is admitted to be exceptional. But I cannot see that there will be any benefit derived from his proposed alteration of the rules referring to the admission of Polo ponies into the Stud Book. He would admit any pony whose sire or dam was registered, and he would raise the height from 14 hands 2 in. to 15 hands. But then the pony would disappear. There can be no doubt that there are many cases of hardship under the present rules, but where hard and fast rules have to be made there always will be individual cases of hardship, and by raising the height the cases of hardship will not cease, they will only be moved. It may be argued that under the present rules there were many ponies that are just above the height that would be a great acquisition to the Polo pony Stud Book. It is also a matter of knowledge that there are ponies registered at Hurlingham which have grown since they were measured, and that are now nearer 14 hands 3 in. than 14 hands 2 in. On the face of it these facts present an anomaly, but the contingencies are difficult to provide against, and certainly raising the standard a

couple of inches does not seem to be the best way of preserving and improving the Polo pony.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Stone in Horse's Stomach.

DEAR SIR,—I send you a photograph of a stone measuring in circumference 24 in. by 23½ in. and weighing 11½ lb., which was found in the stomach of a cart horse seven years old that had worked on a farm in Dorset.

The cause of the illness of the animal was for some time a mystery to the veterinary surgeon in attendance, and it can be readily understood that the presence of so large a stone was sufficient reason for its death. The stone is at present in the possession of my father-in-law.—Yours faithfully,

R. M.

November 8, 1906.

Mr. Clement Keevil's Shires.

A good company attended at the Blagdon Stud Farm, three miles from Leighton Buzzard, on Wednesday, when a draft from Mr. Clement Keevil's Shire stud was disposed of. The day was not particularly favourable for outdoor sales, but fortunately the rain kept off. The proceedings were somewhat delayed from the fact that the luncheon tent was blown down by the gale of the preceding night.

Good but not high prices were obtained, a total of 1,819 guineas being obtained, which gives an average of £45 14s. 6d. for the forty-two animals sold.

The best of the brood mares was the four year-old Blagdon Victress, a recent prize winner, sold to Mr. Hanbury for 77 guineas. The foals were a capital lot of twelve, and they averaged £36 6s. 3d. each, as against £52 16s., which was paid for each of the brood mares; but the top price of the sale—105 guineas—was paid by Mr. Turner for Blagdon Armour Plate. The yearling fillies averaged £43 15s. each, Mr. Holford paying 45 guineas for Blagdon Freedom, while Mr. Turner went to 66 guineas for Conquest.

The following were the prices realised:—

		Gs.
BROOD MARES AND FOALS.		
Thorney Wildflower	Mr Turner	38
Her grey colt foal	Mr Eve	21
Upshire Brave Lady	Mr Heaton	58
Her brown filly foal	Mr A W Richman	26
Court Jewell II	Mr Higgs	44
Her bay colt foal	Mr Haydock	26
Blagdon Princess	Mr Higgs	70
Her grey filly foal	Mr Alsebrook	32
Mackworth Sunbeam	Mr Wright	30
FOALS.		
Blagdon Armour Plate	Mr Turner	105
Flower of Blagdon	Mr Roland Wood	60
Brown colt foal	Mr Keeble	24
Bay colt foal	Mr Ibbotson	27
Bay filly foal	Mr Turner	27
Brown filly foal	Mr Holford	31
Bay filly foal	Mr. Holford	21
YEARLING FILLIES.		
Buckingham Nosegay	Mr Turner	35
Blagdon Freedom	Mr Holford	45
Blagdon Conquest	Mr Turner	66
Blagdon Aspirant	Mr Sturgeon	50
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.		
Blagdon Duchess	Mr Holford	40
Stuntney Attica	Mr Westacott	37
Stuntney Ostia	Mr Higgs	34
Stuntney Warsaw	Mr Roberts	35
Giltbrook Delight	Mr Bishop	50
Blagdon Milkmaid	Mr W Roberts	70
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.		
Flower	Mr Higgs	40
Blagdon Pride	Mr J Forshaw	60
Alvechurch Poppett	Mr Heaton	43
Blagdon Bloom	Mr Thomas	62
BROOD MARES.		
Blagdon Victress	Mr Handley	77
Sulgrave Northern Queen II	Mr Gerald	37
Blagdon Bounce	Mr Hodge	60
YEARLING COLTS.		
Richford Blagdon	Mr Chambers	43
Blagdon Hydraulic	Mr Cobb	28
Blagdon Hercules	Mr R Allen	100
STALLION.		
Bay Prince IX	Mr Chambers	50

Mr. R. W. Hudson's Shires.

Mr. R. W. Hudson was decidedly unfortunate as regards the weather experienced for his Shire sale on Thursday, for it rained practically throughout the day, and must have had some effect on the sale. Still it did not prevent a very large attendance of buyers, and all the well-known breeders of Shire horses were either present or represented. The catalogue comprised forty-one animals, consisting of ten mares, nine foals, fifteen fillies two and three years old, and seven yearling fillies and colts. The Danesfield Shire horse stud are so well known that we need not enter into details concerning it. All the young prize-winning fillies recently exhibited from the stud were included in the sale, and also some choice mares. A large proportion were by Hendre Hydrometer, and showed the Prince Harold characteristics in a marked degree; others were by such well-known sires as Birdsall Menestrel, Birdsall Calamint, Blaisdon Conqueror, Redlynch Paxton, Buscot Harold, Mere Duke, Bury Victor Chief, Royal William II., Prince Harold, &c. This year Childwick Champion was hired from the Tring stud, and most of the mares were covered by him or by Traitor, Stonewall Lad, or Danesfield Chief.

A good demand was experienced for all the animals, and the forty lots were disposed of in less than two hours at an average price per head of over £86. The best price of the day was got for one of the two year-old fillies, namely, Danesfield Feathers by Birdsall Menestrel. There was keen competition for her, Lord Rothschild's representative being amongst the last bidders, but Mr. F. G. Muntz outstayed all, and at 450 guineas this choice specimen of the breed was knocked down to him. He also gave the next highest price, 200 guineas, for the brood mare Tatton Tapestring, by Royal William II. Lord Rothschild's representative gave 175 guineas for the two-year-old filly Danesfield Fashion, by Hendre Hydrometer; Danesfield Kit, by the same sire, was secured for the King at 160 guineas; whilst Sir Alex. Henderson gave 140 guineas for another of that sire's gets—viz., Danesfield Confidence, a two-year-old filly. Two other three-figure prices were recorded—namely, 120 guineas given by Earl Egerton for Norman Emerald and three-year-old filly by Royal Bendigo, and 115 guineas for Danesfield Royal, a yearling colt by Beachendon Royal Harold, Mr. Lambert being the buyer. The yearling fillies made up to guineas, a similar figure being the high water mark of the foals, but with the exception of the 200-guinea animal the brood mares did not sell so well as expected, and somewhat lowered the average, the next best figure to the 200 guineas being 72 guineas. Still, all things considered, it was a most satisfactory sale.

PHOTOGRAPH OF A STONE, WEIGHING 11½ Lbs., TAKEN FROM A HORSE

The Berkeley Stud.

The late Mr. Alfred Day's famous stud of pedigree Hackney ponies was sold by auction on Wednesday at Crewe by Messrs. Manley and Son, and, as was only to be expected, the sale drew a large company of breeders from all parts of the country, and keen competition took place for the possession of some of the animals. Bidding was specially animated for the pony stallion champion Fireboy, a bay foaled in 1898, which won first and champion honours at the London Hackney Show. The bidding was between a gentleman buying for exportation to the United States and Mr. Price, of the Lyndhurst Stud, the latter securing the animal for 460 guineas. Mr. Washington, of The Hague, bought the pony mare Naughty Naiad for 120 guineas; Mr. Scase, of Chepstow, secured the pony mare Miss Sniff for 100 guineas; Mr. Jones, of Dinarth Hall, gave the same figure for Berry Hill Sniff, also a pony mare. Mr. Ash, of Birmingham, purchased another pony mare for 70 guineas, and a yearling filly, Berkeley O'Read, for 85 guineas. Mr. Miller, of Glasgow, gave 80 guineas for the yearling filly Berkeley Sniff; Mr. C. Jones, of Sheffield, bought the pony stallion Berkeley Royal for 130 guineas, and Mr. Foster, of Melvalley, bought the pony stallion Berkeley Belgravian for 105 guineas. The following, from other owners, were also sold at this sale:—Mr. Cunard's pony champion, Queen Go Bang, 300 guineas, Mr. Ainsworth, of Waterloo; Mr. Robinson's bay pony stallion Pinderfield's Ingoldshy was bought for 185 guineas by Mr. Edmondson, of Stretford, who also purchased Lord Ruby, a bay gelding, for 120 guineas; Finstall Monarch, a chesnut stallion, went to Mr. Fergusson, Macclesfield, for 135 guineas; and Sunset, a black mare, was purchased by Mr. Lawson, Manchester, for 95 guineas.

Sale of Lord Lonsdale's Hunters.

Included in the catalogue of Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade's sale at Leicester on the 3rd inst. was the Earl of Lonsdale's stud of Hunters. All had been regularly hunted with the Quorn, the Cottesmore, and the Belvoir Hounds, and they were for sale because Lord Lonsdale expects to visit South Africa this winter. There was keen bidding for their possession, no better lot having been offered for sale this autumn, and five of them averaged over £205 each, the top price, 280 guineas, being paid for Lovely Mary, a brown mare by Castlenock, and bred at Lowther by Lord Lonsdale. Swagman, a stylish grey gelding by May Boy, reached 250 guineas. Minstrel was sold for 200 guineas, and Black Prince, a son of Red Prince II., for 150 guineas. The steeplechaser High and Mighty, with which Lord Lonsdale won the Quorn Point-to-Point Steeplechase in 1905, did not change hands, but an offer of 45 guineas was accepted for the smart 12 hands 2½ in. pony Fox.

Shire Horse Society.

Sixty-six new members were elected at the council meeting of the Shire Horse Society, held on Tuesday.

The Editing Committee reported that a list of sixty-eight prefixes and one affix had been submitted to them, and they recommended that the applications should be granted with the exception of one, they referring back the prefix "Fylde" as being too comprehensive. In two other cases they decided that "Merry," being a registered prefix, could not be used by another owner in respect of his mare "Merry England," and they again affirmed their decision that a prefix registered by a non-member could not be re-allotted until the lapse of five years.

PRIZES IN 1907.

Sir P. A. Muntz, Bart., presented the report of the Horse Show Committee, indicating that 39 gold medals had been awarded at 33 shows and 225 silver medals at 217 affiliated shows, the breeders' prizes under each scheme totalling—Gold medals, £125 in twenty-five sums of £5; silver medals, £160 in 160 sums of £1. The committee recommended that the schemes in force in 1906 should again be continued under similar conditions, with one proviso to meet the delays experienced owing to some secretaries not lodging, in accordance with the council's request, the official awards at their shows, viz.:—"That all awards must be completed within six months of the date on which the medal was awarded, otherwise they will be void."

The dates of the London Show would be February 26 and three following days, while in respect of the schedule of prizes the committee did not think it desirable to introduce any alteration in the 1907 list, so that the sum of £2 18s. would be offered in class prizes, in champion and

prize cups, including seven classes for stallions, seven classes for mares, and three classes for geldings. The committee felt it desirable to add a note to the regulation as to the brood mares—viz., that a certificate of foaling must be deposited not later than October 1, 1907, to ensure the confirmation of the award. The committee recommended that the auction should start each morning (Thursday and Friday) at 10 o'clock. The show would close on the Friday at 4 p.m., so as to enable purchasers to get their animals away by an early train.

This report having been adopted, Mr. Hamer Towgood drew attention to the conditions created during the past two years by the regulations relating to brood mares, as he thought it was rather a mistake to allow an animal to take the prize and receive the ribbons when she was subsequently disqualified owing to her inability to comply with the conditions of the class. He would prefer that they should revert to the old state of affairs, or perhaps the committee would institute a class for barren mares, though this alternative would not get out of the difficulty entirely, but he did not wish to press it for the coming show, and he thought that the Horse Show Committee might think the question over.

Mr. Snow Fordham agreed with Mr. Towgood, as he thought it was a ridiculous position. He felt that the chance of receiving the ribbons was an inducement to send a mare, as it was not difficult to say if a mare was in foal in February; while even if she could not comply with the conditions she took the ribbons, and was sold by auction or privately as if she were in foal, and this was, to his mind, very unsatisfactory.

Sir P. Albert Muntz suggested that the society's veterinary inspectors should be called in in cases of protest to determine the question of the mare's compliance with the class regulations. It was decided to refer the question to the Horse Show Committee for further report.

Mr. C. W. Tindall also raised the question of the wording of Rule 24, and said he considered that the disqualifications should include the use of soap as well as that of resin, as in his opinion soap, when used for other than washing purposes, had become a greater nuisance than resin, and that nothing should be used except sawdust. After a short conversation the matter was referred to the Horse Show Committee.

London Shows after 1907.

The Chairman presented to the council the report of the Shire representatives who attended the conference between the four societies and the representatives of the Royal Agricultural Hall and of Olympia. It was unanimously decided to adopt the report providing for the holding of the society's shows after 1907 at the Royal Agricultural Hall, favourable terms for rental and accommodation having been successfully negotiated.

Royal Show at Lincoln.

Mr. John Rowell, in moving the renewal of the society's offer of gold medals and their accompanying breeders' prizes for Shire horses at the 1907 Exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, asked the indulgence of the council to add to this offer a grant amounting to £70, to be applied to the provision of classes which the Royal Agricultural Society of England were anxious to place in their schedule. These classes were three—viz., yearling fillies, prizes £15, £10, £5; colt foals and filly foals, prizes £10, £6, £4 respectively. Mr. Rowell said that the Royal Society were unable, owing to financial considerations, to offer the prizes, and he thought that this society could not do better with the money at their disposal than to encourage the Royal Show by providing them. Last year the amount was raised by private subscription.

Sir P. Albert Muntz supported the proposals, and said it was suicidal on the part of the breed societies not to support the Royal Society, as the existence of that show was of enormous value to the breed societies in this country. The grants by this society would confer great benefits on Shire horse breeders; he did not think it fair to expect private individuals to continue the contribution initiated last year, and it was more dignified that the money should be given by the Shire Horse Society. At the same time, he felt that when the Royal Society was more flourishing they would see their way to provide these classes.

Mr. A. J. Hollington said that he thought the question of this grant should be referred to the Horse Show Committee, but Mr. Rowell said that they were practically settling the Lincoln schedule to-morrow.

It was finally resolved, on the motion of Mr. Taunton, seconded by Mr. Edward Green, that the amount suggested by Mr. John Rowell—viz., £70—should be offered to the Royal Agricultural Society of England to be applied to the three classes mentioned.

The council then adjourned to their meeting in Smithfield week, Tuesday, December 11.

Hackney Horse Society.

Meetings of the council and committees of the Hackney Horse Society were held at the offices, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday, when twenty-five new members were elected.

It was resolved to complete the prize list by adding a class for best pair of ponies under 14 hands, any age, prizes £10, £5, £5.

Medals.

It was reported that during the past year the following medals had been awarded at the various shows:—Eleven gold medals (in hand), twenty-five gold medals (in harness), 190 silver medals (in hand), twenty-nine silver medals (in harness). And it was resolved to offer gold medals at the following foreign shows:—Paris, Brussels, The Hague, Spa, Buenos Aires; silver medals at various shows in South Africa, Canada, United States, and other parts of the world.

Two gold medals will be offered as champion prizes for Hackneys at the Royal Dublin Spring Show, one at the Highland, and three at the Royal Show, Lincoln.

It was represented that the prizes at the International Show at Olympia next June for Hackneys and harness horses would be exceedingly liberal and far in advance of any prize list yet presented in this country. It was resolved to offer eight gold medals in the various Hackney and harness sections at the International Show. Various details as to purchase of cups, photographs, &c., were attended to, and Baron Schroeder reported that he had been elected chairman of the Show Committee during the ensuing year, and Mr. Arthur E. Evans vice-chairman.

Mr. Darby, chairman of the Editing Committee, reported that the committee had considered at great length an objection which had been lodged with the society against the entry of the pony stallion Morton Swell, which was awarded the first prize in the two-year-old pony stallion class at the last Hackney Show, and first prize at the Royal Show at Derby. It was alleged that the pedigree of this stallion's dam as presented to the society was incorrect. The committee had examined several witnesses and had resolved to refuse the entry of Morton Swell and his dam, Black Cornflower, and in consequence to cancel the award at the London Show. The further steps which will be taken by the society in the matter will be reported at a later date.

The entries of 10735 Brown Sall and her produce were cancelled and expunged from the Stud Book, as the signature to one of the certificates under which she had been registered was proved to be false.

The committee also considered at considerable length the question of the registration in the English Stud Book of horses bred in America descended from English parents. Under the society's present rules no horse bred beyond the United Kingdom can be entered in the Stud Book, but as various horses descended from English registered stock had been brought to this country from America by Americans domiciled in England, the committee decided to go into the matter, and take the best legal advice as to the society's position.

Prizes at the Royal Show.

It was resolved to contribute a sum of £50 towards the class prize for Hackneys at the Royal Show at Lincoln in addition to the usual champion gold medals.

Place of Show.

The committee appointed to interview the Agricultural Hall Company and the directors of Olympia reported they had made tentative arrangements with the Agricultural Hall Company to continue the shows at Islington for a further term of seven years on terms very favourable to the society. The accommodation which the Hall Company had agreed to provide by the enlargement of the ring, the provision of extra seating and boxes, and other improvements, would be greatly to the advantage of future Hackney shows.

Conference.

A report was presented as to the transactions at the recent conference with Lord Carrington on horse breeding at the Board of Agriculture. The society's representatives thereat reported that the conference dealt entirely with Thoroughbred and Hunter stallions without any reference to Hackneys.

The next meeting was fixed to be held on February 6, 1907.

Replying to a deputation of Essex yeomen and tenant farmers on the Land Tenure Bill at Westminster on Tuesday, the President of the Board of Agriculture (Lord Carrington) said he felt much encouraged by the fact that the views of the deputation coincided with the support given to the Bill by farmers in other counties. He hoped the measure would commend itself to Parliament as at least an honest instalment towards the settlement of some difficult questions which called for solution, and he hoped it would pass through both houses as a good, honourable measure, designed not to prejudice or injure any good landlords, but to protect tenants in hard cases such as sometimes occurred.

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Norwich, Norfolk.

READERS OF ADVERTISEMENTS

in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning . .

THE MARK LANE EXPRESS

when writing to our Advertisers.

Notes and Jottings.

SOME of the Flock Book Societies are evidently not satisfied that their methods of marking sheep are all that they should be, and are taking steps to make them more effectual. It was stated at one meeting that a member knew there were cases where dealers had bought a few registered animals, mixed them with some unregistered ones, and sold the whole as registered. It is surely the duty of a flock book society to look into such matters, so that such cases could not recur. Marking, if carried out properly, would go a long way in this direction, but the unscrupulous may adopt methods of their own. Where a member is certain that there is dishonest representation he should report it to the society, and a thorough inquiry be made, followed by a prosecution should it be proved clearly that misrepresentation, and consequently a fraudulent sale, had been made.

SOME few years ago a farmer was fined £500 and narrowly escaped imprisonment for substituting an animal for a pedigree Shorthorn, thereby getting a higher price than he otherwise would. Representing sheep to be registered when they are not is on all fours with this case, and it is made worse when a man deliberately purchases a few registered animals so as to be able to palm off a number of others as being what they are not. It would be worth while for the societies who suspect that there is this illicit use of their rights being made to take steps which would bring about a conviction.

THOSE with ample grass run for their sheep have had a pleasanter time lately than have those who have been obliged to keep theirs on arable land, for the pens have been very dirty. It is doubtful if all recognise how much it takes out of sheep to have to constantly carry several pounds weight of dirt. It is certain that all do not observe every opportunity to relieve sheep from the incubus. A certain amount of dirt on the belly-wool can scarcely be prevented in bad times, but filth behind can be cleared away. Nothing indicates the laxity of the master and the carelessness of the shepherd more than filthy hindquarters. The scour itself frequently comes for want of better management, though it is frequently charged to the natural condition of the food; still that is only a partial excuse, as good feeding would provide something astringent as a corrective to stop the scour. At this time of year when many of the roots have not matured, there is admittedly unusual difficulty in keeping the bowels in order, and especially so when the wet weather makes the food over succulent, and also tends to chill the sheep. It is essentially a time for the use of dry food.

THE wool trade hangs fire, prices have given way in most classes, but not in a sensational degree. There is a long way to go before another clip is obtained, and though holders may be disappointed at not getting the top prices, they may console themselves that had all thrown their clip on to the market at shearing time the price would soon have been as low, or lower, than it is now. The prolonged summer has probably had some effect on the trade demands, and as pronounced a winter would not be without its influence in the other direction. There is a general feeling of confidence in spite of the slow demand up to the present, and sellers are as slow to move as the buyers.

WE are getting into near distance of the Christmas sales, little as the mild weather may seem to suggest it. If the mutton trade is not exceptionally bright just now, it is a satisfactory one, for prices are such as show a fair profit on production; would that all other farm produce could do the same. The price of cereals suggests that they may be used with more freedom, though maize is a cheap competitor; these, however, are best fed as a meal with chaff. Cotton-cake is a suitable food for mixing with these, and its price is tempting, but it is highly important to give it in a finely-broken condition, especially so in the case of decorticated.

LINSEED-CAKE is, proportionately, quite dear enough; in fact, a better feeding value can be got out of home cereals, maize, and cotton-cake than from linseed cake at the prices. Crushed cottonseed with 20 to 25 per cent. of oil guaranteed, if genuine and free from cotton fibre is the cheapest article to use with cereals at present prices. It is important, however, that it is genuine. After so flush a growth as there has been of late, the cottonseed acts with beneficial astringency, and the large quantity of oil balances well with the less oily cereals.

LINSEED is such an easy food to handle that it is always popular, and as a single food has no equal, but the buyer always has to pay something for its popularity; still, in proportion with the price of mutton it is not an expensive food—it is the others that are a good point cheaper. If linseed cake alone is given it is dangerous beyond three-quarters of a pound per head per day; additional weight should be given in the form of one or more of the starchy foods, and beyond those mentioned locust bean is exceptionally valuable for sheep. The wet weather calls for special attention to the stakes around the folds.

THE soil is getting so saturated that the stakes require to be driven well home, otherwise the hurdles, netting, or whatever fencing may be used stands a very good chance of being knocked over. In stormy weather also sheep are apt to be wild and restless, so that at any time they may make a rush which will put a big strain on the hurdles. The weather is absolutely so mild that one scarcely recognises that the season for severe frosts is with us. Yet on November 14, 1879, the ground was frozen, and never thawed again until the second week in February. During this time hurdles and stakes were frozen in fast, and caused great inconvenience by limiting the quantity available. One extreme often forerunns another of a decidedly opposite nature, and there is no telling how sudden a leap we may take into winter.

AT any rate, from now onwards, it will be well to be on the guard so that the temporary fencing is not caught. With the land so wet a comparatively light frost may be sufficient to get them frost bound.

Dorset Horn Sheep.

At the last council meeting of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association the secretary read a communication from the Royal Agricultural Society with respect to the prizes at their show to be held at Lincoln in 1907. The secretary said last year the Royal Show had four classes, giving £10, £5, and £3 in each class, and the association also offered a champion prize of £10 for the best pen of ram lambs, shearling ewes, or ewe lambs. Now the Royal Society asked if the association would give the same champion prizes as last year, and, further, if they could see their way to giving the prizes for ewe lambs.

It was agreed that the same amount be voted to the Royal Society, on the assumption that they would maintain the classes as last year. Further, that the sum of £10 granted be divided into two sums of £5 each for the male and female classes.

The Bath and West and Southern Counties Society wrote stating that they could not provide classes for chilver lambs, for various reasons, and suggesting that the association should provide the prizes for a class for chilver lambs at the show.

Mr. Kidner considered that if they went outside the limits of the Royal Show they would not know where to stop, and would soon be in difficulties. He moved that the association could not see its way clear to contribute to the prize schedule of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Show, and the motion was agreed to.

The secretary alluded to the importance of members horn-marking their sheep, and spoke of an instance where, at a recent sale, a would-be buyer had refused to buy registered sheep that had not been so marked. Mr. Kidner expressed the opinion that no sheep of over nine months old should be considered as registered without the mark on the horns, and gave notice that at the next meeting he would move a resolution to this effect.

It was agreed to support a petition from the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies, supported by other district agricultural societies and specialist clubs in England and Wales, to the Railway Clearing House Committee, asking that all exhibitors and officials attending shows be allowed to travel at a rate not exceeding a fare and a quarter for the double journey.

Mr. J. J. Cridlan has just sold his yearling bull Everall (24442) for exportation to New South Wales. He is an exceedingly well bred bull, being by Wizard of Maisemore (24465). Mr. Cridlan's prize-winning and champion bull (himself the son of the champion bull Elate) out of Evergreen 3rd and Trojan Erica cow of the famous Edelweiss strain, who has in her veins the blood of the champion bulls Equestrian, Justice, Young Viscount. Apart from breeding, Everall is an exceedingly well-grown, handsome young bull.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

*** *The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS.—COWS of the Seraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

HEREFORDS.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of PeterCoats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

CATTLE—*continued.*

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Eboniser 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

SEVERAL JERSEY BULLS of this year for SALE; good looking and of the best strains.—Apply J. H. SMITH-BARRY, Esq., or HERDSMAN, Stowell Park, Pewsey, Wilts.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1906.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 200 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.).*

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

BOTTESFORD LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Mr. D. R. DAYBELL has recently sold to Mr. BENNETT, for export to Herr M. H. AHRENS, of Altona, Germany, a special young Boar and four young Sows. One of the latter has been exhibited three times, gaining three first prizes, including first in a pen of three at the Royal, and being reserve for the medal at the Lincolnshire Show.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH & LARGE BLACK PIGS.—For SALE, at reasonable prices to clear, Gilts, Young Boars, and Young Sows of best breeding.—FRANK SUGDEN, Ruckley Estate Office, Shifnal, Salop.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

An egg-laying competition will be held from December 1 to 31 by Messrs. Leonard Smith and Co., Ltd., of 58, Bromsgrove Street, Birmingham, who offer prizes of £20 in cash and other awards. All the birds entered must receive once a week some of Smith's ovary tonic, and it is to illustrate the efficacy of this that the competition is chiefly promoted. Full details, entry forms, &c., can be had on application to Messrs. Smith as above.

The Premier on Wednesday informed a Parliamentary deputation who urged legislation to facilitate small holdings in rural districts, that they had his entire sympathy and he would be disappointed if next session passed without something being done in the direction they desired. He fully appreciated the importance of the subject, and added his confidence that any such legislation would be entirely supported by his party.

POULTRY.

Seasonable Advice.

The weather is now somewhat trying for those last year's birds which have not their full plumage, as they feel the occasional cold nights, and unless fed on stimulating food and provided with comfortable covered runs, they stand moping about, and look very miserable indeed. During November the birds require feeding well, and undoubtedly the best breakfast for them is made of two-thirds biscuit meal and one-third good middlings during the week at least, and the other two mornings the birds may have middlings or barley meal and house scraps.

The feeding of the birds is now an important matter, and so much depends on how the birds are fed as to the results obtained from them. There are many good laying fowls which are not treated in the right manner, and are therefore not as they otherwise would be. During the cold weather the hot breakfast is of great help to the fowls, as after the long night they have been on the perch they are very hungry and require a nourishing feed. This is specially comforting to them when it is hot.

Poultry-keepers on a small scale generally utilise the house scraps for their fowls, but these are not used to the best advantage when they are thrown to the birds during the day. The better way is to keep a bowl specially for the house scraps, and as these accumulate they should be placed in the bowl and kept until the following morning, when the contents of the bowl should be transferred to an old iron saucepan, which should be kept for the purpose of boiling up the house scraps. Sufficient water to cover these should then be poured over, and the whole brought gently to the boil.

When there are any pieces of bacon rind or anything that is likely to cause a stoppage internally they should not be allowed to eat the same; it is good plan to cut these into smaller pieces before they are boiled up. As soon as the mixture has boiled it should be poured into the mixing bowl, and sufficient middlings and barley meal added to make it nice and crumbly.

Small poultry-keepers can profitably use their house scraps in this manner, but where there is a larger number of fowls kept, some substitute for the nourishing house scraps should be provided, as to produce eggs when the weather is severe and really nutritious food is required. Fowls require sufficient food to sustain them, and a surplus over this to provide nourishment for the egg organs.

The best method of using biscuit meal to advantage is to scald it over night by pouring boiling water over it in a pail or basin, covering the male well with water, and then placing a linen cloth over the top of the pail to keep the steam in. If the cloth is folded several times the whole of the steam will be kept in, and the meal will swell to about twice its bulk when dry. Then next morning some more boiling water should be poured in and the middlings added, and the whole well stirred to make a crumbly, appetising meal for the birds.

At this time of the year scraps of meat and fat should be added to the fowls' breakfast, and the pieces of bread and scraps of vegetables should be boiled up for the fowls at midday. We have been asked whether it pays to feed fowls thus well in the winter months, and we have no hesitation in saying that it pays well, as many more eggs are produced by fowls thus well fed than will pay for the additional cost of the food, and these extra eggs are all profit, and in addition to the eggs the condition of the birds improves, and they are not made fat internally, as this food nourishes the birds and helps the production of eggs—but does not make fat.

It is time for fowls which are required to breed table poultry to be mated now, and birds for the production of exhibition stock should also be mated during this month. These remarks refer more particularly to the heavier breeds, as Leghorns, Minorcas, and Wyandottes are frequently not mated until February, and then produce good birds for the autumn shows.

Care should be taken to provide the stock birds with plenty of ventilation in their houses, and not on any account to overcrowd them. It is most essential to the well-being of the birds that overcrowding be avoided.

Those who keep birds merely for laying and breeding table fowls frequently prefer to breed from cross-bred pullets, as they are so hardy, and when bred from good laying strains—so prolific; and these birds, when mated with cockerels of pure breeds suitable for the purpose for which they are required, answer quite as well as the pure breeds, and the cost of the stock is lessened.

During November and December the pullets and hens which are to be kept for breeding purposes should be sorted out from those which are to be sold, and suitable male birds purchased for them.

It is advisable to mate ducks now, in order to secure early eggs and ducklings when prices are the highest. It is a great mistake to put this off until after Christmas, as in purchasing now there is a good opportunity for the birds to get nicely settled down before eggs are required.

DAIRY.

A Clean Milk Supply.

The report of the committee appointed by the Royal Institute of Public Health to consider the best means to ensure a clean milk supply to the consumer was issued last week, and contains a number of interesting and important recommendations.

The committee state that in their investigations they were struck with the necessity for taking further steps for the prevention of milk-borne diseases, and the similar necessity of improving not only the quality of the milk itself, but also the existing conditions under which the supply of milk was carried on.

They recommend among other things better ventilation, lighting, drainage, watering, and flooring of farm buildings used for milk supply, and suggest that in the general management of a farm there should be a systematic veterinary inspection of all cattle and the isolation of all cows that show any symptoms of ill-health.

As to transit, the committee regard among others the following points as essential to safeguard milk from contamination:—The sealing and locking of all churns; all milk to be conveyed in special vans, preferably refrigerating vans, the vans to be so constructed as to remain cool whilst at the same time the admission of dust is prevented, and that proper platforms should be provided at the railway terminus for dealing with the milk, and no manipulation of milk should be permitted except in a suitable depot, and only by persons especially appointed for that purpose.

Agricultural Work at the Birmingham University.

Members of the agricultural and Midland press had an opportunity on Saturday of looking over the department of Economic Zoology which has been opened in connection with the Birmingham University, and of learning from Mr. W. E. Collinge, M.Sc. (who is in charge) something as to the scope and nature of the work which the new department is undertaking. Up to the present time, most of the agricultural colleges have principally cultivated the chemical side of the work. Mr. Collinge prefers to approach it from the biological standpoint, and so, while seven Midland counties are to be served, there will be no danger of clashing with either the Kingston or Harper-Adams Colleges. The Birmingham department is even now answering large numbers of inquiries from farmers, fruit growers, stock-breeders, nurserymen, and gardeners, who suffer from the depredations of injurious insects, and furnishing the most approved advice as to preventive and remedial measures. In many cases when an inquiry is received in the morning, Mr. Collinge himself is able to be on the affected ground by mid-day.

In explaining the purposes of the new department, Mr. Collinge held up as a model of imitation the United States Department of Agriculture, with its staff of nearly 5,000, and its scientific experts numbering more than 2,600. The Council of the University of Birmingham, he said, intended to set up a consultative department and bureau of information and experimental work. It would provide the agricultural market gardener, fruit grower, and stock breeder with free information as to the various animals which were injurious or beneficial to crops and live stock; and so far as the facilities of the laboratory permitted, determination would be made of the organisms causing any particular trouble, while definite instructions in the preventive and remedial measures to be adopted would be sent free to those concerned. They would also be ready to advise and confer with agricultural committees of the county councils, the Chamber of Agriculture, or to attend meetings when subjects relating to zoology were being discussed.

On the side of experimental research, attention was being devoted to the breeding of insect enemies of insect pests, such as the aphis-devouring ichneumon flies, which had been sent with excellent results into districts where the aphis blight abounded. The working out of the life histories of insect pests where they were doubtful, and the trials of spray and similar remedies would also form important branches of their work.

It was the first occasion on which a university had offered such facilities to agriculturists, and he was sanguine enough to believe that it would not appeal in vain to the county councils, who drew so much from the heavily rated rural districts.

The seven Midland counties served by the Birmingham scheme are Warwick, Worcester, Hereford, Gloucester, Salop, Stafford, and Leicester.

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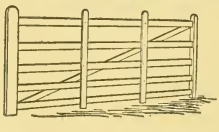

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The Dogs Act, 1906.

The Board of Agriculture has issued a circular calling the attention of local authorities to the provisions of the Dogs Act, 1906, which will come into operation on January 1 next. In this the Board says:—

At the present time the wearing of collars by dogs is in effect enforced in London and several other districts by means of regulations made under the Rabies Order of 1895, which exempt dogs wearing collars from the requirement of muzzling. In view of the provisions of the new Act the Board have made an Order, entitled the Dogs Order of 1906, the effect of which is to revoke all existing muzzling regulations as from January 1 next, and to enable local authorities to make regulations directly requiring the wearing of collars by dogs while in a highway or place or public resort. The regulations will not apply to packs of hounds, or to any dog while being used for sporting purposes, or for the capture or destruction of vermin, or for the driving or tending of cattle or sheep.

The local authorities are empowered to regulate, as well as prescribe, the wearing of collars, and will thus be in a position to extend the exemptions if they think fit. The order will not come into operation until January 1 next, but under the Interpretation Act, 1889 (section 37), it is competent for your local authority to proceed at once to make regulations to take effect on or after that date.

The Board have not in their order authorised local authorities to make regulations for preventing dogs from straying between sunset and sunrise, inasmuch as they think that the most convenient method will be for each local authority in Great Britain to consider what action is in their opinion necessary as regards their district, and then to state to the Board whether the circumstances render it desirable that these powers should be put into force in their district or in any part of it, and whether the restrictions should be in force throughout the year or during a part of the year only.

Any dog in respect of which an offence is being committed against the order may be seized as a stray dog, and the Board rely on the police authorities efficiently exercising these powers.

Agricultural Imports.

The following account shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended November 3, 1906. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

ANIMALS (living).—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (10,244), 8,591; sheep and lambs (650), 2,211; horses (385), 210.

FRESH MEAT (cwt.).—Beef (82,926), 109,895; mutton (68,684), 56,599; pork (11,335), 11,878.

SALTED OR PRESERVED MEAT (cwt.).—Bacon (91,254), 104,405; beef (1,784), 2,001; hams (19,664), 18,556; pork (2,377), 1,965; meat, salted or fresh (12,662), 13,055; meat, preserved (18,517), 7,937.

DAIRY PRODUCE (cwt.).—Butter (71,813), 71,227; margarine (22,545), 22,831; cheese, (68,533), 63,342; milk, fresh (—), —; milk, cream (146), 90; milk, condensed (15,763), 19,883; milk preserved (32), 229.

EGGS (Great hundreds).—(448,166), 449,459; poultry (value £) (5,168), 5,676; game (value £) (3,946), 2,521; rabbits, dead (not tinned) (cwt.) (26,521), 32,162; lard (cwt.) (48,946), 38,869.

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL AND FLOUR (cwt.).—Wheat (1,628,500), 1,004,200; wheat meal and flour (316,600), 314,500; barley (869,500), 759,900; oats, (166,700), 327,100; peas (86,380), 46,460; beans (20,920), 40,200; maize or Indian corn (451,200), 677,800.

FRUITS, RAW (cwt.).—Apples (158,747), 144,882; grapes (49,994), 56,641; pears (9,613), 15,849; plums (240), 5,935.

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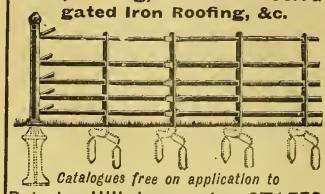

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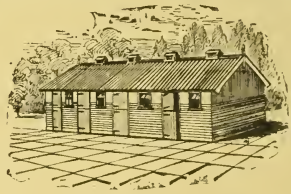

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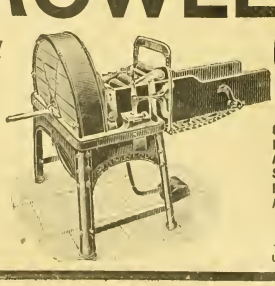

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SOCIETIES.

VISCOUNT TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOWS.

VISCOUNT TREDEGAR has fixed the 88th Annual Meeting to be held at the CATTLE MARKET, NEWPORT, MON., on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 27 and 28.

The Show-yard will be open to the public on Tuesday, the 27th, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Wednesday, the 28th, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The TRIAL OF HUNTERS will take place at COEDKERNEW on Tuesday, the 27th, at 11 o'clock.

G. P. MITCHELL-INNES,
Secretary,
Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

LEEDS SMITHFIELD SHOW. 47th Annual Exhibition will be held in the Victoria Cattle Market Hall, December 11, 12, and 13, 1906. Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Dressed Poultry, Butter, Poultry, Pigeons, and Rabbits. Entries finally close December 1, 1906. Schedules, now ready, may be had on application to the Secretary, H. KITCHEN, 3, Wormald Row, Leeds.

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LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Filling the Springs. AWAY back in September, when the land had the appearance of dying through thirst, pessimists wondered if it would ever rain again, but optimists felt sure it would if we only waited long enough. The optimist proved to be a true prophet, and since the long drought broke up we have been inclined to grumble at having rather too much rain for personal convenience. But the rain was wanted, and we have satisfaction in knowing that the empty springs are being filled up and the earth replenished with moisture. In some parts floods have been the order since November came in, and we have recently seen expanses of country turned into a lake, with only trees, haystacks, and hedge-tops showing, which a couple of months ago was as bare and as parched as a desert. In the midst of the downfall, too, Jack Frost has not made his presence felt, and grass is as vividly green as we ever see it in the spring. It is well that we have no hand in the ordering of the weather, for Dame Nature is working things round for the general good.

Falling Leaves. A SUBJECT of general comment this season is the tenacious way in which leaves have stuck to the trees and retained their verdant hue. Appearances in September gave the impression that the leaves would fall early and quickly, but the rain seemed to give them a new lease of life, and early in November many trees, notably oaks, looked fresher than they did two months before. One of the bright spots in dull November is the glorious colouring of ripened leaves, which no artist can portray quite faithfully on canvas. But the display nears its end, for as we write the fields before us are white with frost, which has loosened the leaves, and they are pattering to the ground in showers. Without the mould formed from decayed leaves gardens would be at a loss for suitable soil for potting purposes, and though the fallen foliage of trees does not play such an important part in the operations of the farmer, still he can make some use of leaves. In wooded districts cottagers and small holders are not slow to collect up dry leaves and utilise them in the pigstye. There for a time they serve the purpose of bedding, and as they rot down they assist in adding considerable bulk to the manure from the piggery. Many lessons can be learnt from the fall of leaves, which is nature's own way of manuring, and as the ripened foliage rustles mournfully to the ground, it carries with it plant foods and material to improve the mechanical condition of the soil and sustain the vegetation that will burst into new life next spring.

Working and Supervising. WE know some men who farm considerable areas of land, and are in a sound position financially, who work from morning to night at manual labour, perhaps harder than any labourer they employ. Their idea is that by working themselves in this way they save the wages of a labourer or perhaps two, and their example is an incentive to the other men to do more than they might otherwise. We know other men in similar positions who do more in the way of supervising than actual working, and the point at issue is—which of the two is the better off at the end of the year? Personally, we think that in the case of a large farm the saving of a few shillings a week in dispensing with a labourer by doing the work oneself is false economy, and far more than that can be saved by acting as general supervisor and overlooking the work of the whole establishment. By this we do not mean to say that a farmer should ever be, as it were, at a loose end, and we know that many a man has gone under through being habitually away from his work and his farm, spending too much time at markets, &c., and sacrificing his own interests for the sake of sport and amusement. The farmer who succeeds is he who is generally to be found at home looking after the work, though not necessarily doing it himself, unless he be in a small way, and then it is to his interest to keep down the labour bill by putting his own shoulder to the wheel.

Bred in the Bone. IN looking through the reports of ploughing matches and hedging and ditching competitions that have taken place recently we have observed how in many cases fathers and sons in the same family have figured as competitors and also prize-winners. In these days when there are so many complaints about the deterioration of agricultural labour, this kind of thing is encouraging, because it shows that there are some sons who are following in the footsteps of their fathers and developing into skilled workmen. We are inclined to think that the matter is largely in the hands of the father. If the latter is a good workman himself, he naturally wishes to see his sons excel also, and he spares himself no pains in training them in the work at which he is an expert. While this sort of thing goes on, the standard of expert farm labour will be maintained; but, unfortunately, there are too many men who have no ambition to excel themselves, and care nothing about the education of their children either in scholastic matters or manual processes. Our admiration is for the type of man who is a first-rate ploughman or hedger or shepherd himself, and if his son grows up to be more expert, he is not jealous, but feels a sense of paternal pride and satisfaction that he has brought up the lad to follow in his footsteps and become a better workman than himself. We wish there were more working-men of this stamp, and then there would be no need for fears as to the deterioration of agricultural labour.

The Force of Habit. THE force of habit is very strong in human nature, and if habits of the right sort are acquired at an early age they have an excellent way of sticking in after life. A friend of ours who is a small farmer, and has several growing lads, has strong ideas about this, which he demonstrated to us in a practical way the other day. In the first place he gives each of his boys a strip of garden ground for his own, and takes no excuse if the plot is allowed to get untidy. He has no need to complain on this score, for there is a spirit of competition between the lads, and the father argues—rightly, we think—that this is a means of teaching the boys at an impressionable age to be methodical and tidy, and to become interested in cultivation. He further encourages the lads to keep pets, such as rabbits and pigeons, because he intends them to be farmers, and consequently wishes them to become fond of animals and acquire habits of attending to the latter and feeding them regularly. To some such lessons may appear elementary, and perhaps old-fashioned, but they strike us as being excellent ideas for educating youthful agriculturists.

Village Life in Winter. WHAT is described as the deadly dulness of village life in the winter is sometimes given, rightly or wrongly, as one of the causes of rural depopulation, and various attempts are made to provide the youth of country villages with amusement and recreation during the season of long winter evenings. In some villages there are clubs, reading rooms, and other means for bringing the youths and young men together for the sake of amusement and mutual improvement, and the success of these efforts is of a varied character. Some village institutions have failed entirely, and one wonders why. Perhaps in cases it is owing to the lethargy of the youths themselves who have no wish to move out of their dull rut and be amused and educated, but often we fear there is a kind of goody-goody, namby-pamby patronage over village institutions, which [illegible] possessing any spirit naturally resents. If village recreation and reading-rooms are to be successful the management should be in the hands of the members themselves, under proper supervision, because we find that country fellows resent patronage, but if they are treated as men and confidence is placed in them they [illegible]

accept the responsibility, and they look upon the village institute as something of their own, and they know that its success depends largely on their efforts.

The Culture of Sugar Beet. THINGS are not so rosy in the agricultural world but what farmers would not take up the culture of a fresh crop if it promised to pay better than some already grown, and the question has cropped up again with renewed vigour as to the possibilities of this country for the cultivation of sugar beet. The topic is no new one, because it has been more or less to the front for some time, and latterly it has been freely discussed both at the Central and other Chambers of Agriculture. There seems to be a general opinion on the part of various experts who ought to know, that sugar beet can be grown here as well as in Germany, but the difficulty of actual cultivation is not the only one, because there is the Sugar Convention to be considered, and if beet growing is to be taken up with any prospect of success, the Government must extend its co-operation and help. According to Lord Denbigh, fifty million tons of roots were grown on the Continent last year, and the benefit to root-growing districts was enormous. If it is possible for British farmers to have a share of these benefits, it would be a pity to let the opportunity slip.

Another Fruit Pest. KENTISH farmers who are also fruit growers are much perturbed just now about the American gooseberry mildew which has found its way to this country, and if allowed to get a firm hold it may prove to be even a worse trouble than the "big bud" pest in the black currants, which threatens to ruin this important branch of the fruit-growing industry. We notice that Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., recently moved a resolution at the Central Chamber of Agriculture advocating the Board of Agriculture to prevent the importation of gooseberry bushes from any countries where the disease was known to exist. The motion was accepted, and a recommendation that the Board of Agriculture be asked to send out leaflets was passed. So far so good, but something more than the mere publication of leaflets is wanted, and if this disease is as deadly as it is said to be, surely the most stringent measures should be adopted to keep it outside this country. We have already got pests and diseases enough to deal with.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Unwisdom of the Critics.

I happened to catch up certain newspapers which reported the all-night sitting of the House of Commons. Is their antagonism to the Land Tenure Bill—which in part realises the desire of Mr. Walter Long, and in part realises the anxiety of a committee of which Mr. Henry Chaplin was an important member—attributable to an ineradicable objection to land-tenure reform, or to partisan bitterness against their political opponents? Had their antagonism been attributable to enmity to the principle of the Bill, why should they chortle at every concession? "The Government surrenders," quothed one journal. "The Government makes many surrenders," declared another. Here you had, not gratification at a Governmental concession to a wise and sane argument, but dour and sinister party gratification that in spite of Radical protests the Government had yielded to persistent Conservative clamour. Instead of a compliment to the Government which had accepted Conservative argument, which had yielded to cleverly-urged requests, you had vainglorious self-gratulations and mere partisan word-flinging. Of course, the Conservative leaders are not to blame for this; but the Conservative bear leaders would be wise to keep a sterner control of their henchmen. The fact is that, instead of being gratified at concessions to Conservative economy on the part of Ministers who, I can assure you, ruffle the party dovecotes by these concessions, you simply indulge in a cock-a-doodle-do, you make the path difficult for any further yieldings to moderate desires and designs.

The Humours of the Situation.

One of the humours of the debates on the Land Tenure Bill has been the Radical affection for what they glibly describe as "intensive culture." Over the question as to whether strawberry beds and asparagus should be included in the protective provisions of the Bill, they utilised the word "intensive" with an iteration that was—I have, of course, a poetic license for this description — damnable. It was given an unctuousness that never belonged to that blessed word "Mesopotamia." "Intensive," sighed the Radical, and his fellow sighed back the word with a dolorousness that was almost tender. You would have been pardoned the belief that the safety of the Empire, nay, of the spheres, depended upon it. My old friend, Mr. James Rowlands, the member for Dartford—whose early training was in the watch-making business — played with it with the same delicacy of fervour that he might have in other years manipulated a mainspring. He told us what Denmark had done with intensive culture. He limned for us an appalling picture of an invasion of Danish eggs of such quality and beauty as would put every honest British hen to shame. He pourtrayed the Danish pig in such fascinating pigments as no Irish sow deserved since the days of Brian Boru. And he was echoed by others. Take my word for it—"intensive culture" is to be the future Radical *mot d'ordre* in dealing with agrarian questions. Assuredly, too, it has the quality of sonorousness.

When Obstruction does not Pay.

I am convinced that the obstructive game in connection with the Land Tenure Bill was bad tactics. It may be urged in reply that one result of it must be to convince the Lords that there is a great volume of Conservative opinion against the Bill. The Lords knew this from the beginning. What, however, did these tactics really do? They served to show that upon the vital principles of the measure the Government could command a majority of something like two hundred. They served to show that where there was any weakening of the Government intention the Radicals were in revolt. They served to reveal—and mind, we live in a democratic country in which even the Upper Chamber is supposed to have a revising rather than a checkmating character—that the Radical anxiety is to deal not with what is described as "the fringe of the land problem," but the problem itself. It served to strengthen the aim of those visionaries, the land nationalisers—to give more power to their elbow and more volume to their voice. Is this a desirable achievement? Is it well to give to the Radical a new justification for demanding the sympathy of the allotment holder and the small holder? In these days, when the counting of noses is an exact political science, the giving of your enemy a cause of appealing for rural support is poor strategy.

What will the Lords do?

Of course, the question now is what will the House of Lords do? I move among the Radicals as well as among the Tories, and in the lobby I have had an opportunity of peering into their inmost thoughts. They there frankly confess that they think infinitely less about the fortunes of this Bill than they do about having a new weapon with which to attack the Lords. These men would prefer that the Bill should be not merely mutilated and lacerated, but given the *coup de grace* at once and finally. They are intent on the cup-to-overfilling argument. They want an excuse for saying that in their own selfish interest the peers deliberately set themselves athwart the will of the country. The Bill in itself is, I repeat, not regarded with overwhelming favour by these men. They do not even regard it as an anodyne. They look upon it as a tentative measure, which is actually calculated to postpone the realisation of their own wilder designs. If this Bill be passed, it will be simply impossible to introduce a bolder scheme of land reform for at least a session or two. The success of this Bill would thus mean the postponement of their own purpose. The land nationalisers in the Commons, the Byleses and the like, have had, I mean, to be dragooned into voting for it. If I were a landlord-peer, I should unhesitatingly advise that the Bill should pass through. It will really now accomplish little more—excepting so far as shooting rights are concerned—than the first Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act.

A Friend among the Knights.

I have been remonstrated with by an Evesham correspondent at my failure to notice the agrarian significance of the knighthood conferred upon Sir Arthur Biggs. Well, I must protest that this is not due to personal inappreciation. Sir Arthur—who, by the way, fought Evesham at the last election—has made at least one phase of agrarian economics the object of his direct solicitude. In his desire to enlarge the Market Gardeners Act and to make it retrospective—and in this anxiety he has been followed by his erstwhile antagonist, Colonel Long, M.P.—he has inspired a movement which will inevitably be reflected in legislation. Heaven forfend it be deemed that I desire so estimable a representative as Colonel Long to be displaced; but I should like to have seen Sir Arthur occupying a seat in this House. At all events, he would have removed the misapprehensions of the effect of the Market Gardeners Act which have been revealed during the debates on the Land Tenure Bill. I am persuaded that not a few of the Radicals who dilated upon the purpose of that Bill and contrasted it with the object of the Market Gardeners Act had never even perused the latter measure. I congratulate Sir Arthur upon the gratitude which his party has wisely shown. I felicitate his party in that it has had the wisdom to do honour to so cogent, wisely-moved, and courteous an agrarian reformer.

The Younger Tories.

In my last article I made allusion to the intellectual vitality of those whom I may describe as the leaders of the young bloods of Toryism. In this I was particularly alluding to Lord Turnour and Lord Helmsley. I for reasons which will be apparent to most members of the Central Chambers of Agriculture deplore the attitude they have adopted towards the Land Tenure Bill. All the same, I rejoice in their Parliamentary virility; and rejoice all the more that it should have its most virile expression in connection with an agrarian question. It is a happy portent for agriculture that men predestined to be party leaders should deliberately associate themselves with the economic evolution of our industry. I regret much of their action in this particular connection; but, after all, they have both exhibited the saving virtues of knowledge and have both revealed the admirable grace of capacity. They represent a phase of generous landlordism which it is well should have expression in the democratic chamber. Their ebullience must be attributed to their youth; but ever and anon you obtain glimpses of an excellent sagacity and a wise comprehension. Agrarian politics are the better for having associated with them young men of their knowledgful ability.

Complimentary Dinner to Major Craigie, C.B.

It is proposed to take the occasion of the recent retirement of Major Craigie, C.B., from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to entertain him at a complimentary dinner, in recognition of his long and distinguished services to the interests of agriculture and the furtherance of statistical knowledge.

The dinner will take place on Wednesday, December 12. A committee which has been formed to make the necessary arrangements comprises—The Earl Carrington, K.G., the Earl of Jersey, G.C.B., the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., the Lord Burghclere, the Lord Eversley, the Right Hon. W. H. Long, M.P., the Right Hon. H. Chaplin, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, Sir R. B. Martin, Bart., Sir T. H. Elliott, K.C.B., Sir A. E. Bateman, K.C.M.G., Sir J. A. Baines, C.S.I., Mr. B. St. John Ackers, Mr. A. Wilson Fox, C.B., Mr. F. Hendriks, Mr. R. Inglis Palgrave, F.R.S., and Mr. R. H. Rew.

Gentlemen desirous of attending are requested to intimate their intention as soon as possible to Mr. R. H. Rew, 3, St. James's Square, S.W.

The King of Sweden has appointed Mr. Thomas W. Sanders, F.L.S., a Knight of the first class of the Royal Order of Wasa, in recognition of his services in connection with a visit paid to Sweden by Representatives of the British Agricultural Press during the summer. Mr. Sanders was the chairman of the party.

SHOW GOSSIP.

Norwich Fat Stock Show.

"Fat Cattle Show Week" is always looked forward to with keen delight in East Anglia, one reason being no doubt that it is the herald of the festive season of Christmas, but greater importance attaches to the Norwich show as being the first of the trio of principal Christmas fat stock shows, and all the breeders and graziers in the United Kingdom always evince the greatest interest in this exhibition, as tho show invariably introduces a number of animals to the ring which can be relied upon to fight hard for the honours at Birmingham and Smithfield. On several occasions the champion beast at Norwich has carried off the same honours at the Midland and London exhibitions.

The thirtieth annual exhibition will open at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, under the presidency of Sir Edmund C. Nugent, Bart., of West Harling Hall, on Thursday next, the 22nd inst., and will continue over Friday and Saturday.

The Minister of Agriculture (tho Earl of Carrington) attended by a large party of influential agriculturists, who will be tho guests of the Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, of Honingham, will attend the show on the Thursday.

The entries in all departments are well up to and in some cases above the average, as will be seen by the following comparative statement, which gives the number of entries at each show since tho commencement of the association, viz.:—

Year.	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Roots, Grain, &c.	Poultry, Butter, &c.	Seedsmens Prizes.
1896...	120	93	24	26	92	179
1897...	111	114	24	33	111	216
1898...	119	81	51	33	106	205
1899...	123	93	24	35	151	167
1900...	90	105	48	31	161	208
1901...	113	97	*	42	145	207
1902...	98	63	27	47	157	202
1903...	120	84	36	43	158	221
1904...	107	96	15	58	159	215
1905...	122	96	33	61	164	219
1906..	99	90	36	64	174	214

* No show of pigs in 1901, in consequence of swine fever regulations.

The prize list comprises seventeen classes for cattle, and prizes of £10, £5, and £2 are offered in each; six classes for sheep, and prizes of £8, £4, and £2; four for pigs, with prizes of £5, £3, and £2. There are nearly sixty classes for roots, grain, dairy produce, dead poultry, &c. In addition to the class prizes very valuable champion and special prizes are offered.

A new feature this year will be a weight guessing competition. The Norwich and District Butchers' Association are providing a bullock for the competition which will stand in the hall during the three days of the show, and afterwards killed. The actual dead dressed weight of which, with the names of the winners guessing nearest to the actual weight, will be announced in the following week's newspapers. The committee are offering four prizes of £2, £1, 10s. and 5s., and it is expected this competition will create considerable interest.

Tho show opens at 10 a.m. on Thursday (at which hour catalogues may be obtained) and the admission each day will be as follows:—Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2s. 6d.; from 2 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., 1s. All day Friday from 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., 1s.

Judges.

CATTLE.—Mr. D. F. Smith, Easton Park, Wickham Market; Mr. Robt. Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln.

SHEEP.—Mr. F. H. Jennings, Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds; Mr. S. Treadwell, Waddesdon, Aylesbury.

BUTCHERS' BEASTS AND PIGS.—Mr. J. M. Outlaw, Pulham Market; Mr. Frank Rands, Hunstanton.

ROOTS AND GRAIN.—Mr. Wm. Case, Tuttington Hall, Aylsham; Mr. Chas. Waters, Postwick, Norwich.

Judges for the Birmingham Show.

The following are the judges appointed for the Birmingham Cattle Show:—

Herefords, Devons, Welsh, Kerries, and Extra Stock.—E. F. Maunder, Crichel, Wimborne; Christopher Williams, Glenthorne, Holmer, near Hereford.

Shorthorns, Scots, and Crosses.—W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach, R.S.O., Glos.; R. Walker, Rosefield, Elgin, N.B.

Butchers' Prizes.—Cattle: H. Patterson, Acock's Green; J. H. Rymond, Erdington; F. W. Stoddard, Ladywood Road, Birmingham.

Sheep.—W. Barrs, Tempe, Atherstone; Allan Cooper, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes; H. Lambert, Babraham, near Cambridge.

Pigs.—T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury.

Butchers' Prizes: Pigs.—A. Marsh, Brierley Hill; C. H. Palethorpe, Dudley Port.

Corn. F. B. Ludlow, Holto Street, Birmingham; W. T. Rushton, Aston Road, Birmingham.

Roots.—R. G. Patterson, Acton Hall, Stafford; F. H. Yates, Woeford, Lichfield.

Potatoes.—W. Halliday, Patshull Gardens, Wolverhampton; G. Worthington, The Gardens, Guy's Cliffe, Warwick.

NOTES.

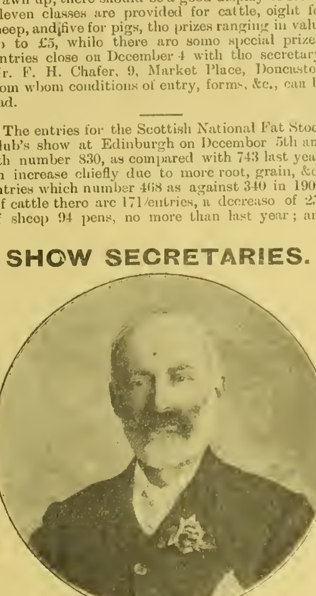
Friday, September 20, 1907, is the date chosen by tho Hay Horse Show Society for their next show.

The Lampeter Agricultural Society has fixed on Thursday, September 26, for the date of their 1907 show.

The thirteenth annual show of the Doncaster Christmas Fat Stock Show Society will be held in Doncaster Cattle Market on Tuesday, December 11, and seeing the good prize list that has been drawn up, there should be a good display of stock. Eleven classes are provided for cattle, eight for sheep, and five for pigs, tho prizes ranging in value up to £5, while there are some special prizes. Entries close on December 4 with tho secretary, Mr. F. H. Chafer, 9, Market Place, Doncaster, from whom conditions of entry, forms, &c., can be had.

The entries for the Scottish National Fat Stock Club's show at Edinburgh on December 5th and 6th number 830, as compared with 743 last year, an increase chiefly due to more root, grain, &c., entries which number 468 as against 340 in 1905. Of cattle there are 171 entries, a decrease of 25; of sheep 94 pens, no more than last year; and

SHOW SECRETARIES.



Mr. C. HOBSON,
Haywards Heath and Groombridge Fat Stock Shows.

pigs and stands are the same, viz, 15 and 37, but the butter-making department has experienced a drop of nearly twenty, the year's figures being 45, and that of 1905, 63.

Prizes to the total value of £114 are offered by the Maidstone and District Open Fat Stock Show Association for their show and sale to be held in Maidstone Cattle Market on Thursday, December 13. There are nine classes for cattle, four of which are for animals of the Sussex breed; seven classes for sheep of various breeds, and six classes for pigs; whilst in addition there are some champion classes. Full details, with conditions of entry, &c., can be had on application to the hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. Kitchen, 10, King Ltrect, Maidstone.

The committee of the Suffolk Agricultural Association met at tho Town Hall, Ipswich, on Friday, the principal business being to receive deputations from towns in Suffolk desirous of entertaining the association in 1907, and to consider the town at which the show should be held. Mr. E. G. Pretyman, the retiring president, occupied tho chair, there being a good attendance. The Mayor of Sudbury said after the interviews he had had with Mr. Robert Bond (the secretary) he felt assured that the ground they had to offer would be accepted. It was the same ground on which the last show was held, and if a larger area was required he did not think there would be any difficulty in hiring an adjacent field. The town would be prepared to loan the old ground and to give them water. The site was about eight minutes' walk from the station. At the annual general meeting Mr. S. P. Sherwood proposed that the invitation from Sudbury be accepted, and this was seconded by Mr. P. M. Browne, and carried unanimously. Sir Cuthbert Quilter was elected president.

A PURITY OF CIDER MOVEMENT

Remarkable progress has been made during the past decade as to meeting the wishes of the general public in the production of cider. In some counties the apple, especially the cider apple, has become the backbone of the tenant farmer, and on some farms the return from the orchards equals that from tho cows. But whilst the English cider-grower has been doing his level best to produce an honest beverage and create a market for the same, it has at the same time opened a very wide door indeed to the faker, much to the detriment alike of the public and the genuine maker. Nearly all the shows that now hold cider exhibitions in connection with them distinctly state that the cider must be pure and subject to analysis. The Bath and West Society most rightly set this matter on foot, and it was perhaps most fitting that the pure cider movement should be inaugurated at the Nottingham meeting, where a resolution was proposed and carried that the Board of Agriculture be requested to take steps to ensure the purity of cider. Matters seemingly fell into abeyance, but at the Swindon meeting of the Bath and West cider growers assembled in force and passed what was practically a vote of censure on the Bath and West Society for not having taken steps to ensure the purity of cider. The rise in the price of cider and the enhanced demand for the same has brought out an increased supply of fakes, some of which do not contain a drop of apple juice whatever. This has been too much for the cider apple grower.

At the Totnes Chamber of Agriculture Mr. Hoare opened a debate on the adulteration of cider. In doing so he referred to the large quantity of so-called cider put on the market in which there was very little apple juice, and in many instances none at all. He considered that the word "cider" belonged entirely to the juice of the apple, and as such the property of growers of apples and producers of ciders. There should be legislation to prevent any sort of concoction being put on the market and called cider, and therefore he considered that cider should come under the operation of the Food and Drugs Act. Mr. Winsor, in seconding, said that almost every other article was protected, and people should not be allowed to supply what had perhaps never seen an apple as cider. Mr. Jas. Hill thought that sweetening might be allowed when the sugar gravity of the cider was low; but he agreed that cider should not be stretched from a pipe into a truck load. Mr. J. R. T. Kingwell did not think they would prejudice the public by letting it be known that cider was pure, as pure cider agreed with most people. The purer they could keep it the more popular it would become. Mr. Hoare, in reply, stated that personally he had no objection to the use of sugar, but what they wanted was to stop making one cask of cider into four by means of water and chemicals. Tho resolution was agreed to.

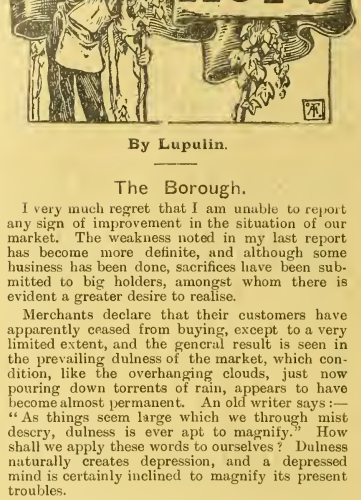
The next public meeting was at the West of England Cider Show, held by the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society at Shepton Mallet, where a cider conference was held under tho presidency of Colonel M. Clerk. There were present Mr. A. E. Brooke Hunt, from the Board of Agriculture, most of the leading cider makers in Somerset, and many from the adjacent counties. The president, in opening the proceedings, said that they were always trying to put something new before the public in the way of agricultural work. Cider makers experienced many difficulties owing to some of the impure things that were placed upon the market as cider; but he thought that if this society, in connection with the County Association and other local societies who were interested in tho subject, put their shoulders to the wheel they would be able to take some steps to secure such legislation as would bar adulterated stuff coming from abroad and being sold as genuine Somerset, Devon, Hereford, or W[illegible]. The secretary of the society, Mr W. C[illegible], then introduced the subject of debate, "[illegible] to secure tho purity of cider." He d[illegible] extent to which medical men w[illegible] mending cider for medicinal p[illegible] their endeavours to secure a good [illegible]. T[illegible] was a difficult one by r[illegible] sophisticated stuff put upon the market without any check. It was highly [illegible] that some steps should [illegible]

purity of cider, and that the credit of the productions of their cider districts should not be destroyed by the concoctions sold as cider. They must keep on trying to get action taken by the Board of Agriculture and the Government.

Mr. Eldred G. F. Walker rose to move a resolution upon the subject as follows:—"That this meeting of cider growers regrets the apparent apathy of the Board of Agriculture as regards securing the purity of cider, and desires that the Board of Agriculture and the Local Government Board be asked to receive a deputation, to urge them to appoint a joint Departmental Committee to define what shall be called cider, the pure juice of the apple, and take steps to prevent other things being sold as cider that do not come within their definition." The mover of the resolution stated that the system of faking had greatly injured the cider industry, and was likely to do more harm in the future than it had done in the past if this faked stuff continued to be put on the market as cider. Amongst the other evils they had to contend with was the addition of salicylic acid to apple juice. This was put in to an incredible extent in some ciders. He thought they had a fair charge against the Board of Agriculture and the Local Government Board that they had taken no steps whatever to stop this injurious faking of an important article of consumption. When these hoards were brought to the point upon the matter, instead of tackling it they ran round the corner. They were down on the milk vendor who sold milk under a standard (which at times it was quite impossible to produce) of the quality demanded, and they were down on the farmer otherwise, but they left the cider faker to do as he pleased. He considered that every possible pressure must be brought to bear upon the Boards to secure purity of cider, by fixing a standard and proceeding against any person who sold stuff which was not pure apple juice. He suggested that a deputation should wait upon the Board of Agriculture to urge their views. Mr. Slatter, Worcester, seconded the resolution. He thoroughly agreed with the suggestions that had been thrown out; the makers of his district would be quite prepared to support the resolution. Mr. Tilley, who rose to support, said that he had very great sympathy with the proposition before them. It was a question that really affected half the farmers in Somerset, for if they were not cider makers themselves they were apple growers, and wanted to sell their fruit to the cider makers. They had to pay heavy duties if they sent their produce abroad, and were subject to many restrictions; but the foreigner could send his faked concoctions into this country without the least trouble, and could thus bring discredit upon the cider industry without anyone interfering.

Mr. A. E. Brooke Hunt, on behalf of the Board of Agriculture, replied that he had been very much interested in the discussion. He thought they were going on in a thoroughly right direction in endeavouring to secure the purity of cider, but he reminded those present that the proper course to adopt was through the law courts. They had recently had before the court a case to define what was whisky, and a similar course must be adopted in the case of cider before anything could be done by the Board he represented. They must have a decision of the law courts as to what constituted cider before they could take any action. It was for the cider makers and the societies interested to take steps to obtain that decision, and if then it was found necessary to take any further action, the case could be promptly brought before the Boards interested. He admitted that there were many things which required to be remedied, but at the present time there was no definition of what was pure cider. (A voice: "Apple juice.") They might say it was pure apple juice, but he contended that their opinion and statement would not define the law on the subject, which only could be done in a test case. He defended the Board of Agriculture from the charge of apathy, and said that in response to a request to various authorities to take steps to have samples of cider taken, they had one case which showed the "cider" to contain about eight times as much of a certain preservative as was recommended by the Committee on the subject of preservatives. Some of these samples could not be described as being cider at all. He again urged that the proper step to take was to secure a test case and then come to the Board.

Mr. Walker was called upon to reply to the various points raised in the discussion. He compared the reply of Mr. Brooke Hunt on behalf of the Board to that of a thorough diplomatist. By this he was reminded of the old farmer's definition given to his son that a diplomatist was like a man trying to walk all round a gate-post. The boy replied: "But how does he manage when the gate is shut?" And this was the farmers' predicament. How could the Board expect a body of poor men to fight a case to ease it from its present responsibilities? In this respect they are further hampered by the absolute ignorance of the general public as to the various concoctions and fakes that are foisted upon them as cider.



By Lupulin.

The Borough.

I very much regret that I am unable to report any sign of improvement in the situation of our market. The weakness noted in my last report has become more definite, and although some business has been done, sacrifices have been submitted to big holders, amongst whom there is evident a greater desire to realise.

Merchants declare that their customers have apparently ceased from buying, except to a very limited extent, and the general result is seen in the prevailing dulness of the market, which condition, like the overhanging clouds, just now pouring down torrents of rain, appears to have become almost permanent. An old writer says:—"As things seem large which we through mist descry, dulness is ever apt to magnify." How shall we apply these words to ourselves? Dulness naturally creates depression, and a depressed mind is certainly inclined to magnify its present troubles.

Most of the traders with whom I have recently spoken seem to be rather inclined to take this view of our prospects. They point to the slackness of demand and the readiness of holders to accept lower bids; they also speak somewhat despondently of the probabilities of large arrivals from America and the Continent, and deplore the gloom which surrounds the outlook. But some of them are more sanguine, and their magnification of the view that appears through the mist takes the direction of possible dispersion of the clouds, the reappearance of the sunshine of active business, and the consequent revival of better values. They discredit the reports of the great American surplus, anticipating that the increased consumption of beer in the United States will require a larger quantity of hops than has been calculated for. For my own part, while my hopes and desires are for the brighter aspect of the future, my fears are on the other side.

To be honest, I am compelled to admit, however unwillingly, that if any reliance is to be attached to the information before me, the outlook is far from satisfactory or encouraging, and I would respectfully repeat my suggestion that English growers will be well advised if they closely scan the course of events from day to day, and are on the alert to seize any opportunity for business that is fairly favourable. The best prices they can now obtain cannot be remunerative, but is it not better for them to "cut their losses" now than to risk further depreciation by postponement of the evil day.

It is, I know, but poor consolation to growers to know that they are not alone in their disappointments. The season has thus far been unprofitable to all concerned. Factors commissions are diminished by the small crop and the low prices, while office and warehouse expenses have seriously increased. Merchants, subject to keen and somewhat unscrupulous foreign competition, are hampered by the small volume of business, their outlay incurred by seeking for orders being exceptionally heavy, and their other current charges fully up to the average. Therefore I cannot understand why they should be accused of "bearing" the market, when it is manifestly to their interest to support and strengthen it. The present state of things has been brought about by causes over which neither growers, factors, merchants, nor brewers can have had any control.

The most important, as far as the English industry is concerned, are excessive production of hops all over the world, diminished consumption in England, and the facilities afforded to brewers by cold storage. These are facts that cannot be disputed, and when to these is added, the freedom enjoyed by foreign producers in our markets. We are provided with sufficient explanation of the annoyances from which our planters have suffered this season. Whether they can be modified in our future experience is a problem that remains to be solved. In the meantime we cannot immediately get rid of them, and can only suffer and be strong in resolution to make the best of such very trying circumstances.

Foreign Hop News.

America.

The following extract from a letter received this week from friends in Washington gives the position on the other side at the beginning of this month:—"We note what you say regarding your market, and are sorry that we can give you no encouraging news from this side. The crop in the United States came down heavier than was expected.

"The quality in Oregon and Washington is very poor. There has been a little buying for export, but it seems to have slackened off. American brewers are absolutely indifferent, it is impossible to interest them at any price. Many dealers are offering hops for December and January delivery at 13 to 14 cents. These would have to be purchased at 10 cents or under to show a profit. On account of the brewers not buying, dealers will not operate, and the grower finds it impossible to get an offer.

Growers seem to feel that this will be a low-priced year, and we are afraid that they will become panic stricken soon. If they do, there is no telling how low hops will go. We have 150,000 bales more on this side than we need, and we look for heavy consignments to go forward to England on low advances, and while this will not relieve the situation here, it will have an effect on your market."

Nuremburg.

The recent course of business does not show much change. A healthy demand continues both for home consumption and exportation. From November 1 to 8 the arrivals amounted to 4,550 bales, and the sales reached 5,400 bales, stocks being thus reduced by 850 bales. This result is considered very satisfactory.

Values have remained very steady, merchants being very firm in their quotations, while buyers do not show any inclination to pay higher prices than the present currency. Best green tops are quoted and selling at 105s. to 115s., medium qualities at 85s. to 95s., and the lower grades at 60s. to 75s. It must be remembered that these figures are for partially dried hops, which cost from 20s. to 25s. more to finish and bale. Latest advices report the market generally firm, especially for hops of good colour.

Belgium.

The market is very quiet, with a slight tendency towards reduction of values. There is but a small demand, either for local consumption or for exportation. Latest quotations are 67½ francs for Poperinghes, and 72½ francs for Alosts.

Saaz (Bohemia).

A steady business at the rate of about 100 bales daily has continued during the last three weeks. The principal buyers are local, as comparatively few hops are being sold to Germany.

The improved position of the Nuremberg market has assisted in hardening the value of our growths, and recent quotations are 165s. to 175s. for best; 150s. to 160s. for mediums; and 135s. to 145s. for the lower sorts. The amount of business already done has, it is estimated, disposed of fully three-fourths of the crop.

Russia.

Buyers have been active, and values of Polish hops of best quality have reached a price equal to 155s. per cwt. Medium hops are selling at 135s., but the lower grades, such as are sold for exportation, can be obtained as low as 9 to 10 roubles per lb., equal to 85s. to 90s. per cwt.

The forthcoming exhibition of the West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Society, according to present indications, promises to be one of the most successful yet held. Last year's show was voted to be a good one, but the display which takes place in the Plymouth Market on December 12 and 13 will comprise nine additional classes, and a large increase in exhibits. The total prizes amount to £450, and the entries close on November 24. The cattle will probably make a fine display, and some additional encouragement to exhibitors of sheep is given in the provision of another Exmoor class, and the addition of third prizes in all the classes. An extra cup, of the value of £5 5s., is also given by Messrs. Mortimer Brothers, Plymouth, for the best pen of sheep.

The first of the Thirsk Martinmas hirings took place on Monday in fine weather, and was largely attended by both male and female servants. As a rule farmers in this portion of North Yorkshire are not quite so early with their ploughing and sowing as last year, and consequently situations were better to obtain at slightly advanced rates. Female servants for farmhouse were rather scarce, girls seeming to prefer town places to the country. Hinds with wife to attend poultry, with cottage, milk, and potatoes found, 18s. to 19s. per week; capable farm foremen, £26 to £30; head lads and horsemen, £17 10s. to £18 10s.; farm boys, £7 to £12; farmhouse head girls, £20 to £21; second hands, £15 to £16; cooks for town places, £20 to £22; general servants, £13 10s to £15; housemaids and chambermaids, £11 10s. to £13; nurses, £10 to £12; under nurses, first time out, £5 10s. to £7 10s. for twelve months.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Subscriber's Opinion of the "Mark Lane Express."

SIR,—Your's this morning, *re* MARK LANE EXPRESS, to members of Lincolnshire Farmers' Union at a low rate. I have pleasure in ordering same, and enclose postal order in payment of subscription for same, to be sent me for twelve months. Please acknowledge. I am sure to get your paper every week will be one of the advantages farmers reap by joining the Union.

I may say I took your paper for years, and know it to be one of the best—if not the best—of its kind. I only left off taking same some time back, as I gave up a large bit of rented land, and now only farm my own smaller farm, and, times being bad with farming, we then cut off all expenses we could. As I have said, knowing it in the past as I did, I am sure members will do well to accept your offer.—Yours truly, R. M. COLE.

Old Hall, Roxholm, Sleaford,
November 13, 1906.

Prevention of Butter Fraud in the Netherlands.

SIR,—A Government Bill has just been introduced in the Parliament of the Netherlands, which contains provisions for the better prevention of frauds in the butter trade.

As the trade in this article between Great Britain and the Netherlands becomes more extensive every year the Bill has some importance for your readers, and I should therefore feel obliged if you could find room in your columns for the enclosed synopsis. H. S. J. MAAS.

Consul-General for the Netherlands.
Netherlands Consulate General for
Great Britain and Ireland,
12, Blomfield Street, London, E.C.,
November 7, 1906.

Commercial butter must contain a certain percentage of fat, to be fixed by Royal decree.

Margarine shall not indicate a higher saturation figure than 10 for the volatile fatty acids contained in it.

The manufacturers of margarine, and of margarine and butter together, are registered.

Manufacturers of margarine shall not deliver or forward butter, or store butter, for the purpose of being forwarded.

In the places where butter is made and in spaces communicating therewith, no margarine may be present, nor any other fat which could be mixed with butter.

Those who manufacture margarine as well as butter are made subject to special and continual Government supervision as regards the places where butter is made and stored. They have themselves to pay the expense of this supervision.

The places where butter is made and stored shall be separated from those where margarine is made and stored.

Traders and shopkeepers who make mixtures of butter with any other fat are considered to be manufacturers of margarine.

The officers whose special duty is to see that this law is duly observed are authorised at all times to enter the places where butter, margarine, and other foreign fats are manufactured, and also the places used for storage by the manufacturers concerned. They can also take samples in all such places.

The same authority is given as regards shops, auction rooms, places used for storage and other spaces where butter, margarine, or other fats are present or are supposed to be present, and also as regards the means of conveyance.

A similar authority is given as regards places where the said fats are manufactured to chemists entrusted with the making of analyses for judicial purposes.

The Bill contains a stipulation giving power to prepare regulations as regards the importation of foreign butters.

Wilful contraventions of the principal provisions of this law are punishable with imprisonment only.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons' Potato Trials.

SIR,—The trials of potatoes undertaken by Messrs. Sutton and Sons at Reading have attracted widespread attention in agricultural circles.

The comparative trial of South of England, Lincolnshire, Scotch and Irish grown seeds resulting in so decisive a verdict in favour of the Irish seed, seems to be regarded as the most important and far-reaching of the series.

It was suggested as a reason for this supremacy that possibly the Irish seed was one year's seed from Scotland. This canny innuendo was, however, neatly countered by the comment of Mr. Arthur Sutton that evidently it had been improved on the journey.

Having had the honour of contributing the Irish seed of five out of the eight varieties tested, four of which came out on top, and having been unable to accept Messrs. Sutton and Sons' kind invitation to be present at their demonstration, when the facts could have been stated, I beg to ask your kind permission to make the necessary explanation now.

The seed of Up-to-Date supplied had been grown here for the three previous years, that of Duchess of Cornwall, King Edward VII., and British Queen for two years, and Sutton's Ninetyfold (seed direct from Sutton's) for one year.

The following table of results may prove of interest:—

Variety.	Irish. lb.	Scotch. lb.	Lincolnshire. lb.	South of England. lb.
Up-to-Date	132	76	100	33
Duchess of Cornwall	112	101	85	27
Sutton's Ninetyfold	98	65	53	10
King Edward VII.	81	59	59	22
British Queen.....	105	130	111	58
Totals.....	528	431	408	150

The supremacy of the Irish-grown seed in this unquestionable test, supplemented as it has been by similarly marked success in other public English trials—notably those of the Harper-Adams Agricultural College in 1906, and of the Surrey County Education Committee in 1905 and 1906 (for both of which I also supplied the Irish seed)—is a factor of much importance to Ireland.

Irish farmers should in the words of the *Farmers' Gazette* now turn their energies to the great market for the disposal of large quantities of sound, reliable potato seed which lies open before them, and it is entirely dependent on their own tact and enterprise whether they shall go in and take possession of the advantages offered.

As was wittily said at the Sutton demonstration, "the Irish growers have the ball at their feet if they had only elbow grease enough to kick it."

Unfortunately for the average Irish farmer there appears to be only potato—the worn-out champion. This, in spite of constant and widespread failure, he still clings to tenaciously, and he will doubtless continue to grow it long after it has caused his death from starvation.

Your obedient servant,
J. F. WILLIAMSON.

Summer Hill, Mallow, co. Cork,
November 9, 1906.

Home or Foreign Meat for the Army.

SIR,—I cannot quite make out how Mr. Alfred Welch gets at his figures to prove that if the Government only had home-grown meat for the soldiers that the best part of a million and a-half more money would be spent in this country than if foreign meat was allowed to be partly or entirely used. How would it make this million and a-half more meat be made at home? So far as my ideas go there would not be a ha'porth more meat made at home. Just as much money would be sent to the wretched foreigner, as we must have his stuff, because we do not grow enough for ourselves, and you cannot shut it out if you would, for the people would not let you, much as you might like to put the money into the landlords' and tenants' pockets after you have taken it out of the poor consumers' purse. It seems to me rot to talk about this wise change stopping a million aud a-half of money being made by our farmers and circulated. It would not do anything of the sort. Five years since, when the new rule was made, beef did not go up, and lately it did not go down.

November 16, 1906. BUTCHER.

At the ploughing match of the North Kent Agricultural Association, held near Dartford on November 1, eight of the ten first prizes were won with the Howard ploughs.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries are informed that a horticultural exhibition will be held at Mannheim, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, from May to October, 1907. A copy of the provisional programme can be seen at the offices of the Board, 4, Whitehall Place, S.W.

The principal hiring fair for West Cumberland is that at Cockermouth, and this took place on Monday, when there was an average attendance of both masters and servants. The latter asked wages that farmers were indisposed to pay, and the hiring was in consequence slow. Experienced men obtained from £14 to £18—in one case £20 was offered and refused by a head man—second class men from £11 to £14; lads from £8 to £10; and boys from £3 to £7, with board and lodgings in each case. Girls were in great demand; and experienced servants readily obtained from £9 to £11; younger girls from £6 to £9; and first place girls from £3 to £5.

Midland Notes.

IT can have been no surprise to anybody to hear of floods in the low-lying districts. As one has travelled through the country it has been common lately to see water lying between the ridges and furrows wherever the land is inclined to be at all heavy, so it was only in accordance with expectation to find meadows round Nuneaton flooded by the River Anker, or to hear of fields under water and impassable roads in the Alcester district. By all accounts, Northamptonshire and Staffordshire have fared especially badly, and a Stafford friend tells me of inundations in the Penkridge district and elsewhere. However, the floods are subsiding now, so we are hopeful we have seen the last of such things for a while.

THERE is one member of the R.A.S.E. council who will be genuinely glad, I am sure, at the offer of prizes for well-cultivated farms in Lincolnshire, and that is Mr. Glover, the Warwickshire representative, who has tried so hard to get the society to offer such prizes once again on its own account.

ONE can well understand the present reluctance to incur any extra expense, even one which would make so many friends among enlightened and progressive tenant farmers. But if the society itself cannot find the money could not our Midland hunts follow the example now set them by the Belvoir, Brocklesby, Burton, Blankney, and Southwold? There is no scarcity of funds among the wealthy and fashionable followers of the Leicestershire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire packs, and the compliment and encouragement would be appreciated by Midland farmers, who are often keen sportsmen even when they cannot afford to follow the chase themselves, and are very good in the way of fox preservation and taking down of wire.

IS it not worth while, by the way, for friends of the Royal Agricultural Society in Warwickshire to make a special effort just now to attract now local subscribers? At present the county has but one representative on the council, but with only forty more members it would be entitled to two, and two council or committeemen who can agree well and work in harmony with one another can exert a great deal of influence.

THE sheep dipping order, like the swine fever regulations, finds its enemies and makes some grumblers; but unlike the swine fever restrictions it does seem to be working well and fulfilling its purpose. Worcestershire has never been much of a county for sheep scab—the outbreaks during the three past years were three, nine, and two respectively. But even here there is no disposition to put obstacles in the way of enforcing what is recognised as a desirable and useful order, so that the chief constable at Worcester is able to report the dippings of nearly 140,000 sheep this year. As the total head of sheep in the county, including those in county boroughs, numbered under 150,000 when the last returns were made up, it will be seen that Worcestershire farmers are readily complying with the demands made upon them. They have their reward, such as it is, in the fact that only one solitary outbreak of scab has taken place in the county this year.

THE Earl of Denbigh's speech on sugar-beet growing is only one manifestation among many of the interest which is being taken in this question in various parts of the Midlands. Among others who have tried the crop is the Rev. E. Muckleston, of Haseley Rectory, whose roots were grown this season in 192 days, following potatoes, on a light, sandy Warwickshire soil, and comparing in quality very favourably with German beet. There are farmers in Leicestershire also who would like to get some of their pastures back to arable, and seem to think that sugar beet might give them the opportunity if only capital could be attracted to the industry by a certainty that the foreign bounties would not be reimposed. It is to be hoped that when the Central Chamber comes to consider the subject again it will see the need of speaking out loud and clear.

THE Worcestershire County Council is showing an active interest in the fruit growing industry by appointing an expert from the South-Eastern Agricultural College to conduct spraying experiments in the county. The question of producing a really efficient spraying fluid, it may be added, has also been engaging the attention of the authorities at Birmingham University for some time past, and it is worth noting that they have found soda and potash much better than caustic soda and soft soap, but inferior to a strong solution of caustic soda and paraffin emulsion. It is expected that this last preparation will kill the red spider as well as the eggs of all aphids.

November 15, 1906.

Northern Notes.

A PREJUDICE has sprung up in the North—perhaps its growth has been somewhat slow—against the use of double-furrow ploughs. Now it stands to reason that this implement is not only a labour-saver, but also an economiser of horse flesh. A double-furrow plough performs the work of two single ploughs, and can be drawn by three horses against the pair of horses attached to a single one. One ploughboy can also do the work which would in the case of single ploughs require two to perform. How the prejudice has grown up one does not know. The "handling" of a double-furrow plough may test the stamina of the follower more severely, but that is not altogether the reason for the abandonment of a very useful implement and labour saver, many of which were to be seen lying idle in the sheds this autumn.

THE most difficult thing to sell just now is arable land. Pasture land in the vicinity of a town realises a good price, and can be let at anything up to £5 an acre. An old hall at Wold Newton (which is eight miles from a railway), with a considerable number of acres, was recently offered for sale by auction and withdrawn because the reserve was not reached. It has since been disposed of privately. The hall was for years the abode of an eccentric gentleman named Cadman, who wore long curls, and who figures in the picture representing the Spa, when our King (then the Prince of Wales) was a visitor. The same gentleman who has purchased Wold Newton Hall has, it is said, also bought Wold Cottage, which has stood empty for fifteen years.

THIS house was once the abode of Major Topham, a London editor and man of the world, who settled down for the last thirty years of his life in Yorkshire. His case shows that clever men will do well anywhere, for having been George III. tip-top adjutant (a play upon his name) and the successful editor of the *World*, he became known as the owner of the best dog in the north of England, and his daughters were said to be the first horse-women in Yorkshire. One would fain hope that the purchase of this estate betokens a return of that love of country life of which Major Topham was such an advocate.

COUNTRY estates being at a discount, it will readily be understood that the landlords in possession of "broad" acres are in no wise eager to spend money on cottage property. There is, besides, a slackness on the part of local authorities to deal with the housing problem. The great obstacle to reform is the apathy of local authorities. Whether a man's land is paying a big interest or a small one, there is a moral obligation on his part to provide decent dwellings for those who labour on the estate, and without whose aid the land could not be worked to profit. Some cases of overcrowding come to light occasionally in our villages which are simply appalling.

ONE within our cognisance engaged the attention of a Yorkshire bench of magistrates. The case occurred in a village which is regarded as poor, and is always overstocked with labourers. The family consisted of parents and six children, and their sleeping apartment consisted of a hole in the roof (over a room about 11 ft. square), reached by a step ladder, and containing just over 500 cubic feet of air space. The owner had tried but failed to eject the family, as they paid no rent, and the premises, he stated had been pulled to pieces. One could hardly conceive of such a dwelling in a village set in the midst of a pure atmosphere. Many cases of overcrowding, it was stated, are to be found in the same rural district. Can one be surprised that where it is impossible to respect the decencies of life immorality is rampant?

DURHAM County Council has boldly tackled the overcrowding question in reference to the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing at Usworth. The local district council had refused to put in force the Housing of the Working Classes Act, and the Health Committee of the larger body has got a resolution through the council, and it is proposed to build fifty houses, at a cost of about £200 each. The utter dreariness of some Durham colliery villages is appalling, with their monotonous rows of cottages built under the shadows of the pit-heads and the heaps of waste. The life and surroundings of the agricultural labourer are as heaven in comparison with those of the coal-winner.

THE hirings—some yearly, others half-yearly—are now, as we say, in "full swing." The farmers would be well pleased to effect a saving on their wage bill, which they affirm is too high, as prices of farm produce are at present relatively low. A good hand is, however, worth full market value, and the policy is a mistaken one that puts up with an inferior servant because he is obtainable for a bit less money. Young boys with a year of service added to their boyhood are apparently scarce, and youngsters fresh from school are less plentiful than usual. The cry of the employer is that the age for leaving school is two years above what it ought to be.

A GREAT fight over the abattoir question has ended at Hull in favour of the proposal of a committee to erect a public slaughter-house. The "trade" has fought against it strenuously in spite of public opinion declaring favourably towards the scheme, which, it is estimated, can be carried out at a cost of under £50,000. The butchers are not to be compelled to use the abattoir, and have done all in their power to defeat the scheme. More's the pity, in face of the authenticated statements of councillors about the nuisances private slaughter-houses are in Hull. Photographs were produced in the council chamber showing their filthy condition. The great majority of slaughter-houses were not constructed for the purpose, and the way in which they are distributed all over the city makes adequate inspection of the meat supply impossible.

November 16, 1906.

OBITUARY.

Mr. A. Dudley Clarke.

The death is announced of Mr. Alfred Dudley Clarke, fifty-seven, agent of the Abberley estates, and a well-known agriculturist and authority on farm buildings. He was a former president of the Worcestershire Agricultural Society, and carried out new arrangements with tenants and various improvements for the late Duke of Marlborough on the Blenheim estate. He won the Royal Agricultural Society's medal for designs of farm buildings.

Agricultural Imports.

The following account shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended November 10, 1906. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

ANIMALS (living).—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (11,657), 9,735; sheep and lambs (757), 1,063; horses (381), 418.

FRESH MEAT (cwt.).—Beef (105,890), 70,145; mutton (49,927), 36,295; pork (11,460), 11,365.

SALTED OR PRESERVED MEAT (cwt.).—Bacon (97,388), 103,814; beef (3,836), 2,401; hams (26,630), 17,077; pork (2,623), 3,766; meat, salted or fresh (12,282), 8,690; meat, preserved (12,235), 2,443.

DAIRY PRODUCE (cwt.).—Butter (72,528), 67,084; margarine (19,280), 18,825; cheese, (69,599), 39,589; milk, fresh (—), —; milk, cream (94), 74; milk, condensed (22,691), 14,674; milk preserved (138), 187.

EGGS (Great hundreds).—(488,004), 453,591; poultry (value £) (6,108), 7,244; game (value £) (1,922), 2,479; rabbits, dead (not tinned) (cwt.) (3,153), 40,233; lard (cwt.) (46,369), 31,073.

CORN, GRAIN, MEAL AND FLOUR (cwt.).—Wheat (1,558,700), 1,239,000; wheat meal and flour (259,600), 304,100; barley (459,400), 660,300; oats, (129,700), 285,700; peas (55,750), 116,380; beans (38,990), 4,330; maize or Indian corn (547,400), 941,500.

FRUITS, RAW (cwt.).—Apples (134,641), 195,347; grapes (9,700), 6,378; pears (11,695), 8,845.

HAY (tons).—(2,900), 2,671; straw (tons) (476), 708; moss litter (tons) (1,842), 1,675; hops, (cwt.) (4,164), 12,665; locust beans (cwt.) (700), 31,100.

VEGETABLES (RAW). — Onions (bushel) (271,864), 181,536; potatoes (cwt.) (29,813), 19,388; tomatoes (cwt.) (6,662), 7,586.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Mr. Perry, of the Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield, has now issued an abridged catalogue of trees and shrubs and a new catalogue of border and rock plants, which can be commended to all gardeners.

At Rugby horse fair, last week, there was a capital trade in heavy horses, the pick of which made from £55 to £65. Young animals found a ready sale, yearlings making up to about £25 and two-year-olds £35. Welsh ponies made up to £20.

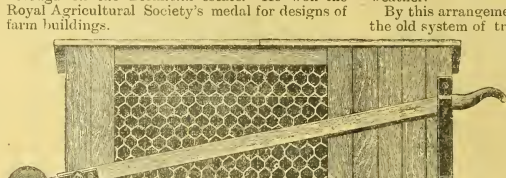
POULTRY.

Patent Lever Shafts for Poultry Houses, &c.

Poultry breeders who have movable coops will appreciate the invention of Mr. J. Parker, Moss House, Baguley, near Altrincham—namely, patent lever shafts which, when affixed to coops, poultry-houses, rabbit hutches, &c., allow of these being shifted from place to place with the greatest ease. Our illustration shows better than can be described the nature of the invention, but we may add that these patent shafts have each an independent wheel, and are fixed by a pivot passing through the shaft and side of the coop at a point determined by the length of the coop, to give the necessary angle to the wheels when the shafts are raised or lowered.

By lifting the handles the coop is raised, practically horizontally, for wheeling, and on handles being lowered the wheels rise automatically off the ground, leaving the coop flat on the grass. Fowl houses with raised floors by means of these shafts can be deposited flat on the ground, and thus afford a shelter from every wind that blows. The wheels rising off the ground, never get stuck in mud to rot. Being independent these patent lever shafts can be affixed to any ordinary length or width of hutch or coop, and in the case of very wide structures are fitted with crossbar so as to be easily manageable, without arm-stretching, to embrace the handles. The hutches or coops can be wheeled through any ordinary doorway, and can, therefore, be readily transported from the ground to any shed when desired in wintry weather.

By this arrangement it will be readily seen that the old system of trailing coops about, or having two persons to lift the same whenever a change of ground was requisite, is entirely superseded, and the man who wishes to attend to his own stock can now do so with the greatest despatch, without any assistance whatever, and without fear of injury either to the coop or its inmates.



PARKER'S PATENT LEVER SHAFTS.

In conclusion we may add that the inventor, being a practical rabbit and poultry farmer, has proved their utility in his own experience. He manufactures coops, houses, shelters, &c., and with each has practically given his patent free, as a comparison of his prices with others will show.

The Colony System.

In order to test the colony system for keeping laying and breeding fowls and of raising chickens, as described in Mr. Edward Brown's "Report on the Poultry Industry in America," recently published by the National Poultry Organisation Society, arrangements have been made for an extended experiment on the college farms at Reading. By these it is hoped to learn how far the system is practicable in this country. Combined therewith experiments in feeding will be carried out, and students taking the various courses will share in the work. Quarterly reports as to results of these experiments will be issued.

DAIRY.

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

At Lancaster cheese fair on Tuesday, sixty-six dairies and 1,218 cheeses were offered, compared with fifty-seven and 1,006 respectively at the last fair. Prices were higher and the market brisk, the quality generally being very good. The highest price realised was 75s. per cwt., other prices ranging from 68s. to 72s., and the lowest was 65s.

Whitchurch Dairy Show.

The eighteenth annual show of the Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association was held in the Market Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday. The bulk of the cheese on this occasion was not quite so large as at some former shows, but the entries, numbering over 450 for cheese alone, easily established a new record, the previous best total being that of 1902, which was considered a phenomenal year. The prize money, too, was greater this year than ever before, the amount exceeding £360. As regards the quality, several judges stated that they had not adjudicated on finer or more uniform cheese for a length of time. Mr. Robert Bourne, of Bickerton, Malpas, secured the coveted championship gold medal, presented by the British Dairy Farmers' Association for the best lot of cheese in the show, and he also secured the silver cup of the local association for the best lot of cheese in the local classes.

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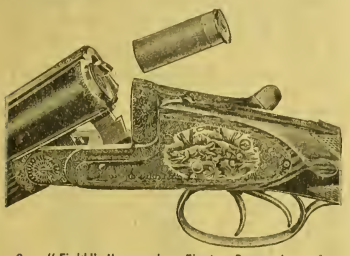

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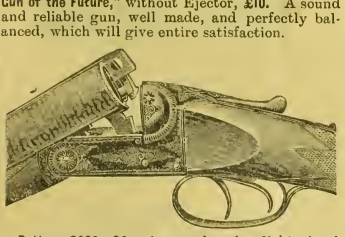

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The Tenant Right Valuers' Association and the Land Tenures Bill.

On Thursday Lord Carrington received a deputation on the subject of the Land Tenure Bill at the Board of Agriculture offices from the Tenant Right Valuers' Association, representing several associations.

The deputation was introduced by Sir J. F. Rolleston, who said that it was not well to introduce legislation which might embitter and strain the relations between landlord and tenant.

Lord Carrington, in reply to the deputation, stated that he did not think there was very much between him and the deputation. There was no great cause for apprehension in regard to the proposed single arbitrator, because he would not be called upon until the landlords and tenants were unable to come to an agreement. He denied that his intention was to spoil the sport, but what he wanted to do in the wing game clause was to prevent game being dumped down without proper compensation on estates in Chancery or insolvency. In regard to the point raised for recovery from an adjoining owner, the object of the Bill was to enable the tenant to recover from his landlord, who in turn could recover from an adjoining owner. Clause 5 was the crux of the question, and he could not understand the outcry of robbery, dual ownership, and Socialism. A tenant would have the right to recover expenses in the case of harsh removal, but there were "no sentimental damages" allowed. He could not understand the hullabaloo about the compensation clause.

Webb and Sons' Root Competition.

The awards in the annual competition for the valuable prizes offered by Webb and Sons, the King's seedsmen, Wordsley, Stourbridge, for root crops grown from their seeds and with the aid of their special manure, have just been made by the judges, viz. :—Mr. J. Brown, Easthampstead Park Farm, Wokingham, Berks; Mr. E. T. Learner, Burgh, Aylsham, Norfolk; Mr. J. B. Ball, Knightley House, Eccleshall, Staffs; and the following is a copy of their awards :—

District 1.—Five acres of Webbs' swedes, open to the counties of Salop, Stafford, Montgomery, Warwick, and Leicester. First prize, £15 15s., Mr. Richard Timmis, Podmore, Eccleshall, Staffs, 43 tons 2 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre; second prize, £10 10s., Mr. Septimus Timmis, Charnes Old Hall, Ecclesdall, Staffs, 40 tons per acre; third prize, £5 5s., Exors. of the late Mr. Alfred Hocknell, Norton House, Stone, Staffs, 36 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. George Bagnall, Acton Mill Farm, Stafford, 60 tons 5 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. per acre.

District 2.—Five acres of Webbs' Swede, open to the counties of Hereford, Monmouth, Brecon, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke. First prize, £15 15s, Mr. J. W. Griffiths, Penally, Pembroke, 36 tons 2 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. J. R. Thomas, Warren's Farm, Pembroke, 35 tons 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre. Two acres of Webbs' Mangold. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. R. Templeton, Blackweir Farm, Cardiff, 53 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre.

District 3.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Oxon, Berks, Bucks, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, Worcester, and Gloucester. First prize, £15 15s., Mr. D. Sabin, Sibford, Banbury, 28 tons 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s, Mr. Alfred Brown, Millbrook, Southampton, 28 tons 5 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold, open to the counties of Oxon, Berks, Bucks, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, and Worcester. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. T. W. Purser, Tan House, Colnbrook, Slough, 56 tons per acre.

District 4.—Two acres of Webbs' mangold, open to the county of Gloucester. Prize, £5 5s., Mr. Alfred Joyce, Hanley Farm, Chepstow, 48 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre.

District 5.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the county of York. First prize, £10 10s., Mr.

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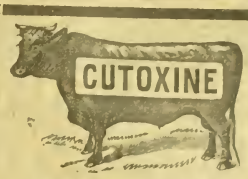

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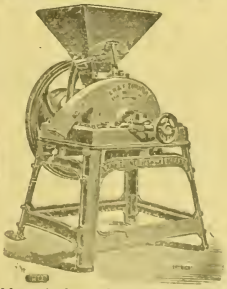

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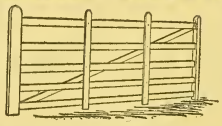

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District 6.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. Prize, £10 10s, E. T. Leorner, Esq., Burgh, Aylsham, Norfolk, 30 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £10 10s., S. R. Nightingale, Esq., Thurne, Great Yarmouth, 61 tons 14 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. per acre.

District 7.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Bedford, Cambridge, Cornwall, Cumberland, Cheshire, Derby, Devon, Dorset, Durham, Essex, Herts, Huntingdon, Kent, Lancaster, Lincoln, Middlesex, Northumberland, Notts, Northampton, Rutland, Somerset, Sussex, Westmoreland, Cardigan, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Radnor. First prize, £15 15s., Mr. W. Little, Oulton Hall, Wigton, Cumberland, 50 tons per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr James Wood, The Bank Farm, Wigton, Cumberland, 49 tons 6 cwt. 8 lb. per acre. Two acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. W. Emberton, Doddington Farm, Nantwich, 70 tons 12 cwt. 16 lb. per acre.

District 8.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Roxburgh, Haddington, Berwick, Edinburgh, and Linlithgow. First prize, £10 10s, Mr. S. Ross, Turniedykes, Patshead, Dalkeith, 39 tons 2 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. J. S. Dickson, Dunehead, Loanhead, 35 tons per acre.

District 9.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the county of Perth. First prize, £10 10s., Mr. R. Hope, Mains of Huntingtower, Perth, 38 tons per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. D. Stuart, Mains of Castle Huntley, Longforgan, 33 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre.

District 10.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Forfar, Fife, and Kinross. First prize, £10 10s., Mr. Thomas Walker, Easter Balgarvie, Cupar, 38 tons 5 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. per acre; second prize, £5 5s., Mr. J. G. Scott, Kinpurney Farm, Newtyle, Coupar Angus, 35 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre.

District 11.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Aberdeen, Banff, Kincardine, Inverness, Moray, and Elgin. Prize, £10 10s., Mr. James Scott, Earnhill, Forres, 38 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre.

District 12.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Dumfries, Kircudbright, and Wigtown. Prize, £10 10s; Mr. J. Morton, Auldbeck, Whithorn, 49 tons 8 cwt. per acre.

District 14.—Three acres of Webbs' swede, open to the county of Ayr. Prize, £10 10s.; Mr. N. McNaughton, Laigh Glengall Farm, Ayr, 49 tons 7 cwts. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre.

District 15.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the counties of Peebles and Lanark. Prize, £5 5s; Mr. James Patrick, Mailingshead, Peebles, 34 tons 12 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre. Five acres of Webbs' yellow turnips. Prize, £5 5s.; Mr. George Findlater, Jerviswood Mains, Lanark, 49 tons 12 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, recently shipped per s.s. *Lakonia* of the Donaldson Line from Glasgow, on account of Mr. Robert Miller, a choice selection of fifty in-lamb Hampshire shearling ewes, bred by Mr. G. L. Dean, of Honnington, and ten Shropshire shearling ewes, bred by Mr. S. F. M. Nevett and Mr. T. Davies, in-lamb to high-class sires.

At Darlington November Fair, held on the 10th inst., there was not such a large show of lean cattle as on most former occasions, and the sale was slow, whilst prices were rather weak. English bullocks of the best class made £11 to £13, heifers £10 to £12 10s., and younger cattle £7 10s. upwards. In the Irish department two-year-olds and upwards made £10 to £12, and younger cattle £6 to £8 each. The show of horses was small, and with few exceptions the quality was poor. A few draught horses made £30 to £40, but the bulk were £18 to £25 each. Hacks were scarce, and realised £18 to £25. Ponies were also few, and ranged from £10 to £14 each. There was only a moderate demand for animals of any class.

Carlisle Martinmas Hirings took place on the 10th inst., and were largely attended by all classes of servants except the best men and women and girls, who were scarce. There was a limited attendance of farmers, and the supply of labour was in excess of the demand. Wages were easier for all but the best men and women. Experienced men, capable of looking after stock, obtained up to £15 and £16 for the half year, which expires at Whitsuntide; second men, accustomed to ploughing, received from £10 to £12 or £13; strong lads £7 to £9, and younger lads from £4 to £5, according to age and strength. The best women were engaged at from £10 to £12 and £13, less experienced £8 to £9, and girls from £4 upwards, according to age. In all cases board and lodgings are provided in the farmhouses.

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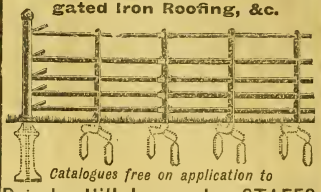

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Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6			—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ..	—	—	—	13 0	—	—		—	—		—		—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—		—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0			—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—		1 2	—		1 3	1 3			—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—			—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 1

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Improving Meadows and Pastures.

In connection with this important matter, the National Agricultural Society of Germany have sent out to all their members a circular, the contents of which are equally applicable to this country. It is pointed out that the best time for applying fertilisers is from the present time up to the middle or end of February. For meadows, phosphate of lime and potash form the chief requirement, and a regular annual application to all meadows of ordinary character is very advantageous.

The phosphate of lime can be applied either in the form of basic slag or superphosphate, whichever is locally cheaper, and on soil rich in humus bone flour or bone ash can be applied with much benefit.

The potash can be best applied as kainit, excepting where the cost of carriage is very heavy, and then the more concentrated sulphate of potash should be used.

The application of phosphate and potash not only increases bulk of yield, but also greatly improves the nourishing quality of the yield on all ordinary soils. The exception is grass on heavy clay, which sometimes does not respond to dressings of fertilisers. On such doubtful soils small experiments should be made to test the effect of fertilisers before any heavy expense is incurred. For the most part it is not profitable to apply nitrogen, at the present high prices, to meadows, except perhaps 1 cwt. nitrate of soda in the spring or the same quantity of sulphate of ammonia in the autumn if the grass is poor from the soil being impoverished.

An ordinary crop of 1½ tons of hay takes from the soil 60 lb. of potash, 12 lb. phosphoric acid, and 49 lb. of nitrogen.

In conclusion, the circular calls attention to the unwelcome circumstance that the prices of almost every fertilising material are moving upwards, and members are recommended not to postpone securing without much delay the approximate quantities they expect to require.

What is the Best Time to Sow Wheat?

This is a query often put forward but difficult to answer in any categorical manner, because there can be no fixed rule on a subject which is dependent on so many factors. On chalky, light soils, subject to drought, the operation should be done early in autumn, because the plant has to hurry up in its growth before the little moisture in the soil is exhausted in May or June. On deeper soils, which retain more moisture, the sowing may be delayed, according to convenience, until later in the autumn or early winter, as there is not the same risk of drought, and the crop has more time to develop to fruitful maturity. The variety of grain has also to be considered, early varieties should be sown somewhat late. But, after all, where there are so many different points to consider, it must be left to each grower to judge from local experience and local conditions what is the best time. Before all things, however, the grower should be careful to select good seed.

Analysis of Fresh Sea Weed.

Water	63·49
Organic matter ...	27·93
Ash or mineral matter ...	8·58
	100·00
Nitrogen	0·466
Phosphoric acid ...	0·108
Potash	2·025

The value of sea-weed as a fertiliser is due to its large percentage of potash and the readiness with which the organic matter decomposes in the soil, liberating the constituents in forms available to crops.

Maize Meal for Pigs.

The Association of Pork Butchers in Holland have recently published the results of some trials conducted at several Government experimental stations with the object of testing the relative value of different meals, especially maize meal, barley meal, oatmeal, and buckwheat meal for the fattening of pigs.

The trial was made with forty-eight young pigs, all of the same age and weight, divided into four lots. The animals of each lot received respectively as much as they would eat of the different meals, and in addition they all had daily a supply of skim-milk and some potatoes. After they were killed, an examination of the carcases showed that the flesh of the pigs fattened on maize was not so firm or saleable as that of the pigs fed on the other meals. This result is the same as has been reported from trials in America and Canada, and is worth noting. It would appear that maize is a good food for growing pigs, but that other meals should be substituted, either in part or altogether, during the last month or two of the fattening process.

Manuring Orchards.

The advantage of maintaining the soil of orchards in a fertile condition is now recognised and is being acted upon; but still, too often, the orchard is neglected in this respect. Crops of fruit are annually picked, carrying off a proportion of plant food, especially phosphoric acid and potash, and unless the constituents are returned the fruity capacity of the trees must certainly diminish.

Farmyard manure should be spread over the soil every three or four years, and the best time to apply it is in the late autumn or winter, so that the rains can wash it in. In the season that farmyard manure is not applied the orchard should have a dressing of artificial fertilisers. Slowly acting fertilisers, such as bone meal, ground bones, basic slag, should be applied in late winter at the rate of 3 cwt. per acre, and in spring, when the trees begin to show signs of renewed life, 1½ to 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia may be applied with benefit.

France employs for agricultural purposes 41,000 tons of potash salts, containing 11,000 tons of pure potash. This is nearly three times as much as was used ten years ago.

Crushed Granite as a Fertiliser.

The proposal to use crushed granite as a fertiliser is being again raised, chiefly for its percentage of potash. This is rather an old story, as in Germany it was tried and sold as a fertiliser many years ago under the name of "stone meal"; whilst in 1902 a series of experiments were carried out in order to investigate whether the potash in a mineral fertiliser which was prepared in Sweden was of any manurial value, but very unfavourable results were obtained, as the manure proved to be ground felspar, of which the percentage of potash was 8·15.

This experiment was carried out on grass. In May, 1902, all the plots were sown with a mixture containing red clover, alsike, white clover, and timothy grass. The experimental series were of the size of one square metre and consisted of eight plots, four being check plots.

The manures applied were as follows:—

Plot (1) 54 lb. of phosphoric acid alone in 357 lb. basic slag per acre.

Plot (2) 54 lb. of phosphoric acid and 89 lb. potash in potash manure salt per acre.

Plot (3) 54 lb. of phosphoric acid and 89 lb. potash in ground felspar per acre.

Plot (4) 54 lb. of phosphoric acid and 178 lb. of potash in ground felspar per acre.

The average yield of green vegetable matter in the first year of two parallel plots of one square metre each was:—

1. Without potash, 1·20 lb.; increase due to potash.

2. With 89 lb. of potash as potash manure salt, 4·53 lb.; increase due to potash, 3·33 lb.

3. With 89 lb. of potash as ground felspar, 1·69 lb.; increase due to potash, ·49 lb.

4. With 178 lb. of potash as ground felspar, 1·96 lb.; increase due to potash, ·76 lb.

Comparing plots 1 and 2, it is noticed that the produce from plot 2 was nearly four times that of plot 1, this being due to the application of the potash manure salt. When comparing plot 1 with 3 and 4, it is noticed that the two latter give a slight increase over plot 1, but this increase was inconsiderable, and stood in no comparison to the increase due to potash manure salt in plot 2.

In 1903 the manuring was repeated in the same way, and during the growing period the difference in vegetation on the four different plots was distinctly perceivable. The timothy grass on the plots not manured with potash or with ground felspar was poorly developed; wanting in sap, the leaves were bent towards the ground, of a pale-green colour, and many white or yellowish plots were noticeable where the chlorophyll had been destroyed. The clover also had white and yellow spots on the leaves, these spots increased in numbers as the time went on. It was also noticeable that the leaves of the clover gradually decayed from the borders towards the centre. On the plots manured with potash as ground felspar the clover was a little better than on the unmanured plot, whilst on the plots manured with potash manure salt the timothy grass grew upright, showed vigour and strength, leaves of green colour, of good nourishing character. These experiments, besides showing the value of potash for clover crops, established at the same time the worthlessness of ground felspar as a potassic manure. As has been previously stated, crushed granite was tried as a manure in Germany many years ago; and to show what value was attached to it, the following case may be interesting. In the German *Agricultural Press*, No. 9, 1901, an interesting article occurs in which is stated that a merchant, Mr. Hermann Bettels, of Halle a/S, brought an action against a certain farmer's widow who refused to pay for a so-called mineral manure, namely, "stone meal," which had been supplied to her by this merchant and had proved by its application to be worthless. The merchant lost his case, and had to pay all the expenses of the trial, the court deciding that the "stone meal" was no mineral manure at all. According to this decision, no farmer in Germany need pay for the "stone meal" sold to him as a mineral manure, as it does not deserve the name of mineral manure at all.

In the *Deutsche landwirtschaftl. Presse*, No. 35, 1901, an article appeared in which the value of ground porphory as a mineral manure, or for spreading over farmyard manure as a preservative, is considered. A decisive answer is given by Professor Wagner, who states: "Hensel's stone-meal," which has been offered latterly under the name porphyr meal, and has been recommended latterly as a preservative for farmyard manure, has no effect at all, whether for a preservative or applied to the land, and any farmer who buys porphyr meal certainly loses the money which he pays.

In the *Deutsche landwirtschaftl. Presse*, 1899, No. 13, a short article occurs with regard to the meeting of the Agricultural Committee for the Province of Saxony, in which they warn farmers against buying "stone meal." They state that every farmer who does not wish to throw his money out of the window should not be led by any publications, or the sellers or their agents to buy this worthless material.

In 1899 Professor Dr. B. Schulze analysed these so-called mineral manures, "stone meal," in nine different instances, and in every case it was proved that it contained only a very slight proportion of the important plant-foods, phosphate and potash, in an available condition, hardly any signs of nitrogen, and changing quantities of lime, generally in the form of carbonate of lime.

From these various instances it may be seen that ground granite or stone meal is worthless as a mineral manure for the application of potash.

With the application of ground rock as a manure it is true that a large amount of insoluble potash would be left in the soil. It would not be of much greater value than the finer parts of soil itself, and what would you think of the proposition of a neighbour to pay him 20s. a ton for fine soil, and spreading it on an acre of your land (20s. per ton being stated as the price at which ground granite could be obtained after freight, &c.)? It need not be pointed out that farmers do not wish to lock up a large amount of plant food in the soil especially if they need to make money out of it.

We may safely conclude that a pound of potash in crushed rock is no more equal to a pound of potash in muriate of potash than an ounce of sugar in sugar-beet pulp is equal to an once of pure sugar. No one would think of putting the pulp in his tea for its sugar, and the same may be said of applying crushed rock to the plants for its potash.

Professor Fraps, of the Texas Experiment Station, states that the fertilising value of potash in crushed granite is less than one-fourth of that in potash salts, such as muriate or sulphate of potash. This shows the large amount of the crushed rock which would have to be applied to soil in comparison with potash salts.

In the same way it may be suggested that sawdust might be used in the place of stable-manure, as by analysis sawdust contains plant food.

But what farmer in his right mind would accept a pound of nitrogen in sawdust instead of a pound in well-rotted manure? It would be possible to extend this discussion and give other illustrations of the folly of attempting to substitute this insoluble rock potash for the soluble potash salt. There is nothing in the proposition for this generation of practical people at least, and the wise farmer will continue to use the old reliable muriate, sulphate, and kainit as a source of potash.

Correspondence.

DEAR SIR,—I am a farmer and have used compound feeding cakes for twenty years, and I have become a yearly subscriber to the MARK LANE EXPRESS. I have bought three different makes of two ton lots for present use, and I wish you to analyse them for me. They are marked 1, 2, 3. There is a few shillings difference in price per ton. Give me their separate market values and oblige.

—Yours truly, J. B.

[We take it for granted that our correspondent, as a prudent and businesslike man, has bought the different cakes with a guaranteed analysis as regards purity and the contents of albuminoids, oils, and carbohydrates. It will, therefore, be a simple matter for him to calculate out the relative values of the three cakes. We may refer him to our note on "Approximate unit cost of nutritive constituents," on page 522 of last issue, and to the full details given on this subject in our issue of October 1.

We are pleased to note that our correspondent has become a regular subscriber to the paper, and are sure it will be useful to him.]

Somerset County Council.

The October report of the Agricultural Instruction Committee shows that the good work undertaken by the committee is making steady progress.

Experiments to test the effect of different fertilisers on hay and swede crops are being continued. Lectures and lessons in Nature study, botany, butter and cheese-making, bee-keeping, are being given, and there is general activity in other directions.

During the past quarter five samples of feeding-stuffs were tested; of the cotton-cakes one was of very poor quality, containing over 30 per cent. of indigestible fibre. Such a mass of indigestible material is a very serious drawback to the use of the cake. Farmers should insist on a guarantee of 20 per cent. maximum, and reject parcels containing a higher percentage.

Bonus for Mineral Phosphate Producers.

The *New Zealand Gazette* of July 12 announces that a bonus is offered for the discovery and working within the colony of New Zealand of a deposit or deposits of marketable mineral phosphate, viz.:—£500 if on Crown lands; £250 if on freehold lands. The conditions under which the bonus is offered and will be paid are contained in the *Gazette*, which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. Applications addressed to "The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture, Wellington," will be received up to and including March 31, 1907.

Fertiliser Experiments in Ireland.

Under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture a series of field experiments was started in the year 1901, and has been continued on a gradually increasing scale each year, so that in 1905 experiments were conducted in twenty different counties in various parts of Ireland. In the October issue of the departmental journal the results of the experiments for the five years—1901 to 1905—have been collected and condensed.

The crops experimented with have been the usual rotation crops—oats, turnips, mangels, and potatoes, barley and flax and meadow hay; the varieties grown were those usually grown by the farmer, so that the average results may be regarded as representing the results which would be obtained under similar conditions in the usual farming practice of the country.

The report includes carefully-compiled tabular statements of the details, and diagrams enabling the student of the report to see at a glance the pith of the results. These particulars are highly interesting, but what our readers will chiefly like to know is, what fertilisers or mixture of fertilisers produced the most profitable results?

Oats.—The best average results were obtained by a dressing of 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 3 cwt. kainit, 3 cwt. superphosphate at a cost, including application, of 32s. per acre, the profit being £2 10s. 3d. per acre. The mixture is equal to a dressing of 7 cwt. of an artificial manure, analysing—

3½ per cent. of ammonia,
11 ,, of soluble phosphate,
5½ ,, of potash (pure).

Costing, at to-day's prices, about £5 per ton.

Turnips.—The best results were produced by a dressing of 10 tons farmyard manure, supplemented by 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 3 cwt. kainit, and 3 cwt. superphosphate, costing for artificials £1 15s. 6d., including application, net profit of crop being £3 2s. 6d. per acre. The artificials represent 8 cwt. of manure, analysing—

3½ per cent. of ammonia,
13 ,, of soluble phosphate,
5 ,, of potash (pure).

Costing £4 10s. per ton.

Mangels.—The best results were produced by a dressing of 15 tons farmyard manure, supplemented by an application of 2 cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 4 cwt. superphosphate, and 4 cwt. common salt., costing, including application, £2 6s. 6d., the profit being £4 7s. 9d. per acre. The artificials represent 6 cwt. of fertiliser, testing 8 per cent. of ammonia and 17 per cent. of soluble phosphate, costing about £7 per ton, and 4 cwt. salt extra.

Potatoes.—The best results were from a dressing of 15 tons farmyard manure, supplemented by an application of 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 1 cwt. muriate of potash, 4 cwt. superphosphate, costing, including application, £1 18s. 6d., and leaving profit £6 4s. 6d. per acre.

The artificials represent 6 cwt. of a fertiliser, analysing:—

4 per cent. of ammonia,
17 ,, ,, soluble phosphate,
9½ ,, ,, potash (pure),

costing to-day about £6 10s. per ton.

Barley.—The best results were produced by a dressing of ½ cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 3 cwt. kainit, and 3 cwt. superphosphate, costing, with application, 25s., and leaving profit of £2 6s. 6d. per acre. This represents a dressing of 6½ cwt. of a fertiliser, testing:—

2 per cent. of ammonia,
12 ,, ,, soluble phosphate,
6 ,, ,, potash (pure),

costing about £4 10s. per ton at to-day's prices.

Meadow Hay.—The best results were produced by an application of 1 cwt. nitrate of soda, 2 cwt. kainit, and 2 cwt. superphosphate, costing with application £1 5s., and leaving a profit of £1 14s. 9d. per acre. This is equal to a dressing of 5 cwt. of a fertiliser, testing nitrogen equal to 3½ per cent. ammonia, 10 per cent. soluble phosphate, 5 per cent. potash (pure), costing at to-day's prices about £5 per ton.

It will be observed that in carrying out these experiments sulphate of ammonia — with one exception—and superphosphate have been selected as sources of ammonia and phosphate of lime, This is no doubt in order to simplify the calculations, and one must not infer therefrom that other materials, such as nitrate of soda, basic slag, guano, &c., would not produce equally good results.

Another point to be noted is the confirmation of the advantages of application of the three combined ingredients — ammonia, phosphate, and potash.

As a summary of the whole experiments, the Department of Agriculture draw the following obvious conclusions:—

(*a*) The profits from all crops may be very largely increased by the addition of a suitable mixture of artificial manures.

(*b*) Tillage crops yield a higher return than meadow hay and permanent pasture.

(*c*) Root crops yield the highest returns, fodder crops coming next.

Who Invented Margarine?

To a French chemist, Monsieur Mége-Mouries, belongs the honour—if it can be so called—of having invented the substance known as margarine. This was probably about the year 1861, and, shortly after, a factory for its manufacture was started in a suburb of Paris. This was done by Mons. Mége-Mouries at the suggestion of Napoleon III.

The invention was patented, according to some details given in the *Chemical Trade Journal*, in England by Mége-Mouries in 1869, and in the United States in 1873. But the manufacture of margarine had already commenced in the United States, and the new industry seemed to promise well. With characteristic acuteness in quickly discerning the value of a new process with money in it, the American manufacturers at once bought this patent to protect themselves. In the course of time the manufacture of butter substitutes reached considerable proportions in the United States. Connected, as it naturally always has been, with the meat industry, it increased as that industry increased. The Federal Government recognised in it a rival, to a certain extent, to the manufacture of genuine butter, and also a means of adding to the inland revenue. Laws were therefore passed by the Federal Government imposing taxes and regulating its sale.

During the last three years we have been importing butter substitutes from the United States at an average rate of about 5,000 tons yearly, thus:—

In the Year	The total Quantity of Butter Substitutes made in United States was	This country took
1903	79,746 tons	4·1 p.c. of this.
1904	80,275 tons	6·1 p.c. of this.
1905	96,131 tons	7·3 p.c. of this.

"Process butter" is butter of an inferior quality that has been treated to make it palatable. "It may be assumed that the object of subjecting a lot of butter to such a process is to remove rancidity, sourness, mould, or other fault or feature that has impaired its merchantable quality." So say the "rules and regulations" prescribed in regard to "renovated butter" (or process butter). No doubt this assumption is a perfectly correct one. Nevertheless, whatever may be nature of the products obtained by working up bad butter in this way, the action of the Canadian Government in forbidding this sort of thing to be done in the Dominion will be fully appreciated, even if only looked at from the point of view of the reputation of the dairy industry there.

The great advance in the cost of bags is being seriously felt by chemical fertiliser manufacturers. At a recent meeting of a large chemical manure company the chairman stated that the higher cost of bags would involve an extra outlay of £2,000 during the coming year.

Prices of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The quotations are approximate and free on rail, London, cash payment.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda ..... prompt delivery	11	17	6
,, ,, ... forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	15	0
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound ordinary	3	8	9
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0

The Permanent Nitrate Committee, in their public statistical circular for November, state the shipments of nitrate of soda as follows:—(1) Total exports to Europe, October, 3,913,300 quintals; loading for Europe November 1, 3,612,600 quintals. (2) Imports, Europe, October, 98,520 tons. (3) Deliveries, Europe, October, 62,750 tons. (4) Visible supply, Europe, November 1:—Stocks and afloat, 492,450 tons.

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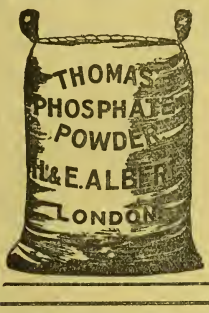

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IN THE FORM OF

"CAKETTES."

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This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

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The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

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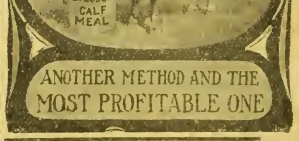

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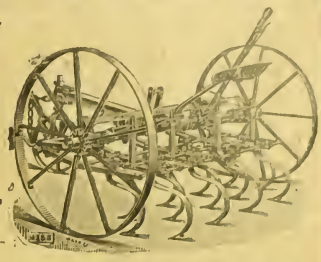

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For testimonials and particulars of John K. King & Sons' other Pedigree Wheats, including their famous "Emperor," "Rentpayer," "Square Head's Master," "Essex Square Head," and others, see Catalogue post free.

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FOR WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, BEANS, GRASS, and FRUIT,

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

NOVEMBER 19, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

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COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE BY GAME.

During the debates on the Land Tenure Bill it has been repeatedly stated that Section 2 does no more than declare the common law, and simply renders inalienable a right to compensation already existing. Is this correct? If so, why not curtail the discussion of the Bill by withdrawing this highly contentious, but apparently superfluous, clause?

The words of the section, as introduced into the House, so far as they are material to the present question, are as follows:—

"Where the tenant has sustained any damage from game that he has not the lawful right to kill, he shall at any time during the tenancy be entitled to compensation from his landlord for such damage, and any agreement to the contrary shall be void."

The concluding words, according to some exponents of the Bill, are really the only operative words of the section, as the right to compensation already exists. Let us examine the authorities on which this assertion is based.

In the case of Barrow *v.* Ashburnham (decided in 1835) the farmer, previous to becoming tenant, had a conversation with the agent, in which he said, "I have no objection to take the farm if the game is destroyed; I don't care so much about the birds as the hares and rabbits," to which the agent replied, "Why, you are a man who keeps no dog and uses no gun, and you must let the keepers know and they will kill them." The farmer rejoined, "Then upon these terms I will take the farm." The landlord failed to keep down the hares and rabbits, and the tenant recovered damages.

This was followed in 1873 by Erskine *v.* Adeane. Before taking a farm, the applicant complained of the quantity of game upon it. The landlord replied that he was about to kill and keep down the game and to dismiss most of his keepers, and discontinue letting the shooting; but made some excuse for omitting this arrangement from the lease. The tenant, however, relied upon his landlord's verbal representations, and accepted the lease on the faith of them. The landlord afterwards re-let the shooting, and a large stock of game was kept up. It was held that the tenant was entitled to compensation for damage done by the game.

In 1885 a Westmoreland farmer recovered damages in the case of Farrer *v.* Nelson in the following circumstances. He was tenant of a farm (exclusive of woods and coppices thereon) under a lease which reserved the sporting rights to the landlord. The landlord let his rights to a shooting tenant, who reared about 1,500 pheasants in coops on another part of the estate, and brought a large number of them to a coppice about 80 acres on the farm. About an acre

of the coppice, some five yards from the field where the damage was done, had been cleared for rearing pheasants, and into this the imported pheasants were brought. As many as 100 pheasants at a time had been seen in the farmer's corn. It was held that the farmer was entitled to recover compensation from the shooting tenant (not from the landlord) for the damage done.

Now it will be noticed that in the first two cases there was evidence of an express agreement to keep down the game; and the farms having been taken on the faith of such agreements, and on those representations it would have been contrary to the ordinary rules of justice if the tenants afterwards had no remedy. In the third case the decision turned on the fact that the damage was done by an artificial, rather than a natural, growth of game—*i.e.*, by imported pheasants, and not those reared naturally on the land. The right of a landlord to refrain from keeping down game bred naturally on the land was, in fact, expressly recognised by Baron Pollock, who tried the case, in the following words:—

"There is no doubt that every person has a right to keep on his land such game as would be usually bred upon it. It may be a law which is peculiar to this country, and has arisen out of our feudal laws. The moment, however, at which that which was right in law, when naturally done, is exceeded, the right at once ceases. So long as a sporting tenant exercises his ordinary rights—namely, those which the landlord might himself have exercised—he cannot be made liable for injury done by his game; but when he seeks to do more, and brings game of an unusual amount on the land, and thereby increases the amount by what I may call non-natural means, he is seeking to enjoy a right which is not given him by his landlord—because his landlord could not enjoy such a right himself—and an action will lie for any damage caused thereby to his neighbours."

It will be seen at once that the words of the Act go very much further than the decisions quoted, and will, in fact, effect a drastic alteration of the law. But the landlord's liability will be confined to damage by game which the tenant has not the lawful right to kill. All liability will therefore be avoided by omitting to preserve the game. The tenant may have to pay more rent in consequence, but if he chooses to divest himself of his sporting rights he can let his shooting, and apparently there is nothing to prevent him re-letting it to the landlord by a separate agreement and at a specified rent. It seems to be possible for landlords thus to evade liability under the Act, and yet continue to enjoy the shooting. Estate agents may take the hint.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20.—Annual Meeting of the Royal Statistical Society at the Society of Arts, Adelphi, 5 p.m.—Abergavenny and Carmarthen Agricultural Fairs—Wirksworth Cattle Fair—Entries to be sent in for the Chichester Fat Stock Show—Entries of Bristol Fat Stock Show to be sent in.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21.—Chichester "Great" Market—Malmesbury, Castleton, Barnet, Tattenhall, and Ashton Agricultural Fairs—Penrhyn Cattle Fair—Stanhope Fair—Raynbird's Agricultural Sale at Basingstoke.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22.—Norwich Fat Stock Show, first day—Garstang, Scarborough and Monmouth Cattle Fairs.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23.—Norwich Fat Stock Show, second day—Louth, Darlington, and Bawtry Cattle Fairs—York Horse and Cattle Fair—Marlborough Horse and Sheep Fair—This is St. Clement's Day, on which many small fairs are held in the more rural districts—Peterborough Horse Sale.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24.—Norwich Fat Stock Show, last day—Special Sale of Store Stock by Messrs. Ireland at Norwich—Rickmansworth Agricultural Fair—Alfreton and Gloucester Cattle Fairs—Entries for the Plymouth and Western Fat Stock Show to be sent in—Entries for Vale of Aylesbury Fat Stock Show to be sent in.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26.—Pickering Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair—Leek Fair—Norwich Fair—Liverpool Horse and Cattle Fair—Newton Sheep and Pig Fair.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.—Horsham Fat Stock Show—Viscount Tredegar's Agricultural Show at Newport—Ipswich Horse Show—Uttoxeter Horse Sale—Bromsgrove Cattle Fair—Newtown Horse and Cattle Fair—Rugely Agricultural Hiring Fair.

Notes of the Week.

Mr. Frederick Snowden Corrance, a Suffolk agriculturist, whose death is announced, held the championship for illegible handwriting since the death of Dean Stanley.

The story goes that a compositor, on a now defunct local paper, threw down his "stick" and enlisted as a soldier rather than wrestle any longer with what looked like Hebrew or Chaldee in Mr. Corrance's caligraphy.

Our sympathies are entirely with the compositor, for we ourselves have done some similar wrestling, and the victory has not always rested with us, as we have subsequently found out by the not altogether complimentary remarks of those whose caligraphy we have tackled.

Who can now say that our faithful Commons do not devote time to agricultural matters?

In the course of the debate on the Land Tenure Bill they burnt (metaphorically speaking) the midnight oil and saw the grey dawn creep in through the windows, while they discussed, debated, and wrangled over the relative interests of tenant farmer and landlord.

The Bill will now pass to the Upper Chamber to be subjected to the vivisection knife of our hereditary legislators.

The project for importing foreign cattle to one of the Channel Islands is not dead, but only scotched. It is still necessary to keep a watchful eye on the matter.

What is cider? There is a radical difference of opinion. The consuming public think it should be the pure juice of the fruit. Some vendors seem to be of the opinion that it may be any decoction, from which the most profit can be realised.

The Board of Agriculture should take the necessary measures to get a legal definition, so as to protect the makers of the genuine article and the public.

The course of five lectures on "artificial manures" which Mr. A. D. Hall is delivering at the Society of Arts may be regarded as evidence of the increasing general interest being taken in scientific agriculture.

Mr. Hall, the present director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, formerly principal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, is admirably adapted to the task he has undertaken.

He has the gift of making the dry bones of agricultural experiments rattle with apparent vitality.

In passing, the use of the word "Fertilisers" may be noted. The old-fashioned term "chemical manures" is being gradually abandoned.

The term "manure" is being relegated to express "farmyard manure," or bulky, rough substances, such as "shoddy," &c.

All the same, the word "manure" has a good old Norman origin, being derived from the Norman "mainoverer," meaning "to cultivate with the hand."

The old Saxon word was "muck." Thus Bunyan writes of the man "with the muck-rake."

Chicago is keeping up its reputation. Some of the samples of Chicago brawn examined in Marylebone during the September quarter were found to be "filthy, containing straw, fibre, hair, hogs' bristles, and dirt."

The motor exhibition is worth a visit, as it shows how useful motor-traction will gradually become for agricultural purposes.

But it is not necessary to visit the show in order to see motors make exhibitions of themselves.

The population of the little Republic of Switzerland are in a great state of mind—having suddenly become alive to the fact that there is scarcely three weeks' supply of wheat in the country.

The scarcity is caused chiefly by the unprecedented fall in the level of the Rhine, preventing supplies by water.

Switzerland is like England in this respect, that it is dependent on imported wheat to feed its population.

The position affords a moral for us. If our supplies by water were cut off by some unexpected cause, what would happen?

The small acreage under wheat in this country is the weak link in England's chain of defence.

If anyone has a recipe for encouraging hens to lay eggs during the winter months, now is the time to advertise it.

"Every dog has its day," but it may be hoped that the days of the vagrant sheep-worrying dog will be cut off by the advent of the new Act.

Sad is the end of Park Royal, Limited: A child, ushered into the world a few short years ago with great hopes, it will probably have ended its existence by the end of the year.

What will its epitaph be?

The Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, representing a very important body of opinion of Lincolnshire farmers, passed at their last meeting a strongly-worded resolution on the Army meat question.

Other farmers' clubs in different parts of the country are formulating similar protests, and the Royal, at their forthcoming general meeting, will have something to say on the subject.

The Government must begin to recognise that they are making a mistake in adopting an unsympathetic attitude in the matter.

Prize farm competitions on the Continent have proved to be a great success, and it is satisfactory to see that similar competitions are going to be again inaugurated by the Royal in connection with next year's show at Lincoln.

This is due to the generous action of the members of the local hunts, who are providing the funds for the prizes and the charges involved in judging, &c.

Giving evidence before the Royal Commission on Congested Districts in Ireland at Westminster, Mr. Bailey, Estates Commissioner, said that the holdings in the poorer parts of Ireland were worked by the occupying tenants in a way above what might reasonably be expected of them; that was to say, that no return was got for the amount of labour that was put in the land. In some parts of Ireland the most skilled labour would not yield anything on the soil.

There was a considerable shortage of farm servants seeking places at Wigton (Cumberland) Martinmas hiring on Tuesday. As the masters refused to give the high wages asked, hiring was slow, and wages were fully £2 down. Experienced men got to £16 for the half-year; second rates to £12; boys from £4. The growing disinclination of country girls to farm service was again observed. Only twenty-eight sought engagements in the hiring hall, where the highest wage was 10 guineas.

The hirings for single servants at Hexham were held on Monday when, the weather being fine, there was a fairly good attendance of masters and servants. Hirings proceeded slowly and quietly, but a good deal of business was done, men and lads being engaged on easier terms. Men had to accept less wages, from 10s. to 20s. less than last year; some men accepted 10s. less for more responsible positions, so that wages might be considered 20s. down. So late as two o'clock in the afternoon there were a number of men still unhired. Women and girls were more quickly hired and at full previous rates. Young lads received from £5 10s. to £9, according to age and ability, and men from £12 to £15 10s. for the half-year. Girls got from £4 10s. to £8, and experienced women from £9 to £14.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

THE breaking up of such a stud as that of the late Mr. A. J. Brown, of Doncaster, is an historic event, and the sale held at the Salutation Paddocks at Doncaster on Wednesday last may well be described as the event of the week in the horse world. That there was a large crowd of Mr. Brown's friends it does not seem necessary to say, and, so far as one could judge from the proceedings on the morning of the sale and the two previous days, there were a lot of buyers. From morning till night horses were being shown out and ridden and criticised, and a man who was there all the time told me that he should think Cycle must have been ridden twenty miles at the least on the Monday and Tuesday.

AN auction sale of horses is a very curious thing when one comes to look at it, and the best judges will find themselves wrong in their forecasts. For instance, anyone looking over the catalogue of Mr. Brown's sale would at once have picked out Ruby as likely to make the most money. He has the best showyard record of any horse that was catalogued, and he stands out as the winner of a four mile steeplechase and as the only horse that ever beat Whiskey. This, one would naturally think, would have caused a run on him, and a brisk trade for him might reasonably have been expected. It is true that he has been fairly well crabbed on account of his temper, and that for many men he is none the better to like for the fact that he has been raced. But if he is a little excitable, surely there are plenty of men left who do not care for that. So I must admit that I was greatly surprised when he was started at 30 guineas, and when Mr. Walker had to work hard to get 175 guineas in the long run. I never saw biddings come so slowly for a high-class horse.

SHIRE STALLION, RATCLIFFE CONQUERING KING.
Foaled in 1905, sire Lockinge Forest King, 18867, dam 3700 Ratcliffe Sunflower. Bred by and the property of Mr. F. Farnsworth, who won with it a First Prize at the Shire Horse Society's Show, and Second at the Royal Show this year.

THE top price of the sale was made by Cycle, who may be said to have sold well at 200 guineas, though he was by no means dear. He is a beautiful horse—not up to a great deal of weight—and he is a very fine ride. When I saw him sold and how brisk the biddings were for him, I thought the sale would go well, and that good prices would be realised for the best of them. But it was only a flash in the pan, and dull trade and slow bidding was the order of the day.

ONLY five of Mr. Brown's horses reached the three figures, the other horse that did so being one in which Mr. Brown had a partnership. The three that made these good prices were Dainty, a very handsome bay mare for which Mr. John Lister gave 140 guineas; Brown Prince, a stylish horse and a well-known prize-winner, who was dirt cheap at 115 guineas; and Columbine, a nicely balanced mare, for whom Mr. Webb, of Stourbridge, gave the level money. Altogether the sale realised some £3,000, and thirty-four of the best of the Hunter made an average of £74 1s. This was certainly disappointing, and perhaps the most curious thing in connection with the sale was that Wexford, a well-known prize-winner, only realised 96 guineas.

THE time at which a sale of wearing horses is held has a great deal to do with the prices which are made, and by wearing horses I mean geldings and mares which are intended to be worked straight away, the mares being such as are not described as high-class brood mares. Especially is this the case with hunters. For example, if Mr. Brown's horses had been sold a few weeks earlier or a few weeks later much better prices would have been brought. In mid November the hunting season is too young to permit of a big demand for hunters. Hunting men had replenished their studs earlier on, and it is too early for there to be great demand for show horses.

FOR breeding horses there is always a fair demand, high-class Shires especially being pretty certain to bring decent prices. So it is not surprising to find that there was a good sale of Shire horses at Peterborough on the same day that Mr. Walker was trying to coax a "little more money" out of his customers at Doncaster. West Wind, a two-year-old stallion, brought 255 guineas, a very good price, and the horse goes to the Warwick District Shire Horse Society. Fillies also sold remarkably well. Two two-year-olds, Sister Mary and Lawford Diamond made 140 guineas each, Mr. Yarborough taking the former and Mr. Dunn, of King's Newnham, the latter. Sister May, a yearling filly, was sold to Mr. Hawkins for 130 guineas, and Wantage Witch, a five-year-old brood mare made the useful price of 150 guineas. Foals sold well, making from 31 guineas up to 96 guineas, which price was given by Mr. Yarborough for a brown filly. So Shire horse breeders may be said to be finishing the year as well as they begun it, and there will in all probability be another year of good prices.

I WAS talking to a master of hounds the other day and the conversation turned on the supply of riding and harness horses—riding horses, be it understood, not of the hunter type, and he made a suggestion which might, I think, be carried out with beneficial results. He said, with a considerable amount of truth, that the fashion of breeding hackneys up to a big size and as much as possible of the harness type was damaging the breed, and that there are fewer good horses bred in proportion to what there were five and twenty years ago. This, I think, may be generally allowed, and it is almost a natural consequence of breeding for an increase in height. Thoroughbreds have suffered for this as well as Hackneys, so have Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach horses; and perhaps the only breeds that have not suffered from the fashion for "upstanding horses" have been the heavy ones. The suggestion was that with the idea of getting riding horses an Arab cross should be used with Hackneys. I think that a fresh infusion of direct Eastern blood could not but improve the modern Hackney considerably. In the first place, it would impart a style and quality which many modern Hackneys certainly do not possess. The shoulders would be fined down and properly placed, and there would be little or no loss of action. If there was a trifling loss of action it would easily be got back in a generation or two. There is a great deal of Arab blood at the foundation of Hackney pedigrees and a fresh infusion of it could scarcely fail to have a beneficial result.

MANY of my readers will remember Mr. Pope's famous pony Magpie, who was perhaps the best of her height I ever saw. She was full of Arab blood. I have not her pedigree by me as I write, but if I remember rightly the Arab predominated over the Hackney strains in it. Yet, no finer mover ever went into a ring, and either in saddle or harness she was practically invincible. And she had a quality that very few of the Hackneys of the present day possess. She was a delightfully pleasant ride. Her well placed shoulders, fine shoulder action, and beautiful balance enabled her to "step up" without that rocking gait which is so unpleasant when one is "up," and which I take leave to think is also unsightly. I once had a ride on Magpie, and was surprised at the good feel she gave me. I was not so surprised when I examined her pedigree closely.

IT is curious how ideas change about the feeding of horses. Looking through an old book the other day, I found a letter from an experienced agriculturist advocating the use of potatoes for horses. He spoke of their cheapness, their cooling properties, and that the use of them kept horses clear of grease, &c. He admitted carrots were better, but they were more difficult to grow and to store. My impression is that about the very worst food a man can give horses is potatoes. They are a bulky food in proportion to the nutriment they contain, and I am of opinion that instead of being cooling they are heating. That they make horses fat and sleek in skin is true, but I always think that the giving of potatoes to a valuable stallion once caused me heavy loss. My man was keen for his horse to look well, and gave him potatoes against my orders. The horse got fever in the feet, and I always blamed the potatoes.

THE LOOKER-ON.

SIX FEEDS FOR ONE PENNY—International Stock Food—is the Best Food for Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Pigs and Poultry.—Write for full particulars to F. C. SOUTHWELL & Co., LTD., 75, Southwark Street, London, S.E., or the Local Agents.—[ADVT].

The Late Mr. A. J. Brown's Hunters.

The whole of the well-known stud of show Hunters belonging to the late Mr. A. J. Brown was brought under the hammer at Doncaster, on Wednesday, by Messrs. Walker and Sons, of York. Mr. Brown was known all over the country as a breeder and judge of Hunters, and his successes in the showyard were so remarkable as to be noted by all. Hence a large company was only to be expected at the dispersal of his stud, and the attendance quite came up to expectation, many famous owners of Hunters being either present or represented.

Bidding was not so keen as it might have been, but for the plums there was sharp competition and prices ruled high. The top price, 200 guineas, was paid for the Thoroughbred gelding Cycle, a six-year-old likely to win steeplechases, and Riby, the Peterborough champion, and a winner at both Birkenhead and the Lincolnshire show, reached 175 guineas. A bid of 140 guineas for Jainty was accepted, and Brown Prince changed hands at 115 guineas, while Milton, a seven-year-old son of Imprevu, was a bargain at 110 guineas. The two seven-year-olds averaged £101 17s. each, the six-year-olds changed hands at an average price of £74 8s. each, and the five-year-olds were sold at an average of £77 14s. each, whilst the total for the sale was 2,533 guineas.

Clydesdale Horse Society.

A meeting of the council of the Clydesdale Horse Society was held in Glasgow on Wednesday, when Mr Robert Brydon submitted a report of deputation to the Board of Agriculture, and it was agreed to represent to the Board that, in the opinion of the council, the interests of draught horse-breeders were not being sufficiently regarded.

Intimation of the award of medals donated to various societies was received, and it was agreed to grant a donation of £10 towards the prizes at Belfast Spring Show in 1907.

Sale of Shires at Peterborough.

Some capital prices for Shire horses were realised at Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck's Peterborough repository on Wednesday. Prizes were

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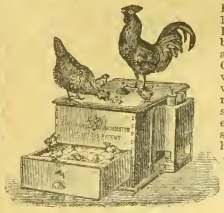

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offered in connection with the sale, and induced an excellent entry. In Shire mares four years and upwards the first prize was awarded Mr. H. Jaggar's Wantage Witch by Lockinge Manners, a grand five-year-old bay with a long list of prizes, and she eventually made 150 guineas, Mr. H. Dewhurst, Skipton, being the buyer. The second went to Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's Desford Coquette, an improving four-year-old mare by Desford Combination, for which at the sale Mr. A. H. Clark gave 96 guineas.

Mr. H. Jaggar, of Huddersfield, who is giving up his Norcross Farm, sent eight animals, and for West Wind, a well-grown, good quality colt by Lockinge Manners, there was great competition, the Warwick District Shire Horse Society securing him in the end for 255 guineas. Two five-year-old stallions, Royal President II. and Hixon Harold, went respectively to Mr. C. E. Ivatt, Cambridgeshire, at 70 guineas, and Mr. Maltby, Lincoln, at 44 guineas. The two-year-old filly Lawford Diamond, by Lockinge Forest King, made 140 guineas to Mr. Dunn, King's Newnham; Lawford Ruby reached 120 guineas to Mr. Brooks; Mr. J. Clapperson, Hull, gave 47 guineas for Palterton Queen, another two-year-old; and for the Lockinge Forest King yearling, Emley Matchless, Mr. Whittome went to 86 guineas; the average of Mr. H. Jaggar's eight lots being 114 guineas.

The late Mr. W. Child's Sister Mary, a two-year-old prize-winning filly, sired by Lockinge Forest King, made 140 guineas, going to Mr. Yerburgh, who also gave 96 guineas for a Lockinge Forest King yearling filly, sent by Mr. W. McCreery, of Rugby. Esteem, a two-year-old brown mare by Eastern Harold, the property of Mr. J. E. Caswell, of Laughton, went to Mr. Grimston, Hull, for 45 guineas; the late Mr. Child's Horninglow Bijou, a two-year-old mare, to Mr. W. Arkell, Fairford, at 50 guineas; and the same breeder's Sister May, a Lockinge Forest King yearling, to Mr. Howkins at 130 guineas.

Hunter Sale at Leicester.

Messrs. Warner, Sheppard and Wade had a lengthy catalogue at their sale on the 10th inst., and there was a large and distinguished attendance of buyers. The chief interest centred in the sale of the Hunters which were sent up by the Marchioness of Graham, Mary Duchess of Hamilton, and Mr. J. W. Logan. Surely and Funcheon, from the stud of the last-named at Market Harborough, were sold for 350 guineas and 300 guineas respectively, while four of the Hunters included in the sale by the Duchess of Hamilton aggregated 815 guineas, an average of £213 18s. each. The best of them was Crazy, a seven-year-old bay gelding by Fanatic, and he reached the highest price, 350 guineas. Offers of 170 guineas and 160 guineas for None Other and Lady Wynn were also accepted.

The Marchioness of Graham's Hunters made a higher average, the four aggregating 930 guineas, an average of £244 2s. 6d. each, Grey Tail and Phiz being sold for 280 guineas and 250 guineas respectively, while Bertie changed hands at 220 guineas. The best of Mr. W. Henry Barber's draft was Ruby, a winner in the show ring; he reached 120 guineas, while Mr. E. Holford accepted 145 guineas for the seven-year-old Joyce Faa, and 94 guineas for Bendigo.

Of the cob-hunters which were included in the sale the highest aggregate was received for those sent from the Bicester stud by Mr. J. P. Heywood-Lonsdale; they realised 460½ guineas, Red Knight, 60 guineas, and Mabel, 57 guineas, being the best.

The Registration of Stallions in Devon.

At the last meeting of the Devon County Agricultural Association, Mr. A. Scott Browne presented the report of the committee for the registration of stallions. The examination of stallions was conducted by Professor Pemberthy, of the Royal Veterinary College, and forty-seven stallions were passed out of forty-nine. Three were subsequently disqualified, as they were not pure bred. Eleven stallions which were exempt from veterinary examination were also registered, making a total of fifty-five, consisting of thirty-three Shires, fourteen Thoroughbreds, two Hacknevs, one Arab, and five ponies.

Thirteen of those who owned stallions last year were no longer represented, but only two complained that they had received no benefit from registration. Thirteen new owners had filled their places. The decrease of five stallions as compared with last year was accounted for by the fact that several of the larger owners had reduced their studs. The balance-sheet showed a loss of £13 14s., against £12 last year.

The registration of mares was steadily growing. Two new societies had started registers this year, bringing the number up to twelve, which covered five-sixths of the county.

The committee reminded the council that the liability of the guarantors ceased this year. The scheme was not yet quite self-supporting, the loss during the last two years having averaged nearly £12. Considering the support the scheme had received, the committee recommended the council to undertake the work themselves, and their report was adopted.

Polo and Riding Pony Society.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey, president, occupied the chair at the meeting of the council of the Polo and Riding Pony Society held on the 8th inst., when twenty-six new members were elected.

The chief subject of discussion was the measurement of Polo ponies, concerning which so much has been written and said, and on the present occasion there was quite a heated debate, at the end of which a resolution was carried referring the matter back to the editing committee to draw up a scheme of centres, at which it was proposed that Mr. Sheather should attend, and that they should then follow out Mr. Miller's suggestion of meeting the executive committee of the Hurlingham Club and seeing whether they would fall into line and come to some workable arrangement by which Mr. Sheather could attend these centres.

Prizes in 1907.

Mr. G. Norris Midwood (chairman) reported that the dates of the London Show in 1907 would be March 15 and 16. The schedule of prizes with offers of donations had been carefully considered, and the secretary was instructed to convey their sincere thanks to several gentlemen for contributions to the prize schedule. They further recommended that no limit of entry by the same exhibitor in any other class should be imposed at the forthcoming show. Colts in the young stock classes would have to be entered in the supplement before they would receive the prize-money. No alterations were recommended in the prizes for young stock, brood mares and stallions, with the one exception that a separate class for Eastern sires was omitted. It was proposed to offer a gold medal for the best stallion or entire colt, and a gold medal for the best mare or filly.

The novice class would be worded as follows:—Ponies, five and six years old, that have never played in a tournament, divided into two sections—light and heavy weight, with prizes of £10, £6, £3, and £2. The committee recommended that the prizes in the classes for light-weight and heavy-weight Polo ponies should be increased—viz., £15, £10, and £5, and that the first-prize winners in these classes at the last three shows should be debarred from competition. A silver cup, value £10, given by Mr. Dunbar Kelly, would be offered for the best pony in the show whose sire or dam was entered in the Polo and Riding Pony Stud Book, and which had been reasonably played during any season at any recognised polo club.

The classes for Shetland pony stallions and brood mares were ordered to remain, and two turning races were added to the competitions, involving ponies going three times up and down the ring, and circling round posts fixed at each end. The measurer and the stewards for the annual dinner were appointed.

The committee recommended that the medals offered under the three schemes—A (brood mares), B (fillies), and C (stallions) should be continued, with an additional scheme—viz., silver medal for the best Polo and Riding pony not exceeding 14 h. 2 in. (confirmed by Hurlingham certificate or that of a qualified veterinary surgeon) the property of a member of the Polo and Riding Pony Society.

Mountain and Moorland Ponies.

The results of the transference of the prizes formerly offered at the London Show to the district shows selected by the conveners had more than fulfilled expectations. The sum of money given in prizes and medals, amounting in all to £45, had attracted an entry of 101, whereas the same amount given at the 1905 London Show had only secured the response of seventeen entries. The opinions of the conveners with reference to the allocation of the grant in 1907 had been sought, and their general feeling was that the scheme had proved most satisfactory and promising, and they recommended that the grant be offered at the following shows in 1907:—Dartmoor—South Brent; Exmoor—Exford, Lynton; Fell—Kirkby Stephen; Highland—Highland and Agricultural; New Forest—Burley; Welsh—North Wales Show at Carnarvon, Welsh National at Aberystwith.

Royal Show at Lincoln.

Sir Gilbert Greenall had reported to the committee that the Royal Agricultural Society had decided to offer classes for Polo pony stallions and brood mares. The committee recommended that this society should provide, in addition to two gold medals, the prizes for young stock, viz.:—Yearlings, two-year-olds and three-year-olds, offering in each case £10, £8, and £5. The report of the Horse Show Committee was adopted.

London Shows after 1907.

The society's representatives upon the joint committee presented their report, indicating the offer of the Royal Agricultural Hall Company, and covering the terms that they were prepared to offer for the joint shows after 1907. The council adopted the report of their representatives, and

reforred the consideration of details to the next meeting of the Horse Show Committoe.

The council afterwards adjourned till Friday, December 7 next.

Lincolnshire Horse Poisoning Prevention Association.

Mr. J. Pears presided at the twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Association for tho Prevention of the Administration of Poisonous Drugs, &c., to Horses, held at the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's Council-rooms, Lincoln, on Friday week.

Tho committee in their annual report said they were pleased to see that the association had not been called upon in any case during the last twelve months to carry into effect any of the objects for which it was originally formed. The financial statement showed an increaso of funds to the amount of £6 1s. 5d., with a balanco at the bank of £229 2s. 3d. The number of mombers was now 114, compared with 115 at this time last year. Insurance subscriptions amounting to £12 9s. 3d. at the roduced percentage had been paid and bank interest had been allowed amounting to £12 17s. 11d., and this fund totallod £569 1s. 7d.

Mr. Howard, in moving the adoption of the report, said the object for which the association was formed had nearly been achieved. For two years he believed they had had no calls on their funds for prosecutions or compensation, which showed that their object lessons in tho past had been beneficial. Many of those men who through ignorance had dono their employers great injury had been corrected, to the great benefit not only of the members of that association, but of the agricultural community generally. He must say that the general tono of their horsos right away through Lincolnshiro was bettor than it was before the association was formed.

Mr. J. Cartwright seconded, and the report was adopted.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 13, 1906 :—

Period			Week ended November 10, 1906	Corresponding week in 1905	1904	1903	Total for 45 weeks in 1906	Corresponding period in 1905	1904	1903
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	214	86	85	193	5,858	3,169	5,120	6,855
	Outbreaks.	No.	33	14	14	28	1,027	706	1,099	1,298
Sheep Scab	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	13	19	16	38	356	744	1,148	1,339
Rabies. Cases Confirmed.	Other Animals.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	33	34	27	40	1,802	1,838	2,357	2,205
	Outbreaks.	No.	18	22	19	18	952	1,073	1,349	1,286
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	22	29	22	21	1,129	1,153	1,322	968
	Outbreaks.	No.	17	16	19	16	789	842	871	647

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Penrith Martinmas hirings took place on Wednesday, when there was an average attendance of servants. young lads preponderating, but servants asked much higher wages than employers would give. Prices paid during the day were :—Head men, £15 to £16 10s. ; second men, £13 10s. to £15 ; youths, £9 10s. to £12 ; lads, £6 to £9 10s. ; experienced women (housekeepers). £12 to £14, and occasionally £15 ; useful women, £9 to £12 ; girls. £6 10s. to £9, in each case with board and lodging in addition.

VETERINARY.

*Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "*MARK LANE EXPRESS,*" 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

A Ruptured Colt.

"Constant Reader," who, in his letter on page 526 of the issue for Novomber 12, rofers to a reply to his original question published on page 478 of the issue for October 29, is obviously under a misapprehension as to tho naturo of the operation to be performed in scrotal hornia, and appears to have confounded it with castration by means of what is known as the covored operation, which is the method practised in cases whore scrotal hernia is present.

It is not usual to oporato in casos of congenital or chronic scrotal hornia, which is undoubtedly more common than is goncrally suspected, unless there is a manifestation of pain or strangulation. Animals that escape pain escapo also observation and dotection of the affection. In cases of chronic scrotal hernia there is a danger of ingesta passing with the bowel into the scrotum, producing distonsion and strangulation ; but Williams says, "tho more usual consequonco is gradual enlargement of the scrotum, a succession of attacks of abdominal pain, gradual vital depression, with loss of condition, emaciation, and inability to work. Then operative intervention is imperative." It is not usual to interfere unless the hernia is acute and strangulated, or a cause of pain, and then, in the case of the entire colt or stallion, castration is performed by the covered operation at the same time, not for the radical cure of the hernia, but in order to complete it.

The authority quoted above says :—"I maintain that the operation is incomplete unless it is followed by castration, for without this the protrusion is likely to recur, and may do so immediately after the animal has risen." It is therefore better to castrate the animal, being careful not to wound the intestine ; and the covered operation—namely, that method by which tho *tunica vaginalis reflexa* is left uncut, is that recommended.

We need hardly discuss this, or the several operations practised for the cure of the hernia, since it is, it is to he hoped, unlikely that they will be necessary in your case, while the details are, of course, for the veterinary surgeon, who will be called upon to operate. M.R.C.V.S.

Powder for Horse out of Condition.

SIR,—I bought a chesnut pony a month or two ago which had been running out at grass. Since I got it I have kept it on dry keep, having no field. Its keep consists of oats, chop, and bran, with a little hay. Within the last few weeks it has been casting its coat, and during this time it has become rough-looking and duller in its coat than it was when I got it. What I should like to know is this: Is it for want of proper keep or any insufficiency of keep? I have been told it is owing to the keep, and I have been told it is not, both by horsekeepers. Or will tho casting of the coat cause the coat to look rough and dirty? Would linseed or ground oilcake, which I have been giving it for its coat changing, have any effect in causing the hair to be so full of that white dandy matter ?—R. R.

Answer: Having regard to the season of the year, the probability is that the condition of skin and coat complained of is associated with the shedding of the summer and the production of the winter coat, but it is not possible to say off-hand that this is so. At this season of the year horses are changing their coats, and few animals are at their best either in appearance or condition for ork. The old stableman will tell you "they have the blackberry on 'em." Needless to say, blackberries have nothing to do with the rough, unthrifty condition beyond that when the blackberries are ripening horses are changing their coats, and this winter change, like the moult of birds, always seems an effort, and to some extent affects the general health. It is a season of the year, or a period in the life of the horse, when, if ever, the alterative and tonic medicines popularly known as "condition powders" are indicated as likely to be beneficial. As described in your case, brushing and combing seems of very littlo use towards making the horse look well ; indeed, the more freely the curry comb, body brush, and dandy are used the more they seem to stir up what the groom calls "grease," and the worse the animal looks. You have discovered for yourself that rubbing the animal over with a damp cloth improves matters somewhat, but a damp hay wisp, and finishing with a cleau dry rubber, would bo better. At this season of the year little brushing and plenty of damp wisping, afterwards polishing the hair with a rubber, is most effective in grooming horses. As to medicine, try :—Sublimed sulphur, 1¾ oz. ; powdered

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER havo received instructions to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on WEDNESDAY, November 28, 1906, at 2 for 3 o'clock precisely, tho valuable Stacks of HAY as above.

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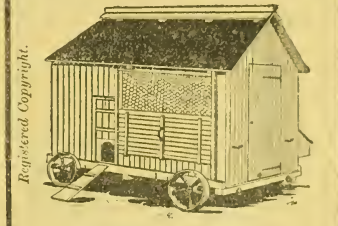

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Horse with Sprained Shoulder.

SIR,—Will you give me advice on following? I have a horse which has been idle this two months with a sprained shoulder. He has been blistered, but is not fit for work yet. I have been advised to rub him with embrocation every day. I should like to know if he gets properly well if he is liable to go lame again with fair work. I have also been advised to put cold water hose on him every day for an hour. Should like to have your advice on him. Sorry to trouble you so much.—FARMER.

Answer: We do not consider answering questions a "trouble," or if there is any trouble, it is when the information on which opinion or advice can be founded is insufficient for the purpose. In your case, for example, we should be in a much better position to give you "advice" if we had more detailed information on certain points. The horse, whose age it would have been an advantage to know, is stated to have "been idle this two months with a sprained shoulder." Unless it has been pronounced by an experienced and qualified veterinary surgeon that the horse is lame in the shoulder from sprain, we should like some better evidence of it than the bold assertion, because our experience has taught us that the majority of horses said, often with confidence, to be lame in the shoulder turn out to be lame in the foot. Then we should like to know what part of the shoulder is sprained, assuming that your diagnosis is correct, how it happened, and in what work the horse was engaged when it was observed to fall lame, and whether or no at the time of writing the muscles of the shoulder are normal in appearance, or whether the anteâ and posteâ spinatus muscles are wasted, and show outline of the process of the shoulder-blade. A great deal as regards future treatment and prospects of success depends on these points, and only on a fair acquaintance with them is prognosis possible—that is, we must know something about them before we can attempt to form any opinion on the question "if he gets properly well, will he be liable to go lame again with fair work?" If the case is one of atrophy or wasted shoulder, and the horse is a young animal that fell lame after being worked in the plough, it will probably become sound, and remain sound, if you do not work it in the plough again. In writing again, if you care to do so, giving the details asked for, kindly refer to this reply. If you are not quite confident as to the shoulder being the seat of lameness, it would be wise to get the animal examined by an experienced veterinary surgeon.

Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Society.

At the recent meeting of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association it was decided to offer the following prizes at the association's bull sale in April next:—For bulls, calved between March 1, 1905, and March 1, 1906, prizes of £5, £3, £2, and £1, and for bulls calved on or after March 1, 1906, prizes of similar value. It was further resolved that the entries be limited to two animals from any one exhibitor in any class, and that the vendor be required to sign a certificate that an animal winning a prize must be actually sold at the sale.

Several applications for admission to membership were received, and arrangements made for the inspection of the herds.

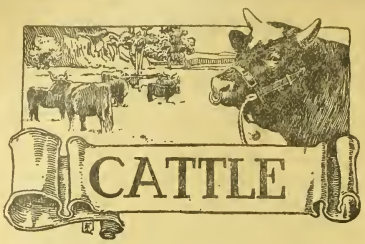
Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association.

A meeting of the council of this association was held at the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's Council Room, Lincoln, on Friday week.

Applications for admission to membership were considered and arrangements made for the inspection of the respective flocks.

It was suggested that as a sale of pedigree stock is held in connection with the Royal Show, the association might abandon their first sale of rams and take advantage of the opportunity to enter their stock at the sale at the Royal Agricultural Show, and enlarge their September sale to two days (September 5 and 6) if found necessary; members to be allowed to sell gimmers on the second day at the close of the sale of rams.

At Manchester on Wednesday, Messrs. Lonsdale and Thompson, produce sellers, of that city, were summoned at the instance of the Irish Agricultural Department for applying a false description to boxes of eggs. The manner in which the cases were marked suggested that the eggs came from Ireland, whereas they did not. The defendants were fined 40s. and costs on one summons, with 20 guineas extra costs.



Scottish Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus Sales.

The industry of cattle breeding in Scotland as represented by the combined interests of the Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus breeds is, says the *Banffshire Journal*, at present in a flourishing condition. In marked contrast to the conditions which have prevailed throughout the entire year in the meat markets where the ordinary commercial cattle of the country have their values gauged, the pure cattle trade has been of a most buoyant nature, 2,228 animals of the two breeds mentioned selling at an average of £42 1s. 2d. at the various public sales held in the course of the year. The annals of Scottish live stock breeding present no parallel to this result. Reckoning from 1884, the nearest approach to that figure was made in 1904, when, aided largely by the dispersion of the Uppermill Shorthorn herd, an average was reached on the year's transactions of £34 17s. 2d. The all-powerful factor has been the extensive demand that has been experienced from Argentina, and in this connection it is not unnatural to recall that last year for the first time that country sent us a greater quantity of meat than did our former leading sender, the United States.

As showing the extent of the South American trade it may be stated that in the first three months of the year, which is the most active time in cattle exportation circles, there were despatched no fewer than 800 animals. The great bulk of the cattle were, of course, acquired privately in view of the risks of the tuberculin test, but it is significant both of the keen demand and of the healthy conditions of British stock, that the year saw so many animals purchased for the country of the Plate by competition at the public sales. As compared with last year, when 2,621 animals were sold at the public auctions in Scotland, the average shows an increase of £10 1s. 2d., while the gross drawings at the sales for cattle of these two breeds rose from £83,874 12s. 6d. last year to £93,705 11s. 8d.—a remarkable overturn for a year's public output of this branch of Scotland's leading industry. As has been the case for the past few years the greater value as between the two breeds has lain with the Shorthorns, of which 1,066 have been sold at an average of £63 10s. 5d., as against £43 0s. 5d. last year, and £51 15s. 1d. in 1904, which was the previous highest range of prices over a series of a quarter of a century.

The year has not dealt so kindly with Aberdeen-Angus interests, though a re-commencement of the trade to Argentina reached no mean dimensions, and gives every promise of development. In some quarters a disconsolate note is being uttered, but matters are not so bad as that, and, moreover, it is well known from past history that tastes change, and that different breeds of stock are favoured with cycles of public patronage. It is the day of the Scotch Shorthorn at present; it may be the day of the Aberdeen-Angus next. In any case breeders of the variety are buoyant as to the future. The breed has in the past overcome too many obstacles and gained too high a place in competitive achievement for its patrons to become down-hearted. Though Shorthorn averages are for the present going up, it must be kept in mind that Aberdeen-Angus values are not going down in the same ratio. An average of over £22 for 1,162 cattle in a year which has seen no very important sale of the breed in Scotland is not so very hopeless, and Aberdeen-Angus men can also look back to their fat years—the early eighties with their averages of over £50.

A summary of the total year's business in pure-bred cattle in Scotland may be conveniently stated in the following table, in which, in addition, a comparison is instituted with former years' prices:—

Year.	No. sold.	Average.
1896	2,196	£24 17 9
1897	2,021	25 12 7
1898	2,332	24 12 8
1899	2,189	30 1 1
1900	2,083	27 0 9
1901	2,361	26 15 8
1902	2,738	27 15 0
1903	2,490	28 17 10
1904	2,540	34 17 2
1905	2,621	32 0 0
1906	2,228	42 1 2

Shorthorn Society.

Twenty-two new members were elected at the last meeting of the council of the Shorthorn Society.

At the same meeting Lord Moreton reported that the Editing Committee had examined the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the committee—viz., for Africa 4, Australia 7, Canada 8, Germany 5, Japan 1, New Zealand 5, Portugal 5, South America 373, Spain 1; total, 409. This brought up the number of certificates issued during the present year to 2,400. The committee recommended the registration of the name "Blaisdon" by Mr. Colin McIver. This report was adopted.

It was reported by Sir Nigel Kingscote that the suggestion made by Mr. John Thornton at the last general meeting, and referred to the General Purposes Committee by the council—viz., that the R.A.S.E. be asked to make a division in the young bull class, dividing it into one class for bulls born January 1 to March 1, and another class for bulls born March 1 to the end of the year, the Shorthorn Society contributing the increased prize-money, and, if the society could afford it, extra prizes for heifers, had been considered by the committee, and they recommended the following division of the two classes at the R.A.S.E. Show, in which there was such a large number of entries at the last show:—

Classes for bulls calved on or between January 1, 1905, and June 30, 1905; July 1, 1905, and December 31, 1905; January 1, 1906, and June 30, 1906; July 1, 1906, and December 31, 1906; the Shorthorn Society to give the extra prizes in the two new classes. The committee did not recommend the sub-division of the heifer classes. The committee also recommended the institution of a group class consisting of a bull and two, three, or four of his male offspring bred by the exhibitor, not less than six months old on the day of entry, with a first prize of £20 and a second of £10. The committee also recommended the offer of the prizes for heifer class born in 1904, and that the champion prizes be of the value of £30 each instead of £50 as last year.

The full scheme of prizes for the year 1907 will be considered at the next meeting of the committee.

This report was adopted.

The next meeting of the council was fixed for December 11, 1906.

Canadian Cattle Importation.

Its Effect on Irish Farming.

Some important evidence on the effect on Irish farming by the removal of the existing restrictions on the importation of store cattle into Great Britain was given in London before the Royal Commission on Congested Districts in Ireland by Mr. W. F. Bailey, one of the Estates Commissioners. He had, he said, communicated with about fifty people acquainted with all parts of Ireland, and asked for their views on this subject, and what in their opinion, the results would be as regarded the various classes of farmers in Ireland, and in what way the security for the advance made under the Land Purchase Acts would be effected. These queries were addressed mainly to the Assistant Land Commissioners, assessors, inspectors, and valuers engaged in settling fair rents under the Irish Land Act, and in estimating security under the Land Purchase Acts. Important information was also obtained from leading cattle salesmen. It was evident that the free importation of stores would affect the various classes of farmers and land holders in different ways. Summarising the replies to his queries, he found that there was an almost unanimous opinion that the removal of the restrictions would have a disastrous effect on small farmers mainly in the South and West of Ireland, who carried on a system of mixed tillage and pasturage. One writer was of opinion that a loss of 30 per cent. would fall on the gross amount from the sales of stores.

Another estimated that a reduction of 27½ per cent. off the existing rents would be necessary as a result. A third—these writers were all from Ulster—thought that the removal of the restrictions would lead to a general inability to pay the land purchase annuities; while a fourth, from the Province of Munster, thought that there would be a general loss to this class of 25 per cent., and that the inferior stores of the poorer men would be almost unsaleable. It was evident that this class of Irish farmers would suffer severely at first from such a change in values and in prices as would result from the competition due to the free admission of foreign stores. Their capacity to pay rent or annuities under the Purchase Acts would be seriously impaired, but after a time it was probable that their condition and that of the country generally would be improved. More attention would be paid to tillage farming, and small farmers would consume at home a larger proportion of the produce of their land

The general opinion was that the reduction in the price of young stock, which would follow the

opening of the ports, would seriously affect the large dairy farmers, who to a considerable extent depended on the profits from the sale of their calves to make their rent or annuities. A large Munster dairy farmer stated that the decline in the value of his young stock would reduce his profits by at least 20 per cent. Another correspondent from the same Province, with considerable experience of this class of farming, estimated the loss as fully 25 per cent. of his net profits. On the other hand, an Ulster agriculturist was of opinion that those dairy farmers who bought heifers for milk purposes and did not rear calves would benefit from the lower price of stock. The large majority of correspondents, however, were strongly of opinion that this class of farmer would suffer seriously from the lower prices that would be obtained from the sale of their calves owing to the unrestricted competition.

In regard to graziers who occupy store cattle lands, mainly in Connaught, opinion was almost agreed that this class would be injuriously affected by free importation of stores. It might be accepted that the reduction in the price of stores consequent on free competition would eventually bring down the price of young stock reared in Ireland, although perhaps not to a proportionate extent. The lower price which the grazier would receive for the stores he sold would not be compensated for by a corresponding fall in the price he paid for them. This class of grazier had suffered severely of late years from the fact that the prices obtainable for their stores was low in proportion to that at which they were purchased. Free competition would certainly accentuate this disproportion. There was an almost unanimous opinion that large graziers who occupy fattening lands, mainly in Leinster, would largely benefit by the free importation of stores. They now sought in a protected market, and had to sell in a practically open market. Graziers of this class could hardly be regarded as farmers at all. They frequently did not live on the lands they worked, and they gave very little employment.

The general effect of the free admission of store cattle into the British Isles would be to reduce the price of young cattle, and consequently the profits of dairy farmers who breed and of sellers of stores generally, while it would benefit graziers who bought to fatten. It had often been noticed that there was a great discrepancy between the relative prices of stores and of beef—that the price of stores measured by weight was proportionately much higher than of the finished animal. This had puzzled many people, and it seemed contrary to the economic law that the price of the ultimate product must be in relation to the price of the raw material on which it depended. The explanation was that store cattle were in fact protected in Great Britain by the prohibition on importation, while the fat cattle were subject to the competition of the world, restricted only by the necessity of slaughtering imported animals at the port of entry. Were it not for this circumstance the price of beef and of fat cattle would inevitably rise in proportion to the price of stores. Foreign competition prevented this, and, of course, heavily handicapped the British fattener, who had to buy his stores dear and sell his finished animals cheap.

Questioned by Sir John Colomb as to whether it was fair to make the deduction that the Scottish buyer would give more for Irish stores than the Irish grazier, witness said the modern tendency was that Scottish buyers who came across the water to fill up their wants would give more for the store cattle to the small tenant than the Irish grazier. The Scottish buyers must get the cattle. Owing to the ports being closed there was no competition, and the Irish seller of stores had practically his own way.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Drogheda Fair, co Louth, held on November 14. Large fair; plenty of shippers attended and demand moderate, nearly all the cattle being sold. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 to £9; 2nd class, £6 15s. to £7 5s.; two years old, 1st class, £11 5s. to £12 10s.; 2nd class, £9 to £11; three years old, 1st class, £13 5s. to £15 2s. 6d.; 2nd class, £11 to £13; springers, 1st class, £16 5s. to £19 15s.; 2nd class, £13 15s. to £15. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks, were in slow demand at from 18s. to 25s. each.

Newbridge Fair, co. Kildare, held on November 13. Rather large fair; brisk demand for two and a-half and three years old cattle in condition, but younger and thinner cattle hard to sell. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 12s. 6d. to £8 10s.; 2nd class, £6 to £6 10s.; two years old, 1st class, £10 10s. to £14 12s. 6d.; 2nd class, £8 5s. to £9 15s.; 3rd class, £6 10s. to £7 2s. 6d; three years old, 1st class, £15; 2nd class, £14; springers, £15 12s. 6d.

Notes and Jottings.

THE autumn has certainly done its best to make up the deficiencies in food supply occasioned by the summer drought, and crops which at one time were looked upon as failures now cover the ground and rapidly increase in weight. The prospect for keep during winter is thus vastly improved. The spring food supply, which looked at one time to be in a precarious position, has now become assured, for despite the lateness of sowing occasioned by want of rain, the autumn sown catch crops have become well established. Such a change when things looked so bad when autumn had commenced is most unusual, and, therefore, all the more welcome.

A FEATURE of the season is the succulence of the food at such a late period, and there is as much risk of sheep becoming hoven or blown as there is ordinarily a month earlier in the year. Many cases of hoven have occurred, and whilst the mild weather continues there is likelihood of their continuing. In such weather, too, swedes grow rapidly, but do not mature despite their size, and are not therefore wholesome food. It is, therefore, desirable to keep away from the crop as long as possible, or if the exigencies of the food supply demand that they must be eaten at once, there is more than ordinary necessity to be liberal with the dry food.

CABBAGES demonstrate their value at this season when they are well matured and very feeding; and whilst sheep are scouring on swedes and doing very little good, those on cabbages thrive well. In dirty weather such as is being experienced in the sheep pens, the advantage of the cabbage which stands well above ground, over the roots which grow in the ground and are soon smothered, when sheep gnaw them is very marked; there is great waste of root even though the heels are picked up. Nor is the extra dirt the sheep are obliged to consume good for them.

TAKING all the expenses of the two crops, swedes and cabbages, when the two crops are fed to sheep, cabbages are certainly the least expensive to grow if the swedes are got up, topped, tailed, and cleaned, and sliced in a turnip cutter. If they are not got up and sliced, it is only in the most favourable times when there is not considerable waste. For my own part, I have never been able to see much difference in the cost of growing the two crops; and cabbages which can be cleaned up without having to be got up and sliced are certainly the more economical, as well as the safest autumn food.

IN these days the humanitarian is very much alive, and his methods are frequently irksome to others in relation to matters in which, were he to get his desire, he would gain little for the animals in whose cause he has interested himself. In other words, he is inclined to be busy in matters that do not call for interference. There is one matter in connection with sheep farming where much avoidable suffering occurs, which might be avoided with distinct pecuniary advantage to the owner. Those who have seen sheep racked and shaken with husk until they are living skeletons, and of which some soon become dead ones, cannot fail to see how unprofitable it is to allow sheep to get into this condition. Yet there are districts where thousands of sheep may be seen during a day's drive where the majority are suffering intensely, and practically nothing is done to relieve the sheep.

IN arable districts husk is little known, as it is mainly derived from pastures which harbour the husk worm which causes the husky cough. As a rule the lower-lying pastures are most infested by husk worms, though damp ones on higher ground are bad, as dampness is a condition which specially favours their development; while any pastures frequently carrying sheep are liable to be dangerous. Husk is therefore a very prevalent ailment, and the annual loss of money caused by it must represent an enormous sum among the 30,000,000 sheep in Britain.

HUSK is avoidable, it is the source of great loss, and causes an amount of suffering among sheep. It is, however, not strictly a contagious ailment, though where the husk worm is prevalent it may attack a whole flock; but the fact of its being so common appears to have made many absolutely callous of the suffering, and careless of the loss. If there is one matter on the farm in which curative methods should be insisted upon, it is that of husk. By this one does not mean that whenever a sheep sneezes or coughs compulsory measures should be taken to cure it; but when sheep are really bad with husk those who do not try to alleviate the suffering should be forced to do it. We all know what irritation any small substances in the breathing tubes cause us; but what should we think if we were in the position of the sheep, with a considerable number of worms attacking the throat, causing inflammation, which the hardest and most continuous coughing will not dislodge?

THE emaciated condition to which sheep are brought is undeniable evidence of the sufferings the sheep undergo; and it does not need to be much of a humanitarian for one to think that if the owner, of his freewill, does not take steps to remove the cause, someone ought to make him. The owner could have no cause to grumble, as the difference in the value of a sheep after husking through autumn and winter would be represented in shillings for every penny that need be spent in the cure. Of course a very great many do systematically keep it in subjection.

THE old question of colouring sheep has come to the fore again; and the National Sheep Breeders' Association was very wise in recommending that each breed should advise as to what degree of colouring should be permitted when sheep were being exhibited. The limitation, we have always urged, is that colouring be permissible so far as it improves the uniform appearance of the animals without covering up blemishes, and that it should be confined strictly to the fleece.

THE practice of colouring, which has been common for more than a century, must be regarded as improving the appearance of the sheep in some breeds, or it would not have been so general; this is only smart marketing or exhibiting. When used to disguise black spots in the skin, spots on the face when there should be none, or any feature that is not consonant with the breed features, then fraudulent faking is intended, and the sheep should be disqualified.

Scottish Farmers and the Sheep Dipping Orders.

On account of the excessively wet weather lately experienced, sheep farmers have in a great many cases found it impracticable to have the autumn dippings of their sheep carried through within the time specified in the Sheep Dipping Orders. At the meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society on the 7th inst., it was resolved to bring this state of matters under the notice of the Board of Agriculture and ask for an extension of the dipping period to the end of November.

In response to these representations the Board of Agriculture have sent a letter in which it is pointed out that local authorities are empowered by Article 3 (2) (1) of the Order, to grant an exemption from dipping requirements thereof in respect of any sheep in connection with which special circumstances render it impracticable to dip them by the 12th inst., and those authorities also have power to make it a condition of the exemption that the sheep should be dipped within a fixed period after that date. The Board have already been in communication on this subject with several of the local authorities concerned, and they believe that the local authorities are prepared to exercise their powers freely in this respect in all cases in which the required dipping has not been carried out by the 12th inst., in consequence of the exceptional character of the weather now prevailing.

The Board consider it desirable that application for an exemption should be considered individually, in the manner indicated above, rather than that the Board should make an extension of the dipping period of general application by amending the Order, as suggested by the Highland Society, inasmuch as any such general extension would have to be accompanied by a provision continuing in operation for a like period the restrictions imposed by Article 15 of the Order, as amended by Order No. 7048, on the exposure of sheep at markets in the area and on the movement of sheep out of the area.

At a recent meeting of the Cheshire County Council the chairman of the Main Roads Committee declared that a stretch of the main road from Manchester to Chester in the Knutsford district had been seriously damaged by dust-laying experiments. When wet weather came the road broke up and became perfectly rotten. The county surveyor estimated that it would cost about £600 to re-make the road.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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CATTLE—*continued.*

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SHEEP—*continued.*

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HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

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KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Nownham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM. TOWNSEND, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at modorate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

PEDIGREE MIDDLE WHITES. — Choice breeding quality, early maturity. Station: Bingham, G.N.R.—HENRY SMITH, jun., Cropwell-Butler, Nottingham.

TAMWORTHS.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH & LARGE BLACK PIGS.—For SALE, at reasonable prices to clear, Gilts, Young Boars, and Young Sows of best breeding.—FRANK SUGDEN, Ruckley Estate Office, Shifnal, Salop.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

SOCIETIES.

Smithfield Club.

The chief item of interest at the last meeting of the council of the Smithfield Club was the discussion which took place on a letter received from the Polled Cattle Society with reference to the rules applying to the entry of the Aberdeen-Angus cattle at the club's shows. That society was wishful that the club should not permit the entry of an animal in the Aberdeen-Angus classes unless such animal is entered or eligible for entry in the Polled Herd Book, or unless such animal shows four continuous crosses of Aberdeen-Angus blood (registered sires) in the pedigree.

It had been previously pointed out to the Polled Cattle Society that the club's rules do not require that animals entered as of any particular breed should be eligible for the Herd Book of such breed. There were in all breeds cattle which were technically ineligible for entry in the Herd Book of the breed, but which were pure-bred cattle, and these, if not allowed to compete in the breed classes, could not be exhibited, as they would not be eligible as cross-breds, no cross being known, and under the club's rules animals were not considered to be cross-breds if they had more than three consecutive crosses of the same blood.

Mr. J. J. Cridlan said he had been specially requested to support the application of the Polled Cattle Society and, which he hoped would be favourably considered. It was a question which did not affect the Aberdeen-Angus cattle only, it affected all breeds of cattle. It was true this was not a breeding society, but it was certainly desirable that animals of doubtful breeding should not appear in the breed classes. He had two Aberdeen-Angus cows which he purchased in the north, but owing to the sudden death of the breeder they could not be identified, and consequently the Polled Cattle Society would not register their progeny. The cows had bred regularly and their produce he had successfully exhibited at the club's shows, but he was quite prepared to sacrifice these animals if the club agreed to the proposal of the Polled Cattle Society.

Mr. Richard Stratton said the question raised by the Polled Cattle Society suggested alterations in the rules which affected all breeds of cattle. The club was not a breed society, and they wanted to open their net as wide as possible, and so long as they got animals certified by the breeder to be of the breed, and of the character of the breed in the opinion of the judges, they should not alter them. If they were not as described they were always subject to disqualification. The existing rules had worked satisfactorily for so long that he could not see any necessity for the suggested alterations.

Mr. W. Reid said he thoroughly supported the remarks made by Mr. Stratton. He was sure it was not desirable to narrow the club's sphere, and he could not see any reason for change. His friend Mr. Cridlan had shown in his own case the desirability of continuing the present rates and conditions.

The Earl of Coventry, who presided, said it appeared to be the general opinion of the council that the Polled Cattle Society had not made out a sufficiently strong case, and he therefore moved that the secretary be directed to inform that society that the council were unable to accede to their request for an alteration in the present rules of entry, and this was agreed to.

At the same meeting Mr. F. Orford L. Walpole who had for the last fourteen years assisted the late Professor Sir George Brown as resident veterinary inspector at the club's show, was appointed veterinary inspector for the forthcoming show, whilst a letter was read from the Railway Clearing House stating that the club's application for reduced fares for members visiting the club's show had been submitted to the railway superintendents in conference, who regretted that they were unable to accede to the application.

Forty-eight new members were elected, and the next meeting of the council was fixed for December 11.

Royal Lancashire Society.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society is to be congratulated on the success which attended their own contracting and catering at their Lancaster show this year. The results were made known at the quarterly meeting of the council, held on Wednesday at Liverpool, and gave general satisfaction.

Mr. Windham E. Hale, in moving the adoption of the Works Committee's report, stated that the work connected with the society's showground at Lancaster in August had been completed, and the ground had been handed over to those who lent it, to the satisfaction of the latter in every way. The committee had also taken possession of the ground at Bolton (the place for next year's show), and the work for the coming year's show was well in hand.

The total cost of the Lancaster show had amounted to £1,783, as against £2,180 at Liverpool in 1905. If the showground at Lancaster had been erected, as in the past, by a contractor the total cost to the society would have been some £3,000, so that in doing this work themselves the society had been saved something like £1,200. Another advantage of this policy was that they avoided any of the difficulty which had been experienced the last time they visited Bolton, in connection with the trade unions; on this occasion the trade unions had met the secretary, and were ready to support the show in every way. —The report was adopted.

Mr. James Kay reported the results of the catering, which had at Lancaster been undertaken by the society for the first time in their history. The committee had successfully carried out their instructions to supply a better article both of food and drink at a less price than had previously been charged by contractors. They supplied no fewer than 8,328 luncheons at 1s. per head less than contractors' price, a saving of £416 to the public; 10,025 teas at a saving to the public of £250, while liquors of a very considerably better quality were provided at a very substantially reduced price. Sandwiches to the number of 19,563 were made and sold on the ground, and 10,000 pork pies were also disposed of. A staff of 283 had been engaged.

He had no hesitation in saying, added Mr. Kay, that the saving to the public at the Lancaster show in the catering department was not less than £1,000. In addition to a saving of £100 to the council, the committee had made a gross profit of £529, and after debiting themselves with £150, which they thought they would have got from a contractor for the right of catering at Lancaster, they had a net balance of £380 to hand over to the council.

The report was adopted with general congratulations on the success of the committee's efforts, and a resolution to retain the catering in the society's hands next year was unanimously carried.

The secretary (Mr. Edward Bohane) announced that the total receipts from all sources in connection with the Lancaster show had amounted to £9,671, and after meeting all expenses there was a balance of profit of £69. In the history of the society they had never previously gone north of Preston under a loss of £1,000, while at Barrow-in-Furness they had lost £2,000. There had been a saving effected of £1,000 in the fitting up of the ground at Lancaster and of about £500 in the catering.

It was decided to sign a petition from the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies in favour of railway companies being asked to grant reduced fares to officials and exhibitors travelling on the various railways in connection with agricultural shows.

It was further decided that the 1907 show at Bolton should be held on August 1, 2, 3, and 5 (Bank Holiday).

Highland Society.

At the last meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, the secretary read a letter from Sir James Gibson-Craig, Bart., who wrote that the president of the society, the Duke of Buccleuch, had permitted him to announce that their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales would go to Dalkeith and would attend the show in Edinburgh if the date could be fixed for the second week of July, 1907. Sir James suggested that the dates July 9, 10, 11, and 12 should be adopted.

The dates mentioned were accordingly agreed to.

It was announced by the secretary that the accounts of the Peebles Show, subject to audit, showed a balance on the right side of £400. The Chairman (Mr. A. Gordon, of Newton) regarded that result as very satisfactory in the circumstances, and it was pointed out that the park had been improved from the point of view of pasture by the holding of the show there.

As the Edinburgh Agricultural Association will not hold their show next year, it was agreed to grant permission to have that association's usual "Derby" sweepstake for Clydesdale yearling colts and fillies carried out in the Highland Show at Edinburgh.

With regard to the Aberdeen Show of 1908, it was stated that the town council of Aberdeen had resolved to give a donation of £100 towards the local fund, and to grant the use of the links for the showyard, while the county council of Aberdeenshire had resolved to raise £500 by a voluntary assessment.

Mr. Marr, Uppermill, moved that the directors adhere to the resolution prohibiting exhibitors from leading their own stock in the judging ring in certain classes. He did not think it a right thing for exhibitors to go into the ring. No doubt their judges were quite independent, but the presence of an exhibitor in the ring was an embarrassment to the judges which the society should not permit.

The motion was not seconded, whilst Captain Clayhills Henderson moved that the resolution be rescinded, and this was adopted

The Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies.

At the quarterly conference of the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies, held at Blackburn on the 10th inst., Mr, J. W. Parkinson, of Worsley, presiding, it was reported that the following dates of shows for next year had been arranged:—Padiham, August 3; Norden, July 27; Burnley, May 18; Rochdale, August 19; Ashton-under-Lyne, June 15; Whitworth, August 10; Cliviger, August 19; Wardle, September 11; Delph, April 27; Colne, June 1; Darwen, May 11; Great Harwood, May 21; Newchurch, May 27; Ramsbottom, June 8; Scarisbrick, Halsall, and Downholland (a new society), July 24; Worsley, August 31; Worsthorne, May 14; and Hebden Bridge, May 25.

The secretary submitted a tabulated statement showing the average receipts of the various affiliated societies for their shows of 1903, 1904, and 1905, and the premiums which would be required to pay compensation under schemes of insurance based upon gate results. Scheme No. 1 requires a premium of 15 per cent. to pay full compensation in every case where the gate of 1906 falls below the average of three years, and this leaves a balance of £6 6s. only. Scheme No. 2 allows a compensation to be payable only in those cases where the gate receipts of 1906 fall more than 25 per cent. below the average, and shows a surplus of £33 6s. 3d. The latter scheme is based on a premium of 5 per cent., and benefits only those societies sustaining heavy losses. After consideration, it was decided to send copies to each affiliated society for their information, in order that at a future conference some decision may be arrived at.

The Secretary reported that with regard to the petition to the Railway Clearing House, asking that the facilities now given to delegates and representatives at other meetings, anglers, golfers, &c., should be extended to exhibitors and officials attending shows, about a hundred societies and fanciers' clubs, representing 2,000 members, had signed. The Kennel Club and the Royal Agricultural Society of England were acting with them. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Bohane, Secretary of the Royal Lancashire, congratulated the federation upon having taken the initiative. It was a burning question, and it ought to have been taken up long ago.

The annual meeting and dinner was fixed for December 15 at Southport, and it was decided that, failing Sir Lees Knowles's acceptance of the presidency, Mr. W. Ashley, M.P., be invited to the position.

Lincolnshire Agricultural Society.

The council met at the society's rooms, Lincoln, on Friday week, Sir John H. Thorold, Bart., in the chair.

The secretary reported that arrangements had been made for all members of the society subscribing not less than 20s. for the year 1907, and having paid their subscription for 1906, to enter stock, &c., at the same fees as members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and have free admission to the show for the whole of the meeting; and for members being annual subscribers of 10s. for 1906 and 1907 to have a free ticket giving admission to the show each day.

Arrangements were made and members of council, &c., appointed to carry out a canvass for new members; and instructions were given that the privileges of membership should be printed and circulated throughout the county by such sub-committees.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

At the recent meeting of the British Dairy Farmers' Association it was reported that the receipts for the admission of the public at the recent Dairy Show were in excess of all previous records, and that the receipts from other sources were entirely satisfactory. The Show Committee reported upon a number of matters arising out of the exhibition, and made various proposals with regard to the future. The council considered and dealt with protests against the award of certain prizes, were not upheld.
upheld.

A return was submitted showing that in the nine weeks ended November 3 the imports of fresh milk into the United Kingdom amounted to 531, against 53 cwt. in the corresponding weeks of last year. Of cream the imports reached 886, compared with 1,034 cwt.; of preserved milk 2,532 against 776 cwt.; while the imports of condensed milk were 183,282 cwt., or 18,000 more than in the corresponding weeks of last year.

On the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee it was agreed to make a series of analyses of imported milk, especially with a view to ascertain the presence of preservative as well as its nature and proportion.

The next meeting of the council was fixed to be held on Tuesday, December 11.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Central Cornwall Farmers.

According to the report presented at the thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Central Cornwall Farmers' Association, during the past season some 600 tons of manure had been bought through the association, and the analysis had proved the manures to have been of a very high standard. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. C. Menhinick; vice-president, Mr. John Key, St. Breock. The general committee were re-elected with few additions, and the secretary, Mr. Truscott, was re-elected.

East Kent.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the East Kent Agricultural Society showed that the society's annual show held at Ashford this year in conjunction with the Ashford Horse Show, proved most successful, there being a net balance from the show of £109 16s 10d., £64 5s. 6d. of which went to the East Kent Agricultural Society and £45 11s. 4d. to the Ashford Horse Show. The election of president of the society was deferred until the venue of the next annual show had been decided. A letter was received from the Ashford Horse Show Society, suggesting a meeting between deputations from the Ashford and East Kent Societies, to make arrangements for the future. It was decided that a meeting of the delegates should be held at Canterbury on November 24.

Furness.

Although only formed on August 31, 1905, the Furness District Farmers' Association has now a membership of 200, and has had a most successful year's work as well as a satisfactory financial working, there being a balance in hand, £18 7s. 3d. At the recent annual meeting it was generally agreed that the association had made a most satisfactory beginning, which will urge the members to do even better in the future. Mr. Myles Kennedy, J.P., was re-elected as president; Mr. W. Lewthwaite, Broadgate, as vice-president; and Mr. F. W. Poole as secretary. The question of the desirability of forming a kind of routine society for the insurance of stock in the society's district was brought forward, and the suggestion being well received by the meeting, it was resolved that the matter be referred to the committee for further consideration, and report to a future meeting.

Horsforth.

The annual meeting of the Horsforth Agricultural Society was held on the 9th inst., Dr. Bailey in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. It was reported by Mr. Clough, one of the hon. secretaries, that the society had £55 15s. 2d. to the good. Next year's show was fixed for the last Saturday in May—viz., May 25. The secretaries also announced that a silver cup had been presented by a member of the committee for competition in the horse section. The hon. secretaries, Messrs. Thos. Clough and R. B. Thackray, were reappointed.

Hunts Chamber.

In the course of the report presented at the annual meeting of the Hunts Chamber of Agriculture it was stated that the membership had increased during the year from 131 to 303, a highly satisfactory state of things due to the energy of the chamber and other members. The financial statement was also gratifying, for it showed a balance in hand of £35 9s. 6d. It was stated that the Hailstorm Relief Fund amounted to £4,300, but it was confidently hoped that the total would reach £5,000. Mr. H. C. Sweeting was unanimously elected chairman for the ensuing year, and other officers were elected.

Monmouthshire.

A general meeting of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture will be held on Wednesday next, at 2.30 p.m., at Newport, the chief feature of which will be a discussion on the Purchase of Land (England and Wales) Bill, which will be introduced by the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., who is the promoter of the Bill. Other business is:—Election of new members and other general business, including minutes of last meeting, and acknowledgments from the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State, the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, the War Office, the Right Hon. Viscount Tredegar, D. A. Thomas, Esq., M.P., Colonel Ivor Herbert, M.P., and the Central Chamber of Agriculture, of the resolutions passed at last meeting; to consider circular from Central Chamber *re* annual agricultural dinner in London during Smithfield Show week; to consider circular from Hunts. Chamber of Agriculture respecting relief fund for the sufferers from the great hailstorm on Aug. 2; to discuss the question of the Army meat contracts; to discuss the report of the Royal Commission on Motor Cars; and to discuss the question of local taxation (adjourned from last meeting of Central Chamber to the December meeting).

Scottish Chamber.

A special meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held at No. 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday at 10.30 a.m., when the business will be as follows:—(1) In view of the second reading of the Small Landowners' Bill coming on soon, considering recommendations by chairman's committee with reference to that Bill;—(1) generally and (2) particularly in relation to the Board of Agriculture—proposal to ask Secretary for Scotland to receive deputation. (2) Motion by Mr. Rutherford *re* chairman's committee. (3) Marking of home produce. (4) Railway company's "owner's risk," rates, and consignment notes. Railway (Contracts) Bill.

Thorpe Audlin Farming and Rural Association.

The annual meeting of the above association was held at Thorpe Common Cottages, near Pontefract, on Wednesday evening last. There was a full attendance of members, and business matters were pleasantly and speedily gone through. The report showed the association to be in a sound condition financially, and great satisfaction was expressed with regard to the amount of work gone through during the year, also the success of two of the members in having passed the Board of Education's examination in Agricultural Science and Rural Economy. These successes are undoubtedly owing to the efforts of Mr. W. Pool, of Badworth, the able and efficient lecturer to the association. There was a strong feeling prevalent in the meeting of eager anticipation for the coming season's work, which speaks well for the future success of the association. The chairman and hon. secretary both resigned from their positions, and Mr. Thomas Tune was elected chairman and Mr. E. Harrison, hon. secretary. These were all the changes effected, the meeting being brought to a close amid heartily-expressed feelings of good fellowship.

Mr. William Harrison and Messrs. Harrison, McGregor and Co., Ltd.

On Monday, at a meeting of the directors of Messrs. Harrison, McGregor and Co., Ltd., Albion Ironworks, Leigh, Mr. W. Harrison, J.P., resigned his position as general manager of the company, in order to take up a very important position with the firm of Messrs. J. Buchanan and Co., distillers and blenders, London. Mr. Buchanan, the head of the firm, has been an intimate friend of Mr. Harrison for the last twenty years, and Mr. Harrison has consented to be the manager of the Lancashire business of the firm, with offices in Manchester. He will, however, retain all his interest in Harrison, McGregor and Co., Ltd., and will continue to be chairman of the directors as at present if the directors so desire; in fact, it is Mr. Buchanan's special wish that he should give all the active support he can to the Albion Ironworks, and also retain his position as a member of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, and the Agricultural Engineers' Association and the Tariff Commission. Mr. Harrison will continue to reside in Leigh, and remain in close touch with the business, and with those interested and working in the Albion Ironworks. It is gratifying to Mr. Harrison to be resigning his position as general manager of the ironworks at a time when the business is in a prosperous condition. As a matter of fact, the year ended September 30, 1906, has been a record one in the history of the concern, the sales having been £20,000 more than in any previous year, and the prospects for the future are very encouraging. Mr. Harrison, after being educated at the Leigh Grammar School, under Mr. Ralph Passe, went to Paris in 1878, and entered the counting-house of Messrs. Waite, Burnell and Co., agricultural implement and seed merchants, Paris, and was with them till 1881, when he returned to Leigh and went through the Albion works and learned the practical part of the business. He went back to Paris in 1884, to take up the management of the French business of Harrison McGregor, and Co. He relinquished this post in 1890 and returned to the works at Leigh. At the beginning of 1894, owing to the unfortunate illness of Mr. A. McGregor, he took up the management of the Albion works, and despite fierce competition in the past of the American and Canadian manufacturers the business has enormously increased, as will be seen by the following figures showing the sales of machines:

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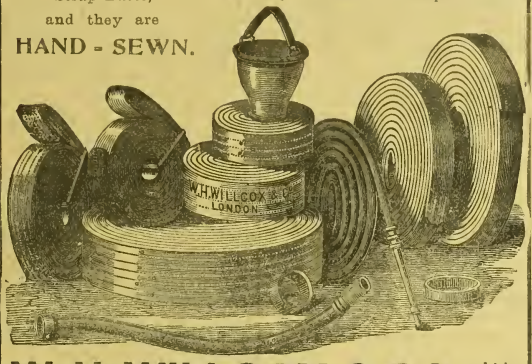

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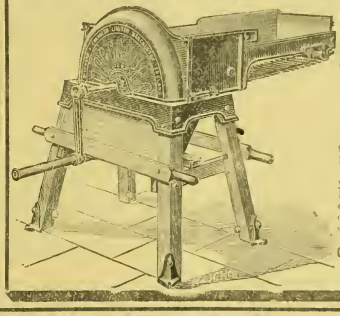

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Sealed Tenders must be sent in endorsed "Fodder and Bedding" or "Corn" respectively, directed to the undersigned, and delivered on or before Saturday, the 1st December, 1906, after which day no Tender will be received.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order,
ARTHUR W. J. RUSSELL, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Paddington, W.,
14th November, 1906.

SOCIETIES.

VISCOUNT TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOWS.

VISCOUNT TREDEGAR has fixed the 88th Annual Meeting to be held at the CATTLE MARKET, NEWPORT, MON., on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 27 and 28.

The Show-yard will be open to the public on Tuesday, the 27th, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Wednesday, the 28th, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The TRIAL OF HUNTERS will take place at COEDKERNEW on Tuesday, the 27th, at 11 o'clock.

G. P. MITCHELL-INNES,
Secretary,
Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

LEEDS SMITHFIELD SHOW.—47th Annual Exhibition will be held in the Victoria Cattle Market Hall, December 11, 12, and 13, 1906. Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Dressed Poultry, Butter, Poultry, Pigeons, and Rabbits. Entries finally close December 1, 1906. Schedules, now ready, may be had on application to the Secretary, H. KITCHEN, 3, Wormald Row, Leeds.

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LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Weights and Measures. ONE of the most puzzling things to a man who has anything to do with the buying and selling of fruit and vegetable produce, and moves from one place to another, is the way in which weights and measures vary in different localities, and why in the name of all that's reasonable standard imperial weights and measures should not be used all over the country is a thing we quite fail to understand. What between pots, kipes, strikes, and other local terms, the whole thing is a perfect muddle, with nothing consistent about it, and the first thing a man has to do when he moves from one district to another is to initiate himself in the mysteries of the local weights and measures. That we should stick to this old-fashioned system of muddle is another sign of our sheer conservatism, because with an imperial standard before them there is no reason why buyers and sellers everywhere should not adopt it. In a very short time people would get used to standard weights and measures that would be comprehensive to everybody, but the one difficulty seems to be that of breaking away from an old order of things that is nothing but disorder.

Fighting Rats and Sparrows. WHEREVER farms are there will rats and sparrows be, and they seem to show their affection for the habitations of farmers by sticking closer the more they are persecuted. Rats are an unmitigated nuisance anywhere, and so are sparrows under certain circumstances, and though every man's hand is against them they thrive and multiply. We notice, by the way, that the Hamstreet and District Agricultural Club in Kent has decided to adopt organised methods in the destruction of these pests, and this strikes us as being the only rational way of dealing with them. Take rats, for instance. The way some farmers tolerate these destructive rodents without making any apparent effort to get rid of them is really surprising, and if they are to be cleared out of a district there must be combined effort. In the case of the Hamstreet Agricultural Club the district embraced is practically the whole of the Romney Marsh, and an important branch of farming there is the growing of turnip seed. The ravages of birds amongst this crop makes it very necessary that prompt steps should be taken to deal with the feathered pests, but this is not the only locality in the country where sentiment must be sunk in the interest of growing crops. We have never known anyone to hold a brief for rats, but many well-meaning persons defend birds, even sparrows, and we should be the last to advocate killing the homely chirruper merely for the sake of doing so. In the interests of agriculture, however, it is essential that injurious creatures of any kind should be prevented from getting too numerous.

Moles and Mole Catchers. IN his way the mole is a useful creature and eats a good many insect pests in the ground, but we can easily have too much of him, and he adds to the worries of farmers when whole fields are tunnelled under and hillocks of earth are thrown up in every direction. In such cases we naturally forget all about the usefulness of the mole and are seized with an overwhelming desire to get rid of his unwelcome presence. This is not always such an easy thing as it looks, and it is not every man who is master of the art of molecatching. It has been said that good molecatchers are born with the capacity, and though we would hardly go so far as to uphold this contention, we know there are men who have lived on farms all their lives and yet know no more about setting a trap and catching a mole than a costermonger from Whitechapel, while others seem to know by instinct just where to fix the trap and generally succeed in getting their mole. Some of the most expert molecatchers we have ever met hail from the Westmoreland and the lake district, and on some estates we know, men from the above county are engaged by the landlord to keep down the moles. On many estates, however, there is no organised system. The landlord does not bother about moles, and the farmers cannot, or will not, catch them, so they thrive and multiply and become a general nuisance.

Piecework and Day Work. IN a recent discussion which took place at a meeting of the Farmers' Club one of the speakers urged that piecework was more economical for the master and productive of more contentment to the men. Taking a broad view of the matter, we are inclined to think that there is a good deal in the contention, though of course, much depends on the character of the master and also the man. There is much work on a farm that cannot be done by the piece, but there is also a good deal that may be, and while men often work harder on a bargain job the master is relieved of considerable responsibility. A labourer who takes work by the piece is less of a machine and more of a man, because he acquires a habit of relying on himself and his own judgment, and the experience improves him. What spoils the spirit of piecework is the straw-splitting that is often connected with it. If a master in setting a job screws it down to the utmost farthing the man is tempted to scamp the work in order to get his money, but get a honest labourer, who will make a good job as a matter of principle, and a master who is fair and open-minded, the piecework system has much to commend it, as being the best for both parties concerned, and if a man does make a shilling or two extra through taking a job by bargain it usually comes out of his own bones rather than his master's pocket.

Footpaths. WE met with a farmer the other day who vowed he would give notice and leave, not because he had anything to say against the landlord, but because there are public footpaths running through practically every field on his farm. Some of them are altogether unnecessary, as they run parallel to a main road on the other side of the hedge; but, as everyone knows, the British public holds strong views about shutting up a footpath. In this respect the British public is unfair, and while resenting the mere suggestion of closing a footpath the people who use it take it as a privilege to walk on either side of the definite track until the footpath becomes as broad as a public highway. Prosecution for damage is the remedy, you say, but if a farmer who has a footpath running nearly every field on his holding, and prosecuted every time a pedestrian strayed from the track he would have to take apartments at the nearest police-court. We have remedies for many grievances, but it is not always easy to apply them, and we contend that the value of a farm is lessened if it is intersected in every direction by public footpaths.

Roads on the Farm. DURING the dull days of winter, both before and after Christmas, actual cultural work is not so pressing on the farm, and the time is opportune for paying attention to jobs that have to stand aside during busier seasons of the year. One of these tasks is attention to roads, and on many farms this item is deplorably neglected. It is not an uncommon thing when you turn off the King's highway to go to a wayside farm, that you find yourself on a track full of holes and ruts, and to drive along it is not only uncomfortable but positively dangerous. How on earth some of the lads who have to run milk to the station night and morning manipulate farm roads and get on to the highway without turning over the milk and breaking their necks, is often a mystery to us, but it is a great wear and tear to both horse and vehicle. Then there is the comfort of the thing. How much more easy it is to do carting and get about a farm if the roads are good, and the reason why many are in such a bad state is because they are neglected. To keep a

road in good order the ruts must be filled up from time to time, and the sides kept clear so that the water can drain away. Of course the responsibility of good farm roads is shared by landlord and tenant, and they should both do their part in their mutual interests.

Hunting Farmers.

WE do not wonder that farmers who can afford to do so follow hounds, because the taste for sport is as firmly implanted in the breast of the agriculturist as in that of the aristocrat, and who will say that there is not something delightfully exhilarating in a gallop across country with the hounds in full cry. Just when a farmer can afford to follow hounds is a matter which he alone can decide, and there are many sad instances to-day of men who hunted regularly in the palmy days of agriculture, but made the fatal mistake of sticking to the sport and neglecting the farm when prices began to fall and all their time and attention were needed at home. There is a good deal of difference, however, between hunting regularly and hunting occasionally. The man who follows hounds several days a week must have a banking account to support it, and few working farmers can do this, but we have not a word to say against a man who keeps a horse that can jump, and when the hounds come his way, puts the saddle on his mount, and has a gallop in their wake. Why shouldn't he? The sport-loving farmer does more than a little to preserve the foxes, why shouldn't he join occasionally in the fun?

Rabbits and Rabbiting.

FARMERS earned the name of being a hospitable class of people years and years ago, and the reputation is kept up by the practitioners of the present day. "Come and have a day's rabbiting" was the invitation we received quite recently from a farmer friend, and we went. It was a kind of a field day, as several other friends were invited to shoot, while the labourers manipulated the ferrets. Rabbits bolted well, we had good sport, and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves in a homely sort of way. The chief item of interest, however, was the delight our host took in seeing his friends enjoy themselves, and at mid-day the big table in the dining-room groaned with its weight of solid farmhouse fare. We may be justly proud to think that this spirit of hospitality and goodfellowship is still alive amongst the farming fraternity, and so far as sport is concerned the tenant-farmer in these days is more fortunate than his forefather in being privileged to offer his friends a day's rabbiting, even though he does not make so much money as his grandfather did.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Mr. Rider Haggard's Exaggerated Fears.

To Mr. Rider Haggard the Land Tenure Bill hath a more appalling guise than even its most relentless Parliamentary opponent has attributed to it. It is in its sinisterness a very Hyrcan bear. Frankly, I am not dismayed by his belief that it will destroy the amenities of the country-side, that it will tend to banish sympathetic landlordism, and that it will only encourage that very big landlord who, destitute of traditional affection for the land, will simply buy out the tenants whose displacement is necessary for the accommodation of his pheasants and partridges. We have heard the first of these two assertions made on every occasion on which an attempt has been made to modernise the tenure laws. After all, too, apart from the proposals in regard to game, the more significant anxieties of this Bill reflect an aim which once possessed Mr. Walter Long, who is scarcely a revolutionist, and is surely not an anti-landlordite, or else simply embody the suggestions of a Commission, one of whose distinguished members was Mr. Henry Chaplin, who again can scarcely be described as an anarchist in the matter of tenure reform.

There are provisions which go beyond these suggestions of Mr. Walter Long and of the Royal Commission; but at least those proposals may be said to be salient points of this Bill. In view of these facts the contention of Mr. Rider Haggard that the proposals of the Bill would be paralleled by the demand of landlords that they should be compensated for the loss of a good tenant and for the expense in getting another lacks—well, lacks that logic, well-balanced perception and statesmanlike grasp which we have hitherto wisely associated with Mr. Rider Haggard. The distinguished farmer-novelist has given his imagination so loose a rein that it has got the bit between its teeth and is running away with his native common-sense. And if the third proposition were realised, if big capitalists were to seek to lay fallow the soil in order to breed game, and game only, they would invoke their own undoing. Statecraft would never permit the mathematical displacement of men for birds in order that wealthy selfishness might, in the encouragement of their borrowed sportive spirit, avoid the responsibilities of the Land Tenure Act and their duty to the community. This determination is, I can assure Mr. Haggard, very apparent in this Parliament. And the Lords would be no barrier to a policy which could be accomplished by means of the Budget.

Mr. Haggard's Judicious Warning.

Where Mr. Rider Haggard is right is in his anticipation that the new legislation may prove the antagonist rather than the friend of the small-holdings policy. Landlords will naturally hesitate to cut up their farms into small holdings when they know that as a sequel to this policy and their own recognition of the trend of agrarian economy, they would penalise themselves by adding to their compensation-responsibility, whilst actually introducing a rival ownership to their own in the soil. This is a perfectly clear and prescient anticipation. The experiment of small-holding colonies will possibly be brought to an end—that is, unless the Government step in in a paterfamilias capacity, establish a system of modified State ownership, or utilise the resources of the State in the voluntary dispossession of landlordism, as Mr. Jesse Collings purposes, in order to create small owners under the ægis of the nation. If this Land Tenure measure did not, indeed, have as a corollary a Small Holdings Bill on the lines which both Sir F. A. Channing and Mr. Collings have indicated, it would mean a dire blow to the small-holdings experiments.

Wisdom from Tariff Reformers.

There are two phases of the report of the Agricultural Committee of the Tariff Reform League which must be particularly gratifying to the MARK LANE EXPRESS. With the third phase, the free competition of foreign rivals, who pay neither rates nor taxes and meet no national responsibility, I need not for the moment deal beyond to ask one question: How is the British farmer, market gardener, or small holder to benefit by the discouragement of the foreigner by means of a tariff if the colonial competitor is not only to be admitted free, but to be encouraged to be a more effective rival than the foreigner ever was? The two phases have been again and again emphasised in this column. The first is that the English Board of Agriculture is so parsimoniously provided with funds by the State that it can never in its effectiveness vie with the parallel departments in our own colonies and on the Continent. Our department can be little more, with its poor equipment, than a department of pious professions and of portly parables. Given ten, or even five, times the money it has now at its disposal, and it might be as direct an influence in agrarian prosperity as is the Canadian department in the weal of the Canadian farmer. The second point is that the over-taxed British farmer has to pay much more for the moving of his goods to the markets than has his foreign rival—a fact which in itself militates against his spending as much as his rival on wise package and secure consignment.

In emphasising these two points this Agricultural Committee has pointed out a national duty which has no more to do with Protection than it has with Free Trade—which involves an absolute responsibility upon every Parliamentarian who desires that British agriculture should, in the economic race, have fair play and judicious assistance. We want a Board of Agriculture that shall be something more than a platitude. We want a distributive system that shall be something more than a penalty.

Is the Appointment well for Farmers?

I have no doubt that the appointment of Sir James Woodhouse to the vacant Railway Commissionership will be absolutely justified in its general results. Sir James Woodhouse is a man of great industrial experience, of undeniable sagacity, and of high character. All the same, however, he represents a phase of enterprise already adequately represented. Commerce had its direct representative on the Commission—agriculture had no direct representative. The nomination of Sir James Woodhouse thus means that agriculture—vital as are its concern with the work of the Commission, fateful as may be the Commission's decisions to the weal of the interest—is still without any direct representation. It cannot be said, too, that Mr. Lloyd-George, the President of the Board of Trade, was without a choice in this business.

As a fact, one distinguished colleague in the House who was a candidate for the position—and who, I ween, had a more powerful backing than had Sir James Woodhouse—has not only made a study of agrarian economics and conditions, but he has given this study so disciplined a character that he now enjoys, more particularly on the Liberal side of the House, the reputation of an expert. Beyond this, too, he is also known to have a clear and cogent grasp of the Local Government problem, as a result of administrative experience at the Board. The deliberate setting aside of the claims of this eminent man and of the interest he represents—this setting aside of his claims in order that commerce might monopolise the *personnel* of the Commission—is electorally a mistake. It suggests again, despite the anxiety of Liberals to pose as the only hall-marked friends of agriculture, that the party cares infinitely more for urbanism than for ruralism. Sir Frederick Peel was in a large sense a representative of ruralism. As a result of Mr. Lloyd-George's new appointment—which certainly has several justifications on mere personal grounds—ruralism is without that representation.

The Lord Chancellor and the Magistracy.

You may not have gathered the fact, but it is undeniably the case that the Lord Chancellor—the darling of assertive Radicalism when he was Sir Robert Reid—has become almost obnoxious to the nostrils of the faithful. This is all because of his appointments to the county magisterial bench. "Restore the balance of parties," clamoured the Liberals when, from Sir Robert Reid, evolved Lord Loreburn, Lord Chancellor of England and Keeper of the King's Conscience. "I do not see," said his lordship in effect, "what partyism has to do with the administration of justice." Undismayed by these rebuffs, the Liberal agents sent him sheafs of names belonging to persons who had, in their own parlance, fought the good fight—in other words, had been effective Liberal emissaries. Still the Lord Chancellor was resolute. He was, said he in effect, not the real nominator, the nomination was with the Lord Lieutenant, be he Liberal or Tory; the Lord Chancellor had only the duty of ratification. "Do what Lord Herschell threatened to do," demanded the agents—"over-ride the lords lieutenant. Their power of nomination is not a constitutional right—it is only a complimentary concession." Lord Loreburn has refused to do this; and hence it is that it is the lord-lieutenant's nominees rather than the Radical agents who find themselves given the right to affix the letters "J.P." to their name. Of course, to a certain section of the Radical mind this refusal to make the paid mercenary of the faith, the agent, the disposer of magisterial dignity is an appalling sin—something worse than an offence against the Decalogue or the refusal to make Dr. Clifford the Dictator of Faith to the country at large. Still, I opine that there is a staple section of the community who will regard this resolution with equanimity, nay, with appreciation. This section believes that the administration of justice will be cleaner if its fount be the lord-lieutenant's serene judgment.

The death occurred at Garforth last week, with startling suddenness, of Mr. Emmerson Pickering, one of the largest and best-known cattle dealers in the North of England. Mr. Pickering was the owner of large estates at Dotterell Park, between Bridlington and Scarborough, and at Driffield. His interests covered a wide district, and his comparatively early death will cause widespread regret.

NORWICH FAT STOCK SHOW.

The festive season has already heralded its approach by the advent of this, the first of the great Christmas fat stock shows, which opened to the public on Thursday last at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich. The weather on the day previous to the show as well as on the first day of the exhibition was unseasonably mild, and very oppressive for the cattle. As the space available for them is very limited, crowding has to be resorted to if the whole of the entries are to be accommodated. The attendance, too, at Norwich always appears to be so great as to very much congest matters, especially towards evening, by which time the heat becomes far too great to be wholesome for either man or beast. It seems rather a cause for regret that so useful a building cannot be amplified, seeing there is ample unenclosed space adjoining; however, such a suggestion has no doubt been made a long time since. The number of entries of cattle fell some twenty short of last year, the falling off being chiefly noticeable in the local classes, butchers, and small cattle. Some of the other sections also fell much short of years ago, especially the class open to all breeds, which upon this occasion contained but three animals. There is a falling off of one or two leading exhibitors' entries as seen some years ago that makes itself rather severely felt in so small a show. The absence of some of these animals from the leading classes leaves rather a blank that is noticeable. The general quality of the stock is not of a very high level, so many cases of plainness in shape or want of more size or growth being conspicuously present, yet the best animals will probably be able to hold their own. The most noticeable feature, perhaps, in respect of the general standing of the exhibition is the entire absence, or nearly so, of purely bred stock of two or three of the leading breeds. Devons have not a single representative, Herefords but one, and Angus not more than two or three, whilst Shorthorns are made up mostly of what may be termed misfits from the breeding ranks, and crosses never make a good uniform display, varying so much in size and other respects. The native Red Polls, too, this year are not a very satisfactory section. There are some big, good Irish cattle, and two or three very perfect small cattle. Sheep and pigs are good.

Red Polls.

As is natural in their own home, the solid coloured reds take precedence in the catalogue, and of the four young steers competing Sir Walter Corbett's yearling by Albert was accounted the best. In weight he is satisfactory, but as regards his symmetry and covering of roasting beef, he might be considerably better; he records 12 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. in the scales. The Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes scores second with a well-ribbed, very neat steer of good quality by Arthur, and two very promising though backward steers from Sir Thomas Gooch's herd filled the third and reserve places. There were only two older steers shown, Sir Walter Corbett's by Lord Rattler, a symmetrical, ripe, good stamp of steer by Lord Rattler with 16 cwt. 12 lb. to his credit in the way of the scale, placed first and eventually champion of the section, and a bullock of Sir R. P. Cooper's by Felix scaling 15 cwt. 10 lb., and of good feeding and quality. Mr. Fellows secured both first and second prizes for females with two very tight, nice quality heifers, Advent and Appendix, ripe and weighing capitally. Mr. J. B. Dimmock had also a very good heifer breed.

Shorthorns.

Steers above two and not exceeding three years old were well represented, and competition was fairly close between the three first animals. These were Mr. E. T. Learner's Great Scot, a short-legged red and white, full of good flesh well carried and capitally brought out, Scotch bred, and scaling the respectable record of 18 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb., placed first; Miss Alice de Rothschild's roan, just under the age limit, bred by exhibitor and sired by Waddesden Youth, an evenly-fed steer, full of quality and carrying himself uncommonly well with a weight of 17 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb., placed second; and Mr. R. W. Hudson's steer of the Marquis of Exeter's breeding, got by Baron Wesham, full of good roasting beef, and firm and well finished at 17 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb., given the third prize. H.M. the King also obtained a reserve here with a big good topped white steer. Females of this breed were also fairly well represented with four neat heifers with quality. Mr. E. T. Learner's Lackadaisical was given preference in these; a short-legged heifer with fore-end well covered, and good in her top line, bred by Mr. John Ross and sired by Ajax, her weight 15 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. H.M. the King's Fragrant Spring, very evenly fed and handling well, sired by Royal Advance, bred in the Royal herd and placed second, leaving reserve to Sir R. P. Cooper's Leighton Princess 17th, a level-fleshed, good-coated young cow of 15 cwt. 3 qr.

Steers of other Pure Breeds.

This class in years gone by was one of the most important, frequently holding a first-class Devon or two, Hereford some, as well as Angus, whilst this year one of the latter breed, one Hereford, and one Galloway constituted the total. The former, Mr. Hudson's Danesfield Negro, was easily the best, as he is thoroughly finished, well covered in his roasts, and scaling 16 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb., though in his general contour he is rather short, and none too even in his flesh, he was, in addition to his first prize, also awarded the special prize for the best ox or steer in the yard. Mr. E. T. Learner's somewhat plain Hereford was awarded second, and the reserve was given to Mr. Earle's Galloway. Steers of this section under two years old were headed by another steer of Angus blood from Mr. R. W. Hudson's herd, particularly well built and very even in his flesh and good in quality, he scales 12 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. Sir Frederick Adair had a very shapely though backward steer placed second, and Mr. R. J. Thurman a very promising one third. The old cross-bred steer class brought out several extraordinary good beasts, the best of these being Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Blue Boy, the heaviest beast in the hall, 19 cwt. 0 qr. 5 lb., very evenly fed, famous top and roasts, and fore-end capitally covered. Mr. W. Cattley came second with a somewhat lighter but very ripe and symmetrical steer of Mr. John Ross's breeding; a second entry of Mr. Hudson's, very level and good in this general quality was third. Mr. T. B. Earle, Mr. Goodman, and one or two other exhibitors were also well represented. Cross-bred cows or heifers have usually been one of the best classes, and though not strong numerically, yet this year the best animal of the show is found here; this was, according to the judges' opinion, Mr. E. T. Learner's Angus and Shorthorn cross of Mr. John Ross's breeding, certainly a neat little heifer, and probably a good competitor for a light-weight butchers' class, but as far as being a suitable beast to be put before the public as champion of a fat stock show amongst the large breeds and their crosses, she can only be looked upon as a failure, and not the class that either breeder or grazier should encourage, for an animal that takes just upon three years of the most expensive feeding and skilful management that can be brought to bear upon it to make up a live weight of 13 cwt. 0 qr. 1 lb., cannot but be a ruinous speculation to the breeder and feeder. For reserve to this beast for the championship the judges selected Mr. R. W. Hudson's champion steer. The second heifer in the class was Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Honey Bee, a heifer of similar breeding to the first-prize one, and fed to the highest pitch with a weight of 15 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb., the finest possible symmetry, and a wealth of flesh evenly laid on that is not often seen. Probably 95 per cent. of the visitors to this show would have placed the champion honours upon this heifer without a moment's hesitation, so that the announcement that she was defeated in her class and not even given reserve

CHAMPION RED POLLED STEER AT NORWICH.

The property of and bred by Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury. Winner of the Special Prize for the best Red Polled beast at Norwich. Age 2 years 10 months and 1 week. Weight 16 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lbs.

for the championship, fell with a dead weight upon the minds of most people present. Mr. Thurman, Mr. T. B. Cull, and Sir Frederick C. V. Adair, had also very useful females here.

Local Classes.

The Norfolk-fed classes brought out a number of extra ripe beasts, though in most of them there was a certain amount of conspicuous faults when looked upon in the light of show cattle. In young steers H.M. the King was first with a very mellow level white by Royal Carlisle that should come out well another year. Mr. T. A. Barton and Mr. R. Mattocks also carried off prizes with very shapely steers. In older steers the Royal herd was again successful with a good-backed roan by Jester, and Mr. Mattocks and Mr. Barton again followed pretty closely. In the female classes—rather a good one—Mr. Barton turned the tables upon his Majesty, coming to the front with an Aberdeen-Angus of quality but of excessively light weight, 11 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb., against Crystal Maid, from the Royal herd, a well-finished young cow with a good top of roasting beef, and her hind-quarters well packed. Mr. Alfred Rowell, Mr. Le Neve, and one or two other Norfolk feeders were also honoured for very fair exhibits.

Small Cattle.

From this section we missed one or two very prominent exhibitors in the past, and this year only five animals were entered in the two classes. Of females, Mr. R. W. Hudson had the best, a very sweet, perfect heifer, well ripe at a year and nine months, scaling 8 cwt. 0 qr. 25 lb., and Sir Walter Gilby filled second place with a little red heifer, bred by the Marchioness of Conyngham. In steers, the first honour also went to the Danesfield herd for an extraordinary shapely and well fed steer of 8 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb., second to his Majesty, and third to Sir Walter Gilbey.

F. F. Buxton's second, weighing 7 cwt. 0 qr. 20 lb. Mr. Hunter being reserve with another pen of Hampshires. In the open class for lambs other than Southdowns, Suffolks had the best of matters, Captain A. B. Fielden being first, and Mr. H. E. Smith second with very fine pens both in breeding and meat. These scaled 5 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. and 5 cwt. 0 qr. 9 lb. respectively, Mr. Buxton's reserve Hampshires being 5 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb. Mr. Thomas Rush had also two pens of fine Oxford and Hampshire crosses that were awarded first and second prizes in this class, with a weight in their favour of 5 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. and 5 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

Pigs.

These were very good in quality, especially the White classes. Earl Cadogan and the Exors. of the late Colonel McCalmont won in Berkshires, and Mr. Alfred Brown and Mr. William Mitchell in Whites over six months old, these pens weighing 12 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. and 10 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. Mr. Alfred Brown and Mr. W. H. Webster had also very good cross-bred pigs that won in these classes.

Miscellaneous Exhibits.

There was an excellent show of dairy produce. In the class for butter made entirely from Channel Island cows, Mr. Martin Birckbeck, Postwick, was first, and Sir Edward Birkbeck second. In the next class—butter made from cows not of the Channel Island breed—the first prize went to Mr. George Smith, Orford Place, Norwich, and the second to the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes. For preserved butter Miss Edith Bush was first and Mrs. James Gooderham second.

There was a large competition in the cream cheese section, Sir Edward Birkbeck taking the lead. For Stilton cheese the Eastern Counties Dairy Institute, at Ipswich, obtained both prizes; they repeated this success in the class for Cheddar cheese. The exhibits in each

CROSS-BRED HEIFER, CHAMPION AT THE NORWICH SHOW.

This black Cross-bred Heifer was exhibited by Mr. E. T. Learner, Burgh, Aylsham, Norfolk, and won the Championship of the Show. She was bred by Mr. John Ross, Millcraig, Allness, Ross-shire, and is 2 years 9 months 1 day old and weighs 13 cwt. 0 qr. 1 lb.

Other Classes.

Irish cattle and butchers' class here were not upon a very extensive scale, and do not call for any especial comments. The chief winners in the Irish classes were Mr. Emery, Mr. Starling, Mr. Le Neve, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Arthur Neave in the Irish classes, the weights of the winners ranging from 15 cwt. to nearly 19 cwt., mostly cross-bred and Irish Shorthorns. In the Butchers' class Mr. J. W. Weston and Mr. F. Nash won the prizes, the cattle weighing 15 cwt. 0 qr. 24 lb. and 17 cwt. 0 qr. 23 lb.

Sheep.

According to the distribution of honours the Southdown breed were the best, as the champion prize for best pen in the show was awarded to H.M. the King's wethers, of this breed first in their class, ripe, and scaling 5 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb., Sir Thomas Gooch being second in the class with a pen scaling 2 lb. heavier. Southdown lambs had rather a large entry, but the weights were very light, except His Majesty's first pen, which pulled up 4 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb. The Exors. of the late Colonel MacCalmont and Mr. C. R. W. Adeane held the next best. There were three extraordinary good pens of Suffolk wethers, Mr. Robert Barclay's winning pen being 7 cwt. 8 lb. Mr. H. E. Smith had also a very good, though lighter pen, second. Wethers of other breeds consistod of a fine pen of Hampshire and Oxford crosses, shown by Mr. Rush, with a weight record of 7 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb., given first prizes, and a pen of Hampshires of Mr.

of these classes appeared to be excellent specimens. As to the classes for students who have attended the dairy classes, held in the county, conducted under the auspices of the Education Committee, there was an excellent competition for butter made from cows not of the Channel Island breed. The specimens were really so good that there must have been great difficulty in deciding upon their respective merits. Eventually Mr. W. E. Sawyer was awarded the chief honour, Miss Mabel Smith taking second.

With regard to the roots, the mangolds were of a size and quality which indicated that Norfolk had had the advantage of copious and reviving showers, while the neighbouring county of Suffolk was suffering terribly from prolonged drought. For a like reason, the swedes on view were remarkably fine and well-grown. Lord Marcus Beresford, Newmarket, and the Earl of Derby, Newmarket, were amongst the successful competitors for the prizes offered by the principal seed firms in various parts of the country. There was also a good display of heavy wheat, while the barley was, on the whole, of choice quality.

Champion and Special Prizes.

CATTLE.

The Patron's prize for the best beast in the show.—1, Mr E T Learner; r, Mr R W Hudson.

The President's Prize, of the value of £20, for the best ox or steer in the show.—1, Mr R W Hudson; r, Mr R W Hudson.

A prize of the value of £15 for the best cow or heifer in the show.—1, Mr L T Learner; r, Mr R W Hudson.

The Members' prize, of the value of £15, for the best Red Polled beast in the show.—1, Sir Walter Corbet; r, Sir R Cooper.

A prize of the value of £15 for the best beast in the show, bred and fed in Norfolk.—1, Mr T A Barton; r, HM the King.

A prize of the value of 10 guineas for the best beast in the Small Cattle Classes, Nos 13 and 14.—1, Mr R W Hudson; r, Mr R W Hudson.

A silver challenge cup for the best beast in the show exhibited by a Norfolk farmer.—1, Mr T A Barton; r, Mr R Mattocks.

SHEEP.

Champion prize for the best pen of sheep in the show.—1, H M the King.; r, Mr R Barclay.

Special prize of the value of £5 for the best pen of lambs in the show.—1, H M the King; r, Capt Fielden.

Special prize of the value of £5 for the best pen of shearling wethers in the show.—H M the King.

Special prize of the value of £5 for the best pen of sheep in the show exhibited by a Norfolk farmer.—1, Capt Fielden; r, Mr J Hunter.

Judges.

Cattle: Mr. D. F. Smith, Easton Park, Wickham Market, and Mr. R. Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln.

Sheep: Mr. F. B. Jennings, Cockfield Hall, and Mr. S. Treadwell, Waddeston, Aylesbury.

Butchers' beasts and pigs: Mr. J. M. Outlaw, Pulham Market, and Mr. Frank Bands, Hunstanton

Roots and grain: Mr. William Case, Tuttington Hall, Aylsham, and Mr. Charles Waters, Postwick Hall, Norwich.

POULTRY.

Poultry-keeping in America.

Poultry breeders who would like to get an insight into the methods of breeders in Canada and the United States, and also obtain a few "wheezes," should expend a shilling on Mr. E. Brown's "The Poultry Industry in America," the report of his recent tour in the counties mentioned.

Mr. Brown's mission was to inquire—

1. As to the large establishments for the production of eggs which have been developed in the United States, especially as to their commercial and practical value, so as to learn whether they are successful, and if so, what factors contribute to that success and how far the same system is capable of adoption in Britain.

2. As to the remarkable developments now taking place in respect to the production of table poultry in Canada and the United States, more especially in Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa.

3. As to the instruction, experimental and research work at the leading agricultural colleges and experimental stations in both Canada and the United States, where so much has been done, more especially in the direction of experiments, in connection with practical poultry-keeping.

4. As to the system of marketing adopted with regard to eggs and poultry, and how far by means of cold storage of these articles of food in the great centres the interests of producers are protected.

On all these points Mr. Brown deals fairly exhaustively, and his remarks provide most interesting reading, and, as he rightly remarks, if people in this country are prepared to take advantage of the information placed at their disposal in this report we may anticipate considerable development of the poultry industry in the United Kingdom, more especially upon lines which have as yet been attempted to a very limited extent. In many directions our progress, Mr. Brown thinks, has been much greater, and taking the country as a whole we can fairly claim to have achieved a larger amount of success than the Americans; but they, on the other hand, have gone beyond us in some branches, despite less favourable conditions. How far their methods can be adopted by us, Mr. Brown carefully indicates.

SCARCITY OF SMALL POULTRY-KEEPERS.

Mr. Brown first devotes some pages to the consideration of "Methods and Ideals," and in the course of these he remarks:—

One of the most surprising features to the British observer is the almost total absence of suburban and small poultry-keepers, who occupy a considerable place in our home production. Throughout the residential and manufacturing districts of New England it is the exception to find a few fowls kept for the supply of the household requirements. And I was assured by one of the officials of the Department of Agriculture at Washington that this is true as regards the entire country. From my own observations the same remarks will apply to Canada.

The reasons given are two-fold; first, that the system of purchasing land instead of renting tends to smaller size of ground available around the dwellings. A man who buys a lot for the purpose of building a house generally is compelled to restrict himself severely in the area of ground. But also the custom of open courts without fences or back gardens of sufficient size makes the keeping of fowls more difficult; and, second, there would appear to be a feeling that it is hardly worth while to cultivate the ground or to keep fowls, and that unless a man can keep poultry on a larger scale, as a business, he prefers to leave them alone.

SHOW GOSSIP.

Birmingham Cattle Show.

The fifty-eighth great annual exhibition will open on Saturday next in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, and continue on December 3, 4, 5, and 6.

The entries received are as follows:—Cattle, 171; sheep, 60; pigs, 68; corn, 76; roots, 148; potatoes, 89; poultry 2,295; eggs, 31; pigeons, 1,067.

His Majesty the King has the largest number of entries in the fat stock classes, having specimens of Herefords, Shorthorns, and Devons from the Royal farms, Windsor, while Dexters and four pens of Southdowns will be sent from Sandringham. The challenge prizes, value £105 each, given by Messrs. Elkington and Co., Mr. J. Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons, will again be competed for. There are also two £50 challenge cups, the gift of the proprietors of the *Birmingham Daily Post* and Mr. J. J. Cridlan respectively. In the sheep section there is the Cooper challenge cup, and the one one offered for pigs is provided by the hotel and innkeepers of Birmingham. The Board of Agriculture and the local authorities have kindly passed special orders and issued licences to allow the exhibition of swine and to facilitate their movement to and from the show. There will be a very large and excellent show of corn, roots, and potatoes, and the usual number of attractive stands, implements, &c. The leading railway companies are running a large number of excursions at low fares.

Smithfield Club's Show, 1906.

The one hundred and eighth show of the Smithfield Club, the National Fat Stock Show of the Kingdom, opens at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Monday, December 10, and continues during the four following days. Under the presidency of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the forthcoming show promises to be one of the most successful ever held by the club.

Entries from all the well known feeders and exhibitors have been received, and comprise in the ordinary section of the show 283 head of cattle, 151 pens of sheep, and 125 pens of pigs. In the carcase competition 32 cattle, 70 sheep, and 36 pigs are entered, whilst 210 entries have been received in the table poultry section, the total number of entries being 937, as compared with 879 last year.

Prizes amounting to £2,013 are offered for cattle, £1,154 for sheep, £437 for pigs, £281 for carcase competition, £121 for table poultry, and £125 for the feeders of first-prize animals, making a total of £4,152. Included in these amounts are the magnificent challenge cups presented by his Majesty the King, for cattle; H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, for sheep; and H. R. H. Prince Christian, for pigs, the winners of which also receive the club's gold medal.

It will be remembered that last year the challenge cup presented by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for sheep was finally won by his Majesty the King, and a new cup has been graciously presented by his Royal Highness the president.

It is only natural that for these very valuable prizes entries should be received from the most prominent feeders in the three kingdoms, the champion animals from Norwich, Birmingham, and Edinburgh meeting at the Smithfield Club's Show.

In addition to the money prizes in the carcase competition, challenge cups are given by the Butchers' Company of London in each of the three sections—cattle, sheep, and pigs. The cup for the best pig carcase was finally won last year, but a new cup has been generously given by the Butchers' Company for this year's show.

The implement section of the show will be one of its most prominent features. The whole of the available space downstairs will be taken up with the exhibition of steam and oil engines, gas engines with suction gas plant, thrashing machines, ploughs, &c.; the galleries being filled with mowing and reaping machines and other lighter agricultural implements, agricultural seeds, roots, feeding-stuffs, manures, &c., the whole forming the most complete museum of agricultural implements to be seen in the country.

NOTES.

A special meeting of the Tutbury Shire Horse and Meynell Hunt Society was held at the Institute, Tutbury, Burton-on-Trent, to consider the advisability of omitting the 1907 show and co-operating with the Staffordshire Agricultural Society's exhibition, to be held in Burton. Sir Oswald Moseley wrote that he felt it his duty to do all he could for the county show to be held in Burton next year, and was strongly in favour of omitting the Tutbury Show for 1907. He suggested that the latter should be represented by a few classes at the county show, and should offer prizes, keeping the balance of the subscriptions to the Tutbury Society for a reserve fund for the following year. They should also try their best to persuade Uttoxeter to do the same.

Captain W. Power (Tutbury) said he thought the feeling of the members of the hunt was that it would be a great mistake for the Tutbury Society to fuse with the County Show in 1907. The speaker then produced a letter from Mr. Gerald Hardy, Master of the Meynell Hunt, which said it seemed an unusual and undesirable thing to merge a Hunt Show into a County Show when the latter only comprised about half of the hunt country. A good many subscribers had expressed to him the objections which he himself held concerning the proposal. Captain Power subsequently stated that he was authorised to say that Mr. Fort (deputy master), Mr. W. Bass (Byrkley Lodge), and others would continue their subscriptions to the Tutbury Society, even should the feeling of the meeting be in favour of temporary fusion with the Staffordshire Show.

Captain Power then moved, and Mr. E. Ormo seconded, that the Tutbury Show be held at Tutbury as usual next year. Mr. Haywood moved an amendment that the show be incorporated next year with the county exhibition, provided that the prizes were given to Tutbury exhibitors on the second day on the same conditions as those which existed when the show was held at Tutbury. There was no seconder, and the resolution was carried with acclamation.

Mr. W. C. G. BRITTEN,
Secretary, Hereford Herd Book Society.

A joint meeting of the committee at the Notts County Agricultural Show was held at Retford. Suitable terms having been made, it was definitely decided to hold next year's show in the grounds of West Retford House, which had been viewed, and considered very convenient, being within easy reach and adjoining the Great North Road. The schedule was arranged, and it was decided to enter the Bassetlaw classes on the second day, the subscribers to have the same privilege as before. The Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe was elected president for the year.

At a general meeting of the members of the Lancaster Agricultural Society, held on Saturday last, the date of the show for next year was settled, viz.:—Wednesday, August 21. The probable dates of closing of entries are: General stock, August 7; poultry, August 12; and dogs, August 15.

The achievement of visiting Lancaster without having to draw on the reserve fund is considered by the council and members of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society as most remarkable, especially when the prize-list was not materially reduced from the great Liverpool Show, and, as you will notice, £3,125 10s. 2d. was awarded. The difference between this and the Liverpool total is principally made up by the great cart horse parades, &c., which are such a feature when either Manchester or Liverpool is visited, and for which exceptionally good prizes are offered.

The result has chiefly been obtained by our now undertaking the fitting up of the showyard by our own staff, and (for the first time at Lancaster) taking over the whole of the public catering. These two departments have shown a saving to the society of nearly £1,500 as compared to the contract system.

Our membership has increased in a remarkable manner during the year. We have now 1,507 members of the society, the subscriptions from whom amounted to £1,908 6s. This is a net increase of £900 per annum during the last five years.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Totnes.

Mr. M. H. Hill presided at the annual meeting of Totnes and South Devon Chamber of Agriculture on Tuesday. There was a large attendance of members. The report of the council, read by the secretary (Mr. Alfred Tucker), stated that in the past year ten council and general meetings had been held, and among other subjects discussed was the great damage done by rabbits to growing crops. A resolution was passed by the chamber advocating payment by the Imperial Exchequer for animals compulsorily slaughtered when affected by anthrax; and that the whole cost of elementary and higher education should be borne by the Government. An invitation had been sent to Mr. Collings to attend a meeting of the chamber, when the subject of the Land Purchase Bill could be further discussed. The chamber joined the Mansion House Association on Railway Traffic in an endeavour to get a Bill through Parliament to make railway companies liable for loss, or undue detention of goods carried by them, whether the same was at the ordinary or reduced rate, and commonly known as "owner's risk rate." Mr. Mildmay, M.P., and Mr. G. A. Tozer were appointed a deputation to attend a meeting in London on the subject. The council congratulated members on the successful career of the association. Many new members had been enrolled during the year, and their loyal support was solicited for an industry still the greatest and most important for the nation's welfare.

Yeovil.

The judges—Messrs. T. Perham (Ryme), H. Willis (Nether Compton), and J. J. Ryall (North Wootton)—have made the following awards in the root competition organised by the Yeovil Agricultural Society in connection with their annual show, on September 13, as far as the mangolds are concerned. In class 41, for the best two acres of mangolds, the prize of three guineas was won by Mr. A. J. Rowles, of Houndstone Farm, the weight being 62 tons 10 cwt. In class 42, three acres of mangolds, the prize was won by Mr. G. R. Terrell, of Easthams, Crewkerne. Mr. A. J. Rowles won the first prize in class 46, for a weight of 55 tons 15 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. of mangolds, produced on two acres, Mr. A. James, of Newton Farm, being second with 50 tons 7 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. In class 47, for two acres of mangolds, Mr. J. Gare, of Queen Camel, won first prize with 74 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb., Mr. H. Hebditch, of Stoke-sub-Hamdon, being second with a weight of 63 tons 12 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. The silver plate for the best three acres of mangolds was won by Mr. J. Willy, of Coles Farm, South Petherton. Mr. A. J. Rowles won first prize in class 51 with a weight of 51 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb., grown on two acres. Mr. R. A. Clarke, of Chiselborough, won second with 40 tons 5 cwt. 2 qr. 29 lb. The awards for swedes will be made in due course.

DAIRY.

Western Counties Cheddar Cheese School.

The fifth draft of cheese, weighing nearly 27 cwt., made during the month of August last at the above named school, carried on at Glendale Farm, near Wedmore, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 77s. per cwt. of 112 lb.; 3,107 gallons of milk made 3,172 lb of green cheese, which when weighed at thirteen weeks old weighed 3,008 lb., showing a shrinkage of about 5½ per cent.

The following particulars relating to the manufacture of the cheese will be of interest to cheese makers:—Temperature of milk when renneted, 84 deg.; acidity of milk when renneted, ·19; temperature of first and second scalds, 88 deg. and 93 deg.; acidity of whey at close of second scald, ·16; acidity of whey when vatted, ·08; average time when cheese was vatted 3 p.m. A large number of pigs have been fattened at the farm during the time the school has been held there. Instruction in Cheddar cheese-making is now being given to a full class of students.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Irish Potato Industry.

SIR,—I was much interested in the letter from Mr. J. F. Williamson in your last issue, giving an account of the way Irish-grown seed potatoes had acquitted themselves in the trial conducted by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading. Seed potatoes grown in the south of England are put clean out of court, and I think those raised in the West may go with them, judging from the whole and partial failures I have seen this season, and from the figures given on page 541 everything points in the favour of Irish seed. For years Scotch seed has been the one peg on which potato growers have hung their hats, and in spite of the evidence I have no doubt our friends north of the Tweed will find means of returning a verdict of "not proven," but there is no getting away from facts and figures. I was rather amused at the canny suggestion, related by Mr. Williamson, that perhaps the Irish seed was one year's seed from Scotland, and in the western counties of England many growers consider that Scotch seed does better the second year than the first. With one exception, however—*i.e.*, Ninety-fold—the varieties tested had been grown three and two years in Ireland, and there is no evidence to show that Ninety-fold was grown in Scotland the previous season.

There seems to be no apparent reason why Irish-grown seed potatoes should not be as good, or perhaps better, than those raised in Scotland. Ireland has always been a potato-growing country, and if there is anything in the theory that immature seed potatoes are the best to plant, then the climate of Erin should be admirably adapted for growing them.

Patrick, my friend, you have a chance before you. Experience teaches us that the saving of home-grown seed potatoes for future planting in the south and west of England is an uncertain and very often a disappointing business. We must have frequent changes from Scotland or Ireland, and if the Shamrock can compete with the Thistle in this trade, why shouldn't it? Ah why? There is no apparent reason, but Mr. Williamson concludes his letter by quoting the question raised at the Reading demonstration about Pat having energy enough to kick the ball that rolls at his feet. Let us hope that he will rise to the occasion, and get another potato idea into his head besides Champion. It shows a kindly feeling to keep an old dog, an old horse, or a faithful servant, though they may be worn out so far as work is concerned, but it is foolish to extend this idea to potatoes. Where should we have been now had we stuck to the once unsurpassed potato Magnum Bonum when it commenced to lose its virtue with the same unreasonable tenacity that Pat sticks to his favourite Champion? It is sad to think that Irish potato growers allow their conservatism to stand in the way of getting bigger and better crops of potatoes, while the tenacity with which they stick to the worn-out Champion is largely responsible for the plaintive cries about disease which are continually being wafted across the Channel from "Old Ireland."

November 21, 1906. WEST COUNTRYMAN.

Sales of British Corn.

SIR,—I am much struck with the large falling off in quantities of wheat, barley, and oats sold in the markets making returns for week ending 17th inst., as compared with last year's sown to November 17, viz.:—Wheat, 29,000 qr. less; barley, 42,080 qr. less; oats, 12,000 qr. less; total, 83,080 qr. less on the three grains. This is so very striking that I almost think it may be worth while your calling attention to it in your next MARK LANE EXPRESS.

The falling off in wheat deliveries for the last ten weeks proves the crop was anything but the optimistic one spoken of in some quarters, an opinion as you know not accepted.—Yours truly,

W. FOOKES.

Devizes, November 3, 1906.

English Red Clover Seed.

SIR,—This year there is a large crop of English clover seed saved, and fortunately for those farmers who have saved it, there is not a large crop of foreign seed, and taking into consideration the large crop, good prices are obtainable now.

Unfortunately a great many English farmers will not thresh their clover seeds until the spring—the sowing time. This is too late, as the bulk of the trade is always done between now and the early part of the year.

The best and biggest seed merchants must buy early in order to clean and test their seeds, and the export business will not wait for the English seed if it is in the stack; there is always plenty of foreign seed to fill the order.

We feel we cannot too strongly recommend all farmers to thresh and place their clover seed on the market as early as possible now there is a demand for it.—Yours faithfully,

W. H. & H. LE MAY.

London, S.E., November 22, 1906.

Our Powerless Board.

SIR,—May I be allowed to say that Midland fruit growers are very far from being satisfied with Lord Carrington's statement in regard to the American gooseberry mildew. We are free from that destructive pest at present, despite some recent mistaken rumours to the contrary—or so Mr. Salmon tells us—and we are anxious to keep free. Yet all that the Board of Agriculture will do to help us is to send out a circular letter to the dealers who are likely to be importing gooseberry bushes from countries where the blight is rampant. That is not a very heroic measure, and there is a general feeling that the excuse that the Board has no power to do more falls short of being satisfactory.

No one suggests that as things are, the Board can help. But the point is this: A Board of Agriculture which is to be of any real assistance to the country ought not to be left so helpless. Is it consistent with the dignity and authority of a great public department that it should have to descend to begging nurserymen as a favour not to import disease? In such an emergency the board this country needs would have power to command.

How long it takes to rush an emergency Bill through Parliament I do not know. But I am sure of this, that if Earl Carrington were to bring forward a short Bill giving his department power to deal with the danger which has now arisen as everybody knows it should be dealt with, that Bill might become law by general consent in the very minimum time possible.—Yours faithfully,

WEST MIDLAND.

Some Fertiliser Questions.

SIR,—Being a subscriber I notice you offer information. I am grateful for the weekly information you give as to the value of fertilisers and feeding stuffs. But I seek further particulars, which kindly give in your next week's edition. I notice the value of the units of ammonia differ in price.

1. Why is this? Is not ammonia from whatever source obtained of the same value? For example, you quote the ammonia in sulphate of ammonia is now worth 10s. 6d. per unit, but the ammonia in nitrate of soda is worth 13s.

2. Again, I see 9 per cent. ammonia in "fish guano" is quoted at £5 17s. 6d. per ton, which is about 13s. per unit, the same as it is in nitrate of soda; but in sulphate of ammonia it is 2s. 6d. per unit less.

3. What is the present value of "insoluble" phosphates, such as are contained in fish guano, per unit?

So much for inquiries as to fertilisers. May I ask a few questions as to feeding stuffs? I find it impossible to get from merchants any guarantee as to the constituents of cakes. All they will give is "95 per cent. pure." This new Act should remedy this, but I fear it will not, as some plan will be invented to frustrate the intentions of this Act.

(*a*) What is the average analysis of the usual "cotton" cakes, not decorticated, now being sold. Of course you cannot give only an approximate value without special analysis.

(*b*) Take the usual "English" made cotton cake. How much "albuminoids," "oil," and "carbohydrates" do they contain?

(*c*) "Egyptian" seed cotton cakes ditto?

(*d*) "Bombay" seed cotton cakes ditto?

If you will kindly answer the foregoing questions as an addenda to your weekly quotations as to prices, you will render an enormous assistance to the tenant farmer.

ONE WHO IS TRYING TO LEARN.

November 21, 1906.

Answer: A full reply to these inquiries would occupy considerable space, but we are pleased to answer them as well as we can in the space at our disposal.

1. The cost of the unit of ammonia in different materials is governed, as with other things, by the law of supply and demand. Thus, there is a much larger demand for nitrate of soda than for sulphate of ammonia, and therefore the vendors of the former article are able to get a relatively higher price for the unit in it. If, on the other hand, the demand was more than for sulphate of ammonia, the position would be reversed, and the unit of ammonia sulphate would cost more. The same principle governs the cost of the unit in other materials.

2. There is considerable difference in the intrinsic value of the unit for fertilising purposes in different materials. For instance, hair-waste contains about 12 per cent. or units of ammonia, but decomposes so slowly in the soil that it is not worth to the farmer more than about 4s. to 5s. per unit. Shoddies—*i.e.*, waste woollen rags—are largely used in Kent for manuring hops. They decompose more quickly than hair-waste, and are worth 6s. to 7s. per unit. Tannery-waste contains about 4 per cent. of ammonia, but has practically no value as it does not decompose within any reasonable time.

2. The price of fish guano has been continually advancing, in consequence of its scarcity and the active demand for it, especially from French market gardeners, who have a strong predilection for it. The best 9 per cent. quality could not be bought to-day under about £6 15s. per ton. Besides the ammonia it contains about 15 per cent. of phosphate, which is slowly soluble and worth, we should say, about 1s. 3d. per unit. This makes the ammonia cost, as you remark, about 13s. per unit. Fish guano is a good organic manure, and we should be inclined to say, that for market-gardening purposes it is worth the price asked.

3. *Feeding Stuffs.*—The average analysis of Undecorticated cotton cake may be put at—

5 to 6 per cent. of oil,
23 to 24 ,, albuminoids,
30 to 35 ,, carbohydrates,

and the following are typical analyses of the different makes:—

	Oil.	Albuminoids.	Carbohydrates.	Fibre.
English make from Egyptian seed	5 to 6...	22·5 to 24...	32 ...	20
Imported Egyptian ...	5 ...	23 ...	32 ...	20
English make from Bombay seed.....	5.5 ...	21 ...	35 ...	22
Imported Bombay	2 to 3...	19 to 21...	32 to 34...	22 to 28

These analyses are taken from the report of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, with following remarks:—

English cakes are usually made from Egyptian seed. They are soft, contain more albuminoids and less fibre than Bombay cake, and only little free cotton.

Some Egyptian made cakes are also imported; they resemble English makes in composition and are usually a little cheaper.

Bombay seed is less satisfactory for feeding purposes. The cotton apparently cannot be removed from the seed as completely as is the case with Egyptian seed. English cakes are no longer advertised as made from Bombay seed. Imported Bombay cakes, recognisable by their woolly appearance, are, however, on the market, but as a rule they are unfit for stock and may cause injury or even death when fed. They are low in oil and albuminoids, and contain large amounts of fibre.

Under the new Act, particulars of which were given in our issue of September 10 last, vendors of cakes will be obliged to state on their invoices the guaranteed percentage of the two principal ingredients—oil and albuminoids, and it will rest with buyers to see that this information is given them, and to get the cakes tested so as to ensure good deliveries.

Bags and Superphosphate.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform me through the columns of your valuable paper upon the following viz.:—

I find that the manures (superphosphates) of some manufacturers burn the bags after they have been stored about a month, while the manures of other manufacturers can be stored for an indefinite period without injury to the bags.

Will you kindly inform me why it is the bags are destroyed in the one case, while they are not affected in the other? Thanking you in anticipation, I am, yours truly, FOREST.

Cefn Llan, nr. Swansea, November 17, 1906.

Answer: All superphosphate has a tendency more or less to rot the bags in which it is packed, and this is especially the case with superphosphate freshly made or to which too much acid has been added. We should say that the cause is usually the first-mentioned, and we would recommend "Forest" to stipulate that the superphosphate supplied to him must be in a thoroughly dry, well-matured condition, not freshly made. If it is in a pasty, damp condition, he should reject it.

As regards books on agricultural matters, he would find Gibson's "Agricultural Chemistry," revised edition, much more complete than the one he mentioned. It is published by George Routledge and Sons, Ltd., Ludgate Hill. Or "Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs," by Bernard Dyer, is an instructive little work. It costs 1s., and is published by Crosby, Lockwood and Son, Ludgate Hill, London.

Midland Notes.

ALL the winter oats and beans, green crops, and wheat now showing above ground look strong and healthy. For the time keep is abundant, although Nottingham, Northampton, Leicester, and the east and south-east Midlands generally are none too well off for hay, and here and there the new stacks had to be cut into when there was difficulty in keeping up the autumn milk supply. Where sheep have to be bought there are many complaints as to the prices demanded, which seem to preclude almost any possibility of profit.

SPEAKING of sheep reminds one that no one appreciates the cessation of the heavy rains more than the live stock of the farm. Sheep, as we all know, can stand any amount of cold, but like horned stock, they have had a wretched experience these last few weeks, when for days together they have had to suffer the discomforts of soaked fleeces and waterlogged land. Let us hope the effects of these recent hardships may not be too evident when in due course the lambing season arrives.

HERE is a small fact to illustrate the intensity of the drought about harvest time. It was recorded in these notes that bean crops were being left because it was impossible to handle them without wasteful spilling from the parched pods. I hear now of cases in which these spilled beans are coming up as thickly as a regularly sown crop, and here and there it is understood that they are likely to be left and allowed to grow—this on fields destined in the ordinary course for wheat which the season has not permitted to be drilled.

I NOTED last week the enterprise of the Worcestershire County Council in arranging for fruit spraying experiments. The County Educational Committee, through its agricultural department, now sends me an excellent report by Mr. Fred V. Theobald, M.A., on the orchard and fruit plantations of the county, which embodies brief notes on some of the worst diseases observed.

MR. THEOBALD (who is, of course, the well-known vice-principal of the South-Eastern College) seems to have found few fungus pests; indeed, he notes only ten (the apple scab, canker, and shot-hole fungus of the plum being most general), and observes that these diseases are apparently less serious in Worcestershire than other fruit-growing districts. But in such a bad year for insect infestions as this has been it is no surprise to find that he discovered over forty different pests of this description.

IT is impossible to calculate the amount of damage that these insect enemies inflct in a bad year. Mr. Theobald goes so far as to reckon that 70 per cent. of the apple crop in Worcestershire has been lost during the past year by the apple sucker or psylla. It seems an incredible proportion, but in some neglected orchards one has seen the entire crop practically swept away by this parasite, which is abundant all up the Teme Valley, in the Vale of Evesham, and along the Severn. One of Mr. Theobald's most practical suggestions is in regard to bisulphide of carbon. Progressive growers are well acquainted with the uses of this evil-smelling liquid in dealing with insect enemies in the soil; but too often they find it almost impossible to buy, and so it must remain, so long as railways, afraid of its inflammability, refuse to carry it. "Representations might be made by the county to allow small quantities to be carried on certain trains," says Mr. Theobold. The local Chamber of Agriculture and Fruit-growers' associations might do worse than press the question on the authorities at the Shire Hall.

THE question asked by an Irish M.P. as to the seizure and condemnation of tuberculous pigs in Birmingham is of interest to breeders over a wide area, for Birmingham is a very important centre of the pig trade, and week by week many more swine pass through the city markets than through any others in the Board of Agriculture list. To take one recent week, the Birmingham supplies were over 6,100, though Salford and Manchester combined were the only other market where more than 2,000 were on offer, and no other market had as many as 1,000 to deal with.

WHERE Mr. Ffrench went wrong was in assuming that the Board of Agriculture had anything to do with the inspection, which rests entirely with the local officials. But the local dealers will be found one and all in agreement with his general attitude. Undoubtedly there does prevail a feeling among local traders that the conditions imposed by the Birmingham inspectors are apt to be unduly severe, and that carcases are condemned in the city which would be passed elsewhere. Indeed, large as the local sales are, one can learn without much difficulty of dealers who have given up sending pigs to Birmingham, preferring to despatch to smaller markets, or to trust to local auctions. The Birmingham dealers and butchers who adopt Dr Koch's very questionable views and want full liberty to sell any carcase, tuberculous or not, for human food, will not find much sympathy. But both dealers and breeders are disposed to think that if the public is to be safeguarded by a system of close inspection and rigid condemnation, the public ought to pay more for such advantage than it does at present.

November 22, 1906.

PRODUCE OF CROPS IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1906.

Last week the Board of Agriculture issued the following Preliminary Statement showing the Estimated Total Produce and Yield per Acre of the Principal Crops in Great Britain in the Year 1906, with Comparisons for 1905, and the Average Yield per Acre of the ten Years 1896-1905:—

CROPS.		Estimated Total Produce. 1906.	Estimated Total Produce. 1905.	Acreage. 1906.	Acreage. 1905.	Average Estimated Yield per Acre. 1906.	Average Estimated Yield per Acre. 1905.	Average of the ten years. 1896-1905.
		Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
WHEAT ..	England ..	55,823,839	55,669,890	1,661,147	1,704,281	33·61	32·66	31·18
	Wales ..	1,268,112	1,167,228	44,403	43,891	28·56	26·59	25·52
	Scotland ..	1,999,821	2,065,381	50,059	48,638	39·95	42·46	83·68
	Great Britain ..	59,091,772	58,902,499	1,755,609	1,796,810	33·66	32·78	31·22
BARLEY ..	England ..	49,968,508	47,288,182	1,439,708	1,410,287	34·71	33·53	32·77
	Wales ..	3,020,608	2,817,436	92,834	91,243	32·54	30·88	30·64
	Scotland ..	7,564,861	8,004,446	218,695	212,134	34·59	37·73	36·07
	Great Britain ..	60,553,977	58,110,064	1,751,238	1,713,664	34·58	33·91	33·04
OATS ..	England ..	81,532,511	74,116,954	1,881,031	1,880,475	43·34	39·41	40·80
	Wales ..	7,816,634	7,042,126	205,110	207,929	38·11	33·87	33·38
	Scotland ..	34,034,712	35,277,807	956,785	962,972	35·57	36·63	36·54
	Great Britain ..	123,383,857	116,436,887	3,042,926	3,051,376	40·55	38·16	38·92
BEANS ..	England ..	9,526,457	7,806,620	274,779	243,002	34·67	32·13	28·34
	Wales ..	33,046	30,292	1,300	1,170	29·27	25·89	24·98
	Scotland ..	406,389	364,818	10,994	9,923	36·96	36·76	33·83
	Great Britain ..	9,970,892	8,201,730	287,073	254,095	34·73	32·28	28·59
PEAS ..	England ..	4,475,332	4,403,110	148,034	171,110	30·23	25·73	26.67
	Wales ..	23,291	19,265	858	938	27·15	20·54	20·36
	Scotland ..	17,160	17,108	598	630	28·70	27·16	25·78
	Great Britain ..	4,515,783	4,439,483	149,490	172,678	30·21	25·71	26·61.
		Tons.	Tons.			Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
POTATOES ..	England ..	2,439,063	2,619,276	396,516	434,773	6·15	6·02	5·76
	Wales ..	143,420	163,889	29,219	29,435	4·91	5·57	5·24
	Scotland ..	846,228	979,541	140,186	144,265	6·04	6·79	5·95
	Great Britain ..	3,428,711	3,762,706	565,921	608,473	6·06	6·18	5·78
TURNIPS and SWEEDES. ..	England ..	14,104,146	13,906,669	1,082,821	1,083,640	13·03	12·83	11·98
	Wales ..	934,997	771,119	59,143	60,327	15·81	12·78	14·77
	Scotland ..	7,588,697	7,162,794	448,971	445,313	16·90	16·08	15·24
	Great Britain ..	22,627,840	21,840,582	1,590,935	1,589,280	14·22	13·74	12·96
MANGOLD ..	England ..	8,288,300	8,002,818	418,415	391,712	19·81	20·43	18·77
	Wales ..	203,385	165,833	10,621	10,022	19·15	16·55	16·34
	Scotland ..	46,795	45,109	2,407	2,382	19·44	18·94	17·39
	Great Britain ..	8,538,480	8,213,260	431,443	404,116	19·79	20·32	18·70
HAY from Clover, Sainfoin, &c. ..	England ..	2,205,545	2,243,803	1,576,114	1,569,521	27·99	28·[illegible]	28·8[illegible]
	Wales ..	258,246	232,655	190,281	192,170	27·14	24·21	24·08
	Scotland ..	737,178	666,985	425,192	427,686	34·68	31·19	32·21
	Great Britain ..	3,200,969	3,143,443	2,191,587	2,189,377	29·21	28·7[illegible]	[illegible]·06
HAY from Permanent Grass.. ..	England ..	4,618,523	4,395,360	4,130,26[illegible]	4,033,817	22·36	21·79	[illegible]
	Wales ..	545,942	482,649	510,831	506,270	21·37	19·07	18·67
	Scotland ..	220,424	209,908	143,485	147,534	30·7[illegible]	28·46	29·41
	Great Britain ..	5,384,892	5,087,917	4,784,778	4,687,621	22·[illegible]1	21·71	23·49

The preliminary statement of the produce of hops for 1906, issued on October 10, showed a total estimated produce of 245,688 cwt., being an estimated yield per acre of 5·26 cwt.

Northern Notes.

TO-DAY in Yorkshire the farm servants' carnival begins, the yearly hired men and boys claiming to be at liberty at noon, and day after day hirings will be held for a week in one town or another of East Yorkshire. The custom of standing in the market places, relic of the old days of long ago, is threatened in some quarters with extinction; but threatened men and customs, too—frequently survive for longer periods than one expects. Ever since we were boys the "fate" of the hiring fairs has been hanging, as it were, in the balance. We have never yet heard any plan propounded that could be accepted as an approach to a substitute for the yearly hiring.

THE late Judge Raikes, who covered a wide area in a Yorkshire county court circuit, used to inveigh against these Martinmas hirings, and he considered it ridiculous that parties should bind themselves to each other for a whole year. His honour's diatribes have made no difference—the system holds on its course, and no serious attempt has up to the present been made to root it out of existence. Opponents of the hiring fairs have an extremely wide field to cover, as it must be remembered the system of engaging nearly all classes of farm servants at such fairs remains in Scotland, the North of England, the North of Ireland, and in a few districts in Wales. In other parts of the United Kingdom the practice is nearly extinct. Can anybody suggest how uniformity in the hiring of unmarried men is to be brought about?

THAT very useful institution, the ploughing match, seems to be losing its hold upon northern rural life. Anything that conduces to the interest in agricultural pursuits should be tenaciously adhered to, and if it is possible to make an indifferent plough-boy into a first-rater, and to make him ambitious to emulate the work of the best man on the farm, then it is something gained, the boy is less likely to be permanently attracted by the glare and glitter and the "fine sights" of the big town.

LABOURERS are not infrequently taken to task in respect of their indifferent hedge-cutting, and one sometimes hears that when our older labourers have died off there are none to follow them half so skilful. This is hardly believable. Nevertheless, nearly all the labourers to be seen trimming and laying quick wood fences are old or elderly men, and how tidily they accomplish their work! Nothing sets off a well-tilled field so finely as a nice clean hedge, which has the appearance of having been cut to accurate measurements. A straight eye and an expert hand are the only aids to exactitude which the worker requires.

MANGOLDS have been secured in an excellent condition, and the root crop generally is working out liberally, save and except an occasional instance of mysterious turnip rot which has set in. The rot appears to be caused by a fungus which penetrates the skin through the medium of the turnip "tops." The rot sets in after the the tissues below the skin are eaten away. The fungus is in the form of dark spots. It is an old disease, and has apparently no defined name.

AS to the putting or pieing of mangolds, one method in vogue around York is to construct the pit in the shape of a manure heap, no matter how wide, and when finished to cover the sides all round with straw and soil, [illegible] soil a few inches above the sides [illegible] with any kind of rough waste material, [illegible] slashings will do. The top being of loose material acts as a ventilator, and the heat arising from the interior of the pit arresting the [illegible] frost, the roots are kept in a sound condition. [illegible] pitted

MOST EASTERLY NURSERY

As a **FENCING EXPERT AND GROWER** of no small reputation, I should like to arrest your attention for a few minutes, provided you are requiring a fence of some description. I have an enormous stock of **HEDGING PLANTS** of all sorts, grown on my Nurseries, on England's Bleakest Coast, which are open to every wind which blows, with a consequence that my large and varied stock is as hardy as it can be and will thrive anywhere. **A DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET** containing **CULTURAL DIRECTIONS FOR HEDGING** and description of Myrobella free. **MYROBELLA PLUM** (for fencing), the wonder of the age, still unrivalled for quickness of growth. It makes a close, thorny—*i.e.*, impenetrable-fence and is non-injurious to stock. 1½-2 ft., 5/- 100, 30/- 1,000; 2-3 ft., 7/6 100, 50/- 1,000; 3-4 ft., 10/- 100, 70/- 1,000. **PRIVET (COMMON)**, 1-1½ ft., 5/- 100, 35/- 1,000; 2-3 ft., 8/- 100, 55/- 1,000. **PRIVET OVAL**, 1-1½ ft., 6/- 100 45/- 1,000; 1½-2 ft., 10/- 100, 70/- 1,000; 2-3 ft., 15/- 100, 100/- 1,000. **QUICKTHORN**, 1 ft., 3/6 100, 25/- 1,000; 1½ ft., 5/- 100, 35/- 1,000; 2 ft., 7/6 100, 50/- 1,000. **LAURELS, BEECH, HOLLY, YEW, &c.**, in all sizes. Prices on application.

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I will pay carriage on all 5/- and larger orders to your nearest station. Distance or weight is no object.

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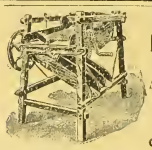

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Simple & easy to work.

COOCH & SON, Commercial St., Northampton.

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THE

Mark Lane Express

when writing to our Advertisers.

in this way are said to keep a very long time, at least until the summer. The method is labour-saving, and that is an important consideration in these days.

THE grower is very justly complaining of the low price of wheat in local markets, and for the last three weeks a decline of 6d. was noted every seven days, until now the best is not making more than 26s. 6d. Barley, too, is in a bad way, though there is nothing much to complain of as to the general quality. Can one county only grow barley to suit the brewing interest? It would seem that Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland are out of the running altogether with Lincoln.

THE materials of which "pure" beer is made are certainly at a discount. We shall soon be sighing for a drop of pure beverage, and then perhaps we may turn our attention to brewing ale for ourselves on the co-operative principle. Why not?

FARMERS are beginning to think about their Christmas sales—we had almost written bills—but these will come later. A lot of good stock in the beef line is in preparation in the stalls. Beef, with the advent of colder weather, which is making itself felt this week, has already hardened in price on an increased demand, reaches the top price at Christmas.

THE fat stock markets begin about the 13th prox., and just follow the Smithfield Show, from whence the prize animals will return to be converted into beef or mutton, the laurels they win enhancing the price by so much per stone.

THE wheat plant has a healthy appearance up North, has brairded well from a good tilth. The tenants on high situations who wanted rain badly three weeks ago have had a veritable deluge; lowlands have been flooded, and the fear is that much of the manurial value of farmyard dung has found it way into the drain-pot and dykes.

THE country has still a fresh aspect, in spite of several sharp visitations of frost, and there is an amount of pasturage of which full advantage might be taken on the grass farms. Tynesiders are cultivating the milk trade to a much greater extent than formerly, and are finding it a more profitable business to sell their milk daily than it was to convert it into butter.

November 23, 1906.

Hiring Fairs.

The first of the two annual hirings, at Wetherby, was held on Thursday, but there was only a poor attendance. Men generally asked more money, and while there were plenty ready to accept situations to look after horses, comparatively few offered their services as cattle men. Farmers were disinclined to give the high wages asked, but a fair amount of hiring took place at intermediate rates. The top wages secured by good all-round men touched £26, but £18 to £24 was the average. Ploughmen obtained £10 to £16, and lads £5 to £10.

At Cockermouth on Monday hiring was decidedly slow. There were few experienced men seeking places, but second-class men obtained from £9 to £13; lads from £7 to £9; and boys from £4 to £7.

Darlington November hirings took place on Monday. Men for the half-year got about £12 or £13 for average good hands, but foremen were up to £14; secondary and plough lads, £8 to £9; and young boys, first going out, £5. Female servants got high wages; those for dairy and higher classes of farm work obtained £19 to £22 for the year; ordinary domestics, £14 to £16; younger girls, £9 to £11.

HILL & SMITH

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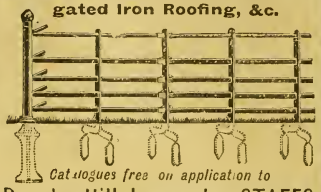
Iron and Wire Fencing, Hurdles, Gates, Netting, Galvanized Corrugated Iron Roofing, &c.



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Brown or Black Smooth Hide, Blocked.

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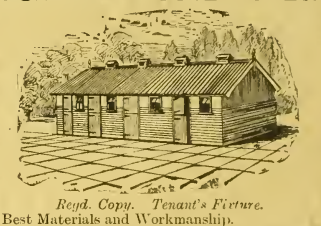

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On Massive Iron Wheels. Size: 8 ft. long, 6 ft. wide, 9 ft. high. Price £10. Carriage paid.

SHEEP TROUGHS.

The Cheapest, Best and Strongest. 10 feet long, best Foreign Red Deal, Iron-hooped, and Bolted. Troughs: 7 inch sides, 5/6 each; 8 inch, 6/-; 9 inch, 7/-. Troughs with top rail, 8 inch sides, 6/9; 9 inch, 7/6. Six Carriage Paid.

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J. T. HOBSON & CO., Makers of all kinds of Portable Buildings, Stables, Poultry Houses, &c. Established Sixty Years. Works cover Six Acres. **BEDFORD.**

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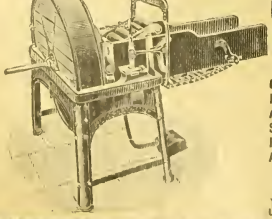

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See our Illustrated Catalogue before buying.

JOHN CROWLEY & Co., Ltd., SHEFFIELD

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—		15 0	15 0			
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—		—	12 6			—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—		—	—	—		—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0		2 0				2 0		2 0	2 0			
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3		—	1 2	—		1 3	1 3			
,, insoluble	—	—	—		—	—	—	1 3	—				
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0		—			—		4 0	3 10	4 0	3 1

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2¼	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Basic Slag.

Buyers of this useful material should bear in mind that various kinds and qualities are offered, and it is advisable to look, not only at the price per ton, but to the percentage of total phosphate, the solubility of the phosphate, and to the fineness of grinding. It happens very often that only the total phosphate is given, and the value of the slag calculated from that percentage; but as different samples of slag vary considerably in solubility, it would be better if the percentage soluble in the recognised 2 per cent. citric acid solution were also taken into account. Basic slag is not soluble in water, but if of good quality, at least 80 per cent. of the total phosphate in the slag should be soluble in citric acid. Some of the slags in the market possess even a greater degree of solubility. The analyst of the Highland and Agricultural Society makes it his regular practice to report the citric solubility of samples of slag submitted to him, and he recommends buyers always to ask for a guarantee of solubility as well as of total phosphate when buying slag.

In the superphosphate trade it has been customary to state the quality as so much total phosphate, of which a stated proportion is soluble in water, thus total phosphates 28 per cent., of which 26 is soluble, so with slag, it would conduce to a better comprehension on the part of the buyer if the seller would state total phosphate and also proportion soluble—thus 40 per cent. total phosphate, of which 32 (80 per cent.) are soluble in 2 per cent. citric acid solution.

Life in Soil.

The soil of a farm is not simply an inert mass of material containing certain mineral substances which plants utilise. It is full of living organisms. Besides the numerous insects, worms, &c., it contains myriads of low organisms, not visible to the naked eye, but capable of examination by the aid of the microscope. They are known as bacteria or micro-organisms, and are so minute that a grain may contain many thousands, increasing and propagating under favourable conditions with incredible rapidity. The "Farmers' Handbook" makes some interesting observations on the subject. These bacteria exist in soils chiefly in the upper layer; a pinch of soil may contain from several thousands to several millions; loamy soils and soils containing much organic matter contain most, sandy soils contain least. The number decreases gradually from the surface soil downwards till about 3 ft., where few or none are present.

Each different kind of bacterium performs its own useful purpose in nature, but in the interest of economical cultivation it would appear that the growth of some of them have to be encouraged and the development of others to be checked. The subject, however, is not at present clearly understood, and has to be further investigated by scientific men; for us the practical knowledge is that organic matter, increasing the supply of humus to the soil, has been proved to favour the rapid growth of the kind of bacteria which convert organic ammonia into nitrates, suitable for assimilation by the crops. We have, therefore, to see that we keep up in the soil by application of farmyard manure, the ploughing under of green crops and other suitable means, a sufficient supply of humus.

Fertiliser Material Imported in October.

	Quantity. 1906.	Quantity. 1905.	Value. 1906. £	Value. 1905. £
Bones	4,656	6,117	20,570	30,223
Guano	4,263	3,563	19,741	16,445
Nitrate of soda ...	10,193	12,000	116,258	124,390
Phosphate rock ...	20,297	35,348	28,306	52,859

Nitrogen Germs.

"The United States Department of Agriculture have issued a special circular to the effect that the extravagant and misleading claims contained in some of the advertising matter now appearing in regard to inoculating material for legumes make it necessary again to call attention to the limitations of the value of inoculation. Summarised from Department bulletins, they may be stated as follows:—

"No beneficial results can be expected for a particular crop if the bacteria for that crop are already present in the soil.

"But little, if any, benefit can be expected from the use of these bacteria if the ground is decidedly in need of other fertilisers, such as phosphates, potash, or lime.

"But little, if any, benefit can be expected from inoculation if the soil is already rich in nitrogen.

"A recent examination of samples of cultures for inoculating legumes obtained through various seed firms throughout the United States indicates that there has been a slight improvement in the general character of these cultures."

Potato Cultivation.

Does it pay better to apply a smaller dressing of farmyard manure together with artificials, or to put on a large dressing of farmyard manure alone?

To test the relative advantage of the above alternatives, the following experiment was made last season. On

Plot A were applied 20 loads of farmyard manure.

Plot B were applied 10 loads farmyard manure, 3 cwt. superphosphate, and 1½ cwt. nitrate of soda.

The result was that A plot yielded at the rate per acre of 9 tons 9 cwt. and B plot 10 tons, the value of increase over unmanured plot being in A £6 9s., and for B £8 10s. 3d.—thus demonstrating once more that a small dressing of farmyard manure supplemented by artificials is the more profitable system.

Let us always bear in mind that with crops, as well as with animals, it is possible by careful selection, combined with careful treatment, to improve them and cause them to give us more profit and the increased pleasure which comes from success.

Manuring of Seeds Hay.

From a series of trials made in the Midlands under the supervision of the Midland Agricultural College on soils varying from a light loam to a stony clay, it would appear that the highest and most profitable yield was obtained by the use of 1½ cwt. of nitrate of soda and 2 cwt. of superphosphate, which left a net profit of 16s. 9d. to the good. Last year the same dressing also gave more profit than other artificials tried against it, the profit then being 17s. 6d. per acre.

The artificials were sown in March and April.

Sulphate of ammonia was not especially tested against nitrate of soda, but from the relative results of some of the other experiments the conclusion is drawn that sulphate of ammonia and superphosphate would have done as well as nitrate and super.

The addition of potash whether as sulphate, muriate, or kainit, was not accompanied by any increase in crop, but it is considered desirable to point out that this disappointing result may have been due to the late application of the salts. It cannot be too often impressed on farmers that potash salts, especially kainit, should be applied quite early, and produce the best results when put in the soil in late autumn or winter.

Common salt was also tried, but proved disappointing.

The summary of the results is said to be—

1. That the seeds hay crop can, in the average case, be profitably increased by the use of artificial manure.

2. That the most profitable return was obtained by the application of 1½ cwt. nitrate of soda and 2 cwt. superphosphate per acre.

3. That there is a strong probability that sulphate of ammonia, in place of nitrate of soda in the above dressing, would do equally well.

4. That potash salts did not give an increase in the crop. (This is subject to above remarks.)

5. That the use of common salt reduces the yield.

Makbar Cattle Food: Appeal Dismissed.

The hearing of the appeal of Barmak (Ltd.), cattle food makers, of Pryme Street Mills, Manchester, against the fine inflicted by the Kirkham justices, was recently concluded at the Lancashire Quarter Sessions at Preston. The conviction was on the ground that appellants caused a description of their cattle food "Makbar" to be false in material particulars to the prejudice of the purchaser.

Respondents held that the statement in the pamphlet issued by the company that "Makbar" was composed of the "finest meals, cane sugar, and hop seed," and that 2 lb. of "Makbar" was equal to 3 lb. of any other feeding stuff was incorrect. They produced the certificate of Mr. Collingwood Williams, which stated that the sample he had analysed consisted of about equal parts of molasses and vegetable refuse, including spent hops, offal of wheat, and other seeds and husks.

Appellants claimed that the circular was correct and that spent hops formed a valuable cattle food hitherto unknown.

Having heard the evidence for the appellants, the Bench retired for a considerable time, after which

Mr. Worsley Taylor, K.C. (chairman), said it had been proved that "Makbar" consisted of 54 per cent. of molasses, and witnesses agreed that molasses was of considerably less value than cane sugar. Appellants contended that, applied to cattle food, cane sugar meant cane sugar molasses, and distinguished it from beet sugar molasses. The witnesses could suggest no reason why it had not been called molasses. The Bench were of opinion that to the mind of the ordinary purchaser cane sugar and not molasses was understood, and therefore the description was false within the meaning of the Act, and in material particulars to the prejudice of the purchaser. Appellants contended it was not to the prejudice of Cummings, the purchaser, as he had paid a visit to the works, and was shown the processes of manufacture. It was contended he ordered a food similar to that he saw made. Cummings stated, however, that he ordered the food according to the circular. When at the works he was told it was cane sugar in a liquid state. It was residual cane sugar, the manager said. The Bench were of opinion that that contention failed in fact.

Mr. Bather, for appellants, asked for a case to be stated on the point that Cummings himself was not prejudiced as a purchaser.

The chairman said they had found against appellants on that point. It was an absolute fact, without a shadow of doubt. It was not arguable, and he should be wrong to state a case on that point.—The appeal was dismissed with costs.

Definitions of Soil Fertility.

A paper by Prof. W. H. Jordan (Agri. of Mass., 1904) discusses the various theories of soil fertility, particularly those advanced in Bulletin 22 of the Bureau of Soils of the U.S. Agricultural Department. The author's views with reference to methods of soil management necessary to maintain fertility are summarised as follows:—

"1. Thorough tillage, with efficient machinery, to be given if possible when the moisture conditions of the soil admit of satisfactory pulverisation

"2. Frequent surface tillage at times of scanty rainfall, in order to conserve the supply of soil moisture.

"3. A sufficiently rapid rotation of crops to insure good soil texture, to allow the necessary frequency of applying fertilising material, and as a main result to secure a paying stand of crops.

"4. The introduction into the soil at frequent intervals of an amount of organic matter necessary to propr soil texture and water-holding power, either by application of farm manures, by ploughing under soiling crops, or by the rotting of the turf.

"5. The scrupulous saving of all the excrement of farm animals, both solid and liquid.

"6. The purchase of plant food with due reference to the needs of the farm and to the system of farm management prevailing.

"7. The maintenance in the soil of those conditions of drainage and aëration which promote the growth of desirable soil organisms, and the introduction into the soil, when necessary, of such organisms as are essential to the growth of particular plants."

Consumption of Mineral Fertilisers in India.

As the result of recent investigations, the Government of India has been recommended to take action on the question of consumption of mineral fertilisers in India, and that the Agricultural Departments should experiment with the principal mineral fertilisers. Special attention is to be paid to the trial of sulphate of ammonia in sugar-cane cultivation. It is understood that ammonium sulphate will shortly be manufactured in India, and arrangements are well advanced for the erection of by-product recovery ovens in coke making. Various manufacturing projects are being contemplated by which the output of ammonium sulphate and sulphuric acid will be increased and utilised for local requirements.

Phosphatic manures, mostly in the form of crushed bones and superphosphates, have been under trial, and the results of trials at Cawnpore during sixteen years give the following average yield in pounds per acre:—

	Maize. lb.	Wheat. lb.
Unmanured	760	1,193
Saltpetre and bone dust ...	1,280	1,697
Saltpetre and superphosphate	1,194	1,718

The general result of experiments has been that bone phosphate has not given any large increased yield of cereals except in the Ganges alluvium of Lower Bengal. Phosphoric acid is not generally deficient in Indian soils, except in Behar and Assam. It seems improbable that superphosphate, at its present price, will come into general use, and in most parts of India the soil responds more readily to nitrogenous conditions. The enormous export of bones yearly (100,000 tons) means that in course of time this drain must be replaced, and the nitrogenous manures will be supplemented by phosphates. The establishment of a sulphuric acid industry in India would favour the use of phosphatic manures by the cheapness in price that would result from local manufacture. Phosphates occur in the form of apatite as a by-product of the mica mines of Chota Nagpur, and phosphatic nodules occur in large quantities at or near the surface in Trichinopoly. The phosphate of lime found in Christmas Island, and which is shipped to Japan, Australia, and Europe, can be landed in bulk in Calcutta at about £2 10s. per ton. If a sulphuric acid industry could be established, Christmas Island phosphate might be less costly than any indigenous material. The analysis of these materials shows:—

Constituent.	Percentage of Different Constituents. Apatite.	Trichinopoly Phosphate.	Christmas Island Phosphate.
Moisture	0·37	1·62	0·74
Organic matter ..	—	2·71	2·89
Lime	55·42	37·22	—
Iron and alumina ..	1·80	11·90	2·01
Alkalis, &c.	3·00	7·76	—
Phosphoric Acid ..	24·30	22·83	38·89
Carbonic Acid ..	0·03	5·55	1·95
Silica	29·90	10·40	0·10
Calcium phosphate	61·98	49·84	84·91
Calcium carbonate ..	—	12·62	1·43

Gypsum is found in large quatities in the Salt Range of Northern India, and it is an antidote to certain classes of saline soils. No definite results have been obtained from nitrate of soda, and sulphate of ammonia deserves more trial in India than it has received. The use of artificial fertilisers seems to be coming within the scope of Indian agriculture, and the establishment of a sulphuric acid industry might have important results. Cotton is to be treated with various manures, including superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia, also sugar cane and other valuable irrigated crops. When fertilisers come into general use the question of guarantee of quality will become of importance.—*Chemical Trade Journal.*

Testing Vitality of Seeds.

Many of our readers will be now arranging for their supply of seeds for next season's crops, and we venture, therefore, to call attention to the necessity of buyers making sure that their supply of seeds are of good vitality and free from weeds.

A simple test of the vitality of any farm or garden seeds can be made as follows:—Place 100 seeds, taken at random from a sample, on a dish of sand, cover from half to one inch with sand, moisten and keep in a warm place, as behind a kitchen stove, until the sprouts appear. The number of sprouts which appear will give an idea of the percentage which may be expected to grow. It is advisable to make more than one test and be guided by the average results. A test of this kind is considered more trustworthy than one in which the seeds are placed in blotting paper.

Soil Fertility—Law of Minimum.

The law of minimum was propounded by the celebrated Liebig, and is accepted as an axiom of soil fertility. Every soil contains a maximum of one or more and a minimum of one or more of the ingredients necessary for plant growth. Now the growth or produce of a plant is governed not by the total combined quantity of all the ingredients present in the soil, but by the producing power of the essential ingredient present in the smallest proportion, no matter how small a part this deficient ingredient may play in the economy of the crop. This is easily understood on the principle that the strength of a chain is governed by its weakest link.

Thus the object of applying fertilisers is to provide against any such deficiency, and to furnish the crop with a full supply of readily available well-balanced plant food.

Prices of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The quotations are approximate and free-on-rail, London, cash payment.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda .....prompt delivery	11	12	0
,, ,, ...forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	15	0
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,, ...	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

Nature's Methods.

Nature's mode of manuring and preserving fertility of soil is by spreading nearly everything on the surface, and Nature, in most cases, is a safe guide. Leaves in forests and grass and weeds of prairies and fields are deposited on the surface from year to year, preserving fertility and causing giant trees to grow. Besides, plentiful mulching preserves nitrogen and moisture about the plants, as well as securing from the bad effects of too much sun heat, and in winter secures crops from much injury by freezing and leaving out or being blown there by spring winds.

Cabbage Cultivation.

In a report of some experiments in cabbage growing, it is stated that, contrary to the general notion concerning the treatment of "leggy" plants, it was found that depth of setting had very little influence upon the size of the heads. Plants handled three or four times invariably gave better results than those handled once or twice before transfer to the field. Frequent transplanting increased the average size of the heads. Handling the plants in pots before setting in the field increased the percentage of marketable heads; but trimming the plants at the time of setting appeared to be of no special importance. The practice of mulching instead of cultivating was found to give very satisfactory results.

Gas lime, unless submitted for some time to the action of the atmosphere, exercises a bad effect in checking nitrification in the soil, owing to the poisonous sulphur compounds it contains. This is a good time to spread gas lime over arable land intended for next spring sowing.

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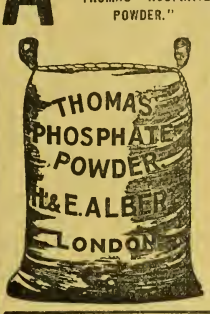

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Grass, etc., on Light Soils need Potash as well.

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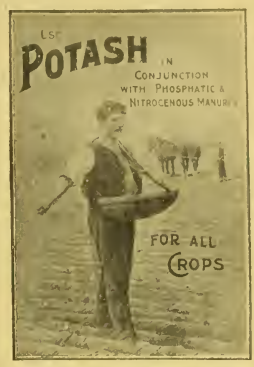

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It is the most soluble Calf Meal on the market, and can be made up simply by soaking the meal in cold water for six or seven hours, if this suits the feeder's convenience better than by making up with boiling water in the ordinary way.

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Leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep.
Trial Pot Free from the Manufactory.
Requires no Reduction in Price to Sell it.
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Good for Cattle, Dogs, and all Domestic Animals.
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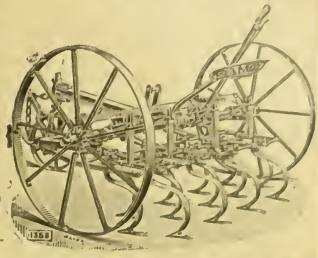
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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.
NOVEMBER 26, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.
Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.
Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE CHRISTMAS FAT STOCK SEASON.

November at its close has in train the natural harbingers of the Christmas festive season, fat stock shows. Norwich opened the ball last Thursday with an admirable display alike of the bovine, ovian, and porcine breeds, and our next week's issue will contain a report of the Bingley Hall Exhibition, and then in the week following will come the world-renowned Smithfield Club carnival. Sometimes the animals which receive highest honours at Norwich, repeat their triumphs at Birmingham and Islington, but in regard to cattle this is not always the case. Sometimes beautiful specimens of the Aberdeen-Angus silk, or massive heavy-fleshed blue-grey cross-breds, swoop down like eagles from the North after winning at Edinburgh, to carry off the best prizes of Smithfield. Owing to the Edinburgh Show being held coincident with Birmingham, they seldom appear in the competitions of the South until the best of the best of all breeds are gathered together in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.

The fattened beeves of the Royal herds are often found hard to beat at Norwich, Birmingham, and London shows. The Shorthorn, Hereford, and Devon ones of the Windsor Park Farms and the Sandringham one all contain some of the best strains of blood ever produced, the virtue of which gets abundantly evident, not only by imparting symmetry and grand character, but in causing the richest of flesh to be laid on when the steers and heifers are fed for the block. Like produces like in this as much as in any other characteristic of animal perfection—early maturity, high quality flesh, and the property of laying it on evenly.

Sandringham being in Norfolk the cattle were from that herd with which the King won two first and three second prizes. The cracks of Mr. Learner and Mr. Hudson have therefore yet to fight the Royal outcomes from the Windsor herds as well as the leading prize-winners of Edinburgh. Moreover, the winning at Norwich appears to have been very close work, especially in the competitions in which Mr. Learner's heifer, bred by Mr. John Ross, of Meikie Tarrel, figured. She was only second to Mr. R. W. Hudson's Honey Bee last year at the Smithfield Club Show, and it was a very critical point to determine which was the better of the two at Norwich. Then after being placed first in her class she had to meet Mr. Hudson's first prize Aberdeen-Angus steer Danesfield Negro, which was first as a yearling both at Birmingham and Islington last year. These animals, together with Great Scot and Waddesdon Prince the first and second two year steers of Mr. Turner and Miss Alice de Rothschild, are of great merit, whether they hold their own or not when Greek meet Greek at the future contests.

Norwich, at any rate, has led off well with its thirtieth Christmas exhibition, rendered all the more attractive by the Royal Southdown sheep from Sandringham, which won two first and three special prizes.

THE GROUND GAME ACT.

This modest little Act has no connection with the Land Tenure Bill, otherwise it would not have found its way so easily through Parliament, almost unobserved in the turmoil and confusion accompanying the progress of more ambitious measures.

It will be remembered that the Ground Game Act, 1880, whilst conferring on occupiers of lands, as incident to and inseparable from the land, the right to kill and take ground game thereon, limited the exercise of the right in the case of moorlands and uninclosed lands (not being arable lands), to the period from December 11 in one year until March 31 in the next year, both inclusive; subject, however, to an exception in favour of detached portions of moorlands or uninclosed lands adjoining arable lands, where such detached portions are less than twenty-five acres in extent.

This very limited right over moorlands (designed no doubt to prevent the disturbance of winged game) has been felt to be a hardship by tenants of open lands, and the new Act has been passed with a view of alleviating the hardship. It provides that the occupier of such lands shall be entitled after April 1 next to exercise the right of killing and taking ground game (otherwise than by the use of firearms) during the further period from September 1 to December 10 in every year, both inclusive.

It will be noticed, however, that during this extended period the use of firearms is prohibited (where the only right is that conferred by the Act) and the shooting tenant is thus amply protected, the use of firearms being still limited to the period from December 11 to March 31.

Under the 3rd section of the Act of 1880, every agreement, condition, or arrangement which purports to divest or alienate the right of the occupier as declared, given, and reserved to him by the Act, or which gives him any advantage in consideration of his forbearing to exercise such right, or impose upon him any disadvantage in consequence of his exercising such right, is made null and void. But the Act of 1906 provides that the section just quoted shall not apply to prevent the owner and occupier of moorlands or uninclosed lands from making and enforcing agreements for the joint exercise, or the exercise for their joint benefit, of the right to kill and take ground game between September 1 and December 10 in any or every year.

The Act will probably be welcomed by occupiers of open lands in so far as it will enable them to trap rabbits on such lands

earlier than the law has hitherto allowed, but it does not touch one grievance, which is a crying one in many parts of the country. The Act of 1880 stipulates that a person shall not be deemed to be an occupier of land for the purposes of the Act by reason of his having a right of common over such lands; or by reason of an occupation for the purposes of grazing or pasturage of sheep, cattle, or horses for not more than nine months. There are many manors in which the freeholders have common rights of pasture over extensive moors and commons, as appendant or appurtenant to their freeholds. These common rights are often of considerable value, but their value is apt to be prejudiced by the depredations of rabbits. The policy of the Ground Game Acts is to give farmers a summary remedy for damage to their crops by ground game. The commoners are, in fact, the farmers of the unenclosed land and moorlands, which the Act says they are not to be "deemed" to occupy; and a hard time they often have to make ends meet. Why should they be denied the privilege of taking the rabbits which abound on the commons, and often do considerable damage, although such rabbits are themselves a valuable product of the soil? It is as much to the interest of the commoners to make a few shillings out of the rabbits, as it is to farmers of enclosed land to put money in their pockets, indirectly, by killing ground game to save their crops.

Notes of the Week.

The first of the important fat cattle shows of the season, the Norwich Christmas Show, attracted a large number of visitors, not only from East Anglia, but from more remote districts.

For the purpose of these Christmas shows, the word fat cattle includes pigs, sheep, and poultry.

The weather during the Norwich Show week was too warm to be seasonable, but it was pleasant and brightened with a touch of sunshine.

The ancient city was decorated in an attractive manner to welcome its many visitors, who filled the streets with bustle and excitement.

About the show itself, there was nothing to be especially noted; it was "much of a muchness" with previous shows.

There were some splendid animals, a credit to the exhibitors and objects of admiration to the visitors.

The President of the Board of Agriculture evinced his interest in the show by being present. For the occasion he was the guest of the previous Minister of Agriculture, the Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes.

Earl Carrington afterwards paid a visit to the Marine Laboratory at Lowestoft. As President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, he takes great interest in the steps being taken to increase the harvest gathered from the sea.

Invisible margarine! For ways that are dark, some of our grocers can compete with the heathen Chinee. We have heard of a grocer who, to comply with the law, has the word margarine printed in large letters on notices in front of the stuff, but it is printed in chemical ink, which, while apparent by day, becomes invisible by gas-light. Be watchful, oh ye food inspectors!

The continued rain is justifying the proverbial privilege of an Englishman to grumble. We are anxiously looking for a change to bright, dry, seasonable weather.

The advent of the important Fat Stock shows is a reminder of the near approach of the festive season. There is every prospect of the shows being unusually successful.

Professor See has discovered a new natural law, by virtue of which he predicts that the future of the sun's activity will be three times as great as in the past. At this period of the year it is a comfortable reflection.

The adoption of dust palliatives on the roads is going to be an expensive affair. The surveyor to the Lancashire County Council estimates that it would cost the county £57,000 a year for only the main and secondary roads.

Who is to bear this extra heavy expenditure? Motors are the cause, dust the effect; *ergo*, motors should bear the brunt.

Calcium chloride is a useful chemical to apply to the roads for dust-laying, but it is a chemical which acts very injuriously on leather. At one place the men engaged in applying the chemical had the boots destroyed, and were granted a gratuity of 10s. apiece.

Will the Land Tenure Bill arrest the continued fall in the value of land? A striking example of this depreciation was lately furnished at an auction sale at Thurlby, Lincolnshire.

Three fields were sold for £836. Thirty years ago the same property realised £1,800—about £1,000 absolutely lost.

What is the proper pronunciation of the word tomato. There is a couplet:—

"If tomato is tomato,
Then potato is potato."

Both words come to us through the Spanish. Tomato from toma ti, meaning, "take thou it," said to have been used by Adam to Eve when he handed her the love apple.

In America tomatoes are still called "love apples," although they are really not a fruit but a vegetable.

About a million and a-half tons of food enter London every year by way of the Thames, and it is supposed to be subjected to examination.

But the staff engaged in this operation is not large enough to attend to it properly. The poor of London must eat some strange food.

An eminent physician made the remark the other day that all the efforts now being made to cure and stamp out human tuberculosis are fruitless, until people have pure sources of meat and milk.

People in Germany are getting anxious about the relative decrease in the number of cattle in the empire. Ten years ago there were thirty-five head of cattle and twenty sheep for every 100 people.

These numbers have now fallen to thirty-two cattle and thirteen sheep per 100 inhabitants, and as a consequence the price of meat has risen about thirty-eight per cent.

Population throughout the world seems to be gradually increasing beyond the available supplies of food, a fact which must lead to a higher level of prices for food products.

According to returns furnished to the Board of Trade, the average cash earnings for harvest work per man this season was £7 8s. 8d. in the Eastern Counties and £4 9s. 4d. in the South-West Counties.

This is a great difference, and an explanation of the cause would be interesting. A Labour Bureau would be useful, if it helped to a more even supply of labour.

26,000 bales of wool were recently sold in one day by auction in Adelaide. This affords an idea of the magnitude of the wool trade.

There was brisk bidding and keen competition. Prospects are assuredly good for producers of wool.

North Lincolnshire farmers have lately again suffered severely from the depredations of stray dogs, and a very bad case of sheep worrying has occurred at the farm of Mrs. Newmarsh, Scartho, near Grimsby. A small flock of ewe lambs was on Monday evening left safely in a field, but next morning the shepherd found eight lambs lying dead, and nine others lying bleeding in a corner of the field. Four of these were so badly injured that they had to be slaughtered, though it is hoped the other five will recover. The animals were worth £50.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.—Horsham Fat Stock Show—Viscount Tredegar's Agricultural Show at Newport, first day—Rugely Agricultural Hiring Fair—Fairs and Sales at Newtown, Uttoxeter, Ipswich, and Newport.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28.—The Newport Agricultural Show, second day—Rayabud's Agricultural Sale, Basingstoke—Lloyd's Hackney Sale, Wrexham—Fairs at Shrewsbury, Colne, Newcastle, Saintfield, Knaresborough, Harlow, Chesham, Northampton—Important Sale of Old Hay at Chislehurst.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29.—Chippenham Agricultural Show, first day—Cattle and Sheep Sale at Warrington—Horse Sale at Chester and Clones—Cattle Fairs at Ashbourne—Basingstoke Cheese Fair.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30. — Chippenham Agricultural Show, second day — Cattle Fairs at Pontefract, Maidenhead, and Ampthill.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1.—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, first day—Rotherham Horse and Cattle Fair—Buckingham Cattle and Sheep Fair—Bury St. Edmunds Agricultural Fair.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3. — Burgham Fat Stock Show, second day—Tonbridge Fat Stock Show, first day—Talgarth, Rotherham, York, and Crewe Fairs.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4.—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, third day—Tonbridge Fat Stock Show, second day—Chichester Fat Stock Show, first day—York Fat Stock Show, first day—Derby Horse Sale—Derby Cheese Fair—Lambourne, Wells, Stafford, Witney, Nantwich, Birkenhead, and Cordridge Fairs—Acceptances for the Farmers' Club dinner of the 11th and for the dinner in honour of Major Craigie on the 12th, should be sent in a week beforehand in order that the Honorary Secretaries may make proper seating and other arrangements.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," *3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

Motors for Hilly Work—Action by a Farmer.

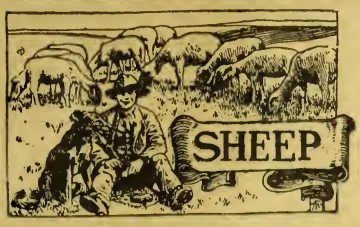
In the King's Bench Division on Wednesday the case of Studd v. The Ivel Agricultural Motors came before Mr. Justice Jelf and a common jury. It was an action by Mr. Edward Fairfax Studd, a gentleman farmer, of Oxton, Devon, who sued the defendants for the return of £308 13s. 9d. paid for an eighteen horse-power agricultural motor, the rescinding of of the contract, and damages for misrepresentation.

The plaintiff's case was that in February, 1903, he received a circular from defendants describing the merits of a motor which they said was capable of doing any kind of agricultural work, and which it was said could also be used as a traction engine. Further, it was stated that the cost of the upkeep was exceptionally small, and the cost of fuel only about 8d. per acre. Plaintiff went to see the machine doing agricultural work at Hillington, in Norfolk, in a comparatively flat field, where it was drawing a three-furrow plough, and seemed to be working satisfactorily. Plaintiff interviewed the defendants' manager, Mr. Hoffman, and said he wanted a motor that would work on a hilly farm. Mr. Hoffman assured plaintiff that the motor would work as well in a hilly field as on the level, and that it would, in fact, work anywhere that horses could work. Plaintiff gave Hoffman an order for a motor, to cost £308 13s. 9d. Plaintiff's son went through a course of instruction, and the motor was delivered. It was alleged that it was a failure from the first, for when tried with a scuffle in a field with an incline of about one in eight, it reared up and refused to go. People were sent from the defendants' to set the machine right, but it was of no use.

The defendants, whose place of business is in Marlborough Street, London, denied that they made any misrepresentations, or that Mr. Hoffman guaranteed the motor to work as well on a hilly farm as on the flat. They denied liability, and counter-claimed £3 odd for extras supplied.

Mr. Duke, K.C., and Mr. Haldenstein appeared for plaintiff; Mr. J. C. Graham, K.C., and Mr. W. Dodd for defendants. The plaintiff gave evidence in support of his case, after which the hearing was adjourned.

At the meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club, Mr. W. Troy, Crowborough, presided, and spoke of his visit to the United States and the farming conditions prevailing there. He gave interesting observations upon agricultural differences between the States and this country, and the matter is to be again discussed by the members.



Notes and Jottings.

HAVE you begun to get some of your roots up so that if frost comes you will not have all of them frozen in the ground? The soil is very wet, and will freeze hard with a slight frost, and the roots will be frozen too. It makes for unsatisfactory sheep-breeding when all the root crop is frozen in. Pecking up frozen shells of turnips to be eaten frozen by chilly sheep is cold comfort to farmer or sheep. It is not suggestive of frost when the temperature is at 50 deg. Fahr., but our climate has vagaries, and nothing seems to please it better than diving from 50 deg. down to 20 deg. or 30 deg. at one attempt. It is quite capable of doing it at this season. Men have left skating in the country to go up to the Cattle Show.

THOSE unaccustomed to sheep rarely seem able to distinguish one sheep from another unless one has a black face and one a white one. Very considerable astonishment has been expressed at times a shepherd should not only know his own sheep, but know each one individually. This seems strange to the farmer when he goes to draw out a pen for the market and wants to make them match, he finds difficulty in getting them sufficiently matching.

EVEN at shows when animals have been drawn from flocks where years have been devoted to getting the flock true to a type, there are very few pure, even of three, which closely match, and even in the best matching lots each one differs from his mates. There is no doubt about the attractiveness of a pen that shows great similarity.

THE breed of the golden hoof is frequently extolled, and rightly too; but the golden hoof has a way of churning up the soil and making it into a very bad seed bed for the following crop. In a wet time considerable care is needed to provide sufficient fall back for the sheep, both in the interest of the soil and the sheep. Too closely folded the ground is soon churned up, the sheep stand hock deep in the slush, so that the blood passing down the legs is rapidly chilled and goes back in a cold condition to the heart and lungs, causing distress to those important organs, leaving the animals in a condition ready to take up ailments. Moreover, it may be so wet that they cannot lie down. I have more than once seen hungry sheep which, through the wetness of the land, have been unable to be down, turned into a fresh piece of feed and at once drop down, and merely eat the turnips within their reach—the desire for rest overcoming the craving of the appetite. The fall back should always be sufficient to avoid this, no matter how much may be required to effect it.

THE difficulty in finding barleys of the very highest quality is greater now than it was before so much cake and corn was given to sheep on roots. The land becomes too rich, and a rank growth results, which is inimical to the growth of the finest skinned barleys. The matter is intensified by unoven feeding; so far as possibls the feeding should be equal in all parts of the field, and the folding regulated to insure it. This is not always regarded; the consequence is that the individual pens may be seen in the subsequent crop, marked out in squares of different colour and strength. It is impossible in these circumstances to get a uniform sample, and uniformity is the first essential in a barley sample. It has to be remembered that the profit of sheep feeding lies greatly in the manuring resulting therefrom, and if the manuring is uneven there is a preventable loss.

A MOST common cause of uneven manuring is the want of regularity in moving the feeding troughs; and shepherds whose first thought is their sheep, are very liable to be careless of the subsequent crop; therefore the constant attention of the master is required to see that troughs are moved regularly. Manuring is less even where shelter cloths or closely wattled hurdles are used than where open slatted hurdles are employed, for the sheep naturally get behind them for shelter which the open hurdles do not provide. But the shelter provided is better for the sheep.

THIS extraordinary season, with its absence of frost, has peculiar bearing on sheep keeping. November has been what September often is, and in some ways October has not counted. In very few places has there been sufficient frost to check the liver fluke, and pastures generally safe by reason of frost in mid October, are yet dangerous.

AFTER such a dry year in many parts fluke seemed to be very unlikely, but it would be well to keep a close watch on sheep to a later period than that at which it generally develops it. This is particularly necessary in places where there has been standing water. Where there is any reason to fear liver rot, generous feeding should be provided so that the sheep may maintain strength to resist the progress of the attack. Salt should be liberally supplied, as it doubtless has a hindering effect on the fluke. When once fluke has reached the stage of emaciation, when the eye shows it, there is no known remedy; therefore, preventive means are the best.

YARD feeding in winter time is not much followed in this country, although at one time there was a considerable amount of it done, and at one time a great deal was written in favour of the subject. Of course the great drawback to it is the drawing of the food to a special place, and the necessity of carting back the manure to the land, which is well distributed by the sheep when folded out in the ordinary manner.

IN ordinary circumstances feeding on pastures where the land is too wet and heavy provides sufficiently favourable conditions for sheep to thrive in, but the manure is frequently required on the arable land. As a matter of fact, there is little pasture land which does not respond satisfactorily and profitably as a result of the feeding, and there is no better way of improving a pasture.

MORE Southdowns, in relation to the number kept, are yard-fed than any other breed, and the sheep do well. The breed does not do well on cold, wet lair as on clay land in winter, and the more artificial conditions agree with it. On drier land, and in places little exposed, they winter well out of doors. However, the fattening is often carried on away from the chalk soils.

Dublin Wool Sales.

At Messrs. Ganly's autumn sale of wool, held on Thursday in the Usher's Quay Wareroom, there was only a moderate attendance of buyers, including home merchants and manufacturers,

SOUTH DEVON RAM.

At the Royal Show this year at Derby, this Ram won the First Prize in the class for South Devon Rams, Shearling and upwards. He is the property of Mr. John Stooke, of Sherford, but was bred by Mr. John S. Hallett, of Sherford, Brixton, Plymouth, and was born February 14th, 1904.

together with a few representatives from English centres. The biddings for all classes showed a great lack of animation, but the prices realised showed some slight improvement on recent quotations, although about ½d. per lb. less than the figures made at the August sale. There were 350,000 lb. of the different descriptions catalogued, but many of the lots had to be withdrawn owing to the high reserves put on by owners. Following are the quotations:—

	Washed.	Greasy.
Shrop. and Downs	13¾d to 14½d ...	10½d to 11d
Fine Hogs.....	13d to 13¾d ...	10d —
Fine Wethers	12½d to 12¾d ...	10d —
Strong Hogs.....	12½d to 13d ...	9½d to 9¾d
Strong Wethers ...	11½d to 12½d ..	8½d to 9½d
Mountain and Sea-side	9½d to 11½d ...	8½d to 9d
Blackface and Scotch	8¾d to 10d ...	7½d to 8½d

Royal Agricultural College Flock of Cotswold Sheep.

The following honours have been awarded to the sheep exported from the farm of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, to Canada in the present year, viz.: At Toronto Show: Cotswold shearling ram, 2nd prize; Cotswold ram lamb, 1st and 2nd prize; Cotswold ewe lamb, 1st and 2nd prize.

At London, Ontario: Cotswold shearling ram, 2nd prize; Cotswold ram lambs, 1st and 2nd prize; Cotswold ewe lambs, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes.

At Detroit: Hampshire ram lambs, 2nd prize; Hampshire ewe lambs, 1st and 3rd prizes.

Leicester Sheep Exportations.

A strong demand has been maintained for Leicester sheep this season, both for home and for export. Mr. E. F. Jordan, of Driffield, Yorkshire, has sold twenty-eight rams and ewes for shipment to Tasmania, to Mr. Oliver (who made a personal selection) and Mr. Simons, of that colony. Several of the sheep were prizewinners. Mr. G. Harrison, of Darlington, also a Leicester breeder, has recently sold both ewes and shearling rams for New Zealand, Tasmania, and South America at good prices.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 20, 1906:—

Period		Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended November 17, 1906		19	21	...	...	23	45	...	...	11	37	221
Corresponding week in	1905	14	14	...	...	17	29	...	...	15	9	34
	1904	22	27	...	...	24	41	...	...	16	14	141
	1903	16	24	...	...	24	32	...	...	44	20	105
Total for 46 weeks in 1906		808	1,150	...	...	975	1,847	...	...	367	1,064	6,079
Corresponding period in	1905	856	1,167	...	...	1,090	1,867	...	...	759	715	3,203
	1904	893	1,349	...	...	1,373	2,398	...	...	1,164	1,113	5,261
	1903	663	992	...	...	1,310	2,237	...	...	1,383	1,318	6,966

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

A destructive fire occurred at Pennington Farm, near Ulverston, on Saturday week. The fire originated in a barn, and, fanned by a strong wind, spread with alarming rapidity, and soon the farm buildings were enveloped and completely gutted. Three cattle were burned to death, together with a large number of pigs and poultry.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

THE comparative scarcity of good brood mares has been a constant source of regret amongst those who have the interests of the horse breeding of the nation at heart, and though, perhaps, there has been a greater outcry than the real circumstances of the case actually warrant, as my readers do not need reminding is my opinion, still there is great room for improvement in the average quality of our brood mares; and there is no doubt that many of the mares which are mated with the King's premium horses are of very moderate class indeed, and are only calculated to fill the country with horses of which, in the present condition of things, there is only a very limited use.

ALL sorts of schemes more or less drastic have been suggested to ensure that only good mares should be bred from, and it has been argued that there should be legislation to prevent mares that are hereditarily unsound being put to the stud. On the face of it, this seems a very sensible argument, but it is pulled up short by the stern logic of facts. No worse roarer than Pocohontas ever trod on iron, yet Pocohontas stands out as the great brood mare of all time, whose offspring were—with one exception, I believe, the soundest of the sound, and from whom come some of the best horses that the world has ever seen.

IT has also been suggested that a heavy export duty should be put on mares, or even that there should be a law forbidding their export altogether, as there was a law prohibiting the export of sheep in the Middle Ages, but these suggestions being quite impracticable in these days do not need discussion.

AS usual, in anything relating to agriculture or the breeding of pedigree stock, it is a country gentleman who has taken the first initial step towards the keeping of good brood mares in the country, and though necessarily it was only on a small scale, it was a move in the right direction. Surely it is unnecessary to say that I allude to the Duke of Portland's scheme, which has been followed up by the Brood Mare Society—a society which has done infinite good, and which ought by this time to have had ten times the number of members there are on its books.

NOW another plan has been put forward by Lord Harrington, and as might have been expected from a man of such sound knowledge and wide experience in matters relating to horses and horse breeding, there is much to commend his plan. It is that the country should be divided into five districts, and that in each district fifty premiums of £10 each should be given for fillies likely to make brood mares, on condition that those fillies which won should be branded with a Government brand, and should not be exported without a special licence. Lord Harrington also would have the hunts of each district supplement the premiums given by the Government, for the Government would, according to his scheme, provide the money, with premiums of £5 each. About this supplementary premium there would be no difficulty whatever; but the rest of the scheme has a few weak points which I shall proceed to notice.

FIRST, however, it must be said in its favour that it is not a costly scheme, and £2,500 per annum, even with the inordinately extravagant red-tapeism which surrounds all work undertaken by the Government, would not be too much to pay to ensure that 250 of the best fillies in the kingdom should be kept at home for stud purposes. And under the scheme, if it worked well, we should soon have a very fine lot of brood mares indeed, and the horses of the country would be of a much greater value than they are at present.

THERE is one thing, however, which I think would require changing if ever Lord Harrington's scheme should be adopted. Five districts are too few into which to divide the country. This division would entail so much expense on breeders in proportion to the sum of money to be gained—£15 at the most—that a great deal of it would be forestalled in preparation and preliminary expenses before the premium was won. And this would, I think, prevent men from taking their best mares, for though men take their horses long distances to shows at present, it is to shows where winning opens out instead of limiting the market.

THAT the market would be limited to the extent of the foreign trade is of course what is wanted, but the home market would undoubtedly be affected, and the value of mares with a brand on them would certainly suffer to quite the amount of the premium offered. I do not say that I would not ride a branded horse, or that I would not drive one, but most assuredly I should want the cheapsore, for it is nothing else, to be considered in the price. This I take to be the weakest part of Lord Harrington's proposals, and the one which it would be the most difficult to get rid of. The question of districts could easily be settled, but the question of preventing premium winners from being exported without practically blemishing them is one of extreme difficulty.

THERE are many farmers and breeders—small breeders, too—whom this plan would benefit to a considerable extent. They are those enterprising men of whom I have frequently had occasion to write, who will never part with fillies of a certain strain for either home or foreign market until they have others of the same line. These men—and I could name a great number of them—are the foundation of our pedigree-horse breeding. Without them it would have been nothing, and they deserve encouragement and reward. But I question whether what may be termed the rank-and-file of small breeders would care to enter their good fillies at a show which would limit their chances of selling.

NOWADAYS the breeder, by whom I do not mean the man who breeds extensively and systematically, but the man whom for want of a better word I will term the casual breeder, wants a ready turn over. He wants to sell his young stock at two or three years old, and the first question he would ask himself when the schedule of conditions came into his hands would be: "Will the £15 premium or what remains of it after expenses are paid be more than or equal to the difference between the price of a good filly will bring in the home market and the foreign market?" I think the conclusion that he would come to would be that in the majority of cases it would not be, and I think that conclusion to be justified by the experience of a quarter of a century's intimacy with the foreign horse trade. Therefore, if the breeder of this class did send any fillies—and probably he would—he would not send his best. And it is his best we want.

IT would perhaps be as well to give a few instances of the difference in the prices in the home and foreign market. A friend of mine once sold a remarkably good young mare, and was regretting afterwards that she went out of the country; and on my asking him why he sold her out of the country, his reply was that, though not anxious to sell her, he did not feel justified in not putting her in price when a customer came along, and that he got all he asked—200 guineas. "My best home bid was £130," added he. Now, I would ask—What man farming a couple of hundred acres of land could reasonably be expected to sacrifice £80 "for the good of the country?" This, it may be said, was an exceptional case. Let me give another: Many years ago I sold some three-year-old fillies to go abroad. I got sixty-five guineas for one and sixty for the other. I could not have got more than £40 each for them in the home market unless a foreign buyer had been in the country, and had given a commission to a dealer. There is the case in a nutshell.

ONE thing which wants constantly keeping in view, and that is that for a small farmer to breed profitably his mares must work on the land; that is unless he be a specialist. This of course entirely alters the state of things, and the specialist and his needs we are not discussing. Any scheme which has the encouragement of the casual breeder for its object must carefully keep this in view. It has been kept in view to a great extent by the Duke of Portland, and it is at the foundation of the policy of the Brood Mare Society.

THE Brood Mare Society is certainly working on right lines, and has perhaps done more good in proportion to the money expended than any other society has done or than any Government is likely to do. It is to the extension and development of the society that we have, in my opinion, to look for the solution of the difficult question of the supply of brood mares. The only pecuniary condition insisted on by the Brood Mare Society is that they should have the right of the first offer of fillies bred from their mares at a certain

price, which, it may be added, is a remunerative one. There seems to me to be no reason why the Government should not subsidise this excellent society to the extent, say, of the cost of Lord Harrington's scheme, and there seem several good reasons why they should do something of this kind rather than establish Government studs. Cheapness for one thing, and by cheapness I mean results in proportion to expenditure. The official work of a Government horse-breeding department would cost as much as this, and would really produce nothing but a lot of papers tied up in red tape. What the Brood Mare Society has done is familiar to everyone taking an interest in the subject, and why it does not increase more rapidly than it does is what I cannot understand.

THE LOOKER-ON.

The Polo and Riding Pony Show, 1907.

The official report of the recent meeting of the council of the Polo and Riding Pony Society foreshadowed additional classes and prizes for Polo and riding ponies at the eighth annual London Show, to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall on March 15 and 16 next.

No material alterations are made in the breeding section, which provides five classes for young stock, three for brood mares, one for the produce of registered dams, and four for stallions. It will, however, interest many gentlemen purchasing ponies during the winter to learn that in the riding section there will be increased classes and prizes. To take one instance—the class for novices (*i.e.*, Polo ponies that have never played in a tournament)—two sections are provided, instead of one as formerly, for light and heavy weights, with prizes in each section amounting to £21. Again, in the classes for Polo ponies, the classes for both heavy and light weights have been increased, the first prizes being now £15. And it will undoubtedly be an inducement to owners to enter when they learn that the first prize winners in both of these classes for the past three years are debarred from competing.

An interesting exhibition should be the outcome of Mr. Dunbar Kelly's cup, value £10, for the best pony in the show whose sire or dam is registered in the Polo and Riding Pony Stud Book, and which has been reasonably played during any season at any recognised Polo club. It is patent to any one that if the society is to secure the support of Polo players, the Stud Book must of necessity be intimately connected with the Polo ground. The interesting competitions which attract a large company annually to the Agricultural Hall will be strengthened by the introduction of two "turning races," necessitating competitors starting in pairs, traversing the length of the ring six times round posts fixed at each end, a complete circle being made at each turn. The total amount of prizes placed at the disposal of Polo players and breeders will be £476. And the recent decision of the council to consider the desirability of securing the co-operation of the Hurlingham official measurer to pass ponies entered for the Stud Book marks another step towards the co-ordination of the interests of the Polo player and the breeder, both equally concerned in the production of high class Polo ponies.

Shetland Pony Mare Temerity.

Our illustration on this page is of the Shetland pony mare Temerity, who was first in her class, and also winner of a silver medal, at the Royal Show this year at Derby. Her sire was Thor (83) and her dam Topaz (1116). She is the property of Mrs. A. J. Beale, of Casketts, Cudham, Kent, but was bred by the Marquis of Londonderry, of Bressay, Shetland.

SHETLAND PONY MARE, "TEMERITY."

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Cow with Obstruction in Nose.

I have a cow that makes a kind of snoring noise in the nose; has had it some time; holds her head straight out in front of her; discharges a little down the one nostril; does not sink in flesh, and does not affect her eating. Could you give any reason as to cause of it, and what treatment?—J. B.

Answer: There is clearly some obstruction to breathing, and the snoring noise and the flux from the nostrils suggests that it is situated in the nasal chambers, but the "reason as to the cause" could only be determined on careful examination. As the "treatment" must necessarily depend on the nature or cause of the obstruction, we regret that we cannot help you. In such a case an examination by an experienced veterinary surgeon is almost a necessity, for the assumption is a fair one that you have already endeavoured to determine the cause of the obstruction giving rise to the snoring noise, and have found nothing. A not unlikely cause is the existence of a polypus in the nasal chamber. Youatt records a case in which, while the pedicle of the excrescence might be traced in the nasal chamber, the main part of the tumour, which on removal was found to weigh nearly half a pound, hung down in the pharynx. Polypi of all sizes are found in different positions in the nostrils. Another possible cause of the snoring noise is thickness of the mucous membrane lining the nostrils; but there, we might go on speculating for a day, and get no nearer the actual cause.

As there are two East Kent gentlemen nominated for the council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, Mr. Walter Stunt has withdrawn in favour of Mr. Fitzwalter Plumtre.

Battle Cattle Fair. The annual cattle fair at Battle on Thursday was favoured by fine weather. Sussex steers made up to £10 5s., crossbred heifers and steers up to £10, and cows with calves £16 10s. The highest bid for a horse was 40 guineas; powerful cart animals making up to 25 guineas, and carriage horses up to 16½ guineas.

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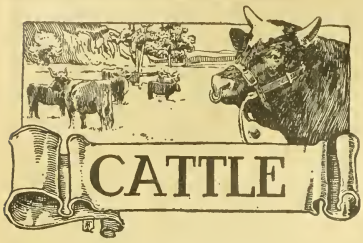


Notes and Jottings.

THE weather still continues remarkably mild for the season, and so far as fodder is concerned is helping the winter forward at a very modest cost for store cattle that are not needing to be pushed for milk or beef purposes. So far as the latter are concerned, the mild weather is very much against the trade, though in spite of this it has assumed, as we had anticipated in these columns for some time past, a very much brighter aspect than for a long time past. A little clear, bright frost would be very beneficial to the beef business from this onward to the shortest day, or till the Christmas holidays are over, always provided, of course, that no snow falls. A thick covering of this valuable protector is good for many things, but in these days of perpetual hurry it is to be feared a great many people and cattle would suffer.

THE fat stock show season has so far made a start as that the great annual Eastern Counties Show has been held at Norwich, and with the usual results so far as the quality of the stock is concerned, though it is quite probable there will be better cattle at some of the other shows that are patronised by the northern feeders, and where all the other pure breeds of cattle have an opportunity of showing their good properties. The Norfolk Society appears to be rather unfortunate in respect to their judges in some measure. Last year intense dissatisfaction was expressed at the placing of the championship, and it may be said that the after-shows proved the correctness and need of the objections raised by the general public, as the Norwich champion never repeated her success.

THIS year the same complaint again arises, but upon this occasion the objection is as strong against the first prize award in the class where the general favourite lay as it is against the placing of the championship. There is no breed prejudice whatever to raise people's ire, the two animals being of similar breeding, but the great discrepancy that raises the feeling of the public is in the matter of weight, and this brings one to the consideration as to whether there ought not to be a bottom limit of weight, below which no prize ought to be awarded, especially in all classes where the large breeds or their crosses are concerned. Were such a limit established in the conditions of each class it would tend to make much more uniform classes than we have at present, and would have a tendency to induce breeders to pay more attention to size.

THERE are many reasons why size ought to receive more attention from the breeder than it does; one reason, and a very important one, is that it has been proven over and over again that you cannot reduce size down to the scale that is now being practised with some of our large breeds without increasing the preponderance of fat, and, in common with reducing the total weight, the weight of lean is also reduced proportionately more than that of the fat. To give a first prize to an animal of the large breeds that does not weigh above 13 cwt. at nearly three years old, it must be confessed, is carrying the matter too far, and a limit of 15 cwt. would be none too low to prevent the breeding and exhibiting of these toy cattle in the full-sized breed classes. The discrepancy between the judges' and public's opinions would in this case have been prevented had there been a 15 cwt. limit.

THE encouragement of the breeding of so small a class of cattle has a very bad effect upon the future of our stock supply. At many of the auctions where store cattle are sold in their thousands one is continually hearing from grazier purchasers very loud complaints of want of growth in those lots of cattle. To give first prize to a beast of 13 cwt. at an age that certainly ought to have accounted for at least 15 cwt. is putting a premium on the breeding and bringing out into the store cattle markets these growthless, little, stunted specimens. The animal in question, it may safely be said, under ordinary feeding would not have weighed more than 7 to 8 cwt., and therefore would not have realised a sufficient sum to have paid for its keep.

THE general appearance of the Norwich classes this year shows very decidedly a greater want of symmetry than has been seen for some time. It is quite probable that this is due in a large measure to the greater attention that is being paid to milk breeding. Many of the ordinary bred exhibits at Norwich were doubtless bred in herds where dairying plays an important part, and where strong bulls adapted to dairy breeding are more generally in use. The beef off these animals will no doubt be more muscular and less fatty in its tissue, and therefore better adapted to the generality of consumers. As long as the size is kept up, however, the symmetry will not so seriously affect the increase of fat as it will where the size is allowed to deteriorate.

THOUGH the dead season is now decidedly upon us, the demand and prices obtaining for best pedigree Shorthorns does not give the least indication of relaxing Prices in the Argentine remain as high as ever, and demand, which happily for our country is confined almost entirely to English or British stock, where importation has to be reckoned with as strong as ever. It is true that the present time of year is a very busy and pleasant one in the Argentine, but so long as matters progress in the way they are doing in that country, it matters not to us anything about the season of the year. Our first consideration must be the maintaining the standard of our Shorthorns and Herefords, so that the Argentine importer will still find this the best market whereat to renovate his herds.

IT is very gratifying to read that a large number of North Devon cattle have recently been shipped from their native county to breeders in countries so far distant as the Argentine, Brazil, Australia, and British East Africa. No breed of cattle could possibly be better adapted to three of those countries than these juicy reds from the cream county, and there is no fear whatever of their not giving satisfaction, and where they have been selected from milking strains they will encourage the production of rich milk and cream as well as beef. For crossing upon native breeds the North Devon has proved of immense value on the continent of Europe, and will doubtless give as favourable results in other countries. It is one of our oldest pure breeds of cattle, and will, therefore, be more impressive in its labours.

Sale at Carlisle.

Messrs. Harrison held a special sale of pedigree and well-bred coloured and white Shorthorn bulls, together with a number of pedigree Galloway heifers, at their Carlisle auction mart on Saturday week. Buyers were fairly numerous, and sellers realised generally satisfactory prices as follows:—Shorthorn bulls: Mr. Ecroyd, Low House, calved April 30, 1905, £29 10s., to Mr. Coulthard, Brisco Hall; Mr. Nelson, Undercragg, £26, to Mr. Beaty, Barrockside; Mr. Bell, New House, £21, to Mr. Johnstone, Durdan House; Mr. Hodgson, Drumburgh Castle, £20, to Mr. Rickerby, Sandsfield; Mr. Nelson, Low Fell Side, £19 10s.; Mr. Hodgson, Craggs, £18. Galloway cattle: Heifers made to £14 2s. 6d.; store cattle, blue-grey bullock stirks, to £9 12s.

Miss A. de Rothschild's Fat Stock Sale.

The sale of fat stock at Waddesdon Manor last week, which was held by Mr. Burrows, of Thame, acting under the instructions of Miss A. de Rothschild, attracted a large attendance of buyers from all parts of the home counties. The cattle, mainly Angus and Shorthorn bullocks and heifers, ranged from £23 to £27 each, and there was a very ready demand for them at that average, many being bought for the London Christmas markets.

The sheep, however, formed the most interesting lots, nearly 150 head of Oxfordshire Downs from the famous Waddesdon flock being sold, mostly in pens of five, Mr. Boddington, Mr. J. Treadwell, Mr. Goodyer, Mr. J. W. Goss, and Mr. H. Rose being among the chief buyers. The ewes averaged 55s. a head. Mr. Treadwell, who is one of the oldest breeders of Oxfordshires in the country, paying 57s. a head for one pen and 53s. 6d. for another, but Mr. Boddington beat him in a keen competition for the possession of a small pen of ram lambs, the price at which they changed hands being 80s. a head. The top price for a single wether sheep was 82s., and others realised 81s., 78s., and 77s. each.

Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society Annual Report.

The council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, in their annual report, deal with the show held at Lancaster this year. The Lancaster Local Committee, they say, are to be heartily congratulated on the magnificent local fund raised from such a restricted area From this fund £1,512 9s. 9d. was eventually handed over to the society. The heavy rains on the mornings of the first three days of the show militated against the attendance from a distance, and the gate and stand receipts were £1,600 below the average for the past few years. Consequently there is great cause for gratification that the balance-sheet is as favourable as it is, showing a profit on the year's workings of £84 14s. 11d.

The general balance in favour of the society now stands at £12,101 8s. 9d., as compared with £12,007 8s. 10d. at the corresponding date last year. The election of the record number of 169 new members upon one occasion has already been referred to. The total number elected throughout the year was eight vice-presidents, eight life members, and 203 annual members. The names removed from the membership roll from various causes numbered 84, and the present total on the books is 1,507.

The council record with regret the death during the year of one of their colleagues, Dr. W. W. Wingate-Saul, who for many years was a representative member for the Northern division. Other prominent supporters removed through the same cause have been Sir Thomas Brocklebank, Colonel H. B. H. Blundell, and Captain W. G. Pitt Miller.

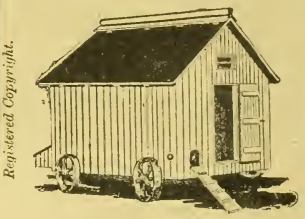
The question of more suitable accommodation for the society's offices has occupied the council's attention during the year. After careful consideration they decided that the purchase of premises to form the society's headquarters and secretarial residence combined would not only facilitate the conduct of business, but prove a good financial investment, and they acquired a house in Winckley Square for the sum of £2,875. The Earl of Derby has kindly given permission for the house to be known as Derby House.

BOLTON NEXT YEAR.

An invitation to visit Bolton with the show of 1907 has been accepted. The same suitable site used on the occasion of the visit in 1894, with the addition of a further eight acres, has been placed at the society's disposal, and the council look forward with every confidence to the success of the society's visit to this populous and thriving centre.

Grooming of Cows.—The Sheffield Board of Guardians are being asked by one of its members to cancel a decision arrived at by the Farm Committee that the cows on the model farm at York shall be "groomed every morning, and that the udders be sponged before milking," on the ground that this will necessitate the employment of an extra man at a wage of about £1 per week.

Farmer's Improved Fowl House, No. 6a.



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Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

**** The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.*

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Maldon, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CATTHORPE SHIRE STUD, the Property of J. P. Cross, Esq., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby.—There is always a choice selection of SHIRE STALLIONS, MARES and FILLIES, as well as a large Herd of PEDIGREE SHORTHORNS of deep milking propensities, and a uniform Flock of OXFORD DOWN SHEEP.—Apply, Mr. F. CAMPBELL, Estate Office, Catthorpe, Rugby. Telegrams: "Campbell, Catthorpe."

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Dullearrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS.—COWS of the Scraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal; younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS *(cont.)*.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904, 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, Alfred, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebenister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1906.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 265 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, Jas. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

(*Continued on next page*).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOEGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

Fethard Fair, co. Tipperary, held on November 21. Large fair. Good demand for all cattle suitable for shipping, but small and light animals sold slower, and a good many failed to find buyers. Calves, 2nd class, £3 15s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 15s. to £9 10s.; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £8 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 15s. to £13; 2nd class, £9 to £11 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £15 15s.; 2nd class, £11 7s. 6d. to £14; springers, 1st class, £17 to £19; 2nd class, £13 to £16. Lambs, 2nd class, £1 10s. to £1 16s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, were in fair demand at from 20s. to 25s. each.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION

Railway Rates: An Important Movement.

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at the Albion Hotel, Lincoln, on Friday afternoon. The chairman (Mr. Colin Campbell) presided, and there were also present Messrs. G. Bartholomew, A. W. Dean, J. D. Blanshard, T. Sharp, G. A. Bellwood, J. Brocklebank, E. W. Howard, W. Fowler, C. Clarke, J. C. Mountain, S. E. Dean, &c., with the secretary (Mr. H. W. Palmer).

Some Contrasts in Railway Rates.

A letter was read from Mr. E. J. Bullen, hon. secretary of the Midland Corn and Agricultural Trades Association, Ltd., referring to the conference held at Newark between representatives of the G.C.R., the G.N.R., the L. and N.W., and M.R. Companies and of that association and the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union on the subject of railway rates. The conference had discussed the organisation of a scale of rates for truck loads of grain, flour, cake, roots, manure, and other produce or requisites identical with or similar to those in force on the N.E. Railway for five ton loads, the application of the Hull to Newark six ton rate for barley only to wheat for milling and also to other grain, the organisation of reduced scales of rates for grain in six, twenty and fifty ton consignments, and the organisation of a definite scale of rates for pressed hay and straw in two and a half ton truck loads, and also for smaller quantities similar to those in force on the N.E.R. and L. and S.W. Railway. Mr. Bullen now wrote that he had received an official letter from the railway companies named with reference to the scale demanded at the conference, and that the companies had made a slight reduction in rates on five ton loads of grain conveyed in distances of not less than seventy miles, but in all other points they declined to accede to the request made. The directors of the Midland Corn and Agricultural Trades Association, Ltd., had considered this reply, and condemned it as most unsatisfactory, and recommended that a very strong deputation should be formed from the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, the Midland Corn and Agricultural Farmers' Association, the Millers' Association, the Malsters, the Notts Dairy Farmers' Club, &c., with the Members of Parliament for Lincolnshire, Notts, and other counties. Such a deputation could wait upon the President of the Board of Agriculture and ask for the introduction of a Government Bill for the regulation of railway rates on agricultural stock, produce, feeding stuffs, and manures. It was further suggested that such a Bill might include the enlargement of the powers of the Railway Commissioners in order that they might have power to make orders which should have the force of law, applying scales of rates or methods for making rates for railway conveyance of stock, produce, feeding stuffs, and manures. The Commissioners, it was added, might have the power to order experimental scales of rates on agricultural produce to be put in operation for three years, with leave to apply during the third year for the same to be discontinued. The time of the Christmas Fat Stock Show in London was suggested as suitable for the date of the deputation.

Mr. Bullen, addressing the meeting, said the rates on the N.E.R. and the G.E.R. were about 25 per cent. lower than in Lincolnshire, Notts, and the Midland counties. Farmers in the northern counties had expressed themselves at the Darlington Conference in favour of reform on the question of railway rates, and said it did not concern them so much because the N.E.R. had treated them so well, but it did not concern other parts of the country. The farmers of Lincolnshire and Notts appeared to have the misfortune to occupy a portion of the country where the rates were very much in excess of what they were in other parts of the country, and they had thought the best way was, in conjunction with each other, to go to the railway companies, and ask them to give them the same rates as the N.E.R. and the G.E.R. The companies practically replied, "No we won't." Mr. Bullen went on to urge that it was important that bad railway companies should be made to fall into line with good ones, and he ventured to tell that Union that nothing would do that but Government legislation. They might get some small concession by agitation, and the more they agitated, the more the railway companies would be willing to meet them in small details, but if they wanted something really substantial they must ask the Government to help them. It was their duty to ask the railway companies for the same rates as were charged to the Northern counties, to Norfolk farmers and to farmers in the south.

Mr. J. C. Mountain said that in consequence of the railway rates the Spalding market had an advantage over that of Lincoln. The G.E.R. would carry grain 150 miles at 7s. 6d. per ton, and the G.N.R. would charge double, with the result that Lincolnshire wheat would not travel as it otherwise would, as they had to pay an extra rate and take a less price.

The meeting adopted the suggestion contained in Mr. Bullen's letter, and it was resolved that a deputation to Earl Carrington should include the chairman and secretary of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union, with Messrs. W. S. Fox, J. D. Blanshard, J. Brocklebank, W. Taylor-Sharpe, Bullen, H. J. Robinson, and the chairman and each of the various branches of the Union.

It was resolved to invite Earl Carrington to the annual dinner of the union at Lincoln on January 25.

The German Gipsies.

Mr. E. W. Howard called attention to the alien gipsies who were raiding the country, and said fortunately these people had not passed through a great area of Lincolnshire, but from what he had heard they cause great inconvenience to residents by damaging fences, pilfering, and even taking hay to feed their horses. All this was under the eyes of a heavy escort of police. These police were rate paid, and were costing the country at the present time £70 per week. He thought the authorities ought to take some action to prosecute them. Mr. Howard concluded by moving, "That the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union urge the Government to take some steps to get rid of the German gipsies who, by damaging fences, pilfering, and other offences, make their presence a source of danger to life and property, particularly in the remote districts of the country."

The resolution was carried.

The Tariff Commission's Report on Agriculture.

The report of the special Agricultural Committee appointed by the Tariff Commission was issued last week, and is signed by Mr. Henry Chaplin (chairman), Mr. J. Richard Barter, Mr. P. Blundell, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. W. Cooper, Mr. John W. Dennis, Lord Desborough, Mr. W. Frankish, Mr. J. M. Fraser, Sir William J. Goulding, Mr. P. R. Gray, Mr. John M. Harris, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Mr. George Malcolm, Mr. A. H. H. Matthews, Mr. F. Neame, Mr. Rouse Orlebar, the Hon. Cecil Parker, Mr. C. J. Phillips, Mr. Owen Price, and Mr. J. Stratton.

It will be recollected that the committee was instructed to examine the proposals submitted by Mr. Chamberlain to the country and to report to the commission as to (1) their effect on the present agricultural conditions; (2) whether any modification in detail were desirable, and, if so, what should be the nature of such modifications, having due regard to the general interests of the community; and (3) the best way in which the interests of the manufacturing and the agricultural industries, where they conflict, might be harmonised.

The publication now issued consists of six sections. The first contains the report proper, the second draft questions to witnesses, the third evidence of witnesses, the fourth forms of inquiry, the fifth replies to forms of inquiry, and the sixth memoranda. Having carefully considered the nature of the inquiry the committee found that, in order to give full effect to it, it would be necessary not only to investigate present agricultural conditions in the United Kingdom, but to undertake a wide survey of British agricultural policy and of international market conditions in modern times. The committee has, therefore, included in the report a survey of agricultural policy in past times, especially of the group of statutes and other measures known as the Corn Laws.

Thirty-three meetings were held and 147 witnesses examined, these witnesses including farmers, land agents, and others, many of them nominated by chambers of agriculture and other agricultural bodies in all parts of the country. But in addition to the oral evidence replies to forms of inquiry were received from 2,104 agriculturists and others concerned in agriculture. The evidence is thus based on oral and written statements from 2,251 farmers and agriculturists generally who hold and own farms whose total area is stated to be about 1,900,000 acres.

The committee made full use of the reports of previous commissions and committees—such as the Royal Commissions on Agricultural Depression, 1880-82 and 1895-97, and the Gold and Silver Commission, 1887-88, &c.

THE COMMITTEE'S CONCLUSIONS.

The main conclusions to which the committee are led as to the present condition of agriculture are as follows:—

1. The production of wheat in the United King-

WE MAKE GUNS

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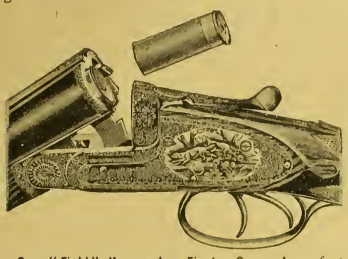
We sell for cash direct to the user.
We buy the finest materials to be obtained.
We pay cash for all materials.
We employ some of the finest workmen in the Gun Trade.
We use finest machinery for machine operations.

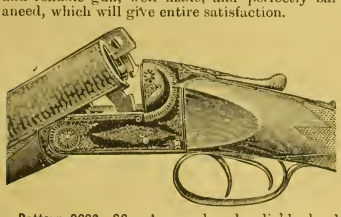
RESULT.

We sell for £25 Guns of a quality for which sportsmen have previously paid from £50 to £80.
We sell thoroughly reliable Guns.
We get the finest shooting it is possible for guns to make.

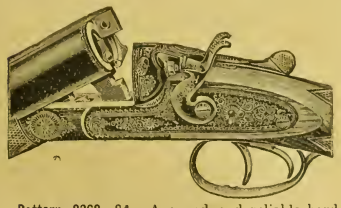


Our "Field" Hammerless Ejector Gun.—A perfect Ejector Gun of the finest quality, **£25.** If made with the best single trigger mechanism ever invented, **£30.** A perfect pair of these Guns, beautifully matched, **£50.** A perfect pair of Single Trigger Guns, **£60.**

"The Gun of the Future," as an Ejector, **£15. "The Gun of the Future,"** without Ejector, **£10.** A sound and reliable gun, well made, and perfectly balanced, which will give entire satisfaction.



Pattern 8662, £6.—A sound and reliable hard shooting and hard wearing hammerless gun. Better than many sold at double the price.



Pattern 8368, £4.—A sound and reliable hard shooting and hard wearing hammer gun. Better than many sold at double the price.

ESTABLISHED 20 YEARS.
Bankers: London and Midland Bank, Temple Row Birmingham.

MIDLAND GUN Co.

Demon Gun Works,
PRICE STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

dom, which in the period 1841-45 was sufficient for 24,000,000 persons, or nearly 90 per cent. of the population, has since that time steadily declined until home-grown wheat now feeds little more than 4½ millions, or 10.6 per cent. of the population.

2. With the single exception of oats in England, all other corn crops in the United Kingdom show considerable decline, though in no case to the same extent as wheat. Taking corn crops as a whole, the area cultivated has declined 3,000,000 acres, or nearly 40 per cent. in the last thirty years.

3. This serious reduction in corn cultivation has synchronised during the last thirty years with a decline amounting to over one-sixth in the area under green crops.

4. The area under grass has increased by nearly one-third in the same period; this increase has not sufficed to make up for the decline in arable cultivation, and the quantity of meat produced from home-fed stock has only increased by less than 5 per cent.

5. Whereas home-fed meats represented 85 per cent. of the total consumption thirty years ago, they now represent 55 per cent. only.

6. The importations of dairy produce have increased about 140 per cent. during the last thirty years, and dairy farmers in most parts of the United Kingdom have been led to devote themselves more and more to milk farming, in which foreign competition has not developed to any extent.

7. The dependence of the United Kingdom upon imported food supplies of all kinds has increased from 124 to 205 millions sterling since 1875, and allowing for the fall in prices, the volume of food imports is estimated to have increased during the same period by 130 per cent., or nearly four times as much as the increase in population.

8. The foreign producer, especially of wheat and meat, has not only supplied the increased British home demand due to increased population and increased consuming power of the population, but has also taken from the British farmer a large part of the market upon which, having no export trade, his existence depends.

9. Agriculture in almost every branch shows a great decline, despite a very large increase in the population and a consequent increase in the demand for agricultural produce.

10. There has been a general fall of prices during the last thirty years, due to monetary and other causes affecting nearly all commodities, and the nations of this character are to be anticipated in the future. But the prime cause of the decline in agriculture is the greater fall, especially in the case of corn, in agricultural prices than in prices generally.

11. In the case of agriculture, the effect of the fall in prices has been accentuated by other causes, such as (*a*) the greater relative increase in the burden of local and Imperial taxation upon the land; (*b*) transport conditions; and (*c*) the inability of the Board of Agriculture to aid the British farmer as his foreign competitors are aided.

12. The position of the United Kingdom is absolutely exceptional. No other country shows so marked a decline of agriculture; no other country depends to so large an extent upon importations from abroad for its food supply; in no other country has the balance between agriculture and manufacturing industries been so completely disturbed to the disadvantage of agriculture. This remarkable decline of agriculture is not alone a menace to national security, but by restricting the home market must have a most prejudicial effect upon the general industry of the country.

PROVISIONAL SCALE OF DUTIES.

The following provisional scale of duties is inserted in the report on the same principle as the provisional scheme recommended in the iron and steel and other reports of the Tariff Commission.

	General Tariff.	Preferential Tariff.
Wheat	6d. per cwt. (or about 2s. per qr.)	3d. per cwt. (or about 1s. per qr.)
Barley, oats, rye, maize, &c. ..	Duties equivalent to those on wheat.	Duties equivalent to those on wheat.
Wheaten and other flour and meal ..	1s. 3d. per cwt.	Subject to negotiation with the Colonies.
Animals and meat, including bacon ..	General level to be 5 per cent.	
Dairy produce, including poultry and eggs	Specific duties equivalent in general to from 5 to 10 per cent. ad val., though in particular cases some duties when calculated may be found to be lower and in others rather higher than these limits.	
Market garden produce, including potatoes and hops.		
Hay and straw.		

The subject of agricultural machinery will be dealt with in the report on the engineering industry and in the final report. In regard to feeding stuffs and fertilisers the general rule would be that they should be imported free; but the subject belongs in the main to the chemical industry, and will be dealt with in the report on that industry and in the final report.

FIELD GATES.

BEST RED DEAL THROUGHOUT.
In Lots of Six, at **8/6** each, delivered.
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Field and Entrance Gate Catalogues free.

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OTLEY, YORKS.
Contractors to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society.

GALVANIZED ROOFING SHEETS, WIRE NETTING; COMPLETE ROOFS AND BUILDINGS.
IRON FENCING, HURDLES, GATES, TANKS.
CORN BINS, TUBES; ROOFING FELT; RAILING;
FENCING WIRE, BARB WIRE, VARNISH, AND POULTRY APPLIANCES.
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GET FREE LISTS AND ESTIMATES & COMPARE PRICES.
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JOHN TISDALL, Practical Gun Maker,
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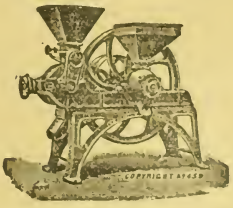
DIRECTION FOR USE ON EACH PACKAGE. LIST FREE.
B.C. TIPPER & SON
VETERINARY CHEMICAL WORKS,
BIRMINGHAM.

CORN & SEED CRUSHERS

SEPARATE OR COMBINED WITH

BEAN & MAIZE KIBBLERS.



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A Walk Round the Borough.

Unfortunately my perambulations this week have not been satisfactory, for whosoever I have come in contact with, has had a gloomy face when business is mentioned. Neither factor nor merchant can say an encouraging word, and more than one reply to my queries as to the condition of trade, has been expressed not elegantly, but emphatically, by the use of the single word, "rotten."

When all agree, there is no room for debate, we are bound to accept the unanimous verdict, and can only seek for the causes which have produced such miserable results. The "fons malorum" is unquestionably the indifference of the brewers.

It is useless to appeal to them for sympathy. In urging the great outlay incurred by growers this season in securing their small crop, they point to their purchases of last year, and naturally retort, that if they had not then bought so largely, growers would have been left with an immense surplus, which would now be hanging on their hands, probably making the present position of the market much worse than we now find it. If demand, by which I mean brewers' demand, could be stimulated by any means, the trade would rally, and prices would advance, but so long as this is absent business must languish, and values will necessarily tend towards reductions.

We are also drawing near to Christmas, and although from a social point of view we welcome this season, we know that holidays are damaging to our department of trade; therefore, it hardly appears probable that we shall see any revival until the opening of the new year.

Foreign competition is also an element to be reckoned with. Belgian hops are being pressed upon our market at very low prices. The quality of these growths having been much improved by the education and subsidising of the growers, they are finding better favour than formerly in the estimation of our consumers. Such hops can be easily bought in London as low as 65s. Then again, there are full supplies of Bavarians at 80s. to 85s., and American houses are working hard to secure contracts at 75s. to 85s.

Such pressure must have left its effect on the minds of our buyers, and although the unsold balance of the English crop is now reduced to a comparatively low point, we can hardly be surprised if, under these circumstances, bids are being lowered. Happily there is just sufficient firmness on the part of holders to avoid any very decided weakness, and although, in the absence of actual business, it is almost impossible to quote prices, it is so far satisfactory to be able to say that there has been no perceptible fall in values this week. There still remains a sufficient steadiness about the market to enable us to hope that prices will remain where they are at present, and if this hope can be realised we may perhaps reasonably expect that they will be better after Christmas.

All traders will be glad when this disappointing season comes to an end, for it is universally admitted that a more unsatisfactory and unprofitable experience has not passed over the Borough within the memory of this generation. Does not this fact sufficiently dispose of the accusation that the Borough traders are responsible for the condition of business as we now find it? Office, warehouse, and travelling expenses, can only be paid out of profits, yet they are daily burdens and must be endured.

It is therefore self-evident that the interests of our factors and merchants are on the side of good prices. What is best for the growers is also best for the Borough, and it is foolish to attempt to raise an agitation against members of the trade whose main object must be to see the English hop industry flourishing, as they are well aware that when this is the case prosperity is mutual.

Foreign Markets.

America.

It appears from a cable message I received this week that the trade on the other side of the Atlantic is even more unsatisfactory than our own. The message says:—"Market is demoralised, growers are more willing to sell, and dealers are not operating. No improvement is anticipated in the near future."

This information is confirmed in a letter from one of the leading New York merchants, who ascribes the flatness to the same cause that is evident in England, viz., the absolute indifference of brewers. The stocks held by them make them independent of the market conditions, and the knowledge that the crop is far in excess of their requirements naturally keeps them free from any anxiety concerning future supplies.

I have been visited this week by an important grower, whose yards of 150 acres are near to Santa Rosa, and about 50 miles from San Francisco. He produced over 1,600 bales this year, nearly a ton per acre, and having sold 1,000 bales to local buyers at 14 cents per lb., he sought a market for the balance on this side, and was much surprised that he could not find an outlet at a profitable price.

A report had been set afloat in Santa Rosa that good Pacifics were selling here at 35 cents., equal to about £8 per cwt. . . . My visitor was soon undeceived, and seemed to wish he had taken his chance at home. On the basis of this absurd rumour a movement has been proposed in this city to form a syndicate for consigning hops to England, but this will certainly fall through when the truth is known. I am surprised that one of our contemporaries, circulating largely in Kent, has given publicity, without comment, to this ridiculous proposal, quoting as their authority the *Waterville Times*, a New York journal that should certainly be better informed.

Nuremberg.

Business continues to be very active, and the demand for choice green samples has so far reduced the stocks that the medium sorts are receiving attention, with the result that values have generally advanced. This improvement has been also extended to the lower grades. The local demand is very strong, and it is supported by many orders for exportation, especially to America.

This would appear incomprehensible in face of the large supplies existing there, but the brewers of Pilsener and other Lager beers in the United States are willing to pay almost any price for Bavarian hops, in addition to the heavy import duty, in order to secure the desired flavour for their beers. The arrivals at Nuremberg during the week ending November 15 were 4,200 bales, and the sales in same days 5,300 bales, showing a diminution of stocks of 1,100 bales. Latest reports show that the market is excessively firm, with a tendency to further advance in quotations.

Belgium.

The local brewery demand being only in small quantities, and the export trade being practically at a stand, the tone of the markets, both in town and country is in the direction of weakness. Holders are very desirous to sell and are lowering their offers, but without any important response from buyers. Recent prices of 65 to 67½ francs for Alosts, and 62½ francs for Poperinghes, are hardly supported, and it seems probable that lower figures will be heard of shortly.

The fourth and last hop fair at Assche was held at the close of last month There was a large attendance both of growers and buyers. The display of hops was the most important ever seen in a Belgian market, and the quality being excellent the whole were speedily disposed of at full prices.

Royal Counties' Agricultural Society.

At a meeting of the council of the Royal Counties' Agricultural Society held at Basingstoke on Wednesday, November 21 (Sir George Cooper, president, in the chair) the secretary presented the draft report and statement of accounts for the past year, showing a balance in favour of the society of £5,721, as against £5,771 at the end of 1905, the difference being more than accounted for by the fall in price of the society's investments.

The question of the date of the 1907 show was discussed at considerable length, and the secretary read correspondence which had taken place between himself and the secretary of the Bath and West of England Society and other gentlemen with reference to the matter. General regret was expressed that the Council of the Bath and West of England Society were unable to make any concession in allowing exhibitors of stock to leave the showyard earlier on the last day of the Newport meeting so as to enable the stock to be exhibited at the Maidenhead Show, but in view of this unfortunate circumstance, and also the fact that it had been arranged to hold an International Horse Show in London during the same week so that the Royal Counties' Show would clash with that, and also with the Jubilee Show of the Essex Society, and the Richmond Horse Show it was eventually resolved to alter the date of the Maidenhead meeting to May 28, 29, 30, and 31, with the understanding that this alteration would only hold good for one year, and that the society would afterwards revert to its usual date.

Truro District Farmers' Combine—Mutual Insurance.

Mr. W. Lord on Wednesday presided over the annual meeting of Truro District Mutual Insurance Co., Ltd. (the members of which are principally agriculturists). The ninth annual report stated that the total membership was 156, as against 130 last year, the amount rateable for contribution being £178,294, as against £149,008 last year, making an increase on the business of the year of £29,286. The annual premium (based on an average rate of 5s. per cent.) charged by ordinary tariff companies on the total value of property insured by them would be £445 4s. 9d.; the liability of the company for that amount for the past year had been £24 12s. 9d., thereby saving £420 12s. That proved conclusively the great advantages of combination. The company had been established for nine years, with an average liability per member (exclusive of entrance fees) of 8d. per cent. per annum. For five years the average liability had not exceeded 3d. per cent. per annum, and for the last three years the entrance fees had met all the company's liabilities. A call of 1s. per cent. was made in March last, realising £80 2s. 9d., which had been placed to the credit of the company, the reserve fund, current account, and cash in hand amounting to £340 5s. 6½d. The directors thought it desirable to further strengthen the reserve fund, and they proposed that a call of 1s. per cent. be again made in April next. It was evident by the steady growth of the company year by year that the practical benefits which had been obtained by co-operation were being appreciated. The balance of assets over liabilities of the company was now £325.

At a meeting of the Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture on Tuesday, some discussion took place regarding the recommendation of the Motor Car Commission in favour of the abolition of the speed limit. The chairman proposed a resolution protesting against the abolition of the speed limit, which, he said, acted as a caution to motorists, and was far and away excessive in narrow roads, for some sharp corners were perfect death traps through this traffic. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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"MARK LANE EXPRESS" STAND
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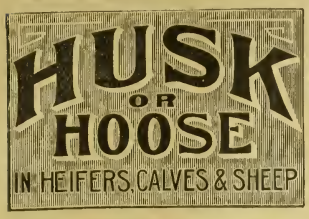

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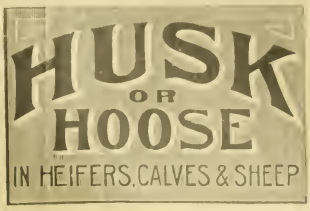

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Write for Pamphlet, gratis and post free.

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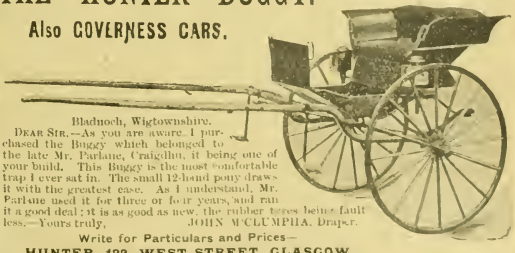

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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Fat Stock Shows. CHRISTMAS is now in sight, and in company with its approach we have the various fat stock shows that are popular institutions all over the country. In this direction, as in many others, it is easy to observe how competition in the show ring is wrapped up with the agricultural trade of the country. The average Briton's taste for prime roast beef at Christmas time is proverbial, and the farmer's business is to make provisions for the supply of that taste. Does the fat stock show help him at all? Assuredly yes, if it does nothing more than to bring buyers and sellers together. We hear of a certain beast winning honours at a local fat stock show, and may take it that the very fact of the animal doing this increases its market value somewhat. Just so, and when the said animal becomes beef and is displayed in the butcher's window the tradesman does not forget to inform his customers that he has prize meat to offer. The average purchaser does not know much about prize fat stock, but naturally assumes that prize beef must be the kind to have for Christmas, and consequently goes in for it. He does not often make a mistake in doing this, so quite a ring of persons are benefited directly and indirectly through the fat-stock show.

Weight-Guessing Competitions. IT is now a common custom in connection with Christmas fat-stock shows to offer prizes to those who may like to have a guess at the dead weight of a bullock provided for the purpose. Usually these competitions arouse a good deal of interest, and are a means of testing the judgment of farmers and others in estimating the weight of an animal. It is not an uninteresting sight to observe a man who professes to know a thing or two about the weight of an animal looking over a beast before he hazards an opinion on its bulk. He walks round and round the bullock (who doubtless wonders what all the prodding and pinching he has to undergo means), measures the quarters with his eye, makes numerous mental calculations, and eventually hands in his figures. It is given naturally to some men to be able to calculate very accurately the weight of a beast, and others acquire the capacity through long practice; but in any case it is good for any man who has anything to do with buying and selling of fat stock to be a reliable judge of weight. We unhesitatingly commend weight-guessing competitions to our young farmer readers as a means of education, because if they make an estimate of the weight of a live animal and then see the actual dressed weight published, they will gain experience in a matter that is of importance to them in business.

Potato Disease. WE take it that all the potatoes grown for sale are now out of the ground (if not they ought to be), and every day we are receiving ominous reports of the ravages of disease. Throughout the past dry summer potato growers were hugging themselves that though the drought might lessen the crop, there would at least be no loss from disease, but we have learnt to realise that this trouble may be brought about by sudden climatic changes as much as by protracted wet, because we dug a good many diseased tubers before the dry weather broke up in September. Unfortunately, however, matters have got very much worse, and the rain which hampered the lifting of crops has had considerable influence in the spreading of the disease. We also hear complaints of the disease having increased rapidly since the crop of tubers was lifted and pitted, and some growers are rather afraid to look into their bulk. This state of affairs is disappointing because markets are promising, there are prospects of prices going up, and but for the disease, potatoes bid fair to be a profitable crop. It is argued in some quarters that heavy manuring is largely responsible for disease, but be this as it may it is obviously to the interest of a grower to produce as many tons to the acre as possible, even at the risk of getting some disease, and he is hardly likely to change his tactics on the strength of supposition. As for varieties, we have not got that much-desired disease-proof potato yet, but the experience of this season is causing some people to lose faith in Dates. If it is given up, which of the many other varieties should be planted in bulk instead? For the moment we leave the question unanswered.

What is Cider? IF this question were put to any schoolboy of average intelligence he would naturally answer, the juice of the apple, but it would appear as if this is a point that has yet to be definitely settled. According to Mr. A. G. Brooke Hunt, of the Board of Agriculture (see page 540 in our issue for November 19), there is at present no definition as to what is pure cider. It might be contended that it was pure apple juice, but the law on the point could only be done in a test case. This is not very encouraging to the apple-growers and cider-makers, who are making a gallant attempt to protect their interests, which are doubtless injured to a very considerable extent by the sale of various concoctions that are called cider, but have never had any acquaintanceship with apple juice. But leaving out of the question the stuff that is made entirely from chemicals, there is need of much more uniformity in actual cider itself. We get bad beer at times, but it has some resemblance to the genuine article, and we cannot say this about some of the cider we have offered to us at times. Apple juice it may be, and we have not time to dip into the process of making, but to call it cider is a libel on that pleasant, refreshing liquor, which happily is produced in the West Country. The unfortunate thing is that if the man in the street gets some of this libellous liquor when he sets out to drink cider he promptly gives up the idea and returns to his beer.

Seaweed as Manure. TO inland farmers this paragraph will have little interest, but agriculturists who live near the coast have a valuable product at hand that is extremely useful in the manuring of land. Many of them do not need to be told about this, and during the winter season when seaweed is washed up by rough seas and deposited on the tide line the carting of the material on to the land for manurial purposes is a routine occupation. We learn from the agricultural chemist that the chief fertiliser contained in seaweed is potash, and in consequence of this alone it is a good fertiliser, but our experience with it has taught us that seaweed is an excellent thing to mix with farmyard manure prior to application. Not only does the organic matter in the seaweed decompose quickly, but it also aids the decomposition of the manure, and even if the latter contains much long litter it soon decays if seaweed is mixed with the heap and quickly becomes suitable for application on the land. In our opinion we consider that the best use is made of seaweed when it is mixed with heaps of yard manure for a time before it is applied.

Cottagers and Co-operation. IN spite of the charges that are made against farmers that they are slow to see the benefits of combination, there are a good many farmers' co-operative societies in existence, and through these institutions vast quantities of artificial manures and feeding-stuffs are purchased every year on terms more favourable than if the members acted independently of each other. Our object in writing this paragraph is to ask whether cottagers and labourers could not benefit somewhat through local co-operative societies? The cottager does not use artificial manures much on his garden and allotment because of the difficulty in getting them in small quantities and at a reasonable price. We believe there are some farmers' co-operative societies that sell manure to cottagers on the same terms as they supply their members, but the cottagers not being actual paying members receive no share of any profits that the society may make. Taking a broad view of the whole matter, would

it not be possible to add cottagers' branches to farmers' co-operative societies, by means of which the former could obtain small quantities of artificial manures for his garden, allotment, or field, if he has one, feeding-stuff for his pig or other stock he may keep on terms similar to those enjoyed by farmers who operate in a large way? It is obvious that the interests of the country labourer and cottager are wrapped up with those of the farmer, and while the former is not in much of a way to help himself in a matter of this kind perhaps a co-operative body of farmers will extend a hand and assist him.

Single *v.* Double-furrow Plough. IN a recent issue our North Country correspondent drew attention to the prejudice that has slowly sprung up in the north against the use of double-furrow ploughs. Our correspondent defends the double-furrow plough—we think rightly—as a labour saver and an economiser of horseflesh, and confesses himself to be at a loss to explain why the prejudice against this implement has come about. A suggested reason is that the "handling" of the double-furrow plough may test the stamina of the follower more severely, but this is not given as the only cause for abandoning the above implement. The matter is un interesting one, and we should like to hear the views of some of our farmer readers about it as to whether the double is giving way to the single-furrow plough in other districts besides those referred to by our correspondent and the reason for it. Our correspondence page is always open to discussion on matters of this kind.

The Game and Poultry Trade. CHRISTMAS is coming, and in many a farmyard the geese and turkeys that have been eating their heads off lately in order to increase the weight of their bodies are enjoying the last meals they are destined to consume, for a few weeks hence they will be in the market. What the trade will actually be at Christmas remains to be seen, but there is no doubt that the poultry-feeder's business is now affected to a considerable extent by the sportsman. Most of us have heard the definition of killing a pheasant as up goes a guinea and down comes three-and-sixpence, or words to that effect, and we know that a good deal of game now finds its way into the market. It is the fashion amongst the wealthy nowadays to rear a lot of birds in order to secure big bags, and this being the season of battues large quantities of game are now being sent to market. This order of things will doubtless continue up to Christmas, and though it has the advantage of affording the man in the street an opportunity for getting a brace of pheasants at a moderate price the people who rear poultry for the market can hardly be expected to reap any advantage.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Significance of the Tariff Reform Report.

I am sorely afraid that the report of the Agricultural section of the Tariff Reform Commission has fallen on barren soil. True, a score of great journals, headed by the *Times* and the *Daily Telegraph*, have drawn deductions from it justified by their own political predilections; but, taken as a whole, the report has not seriously moved the public conscience. In the House of Commons I have scarcely heard it alluded to. It does not seem to have disturbed more than a ripple on the surface of Parliamentary emotion. And yet, forsooth, it is a document of the first agrarian significance. Aye, even the Radical—even he who believes that you will restore the fertility of the soil by mathematically chalking it out into areas of two or three or ten acres — may make deductions to it gratifying to his own heart. What picturesque lessons might he not draw from the facts that the area of the corn crops has declined 3,000,000 acres in the last thirty years, that this decline has synchronised with a decline of one-sixth of the area under green crops, that whereas the home-fed meats represented 85 per cent. of the total consumption thirty years ago they now represent but 55 per cent., that the imports of dairy produce have increased by about 140 per cent. in the last thirty years, and that in those thirty years the value of those very imports of articles of food which the Radical urges could be produced at home have increased four times as much as has the population? And yet when I mentioned these facts and revealed how clearly and succinctly they had been elucidated and illustrated in this cogently-written report the ordinary Radical Parliamentarian only pshawed-pshawed the whole business away. What cared he for what came from the Chamberlain mint? The trail of the serpent must inevitably be over it.

A Disease not to be Cured by a Pill.

Frankly, I wish these portentous and ominous facts and illustrations had come from another source. This anxiety is due to no ineradicable antagonism on my part to the Tariff Reform Commission, and certainly not to any disbelief in the authority of the remarkable personalities composing this section of it. As a fact, however, the rival prejudices born of the tariff reform evangel has cleft the English-speaking world in twain. Here are facts potent with gravity, omens full of dramatic significance, and yet one-half of that world passes them by with a jaunty indifference and a professed contempt which, whether assumed or not, are fatal to a dispassionate national consideration of the evils. When we are confronted with the grim contrasting facts that no other European country shows so marked a decline in agriculture, that the unnecessary area under cultivation is colossally great, and that, this notwithstanding, no other country in the world depends to so large an extent upon importations from abroad "for her food supply," the exaggerated sentiments associated with the consideration of the mere fringe of the tenure problem becomes almost a banality. It is an attempt to cure the world of earthquakes by a dose of Morisson pills. It is an attempt to subdue rebellion with a spray of rose-water. No man can survey the agricultural world, with the illuminating light afforded by the report of this Commission, with satisfaction. And yet I repeat that this admirable report, this excellently-sympathetic diagnosis, is by a half of our political leaders being passed deliberately by because they disapprove of its authors. Are there no means of presenting them to the nation and the people with their origin concealed? Why conceal their origin? The temper of the ordinary Radical, the temper of the present Parliamentary majority, in itself provides the reply; and that temper may be in the ascendant for several years.

Can we Divorce this Problem from Politics?

It is not necessary to discuss the suggested scale of duties. They will have no serious ameliorative influence so long as the gates are to be flung open for a deliberately-encouraged and fostered Colonial competition. "We can supply the whole of the necessities of the United Kingdom, as well as of ourselves," declares Canadian Statecraft; and the revelations just vouchsafed us of the growing fertility of the Saskatchewan Valley, of Athabaska, and of Alberta, would appear to justify this boast. "And," proceeds Canadian Statecraft, "with the sale of our products encouraged in the British markets by British statesmen, in return for throwing open our markets to their industrial products, we shall do this." Let us, however, exclude this matter for a moment from our consideration — though it is assuredly a thousand pities that the Commissioners did not show how, if a rebuked foreign competition is to be supplanted by a more voluminous and encouraged Colonial competition, the British farmer is to be saved and the area of British cultivation is to be increased—and concentrate our attention on the elucidated facts contained in this luminous report. The man interested in the soil who can review those facts without foreboding is a dull clod without intellectual perceptions. The statesman, be he Radical or Conservative, who is indifferent to them is beyond the pale of national appreciation. Is there any method by which we can divest them of the unfortunate prejudice which a majority of our Parliamentarians attach to them in order that they may stamp themselves with searing force on the national mind?

Could not many Radicals be persuaded that there are not a few suggestions in this report which they could heartily accept?

Disappointed but not Captious.

I am sorry at the nature of the controversy which has arisen over the appointment of Sir James Woodhouse to the vacant Railway Commissionership. We had a right to object to transforming the Commission into a mere legal and industrial body, that is, so far as its *personnel* is concerned—indeed, the fact that the agricultural interest is without a direct representative on the body is somewhat in the nature of a scandal; but a controversy of the character to that which I have alluded must impair both the personal influence of Sir James and the general influence of the Commission. If anybody had justification for criticising the character of the appointment it was the agricultural interest. The absence of that criticism is an evidence not merely of self-control, but of a willingness to subordinate personal disappointment to the general dignity of the Commission. The controversy might certainly now very well cease, whilst those of us interested in the agrarian weal may well possess ourselves with the patient hope that an unexpected friend, who will seek to inform himself as to the necessities of agriculture, may reveal himself. We are naturally disappointed, but we are wise in showing ourselves to be not captious.

Fate of the Land Tenure Bill.

There is no doubt a wide belief in the Commons that the Lords will still further mutilate the Land Tenure Bill. This belief is due not to any new-born conviction that the measure is really more revolutionary than its authors conceive—as a fact, it has been emasculated until its virility is but a faint breath, but rather to the electric atmosphere which has been generated by the fevered education controversy. Mr. Balfour has given the command "No surrender," and with the Peers in for a fight with the Commons—or, rather, with the Government—they will prefer to assault as many of its legislative progeny as come up to them for diagnosis and dissection. Frankly, I do not believe that the Government would care to include the Land Tenure Bill in their scheme of retaliation and resistance. They will no doubt prefer to concentrate their efforts on the Education Bill and the Plural Voting Bill, to the latter of which the Radical electioneerers wisely attach the utmost importance, and which smells as rank sacrilege in the nostrils of the majority of the Peers. In that event, the Land Tenure Bill will, should it be still further debilitated, be dropped. I pray its antagonists not to chortle over this prospective fate. I tell them that the members of the Commons most disappointed with its present character are its sponsors, the executive committee of the Land Law Reform Committee.

If you heard these politicians—heard in particular what is their opinion of the exclusion of asparagus and strawberries from the operation of the measure—you would be pardoned the belief that in their view they have been subjected to an unmerited indignity and an unjust contumely at the hands of their leaders. Those leaders would somewhat prejudice their allegiance if, in dropping the Bill, they did not promise that from its corse should, Phœnix-like, rise a measure infinitely more drastic than its predecessor and infinitely farther-reaching in its scope. And, after all, however much the peers may now thirst for the life-blood of the Government's offsprings, that is a temper which is bound to have its ebb. If not succeeded by remorse, it may—when the tension has been lessened—be succeeded by indifference. Even if the Bill be wrecked, Lord Turnour, Lord Helmsley, Colonel Kenyon Slaney, and Sir Frederick Banbury will have secured nothing better than postponement, and a postponement which would mean what to them is a greater evil. The Land Tenure Bill, if killed, will have a virile resurrection.

A meeting of the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Shrewsbury on Saturday week, when Mr. F. W. Wateridge proposed the appointment of a committee of land owners, land agents, and tenant farmers to consider the ways and means which he had suggested for improving agriculture. He argued that to meet cheap food imports high-class cultivation should be carried out to produce quality and quantity, and to enable farmers to go in for high-class cultivation the the Government should provide money cheaply. Government loans should be secured as a first charge upon the land. A committee was appointed as proposed.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE SHOW.

Championship again goes to Windsor—His Majesty's Shorthorn Steer Wins—Champion Sheep, Sir R. P. Cooper's Shropshires—Berkshires Win Pig Challenge Cup.

Visitors to Birmingham on Saturday found a keen north-west wind that was blowing far more reminiscent of fat cattle shows than the muggy conditions of earlier in the week. Bingley Hall itself wore the same aspect as is familiar to frequenters at these Christmas shows, and it was difficult to realise that another year had sped its way. The show was of a good all round character, although there was nothing of distinctive merit. Entries were up to an average. Cattle numbered 171, sheep 60, and pigs 68, a total in the live stock section of 299. Of agricultural produce there was a capital collection, the entries of corn totalling to 76, roots 148, and potatoes 89, or a total of 313.

SHORTHORN STEER.

This Shorthorn Steer won the First Prize in the class for a Steer of any breed bred and fed in Norfolk, not exceeding two years' old, at the Norwich Fat Stock Show last week. It is the property of and was bred by H.M. the King, Sandringham, and is 1 year 10 months old. Its sire was Royal Carlisle 84584, dam Squall.

The various sections will be found dealt with in our critical report in the succeeding columns.

Herefords.

The Whitefaced cattle of Herefordshire have always been first favourites with the feeders and butchers of the Midlands since their right to priority in the catalogue of the great Birmingham Christmas Fat Stock Show. The display this year was much of an average as regards numbers, for which the older steer class was more numerously filled than usual; that for steers under two years old was not quite so well supported, and females were a fair entry and of better quality than usual. This satisfactory remark as to quality of the females, however, cannot be repeated in full as it respects the two classes of males, which, though in the main capital beef, more evenly fed and less of patchiness than we sometimes see, still leave a little to be desired in the way of style and general character. Those visitors to Birmingham, however, who were privileged to see the splendid classes of young bulls of this breed at Lord Tredegar's show at Newport last week will at once recognise the why and wherefore of this very trifling complaint, and it is much better that these splendid prospective sires should have remained entire to go into all parts of the world as they will do to perpetuate the admirable beef producing properties of their breed than to have been sacrificed as steers. In a fat stock exhibition it is better for all sections of the world-wide community that it should be so, and the drain upon the best Herefords for export has been going on for a long period with every prospect of continuing. Steers over two, and not exceeding three years, had a catalogue entry of eleven, of which there was certainly nothing of the outstanding quality of his Majesty the King's champion steer at last year's show, yet the first prize steer in these, bred and exhibited by Mr. W. H. Cooke, and sired by Centurion, is well covered on his loin and roasting parts, and as regards ripeness is well brought out: he scales 16 cwt. 1 qr. The second prize one was bred and shown by H.M. the King, from the Windsor herd, and is well covered with heavy flesh and good quality; his symmetry standing upon very short legs is also pleasing; he is the got of Iron Duke, and pulls up the scales at 16 cwt. 0 qr. 13 lb. Mr. Lawton Moore secured third honour with a steer by Bonanza, heavier than either of the preceding, very ripe, and a good-backed, heavily-fleshed animal. Mr. Loarner's big steer that was second in the any breed class at Norwich, was reserved, and the he was also given to Mr. A. C. Hughes for a still heavier steer of 17 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb., and a c to Mr. J. F. Griffiths for a very good one completed the class.

Of the steers under two years Mr. James Edwards bred and exhibited the best, a good-coated one, with capital back and ribs, sired by Carbineer, 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. Sir J. R. J. Cotterell followed with a good fleshed and level steer by Ramesses. Mr. H. F. Russell was third with a straight son of Soudan, reserve went to H.M. the King, and he to Mr. Peter Coats for very useful entries.

The five entries of females were headed by H.M. the King's Camilla, a massive, level-fleshed, beautiful-quality heifer by Earl field, weighing 15 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. Mr. Thomas Morris's Symbol, also level in flesh and outline and very firm to the hand, was placed second, the orange card being placed over the Earl of Coventry's Gavel, reserve to Mr. Peter Coats' Pearl, and he to Mr. Lawton Moor's Brampton Agnes 33rd concluded these honours, the special prize for best of the breed being accorded to Mr. Coats' steer, and reserve to H.M. the King's Camilla.

Shorthorns.

For several years past the Shorthorn classes have been so despoiled of high class males owing to the unprecedented demand experienced perpetually for the highest class of bulls for export, that it is only when some individual either fails in pedigree or colour to suit the somewhat whimsical tastes of these extensive foreign buyers that one can expect so see a really tip top male Shorthorn in the fat stock classes; whilst by the same rule females are not sacrificed upon this altar except when by some reason they fail to breed. It therefore goes for saying that a first-class show of Shorthorns at these fat stock shows is never anticipated, and much more money comes into the pockets of our breeders as the effect of this. Under these conditions it is a great credit to the breed that out of what may be called its drafts a steer should be produced capable of carrying off and that fairly the championship of all breeds at this show; yet such was the case, this great honour falling to H.M. the King for a steer from the Windsor herds, by the great sire Royal Duke out of Jenny Lind B. and like all other exhibits from the Royal herd this steer was bred by his Majesty. Apart from this, the show of Shorthorns is rather moderate both in numbers and merit, fewer steers, and few in number also females, and the older steers count up eight entries only. Beginning with this latter section his Majesty's steer is placed first, a similar position to that he occupied a year ago at this show in the junior class since when he has gained remarkably well in weight, and vastly improved in symmetry and general contour, he now scales 18 cwt. 12 lb., which he carries freely with great activity and in the least possible compass—a pretty sure indication of solid flesh rather than excess of fat. He has filled up in his thighs wonderfully during the year, and his bone and chine as well as shoulders are capitally covered; and as regards ripeness, he is done to the proverbial turn. He is just under the age limit of three years, and must be reckoned as a Shorthorn of considerably over average quality as well as breed character. The second-prize steer in the class was exhibited by Captain H. L. Townshend

CROSS-BRED STEER, DANESFIELD BLUE BOY.

The Cross-bred Steer, Danesfield Blue Boy, was First in the class for a Cross or Mixed-bred Steer above 2 years and not exceeding 3 years old, at the Norwich Fat Stock Show last week, and Reserve in the older Steer Class at Birmingham on Saturday. It is the property of and was bred by Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks, and is 2 years 10 months 1 week 5 days old. Its sire was Danesfield Jester 13949 (Aberdeen-Angus), dam Shorthorn.

and bred by Mr. Finlay Munro, Rocktield Farm, N.B., his sire Maxwell, and dam by Regular. He scales somewhat heavier than the winner, and like him has done remarkably well since last year, when he contested the honours with his more favoured opponent in the junior class with similar results to the present class, and with equally close running for then as now, the second steer stood first for some considerable time, and last year, it will be remembered, that the positions of the two steers were reversed at the Smithfield Show the following week, a circumstance that may possibly occur again, as the Caldecote steer is big and has put on his greater weight of flesh remarkably even, carries himself well, and is very perfect in respect of symmetry, he has also a capitally covered top of roasting beef; his handling at Birmingham is just a little against him, the travelling having probably upset his nerves, which in animals, as in the human race, makes a great difference. Mr. R. W. Hudson occupied the third place with Danesfield Masterpiece, that was similarly placed at the Norwich show recently, he was bred by the Marquis of Exeter and sired by Baron Wrexham. Since Norwich he has certainly held himself together well, and with good top and perfect fitness he well held his place. His weight is 17 cwt. 0 qr. 27 lb. The ups and downs of show cattle and judging give reason for considerable interest, and bring out the ideas of different judges in a marked fashion sometimes, and so it is at Birmingham this year, for Miss A. de Rothschild's steer by Waddesden Youth that stood second at Norwich now follows Mr. R. W. Hudson's steer for the same place. He is very gay and full of quality and symmetry and also scales well. Yet more remarkable is the fate of Mr. E. T. Turner's first-prize steer at Norwich, which at Birmingham has to stand below both his Norwich opponents, and has to pass out with only a modest c card. This is a massive, short-legged, well-fed, and weighty steer, bred by Mr. John Cran in the North, but his journey appeared to have deprived him of some bloom in appearance, and so he had to suffer defeat, c cards were also dealt out to Messrs. Silcock and Sons and Sir John Swinburne for very good steers in the class.

Steers not exceeding two years old were only three in number, the first and third prize ones being bred and exhibited by Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., and the second prize one bred and shown from the Royal herd at Windsor. The Windsor steer is the heavier one of the three, being 13 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb., and is a good roan in colour, sired by Lord of the Isles, and is just under the two years in age; he is lengthy, and a good fleshed one, and with another year may fill up in his back, and come out a better animal. Sir Oswald Mosly's first prize one is two months younger and is first-rate beef, well matured and good in his hind quarters and chine, he however scales but 12 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb., whilst the third prize one from the same herd by Diplomatist is still lighter and lacks growth, otherwise a very symmetrical nice quality steer all over. The first prize one is a son of the good getter Beauty's Pride.

Cows or heifers send but four representatives, the best of which very decidedly comes from the Windsor herd, this is H.M. the King's Red Rose by Royal Chieftain out of Rose of the Vale, a young heifer of two years and seven months, scaling just upon 14 cwt., and very shapely and full of sweetness and Shorthorn style, in symmetry she meets you wonderfully well, and is capitally covered with the best quality of beef coming out very ripe, second prize was awarded to Sir R. P. Cooper's Leighton Princess 17th, bred by the late Mr. J. Naylor, sired by Banner, and scaling 15 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. after having had one live calf; she is very massive, level, and evenly fed. Mr. E. T. Learner's Lackadaisical, which was first in her class at Norwich, comes in third; she was bred by Mr. John Ross and sired by Ajax, and has plenty of good flesh and quality as well as shape, and pulls up the beam at 15 cwt. 0 qr. 8 lb. The Shorthorn champion prize, we may add, was awarded to H.M. the King's champion steer, and the reserve to the first prize heifer Red Rose, also from Windsor.

Devons.

The effect of reducing the amount of prize-money in the Devon section has had the curious result of stimulating rather than decreasing the number of entries of the Red cattle from the west country. In fact, it is many years since the Devons made such a fine display at Bingley Hall. In the class for steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years old, there were just half-a-dozen exceedingly choice animals. First prize went to a very heavily-fleshed steer that should constitute a rare body of beef when hung up; it turned the bridge at close on 16 cwt.; it was bred by Mr. William Russell, Nympton, South Molton, Devon, and exhibited by Lord Rosebery, Mentone. Leighton Buzzard, who was also placed second with a smaller but well-fed steer that was not quite so good in the butts as the other. It was bred by Mr. John A. Loosemore, Fisher's Downs, South Molton. The reserve went to Mr. Thomas Kidner, Norwich, with Curly, bred by Mr. Abraham Tribble, Holsworthy, North Devon. It is a rare butcher's bullock, but scarcely a show one, and as such supply a vast quantity of juicy lean meat. A highly commended card was given to Viscount Portman's Gay Lad from Bryanston Blandford. It was a very firm steer, but not quite even enough for a higher position. The same exhibitor sent Reggie for a commended card, only it was rather more attractive to the eye than the other; though it was weighty it did not handle so well. Mr. T. S. Morgan's Goodfellow, from Whimple, Devon, was also commended. It was rather leggy, rather light forward, and a trifle inclined towards coarseness. There were five steers in the class for not exceeding two years old. Here Mr. T. S. Morgan came in first and reserve for the special breed prize with Whimple Model, a very level, even, smart steer, with a grand loin rather on the small side as compared with some of the others, its live weight being 10 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. It is well bred, going back to that celebrated dam Ringlet, and should with care come out again in the older class next year. Second prize went to his Majesty the King with a very firm-fleshed steer with good loin, but lacking at the end; reserve went to Lord Rosebery with a very weighty youngster bred by Mr. Joseph Yendell, Heasleigh, Devon. This steer had a capital loin, but did not continue good to the tail, had it done so it would have gone higher; highly commended went to his Majesty the King for a steer that was a bit leggy and did not handle at all mellow. Commended card was bestowed on Viscount Portman's Fancy that was excellent in front, but did not continue so even.

The females always make a small class. On this occasion there were only three to grace the lists. The first prize and special breed prize was bestowed on His Majesty the King's Caroline, which was a perfectly finished three-year-old; it was truly as round as a barrel, and full of meat without blubber; it was a triumph of Devon feeding, and she should do well at Smithfield. Mr. T. S. Morgan supplied a capital second in Whimple Beauty 5th; she was very pretty, but just wanted a little more finish. The reserve went to Viscount Portman's Coronet, bred by Mr. R. W. C. Evered, Spaxton, which was the first prize taker in her class at the Devon County at Tavistock this year. She is a very deep heifer with a good back and loin, but a wrinkle over the rump marred her chances.

Aberdeen-Angus.

A total of seventeen entries of this breed in the three classes allotted to them at Birmingham cannot be called an excessive entry, neither is the quality quite up to what we sometimes see in this breed, as we have been accustomed to look for the champion very frequently in this section; however, though there is nothing of a sensational character in the section this time, the whole of the lots are practically good beef beasts, well brought out and mostly very good in shape, as is customary with them. The first class for steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years of age contained five entries, the post of honour being somewhat keenly contested between a capital steer of his Majesty's breeding from Abergeldie Main, the get of Elandshaagte, exhibited by Captain H. L. Townshend, and a steer of Ballindalloch blood shown by Mr. James McWilliams. It was not until the services of the umpire had been requisitioned that these steers were placed in the above order. The first steer has gained immensely in weight since he was exhibited in the junior classes a year ago, and now pulls up the beam at 17 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. with a ripe, good body of beef thoroughly filled in the roasting parts and heavy for his age. The second bullock is very even in flesh and symmetry, and of considerably different type to the winner, and whilst he has a little advantage in age he loses in weight over the winner more than 2 cwt. Mr. R. W. Hudson was the exhibitor as well as breeder of the third prize steer, which was a great favourite for the higher position at the ring side. He was looking in excellent bloom after championing the male section at Norwich previously. Mr. E. P. Alexander also exhibited a very neat and good beef steer.

Steers not exceeding two years were headed by one of Mr. James McWilliams by Alick of Aberlour scaling 13 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb., a very level topped, good quality one that eventually carried off the special prize for best Scot. Mr. R. W. Hudson followed with the very compact and symmetrical as well as good beef steer Danesfield Negro 2nd, and the reserve was accorded Mr. J. J. Cridlan for a massive, well-shaped one of his own breeding by Wizard of Malsemore; he and c cards were awarded to entries of the Rev. C. Bolden, the Earl of Durham, and a second entry of Mr. R. W. Hudson's.

Females were six in number, and were a good lot. First honour was accorded Mr. J. R. Findlay's Pride of Honour, a massive, level fleshed cow, but rather showing the effects of having had one calf, whilst the maiden heifers shown by Mr. J. J. Cridlan and Mr. E. P. Alexander came in with more bloom and quality, and were also very nice in shape, though both were lighter in weight considerably; these were placed second and reserved in the order written.

The Aberdeen-Angus section is classed also in connection with the Galloways at Birmingham, so that these classes follow. There were three steers competing, shown by Mr. T. B. Earle, Mr. Alfred Palmer, and Sir John Swinburne, and though not big, the animals weighed fairly well, and must be classed as first-class beef. The honours were dispensed in the above order. One female of this breed was present, a very symmetrical, fine, beef heifer, shown and bred by Mr. Alfred Palmer.

Galloway.

This highly-esteemed Scottish breed had only three steers and one heifer in the organised classes, but several Galloway crosses were in the Butchers' Classes. Mr. T. B. Earle's first-prize steer was very full shaped and carried a good body of beef. Mr. Alfred Palmer's Jock, which won second prize, was also a well-shaped, good one. Mr. John Swinburne took reserve. The heifer, which had a walk over, was Mr. Alfred Palmer's Lady West 4th, small in stature but very level.

West Highland.

Two very handsome steers with formidable antlers and shaggy coats were the Earl of Durham's Willie and James, which took the prizes. In the female class, Sir John Swinburne was to the front with Nellie, to which two nice animals belonging to Mr. Chas. Bell were second and reserve.

Welsh.

This breed was in good force with eight two-year-old steers, four yearlings, and five females. The Coed Coch Trustees were first in the older class with an animal of excellent quality and substance, scaling rather over 17¼ cwt. Second and third to him came shapely animals belonging to Mr. Robert Hughes, the third winner being far heavier than the second. The yearling steers were headed by Mr. Graves' Wern Dog Rose, which had an excellent middle piece. The University College of North Wales won the second prize and reserve, Mr. R. Roberts won first and second prizes in the female class with very full-shaped nice heifers, Mr. R. Hughes getting reserve.

Butchers' Prizes.

The butchers of Birmingham and district endowed, as usual, two classes with prizes, the first being for animals of any breed or age exceeding 13 cwt. Sir W. Corbett won the first prize with a lengthy polled animal scaling 7 lb. over 19 cwt., but a very firm handler. Second to him came Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Black Watch, a cross between Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorn, which has come out well in a beast of good substance and firm flesh. Third prize was won by Mr. A. B. Dryburgh for another Aberdeen-Angus cross, although not so heavy a one, but a very firm handler. The beast which won the prize for being heaviest of any animal in the show was in this class, belonging to Mr. R. Jones, a Salop exhibitor, his weight being 4 lb. over 21 cwt. In the class for best butchers' beast, not exceeding 13 cwt. Mr. R. G. Nash brought from co. Dublin, Lucan Pat of the Aberdeen-Angus Dexter Cross, of a rare quality, to win first prize, Mr. J. G. Green, of Warwickshire, winning with a cross between Hereford and Shorthorn, not made too fat, but which would furnish nice cuts of saleable character. The Duchess of Newcastle came third with Miss Sheen, a nice heifer of the Aberdeen-Angus Kerry Cross.

Extra Stock.

There were ten animals in the class for extra stock, and Mr. E. P. Alexander was first with a full-shaped Aberdeen-Angus cross, Viscount Tredegar being second with a much heavier one of Hereford character, Sir W. Corbett was c for Acton Coral, a nice Red Poll.

The Cattle Championships.

It is not often that the very important champion prizes at the Christmas Show of the Midlands are so quickly dispersed as was the case at Birmingham on Saturday last. During the morning as judging proceeded, and class after class, breed after breed had appeared before the judges and the public, it was generally agreed that the championship of the entire show would practically rest between H.M. the King's best Shorthorn, the first prize aged steer, and Mr. R. W. Hudson's first prize cross-bred heifer Danesfield Honey Bee, as the other sections had nothing to offer so worthy of these great trophies as the two animals named, and as both were in the hands of their breeders, matters were somewhat simplified, as the breeder's prize accompanied the other honour (exhibits). Eventually decisions were in favour of the Shorthorn with the Angus cross as reserve, and the award was generally well received, the champion honours thus falling to the Royal Shorthorn with the Breeders' Champion Prize, the Elkington Challenge Cup, the Thorley Challenge Cup, and the Webb Challenge Cup.

The *Birmingham Daily Post* Challenge Cup for best beast, not exceeding two years old in the various breed and cross bred classes, was awarded

to Mr. James McWilliams' Aberdeen-Angus steer, and the reserve to Mr. T. S. Morgan's Devon steer under two years.

Sheep.

The woolly tribes have seldom if ever made a better appearance at a Birmingham show. The class for Southdown wethers was headed by a pen of superb character from the King's Sandringham flock, and a second pen therefrom had reserve. The second and third prizes were for pens of very choice character from the late Colonel McCalmont's flock, and the Duke of Devonshire's pen was he.

The Shropshire wethers were of extraordinary merit, Sir R. P. Cooper winning first and second prizes with good matching sheep, well made out, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., sending from Holker two pens which were third and c, that of Mrs. W. F. Inge getting reserve, and Captain Townshend's pen was he.

The Oxfordshire wether class had four pens, the first of which was that of Mr. A. G. Hobbs's Maiseyhampton, grand in character and substance, the three sheep scaling 9 cwt. 20 lb. Mr. John Hazell won second prize with very even nice quality wethers, the reserve pen of Miss Alice de Rothschild being also of excellent character.

The Hampshire wether class was commended entire, two superb pens belonging to Mr. James Flower, of Chilmark, winning the prizes. Sir W. G. Pearce obtained the reserve, Mr. T. F. Buxton being the other exhibitor.

In the any other breed class two good pens of the Ryeland breed, belonging to Mr. W. T. Barneby, won the prizes, and the cross-bred pens, shown by Mr. E. Bostock, the reserve.

Lamb Classes.

Southdown lambs had eight pens, and H M. the King won first and third prizes with two of them, they being divided by one of the pens of the Exors. of the late Col. McCalmont. The reserve in this class went to Mrs. Montefiore. The Shropshire lambs were not so numerous, but were very good. Sir R. P. Cooper was first, and Mrs. W. F. Inge second and reserve. In the class for Oxford lambs Mr. John Hazell came quite to the front by winning first and second prizes; Mr. J. H. Preece obtained a third, and Mr. W. H. Stilgoe reserve.

Hampshire lambs had a dozen pens, so good that the class was commended entire. Mr. James Flower again came to the front with some remarkably nice specimens, the second and third prizes being obtained by Sir W. G. Pearce and Mr. S. Darling, while Mr. T. F. Buxton obtained reserve. In the class for other pure breds or cross-breds, Mrs. Montfiore's Hampshire Southdowns were preferred for quality to Mr. J. A. Preece's more weighty Hampshire Shropshires, but the heaviest lambs in the class was the reserve pen of Mr. Bostock of the Hampshire Oxford cross, they pulling down the scales to 5 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. It is worthy of remark that in the extraordinary good class of Hampshire lambs not one of the twelve was under 5 cwt., the heaviest being one of the pens of Mr. S. Darling, which scaled 5 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.

Pigs.

This year the pigs were indeed a feature at Birmingham, most of the breeds being well represented. In the class for Berkshires not exceeding nine months old, Mr. Lawrence Currie, Farnborough, Hants, was first with a very even pair, a perfect match; and the same exhibitor's second prize lot was scarcely a whit inferior. Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield, Dorset, was reserve with a pair that were not quite so evenly finished. The Tamworths were three pens only, but they were good. Mr. Robert Ibbotson, Knowle, Warwick, was both first and second with lengthy pigs with capital coats. Mr. G. G. Lancaster's reserve lots not looking quite so well out of the pens as in them. The Large Whites made a splendid class of eight entries, and the competition was keener. Mr. Alfred Hughes was first with a pair well let down in the hams with plenty of profitable meat; second went to Mr. John Riddell, Timperley, these were very close up. Mr. Albert Green, Droitwich, was third, but his two pigs were not quite so matching as the others, the reserve went to Mr. Philip Baker, Shirley, his pigs were not quite so fine to a finish. The Middle Whites made a very small class, first prize went to Mr. G. A. Fricker, Mere, Wilts. These pigs had capital backs and loins, Mrs. S. Green, Droitwich, was second with a most meritorious pair. Mr. N. Benjafield's pair not being so even.

Maturity told in the elder classes for pigs exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old. The whole of the Berkshire class was noticed by the judge. Mr. Fricker was here placed first with a model pair of good length. They were as even as though moulded, and their hams came right down to the hocks, there not being an ounce of bone more than was necessary. So, in addition to their class prize, secured the Hotel and Innkeepers' Challenge Cup, value 20 guineas, which has to be won three years by the same person before it becomes his property. This cup was won in 1900 by Mr. N. Benjafield, in 1901 by Mr. J. A. Fricker, in 1902 by Mr. A. Brown, in 1903 by Mr. N. Benjafield, in 1904 by Mr. A. Brown, in 1905 by Mr. R. Ibbotson. So it will be seen that three exhibitors are on a level with two wins each to their credit. Second prize in this class went to Mr. N. Benjafield for a pair of pigs with plenty of bloom. Reserve went to Mr. A. Brown, whose pigs did not walk so well. Mr. Tricker obtained the third prize. The Duchess of Devonshire was highly commended with a pair of weighty pigs, but not quite deep enough. The Tamworths again made a class smaller in numbers, but of good quality. Mr. John Myatt was first with lengthy, well brought out pigs. Mr. Robert Ibbotson's second prize pen were very long and of nice quality, but needed more weight; Mr. E. Hamel's reserve were very fleshy. The Large Whites again made an excellent class, Mr. Alfred Brown's pair being very matching with meat of the best; Messrs. Litting's second prize were possessors of very neat hams. Mr. Alfred Hughes, Knowle, was third; his pigs were rather heavy on the shoulders. Mr. Rothwell was reserved, his pigs not being so matching. The Middle White, or Small White, constituted a rather uneven class. Mr. Alfred Brown sent a pair of Middles very even, and showing well for bacon; these were put first and reserve for the challenge cup. Mr. A. C. Twentyman was second, and Mrs. S Green and Sons reserved. The crossbred class was one of the best in the show. The first prize went to Mr. Arthur Brown with very fleshy pigs, Middle White and Berkshire Cross, and he was second with another pen of a similar cross. Mr. J. A. Fricker came in third for a weighty pair of Large White and Berkshire cross; reserve went to Mrs. S. Green and Sons, the cross in this case being Large White and Tamworth, Mr. N. Benjafield being highly commended. The butchers class for two fat pigs not exceeding twelve months old brought out an entry of fourteen, Mr. N. Benjafield being first with Middle Whites; Mr. W. Midwinter, Birmingham, second, also with Middle Whites; the reserve going to Mr. Lawrence Currie with Berkshires, Mr. A. C. Twentyman's highly commended lots being Middle Whites. The total of pigs entered was sixty-eight.

Corn, Roots, Potatoes, &c.

The corn samples were rather more numerous than sometimes, fourteen samples of barley competing, of which the two prizes went to Mr. H. R. Horwood for Carter's Prolific, and to Mr. T. C. Horn for Carter's Chevalier. There were twelve samples of white wheat, and Mr. Horwood again took first prize with Carter's Rough Chaff, Mr. F. A. Smith being second with a variety called Essex Long-eared Rough Chaff. In the red wheat class having nineteen entries Mr. R. W. Hudson was first with Manitoba, Mr. R. C. Gurney second with Carter's Imperial White Oats, had sixteen samples, Mr. E. Hailes getting first prize with Garton's Universal, and Mr. Thos. Frith the second premium with Garton's Abundance. There were seven samples of black oats, and Mr. T. Frith was first with Garton's Rival, Mr. S. Timmis second with one of Webb's varieties. There were only three samples of beans; Mr. D. H. Wills was first with Webb's Tick, Mr. Horwood second with Carter's Heligoland. The samples of peas were five in number,

RED POLLED STEER.

This Red Polled Steer won First Prize in the class for a Steer of the Red Polled Breed not exceeding 2 years old, at the Norwich Fat Stock Show last week. It is the property of and was bred by Sir W. Corbet, Bart., Acton Regnold, Shrewsbury, and is 1 year 10 months 1 week 4 days old. Its sire was Albert 7789, dam Acton Tulip 14424.

and both prizes went to Carter's, Mr. Horwood winning the first and Mr. H. Purser the second.

The Root classes commenced with the contest for Proctor and Ryland's Silver Cup for the best collection of long mangel, globe mangel, and swedes. Mr. John Perry, Oswaldkirk, York, won with very fine roots from Webb's seeds, Mr. Alfred Franklin, Worminghall, Oxon, getting reserve, also with Webb's seeds. The last-mentioned won Webb and Sons' Silver Cup for long mangels, Mr. John Perry winning their other silver cup for any other kind of mangel grown with their seeds. In the open class for long mangel Lady Wantage won with heavy roots from Sutton's seeds, Mr. John Perry being second with other fine ones grown from Webb's. The open class for Globe or Intermediate Wurzel varieties had no fewer than thirty-five entries. Lady Wantage obtained another first with Sutton's prize-winner Yellow Globe, Mr. Alfred Franklin being second with one of Webb's varieties. The Kohl Rabi specimens were very first class, especially Mr. John Perry's first winning one of Webb's Green and Mr. H. Marshall's second prize lot, which was from Sutton's seeds. In the competition for Messrs. Webb and Son's cup for the best samples of their Imperial swede, Mr. John Perry won another first prize, and he also succeeded in carrying off both first and second prizes in the open class for swedes, which had no less than thirty-two entries with Webb's seeds. For common white-fleshed turnips his Grace the Duke of Portland was first and reserve, and Mr. W. Watts won second prize, the whole of the lots being from Sutton's seeds. The yellow-fleshed turnips were equally good, and Mr. W. Aitken, a Scotch grower, won both prizes with Webb's Invincible, which also secured reserve for the Earl of Dartmouth. The Duke of Portland's Belgian carrots were very good, but they only obtained second prize.

There were ten classes of potatoes, and Mr. D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Warwickshire, won four of the first prizes, besides some of the subordinate ones. The Duke of Portland won three first prizes, Mr. James Needham two firsts, and among other winners were Mr. Thos. Bannister, Mr. John Perry, and Mr. E. S. Wiles. The total entries of corn, roots, and potatoes were 313.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

CATTLE.

A Silver Cup or £25, Champion prize for the best animal bred by the exhibitor.—HM the King, Windsor, Shorthorn steer, two years eleven months three weeks old, weight 18 cwt 0 qr 12 lb; reserve, Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, cross-bred heifer, Danesfield Honey Bee, two years eleven months one week, weight 15 cwt 3 qr 10 lb.

Elkington Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, for the best animal.—His Majesty's Shorthorn steer; reserve, Mr Hudson's Danesfield Honey Bee.

Thorley Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, to the breeder of the best animal.—His Majesty; reserve, Mr Hudson.

Webb Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, for the best animal bred by the exhibitor.—His Majesty's Shorthorn steer; reserve, Mr Hudson's Danesfield Honey Bee.

Birmingham Daily Post Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best animal under two years old.—Mr J McWilliam, Stoneytown, Mullen, Keith, Aberdeen-Angus steer J.P.; reserve, Mr T S Morgan, Whimple, Exeter, Devon steer Whimple Model.

Maisemore Park Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best Aberdeen-Angus.—Mr J McWilliam's J.P.; reserve, Mr J R Findlay, Aberlour, Banff, Pride of Honour.

Silver Cup, value 10 guineas, for the heaviest beast in the Show.—Mr R Jones, Newton, Bridgnorth, weight 21 cwt 0 qr 4 lb.

£50 for the best Hereford.—Mr W H Cooke, Stanford Bridge, Worcester; reserve, His Majesty, Windsor (Camilla).

£50 for the best Shorthorn.—His Majesty, Windsor (steer); reserve do (heifer, Red Rose).

£10 for the best Devon.—His Majesty, Windsor (heifer, Caroline); reserve, Mr T S Whimple (steer, Whimple Model).

£50 for the best Scot.—Mr J McWilliam (Aberdeen-Angus steer, JP); reserve, Earl of Durham (Highland steer, Willie).

£25 for the best Welsh animal.—The Coed Coch Trustees, Abergele (steer, Gwilym); reserve, Mr R Roberts, Portmadoc (heifer, Laura).

£30 for the best Crossbred.—Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Honey Bee).

SHEEP.

The Cooper Challenge Cup of 25 guineas for the best pen of Sheep.—Sir Richard P Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield (Shropshire wethers); reserve, ditto.

£5 for the best pen of Shropshires.—Sir Richard P Cooper (wethers); reserve, ditto.

5 guineas for the best pen of Hampshires.—Mr James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury (wethers); reserve, ditto (lambs).

2 guineas for the heaviest pen of lambs.—Mr Sam Darling, Beckhampton, Wilts (Hampshires: weight, 5 cwt 3 qr 9 lb).

PIGS.

Challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for the best pen of pigs.—Mr J A Fricker, Burton, Mere Wilts (Berkshires); reserve, Mr. Alfred Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton (Middle Whites).

JUDGES.

CATTLE.

Herefords, Devons, Welsh, Kerries, and Extra Stock.—E F Maunder, Crichel Winborne; Christopher Williams, Glenthorne, Holmer, near Hereford. Shorthorns, Scots, and Crosses.—W T Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach, RSO, Glos; R Walker, Rosefield, Elgin, NB. Butchers' Prizes.—H Patterson, Acocks Green, near Birmingham; J H Rymond, Erdington, near Birmingham; F W Stoddard, Ladywood Road, Birmingham.

SHEEP.

W Barrs, Tempe, Atherstone; Allan Cooper, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes; H. Lambert, Babraham, near Cambridge.

PIGS.

T S Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury. Butchers' Prizes.—A Marsh, Brierley Hill, Staffs; C H Palethorpe, Dudley Port.

PRODUCE.

Corn.—F B Ludlow, Holt Street, Birmingham; W. T. Rushton, Aston Road, Birmingham. Roots.—R G Patterson, Acton Hill, Stafford; F H Yates, Weeford, Lichfield. Potatoes.—W Halliday, Patshull Gardens, Wolverhampton; G Worthington, The Gardens, Guy's Cliffe, Warwick.

THE FAKING OF CIDER.

Harmless Additions to Improve Appearance—Flavourings—Adding CO_2.

In a natural state no one can disavow the assertion that cider is the purest beverage on earth. Water may be subject to contamination as it percolates through the soil, but the juice of the apple is collected from the soil by means of innumerable rootlets; it is filtered by passing through many feet of wood ere it reaches its position within the skin of the apple. This is washed by the pure rains of heaven, nurtured and developed by means of the sunshine, and then, if this is crushed and put in clean barrels, we have a pure liquor of high dietetic as well as medicinal value. This medicinal value in the old days was too apt to be most commonly associated with most nauseating, nay stomach-expellant, drugs, insomuch so that even the word "medicine" became repugnant to the average individual of the human species. But modern practice has recognised virtues in pleasant forms for medicinal purposes. Foods, instead of being conglomerated as foods, each now has its specific individual action.

So has cider; it has been proved to be a gentle though very effectual diuretic, and by means of its action on the kidneys it removes many ills that take up their origin from those important organs of the human anatomy. Thus we find the uric acid removed, rheumatism and gout cleared out of the system; the malic acid is supposed to thwart the designs of typhoid fever, and, above all, cider is a pleasant and thirst-quenching drink, as well as being an appetiser. Thus it will be seen what a high position cider takes for consumptive purposes.

Until recent years cider was not made so good as it might be, but generally, however badly made, it had the merit at least of being pure. If harsh and unconsiderable as a drink, except to the acid-inured farmer and his labourer, cider was a country beverage. But improved methods of making produced a far more pleasant and palatable beverage, and then a big demand was created in the towns. This was most profitable to the cider maker, and through him to the cider apple grower. The one has improved his apples and the other his cider. It was indeed a home industry, as flourishing as the green bay-tree. But like all good things, it attracted at first the eye, and then excited the cupidity of the "faker." Here was a grand opportunity. Cider or cyder was a popular name for a popular beverage, but it was not recognised by the inspectors. Under the Food and Drugs Act the farmer must have 3 per cent. of fat in his milk and not over 16 per cent. of water in his butter. But the cider faker could sell anything as cider so long as he could persuade the general public it was such. The position has thus become so intolerable that the cider-makers have taken the pure cider question up in earnest, and will endeavour to obtain special legislation if the present means are not equal to stopping a detestable traffic—a parasitism on a legitimate industry.

Firstly, it will be well to draw attention to what may be called faking for the improvement of cider, or the so-called making it marketable. Now usually a glass of claret is much more attractive than a glass of say hock, and to overcome the predisposition of aversion against the latter, coloured glasses are used. Thus what meets the eye, or rather what the eye does not see, the heart will not wish. But some ciders have a greenish, whitish appearance. To overcome this and to give a little density, cane sugar was formerly burnt in a saucepan until it became a syrup of rich dark hue. This was then mixed in a bucket of cider and turned into the head of the cask, but there always remained a burnt taste. Then came the beetroot movement. A couple of beetroots were boiled and sliced, and then put in a thin muslin bag and inserted through the top bung-hole and remained inserted in the cider. Others used quite a large quantity of large, long, red mangels. The water in which these were boiled was also added to the cider, the sugar in the mangels was by fermentation turned into alcohol, and a tremendously heady beverage was the result of a very bright red if the pulp was allowed to remain in too long and settle as "grounds" or "muck" at the bottom of the cask. Very often a highly undesirable flavour was set up, but so long as it warmed his stomach and dazzled his head the olden time labourer did not mind. It will be seen so far the endeavour was to improve apple juice by giving it colour and density.

Soon, however, the chemist, by means of a preparation of annatto, supplied cider colour in a cheaper and more readily available form than by either of the before-mentioned methods. No matter how thin the ciders, the rich red colour was there, and this struck a heavy blow at the naturally red ciders of Somerset, where the pommace is oxidised and the tannin imparts the characteristic colour.

Next came what may be styled body improvers, many of which were more imaginative than real in their action. In these we may include malt. It was supposed to afford something for the acids in the cider to feed upon; the secret here was, of course, the sugar, which had been obtained by malting. Another though more reprehensible practice was to put meat in the cider; this, of course, decomposed without imparting any virtue whatever, and was undoubtedly the cause of many deaths by ptomaine poisoning. But this is seldom practised now. Another item was to boil parsnips, and put water and root alike into the cask. It must be admitted that this does improve the body and appearance of the cider, but, at the same time, the characteristic apple flavour is lost and that of parsnip wine replaces it.

Now there is one thing used with their ciders, or rather with the juice as it comes from the press of low gravity; this is by means of the addition of pure cane sugar. This will of course be converted into alcohol by the ordinary fermentation, and a very high grade cider may result; but unless the juice is carefully tested by means of the hydrometer, and the requisite proportion of sugar added, it does not come off as the improver desires. The yeasts which convert the sugars into alcohol can only live up to a certain percentage of alcohol, and when this is attained they are killed by their own efforts. Thus, if an excess of sugar has been added this remains unconverted, and remains as a sweetening addition, and in this form is readily detectable on the tongue of an expert. The addition of sugar cannot be regarded as being harmful.

So far we have dealt with the fakes and makes on pure apple juice of all degrees of quality, all of which are supposed to have a tendency to increase the body or density of cider, though some of them have a double purpose.

Next we have the flavourings. There are proprietary articles, such as caramels, generally with a good basis of sugar. Old gingerbread is also used for this, but very often it is slightly too piquant. Boiled hops, with the water in which they are boiled, are used for bringing up low quality cider. But in the majority of instances it is only a sweetener that is desired, and this generally takes the form of tar, sugar or saccharin. The intense sweetness of this is abhorred by all cider judges. It hangs about the jaws, and it practically spoils a judge's palate for a long time. So powerful is it that the worst-made, hard acid ciders, nay, cider vinegars, may have their most reprehensible features effectually disguised by means of this saccharin. It has no food qualities whatever, and its use should be prohibited. A glass of hard cider, even if sweetened, has a most deleterious effect on a delicate stomach. The acid will be taken up by the blood, and the drinker be filled with excruciating rheumatic pains, for which he is totally unable to account until he consults a medical man, and after that he ceases to be a cider-drinker any more; and, what is more, he deters others from drinking it by recording his experiences. This hard cider in the heat of summer often sends the labourers, that by usage should be immune, to the village doctor. The saccharin] may be harmless enough in itself, but it is what it masks that does the harm. It is never used with good ciders; these have no need of it whatever.

Another class of faker may be the carbonator. But here the line has to be very sharply divided, because undoubtedly the addition of a little CO_2 at the time of bottling vastly improves the appearance of any still heavy cider when poured from the bottle, and it also has valuable preservative effects. Such is one side of the line; the other is that by its means cider can be watered down nearly to a vanishing point and yet seem to have a flavour, as the gas reaches, cleans, and sprackens the tongue; in fact, this so-called cider is little more than gassed water, the sale of which a few years since did much to bring the bottled cider trade into disrepute. But this point will be dealt with more fully later, where cider is sold as teetotal cider. Outside flavours may be imparted putting the apple juice into freshly emptied wine pipes, brandy hogsheads, rum puncheons, &c.; but though these may be condemned by some, they are appreciated by others, and cannot be deemed harmful, as they impart a very attractive flavour to what might otherwise be an undesirable cider, though the cider makers of old always put their best apple juice in such casks. Still, the custom does not prevail now, as the judges at shows have set their faces against this practice of what they most rightly consider to be an artificial flavour.

Now we have to come to what may be termed the harmful manipulation, or faking, of the cider or the juice, so as to render it absolutely injurious to the public health. Firstly comes the use of preservatives.

SHOWS.

Tredegar Show.

Viscount Tredegar's agricultural show was opened at Newport on Wednesday in brilliant weather. Practically all classes are open, and some of the best animals in the country are attracted to the show, at which £3,500 was offered in prizes.

Nearly every well-known breeder of Hereford cattle was represented. Cameronian, belonging to Captain Heygate, of Leominster, added another to his already long list of successes, and beat Endale, the property of Mr. P. Coats, of Sheepcote, Clifford. Rob Roy took premier honours for Mr. W. Tudge, of Kington, in the yearling class, but there was not much to choose between his nominee and Perton, belonging to Mr. J. H. Dent, Stoke Edith, Hereford, or Old Sort, the property of Sir J. Cotterell, Bart., of Garnons, Herefordshire. The bull calves were not up to the usual standard. In milking cows, Ivington Plum, the property of Mr. A. E. Hughes, of Wintercott, Leominster, was an outstanding winner. The heifers were good all round. Brampton Agnes 33rd, belonging to Mr. L. Moore, Brampton Brian, Hereford, was easily first in two-year-olds.

In Shorthorns, old bulls provided keen competition, the winner, Linksfield Champion, the property of Mr. F. Miller, of Birkenhead, having carried off premier honours at the Royal, Bath and West, and other shows. Linksfield Champion also took the champion prize for the best male horned breeding animal in the show. Sir R. Cooper's Meteor was placed second. The yearlings were exceptionally strong in numbers, and Mr. Fred Phillips, Mayor of Newport, took second prize with Salperton Rangel, which ran the winner, Mr. Freeman's Master Donald, very close. For bull calves the blue ribbon went to Walton Victor, bred by Mr. W. Hazell, Aylesbury, a promising youngster. Local breeders were not so successful as usual. The prize for the champion female horned breeding animal went to Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart.

The trials for Hunters took place at Coedkernew, near Newport. In the heavy-weight class, Mr. J. H. Stokes's Whiskey was first, and Colonel Hon. F. C. Morgan's Courtenay second. The entries in the light-weight class were scarcely up to the standard. Here, again, Mr. Stokes won with Mottcau, who went well all round, Mrs. Tatem's mare Queenie being second. The jumping was witnessed by a large crowd, which included Viscount Tredegar.

The agricultural horses were an exceptionally good lot, though not quite so many in numbers as usual. In the cart classes Sir P. A. Muntz captured four firsts. Dunsmore Premier beat Lord Tredegar's Thornbury Drayten in the two-year-old cart colt class, and in the yearlings Dunsmore Pearldrive was placed in front of Mr. F. C. Tomkins's Brimfield Forest King. The other Dunsmore winner was Brockhall Lioness in the two-year-old cart filly class, which beat Mr. J. Ferneyhough's Monmow Belle. Sir A. Henderson showed the best cart mare in Ivy Fashion. The winners in the local classes were Mr. Phillips, Coedkernew, near Newport; Mr. T. Lewis, Llangibby; Mr. E. Lewis, Blackwood.

The ponies, hacks, and Hunters were the best ever seen in the Tredegar Show. For Hunter brood mares the prize went to Geisha, belonging to Mr. H. R. Evans, Staunton-on-Arrow, Hereford. Mr. W. J. Tatem's Penylan Ormerod was the best three-year-old, and Penylan Docker the best two-year-old. The champion cup for yearlings went to Miss L. Clay, Chepstow, with Petrolite. The winners in the hack and coh classes were Mr. Williams, Penrhiweeiber, Mr. W. J. Tatem, Mrs. Henigan, Cheltenham, and Miss Lindner, Ledbury.

Chippenham.

The seventy-first annual exhibition in connection with the Chippenham Agricultural Association was held as usual in the market yard on Thursday. The comparative statement showed the total number of entries 522, against 514 last year. The family class was the most attractive in the cattle section, the number of entries being considerably above the average. In the fat classes the committee has this year reduced the age by six months. The classes for fat steers and heifers were weak in point of numbers, but the quality was excellent, the champion animal, exhibited by Mr. Alexander, being found in the class for fat steers under three years. Local farmers have for several years complained that they are placed at a disadvantage by having to compete against what they describe as "professional breeders," and to meet their wishes the milk classes were confined to exhibitors residing within a radius of twenty miles of Chippenham. Considering that there are thousands of dairy cows kept within that area, it is not encouraging to the committee to find that four reserved classes only produced eighteen entries.

In the sheep department two classes were confined to local farmers, and here again the result was disappointing. Horses were strongly represented, the show of cart mares and foals being particularly attractive. There were some good pens of pigs. Cheese and butter were of exceptionally good quality, the fancy designs being most artistic.

SHOW GOSSIP.

H.M. the King will be in town for the Smithfield Club Show.

The prize schedule of next year's Hackney show, which takes place as usual at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on March 5, 6, 7, and 8, has just been issued by the Hackney Horse Society from its office at 12, Hanover Square, W. To complete the schedule a class has been added for the best pair of ponies under 14 hands, any age, prizes £10, £5, £5. The schedule now efficiently caters for horses of every age and height, both in hand and in harness. The total of cash prizes and challenge cups offered is £1,710 as compared with £1,685 last year. Arrangements have been made for the better accommodation of the carriages used in the harness competitions.

In 1908 and future years stabling will be provided for 700 horses, and the size of the ring will be increased to 255 ft. by 75 ft. The seating will also be considerably extended and many other important improvements effected. The last show was an extraordinary success, and the most satisfactory of the series. Representatives from America, Austria, France, Holland, and principal countries were in attendance. Trade was very good, and altogether some of the best horses were sold for export. Steps as usual will be taken to make the details known to all the principal horsemen abroad. Entries close on January 14, and with late fee on January 21, and applications to the secretary for prize schedules, forms, or other particulars will receive immediate attention.

Mr. H. NICHOLS,
Sec., West Gloster Farmers' Club.

The Derby Local Committee held their final meeting at Derby last week. Sir Edwin Ann presided, but the Duke of Devonshire was unable to be present. The total amount of subscriptions received was £5,773, and there was a balance in hand of £123, which it was decided to hand over to the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, who did not hold their show.

The annual report of the Poulton and District Agricultural Society states that the sum paid for admission to the show ground, which was at Blackpool this year, was about £110 more than was received the previous year, when the show was held at Poulton, and the grand stand receipts were £18 more, but there was a falling off in subscriptions of £47. The total income amounted to £871, as against £738 last year. Though the receipts were greater, the additional expenditure more than counterbalanced the increase, as about £80 more was given in prizes, the fitting up of the showyard and the grand stand cost £25 more, and the expenses on show day were £15 more. On the year's working there was a profit of £8 9s. 10d. The balance in favour of the society is now £120. A new feature introduced at the show this year was the sheep dog trials, which were a great success.

At the annual meeting of the Barnstaple Agricultural Association, Mr. C. Pearce, vice-president, in the chair, the secretary, Mr. J. Smale, reported that the result of the year's working was to increase the debit balance by £17. Mr. L. H. Alford said the setting-off was accounted for by lessened gate-money, despite the fact that they had an ideal day. He believed there was a larger question affecting the success of the society, due to the society's operations having been considerably extended, this having alienated local sympathy.

The Devon County Agricultural Association wrote suggesting that as the County Show was being held at Bideford in 1907, it was advisable to forego the Barnstaple Show in the coming year. Mr. A. F. Seldon remarked that they had an adverse balance of £28, and under all the circumstances he moved that they forego their show for 1907. Mr. R. B. Sanders seconded. Mr. J. Copp proposed that the show be continued, but held on August Bank Holiday, instead of in the second week in July, which was a much too early date. Mr. G. Brown seconded Mr. Copp's motion, which was agreed to.

At the annual meeting of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society it was stated that the accounts for the year were very satisfactory, and the Henley meeting proved a financial success. The Right Hon. Viscount Villiers was elected president, and Sir Alexander Henderson, Bart., president elect. The annual show will be held at Banbury next year on May 14 and 15, for which there is a very strong local committee formed, and we hope this meeting will be a most successful one.

DAIRY.

Chester Cheese Fair.

On Wednesday, pitch about 35 tons; good attendance of buyers. Prices: Finest, 76s. to 80s.; medium, 70s. to 75s. A few lower grades down to 65s. A good clearance.

Farmers and Butter Fat.

Mr. C. Crowther, M.A., PhD., of the University of Leeds, has just issued a pamphlet dealing with variation in the composition of butter fat, arising out of the case that came before the Skipton Petty Sessions in April last, in which a farmer was accused of having adulterated his butter with nearly 34 per cent. of margarine fat.

On that occasion the evidence adduced on behalf of the defendant proved beyond doubt that the butter was perfectly genuine, since further samples prepared on his farm under strict supervision gave on analysis by different chemists practically the same figures as those on which the West Riding County Analyst had based his certificate of adulteration. In other words, the supposed adulteration of the butter must have taken place before the milk left the udders of the cows, or as it has been expressed, the butter was apparently adulterated with margarine through the cows. Such a conclusion, if true, was, of course, calculated to arouse grave misgivings in the minds of butter producers.

In order, says Mr. Crowther, to ensure as far as possible the production of butter rich in volatile acids (present as fats)—in other words, butter that shall not be liable to be regarded by the analyst as adulterated, but which, indeed, in respect of the volatile acids, shall be well up to or above the average for genuine butter—the butter-producing farmer is recommended to pay special attention to the following points:—

It is particularly important that the times of calving of the different cows should, as far as practicable, be spread over the twelve months.

Every attention should be paid to the comfort and regularity in the treatment of the animals. In particular, care should be taken to protect them from adverse climatic conditions or sudden and repeated changes of temperature.

When oil-cakes are fed to the cows the quantity should never much exceed 4 lb. per head per day. This precaution is especially important during the later stages of lactation when the milk yield is small.

A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held at No. 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, December 5. Business:—1. The Land Tenure Bill as amended. 2. Letter from Free Importation of Canadian Cattle Association. 3. Procedure on future conferences with the President of the Board of Agriculture.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Preserving Eggs in Water-Glass.

SIR,—During September I placed in water-glass eggs, some of which are good whilst others have not kept fresh. The water-glass, after being mixed with boiling water, was placed in an open earthenware pan on a stone floor.

Where is "silicate of soda" prepared?

Does it deteriorate by keeping?

Is any better substitute available?

For what length of time can eggs usually be preserved in a fresh state with water-glass?

Should the eggs be covered by 1 in. or several inches of the liquid?

Or should the open pan be replaced with a closely-covered pan?

Can any readers of your newspaper advise me?—Yours faithfully, JOHN GEORGE VAIZEY.

Braintree, Essex, November 26, 1906.

The Land Tax.

SIR,—*Re* my letter, "A Farming Candidate's Programme," which appeared in your influential paper on October 29, 1906. No. 1. "An entire readjustment of the Land Tax; that is to say, tax the land at its present value. The tax should be a sliding one, as land is very apt to go up and down in value, as the case may be."

Now the question of taxing the land is a very important one, and with your permission I should like to go a little further into the matter. In the first place there is nothing in connection with the law upon which people are less informed than the Land Tax.

The Land Tax was first imposed in the reign of William and Mary, between the years 1689 to 1702, and it was only supposed to be levied for a year. However, it was re-enacted from year to year until it became a permanent charge. Naturally enough, the land was taxed according to its value. For instance, at that time Lancashire was of small value and of little account, so it was assessed at £20,000, but now the value of property in Lancashire has increased a hundred-fold, but still the land tax is just the same, £20,000, a mere farce, nothing more or less.

Again, the St. Pancras district was very poor in the days of William and Mary, and the land tax was less than a farthing in the pound. Now a foot or so in that district is a gold mine in itself—but the tax is just the same to-day as it was over 200 years ago—less than a farthing in the pound. On the other hand, land that was in a highly prosperous state in those days was taxed from 8d. to 1s. 6d. in the pound according to value. But those once populous and thriving districts, now of little account, are called upon to pay the same high tax as if they were in the height of prosperity.

The Land Tax in this country is a mockery and a farce, and a sweeping resolution and entire readjustment of the Act are absolutely necessary. And this question should be one of the first in the minds of all those who have the interest of the farming community at heart.—Yours faithfully,

J. H. C. WOODRUFFE.

November 26, 1906.

A Calving Curiosity.

SIR,—A most extraordinary thing happened in my cowshed on the evening of the 17th inst.

One of my cows calved a healthy bull calf, which from its appearance as to size, hair, &c., evidently came to its proper time, according to service on February 8, as booked; and about three hours afterwards calved another perfectly-shaped calf, but without hair, and about the size of a new-born lamb, apparently about four or five months before its time. Have any of your readers experienced a similar case, or can your M.R.C.V.S. account for it?—Yours truly, A. J. R.

November 19, 1906.

Protection of Seed Against Rooks.

SIR,—Will the editor kindly send me, or insert in next edition of MARK LANE EXPRESS, the receipt for dressing corn to prevent rooks from eating it. I cannot find my edition of October 22.—Yours truly, E. A. M. T. FISHER.

Welby Warren, Grantham, November 23, 1906.

[The following, extracted from our issue of October 29, will give our correspondent the information which he seeks:

"The employment of coal tar is practised for this purpose with success. A solution of 2½ oz. coal tar, 2½ oz. petroleum, mixed with one quart of water per bushel of wheat, can be recommended. The following treatment is adopted on a large farm in France, where the treated wheat escapes damage, although serious injury is caused by crows to neighbouring fields, notwithstanding the fact that the birds are continually being scared. The solution is made as follows: 11½ pints of coal tar, 5½ pints of petroleum, 1½ pints of carbolic acid, to 5 qr. (of 480 lb.) of seed. The proportions named should be strictly adhered to in order to obtain successful results. Commercial carbolic acid of full strength must be used. The mixture should be made as follows:—Place the coal tar in a pot on a slow fire until it is quite hot and shows signs of boiling, remove it from the fire and add the petroleum while stirring, and finally the carbolic acid. The mixture should be thoroughly well stirred, and it will remain quite liquid after cooling.

"In order to treat the grain about four bushels of seed should be spread out on a water-tight floor, and a tenth part of the mixture, which will be a little less than two pints, poured on it. This must then be stirred up quickly till each grain is blackened and the whole is about the colour of roasted coffee. Continue in the same way, dealing with about four bushels at a time.

"The seed cannot, however, be sown in this condition, as it would stick to the cups of the drill, and in order to remedy this add to each four bushels of seed about two pints of phosphate of lime. When mixed, the grain will be completely dry, and can be sown in the ordinary way. Seed treated in this way will not be touched by crows, though the growth may be retarded by some two or three days. The cost per bushel would be insignificant."]

The Colony System of Poultry-Keeping.

SIR,—Since the publication by this society of my report on "The Poultry Industry in America," the result of observations made in Canada and the United States during the past summer, a considerable amount of attention has been drawn to the colony system of keeping both laying and young stock, as evidenced by the inquiries and communications I have received. Believing that this method, should it prove equally successful in this country, which may reasonably be expected, cannot fail to lead to a greatly increased production of eggs and poultry, and will solve some of the difficulties of farmers and others, more especially in hunting and the more thickly-populated districts, I bespeak the hospitality of your columns for the opportunity of answering some of the questions asked. Details as to the methods adopted in America will be found in the report, and need not be repeated. The question is, how far is the system suitable under our conditions?

It is, however, of importance to understand that what is practically the same method as to principle has been carried out for many years in connection with duck-raising.

It is unnecessary to consider at length, in connection with what may be termed special poultry establishments, how far the system can be applied. Much depends upon the amount of land available. Generally speaking, we may accept that under these circumstances it can be recommended without hesitation, provided that there is enough ground to permit absolute change year by year, the sections vacated after use by fowls for one or two years being cropped before they are occupied by the poultry again. In this manner land can be much more heavily stocked than has hitherto been deemed desirable. If each plot of field is thus used only one year in three, all danger of taint in the soil would be avoided, and the crops secured should be much greater than if the land were stocked on present lines. I have no hesitation in saying that the colony system will do much for increase of special poultry establishments as a part of the operations, and contribute greatly to their success.

This is, however, a farmers' question first of all, and, valuable though the system referred to may be in the direction already indicated, I am convinced that there is thus offered a way by which poultry-keeping in relation to general agriculture can be enormously increased. At the same time, where poultry are of minor consideration, and risks from loss by enemies—biped or quadruped—very small, the employment of portable houses, which have increased so enormously in this country of late years, is to be preferred, as they can be linked with the ordinary rotation of farm work without interference with or displacement of any other part of the work. Any check to the development of what is a most valuable system is to be greatly deprecated. For such farms, the colony system offers no advantages at present apparent.

Many farmers, however, either as a result of risks of loss, or of special cropping, or of labour, or of desire to extend beyond the capacity of portable houses, have sought for other methods. To such the colony system should be of immense value. In districts where special protection is unnecessary, all that is required will be to give up a field entirely to the poultry for one or two years as the case may be. On pastures it will be better to adopt the single-year rotation, not using the ground again for fowls for two entire seasons. On arable land the birds can be kept thereon during two years, if thought necessary, afterwards cropping for at least two whole seasons. On pastures 100 birds can be kept to the acre, and on arable land 200; but in the latter case I should suggest, until further experience has been obtained, that the ground be only occupied one year before removal. If occupied two years it will be safer at first to keep 100 to the acre. Where protection against foxes or other enemies is necessary, then the ground under use by the fowls should be enclosed by wire netting, running a plough round the boundary before the fencing is erected so as to sink the netting below the level. This fencing will entail an expense of, say, £10 for one acre, £15 for two acres, and £20 for four acres, but cannot, under those circumstances, be avoided. The houses used should hold not more than twenty-five birds in each, and four or eight per acre, as the case may be, will require to be distributed over the ground in convenient positions.

Although I feel confident as to the future of the colony system of poultry-keeping, it has yet to be fully tested in this country, and I am glad to say that arrangements have been made by the University College, Reading, for a careful series of experiments both as to the keeping of laying hens and the rearing of chickens on this plan, with a view to the training of its students and seeing how far the system is suited to our conditions.—Yours faithfully, EDWARD BROWN.

National Poultry Organisation Society,
12, Hanover Square, W., November 26, 1906.

Forestry: Continental Experts and the Zurich System.

SIR,—You were good enough a few weeks ago to publish some extracts which I gave from Herr Stadtforstmeister Ulrich Meister's admirable work (in German) on the forestry operations in Zurich, where the municipal authorities have taken into their own hands the manufacture of raw material. I find, however, that although some few continental experts agree that the system is well-managed and produces good results, they do not advocate its general adoption.

Dr. Riebel, *Konigl, Oberforstmeister* (Royal Chief Ranger in Hanover-Munden), with whom I have just had a correspondence, deals *inter alia* with this point.

"We in Germany," he says, "have many urban and rural communes which possess forests, many of them of very large extent, and whose accounts show a large revenue earned in casement of rates from the utilisation and sale of the raw products, thus securing very substantial results from the business. Industrial activity in the country districts can, in my opinion, be better fostered and furthered by providing small private undertakings with an adequate supply of useful raw material (*branchbares Rohmaterial*) than by the erection of concentrated municipal or communal workshops. The State as well as municipal and other authorities had better, I think, restrict themselves to the raw production in the woods they have charge of, and leave the industrial exploitation to private undertakings. Industrial trades for the treatment and utilisation of the raw products are more suitable for the domains of private forest owners, particularly those on an extensive scale. I think I may venture to pronounce an opinion on this subject, as I myself have had in my hands for many years the active management of a large private forest, coupled with that of widely-ramifying, scientifically-worked industrial trades. (*Mit sehr intensirem Viel-seitigem Gewerbe-betriebe.*)"

M. Ch. Broilliard, of the Haute Saône (who, as will be seen from a communication of his published in your issue of the 18th ult., is one of the greatest authorities among French sylviculturists), agrees with the German specialist; and I think it will be generally admitted that, under the present conditions prevailing in England, these views will find most acceptance here. But in any case, the first thing to be done is to substitute, for the present haphazard arrangements in this country, a more scientific and systematic treatment of our national woods and forests with a view to their better cultivation and utilisation in the public interest.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.

Reform Club, S.W., November 29, 1906.

Fruit Growers and American Gooseberry Mildew.—After a lantern lecture by Mr. E. S. Salmon, of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, on November 21, to the members of the Herefordshire Association of Fruit Growers and Horticulturists, a resolution was carried as follows:—"The members of the Herefordshire Fruit Growers' Association, being alarmed at the appearance of the American gooseberry mildew in England, and in the adjoining county of Worcester, and seeing the destruction caused by the disease to the gooseberry crops of other countries, call upon the Board of Agriculture to prohibit the importation of gooseberry trees and such ribes as are likely to come into this country, and to secure the destruction of all infected stock."

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See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1906.

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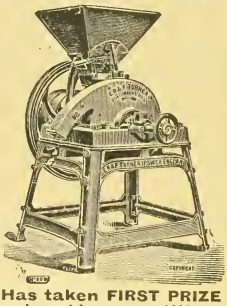

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13.—Special Sale in Auction Mart, 50, Prussia Street, Dublin, comprising well-bred A. A. Crosses, Polly Bullocks, Shorthorn Bullocks, and Heifers, all ages, consigned direct from owners' pastures.

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POULTRY.

Poultry-Keeping in America.—Prices Obtained for Eggs.

(Concluded from page 563).

Mr. Brown next turns to a consideration and also a description of the Coloney House system, concerning which so much has been said and written of late. The next chapter is headed "Egg Production in Canada and the Western States," and in this much interesting information is given. As for the price obtained for eggs, Mr. Brown says that these are low, and adds :—

When, as is the case at some seasons of the year, Western eggs are sold in New York at 17 cents (8½d.) per dozen, it will be understood that the producers do not obtain very much. In Burlington, Iowa, early in July, I found that the shipper's price was 13 cents (6½d.) per dozen, and in St. Joseph 12 cents (6d.) per dozen, which means that, taking into consideration the expenses of collection, in many cases the farmers cannot be receiving more than 8 to 9 cents per dozen. Under these conditions it is only where the greatest economy is practised in management, and the birds are allowed to find a large part of their own living, that the trade can be profitable. But that it is profitable no one seems to have any doubt whatever.

Even in the winter seasons prices are low, not rising in Missouri above 15 cents per dozen, and very little has been done for the production of winter eggs; in fact, under such conditions it can scarcely be expected that farmers will take much trouble in securing eggs during the colder months of the year.

The trade done is on an enormous scale. I was informed by the S. P. Pond Co., of Keokuk, Iowa, one of the largest firms in the West, that they ship about a quarter of a million cases of eggs per year, each case holding 360 eggs. From April to June they handle about 60,000 cases a month, and at the time of my visit there were sixteen testers at work. There is no grading carried out except for very small ones, the testing being entirely as to quality.

The size of the eggs is low, the bulk running to 14 or 15 lb per 120, and thus we have reproduced almost entirely the same set of conditions as found in eastern and southern Europe. This great firm have sixty buyers who visit local towns within 100 miles east, 45 miles north, and 200 miles west of Keokuk, purchasing both eggs and chickens.

Other firms handle on a smaller scale, and I learnt that in Nebraska, Colorado, and Arkansas there has been an enormous growth in the trade, whilst in the State of Texas the development of poultry-keeping will be very great indeed in the future. It is recognised, however, that these supplies are of a low grade, and I cannot see for a long period of time anything else can be expected. It is quantity not quality all through.

As regards

PRICES IN CANADA,

Mr. Brown says :—At the time of my visit I found that in the district around Montreal 16 to 17 cents per dozen (8d. to 8½d.) was being paid in the country districts. This is an enormous advance upon what was the case five or six years ago, when the regular price was 8 to 9 cents (4d. to 4½d.) per dozen, and the same evidence was given to me in the different districts of Canada visited.

The reason for this is that there has been an enormous increase in the local demand, and the home consumption has gone up very greatly. There is, however, another explanation. Prior to the passing of the McKinley Tariff Act some years ago, large quantities of eggs were shipped from Canada to the United States, and it was owing to that Act that exportation to England was taken up. Within the last three or four years there has been a great influx in the western sections of Canada of settlers from the United States. These settlers are of a very fine type—experienced farmers with money able to buy what they want. They have taken farms and are now engaged in the work of developing their new occupations. The stage has not been arrived at when they can touch poultry or keep fowls, and as a consequence there has grown up within the period named an enormous demand for eggs from Western Canada.

Thus, as the prices paid are good, vast quantities of eggs are shipped from Ontario along the Canadian Pacific Railway to points beyond Winnipeg. In process of time the reproduction in those new provinces will increase, and an opportunity is offered to settlers who understand poultry-keeping in British Columbia and other parts of the west. At the present time, however, the demand is vastly greater than the supply.

(To be concluded.)

At Frome November fair on Wednesday there was a good supply of cattle, fresh barreners particularly, the best making £10 to £14, inferior, £7 to £8. Old cows sold badly. In-calvers, £11 to £16; stirks, £8; good yearling bulls up to £18. A capital supply of horses and ponies. Cart-horses made £42 to £50.

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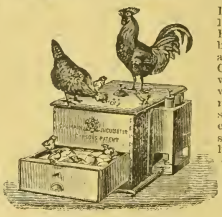

During the years 1904 and 1905 Hearson's Incubators were tested at the University College Reading, with other hot-water and hot-air machines, the result being that each year Hearson's Incubators hatched the highest percentage of eggs recorded.

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures, that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	15 0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Feeding Experiments with Pigs.

The following instructive remarks on the subject of pig-feeding are taken from the evidence of the managing director of the Wiltshire Bacon Curing Co., given before the agricultural Committee of the Tariff Commission:—

"From 1896 to 1900 a long series of experiments on pig-feeding was carried out under the auspices of the Wilts County Council, and it was then ascertained that the best results were attained by the use of barley meal combined with dairy produce, while the use of maize was found to be most undesirable, except where sparingly used in conjunction with other foods. Pigs fatted on maize are worth from 20s. to 30s. per cwt. less than those fatted on barley meal. Were we dependent on pigs fed on maize meal the industry of bacon-curing would practically cease to exist, as in the face of the present competition nothing but the very best quality of bacon would have the best chance of surviving. So great is the difference in the value of pigs fed on maize compared with those fed on barley that it would never pay the feeders to rear pigs on maize in preference to barley."

Weeds, like the poor, are always with us; they sometimes come when least expected and consume the nourishment intended for the cultivated plants. It is the duty of every farmer to eject them from his property with all the energy at his command.

Comparative Railway Rates.

The following extract from the report of the Agricultural Committee of the Tariff Commission shows how much higher the cost of carriage in cakes and fertilisers is in this country than on the Continent:—

Examples of Rates.	Oil-cake.	Packed Manure.
London to Maidstone, 41 miles	3 1	3 0
Equal distance in—		
Germany	2 10	2 10
Belgium	2 10	2 10
Denmark	2 9	2 9
France	2 6	2 6
London to Nottingham 125 miles	13 4	10 10
Equal distance in—		
Germany	5 7	5 7
Belgium	4 7	4 7
Denmark	5 6	5 6
France	5 6	5 6
London to Liverpool 201 miles	17 6	15 9
Equal distance in—		
Germany	8 3	8 3
Belgium	5 7	5 7
Denmark	7 1½	5 6
France	10 6	6 2
London to Newcastle, 272 miles	19 2	19 2
Equal distance in—		
Germany	10 4	10 4
Italy	14 11	—
London to Aberdeen, 523 miles	30 0	30 0
Equal distance in—		
Germany	19 6	19 6
Denmark	9 10	7 8

It will be noticed that the railway rates compare very unfavourably for the former in this country, and a combined effort should be made to remedy this evil.

The consulting chemist of the Royal Agricultural Society reports that during the twelve months of 1905 the number of samples tested by him for members of the society was 571, being 41 in excess of the previous year. For the current year the number up to date is 507. For the Derby Show, analyses of selected samples of cider and perry were made at the society's laboratory, and also a large number of milk analyses in connection with the awards in the milk trials.

Phosphatic Manures.

Superphosphate and basic slag are the most important. In the Board of Agriculture's leaflet on the subject it is stated that:—

Superphosphate is more suitable under the following circumstances—

(*a*) Where rapid effect is wanted.
(*b*) In spring.
(*c*) For arable land.
(*d*) For admixture with sulphate of ammonia.

Basic slag is specially suitable—

(*a*) For use in autumn.
(*b*) For use on grass land.
(*c*) For land holding much peat or other vegetable matter.
(*d*) For use on land addicted to finger and toe.
(*e*) For use in orchards.
(*f*) For admixture with nitrate of soda.

When is the Fat in Milk Likely to be Low?

According to experiments the morning milk of a herd may frequently be under the standard of 3 per cent. of fat when milking takes place early in the afternoon to allow of the milk being retailed on the same day. An effective plan is to milk at equal intervals, and when milking must take place early in the afternoon, it is very desirable to again milk in the evening, refrigerate the evening milk and mix it with that of the following morning. It may be thought that this cannot be done owing to the refusal of milk to rise under the circumstances, but tests show that there is in this no real difficulty. The morning milk will be distinctly better in quality though less in quantity if evening milking follows early afternoon milking.

The forms of the materials used for fertilisers must be carefully considered. Quickly growing crops, such as cereals, should be supplied with quickly acting fertilisers, whereas this is not so necessary with crops that take a longer time to arrive at maturity.

The soil cannot be expected to produce satisfactory crops unless it is well furnished with plant food. The wise farmer will not let his crops suffer from insufficient nourishment any more than he will let his stock suffer from hunger.

Manurial Experiments on Grass Land.

In the introduction to the report on above subject, issued by the Agricultural Department of University College, Reading, it is stated, and it is a fact on which too great stress cannot be laid, that much of the grass land in Great Britain, through constant cropping and grazing without adequate application of suitable manures, has been robbed of most of its available constituents, and it is a problem of supreme importance to determine what is needed and how to supply these needs economically.

To obtain reliable information on this important matter the Agricultural Department have carried out a series of experiments, designed with the object of illustrating the influence of the chief artificial manure used singly and in combination, and also to determine what is the most efficient and most economical dressing to apply to the grass land of the country.

The detailed results are recorded in the bulletin before us; they are too voluminous for insertion, but the general conclusions, as follows, are instructive:—

Basic Slag has generally shown good effects in improving both the quality and quantity of the produce. Its greatest advantage was seen where a good plant of clover was present which responded remarkably to the stimulus of the phosphate. The want of effects of basic slag in many cases may be due to the fact that it was applied too late in the season.

Superphosphate was applied instead of slag at two farms where the soils are lighter, and in each case it gave a better return than basic superphosphate.

Kainit had little or no visible effect on the heavy soils, but on the lighter soils of gravelly and sandy nature its value was striking when applied with phosphates of nitrate. Its full effect is only obtained when used in conjunction with nitrate or phosphate.

Basic Super.—There was no visible improvement on any of the plots dressed with this manure until after the rain we had in June, after which there was a marked improvement, especially in the clovers; we may see some good results from this manure in the aftermath. On one estate it gave the best return.

Nitrate of Soda has generally added to the quantity of grass and has given some good results where it was used with a potash or phosphatic manure, but where applied alone it was not generally a success; however, at two places it has given a good return.

Comparing the manured with the unmanured plots, there is in almost all cases a considerable gain on the first year in spite of the unfavourable weather, and there is the lasting effect to consider in addition to the increased value of the aftermath.

It will be interesting to notice the result from the farm dung in future years. So far, it has given a poor return when we take into account the cost per acre.

Owing to the variation of the dryness of the grass when it was weighed, the ratio of the grass to the hay was variable.

Woburn Experimental Station.

The Royal Agricultural Society report that the experiments conducted at their Woburn farm continue to show very interesting results, and that the farm had been visited by a larger number of people than in previous years. The effects of the use of lime in the farm soil are, in particular, very forcibly illustrated. Trials of different varieties of clover and lucerne are also in progress. As with the harvest of 1906 thirty years' work will have been completed, the occasion is thought opportune for the modification in some way of the continuous wheat and barley experiments with the view of making them simpler, and bringing them more into line with practical farming. At the pot culture station the experiments have been carried a step further, and other experiments on inoculation for leguminous crops have been undertaken for the Board of Agriculture. It may be mentioned that the Royal Agricultural Society was awarded at the Milan Exhibition a "Grand Prix" for an exhibit illustrating some of the principal features brought out in the Woburn Field Experiments.

New Sources of Nitrogen.

At the recent meeting of the Pan de Azucar Nitrate Company, the chairman, referring to possible fresh competition to nitrate of soda, said, "as regards competition it has now become clear that, in addition to the more active competition of sulphate of ammonia, we shall have competitors in the producers of nitrogen from the atmosphere by means of water power and electricity. There is no doubt that nitrogenous substances are now being produced from this source on a commercial scale, and to a certain extent they must interfere with the demand for nitrate of soda for chemical purposes." This new source will gradually bring down the price of nitrate for agricultural as well as chemical requirements.

Artificial Supply of Nitrogen Necessary for Wheat.

The evidence afforded by the Rothamsted experiments, as well as the results obtained in practical farming, prove beyond question of doubt, that if full crops of grain are to be produced, it is essential to give the crop the advantage of an artificial supply of nitrogen, and experience has proved that this supply should be furnished in a readily available form. The most effective substances are nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, and soluble guano. Nitrate of soda acts more quickly than anything else, and in general may be considered the most suitable for cereals, but if the unit cost of nitrogen in it is relatively much dearer than in sulphate of ammonia, then the preference may be given to the latter, bearing in mind that it should be distributed over the soil a month earlier than would be suitable with nitrate of soda.

In districts subject to heavy rainfall, such as the western and south-western districts and Ireland, it may be asserted with good reason that sulphate of ammonia is the safer fertiliser to use, as nitrate is liable to be wtshed away before the young plants have been able to absorb the nitrogen in it. On light lands soluble guano will often give the best results, and can be strongly recommended for barley, as it supplies nitrogen combined with mineral plant food, and thus exercises a favourable effect on the quality of the grain.

Fertilisers for Asparagus.

In an interesting article on "Asparagus Growing in France," appearing in this month's *Board of Agriculture Journal*, it is reported that the manures which have been found most effective are well rotted dung, town sewerage to which is sometimes added sea salt, lime, chalk and marle, and sulphate of ammonia, muriate of potash, superphosphate of lime, and nitrate of potash. The following compound manure has been used in conjunction with farmyard manure: 2½ lb. superphosphate, 1 lb. muriate of potash, 1 lb. nitrate of potash, and ½ lb sulphate of ammonia per rod. This is much too complicated for an ordinary grower, but shows that a suitable dressing would be a mixture of 3 parts superphosphate to 1½ part muriate of potash and 1½ part nitrate of soda.

The temperature of a soil is due partly to the sun's rays and partly to other sources. Whenever vegetable matter decays, there is always a certain amount of heat generated. Soils, therefore, in which there is a large amount of decaying vegetable matter are warmer than soils to which only mineral fertilisers are applied. This warmth-giving capacity is one of the advantages of organic manures.

Artificial Manures in Forestry.

Partly in connection with the question of finding occupation of some of the unemployed, and partly with the laudable object of renewing and increasing the diminishing stock of growing timber in the country, the scientific as well as practical side of afforestation is attracting considerable attention. Among the questions that present themselves for solution, the following have received special attention:—

Is it possible by using artificial manures—

1. To accelerate the growth of young trees in the nurseries, and especially to provide the plants with a better root development.

2. To afforest quickly and safely barren land which has not previously been cultivated, and likewise exhausted land, even under unfavourable conditions; and

3. To prevent the young trees from pining, as they are observed to do when planted on land that has recently been cleared of timber?

The results obtained in Germany have now sufficiently proved that a quicker development as well as a better radication of the young plants in the nurseries is to be attained most satisfactorily by the proper use of artificial manures. In cases where it is intended to establish new nurseries and to grow leguminous crops for green manuring, it is recommended to apply a liberal dressing of basic slag and kainit, varying from 6 to 12 cwt. per acre according to the condition of the soil. It is also profitable to dig in half the quantity of each manure in the autumn, and to distribute the remainder during the winter. If green manuring has not been employed, the soil should be top-dressed with nitrogen in the form of nitrate of soda at the rate of 1½ to 4 cwt. per acre.

On the Continent the manuring of the nurseries is repeated after each clearance, the quantities of the mineral manures being reduced by one half from the proportion recommended for new nurseries.

If the soil is poor in lime, an application of this mineral is, of course, necessary, and it is recommended to use 20 to 25 cwt. of burnt lime per acre, to be distributed on a dry day, and carefully mixed with the soil.

If the nursery soil is very poor, and the lupins, which are chiefly used for the purpose of green manuring, have only given a small crop of green substance, a top-dressing of 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda will prove useful. This quantity should be applied in two portions—the first half at the end of May or in the first days of June, the remainder four to five weeks later. It may be mentioned that foliage trees repay the more liberal dressing with nitrogen better than do the conifers.

Experiments with Fertilisers.

The Ohio experimental stations at Wooster and Strongsville have, for a number of years, been experimenting with the various forms of commercial fertiliser, and comparing results with those obtained from barnyard manure. The average increase at the Wooster station has been greatest on plots receiving the largest applications of commercial fertilisers and barnyard manure. The most profitable results at Strongsville were obtained from plots where the nitrogen and potash were reduced to the lowest quantity. Phosphorus seems to be the dominant element in producing an increase of crop on that soil (poor in phosphate of lime).

In 1900, an experiment was begun at the station to test the effect of lime upon clover, on soil poor in clover production. The average yield on plots receiving 1,000 lb. of lime per acre, either alone or in combination with other fertilisers, was in some instances, ½ ton per acre larger than on the corresponding unlimed plots.

These results indicate that on soil which has become acid through exhaustive cultivation and the use of incomplete fertilisers, and on which clover refuses to grow, the addition of lime may restore the conditions essential to clover production.

The following conclusions are applicable to the kind of soil on which the experiments are being made, which is a thin sheet of glacial drift, lying upon and largely modified by shales and sandstones of the Waverly formation.

For the soils under test in these experiments, phosphorus is the controlling element in producing increase of cereal crops, and neither nitrogen nor potassium will produce a profitable increase except when used in association with phosphorus.

Except on soils which have been depleted by exhaustive cropping, the quantity of phosphorus in the fertiliser, as compared with nitrogen and phosphorus, should be much greater than that found in barnyard manure.

While the effect of nitrogen in the fertiliser is secondary to that of phosphorus on these crops grown in rotation with clover, the considerably larger increase produced by fertilisers containing nitrogen, especially in the wheat crop on the worn soil at Wooster, is evidence that this element cannot be entirely omitted from a fertiliser for such soils without loss of possible increase.

Potassium apparently occupies the third place in a fertiliser for these soils, yet it is evident that some carrier of this element is essential to the highest effectiveness of the fertiliser.

Apparently, crops immediately succeeding clover or other legumes require less nitrogen in the fertiliser than those more remote, while the ratio between the phosphorus and potassium needed is probably chiefly determined by the geological history of the soil.

Prices of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The quotations are approximate and free-on-rail, London, cash payment.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda .....prompt delivery	11	12	0
,, ,, ...forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	15	0
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.....	2	10	0
,, 35 ,, ...	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.....	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash.....	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

Price of Potash Salts.

It is reported that the German Potash Syndicate came to the decision at their last meeting, held on the 23rd of last month, to make an advance in the export price of raw potash salts to the level of the prices of the year 1904, before the renewal of the combination. We do not at present know how far this resolution of the syndicate will affect prices of kainit, sulphate, and muriate of potash during this season, but we think buyers would act prudently to secure what quantities they expect to require without loss of time, if obtainable at last season's price.

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THE NEW PHOSPHATIC FERTILIZER,

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Guaranteed to contain 40/45 % Phosphates and 35/38 % Lime.

The Phosphates are readily soluble, being guaranteed 28 units soluble in Hughes' Standard Citric Acid Solution (1 in 1,000), of which not less than 10 units are guaranteed soluble in water.

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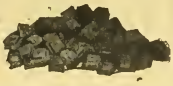

"Send me two tons o' they nobs same as Mr. Brown is a using," was the colloquial way in which a new customer gave us an order the other day through our Market Representative.

This buyer had often thought he would like to try the "Bibby" Cake, but he belonged to the old school of farmers who are not easily led along untrodden paths.

He had, the previous week, been paying a visit to his neighbour, Mr. Brown, who had often spoken favourably to him of our Cake, and on looking over his Stock and noting the extreme handiness of the "Cakettes" for Summer Feeding, he at last resolved to give us a trial order, and did so in the words just quoted.

It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

THIS IS THE TRUE SECRET OF OUR SUCCESS.

It is, perhaps, hardly needful to point out in this place that the "Bibby" Cake is the most popular brand of Cake that has yet been made, and no other explanation but the one above mentioned will explain this fact.

It is not well, therefore, for buyers to be put off with a Cake which is offered as something "just as good"; it is much better to say to the Cake merchant: "I must have 'Bibby,' and will not take a substitute."

The "Bibby" Cake has steadily won its way to

THE PREMIER POSITION IN THE PUBLIC FAVOUR,

and of all the Cakes on the market is admittedly the best. In the form of "Cakettes" it is also the handiest; there is this further to be said about it:—the more carefully it is tested against other competing Cakes, the more certainly and with increasing emphasis will be the reply to those who offer a substitute:—"I MUST HAVE 'BIBBY,' PLEASE; THAT IS THE CAKE I WANT, AND I WILL TAKE NO OTHER."

Sole Manufacturers—

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CAKES & MEALS

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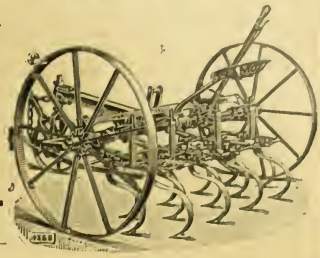

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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.
DECEMBER 3, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE BIRMINGHAM CHRISTMAS FAT STOCK SHOW.

This important agricultural exhibition opened on Saturday for the judging of the animals, and will be visited by crowds from the Midland towns as well as from Birmingham during the four days of the present week ending Thursday night. Very excellent displays of Shorthorn, Hereford, Devon, Aberdeen-Angus, Welsh, and cross-bred cattle came before the judges, and the butchers' prizes, so original a feature of this show, drew a large number of fat cattle, which appeared to be highly appreciated by the knights of the cleaver. The sheep and pigs came out admirably, and probably there have never been superior specimens of them in regard to quality.

We indicated last week the possibility of some of the Norwich chief prizetakers being superseded at Birmingham, and the event has proved this to be the case to a very remarkable degree; but H.M. the King's outcomes from the Windsor herds were more than usually good, and his Shorthorn steer, which was made champion, and his neat, shapely, first prize Shorthorn heifer are specially deserving. A noteworthy feature in the cattle classes was the fewness of the yearling steers, alike in the Hereford, Shorthorn and Devon sections, no doubt attributable to the good foreign demand for bulls having caused a larger number of the male calves to be devoted to that object. The butchers award their own prizes in the two classes organised for them, and it is interesting for them to note the sorts of animals they favour, the firm handlers being apparently in high appreciation.

The rare excellence of the Southdown, Shropshire and Hampshire sheep and lamb classes were the subject of general remark in Bingley Hall on Saturday, the former two for high quality combined with substance, and the Hampshires excelling in the same degree, so that nearly all the animals in that breed were noticed. All this is very indicative of the high character of the stock we may expect to have next week in the Islington Royal Agricultural Hall.

Very often the Birmingham decisions in the cattle division are reversed at the Smithfield Club Show, and it would be not at all surprising to find some of the Hereford ones meeting with that fate, inasmuch as they did not give perfect satisfaction to exhibitors and outsiders, especially in Captain Townshend's remarkably well-shaped, heavily-fleshed two-year-old steer being disqualified because of slight lameness.

A MARKET OF UNCONSIDERED TRIFLES.

There is one respect in which Mark Lane is very seldom considered. Its history from the foundation of Great Bear Quay to the repainting of the new Exchange in 1905 has had diligent chroniclers. Its side shows, flowers, photographs, &c., are not neglected. Its benevolent meetings and concerts secure publicity. But how few, even of agriculturists, are aware that Mark Lane is the greatest market in all England for the unconsidered trifles of trade?

Little specialties elsewhere unobtainable are easily procured at Mark Lane, and the owner of horses, of live stock, of poultry, of pigeons, can try an endless series of experiments in the rations that the London corn centre can supply. Here come the pheasant rearers to buy buckwheat and the American caterers to purchase the same food, but in their case the use is for children, the Americans over here with their youngsters asking for buckwheat cakes at the hotels.

Here, of course, are lentils, which are useful food for live stock, and are also much used for imparting a peculiar odour to vegetarian restaurants. Here are sweet carrots, condiments that also are good food. On another stand you shall see the little oilseed, sesame, which plays so large a part in the East, and hard by are samples which the most experienced farmer may fail to recognise.

They are mawseed, teazleseed, nigerseed, pumpkin seed. With safflower and fenugreek he may be acquainted, and the old-fashioned still room and housekeeper's room know of dillseed and anise. Rubsen sounds more strange than it is, for in reality it is no more than a high-quality rapeseed. Carraways have their chief sale in London. Sorghum is a feature at Mark Lane; it is, as most farmers know by this time, a good serviceable type of millet.

The finer varieties of millet grown in Italy and South-East Europe can nearly always be bought in London. The selected white is the dearest. It is the same with sunflower-seed, which Mark Lane never is without, the white sort permanently heading the price list. Haricots twenty years ago were little in request except for the Italian restaurants. To-day Mark Lane does a large business in them, and on Monday last we saw samples from California and Italy, from Hungary and Burma. The adjacent stand boasted butter beans from Lima and Madagascar, a third pea-beans from Canada, and a fourth runner beans from Russia Holland and Prussia.

More mysterious is the demand for oat husks, for bean husks, for husk meal, for coffee husks, for cocoa shells, for pea chips, for fig dust, for coriander, and for cottonseed. But where there is demand there is also supply, and the choice of articles in Scotch goods is almost equally wide

and curious, including at least six grades of oatmeal, five of rolled oats, and six of groats. There is also brose meal, which no South Briton probably would trust himself to sample lest his ignorance should be a shame. We have heard indeed that it is only sold to buyers in kilts, but this we hold to be a popular error.

The flour trade has its own particularities, and some sixty different patents from America alone contend for London bakers' custom. Here, however, Liverpool and Glasgow can show an equally surprising choice. It is in the less considered articles that Mark Lane is unrivalled as a centre of supply.

Notes of the Week.

The fat stock shows are now the centre of attraction in the agricultural world. The first of the important shows, held at Norwich, may be classed as an average success, though nothing special to boast of.

The show of the Midlands at Birmingham is the attraction for this week, and next week follows the most important of all at Smithfield.

The two latter shows can now claim the prestige of age. The Birmingham Show is now celebrating its fifty-eighth annual exhibition, and the Smithfield Show, which claims to be the National Fat Stock Show of the kingdom, was founded 108 years ago.

The project of the Smithfield Club was first conceived a by Mr. Joseph Wilkes in 1798. His name deserves to be remembered.

With the assistance of a few good and true men, the Duke of Bedford, Lord Somerville, the Earl of Winchilsea, and about twenty other gentlemen, he founded the club in that year.

The first chairman was the Duke of Bedford, and the secretary was Mr. Arthur Young, whose name is still remembered for his agricultural writings.

The amount paid away for prizes in the first year of the show's existence was 50 guineas.

For the present show the prizes offered amount to a total of £4,152.

James Stubbs, of Crewe, is a nice young man! He has confessed to having started four different farm fires in the locality, and to while away time between the fires he shot a few horses.

For the present he is restrained from indulging in such occupations, but he deserves to be scratched with the cat with nine tails.

Our unwelcome guests, the German gipsies, after roaming over many parts of the country, have been deported to Germany. "Speed the parting guests."

It is doubtful whether the German Government will allow them to land! We do not want them here, but still one cannot help feeling that they are objects to be pitied.

The weather is maintaining its series of records for this year. This month is said to be the warmest November on record.

Contrast that note with the following:—"It is really melancholy to think that at no very remote period our posterity will be placed in the same position as regards cider as we are with wine; when the apple trees, on account of the increasing low temperature, will only afford a penurious supply of sour fruit, and will be cultivated in forcing houses for the tables of the rich. It is now sixteen years since our orchards afforded a satisfactory crop." Thus wrote, in the year 1818, a gentleman on the deterioration of the climate of Great Britain.

Every farmer should study the report of the Agricultural Committee of the Tariff Commission.

It demolishes the fiction that the reduction in the price of the food of the people has been caused by the abolition of the Corn Laws.

It was not Cobdenism that caused cheap food, but steam transport, low freights, and the opening up of the corn-growing regions of the new world.

The evidence shows that for thirty years after the Corn Laws were abolished wheat was not any cheaper.

The evidence demonstrates also the deplorable condition of England's greatest industry, and the necessity of measures being adopted to alleviate the depression.

The continued decline of agriculture is a menace to our national security, and exercises a very bad effect on the general industries of the country.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Motors for Hilly Work—A Compromise.

In the King's Bench Division on the 23rd ult., before Mr. Justice Jelf and a common jury, the hearing was continued of the action brought by Mr. Edward F. Studd, of Oxton, near Dawlish, against the Ivel Agricultural Motors.

Charles Hawkins, a blacksmith, and William Howard, a farm labourer, gave evidence as to Mr. Studd's futile efforts to make the plough work uphill, and James Cosser, steward of an iron company's colliery in Durham, who had tried a similar motor, stated that his experience with it was such that he concluded that the machine was not suited to agricultural purposes. This concluded the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Graham, K.C., for the defendants, said their real point was that the motor never got a fair trial. Mr. Herbert J. Bamber, a consulting engineer, for the defence said the motor, when he saw it in a shed on plaintiff's farm, was badly damaged, as if it had been in a collision. Mr. Studd, jun., showed him the field where the motor was used. He would not say it was hilly, for it was mountainous—(laughter)—and he did not think it was possible to drive any mechanical vehicle up that hill with a load behind it, or a plough taking furrows.

Mr. Haldenstein, on behalf of the plaintiff, withdrew the allegation of fraud.

Mr. Adolphus Hoffman, who sold the motor for, and who is manager of, the defendant company, denied that he said the motor would work as well in a hilly country as on flat ground. Plaintiff never mentioned that his farm was a hilly one. He also denied Mr. Studd, jun.'s, evidence. It was a fact that Parker, one of the company's men, reported that the country was hilly, and could not be worked on with the motor.

His Lordship said if witness's case was that he never mentioned anything about hilly ground, why did he not write to plaintiff and say that no such bargain was made while the correspondence was going on. Witness replied that he did not think it worth while. Witness was cross-examined at length by one of the jurors, after which his Lordship suggested a compromise, and after consultation in the judge's private room, Mr. Heldenstein announced that the parties had come to an agreement.

The record would be withdrawn, the defendants would take the machine back, and return the £308 to plaintiff, and pay him £100 towards his costs.

Oxfordshire Agricultural Society.

The report of the general committee presented at the annual meeting of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society stated that the general and financial condition of the society is satisfactory, and there has been a surplus on this year's working of £134. They tendered their hearty thanks to the president, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., the Mayor and Corporation and the town and neighbourhood of Henley-on-Thames, also the local committee, for their generous liberality and valuable assistance at the recent show. The committee recommended that the cordial invitation to hold the show at Banbury in 1907 be accepted, and that the suggested dates—viz., Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14 and 15—be confirmed. The Mayor and Corporation of Abingdon have intimated that they would be very pleased to invite the society to hold their meeting in that town in 1908. It was suggested that the society ask Sir A. Henderson to be president for that year, and the committee asked for power to settle the date and other arrangements.

The report was confirmed, as was also the balance-sheet, which showed that the surplus for the year amounted to £134 13s., and that the surplus of assets over liabilities was £2,106 9s. 7d.

Various votes of thanks were then passed, and Viscount Villiers was elected president, whilst Sir Alex. Henderson, M.P., was chosen as president-elect for 1908.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4.—Birmingham Fat Stock Show, third day—Tonbridge Fat Stock Show, second day—Chichester Fat Stock Show, first day—York Fat Stock Show, first day—Derby Horse Sale—Derby Cheese Fair—Lambourne, Wells, Stafford, Witney, Nantwich, Birkenhead, and Cordridge Fairs.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5.—Chichester Fat Stock Show, second day—York Fat Stock Show, second day—Edinburgh Fat Stock Show, first day—Wadhurst Fat Stock Show, first day—Basingstoke Sale—Chipping Norton Agricultural Hiring Fair—Lancaster Cheese Fair—Sussex Farmers' Dinner at the Dolphin, Chichester, 2.30 p.m.—Fairs at Oswestry, Coleford, and Hereford.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6.—Edinburgh Fat Stock Show, second day—Melton Mowbray Cheese Fair—Northwich Cow Fair—Agricultural Fairs at Bodmin, Skipton, Nantwich, Spalding, Toddington, Higham Ferrers, and Devizes.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7.—Fairs at Leigh, Clitheroe, Stockport, Tarporley, and Moy.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8.—Fairs at Melton Mowbray, Helston, Malpas, Truro, and Falmouth.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10.—Smithfield Cattle Show opens at Islington—Lynn Christmas Fat Stock Show—Ipswich Fat Stock Show, first day—Meeting of the Farmers' Club: Paper by the Sec., Mr. Trustram Eve—Fairs at Rugby, Glastonbury, Ludlow, Newark, Reigate, and Oakham.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11.—Smithfield Show, second day—The Farmers' Dinner at the Trocadero, 7 p.m.—Meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, 11 a.m.—Dairy Farmers' Association Meeting—Ipswich Fat Stock Show, second day—Leeds Cattle Show—Leighton Buzzard Horse and Cattle Fair—Agricultural Fair at Hay—Rugeley Cattle and Pig Fair—Haverfordwest Horse and Cattle Fair—Fairs at Abingdon, Bath, Boston, East Grinstead, Ringwood, and Rochester.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 27, 1906:—

Period		Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended November 24, 1906		25	34	...	...	22	34	...	...	28	31	207
Corresponding week in	1905	23	30	...	...	22	38	...	...	19	10	73
	1904	24	29	...	...	30	71	...	...	15	12	23
	1903	18	34	...	...	30	51	...	...	46	33	206
Total for 47 weeks in 1906		833	1,184	...	...	996	1,881	...	...	395	1,095	6,296
Corresponding period in	1905	879	1,197	...	...	1,112	1,905	...	...	778	725	3,276
	1904	917	1,378	...	...	1,403	2,469	...	...	1,179	1,125	5,284
	1903	681	1,026	...	...	1,340	2,288	...	...	1,429	1,351	7,166

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture.

A meeting of the Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture was held at Guisborough recently, Mr. R. B. Turton, Kildale Hall, presiding over a large attendance. In reply to a vote of thanks, Mr. C. Robinson, correspondent to the Board of Agriculture, remarked that the Cleveland district was now better farmed than it was twenty-five years ago.

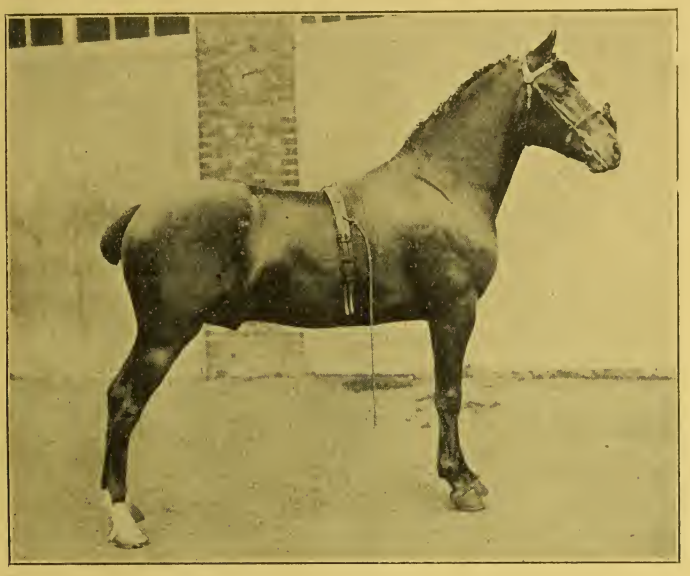
HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

LORD HARRINGTON has been writing again on the scarcity of good brood mares in the country, and he has modified his premium scheme, to which I referred recently to a considerable extent. I ought to have said that he has improved it and made it much more feasible. In the first place, he has added to the scope of it by admitting four-year-old mares. This is decidedly a move in the right direction. Two, three, and four-year-old mares will now be eligible for premiums in accordance with the scheme, if it should enter into the range of practical politics, and this is as it should be, at any rate, at first.

I AM inclined to think, however, that there is the heaviest draw on younger mares, and perhaps the biggest foreign trade is done in three-year-olds. At any rate it used to be the case when I saw more of the foreign trade than I do at present. This, of course, is not an argument against admitting the older mare. It is sound policy to admit her for financial reasons. A four-year old mare can be used as a brood mare with advantage, and so we should soon be seeing the result of the outlay.



FIRST PRIZE HACKNEY PONY STALLION, HORACE JUNIOR.

Horace Junior was the winner of the First Prize for Pony Stallions, four years old and over, at the Hackney Horse Society's Show this year. His sire was Sir Horace, dam Lady Bounce, and he was bred by Mr. J. McMeeken, Mosspark, Dumbreck, but is the property of Mr. W. S. Miller, The Moorings, Dumbreck, Glasgow.

BY substituting the tattooing of premium mares on the gums to branding them Lord Harrington has removed one of the principal objections to his scheme. The tattooing is to be preferred for many reasons; it is less painful and is no blemish.

THERE does not seem any reason why Lord Harrington's scheme should not be tried, and the more especially as there does not seem to be any likelihood of practical results from the much-talked of conference on horse breeding with the Minister of Agriculture, the proceedings at which are involved in as much mystery as a diplomatic secret which, if divulged, might let loose the dogs of war. Lord Harrington tells us there was much "talkee-talkee." That we were quite prepared to learn. He also tells us that the liberal expenditure of foreign governments was repeatedly referred to. That is also a thing which might have been expected. And again, he says that no scheme for improving the present state of things was formulated. Neither does that statement cause a great deal of surprise.

IT is, as I have frequently had occasion to point out, not the least use in relying on any great Government scheme involving the expenditure of an immense sum of money, and the wasting of a great deal of it. But any Government might give Lord Harrington's scheme a trial, and though I question very much whether it would answer so well as Lord Harrington seems to think. But that it would keep some good mares, even if it failed to keep the best, in the country seems very likely, and under any circumstances, this is a thing to be desired.

THE measurement of Polo ponies still continues to be a burning question. It has been asserted by some of the advocates of raising the minimum height of ponies registered in the Polo Pony Society's Stud Book that there are ponies which under the Hurlingham Rules of Measurement have been registered as 14 hands 2 in. in height which are from two to three inches over that height, and I have certainly seen Polo ponies shown which required no standard to tell me that they were considerably above 14 hands 2 in. But this does not seem to me to be any argument for increasing the height of ponies in the Stud Book. Rather does it point out that some reform is needed in the Hurlingham Measurement Rules. I am told that Polo ponies to carry heavy men cannot be found in any numbers standing 14 hands 2 in. I have even been told that there are few ponies under 14 hands 3 in. which can carry a 15 stone man satisfactorily in a polo match.

ALL these statements may, for anything I know to the contrary, be accuracy itself, but if they are they seem to me to point strongly to the fact that it is high time that the whole of the rules relating to measurement should be carefully reconsidered, and a fitting body to reconsider them would be a joint committee of Hurlingham and the Polo Pony Society. It certainly seems preferable if a 14 hands 3 in. pony must be played to play him as a 14 hands 3 in. pony, and not as a 14 hands 2 in. pony. But I would point out that it is one thing to say that many a pony standing over 14 hands 3 in. is the model of a Polo pony and a fine "player," and another to say that it is necessary to have ponies of that height if heavy men are to play. Believing that all the statements that have been made on the subject have been made in strict *bona fides*, I still think we want a little more evidence that there are not plenty of weight-carrying ponies of 14 hands 2 in. and under. One thing, however, it seems necessary to emphasise, and that is that anything approaching 15 hands is not a pony, and that the nearer you get to that height the more certainly does the pony type disappear.

I SEE a new class is to be introduced at the Polo Pony Show which will take place in March next, and it is one which will, I think, bring a good entry. Mr Dunbar Kelly is giving a cup for the best Polo pony whose sire or dam is registered in the Polo and Riding Pony Stud Book, and which has been reasonably played during any season at any recognised Polo club. This is a very good class, but the question presents itself, Will it bring about any difficulties respecting height? It is, however, no use meeting trouble half way, and I certainly shall be disappointed if we have not a very strong and interesting class.

IT is a very noticeable feature at most of the leading Polo pony shows that ponies which have been good players have also been highly successful as prize takers. Mr. John Barker, who is one of the most successful breeders of Polo ponies, as there is no need to insist, makes it almost a *sine qua non* when buying a brood mare that she should have been a good player in her day. This is the way to keep the Polo Pony Society in touch with the men who play polo. Originally it was the men who played polo who had a great deal to do with the formation of the society and the success which has hitherto been attained by the Polo Pony Society—and it is a very remarkable success—has been in a great measure the result of the society being run on strictly practical lines. There does not seem to be any reason to think there will be a departure from this policy, but I would point out that it would be a wise think to give players another class or two if possible, and Mr. Dunbar Kelly's cup is certainly a move in the right direction.

REFERRING again to Lord Harrington's letter, he states that we do not wish to encourage the breeding of third or fourth rate horses. In this, of course, he is quite right; there will be plenty of them if we aim at producing the very best. And the great question is, what are we to do with these misfits? That, of course, is a very crucial question. There will, of course, always be a market for second and third rate horses for the army, but Lord Harrington seems to think that the motor car will very considerably affect the demand for the general-purpose horse. And whilst he is writing to this effect, another practical man is writing to say that he sees that there is likely to be a demand for heavy and action van horses in the not very distant future. The motor and train service, he thinks, will bring this about, and the increasing demand for the rapid delivery of light parcels. If such a demand should arise, those who have stuck to their strong Cleveland Bays will have their day, and a demand for such a class of horse would do more to stimulate the breeding of Cleveland Bays than anything I know. The difficulty Cleveland Bay breeders have had to contend with during the last few years when the foreign trade has been rather flat, has been to find a remunerative market for those geldings which had not enough quality to make high-class carriage horses. But if the writer referred to should prove to be correct in his surmises, there will be a ready market for the stronger Cleveland Bay. What, however, will be the effect of the motor car and its increasing cheapness on the demand for horses is what no one can foretell with any accuracy. It is quite probable that all forecasts will prove as inaccurate as were the prophecies in railway days. So far as I can see, there is not likely to be a decreased demand for horses, and it is possible that both Lord Harrington and the anonymous writer I have referred to may both prove to be wrong.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale of Hunters at Leicester.

Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade had an extraordinary sale of hunters on Saturday week, when Messrs. Hames and Son sent up the whole of their famous stud.

It is not often that such good weight carriers are sent up for sale, practically without reserve, and of the sixty-three lots all but four changed hands at an average price of £102 14s., the aggregate of the sale being 5,714 guineas. There was keen bidding for some of the best known animals. Fugleman, who bears a good character throughout the shires, reached the highest price, 300 guineas; while in another batch were Merry Thought and Seraph, and they changed hands at 240 guineas and 200 guineas respectively. Verger, a good ladies' hunter, reached 145 guineas, and Almoner was considered to be a bargain at 130 guineas. The best of the remaining lots were—Pedlar, 135 guineas; Quiz, 140 guineas; Humming Top, 125 guineas; Talent, 180 guineas; Ingot, 125 guineas; and Hopper, 210 guineas.

Among other lots in an especially good sale was Orchid, a steeplechaser, and a fine hunter sent from Yorkshire by Mr. W. A. Simpson Hinchcliffe. He had carried his owner for four seasons without a fall, and at 170 guineas he could not be considered dear.

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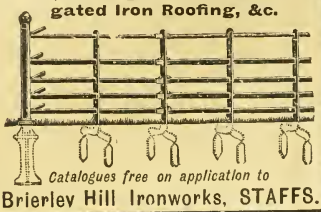

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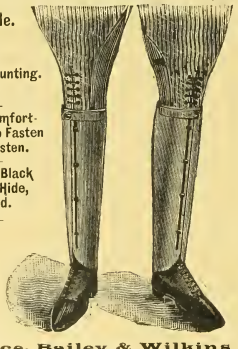

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Prizes for Suffolks at the Royal Show.

A meeting of the Suffolk Horse Society was held at Ipswich on Tuesday to decide what support should be given to the Royal Show. The secretary explained that he was directed to write to Sir Gilbert Greenall stating that they would contribute to the prize fund at Lincoln on condition that an aged horse class was added.

Sir Gilbert replied that he did not think the Royal Agricultural Society would see their way to give a class for aged stallions throughout the horse sections. In their opinion they held that the middle of the breeding season was a most unsuitable time to ask stallion owners to bring their best horses away from their work, and nobody wanted to see the breed represented by second-rate animals. What he (Sir Gilbert Greenall) had hoped to do was to keep the same classification as last time, but to increase the prizes to £15, £10, and £5. The latter would be the value of the classes next year, but unless at least one class was given, the Stock Prize Committee would be bound to seriously consider the number of classes given by the Royal Society. Would the society be willing to let the money be given to one of the existing stallion classes? The secretary replied, from what he could gather from individual members, the society would be pleased to help in increasing the value of prizes in the way suggested in his last letter. He added that the breeding season in this district was mostly over by the date of the show. Sir Gilbert Greenall wrote that the granting of an aged stallion class in one section of the show would open the door to so much controversy. Other horse societies had settled, and treated them most liberally, the Shire Horse Society giving £100, and the Clydesdale Society £70. If he increased his donation to £10, would the Suffolk Society give £40 to augment the existing classes?

On the authority of Sir W. Cuthbert Quilter, it was understood, the secretary replied thanking Sir Gilbert for getting the horse-class prizes increased, and stating that, although he had found considerable difficulty in getting the committee of the Suffolk Horse Society to contribute towards the funds of the Royal, in addition to the £50 challenge cup, the committee would give the required £50, including the £10 donation, provided a class for stallions foaled previous to 1904 was instituted in place of the yearling class.

On the motion of Mr. W. R. Hustler, seconded by the Hon. Louis Johnstone, it was resolved that £40 should be given to the Royal on condition that the aged stallion class was substituted.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Dosing In-Foal Mare.

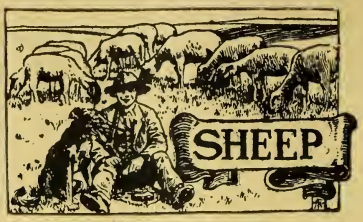
Would the 2 oz. dose of cod liver oil recommended for horses recovering from influenza affect a mare in foal gone half her time? She has got very poor, and I want to work her steady as long as I can.—W. F. S.

Answer: No doubt you are right as to our having recommended 2 oz. doses of cod liver oil for horses recovering from influenza, for it would be an excellent nutrient tonic to give in such a case, but when or why we have no recollection. Whether it was some one else's horse or related to your mare, whose condition you have thought since might be affected by it, we have no idea. Cod liver oil could be given with perfect safety to an in-foal mare at any period, but whether it would be the best treatment for your mare, who has got very poor, and whom you want to work steadily as long as you can, is another question. The chief thing seems why has she got so very poor, or what is the cause?

PIGS.

Large Black Pig Society.

An influential meeting of the members of the Large Black Pig Society was held at Launceston on Tuesday, presided over by Mr. John Bastard (St. Tudy). The report of the society was presented by Mr. N. Stephens (St. Tudy). Among other things discussed was the best means of how to select judges for the large black pigs at the principal shows. It was generally accepted that the way in which judges had been selected in the past was not very satisfactory. After debate it was resolved that the judges should be selected by ballot from the list of members of the society, the resolution to be brought before the annual meeting of the L.B.P.S., held at the Agricultural Hall, London, during the show week.



Notes and Jottings.

IT is noticeable that when sheep are fed upon silage that they are much more attracted by the greener parts than by those which through greater fermentation are darker in colour. The greener parts are what are known as sour silage, produced at a heat not much exceeding 90 deg. F., and possesses to the human nose an odour more like a stink than a scent. The darker-coloured silage, which has been subjected to a temperature of 140 deg., or more, has to us a much more attractive odour, somewhat resembling hay; yet it does not appeal to sheep in a similar manner, while that which has become blackened by heating to 170 deg. is the last to tempt them.

THE different kinds of ferments which are active in producing these features give different products, and different acids are formed, changing the flavour. The terms sweet and sour as applied to silage are misleading, as all fodder which has been under fermentation contains acidity.

IN feeding hay to sheep something may be learned from the partiality of sheep for the less fermented silage. Silage and hay have much in common, as the same ferments influence both; but the darker silage more closely resembles the darker hay; in fact, they are practically the same, the difference being that sweet silage is over-dried grass admitting an excess of air, and over-burned hay is too moist grass. That is what is drier than is desirable for preserving under pressure is the equivalent of the too green grass cured in a stack to which additional pressure is not applied.

SILAGE or hay loses feeding value accordingly as fermentation has been allowed to proceed, and it may be an instinct of the animals that guides them to the more nutritious; but beyond this there is the fact that overheated hay is directly injurious to sheep, owing to its bad influence on the kidneys, as sheep are liable to kidney troubles, especially when through continuous rain the loins are constantly wet, carrying chill to the important organs about them, which often results in death. The quantity of heated hay given to sheep should therefore be limited, and it is doubtful if it is ever really advantageous to give it. It is often used to give a "nose" to the fodder, but if the hay is sweet and good it is not necessary, for sheep are ready to detect what is good for them.

AS a means of tempting sheep to eat musty hay it serves a purpose by overcoming the fusty smell; but musty hay and overheated hay are not desirable foods. A large amount of mouldy and fusty hay is put before sheep, and much of it is trodden into the ground, while good hay is well cleaned up. It certainly pays to make good hay even for sheep, but we know some sheep districts where mouldy stacks are very common; however, with the more general use of the mechanical swath-turner, there is not so much grass or clover left to grow into the second crop before it is turned, and the bottom of the swath is better dried before going to the stack.

IT is satisfactory to see that the Ryeland sheep is gaining popularity abroad. There has been quite a number of shipments during the past few months. Well as sheep may thrive which have been on rich pastures from time immemorial, there are plenty of places for those which built up their character and constitution on less favourable soils, and these are well suited to fill the gap abroad, where the conditions are not always of the best.

THE Ryeland attained notoriety centuries before many of the well-known breeds of to-day had been developed, and though the exceptionally fine quality of the wool brought their greatest fame, they were of good repute for their mutton. It is generally conceded that the Clun Forest breed, which has long been known—long before New Zealand lamb was commonly sold as Clun mutton—in the West End of London as the choicest meat the country produced, had as foundation the original Ryeland.

THE breed originally was raised on the poor lands which for their better aptitude to produce rye than wheat, were called the Ryelands,

and was the smallest sized sheep in the country. When the improvement, which was brought to bear on the British breeds from a hundred to a hundred and fifty years ago, it looked as though the Ryeland would most probably disappear by the substitution of bigger breeds then dominating.

EARLY attempts at crossing with Long Wools were not particularly satisfactory, as the crosses appeared too violent, and subsequent crosses most disappointing. However, as has practically always been the case where a British breed of sheep was in a critical position, there were men with the skill of breed makers at hand. These worked patiently and with a direct object, maintaining the valuable features of the Ryeland, and adding to them the size of the larger breeds, until we find them to-day, a sheep valuable both for wool and mutton, suitable for the altered agriculture of the country, and well adapted by the variety of blood in them to adapt themselves to widely-differing conditions of soil and climate abroad.

WHEN sheep are on roots which have not well matured, and which are causing scour or hoven, great care should be exercised that the cake or meal given the sheep are not fusty or stale, as these alone are sufficient to cause these troubles. Meal is very liable to get stale or to ferment if kept long in bins; and cake, especially cotton cake, is very absorbent of moisture, and therefore liable to go mouldy. In a wet, humid atmosphere, such as has prevailed lately, the likelihood of these conditions is especially great, and those who are having trouble with their sheep should not fail to ensure that the foods are absolutely sweet.

A Prolific Ewe.

The *Melbourne Argus* reports that Mr. A. E. Henderson, of Swinton, Tasmania, has a most prolific Shropshire ewe, she having raised in four years thirteen lambs. The sire of this ewe was the imported champion ram Centurion, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, and now the property of Mr. Geo. Simonds, of Stonor, Tasmania. Four daughters of this ewe (an imported ewe) have given birth to two lambs each the last three years, giving a return of thirty-seven lambs from the mother and daughters in four years.

Rugby and the Warwickshire Show.

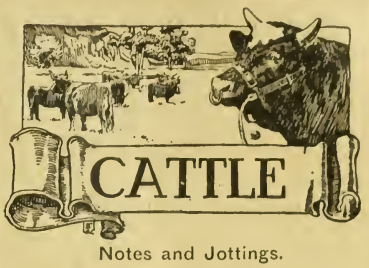
A special meeting of members of the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association was held at Rugby on Monday to consider a letter from the secretary to the Warwickshire Agricultural Society, asking if it was desirable that the county show should be held at Rugby next year, and pointing out what the requirements would be.

Mr. T. S. Townsend, C.C., presided, and there was a large attendance, which included, by request, the chairman and clerk of the Rugby Urban District Council, who favour the holding of the show in the town.

It was pointed out that thirteen years had elapsed since the county show was held at Rugby, and that then the local society amalgamated with the county organisation. Since that time the local society had been opposed to the county show being held in the town. Now, however, many of the townspeople favoured a visit next year, and it was hoped that the present site of the Rugby show and land adjoining would be available.

The meeting unanimously favoured the proposed visit, and it was decided to call another meeting for to-day (Monday) to consider the terms of amalgamation which will be submitted to the county society.

Cheshire Farm Fires.—The man James Stubbs, whom the Crewe police arrested in the garden of two cottages that had been set on fire, has confessed that he started a number of farm fires in Cheshire. Four specific charges were brought against him, but these did not cover all the offences he had admitted. One fire was on the farm of Joseph Steel, of Church Coppenhall. The family were awakened early one morning by the moaning of a calf, and they found the shippon on fire and the flames extending to the house. The house doors had been fastened on the outside, but they were forced, and the family escaped. Another fire did damage to the amount of £90 to buildings on the farm of William Peake at Coppenhall. On the same night there was a fire on the farm of William Peake at Coppenhall. On the same night there was a fire on the farm of James Horton, Haslington, and the prisoner said that as soon as he had set one fire going he rushed off and lighted the other. Besides the fires that he admitted causing, the prisoner said he had shot a horse. On Tuesday he was committed to the assizes for trial.



Notes and Jottings.

THE Christmas fat stock shows are now in full swing, and the weather at the time of writing altogether phenomenally mild. Travelling about many districts of the country during the past week, cattle in every direction appear to be enjoying themselves in the pastures as though even summer were still lingering with us. Anyway, it is with the grass farmer helping the winter on cheaply and rapidly, for the shortest day will soon be upon us. Unfortunately for the heavy beef trade, these favourable circumstances to the grazier have an adverse effect both upon demand and prices, and in spite of American reports strengthening the belief that prices must rise very appreciably, and also that in one or two of our home markets higher prices are ruling for choice stock, yet in the main parts of the country, and as far as good average fat stock are concerned, prices are simply rotten.

ONE of the oldest agricultural societies in the country, and one of the most generally helpful to the improvement of cattle breeding, held its annual meeting last week. This was the show commonly called Lord Tredegar's, owing to that estimable nobleman practically defraying the entire cost of carrying on the exhibition, which is held in the comfortable sheds of the Newport Cattle Market, Monmouthshire. The schedule is a comprehensive one, and gives opportunity to all classes of breeders and feeders to display their judgment and abilities in cattle breeding and feeding. Though only two breeds (Shorthorns and Herefords) are what may be termed fully catered for, yet there are classes in two or three sections without restrictions as to breed. The display of Shorthorns and Herefords in their breeding classes was one of the most attractive of the season, the stock having now donned their winter coats, and are in generally splendid bloom. Champion honours in both sexes went to the Shorthorn breed.

ONE or two questions appear to be creating considerable discussion in Ireland at the present time and for some time past, indeed. The most important of these is the question of winter dairying, and does it pay? Irish farmers, as a rule, do not appear to take kindly to the in many districts of England and Scotland comparatively new method of dairying which, in lieu of simply a summer dairy, maintain pretty well an even supply of milk weekly from January 1 to December 31, the milk, in some instances, being supplied direct to the dairymen in our towns and cities, in others, being used at home for the production of butter and for the feeding of pigs and rearing of calves, whilst still a third system uses the milk during the late spring and summer for converting into cheese, and then in winter for dispatching per rail to the various purchasers (wholesale) in the large towns.

THERE can be no two opinions in the present day as to which of these three systems of disposing of the milk is the more profitable, cheese-making during summer and milk-selling during the winter enabling premium prices to be obtained for the produce the year round. Cheese has for some two or three years past been realising quite profitable prices, whilst at most recent fairs and markets exceptionally high prices have ruled for the best dairies. Then with cheese-making the by-products of whey for pigs and whey butter for market amount between April and November to a very substantial sum per cow to add to the price obtained for the cheese itself; and the dairyman who only sells milk during the winter season is able to command a much higher price for those five or six months than the man who expects his dairyman to take all his milk during the summer as well.

THE question as to whether winter dairying pays or not is a very vexed one in any country, and several outside matters are affected and must have their say in the matter. One of these questions aside is the immense quantity of manure that is made where a winter dairy is kept in up-to-date form, and thus the fertility of the farm is very much more cheaply maintained than when there is no winter dairy, and the cows for the summer dairy simply take care of themselves. Then there is the question of growing a good acreage of roots each year, in the growth of which the rich heaps of farmyard manure help very greatly, so that in respect of these two things the needed roots are for the most part grown from the manure which their being grown enables to be made, the two things practically finding and working their own level, so that in a measure the expense incurred is its own paymaster so to speak.

THE most important item affecting winter dairying in many districts is the greater amount of labour needed. For many weeks daylight is very scarce, and the outside labour requires practically two men to do one man's day's work, whilst in the buildings where the usual number of hours have to be worked by the aid of artificial light in a great measure the expense is very heavy. More hay is needed, too, and more costly artificial or extraneous food. All things considered, there is no doubt winter dairying requires a very carefully-managed balance sheet if a profit is to be shown at prices that have been the rule for some years past. Were a general advance in the price of milk and butter to take place it would alter things immensely. Pure milk ought not to be sold at less than one shilling per imperial gallon during the winter season where railway expenses have to be deducted, and by the same rule butter ought not for three months to be marketed at less than 1s. 4d per lb. wholesale. There cannot be a case of fair profit made out at lower rates than those mentioned where the best quality of both articles is produced, and where good living prices are paid to the labourers concerned, prices that will prevent them forsaking their country homes for the more cheery, but in other respects undesirable, surroundings of town life.

ANOTHER question affecting discussion yet in Ireland is the Canadian store cattle business, but as this is for the present in abeyance with the powers that be, it is to be hoped Irish as well as English and Scotch breeders will have no need to vex their souls therewith, and will employ their time and talents to much better purpose by considering and adopting the best means to breed an increased number of improved cattle at home.

LOOKING broadly over results of dairy farming as compared with ordinary or mixed farming, upon the whole facts appear rather to favour dairy farming as being the more profitable system. Many farmers aver that milk farming, if we may coin an expression, has been the salvation of thousands of British farmers, and the manner in which the system has increased of late years also supports the theory that more money is made thereby. If a bigger fortune is not realised, at any rate on the face of things expenses are more readily met, and the two ends more nearly meet, as a rule, upon those farms where dairy farming is practised. An increasing population and the spread of temperance in principles, too, is causing a much greater demand for milk than has ever been previously known, which may, and it is to be hoped will, shortly end in better prices being paid to the producer.

WITH regard to the management of dairy cows, many of our professors—and professors who have never indulged in the practical side of managing milking, one branch of which is the performance of milking—are indefatigable in their advice as to milking, with dry hands. Now, though, when witnessing a milking competition one almost invariably is led to form the opinion that dry-handed milking is most cleanly; yet there is not as much in this as appears at first sight, and to those who have practised both methods the verdict is loudly in favour of wet-handed work. It is much easier for the cow, and very much easier for the operator, whilst it is also much more natural. When the offspring does the milking there is no dryness there; who has not watched with delight how the little stranger, or the bigger, more developed, obstreperous calf foams at his mouth whilst he is drawing the rich draught from his dam's udder! Yes, Nature goes in for wet milking there is no disputing the fact, and as far as the hand is concerned, when quite clean to commence with, there is no greater dirt impurities communicated with the wet hand than with the dry, and the cow is much better satisfied.

REFERRING to the increased demand for milk consequent upon increased population and other changes in social life as connected with its drink, we read in several papers from the Western Continent how very rapidly the great cattle ranches of that continent are passing away, being converted into farm lands and homesteads, which in their turn, owing to the land being brought under cultivation, bring an increase in population there. The one farmstead is knocked together, extra hands in numbers are soon required, and habitable dwellings, however humble, are required for these; then another homestead is shaped near to until in an incredibly short space

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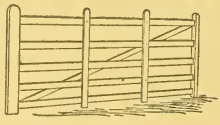

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of time a village is formed, which with mushroom growth, if in a favourable locality, develops into a town, and manufactures of some kind or other commence attracting hands from other over populated parts until the number of mouths to be fed exercises quite a demand upon the resources of the newly-formed and cultivated farms to provide the many necessaries of life; and one of the first and greatest of these in the present day is milk.

WITH the facts contained in the above note staring us in the face a question arises with regard to our breeders of "beef only" cattle whether they will not be consulting their own interests very much by paying more attention to the lacteal points. In mentioning this, it is not for a moment intended to convey the impression that beef should be forsaken and milk only cultivated in substitution thereof, but simply to advise the seeing that milk is cultivated to a sufficient extent in these herds as to ensure every female being able to bring up her own offspring. In conversation some time ago with a beef breeder, the information was vouchsafed to the writer that in a comparatively, or, we may say, very small herd no less than ten nurse cows were needed to bring up the calf crop. This ought not to be. £ s. d. from beef only will not pay for this.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(*Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.*)

At Boyle fair, co. Roscommon, held on November 26, there was a smaller supply of cattle than usual; good demand and a fair clearance. Calves, 1st class, £5 to £5 10s.; 2nd class, £4 5s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 10s. to £9 10s.; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £7 10s. Two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 to £12; 2nd class, £8 15s. to £10. Three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 to £14 10s.; 2nd class, £12 to £13 5s. Springers, 1st class, £18 10s. to £21 12s. 6d.; 2nd class, £15 to £17. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 26s. each.

At Navan Fair, co. Meath, held on November 26, the demand was moderate for good cattle in condition, which were scarce, but a good many thin animals remained unsold. Springers scarce and dear. Yearlings, 1st class, £7 15s. to £9 10s.; 2nd class, £5 15s. to £7 10s.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 to £12 2s. 6d.; 2nd class, £8 15s. to £10 10s.; three-year-olds, 1st class, £14 2s. 6d. to £15 10s.; 2nd class, £11 15s. to £12 5s. Springers, 1st class, £17 15s. to £20; 2nd class, £13 15s. to £14s 5s. Young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks' old, sold at from 18s. to 25s. each.

At Wicklow Fair, held on November 27, there was hardly any demand and the majority of the cattle went home unsold. Yearlings, 1st class, £7 10s.; 2nd class, £7. Two-year-olds, 1st class, £11 5s.; 2nd class, £7 15s. to £10 15s. Three-year-olds, 2nd class, £11 10s. Springers, 2nd class, £16 10s.; 3rd class, £11 10s. to £12 10s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 24s. each.

At Brieff Fair, co. Limerick, held on November 28, there was an average-sized fair; demand good for young cattle and a fair clearance effected, but older animals sold slower, and a good many lots failed to find buyers. Calves, 1st class, £5 to £6; 2nd class, £3 15s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £9 to £10 15s.; 2nd class, £6 10s. to £8 10s.; two years old, 1st class, £12 10s. to £14; 2nd class, £9 15s. to £12; three years old, 1st class, £15 5s. to £16 10s.; 2nd class, £13 5s. to £14 5s.; springers, 1st class, £16 10s. to £19; 2nd class, £11 to £16. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, for which there was fair demand, sold at from 18s. to 24s. each.

At Roscrea Fair, co. Tipperary, on Friday there was a large supply, and a good demand for all classes of cattle. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £4 5s. to £4 17s. 6d., 3rd class, £3 15s.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 15s. to £9 5s., 2nd class, £7 7s. 6d. to £8, 3rd class, £6 17s. 6d.; two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 to £14, 2nd class, £9 7s. 6d. to £11 10s.; springers, 1st class, £16 10s., 2nd class, £12 to £15, 3rd class, £10 15s. to £11 10s. A small supply of sheep, composed chiefly of lambs, for which prices ruled very high. Lambs, 1st class, made £1 18s. 6d. to £2 6s. 3d., 2nd class, £1 10s. to £1 17s 6d.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, 1st class, £2 9s.

Sir Philip A. Muntz, Bart., was out with the Pytchley Hounds on Saturday week, and when taking a fence near Drayton his horse stumbled, the rider being thrown and having his shoulder dislocated. After medical attention he was taken home in a motor car.

Whilst a Northallerton plumber was engaged on Thursday in putting in a new lead gutter, he found the chimney blocked. On further investigation it was discovered that three large hives of bees were located in the chimney with their three queen bees. The honey had caused the obstruction, and was massed in blocks. It extended right across the chimney, and several stones of rich clover and ling honey was recovered.

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CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

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CATTLE.

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CATTLE—*continued.*

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BOWERMAN, Alfred, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

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SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonizer 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

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CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers. —Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

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SHEEP.

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SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL *(cont.)*.

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COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1906.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, Jas. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

(Continued on next page)

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal: Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.: Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM. TOWNSEND, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

By Lupulin.

The Borough.

My remarks last week might be repeated to-day, as the position of our market has not changed. Traders are still "whistling for the wind" of demand, which does not arrive, and they can only repeat the words of the classical poet: "'Tis hard, but patience must endure, and soothe the wounds it cannot cure." The only comfort that can be found is in contemplation of the future. All are now agreed that there is no probability of any revival of business this year, and as regards the possibilities of next month, there is considerable difference of opinion.

I am assured by some, whose reports from their customers are promising, that as soon as the Christmas holidays are passed brewers will be buyers; but there is the condition, that the renewal of their demand will depend upon their ability to place their orders at very moderate prices. On the other hand, there are merchants who have little or no faith in the future, and these seem to anticipate that only a dragging, hand-to-mouth trade will continue until stocks are actually exhausted.

There is little doubt that the bulk of the small crop of new hops has been transferred into the hands of consumers, but it is not clear whether they have been bought for present or future use. I am inclined to think that the low prices has induced brewers to buy for holding, rather than for immediate consumption, and if my supposition should be correct, the sales that have taken place will not assist the maintenance of values, as they will tend to accentuate the independence which has been the main cause of our recent depression.

Surrounded as we are with only vague surmises, it is perhaps prudent to say but little. We have no real knowledge beyond the facts that the trade to-day is so extremely dull it may almost be described as non-existent, and that there are no indications of early improvement. The confidence of some holders that a better time is coming sooner or later is just sufficient to keep values fairly steady, and I sincerely trust that their faith may be rewarded by the sight of higher prices than are at present quoted.

I am informed that "grubbing" of hops is going on to a somewhat considerable extent in the southern counties, and I understand that many Midland growers are adopting a similar course. While I am unable to endorse the recommendation made by the writer of a letter that appeared in most of the local papers a few weeks ago, for the entire abandonment of the industry in England, I am disposed to support the idea of reduction of our hop area to about 40,000 acres.

Only the most suitable land for hop-growing should be cultivated, as with the improved methods of culture and training we should be able to produce from this acreage quite sufficient to meet our reduced local demand. Moderate average crops of, say, 12 cwt. per acre, added to the inevitable foreign imports, will certainly yield better profits to growers than the risks which attend the great variations we have recently experienced. It may also be advantageous to the industry if browers sometimes feel the pressure of scarcity.

It may be argued that we shall thus be opening the door to our competitors, but surely it cannot be opened wider than it is at present, and considering that consumption of hops is limited, it certainly appears that if the supply could be nearly adjusted to the actual demand the financial results would be better all round. I admit that certain of our planters have had no occasion to complain of their profits, but if we take the average of the industry we cannot be sure of any advancement. The argument in favour of reduction of acreage therefore seems to be incontestable.

The East Kent Agricultural Society annually offers a cup for competition by hop growers. This has been won this season by Mr. W. Lillywhite, of Thanington, Canterbury, the reserve award being given to Mr. S. Neame, of Selling. Both these gentlemen were winners in the competition this year at the Brewers' Exhibition.

Foreign Notes.

America.

The markets on the other side of the Atlantic continue to be very quiet; there is comparatively little export demand, and the local brewers are holding back, expecting that quotations will be lower in the early future. On the other hand, growers are generally disinclined to accept reduced offers; thus there is no room for dealers to operate, and it is not expected that business will improve to any extent until the opening of the new year. On the East Coast growers appear to be holding their own fairly well, the qualities of the New York State growths being generally satisfactory, but the low average of Pacific Coast hops makes buyers very shy, and the tendency of values is distinctly downward.

Nuremberg.

The strength that has characterised this market is well maintained, although demand has not been quite so active during the past few days, owing mainly to the falling off in the export trade. Local consumers have, however, bought pretty freely, and choice samples have advanced in value by a few shillings. The arrivals from November 15 to 22 amounted to 3,600 bales, the sales for same period being 4,500 bales. Holders are very firm in their quotations, and the most recent reports speak of firmness with an upward tendency.

Belgium.

The healthy position of the German market has not yet been felt in Brussels, where business remains very quiet. Quotations remain at about same figures as reported last week, but holders are very anxious to realise; it therefore seems probable that selling prices will be reduced.

France.

The fourth and last hop fair of this season was held at Dijon, November 20. Some dealers attended, but in consequence of most of the planters having sold their produce, none of them were present. There has been much disappointment at the prices realised, the small crop having induced the expectation that high rates would rule. A few growers who usually are late sellers are holding their growths, but the quantity in hand is quite unimportant.

The German Acreage and Crop in 1906.

The following figures, extracted from the returns issued this month by the Imperial Agricultural Statistical Department in Berlin, give the results of the hop season of 1906, and also furnish some comparisons with previous seasons. They have the merit of being absolutely reliable, as in each district there is resident a State official who is in personal contact with all the farmers, and who is therefore in a position which enables him to ascertain exactly what each man is doing.

Returns made to these officers are obligatory, and can be checked by actual knowledge; they are therefore far more valuable than the estimates published by our Board of Agriculture, which are based upon observations of a very partial character, the information provided by our farmers being purely voluntary, and in many cases the details asked for are withheld.

Our returns must consequently be only comparative and vaguely approximate. It is to be desired that when Government issues figures they should be absolutely certain, and in this respect it appears that we have something to learn from the systematic procedure of our painstaking Continental rivals.

These returns are, of course, published in German, but in order to make them more comprehensible to my readers, I give the results in approximate English quantities:—

	No. of growers.	Acreage.	Total crop.	Average per acre, 1906.
Prussia	100	4,130	12,838 cwt.	3·10 cwt.
Bavaria	831	59,507	239,840 ,,	4·00 ,,
Wurtemberg	190	12,400	47,270 ,,	3·80 ,,
Baden	67	4,400	28,740 ,,	6·65 ,,
Alsace	173	10,705	67,292 ,,	6·30 ,,

The above figures do not take into account any plots of hops under 5 hectares or 12½ acres, but hops are cultivated on such small plots, to the extent of 2,401 hectares, or about 6,000 acres, and it is estimated that these small holdings have produced in all 24,272 cwt. of hops, averaging rather over 4 cwt. per acre. We may therefore take the total number of planters in the German Empire to be about 1,860, the total area being 97,142 acres, and the weight of the 1906 crop being this season 420,252 cwt. This yield is thus classified:—Young hops, 0·2 per cent.; yearlings, 5·7 per cent.; choice quality, 20·6 per cent.; good, 49·2 per cent.; medium, 16·7 per cent.; low medium, 4·7 per cent.; common, 2·9 per cent.

The area under hops has increased since 1903 in the German Empire by 2,194 hectares, or 5,485 acres, so that it appears that planters find that the cultivation is profitable. The crop last year amounted to 585,138 cwt., the average being rather less than 6 cwt. per acre. The average for 1906 comes out about 4½ cwt. per acre.

Northern Notes.

IT is a pleasure to record the infectious nature of the movement among farmers for the protection of their important interests. An agricultural Protection Association is now talked of for the district of Thirsk. A deputation from the Darlington Club has set the ball rolling, and a provisional committee is empowered to pursue the good intentions of all those interested. Early in the New Year a vigorous effort will be undertaken to carry the project through. The large business interests which centre round Thirsk warrant the formation of a society, with all the potentialities of success.

A YORKSHIRE clergyman is lecturing this winter on a walk through Sweden, and he assures his audiences that he did thirty-one miles per diem on a quart of milk, and he says he never felt less fatigued. The value of a milk diet was also recently extolled by the Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford. An eminent physician had shown him a patient whom he had brought to a very robust state. The professor said, "I suppose you have fed him on the fat of the land?" "No," he replied, "I have fed him on the fat of the cow."

THE Wensleydale Pure Milk Society is awakening public opinion to the necessity for improving the condition of dairies and the methods used for the distribution of milk. The first report has been issued, and though a loss on the year is accounted for by the expenses of establishing the business, now that some prominent professional and well-known philanthropic people are associated with the scheme, the society expects to more than cover expenses from June 30. The society in any case is expressly limited to a profit of 5 per cent. Its real object is (1) to improve the sources of the milk supply of the towns, and (2) to see that it is not contaminated between the sources of supply and delivery at the doors of the consumers.

THE aim of the promoters is more philanthropic than profit-making, and already a great change has been effected upon the dairymen's premises. Upon eight farms new dairies had been built, and upon eleven others an alteration of buildings made in order to comply with the society's regulations as to filtering and cooling the milk. It is the intention of the society not to rest satisfied until they are in a position to give the producers some real interest in the concern. The society has depôts at Newcastle, Jarrow, Scarborough, Leeds, and other centres. The turnover during the year reached a total of £10,000.

THE mangold crop continues to be very highly spoken of in Yorkshire this season. Some specimens were casually weighed on the farm of Mr. Dixon Nicholson, at Walton Grange, and turned the scale at 21 lb. each. Their value is becoming more appreciated as a spring food, and some 8,000 acres were grown in the East Riding last year, though the average yield 13 49 tons per acre, compares unfavourably with other parts of Yorkshire, and with Somerset, where the yield of 28 tons to the acre was the heaviest in England.

IN the north a very useful institution called the Cow Club is carried on in a number of villages. There is one also at Malton, a town of six or seven thousand people; and on the estates of Sir Tatton Sykes—in the Wold villages—the clubs are very very useful in promoting good fellowship and inculcating that mutual consideration for each other which is too often lacking in small communities. The members are able to insure their cows on a mutual basis, without having resort to insurance societies, and the club being very economically managed, the system has its advantages. Last year at Malton the society suffered a loss on the year's working, the income amounting to £67 12s. 5d., and the expenditure was £84 3s. 6d. There is, however, a small balance in the bank. The society was formed five years ago, and has in that period paid compensation to the amount of £319.

SEVERAL important prospective agricultural gatherings are arranged. Sir Thomas Elliott has promised to be present at a meeting of the Ripon Agricultural Association on December 6, and to hear their views on the Land Tenure Bill, the Sheep Dipping Order, and the Swine Fever Regulations. Sir Thomas has sent a very kind note to the secretary, in which he acknowledges the excellent work of the association in connection with the amendment of the law as to fertilisers and feeding stuffs, and says he will be very glad to make the acquaintance of the members. The Darlington Chamber is to meet on January 7, under the presidency of the Marquis of Londonderry, who has always something practical to say on agricultural topics; and he will have the support of the Marquess of Zetland, Lord Strathmore, Lord Barnard, Sir Wilson Todd, the Hon. F. W. Lambton, and other well-known personages.

THE fairs at which grazing cattle are offered are now over. The prices realised show a disparity between fat and grazing cattle. This is a state of affairs to which we are growing accustomed—stores high in price, fat beasts selling badly. It is the old story. The dislocation of the pig trade in the north seems to have made no appreciable difference in the price of beef.

IN some parts of Yorkshire the herbage on roadsides is let by the Parish Council to the highest bidder. A dispute was heard in a county court the other day by Judge Dodds, when some amusing incidents were brought out by counsel. The parish meeting was attended by four persons, three of whom wanted portions of the lanes. Two parishioners desired to monopolise the lot. The chairman, however, decided that the third party—a new comer in the parish—should have a certain portion. The sequel to this affair was that the new-comer was done out of his herbage, with the result that he sued the trespassers on his rights for 35s., and won his case. The rent he paid to the parish was 10s. The defendant was a very deaf man, and his daughter attended the parish meeting with her father to act as his interpreter. The Judge asked the girl if she spoke at the meetings. She replied in the vernacular of the district, "No, sir, they would soon tell me to shut up, if I did." "Then," said the Judge, "you must agitate."

November 30, 1906.

Midland Notes.

AS in other parts of the country, the promoters of ploughing competitions in the Midlands find it hard to secure entries of young people. Now and then one hears of junior classes without a single competitor, and as a rule there are but three or four. How often, again, is it complained that thatching and hedge-cutting are in danger of becoming lost arts!

YET there are not many of us, fortunately, who could say (as a well-known Leicestershire farmer did to the Tariff Commission), "Our youngest agricultural labourer in Wigston is seventy years."

GENERALLY speaking, the supply seems pretty fair, and if the quality is not always what it ought to be, and used to be more commonly years ago, there is no scarcity of good men in any district where there is a fair chance of a good man winning in the end an independent living from the land.

VERY evidently what we need most is some means of getting young lads interested in rural work before the age when they begin to think of moving into town, on to the railways, or to the ironworks and potteries. From sixteen to twenty, or perhaps twenty-five, seems to be the critical time. Once married, our young men seldom move from the country; the difficulty is to keep them through the restless days of youth, and to do that one must set some object before them that is worth striving after, and teach them in early years that even the dull work of an out-of-the-way farm is worthy of occupying a man's time and energies.

ONE would like to see a little more enterprise on the lines of the Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society, which is hardly to be called a Midland organisation, but may perhaps be mentioned here, since its last prize list has just reached me. In this case prizes are offered for competition by members, their sons, and employees, who must be under twenty-five years old, and have to pass an oral and written examination in practical agriculture, estimate weights of stock, judge a cart horse for value and soundness, and show that they can thatch a rick, or undertake a piece of hedging or ditching in a workmanlike style.

THERE is no difficulty in the Berkeley Vale in getting young men to enter for these prizes, and considering that the majority get no special technical instruction beyond an hour a week from a county lecturer, they show a remarkably sound knowledge of ordinary, everyday farming.

MENTION of the Tariff Commission reminds one what a wonderfully interesting document the full report is—not the shilling pamphlet of recommendations, I mean, but the red bound, half-crown portly volume, which contains the evidence of the farmer witnesses set out at length. On this subject of labour the remarks are wonderfully diverse. But there is hardly anything more suggestive, I think, than the statement casually made by Mr. Thomas Latham, of Dorchester. "I work several reaping machines," says Mr. Latham, "and always have a boy to each every year to ride my horses during the holidays, and invariably these boys stop with me." Have we not the secret and solution of many of our difficulties there in a phrase? "To ride the horses during the holidays." Could any young country lad of spirit ask for a happier way of spending his time? If only we could get the boys interested in the work while they are still young! But how often does the schoolmaster stand inexorably in the way!

THE diversity of the evidence is illustrated very forcibly in the case of fruit-growing. "The apples we grow," complains a Worcestershire witness, "are scarcely saleable when we have a big crop. This is due to American competition." Against that put the cheerful declaration of a fellow-grower in the same county, who tells the commission "You cannot overdo the English market with good apples. Until five years ago we did not cultivate them, but now our little men are finding them more profitable than any other fruit."

AMONG the people who are doing well just now—perhaps better than anybody else—are our friends who can turn out fair quantities of thoroughly reliable cheese. The makers of real Stilton wear a happy smile, for they find no difficulty in selling all they can make at profitable rates; and not for a long time past have the capital brands which come from Cheshire found so good and general a demand. But what has become of that fine cheese, the old fashioned rich Leicestershire? It is very little heard of now outside the districts where it is made, and one would like to see it sharing in the revival. There is still room for development in the cheese trade. It would be possible to dispose of more fine Stiltons in the summer months than ever reach the big centres of population; and the soft cheese branch awaits development in the Midlands. There is a great demand in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and other big towns for little soft cheeses brought from other districts far away. The makers are entitled to all possible credit for their enterprise and commercial smartness, but could we not produce the same thing nearer home?

November 29, 1906.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

The following account issued yesterday shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended last Saturday. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (11,554), 11,577; sheep and lambs (1,896), 995; horses (194), 187.

Fresh meat:—Beef (71,163 cwt.), 57,083; mutton (54,421), 50,197; pork (15,325), 14,722.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (100,811 cwt.), 90,984; beef (3,457), 1,904; hams (25,224), 13,946; pork (1,771), 2,993; meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh (12,143), 10,873; meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting (28,504), 1,342.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (72,659 cwt.), 68,205; margarine (20,632), 27,368; cheese (62,855), 43,462; milk, fresh, in cans or drums (60), nil; milk, cream (90), 60; milk, condensed (16,361), 13,209; milk, preserved, other kinds (77), 257.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(432,421), 372,423; poultry (value £5,834), £8,612; game (value £2,037), £5,268; rabbits, dead, not tinned (19,635 cwt.), 7,698; lard (45,091 cwt.), 32,232.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,552,800 cwt.), 1,743,200; wheat meal and flour (350,800), 296,100; barley (595,300), 445,900; oats (238,700), 443,700; peas (29,890), 26,670; beans (14,650), 7,890; maize or Indian corn (501,000), 723,000.

Fruit, raw:—Apples (147,319 cwt.), 196,081; bananas (126,970 bunches), 99,460; grapes (4,809 cwt.), 16,280; lemons (14,492), 17,691; oranges (166,954), 70,506; pears (3,134), 6,825; plums (10,397; unenumerated (3,356), 4,731.

Hay (1,939 tons), 2,077; straw (969) 511; moss litter (1,710), 1,917; hops (4,946 cwt.), 9,577; locust beans (10,43[illegible]) nil.

Vegetables, raw:—Onions (121,449 bushels), 231,612; potatoes (35,819 cwt.), 51,859; tomatoes (18,032), 9,052; unenumerated (value £4,141), £4,518; vegetables, dried (3,272 cwt.), 8,588; preserved by canning (6,081), 8,862.

Commencing Saturday next the Great Northern Railway Company will issue cheap Saturday to Monday tickets from London (King's Cross) to any purely Great Northern station, also between any pair of purely Great Northern stations. Full particulars of these cheap bookings may be obtained at any Great Northern town office, the stations, or direct from the Chief Passenger Agent, at King's Cross, N.

IMPLEMENTS.

Trials of Swath Turners and Rakes at Lincoln Royal Show.

Particulars have just been issued by the Royal Agricultural Society of silver and bronze medals offered in connection with the trials of swath turners and side delivery rakes at the Lincoln Royal Show.

The entries for these prizes must be sent to the Secretary, 16, Bedford Square, London, W.C., on or before Friday, March 15, 1907, and must be accompanied by a deposit of £5 for each entry. Such deposit will be forfeited if the machine is not submitted for competition at the time appointed for the trials and is not exhibited at the Lincoln Show.

The regulations provide that—

1. The trials will be held in the neighbourhood of Lincoln on or about the third week in June. The locality and the exact date will be notified as soon as it can be ascertained when the crops will be ready.

2. Entries for these prizes must be made on the society's forms, together with detailed specifications giving general over all dimensions and setting out the special merits claimed for the machines.

3. Provision will be made by the society for the housing of the several implements competing, but the competitors must arrange for the delivery of their machines to the site, and also provide the necessary horses for the trials.

4. Each competitor, or his representative, to be present to give any desired information to the judges, and to direct generally the working of the machine, but only one man must actually work the machine.

5. The trials will be made as far as practicable under similar conditions as would rule in the use of the machines in ordinary work on a farm.

6. The trials will be conducted on ridge and furrow land, as well as on the flat.

7. Trials will also be made with the dynamometer to ascertain the draft and load on the horse's back, and each machine must be weighed either before or after the trial.

8. The points to which the judges' attention will be specially directed are:—(*a*) Mechanical construction. (*b*) Weight and draft. (*c*) Ease of handling and adjustment. (*d*) Efficient turning over of the crop. (*e*) Freedom from winding or choking. (*f*) Adaptability of windrowing as well as swath turning. (*g*) Adaptability for working on ridge and furrow land. (*h*) Adaptability for transport on road and rail. (*j*) Price.

Mr. George Harrison, of Ganiford Hall, Darlington, has despatched this week for shipment to the Argentine, to the order of Mr. Reed, three Leicester shearling rams, sired respectively by My Choice 710, Royal Maidstone 521, and Ganiford Lad 695.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Edward Rowell, J.P., of Walbottle, died last week at Walbottle House, in his eighty-first year. In March, 1905, he suffered a paralytic seizure, from which he never completely recovered. Mr. Rowell was born at Brunton, near Chollerford, on January 1, 1826. He devoted himself to farming, and became one of the leading agriculturists of South Northumberland. For many years he held the tenancy of the Dewlaw Farm on the Matfen estate. He was an able valuer and arbitrator in land disputes, and as such his services were recognised, not only in his own country, but throughout England and Scotland.

We regret to record the death of Mr. John Tudball, at his residence, Chew Magna. Deceased had been in weak health for some time past. Mr. Tudball was of a good old West Somerset family, and was born at Withey Pool, Dulverton, where several generations of his ancestors have resided. He lately went to live at Chew Stoke, and then went on to Chew Magna, where he resided forty-seven years. When the North-East Somerset Farmers' Club was founded in 1872, Mr. Tudball was chosen as assistant secretary, the late Mr. J. H. Braikenridge being secretary. On the occasion of the second show at Clutton Mr. Tudball assumed the position of secretary, which he continued until January last.

By the death of Mr. Robert Milburn, of Laverick Hall Farm, a notable agriculturist has passed away. Unlike many farmers, the deceased gentleman showed a practical interest in public affairs. In that matter Mr. Milburn set, indeed, an example that farmers would do well to follow. Few men were better known among the agriculturists of the North of England than Robert Milburn, of Laverick Hall.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Chester.

The Cheshire Agricultural Society's annual meeting was held at Chester on Tuesday. There was some discussion on the advisability of holding a two days' show next year, but it was decided to hold the show as usual on the last Wednesday in August. There was an equally divided vote on a resolution to alter the radius of the society to five miles from the county boundary, or ten miles from Chester Town Hall. The vote was taken twice. The first time fifteen voted on each side, and the second time seventeen. The chairman then gave his casting vote against the resolution.

Herefordshire Chamber.

At a council meeting of this society on Thursday, Mr. J. W. Smith in the chair, the finance committee having gone through the applications, recommended Mr. W. G. C. Britten for the post of secretary, and he was accordingly appointed. A long discussion took place in regard to local taxation, and there was a strong feeling expressed that something should be done to remove the iniquitous inequality as affecting agriculturists. On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Russell, the council resolved to urge the Government to deal with the question in the King's Speech next session, and to bring in measures to equalise the incidence.

Hunts Chamber.

On Monday afternoon, at St. Ives, a meeting of this chamber was held at the Corn Exchange, Huntingdon, at which Mr. J. A. Preece, of the Drayton Home farm, read a practically interesting paper on "Sheep Breeding." Mr. Preece laid down the axiom that it was more profitable to the farmer to breed sheep than to breed horses, and his remarks on foot-rot, when he declared that this could easily be eradicated, led to considerable criticism. It was affirmed by some that it was impossible to stamp it out, and the nature of the land, whether high and dry, or low and damp, had a lot to do with the disease. Mr. Preece, in the course of his speech, alluded to the hailstorm which had afflicted them, and expressed his sincere sympathy. He was glad to see that much was doing to give this sympathy a practical effect. For himself and his district, they could not do much, but they had done all they could.

Royal Lancashire.

The annual meeting of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at Preston on Wednesday. Mr. H. L. Storey (president) took the chair.

Mr. J. White (chairman of the council), in moving the adoption of the report (which has already appeared in our columns), said that through the energy of the secretary and the catering committee they had managed to come out with a small balance in hand, which none of them expected. The profit was due to a decrease in the expenditure by something like £1,200, the principal saving being in the fitting up of the showyard.

Mr. Philip Park, in seconding the motion, said a saving of £1,096 had been made by the society fitting up the show ground themselves, instead of having it done by a contractor. He was sorry to see that the Yorkshire Society had had to issue a most unsatisfactory report.

The report was adopted. It was decided to hold the 1907 show at Boltonon August 1, 2, 3 and 5.

The Earl of Ellesmere was elected president for the ensuing year.

Mr. Fitzherbert-Brockholes announced that the increase of 200 members during the year was a record, and was due to the president's exertions.

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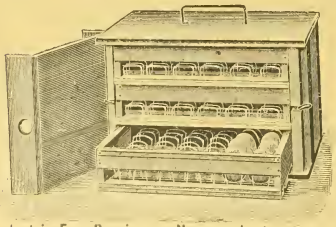

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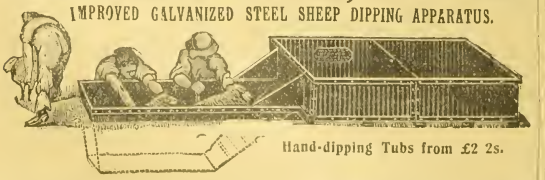

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IT will be generally admitted that unless the findings of science are carefully tested by the experience of actual practice, that science is more likely to hinder than to help the farmer. This is particularly true in relation to the question of the analysis of Feeding Cakes and Meals, although the proposed amendments in the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act of 1893 will tend to give greater protection to the farmer and improve the position of the honest manufacturer. We do not under-rate the value of the chemist's certificate, for we have always insisted on the importance of a good analysis, and have had **our guarantee printed on every bag**, as well as on the invoice, which, so far as we are aware, has not been done by any other manufacturer. Moreover, we have always asked our customers to have the goods analysed regularly, and in the event of any deficiency being found, we bind ourselves to pay the analyst's fee and **three times the value of the deficiency**—this is our testimony to the value we place on analysis, and to the confidence we have in the quality of our goods. After all, however, the analysis is only the finding of science, and if it were conclusive, then the work of both the manufacturer and feeder would be much simplified; but, as we have often pointed out, it is possible to show a high analysis and yet leave the cake or meal at very low feeding value, and it is here that science must be confirmed by practice. It is no secret that unsound materials (unless absolutely perished) will in most cases analyse as well as sound ingredients, although the former may be of very little value for feeding; while in the case of oil, it may also show a high analysis, and yet prove to be of a kind altogether unsuitable for fattening purposes. You must test the analysis at the feeding trough, you must combine

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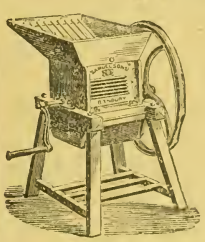

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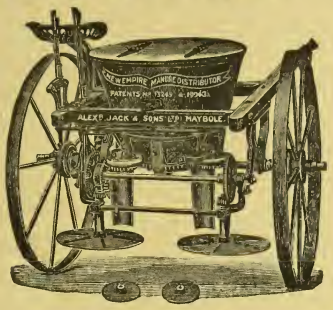

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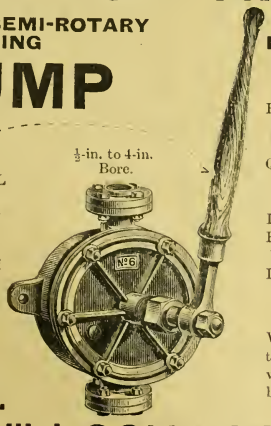

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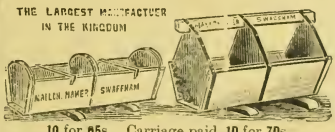

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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

Hiring Fairs. Of late, in accordance with a time-honoured custom, annual hiring fairs have been held in different parts of the country, and though these institutions seem to have been more or less doomed for a long time past, they, in common with others associated with agriculture, appear to be dying a hard death. Just like the seasons, local hiring fairs come round, some being held at Michaelmas, others at Martinmas, and others again about Christmas time, according to the customs of the locality. The period about hiring fair time is when the farm lad rejoices in his one legitimate holiday of the year. How he spends it is his own concern, but in many cases he has inherited the habits of his father, and makes a round of the hiring fairs in his district before he goes back to his place or enters on a year's service under another employer. Year after year we seem to see a less number of youths standing in the market-place waiting to be hired, and probably more engagements are made in a private way than used to be the case, because the system of yearly hirings still survives. We have listened to a good many arguments both for and against it, but as one of our correspondents recently observed, no plan has yet been propounded that could be generally accepted as a substitute.

The Stamina of Farm Lads. When one compares the physique and build of a youth who has been brought up to rural life and farm work with that of one of the thousands who have known no other life but that of the town, the comparison is very much in favour of the former. We are told that fresh air and country life makes the difference, and so they do to a certain extent, but there is also another important factor—namely, food. We recently heard a labourer with a large family observe that he believed in getting his boys' legs under somebody else's table, because they would get a better supply of food at a farmhouse than they could at home. It did not trouble him whether the lads stuck to farm labour or left it for something better, but he knew that farmhouse diet at a growing age would build up a physique that is desirable in any capacity of labour. This is quite true, and it explains the reason why youths from the farm are accepted for the police force, railways, and various town occupations in preference to those who are brought up in a forest of bricks and mortar. Growing lads want good, simple, and wholesome food, and plenty of it, which they get at farmhouse tables, and this is why they compare so favourably in appearance and health with their cousins in the town. We will not argue the point as to whether town training sharpens the wits, but we are convinced that town air and town food do not build up the specimens of humanity that the nation needs.

Uniformity in Butter. The man in the street who buys his butter from any of the big shops that deal with this commodity in huge quantities, never has reason to trouble much about the quality. Perhaps the butter he gets is not quite up to the standard of the best dairymade article, but it is fairly good on the whole, and above everything it is uniform. Week after week the butter is practically the same, and rarely does the buyer have reason to complain. This is where the local butter-maker in a small way fails to compete with the wholesale producer. We know butter-makers who turn out as good butter as one could possibly get, but they do not always do it, and little things often make the difference. "My butter is beautiful this week," is the happy remark of the old country dame, whose great delight in life is that it should be so, but the next week her face drops and she admits that for some conjectured reason, the butter is not up to the mark. A dairy expert might easily explain all about it, but the man in the street does not go into details, and he asks, not unnaturally, why the butter he gets from the local farm-house is not so uniform as that which he buys at the stores.

Crop Returns in 1906. We take it that a good many of our readers have seen the preliminary statement issued by the Board of Agriculture showing the estimated yield of the leading farm crops in 1906. We venture to refer to it here because it is pleasant reading, and bears testimony to the favourable character of the season. Taking the cereal crops of wheat, oats, and barley, we find a substantial increase in each case, and one must also remember the beautiful harvest time for corn, which lessened the cost of getting in the crops. Beans show a big increase as also do peas, and in spite of the drought the average weight of turnips and swedes is estimated at 14·22 tons per acre against 13·74 in 1905. A heavier aggregate weight of mangels was grown this year than last, but the area was greater and the average return per acre is not quite so high as in 1905. Increases are also shown in hay from permanent grass, sainfoin, and clover, but the increased acreage of hay from permanent grass is put at nearly 100,000 acres. Potatoes show a falling off, as less were planted this year than last, and the average return per acre is slightly lower. Finally, though figures and statistics are generally wearying to read, we can do it cheerfully when they point to a healthier condition of our great national industry.

Threshing. As we write we can hear the hum of the thresher at an adjoining farmstead, and there are reasons why the work should be pushed on in the dull, short days of December. In the first place it is only the big corn-growers who possess apparatus of their own, and those who do not have to make ready for the machine when they can get it. Secondly, the yards are occupied by cattle just now, and they must needs have straw. Chaff is wanted for cows and horses, and the farmer must run somewhat on the supply of corn for feeding. Unfortunately the markets are not so good just now as one would like to see them, and we hear complaints about low prices, but the farmers must have money all the same, and this he cannot get for his corn until the grain is threshed out and in the market. When the price is low at threshing time farmers are sometimes disposed to hold over the grain, but the wisdom of doing so is often open to question, because the hoped-for rise may not come, and corn has a habit of going fusty and out of condition. We have to admit that we sometimes see a good deal of waste going on at threshing time. Straw is left strewn about, is badly stacked or not properly protected, and one observes at times a careless waste of chaff. All these items should be given attention at threshing time, because the old proverb of "Waste not, want not," is as applicable to the farm as it is to anything else.

emale Labour. The depopulation of rural districts, the somewhat changed conditions of life, and the advance of machinery, have all had an effect on female labour, and women do not work in the fields to the extent they used to do. In some respects it is as well that this should be so, because if a working man's earning powers are greater, and he can afford to have his wife more at home to look after his household this must add to the family comfort, but in some districts the earnings of women in agricultural occupations are still very considerable. In Kent, for instance, there is a keen demand for female labour both for fruit picking and amongst the hops. The deft fingers of women are well adapted for training and tying the young hop growths, and from then up to the time that the hops are pulled down there is periodical work for the women in the gardens. We hear varied expressions of opinion regarding the employment of women on the land, but our views are that in the various branches of farming there are many tasks which are neither laborious nor unpleasant which women can perform, and by doing so the farmer is benefited, and some grist is brought to the mill of the labouring fraternity.

Draining. IN travelling about the country one sees a good deal of land that would be all the better if it were drained, and at the present time some of this necessary work is being done. We remember some years ago what might be called a great wave of draining passed over the country. Many miles of pipes were laid on different estates and the land was improved, but of late years the returns from the land have not been sufficient to merit spending big sums on improvements. Perhaps, after all, however, this is not quite the right way of looking at the matter, because money spent on draining land that needs it is always a good investment. We know of nothing more deplorable than to see fields growing little but rushes, hassocks, and rank herbage, especially when one knows that by spending a little money on draining away the stagnant water, the comparatively waste land would be transformed into useful meadow or pasture. We would add that after draining do not forget the lime, for a dressing of this useful material after wet land has been drained has an excellent effect in encouraging the growth of sweet herbage.

Drainers. SPEAKING of draining reminds us of the men who cut out the gutters and lay the pipes, and though we do not urge for this class of work that there is any great art in it, the fact nevertheless remains that it requires experience, and some men are more expert at it than others. A few years ago we had dealings with a man who had a gang under him and took draining work by contract. That man was a perfect masterpiece at putting in drains. With his eye he would calculate the number of drains required in a field, and would dig out the gutters and lay the pipes as accurately as if he used a ruler and pencil. Always sure of his fall, and putting the pipes in deep or shallow according to the character of the ground, when the work was done there was no need to fear about the water being carried away. Rheumatism, the result of frequent wettings, which a drainer can hardly avoid, laid him aside at last, and he was a missed man in the district. In fact, humble though they be, it is this class of men that the country can ill afford to lose.

Where Experts Disagree. ANYONE who reads books and papers connected with agriculture (and we advise all farmers to add to their knowledge in this way, though we know the business cannot be learnt from literature without the essential practical experience), will observe how the opinions of experts appear to be diametrically opposed to each other in many things connected with farming. The sceptic seizes on this as a strong handle to use in his arguments against the value of theory, but the uninitiated mind is merely bewildered as to who is right and who is wrong. Let him not be so, for neither of the experts may be wrong, and what appears to be opposite opinions may be the result of actual experience in each case, but where the soil and climate are of a widely different character. As a matter of fact, allowances must always be made for these differences, and the reader who is in search of knowledge may boil down the arguments of this expert and that and find out for himself which method is best adapted to the conditions under which he works.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Lords' Wise Policy.

The promoters of the Land Tenure Bill have no serious reason to be dissatisfied with the reception of the measure in the House of Lords. Of course, that reception was not exuberant, but, at all events, it was not laden with tragic resolve. The Duke of Rutland had previously voiced the prevailing sentiment of the Upper Chamber in the prophecy that the Bill would do little good, but no serious harm. The peers felt that they had better bear the ills this measure may inflict upon them than fly to others they wot not of. In other words, while believing the measure to be unnecessary, the majority of their lordships were moved by the conviction that 'twere better to accept it rather than to, by rejection, stimulate the Radical demand for a more drastic dealing with the land question. Perhaps the chief antagonism—expressed in conversation rather than in formal speech—was revealed towards what may be described as the game clauses. Lord Onslow, indeed, reflected a real vivid Conservative sentiment when he declared that the Bill would confer a double measure of compensation for damage by game, in cases where an allowance for such damage had been made when the rent was fixed. An equally vivid and widely held sentiment was Lord Camperdown's fear that the Bill will increase the cost of the management of estates. Perhaps a third active sentiment is the conviction that the Bill, under the profession of desiring to level-up the ethics and methods of the bad landlords to the ethics and methods of the good landlords, will really gravely penalise the latter. Still, even the professors of these pessimisms did not profess to be eager to deliver a death-blow. This was not due to the poor desire to wound, but, craven-like, daring not to strike. It was rather the first-fruit of the conviction that the Bill has been in a large measure deprived of its virus and maleficence, due to the conviction that it is rather the legal embodiment of platitudes than an active instrument of revolution.

Both Should be Satisfied.

I now prophesy that both parties—those friendly to the Bill, and those who originally regarded it with foreboding and prophesied ruin as a sequel, with Jeremiah-like unction—will be satisfied. First of all, the friends of the measure will congratulate themselves on having at least established new principles (will compensation for capricious eviction be one of them?) in connection with the conduct of estates. Second, the antagonists of the measure will congratulate themselves on having drawn the sting from the tongue of those principles. Of course, the balance of success is certainly with the first. Never mind, however tepid may be the original expression of your principles, once embody them in legislation and ere long they are given a backbone. This is the epitomised story of the history of compensation for improvements. There is a third section of Parliamentarians—that body which professes to regard the Bill with mild interest, and whose stern soul refuses to regard it as aught but a weak and invertebrate dalliance with a grim problem. Yes, but these men are not likely to have their revolutionary ideals at once gratified. The mere passing of a Bill dealing in however unheroic a fashion with the problems of tenure means for awhile that we shall have a respite from legislation. Herein lies the wiliness and subtle cleverness of the Lords. Had they at once pierced the measure to the heart they would have made its strenuous resurrection assured. The Parliamentary stomach would now rebel against a surfeit of land legislation. It has shown us that it has an epicurean's conception of what its diet should be. It may agree to a Small Holdings Bill—this, indeed, is an inevitable sequel of this Bill, unless Parliament is willing to acquiesce in harm to the small cultivators; but then it would demand a change of menu. The Parliamentary victory is always with the shouters, and the shouters now are the representatives of the towns; and they must be persistently clamorous in order not to disappoint their own clangorous *clientèle*. Yes, the Lords have been wise. They will make the Bill a barrier against more vehement schemes.

The Tragedy of a Perishing Peasantry.

No sane-minded man can read the report of the Board of Agriculture on the decline of the agricultural population between the years 1881 and 1906 without being possessed by a deep sense of a grave economic menance. Here are facts which can only be described as appalling, perturbing, and ominous. In 1881 the number of agricultural labourers in England, Scotland, and Wales was 983,919; in 1891, 866,546; in 1901, 689,292. During twenty years—with the general population of the country increasing, and hence with the demand for agrarian products accentuated—there was a decrease in the number of agricultural labourers to the extent of 294,627. Of that number of labourers England lost 241,152, Wales 11,099, and Scotland 42,376. Of course, the loss of two million acres of arable land in the twenty years was responsible for throwing out of work between 60,000 and 80,000 labourers; but this, after all, is but a third of the decrease. For the real cause of this developing menace we have to search deeper. Can it be found in the gathering fascination of the towns to the rural mind? Surely not, with the gaunt army of urban unemployed gathering in clamorous strength, and the misery of the congeries of our urban life festering in more pestilential venom? Can it be found in the rural housing problem? Possibly, in a measure; but this can scarcely be an entire explanation of this terrible business, seeing that in the very years in which the decline has been most emphasised there has been a more sympathetic desire to secure better houses. Can it be found in the failure on the part of the State to secure a disciplined system of allotments and small holdings? In this very period, however, this question has been protruded into the active political arena.

A Challenge to Statecraft.

Be that cause what it may, the facts remain a challenge to our statecraft, to our benevolence, to our wisdom, and to our humanity. We cannot afford the grim malevolent luxury of a perishing peasantry. And, for heaven's sake, let no man—with the knowledge that, as compared with the two millions of people engaged on the soil of this country forty years ago we have now less than seven hundred thousand—talk about a disciplined system of rural emigration to the colonies. Such a proposal now is something worse than a cynicism.

What Lord Carrington Should Seek.

I heartily congratulate Earl Carrington on his invitation to the farmers attending the Show to come to the Board of Agriculture and confer with him on any matter affecting their individual weal or the weal of the interest. Such an incident as this—even though the invitation may not be widely accepted—will go far to convince farmers that the Board of Agriculture is, after all, a life-and-blood organism, and not a mere academic department which concerns itself with pious resolutions and lack-lustre performances. Lord Carrington's desire is evidently to associate with the Board some of his own breezy unconventionality and manly anxieties. This is assuredly well; but let me seek to persuade his lordship that his Board cannot be the effective instrument he aims at making it unless it has a command of sufficient financial resources. At this moment he has not command of those resources, with the result that the Board is reduced to achieving its task by voluntary means and willy-nilly agencies. It is in a large measure innocuous, instead of being a great advisory influence in the agrarian economy. The grant by the State to the Board of Agriculture is so parsimonious as to be chiefly an assurance of inefficiency. The best tribute to the statesmen who have held the portfolio of agriculture is that they have accomplished so much with so astoundingly modest means.

Justice-Seat for Political Roysterers.

Still those whom I may call the Anti-Loreburn-crusaders among the Radicals pursue their merry way with unceasing vivacity. If Lord Loreburn will not appoint to the magisterial bench those whom they unofficially nominate, then they will make him beware of them. The latest suggestions are that if he will do as Lord Herschell threatened to do in the appointments to the county magisterial bench and simply override and discountenance the Lords-Lieutenant—who apparently have no constitutional right to the appointment of magistrates and enjoy the privilege as a concession—the duty of nomination should be handed over to the Home Secretary, who should act upon the suggestion of local Members of Parliament. Frankly, I greatly marvel that the Prime Minister, who certainly has the chivalrous sense and exalts personal loyalty to the height of a virtue, does not interfere to check this banality. Such a method of appointment would mean the reduction of the county bench to a mere partisan instrument. Its character would fluctuate with every spasm of evanescent political emotion. Conceive, too, the position of the unfortunate legislator: If he were not immediately responsive to the clamorous application of vainglorious, self-seeking partisans, who had elevated their own merits to inflated heights and believed they were heaven-born Solons, he would lay up for himself a colossal store of tribulation, jealousy, and dislike.

FAT STOCK SHOWS.

THE SMITHFIELD SHOW.

The one hundred and eighth annual show of the Smithfield Club opened to-day at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, under most promising circumstances. The entries show a decided improvement when compared with last year, the total being 937 as against 879. The increase, however, is not in the live stock and carcase sections, for here the total entries are 697 as against 712 in 1905, but as will be seen from the following table this year's entries compare favourably with those of 1904 and two preceding years. The entries represent all the well-known feeders and exhibitors, and as many of the first prize winners and some of the champions at recent shows were present here, competition is keen.

The following table shows the entries in the chief sections of the show for this and the four preceding years :—

	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Cattle	283	301	276	286	262
Pens of sheep	151	163	168	152	165
Pens of pigs	125	107	106	115	101
Carcase competition :—					
Cattle	32	24	32	22	15
Sheep	70	60	59	56	37
Pigs	36	57	35	39	—
	697	712	676	670	580

The classes are on practically the same lines as last year, but there are one or two alterations that can be noticed. For instance, in the Mountain breeds sheep classes a separate class being this year provided for Welsh Mountain wethers of any age ; but this extra class is made up for by the withdrawal of one of the pig classes, Small Whites or Small Blacks being given only one class—for two pigs over nine and not exceeding twelve months old—as against one for pigs not exceeding nine months old, and another for those over nine and not exceeding twelve months old, last year. The schedule, however, contains one more class than that of 1905, for a new one is provided for porkers —viz , pens of two pigs of any breed or cross, not exceeding six months old, suitable for the London porket trade, with prizes of £10, £5, £3, probably a fourth, if ten entries are received. This new class should, we think, prove a popular one.

The only other alteration we have to note is that in the pig carcase classes the animals are not only classed according to weight as last year, but an age limit is introduced, thus pigs not exceeding 100 lb. live weight must not be over six months old ; pigs between 100 and 222 lb. must not exceed nine months ; and those between 220 lb. and 300 lb. must not be more than twelve months old.

The poultry section will undoubtedly prove as popular as ever, a good entry having been received, whilst the implement section will be one of the most prominent features of the show. The whole of the available space downstairs is taken up with the exhibition of steam and oil engines, gas engines, with suction gas plant, thrashing machines, ploughs, &c. ; the galleries being filled with mowing and reaping machines and other lighter agricultural implements, agricultural seeds, roots, feeding-stuffs, manures, &c., the whole forming a most complete collection of agricultural implements.

As regards the prizes, it may be mentioned that the total is £4,152 6s. 2d., as compared with £4,153 1s. 4d. last year, so that there is only the difference of 15s. 2d. The cattle classes get £2,013, sheep £1,154, pigs £457, carcase competition £281 ; and table poultry, £121 18s. ; whilst those popular prizes for feeders of the first prize animals absorb £125 8s. 2d. In the majority of the cattle classes the prizes are :— first £25, second £15, and third £10, whilst in any cases where there are ten entries the judges may, if there be sufficient merit, award a fourth prize. This also applies to the sheep and pig sections. The sheep class prizes range from £15 to £3, and pigs from £10 to £3, whilst in addition there are the usual numerous and valuable special awards as well as the popular Breed Cups.

How valuable are the prizes offered may be judged when it is stated that it is possible for a steer or ox to win as much as £260, for a heifer £255, a pen of three long or short woolled sheep to win £110, and for a pen of two pigs to win £70. These amounts of course include the magnificent challenge cups presented by his Majesty the King, for cattle ; H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, for sheep ; and H.R.H. Prince Christian, for pigs, the winner's of which also receive the club's gold medal. It will be remembered that last year the challenge cup presented by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for sheep was finally won by his Majesty the King, and a new cup has been graciously presented by his Royal Highness the president.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as President, officially opens the Show, whilst His Majesty has announced his intention of being present, and we understand that our Royal visitor from Norway, King Haakon, will also attend. Altogether the show should prove another big success for the Smithfield Club.

The following is a list of the judges :—

Cattle.

Devons, South Devons, and Sussex : C. N. Skinner, Shortlands, Kent ; Daniel Swaffer, Mumford, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent. Herefords and Red Polled : John H. Yeomans, Withington, Hereford ; Fred. Smith, Woodbridge, Suffolk. Shorthorns and Cross Breds : Arthur S. Gibson, The Elms, Reddington, Nottingham ; John Wortley, Shipdham, Norfolk. Aberdeen-Angus and Galloways : C. W. Schroeter, Bella Vista, Haywards Heath ; A. B Matthews, Newton Stewart, N.B. Welsh and Highland : R. W. Pritchard, Coedmarion, Carnarvon ; J. R. Campbell, Shinness, by Lairg, Sutherland. Kerry, Dexter, and Small Cross-bred Cattle : H. D. Betteridge, "Drayton," Woodstock Road, Summerton, Oxford ; Henry C. Webb, Audley End, Saffron Walden. £25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup : Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset ; William Reid, 160, Central Meat Market, E.C.

The Hereford Steer illustrated above is the animal with which Mr. W. H. Cooke, The Green, Stanford Bridge, Worcester, took the First Prize for Hereford Steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years old, and the Special Prize for the best Hereford at the Birmingham Fat Stock Show. It was bred by Mr. Cooke, is by Centurion out of Best, and its age last week was given as 2 years 10 months 1 week and 6 days, whilst it weighed 16 cwt. 1 qr. 0 lbs.

Sheep

Leicesters, Border Leicesters, Cotswolds, and Lincolns : George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington ; Robert Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln, Kentish or Romney Marsh, Devons, and South Devons : F. Austin Bensted, The Lawn, Sittingbourne, Kent ; J. G. Pedler, The Barton, Sampford Peverell, Tiverton, Devon. Cheviots and Mountains : M. S. McKerrow, Poreland of Southwick, Dumfries ; James Moffatt, Craick, Hawick, N.B. Southdowns and Shropshires : George F. Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate ; Matthew Williams, Whiston Hall, Albrighton, Wolverhampton. Hampshire Downs and Suffolks : Cary Coles, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury ; D. Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, Colchester. Oxford Downs and Cross-breds : John White, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon ; George Stimpson, 71, Central Meat Market, E.C. Byelands and Dorset, &c. : F. Hawkins, Sugwas

Swainshill, Herefordshire; L. C. Attrill, Bowcombe Farm, Carisbrooke. Champion Plates for Long and Short-woolled Sheep and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup: Henry Smith, Junr., The Cottage, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham; James P. Case, Binham, Wighton, R.S.O., Norfolk.

Pigs.

Small White or Small Black, Middle and Large White breeds: Herbert Boom, Wissett Hall, Halesworth; John Angus, Whitfield, Morpeth. Large Black and Berkshires: A. H. Cobbald, Eldo House, Bury St. Edmunds; William A. Barnes, Hasluck's Green Farm, Shirley, Birmingham. Tamworths and Cross-Breeds: D. W. Phillip, The Redlands, Whitacre, Birmingham; Robert Wallace, Auchenbrain, Mauchline, N.B. Champion Plates and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup: Col. F. A. Walker-Jones, The Manor House, Burton, Westmoreland; S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich.

Carcase Competition.

Cattle and Sheep: William Coggan, Braemar, 58, Thurlow Park Road, Dulwich, S.E.; G. H. Walker, Abbey Gateway, Great Malvern. Pigs: J. W. Bowyer, 259, Central Meat Market, E.C.; W. E. Hoare, 220, Central Meat Market, E.C. Champion Prizes and Challenge Cups: William Hayden, 411, Brixton Road, S.W. Table Poultry: W. Bellamy, 118, Jermyn Street, S.W.; John Baily, 116, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square.

Birmingham.

The Birmingham Fat Stock Show, of which we gave a lengthy report in our last issue, was brought to a conclusion on Thursday, and that it has lost little of its attractions was proved by the large attendance of visitors each day, the total for the five days being no less than 42,112. This number is not so large as in the preceding three or four years, being a decrease of 1,599 when compared with last year. Neither were the receipts so good, the sum taken being £1,227 3s., as against £1,292 15s. last year; but these slight fallings off could easily be accounted for by the numerous other attractions of the week.

The following table shows the receipts for this and three preceding years:—

RECEIPTS.

	1906.			1905.			1904.			1903.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s	d.
Second day	219	12	0	233	16	0	216	17	0	285	13	0
Third day	290	12	0	282	5	0	287	1	0	338	19	0
Fourth day	437	2	0	491	5	0	451	12	6	437	15	6
Fifth day	279	17	0	285	9	0	298	1	6	291	14	0
	1227	3	0	1292	15	0	1253	12	0	1374	1	6

A meeting of the council of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society was held on Thursday, under the presidency of Sir Henry A. Wiggin, Bart., when it was announced by Mr. W. H. Lythall (the secretary) that Messrs. Elkington and Co. had kindly offered another trophy on the same conditions as before, to replace the one won outright by his Majesty the King. No official intimation had been received from Messrs. Webb and Sons, but little doubt was felt that at the next meeting of the members of the firm they would also decide to replace the cup which has this year been won by the Royal exhibit.

On the motion of Sir Henry A. Wiggin, Bart., seconded by Mr. G. D. Willmot, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That this council accepts with pleasure the handsome gift of a further challenge cup, value 100 guineas, from Messrs. Elkington and Co., Ltd., and begs to thank them most sincerely for their renewed generosity and for the continued interest they take in the society's welfare."

This is the seventh cup which Messrs. Elkington and Co. have presented to the society. The first was offered in 1873, when the conditions were that it must be won two years in succession by the same exhibitor before absolute ownership in it was secured. It was won in 1882 by Mr. John Price, Pembridge. The second cup was carried off in 1884 by Mr. Clement Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; the third was acquired in 1890 by her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and the fourth was won in 1894 by Mr. Stephenson, who presented it to the Newcastle-on-Tyne Museum and Art Gallery. The conditions were then altered so that the cup must be won three times by the same exhibitor, although not necessarily in successive years. Under these conditions the fifth trophy was won by the late Queen Victoria in 1903, and now his Majesty the King has secured the sixth cup.

Our attention has been drawn to an error which crept into our report of the sheep section. We stated that Sir R. C. Cooper won the champion honour, and was also reserved, but the latter distinction should have been credited to Mr. J. Flower, of Chilmark, Salisbury, who was given the reserve ticket for his pen of Hampshire Downs.

Totnes.

The Totnes Fat Stock Show was held on Tuesday in favourable weather, and attracted a large number of visitors. The entries on the whole were decidedly satisfactory, and showed an increase of forty-three over the previous year. In the bullock section there was a decrease of three, but the quality of the animals exhibited was in advance of anything seen at previous exhibitions, being, in the opinion of the judges, as good a lot of beasts as could possibly be brought together from a confined area. The 5 guinea cup offered by the Mayor of Totnes (Mr. J. Harris) for the best bullock in the show was won by Messrs. J. M. Peeke and Son, of Harbertonford, with a steer typical of the South Hams breed. The winner was run very closely by a steer owned by Mr. T. Luscombe, of Stancombe, and the judges had to call in a third party.

The sheep section, though represented by a small entry, contained more than one pen of excellent quality. The poultry section, as usual, proved a prominent feature of the show, the entries aggregating 272, as compared with 259 last year. The pigeon classes were also well filled, as were the other sections, and, on the whole, the exhibition was a conspicuous success.

Chichester.

The Sussex, East Hants, and Chichester Christmas Fat Stock show took place in Messrs. Hobgen Bros.' Repository at the Chichester Cattle Market last week, and was altogether successful. The exhibits in the classes for beasts were about the same, but there were a few more sheep and also pigs. The most satisfactory feature of the show, however, was the all-round high standard of quality. Mr. R. L. Batchelor, of Greatham, Pulborough, won the champion prize for the best beast with a very fine Aberdeen-Angus heifer, but the steers shown by Mr. W. G. Fladgate, of Slinfold, and Mr. Wildman Cattley, of West Grinstead, were also excellent specimens.

In the class for grass-fed steers or heifers of pure Devon breed, which had not been yarded or stalled between May and September, both prizes were carried off by Mr. John Langmead, of Climping, who had been awarded similar honours the previous day at Pulborough for the same exhibits, although the order of merit was reversed.

There was some remarkably keen competition in the five classes for sheep, and, in one instance, the judges were so evenly divided in their opinion that an umpire had to be called to assist in the decision. The championship prize went to Mr. F. N. Hobgen, of Appledram, for a pen of three fat Southdown wether lambs, than which it would have been difficult to find a more perfect lot.

As an instance of the high quality of the sheep, it may be mentioned that a pen of five fat wether or ewe lambs, of any breed, that had not been yarded, housed, shorn, or trimmed after October 1, with which Mr. John Langmead secured the champion prize at Pulborough and a first at Horsham, failed to secure a prize at all, the first award being won by Mr. A. E. Whittle, of Boxgrove, and the second by Mr. Geo. Howe, of Easebourne. It was in this class that an umpire became necessary. There was also a good show of pigs, roots, corn, and dead poultry.

Ipswich.

The Suffolk Fat Cattle Club's Show at Ipswich last week was not so large as in some previous years, but was as regards quality quite up to the average. Cattle, sheep, and pigs, unfortunately, were nothing like so numerous as last year, cattle showing a drop of 17, the number being 74, as against 91, and 82 in 1904. Sheep were less than for several years, numbering only 32, as against 69 last year and 65 in 1905, whilst of pigs there were 80 entries, or a decrease of 27 on 1905 and 18 on the previous year. Corn entries, however, showed an increase, as did roots and dairy produce, but they did not altogether atone for the decreased display of stock.

The entry of fat cattle was undoubtedly affected by the "clashing" with Birmingham, for very few beasts coming from outside the district were entered. The first class brought under notice of the judges was one of steers or heifers of any pure or cross breed under three years old, and the winner was found in Mr. D. Spencer Dawson's well-grazed and well-brought-out bullock, which later was reserve for the championship, and was very near indeed to gaining for its owner the high place that he took in 1904. In Class 2, for steers or heifers of any pure or cross breed grazed in Tuffolk, and not exceeding three years old, the first prize was won by Mr. R. J. Thurman, Dairy Farm, Semer, with a cross-bred heifer, weighing just over 15 cwt., bred by Mr. John Ross. The quality and size usually anticipated in the Aberdeen-Angus-Shorthorn cross were here exemplified, and the judges gave it the Challenge Cup, presented by the ex-Mayor for the best beast in the show, and the heifer may be expected to give a good account of herself if sent to Islington this week. Mr. Thurman took the championship last year, and if successful again the cup becomes his property. As at Norwich, not much could be said about the Red Polls outside the winners. Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury, took first prize in the older class with a magnificent steer, a credit to the breed, while the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes was second. These positions were reversed in the class for Red Polls not exceeding two years, and so was the judgment at Norwich. The class for steers or heifers, over eighteen months and not exceeding two years old, was the strongest in the show, there being thirteen entries. The first prize went to a very fine cross-bred sent by Sir Frederick Adair, but Mr. S. R. Sherwood was very close up second with a Shorthorn heifer. For steers or heifers, one year old and not exceeding eighteen months, Mr. Thurman won again with a cross-bred heifer full of promise. An enormous ox (an Aberdeen-Angus), quite the type of what used to be associated with Christmas, was shown by Messrs. Goodman, of Dundalk, Ireland, its weight being close upon 1¼ ton.

The disappointing entry of sheep was to some extent balanced by the quality, which was exceedingly good, the few exhibits coming from flocks which have already attained great notoriety. In the class of three wethers over twelve months and under twenty-three months old there were but two entries, and they both came from the noted Walton Grange flock, and were awarded both prizes. In the class for three Suffolk wether lambs, lambed this year, there were but four entries, three of these belonging to Mr. Herbert Smith, and they carried off the three chief prizes, the fourth going to Earl Cadogan. The lambs as a whole were not, perhaps, quite up to the usual mark. With respect to three pure-bred lambs other than Suffolk, Southdowns put in an appearance; there were but three pens, one belonging to Sir Thomas Gooch, and the other two to Mr. Kenneth M. Clark. Sir Thomas Gooch's trio were much admired, and were deservedly placed first, second honours going to the Sudbourne Hall flock. The champion prize for the best pen of fat sheep or lambs in the yard went to Mr. Herbert Smith's wethers, which were uncommonly good-backed sheep.

The decreased entry of pigs was due no doubt to the Swine Fever Regulations, still the various classes proved attractive. The first class was for fat pig of any breed, and the judges had not a very easy task in awarding the prizes. The first prize was won by a Berkshire, sent by Earl Cadogan, which was afterwards awarded the championship as the best fat pig in the yard. Mr. Russell Walker, Marlesford, who is invariably a strong competitor in the swine classes, was second with a well-grazed Large White, which was reserved for the championship. The class for two pigs for bacon was perhaps the largest, and included some nice long deep-sided animals, the fight for chief honours resting between Mr. E. W. Snell, Darmsden, and Mr. John Symonds, Thistleton Hall, Burgh, and the pen belonging to the former gentleman took the eye of the judges as being the best adapted for bacon purposes. Another class which attracted special notice was the one in which Messrs. Chas. and Thos. Harris and Co., Ltd., Calne, Wilts, offered a silver tankard for the best pen of two pigs for bacon purposes from 200 lb. to 260 lb. live weight. Mr. E. Ward Snell won the trophy with a couple of pigs which were regarded as exactly the type of animal required by the firm offering the prize, Mr. John Symond's pen running the winners very close.

The corn display was a good one, in which barley was the chief attraction; whilst roots and vegetables were, on the whole, better than expected, whilst there was an interesting display of sugar beet.

Inverness.

At the thirty-ninth annual show of the Northern Counties Breeding and Fat Show Club, which took place in the auction premises of Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., at Inverness, on the 1st iust, the entries in the cattle and sheep classes were almost similar to last year, but with the exception of a few classes the competition was somewhat limited, and as a result the show lacked a good deal of the interest which would be associated with a more numerous display. At the same time, the entries comprised the principal feeders of fat stock in the north, and the quality was all round good, and reflected the high position which the feeders of fat stock in the north have so long and deservedly maintained.

The awarding of the special prizes created much interest. The Rosehaugh Cup was won by a two-year-old ox from Meikle Tarrel, in the best pure-bred Shorthorns, whilst for the best cross-bred, as was anticipated, a two-year-old ox from Meikle Tarrel secured the Rosehaugh Cup. The Breeders' Cup for best pure-bred Polled cattle was won by a finely brought-out heifer shown from the Cullen House herd. This heifer won the Cawdor Challenge Cup, the blue ribbon of the show, and was well worthy of the honour, her symmetry, substance, and quality warranting the first place.

Sheep were a disappointing display numerically, but the quality of the exhibits compared very favourably with previous shows. This year the exhibition of roots was revived, and, judging from the numerous entries and the excellent quality of the exhibits, it will doubtless now be

permanently continued in connection with this annual show.

Tonbridge Show.

This annual show secures large support in the district, and although in some respects the show held on Monday and Tuesday last was hardly up to many of the preceding shows, it is satisfactory to note that, taken as a whole, the result was eminently satisfactory. The poultry section has been dropped this year, and increased attention given to the root, corn, hop, and fruit classes, &c., with a result that in these sections an almost, if not quite, record show was secured. The apple classes were excellent, and many of the exhibits were of the highest merit.

The cattle section adjudicated upon by Messrs. W. Reid and W. Massie has been better so far as regards the Sussex classes, which must be written as being below the average. The winner in the older steers was owned by Mrs. Montefiore, a choice steer of high quality; two others from those well-known herds owned by Messrs. F. S. W. Cornwallis and W. F. Winch were second and third, and one of the Earl of Derby's run, a herd mate of this however won first place in the under two-year-old class. This was a well-grown and symmetrical steer of high merit, a riper and wider steer took second honours for Mr. W. W. Berry, leaving a weighty and backward steer from L. Huth's herd the third honour, a position that could have been occupied by a well lengthy steer sent by Mr. L. Hardy, M.P. The Heifer Class, generally so good a one, was the contrary this year. The winner, a difficult one to pass over and yet not satisfactory as a winner, came from Mrs. Montefiore; her nearest competitor was one sent by Mr. A. Langridge, but the run, a lengthy, level, and well-finished heifer from the Earl of Derby, was thought by some to be hardly treated. The yearling class numbered but two. Messrs. W. Ford and the Earl of Derby were placed in the order given.

The Aberdeen-Angus herd was the prepondering one in the Classes for Any Other Pure Breeds. In the Older Steer Class first honours, as well as champion and several of the principal special prizes, went to a notably well-finished Aberdeen-Angus steer two weeks under three years, exhibited by Mr. W. Levett, and bred by Mr. T. Wotton. In close attendance came a beautifully moulded steer, one of Mr. J. Ross's cross breds, exhibited by Mr. W. Cattley; to look at this steer is nearly perfection, but when handled lacks that twitch and good finish one found in the first winner. Mr. G. Drummond was third with a level but rather backward Aberdeen-Angus steer, and another of the same breed, owned by Mr. W. W. Berry, was run.

A choice lot made up the under two-year-old class, the best of which was adjudged to be a capital steer owned by Mr. G. Drummond, whilst next in order of merit came a pair from Mr. J. H. Bridges' well-known herd at Langshott, Horley, leaving the run for Mr. W. Cattley with one bred by Mrs. E. Hills. The last mentioned exhibitor won first honours and run champion honours with a deeply-fleshed, wide-topped heifer bred by Mr. C. Stephenson. Mr. W. W. Berry's second winner here was one of good merit, a well-fed and very symmetrical heifer from Aberdeenshire. Mr. Hubble's entry well deserved the third place, leaving run to Mr. Guy Ewing, whose single entry in the yearling class took first honours.

The two classes for calves under twelve months are a feature at these Kent shows. This year, however, only two entries were found in the Sussex class; Mr. Berry's gained the preference over the entry by the Earl of Derby, a pair of promising youngsters. In the other class the first place was easily filled by that superior and thoroughly typical Shorthorn calf owned by Messrs. Denny, a capital calf with fine flesh and quality; next came two Aberdeen-Angus, owned by Mr. W. W. Berry and Mrs. E. Hills. Several fine animals were found in the tenant-farmer classes. Probably one of the best Sussex in the show was a winner in these classes, that grand steer owned by Mr. W. Levett. The entry in these, though satisfactory, should have been considerably larger.

The competition in the sheep section, judged by Messrs. Allan Cooper and Arthur Finn, was not so keen as we have witnessed in former shows. Mr. C. Gordon Neame won both first and a second with good Kent or Romney Marsh sheep, Sir H. E. Dering taking second for lambs. In the Southdowns Mr. W. W. Berry, with a choice pen, was first and champion, the pen being wethers bred by Colonel Hammond. In the classes for wether lambs and ewes, Mr. W. M. Cazalet's flock provided winners of both first and second prizes, the leading pen of lambs taking the run for champion honours. The crossbred pens and those for tenant farmers were fairly well supported.

Mr. E. Croucher, who judged the pigs, found a capital lot to adjudicate upon, the competition being a keen one. The Duchess of Devonshire won first and champion honours for Berkshires. The other principal winners in these classes were Mr. O. E. d'Avigdor-Goldsmid and Sir H. E. Dering.

At the Birmingham Fat Stock Show, the Shropshire Sheep shown above won the Cooper Challenge Cup for the best pen of Sheep, the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association's Special for the best pen of Shropshires, and the First Prize in the class for Shropshire Wethers not exceeding 23 months old. They were bred and exhibited by Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart., Shenstone Court, Lichfield. They are 21 months old and weighed at Birmingham 7 cwt. 0 qr. 19 lbs.

Red Hill Show.

An excellent show was to be seen this year at Red Hill. It is true that in the cattle classes of former years larger entries have been seen, but when reference be made to the other sections of the show, it will be found seldom, if ever, at any rate not in recent years, has competition been so keen.

It is a fault at many of the Christmas shows that as a rule the live stock sections receive the great preponderance of support, and those other equally important ones but little or no encouragement. With this society it is different, and in the classes for agricultural produce, roots, corn, hay, &c., and poultry, every reasonable encouragement is given to secure a full and representative entry. How well this effort succeeded this year was fu apparent as we walked through and viewed th grand exhibit of live and dead poultry, roots, hay, corn, &c.

It is not needful to give details of the various winners in these classes, but what is necessary is to emphasise the fact that, given liberal encouragement, every society might be able to secure for its winter exhibition a general entry that would attract all sections of the agricultural community, and give full opportunity to all interested in its many sections to display to their credit and also to the advantage of their *confreres* specimens of their skill either as cultivators of the soil, breeders of poultry, or workers in the dairy, &c.

As intimated above, the cattle section was numerically weak, but in the winning steer in the Aberdeen-Angus cattle classes for over two years old, Mr. W. Levett's Tonbridge Champion, we found a real grand beast, ripe and mellow, with a thoroughly symmetrical carcase. Mr. W. Cattley came second here with a cross-bred, and occupied the same position in the heifer class with one bred by Mr. C. Stephenson. Mr. J. H. Bridges, president of the association, owned the winning heifer, and also the first, second, and run in the younger steer classes, all of which were fine specimens of their breed, and worthy representatives of the Langshott Aberdeen-Angus herd.

A short entry of Sussex cattle, brought about doubtless by the fact that steers and heifers were classed together, represented this breed—once the principle one formed at this show. Mr. W. F. Winch and Mr. W. Levett were principal contestants for the leading honours in the older class; the former won, but a reversal of this award is quite probable when they next meet. In the younger class Messrs W. W. Berry, S. Agate, and the Exors. of Louis Huth won the prizes.

A very good lot of grass fed steers filled this class, in which the animals were exhibited in pairs, and these, like the entries in the tenant-farmer classes, were of that merit one looks for in prime Christmas beef of the first quality.

It was pleasing to find so good an increase in the entry of sheep, coupled with the fact that the increase had been secured without loss of merit. Mrs. Montefiore won with a choice good quality pen of lambs, and Messrs. W. Clifton and S. Clifton were also successful in the other classes.

The entry of pigs was an admirable one, larger than usual, but fully equal in merit. The Reigate Corporation, the Earlswood Asylum, and Mr. R. Perry were the principal exhibitors.

Judges: Messrs. G. Warde and W. S. McWilliam for cattle, and Messrs. T. Bannister and N. Clayton for sheep and swine.

Scottish National.

The Scottish National Fat Stock Club's tenth annual show at Edinburgh was again worthy as the pioneer fat stock show of Scotland. There was a decrease of twenty-five in the cattle entries, but the other sections of live stock were quite up to the average in extent, while roots and grain made a larger display than on any former occasion, there being no fewer than 468 entries in this department, or 128 more than last year, whilst the total entries for the show were 830, as against 743 last year.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle had increased interest attached to them this year by the presence of exhibits from the King and Lord Rosebery. The latter's herd was unrepresented here last year, but his lordship himself selected the one Polled heifer which was to be sent forward on this occasion, and she amply justified his practical judgment by carrying off everything for which she was eligible. Lord Rosebery has in former years been a prominent prize-taker and the winner of the championship here and at Smithfield with animals which he had bought and fed, but this is the first occasion on which he has gained the "blue ribbon" with one of his own breeding. The heifer was the three-year-old Ida of Dalmeny 3rd, by the £500 Ballindalloch bull, Ebbero. She is a magnificent specimen, and there was no getting over her grand quality. Carrying a wealth of flesh, mellow to the touch, and with not a bit of waste about her, she is as beautiful a type as has been seen here for a long time, and when the champion cup for the best beast in the show and the cup for the best cow or heifer were given to her the awards were received with popular favour. She also gained the Breed Cup, the Thorley Challenge Cup for the breeder of best animal in the breed or cross-breed classes, and the Webb Challenge Cup for the best animal bred by exhibitor. His Majesty the King's exhibit is a steer under two years old, bred at Abergeldie, and sired by Elandslaagte. It is a low-standing, lengthy animal, with a nicely sprung rib, and had little difficulty in getting first prize in this class, whilst it was also placed reserve to Lord Rosebery's heifer for the breed cup.

Shorthorns were not so good as they have been on some former occasions, but they were a distinct improvement on last year. The big export trade which has been going on of late has diminished their numbers, and fewer have been kept for feed-

ing purposes. In a class of eight young steers, Mr. John Ross, Meikle Tarrel, was first with the red ox with which he won the breed cup at Inverness. Bred by himself, and sired by Ajax, it is an animal of very nice build and showing great character, but just strong enough in his bones. It was awarded the breed cup, and was placed reserve to Lord Rosebery's Polled heifer in all the championship competitions, also winning Sir James Sivewright's cup for the best animal bred by a tenant farmer.

In the Galloway classes, Messrs. Thomas Biggar and Sons, Chapelton, showing only three animals, carried off three first prizes as well as the breed cup and reserve for the champion cow or heifer. Highland cattle might have been stronger both in numbers and quality, but there were some outstanding animals, notably that with which Sir William Ogilvy-Dalgleish came to the front in the old steer class. It was a yellow steer of his own breeding which was first here and at Smithfield last year, a bullock of great scale and substance, and he was also awarded the breed cup.

Cross breds were the feature of the cattle section both as regards quality and quantity. The breed cup fell to Mr. George Bruce's young red steer Tochineal Charlie, and the reserve to Mr. Gordon Duff's blue-grey heifer Nell.

The show of sheep was quite as good as usual, which means a good deal at the Scottish National Show. There were uncommonly few blanks, and competition from first to last was exceptionally keen. The championship went to Mr. John M'Dowall, Girdstingwood, for a pen of splendid Cheviot wedders, which were first in their class, and took the breed cup as the best Cheviots. They scaled 776 lb., and were, perhaps, the nicest from the quality point of view that the exhibitor has shown for some years past. The reserve ticket went to Sir John Gilmour for a pen of exceptionally good blackfaced lambs, which were not only first in their class, but carried off the breed cup for the best pen of blackfaces. These naturally had not the weight of the Cheviots, but they were of quite outstanding quality, two of them especially being about as good blackfaced lambs as have been seen in the Waverley Market.

In a good show of pigs, Mr. John E. B. Cowper, Gogar House, Corstorphine, secured the champion cup with a pair of a white breed, one of which scaled 55 stone live weight. The show of roots was of such dimensions and excellence that the work of the judges was long and arduous. Turnips and potatoes were of superb quality, and the exhibits of grain were of a high standard of merit.

York.

The Yorkshire Society for the Christmas exhibition of fat stock, &c., held their jubilee show last week, but the entries were not altogether worthy of the event, for, despite special attractions such as special jubilee awards and an increased prize list—the total was £1,445, or £250 more than last year—the entries were lower than last year by about 250, whilst the chief section, that for cattle, was the smallest for four years, only 105 animals being forward as against 124 last year. Sheep (67), pigs (90), and live poultry were, however, improvements on recent years. No doubt the clashing with the Birmingham Show had a great deal to do with the decreased entry, but one would have liked to have seen a larger display at the jubilee show of a most useful society.

The cattle were of good quality, and competition was at times somewhat keen. The champion was a Black Polled ox, two years and nine months old, shown by Mr. Peter Dunn, Sigglesthorne, Hull, who had previously won the trophy, the Faber Challenge Cup, twice, so that last week he finally made it his absolute property. Mr. Dunn's exhibit, which was bred by Mr. J. H. Bridges, Langshott, is a very good steer, evenly covered with flesh, with a very thick top, his only fault being that he stands rather badly. The final choice for the championship rested between Mr. Dunn's exhibit and a black cross-bred ox, two years and nine months old, shown by Mr. Charles Emmerson (East Layton, Darlington), and there was not so much to choose between the two. Mr. Emmerson's beast, which is straight, level, and well-fleshed, though a trifle on the leg, won in its class from a blue-grey belonging to Messrs. R. and J. Davison (Welham, Malton), and took the York Challenge Cup for the best beast exhibited by a tenant farmer resident in Yorkshire, and a special jubilee cheque of five guineas given by the committee for the best Shorthorn or cross-bred ox or heifer not exceeding three years old.

Neither sex was well represented among animals of a Shorthorn type, but a young ox from Lambton Castle attracted some attention for its superior quality. Young bullocks of any breed or cross except of a Shorthorn type made a good show, the winning trio specially, and here, as well as in a smaller class of heifers, irrespective of breed, Mr. Emmerson was a conspicuous winner.

The King was first in both the Highland classes. With his yellow ox he was easily first in a class of half-a-dozen, and with a red heifer he beat Lord Durham's exhibit—a heavier beast, but not considered of so good a type. Lord Durham was also second in the ox class, Sir John Swinburne coming third.

Irish cattle, of which there was a rather strong muster, included some good butchers' beasts with heavy weights. The dairy cows were inferior to what might have been expected, lacking size and quality.

The sheep were of uniformly high standard, and made an excellent show. A pen of three Southdown sheep were forwarded from Sandringham, and, though of good quality, were too small to win, and Messrs. Davison and Captain Clive Behrens took the prizes. An excellent class was the Mountain or Scotch Cross Breeds, and the keenest competition of the day was witnessed among the Horned Scotch or Mountain Wethers, where Lord Middleton and Sir John Swinburne were the chief winners. The lambs were remarkable for size and weight, and with their pen Messrs. Davison, having won it three times, gained permanent possession of the silver challenge cup, and also a gold jubilee medal. The tenant farmers' classes were well filled, and most of the animals of capital character, whilst the butchering classes contain some of the best sheep in the show. Pigs were, on the whole, of grand quality, and in good condition, while there was a creditable display of farm produce.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Comparative Test of Fifty-one Varieties of Potatoes.

SIR,—The comparative test of 1906 has been in all essential particulars a repetition of those undertaken here in 1903, 1904, and 1905, differing in one respect as regards the *locale* of the plots. In the previous trials, when the price of some of the varieties varied from £1 to £10 per lb., it was only an exercise of common prudence to grow them in the safe enclosure of the kitchen garden, and under spade cultivation. Now they have been transferred to the open field, and grown under the ordinary cultivation of the field crop.

A single pound of each variety (divided into twelve sets, as far as possible of equal size, and all except eight varieties comprising twelve whole tubers) was planted 15 in. apart, in drills 30 in. wide.

Dates of Planting and Raising.—All were planted on April 11, and with the object of testing relative disease resistance, all were purposely left unsprayed. All (second-earlies as well as Maincrop) varieties were raised between September 10 and 20, and I regret that circumstances prevented the raising of the first named earlier, which doubtless accounts for the larger proportion of disease noted in some of these. The previous crop had been autumn sown cabbage plants, following vetches on lea.

Manures.—Immediately previous to planting a mixture at the rate of 6 cwts. per statute acre, consisting of four parts superphosphate, and one part each of sulphate of ammonia and sulphate of potash, was sown on the drills over a medium dressing of farmyard manure.

General Remarks.—The yields have been certified by independent public men, who kindly supervised the raising on different dates. The consistency of the relative cropping power of some of the varieties during the four years over which these trials have extended is noticeable, as will be seen from the following table:—

	Years.			
	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.
Duchess of Cornwall..	2nd	1st	1st	1st
The Factor.....	5th	4th	9th	13th
Dalmeny Beauty	6th	11th	4th	4th
Scottish Triumph.....	19th	10th	18th	12th
Carter's Snowball.....	10th	23rd	27th	28th
Black Skerries	42nd	30th	33rd	32nd
General Buller	41st	27th	24th	33rd

(In each year over 50 varieties have been grown.)

No.		Yield in lb.	Character of Haulm.
1	Eldorado	43½	strong
2	Duchess of Cornwall...	43	very strong
3	Evergood	41	medium
4	The Colleen	40	strong
5	The Factor	38½	very strong
6	Dalmeny Beauty ...	37¾	do.
7	Dalmeny Acme ...	36½	strong
8	Great Scott	35½	very strong
9	Electric Spark ...	34	do.
10	Carter's Snowball ...	32¾	do.
11	Dalmeny Radium ...	31¾	do.
12	Million maker... ...	31¾	medium
13	Northern Star ...	30½	very strong
14	Dumfries Model ...	30½	do.
15	Highlander	29¾	do.
16	Money Maker... ...	30	medium
17	Sir John Llewellyn ...	30	do.
18	Engineer	29¾	very strong
19	Scottish Triumph ...	29½	do.
20	Conquering Hero ...	29¼	do.
21	Gold Reef	29	medium
22	Diamond Reef ...	28¾	do.
23	Table Talk	27¾	very strong
24	Royal Kidney... ...	27¼	strong
25	King Edward VII. (Butler's)	26	do
26	Dalmeny Regent ...	25¾	very strong
27	Peckover	25¾	medium
28	Ireland's Best... ...	25¼	very strong
29	Cigarette	25	do.
30	British Queen	24¾	do.
31	Sim Gray	23½	strong
32	Davies Warrior ...	21½	very strong
33	Killarney	21½	do.
34	Sutton's Superlative...	17¾	do.
35	Up-to-date II. ...	16½	do.
36	Windsor Castle ...	16½	medium
37	Old Champion ...	15¾	very strong
38	Golden Wonder ...	15¾	medium
39	Maxim	15½	weak
40	Johnson's Diamond ...	14½	very strong
41	General Buller ...	13	strong
42	Black Skerries ...	12¾	medium
43	Nobleman	11¾	weak

Regarding the following varieties the returns are unreliable, owing to the failure of sets or other causes:—

No.	Name,	Yield in lbs.	Character of Haulm.
44	Up-to-Date	32½	very strong
45	Lymm Gray ...	27½	do.
46	Lord Dundonald ...	17¾	do.
47	The Recorder	14½	medium
48	Southern Queen ...	11½	do.
49	Daniels' Sensation ...	9¾	do.
50	The Leader	5½	do.
51	Sutton's Discovery ...	5	weak

The following varieties showed more or less disease when raised. It must, however, be remembered that none were sprayed, and that the Second Earlies should have been raised sooner.

Considerably Diseased—Windsor Castle, British Queen, Ireland's Best, Great Scott, Diamond Reef, Dalmeny Radium, Maxim, Gold Reef, Old Champion, Carter's Snowball.

Diseased—General Buller, Dalmeny Regent, Million Maker, The Colleen, Table Talk, Johnson's Diamond, Engineer, Lord Dundonald.

In again venturing to publish the results of these trials, I only offer them for what they are worth. I make no attempt to draw general conclusions from them, and only regard them as valuable for the comparative indications which they furnish. These may supply a lead for further tests to be repeated under varying conditions of soil and over a more prolonged period. At the same time I believe that even such trials, highly speculative as their results may be when drawn from a single instance, may if repeated with fairly consistent results, prove to be of more or less deductive importance J. F. WILLIAMSON.

Summer Hill, co. Cork, November, 1906.

Home Raised Meat versus the Foreign Supplied to our Army.

SIR,—In reference to my former letter on this subject which you granted the favour to appear in your widely-circulating journal, may I beg further space for another letter upon this subject, so intimately associated in the nation's welfare!

I venture to think the axiom of great statesmen of every country and time has been that the thorough cultivation of home land should ever be of prime and anxious consideration by every true statesman governing their country, and that the axiom holds good still, however measures in a contrary direction by supplying foreign meat *versus* home-raised for our army, in order to show an apparent gain of £150,000 by our War Minister in this department of his administration, however it may be excused and defended by him and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the two gentlemen immediately responsible, swayed by the exigencies of "Party."

Thus has been diverted to foreign lands a d labour, and cast into foreign circulation, and so lost to us for ever, the sum of £1,332,000; this to show an apparent gain of £150,000 in this foreign meat deal, unheeding the great gain which would have been brought to the country by £1,482,000 expended in buying home-raised meat instead of the foreign imported. In the first instance, by retaining the money in the circulation of the country, and by distribution among the occupiers and the labourers required to produce from 140,000 acres of land the cattle needed to supply the quantity of meat required, and again distributed to the various industries inseparably associated, and so on to others, would, through the Excise and Inland Revenue, be returned to the Treasury again.

One thing this Government has made clear that, unless an equality in the price of home and foreign

meat be established by an impost of 5d. per stone of 8 lb. (1·6 per lb.) on the foreign, the home raising of cattle must at no distant date be destroyed, as some other industries have been, by an unfair competition. May I ask the favour to allow my letter to appear in next Monday's issue of the journal.

The estimate of 5d. on a stone of 8 lb. (1·6 per lb) I made in October last when fairly good carcases of ox beef could be bought in the Metropolitan Meat Market at 3s. 1d. per stone of 8 lb., and foreign at Liverpool at 2s. 8d. Whether this estimate will be sufficient for our graziers experts must decide, but to obtain anything like fair consideration of the matter, the susceptibilities of free traders must be taken into account.—Yours truly, ALFRED WELCH.

Southall, December 5, 1906.

Single v. Double Furrow Ploughs.

SIR,—Seeing in your issue of December 3 "Single *v.* Double Furrow Ploughs," I beg to say that I have used double furrow balance ploughs for some years now, and that they make as good work as the single furrow ploughs, which is borne out in competition at the annual ploughing matches in this part of East Kent. At the Isle of Thanet ploughing this year the champion prize for the best work on the field was won by a double furrow balance plough in competition with 42 ploughs of various make on Nov. 14, 1906. About three years ago I got Messrs. Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies, of Ipswich, to take up double furrow balance ploughs, and now I have three of them at work on my farm. This double furrow balance plough has been specially designed to meet the requirements of East Kent farmers. It is simple in construction, light in draught, can be worked with perfect ease by the ploughman, and turned at the headlands as easily as the single furrow. It turns a true inverted Kentish furrow, and by aid of the long steel breasts pushes the land close and well packed, which gives the "Hareback" style so much admired by East Kent farmers.

The special advantages of this new double furrow balance plough over the famous old Kent turnwrist wood plough are: —

(1) It turns two furrows at the same time as against one furrow by the old Kent plough, and can be worked with a team of four horses, with a man and a boy, the same as with the famous old Kent p'ough.

(2) The draught when ploughing two furrows in heavy land 6 in. deep with ten ends and one furrow to the rod is only 7 cwt , as against 5½ cwt. with the old Kent wood plough turning only one furrow

(3) The double furrow balance plough will work equally well on both heavy and light soils, and two acres can be ploughed in the one yoke system (eight hours), as against 1¼ acres with the old Kent wood plough, the width of the furrow can be adjusted from 8½ in. to 10¼ in.

(4) Breasts and shares for ordinary square work can be fitted on if required, instead of the Kentish long breasts. The weight of th s new plough is 825 lb. This new plough is very much taking the place of the single furrow ploughs in this part of East Kent.—Yours truly, H. H. SPANTON.

Chislet Court, near Canterbury,
December 6, 1905.

Literature on Nitrogen.

SIR,—Can you tell us of any book published which contains any information on the treatment of crops with nitrogen, or price and publishers of same. Any other first hand information on the subject that you can give us we shall be grateful for.—Yours truly, L.

December 3, 1903

[In last week's MARK LANE EXPRESS there is an advertisement of a book, "Artificial Manures," price post free 1s. 2d., which contains a good deal of information on the subject of fertilisers, including particulars of nitrogenous manures, the principal of which is, as our correspondent no doubt knows, nitrate of soda. The "MARK LANE EXPRESS Annual, 1907," contains a section devoted to fertilisers and their use, including, of course, references to nitrate of soda as well as other nitrogenous substances.—ED.]

Soluble and Insoluble Phosphate.

SIR,—Can you give me any light in reference to phosphate, soluble and insoluble? Common phosphate manure is about 50s. per ton, and contains 26 per cent. soluble phosphate, and basic slag contains 26 per cent. insoluble phosphate. Can you tell me how to make the phosphate soluble?

Again, would the insoluble phosphate in basic slag, if put on the land now, become soluble by say May, or the time common turnips want sowing. You see my point. Common phosphate manure with 26 per cent. soluble costs over 50s., while basic slag with 26 per cent. insoluble costs about 27s. 6d. Will it, by being put in now, answer the same purpose as the 50s. manure in May? If you would answer my question through your MARK LANE EXPRESS, which I take every week, I should esteem it a great favour. Yours faithfully, H. W. C.

[By common phosphate manure our correspondent no doubt means ordinary superphosphate of lime 26 per cent. soluble in water. He asks can we tell him how to make the so-called insoluble phosphate of basic slag soluble, meaning soluble in water as in superphosphate. There is no way of doing so. We may point out that the word insoluble applied to the phosphate in basic slag is misleading, because the greater part of the phosphate is soluble in a weak solution of acid, similar to acids in the soil, and to the acid exuded by the fibres of roots, and is therefore available.

The pith of the inquiry is whether basic slag, costing 27s. 6d. per ton and containing 26 per cent. phosphate, applied now will produce on the turnip crop as good results as superphosphate applied in the spring. As a general rue we should recommend in such a case superphosphate, but if the soil is at all deficient in lime, and especially if on previous occasions it has shown any sign of finger-and-toe, we should then strongly recommend basic slag instead of superphosphate. As regards date of application of basic slag, recent experiments show that application in spring is more effective than autumn application when applied to the turnip crop. On this point our correspondent might read the paragraph "Roots" in the special article on basic slag, which appeared in our issue of September 17. See page 300 of said issue.—ED.

Feeding Questions.

SIR,—Being a new subscriber to your paper, and noting that you kindly offer to give information where required regarding feeding stuffs, &c., I shall be glad if you could give me information on the following:—Linseed cake being very dear, and corn, &c., being cheap, I am wondering what is the cheapest and safest mixture, having regard to the albuminoid ratio, for giving to fatting sheep and bullocks and store cattle. I give you the prices of what the various feeding stuffs are worth on my farm, and have an engine and food-preparing plant fixed:—Linseed cake (best English), £8 10s. per ton; cotton cake (undecorticated), £5 10s. per ton; linseed oil, £22 10s. per ton; crushed wheat, barley, and maize, £6 per ton; crushed peas and beans, £6 15s. per ton.

Would you recommend linseed oil to be used in conjunction with cotten cake and corn; if so, in what proportion ought they to be mixed, and what quantity of the mixture would you advise to give to thirty months old fatting bullocks that are having mangolds, a little hay, and oat straw chaff? Thanking you in anticipation, I remain, yours faithfully, A TENANT FARMER.

Chichester, December 1, 1906.

[The subject of feeding cattle and sheep is one about which there is such a wide difference of opinion, and one that is governed so largely by local conditions, that hard-and-fast rules cannot be applied. As a matter of fact, there is a difference in the feeding value of roots grown under different conditions, and the same applies to straw and hay, so that in some districts more corn and cake has to be given than in others. Again, the amount of corn and cake required in fattening sheep and cattle is greater at the end of the period than at the beginning, so that one can only strike an average, which is subject to variations. I do not know whether you have read Leaflet No. 79, issued free by the Board of Agriculture, which deals with the rations for farm stock, but if not, I would advise you to get it, as it contains a good deal of information that you would find useful as a guide in feeding operations. You ask for a cheap and safe mixture, having regard to a proper albuminoid ratio, which, in the case of thirty months' old bullocks, would be of about 1 to 8, and there are several you might try. If you have plenty of roots and oat straw chaff, you could try about 56 lb. of the former with 20 lb. of the latter and add 4 lb. crushed oats and 3 lb. decorticated cotton cake. Another way would be to reduce the roots to about 40 lb., give 14 lb oat straw, 7 lb. hay, 5 lb. or 6 lb. crushed barley or maize, and 2 lb. decorticated cotton cake. Other variations can be made, the amount of cake or corn being greater or less according to the quantity of roots, hay, and oat straw you have at hand. In the way of concentrated foods for sheep that are being fattened, crushed wheat and undecorticated cotton cake in equal quantities are good admixtures to roots, hay, and straw, but some variation is generally desirable. I have had no actual experience in the advantages or otherwise of using linseed oil with cotton cake and corn, but I should hardly look upon this as being a cheap form of ration.—RUSTICUS.]

A farm labourer was charged at Crewe on Monday with cruelty to a cow. He was engaged in milking at Manor Farm, Leighton, when a cow struck him in the face with its tail. Next morning it was found injured, and the tail was on the ground. He admitted that he twisted the tail off in temper, and was fined £3 and costs.

Wheat Fields *v.* Ironclads.

There is safety for the land
Now the *Dreadnought* can withstand
All uninjured, like a rock,
Of her guns the mighty shock.
But will she as well behave
To receive the shock she gave?
And if lost with guns and crew,
How in war could we renew
Such a loss to save the soil
From Invasion's fatal spoil?
But if wheat fields we extend,
There is nought on them to spend,
Every year they yield return
With the labour that would spurn
With its millions, bold and stout,
Foes that in, could not get out!
Taxes few were needed then,
With our force of rustic men;
If we raised our staple food,
No invader would intrude,
Certain ruin he would find,
Vanquished, with the sea behind!
Wheat fields are our greatest need,
They would guard the land indeed,
Make us rich our corn to reap,
That defence were sure and cheap.
If we grew as once our food,
England could not be subdued.
For without the bread we eat,
What would profit us our fleet?
Even if the fleet should win,
Even if our food came in,
Still the price would be too high
For the masses bread to buy;
And the State might then expire
In a Democratic fire.
Let us trust to growing wheat,
Cheaper far than any fleet,
Every man was then employed,
England could not be destroyed,
Taxing for the People's good,
All our sea-borne cereal food,
England ne'er could know defeat,
Thus protected by her Wheat!

PERCY RUSSELL.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A Question of Damages.

SIR,—I should be glad of advice in the following case:—

Last July I sent a bitch to a man for the service of his dog. I packed her securely in a box and left the collar and chain on her the same as she had been wearing, and sent her carriage paid to his station. When she arrived (still in the box) the man sent to fetch her, and they took her out of the box at the station, when she pulled her head through the collar and got away, and they have not been able to find her since. Can I claim compensation? FAIRPLAY.

[I do not quite understand who the man is who was sent to fetch the bitch; was he in the company's employment or in the employment of the man to whom the bitch was sent? If in the latter, you can claim compensation against the employer of the man; if in the service of the Railway Company, it will depend upon the conditions of the contract, which I have not seen.—ED.]

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

The following account issued yesterday shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended last Saturday. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (13,336), 11,054; sheep and lambs (1,623, 3,470); horses (351), 193.

Fresh meat:—Beef (67,105 cwt.), 85,074; mutton (33,540), 18,525; pork (14,737), 11,710.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (101,631 cwt.), 85,954; beef (4,087), 3,289; hams (27,366), 17,655; pork (1,223), 3,004; meat, salted or fresh (9,292), 8,515; meat, preserved (26,660), 5,975.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (67,826 cwt.), 61,116; margarine (22,616), 19,421; cheese (58,448), 55,374; milk, fresh, nil; cream (105), 71; condensed (20,818), 15,274; preserved (132), 150.

Eggs (great hundreds) — (414,687), 337,336; poultry (value £9,678), £10,223; game (value £5,305), £2,347; rabbits, dead, not tinned (23,767 cwt.), 7,543; lard (41,510 cwt.), 38,610.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,813,000 cwt.), 1,615,800; wheat meal and flour (334,500), 226,400; barley (653,800), 447,800; oats (204,000), 100,000; peas (41,880), 33,890; beans (11,540), 10,420; maize or Indian corn (858,300), 1,096,100.

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See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1906.

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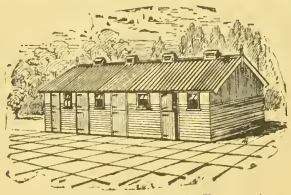

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POULTRY.

Poultry-Keeping in America.

(*Concluded from page 594.*)

THE COST OF FEEDING.

Chapter V. deals with Incubation and Rearing, and Mr. Brown remarks that the adoption of incubators in the United States has proceeded at a much more accelerated pace in America, great as has been the increase in this country. The system of feeding will, we think, prove one of the most attractive chapters to English breeders. As regards the cost of feeding, Mr. Brown says:—

In the western sections both of the United States and Canada, especially within the great corn belts, food is abundant and cheap. These vast areas need not, however, concern us, as their distance from the consuming centres and the expense of transit, with loss of quality owing to the time occupied, more than balances any gain in that direction. In the eastern states where the large rearing and laying plants are found, the cost of food differs very little from England, and even in the case of Indian corn is not more than 1s. or 2s. per qr. less than with us. Where labour has to be employed, its cost much exceeds what we should pay, and much more than turns the scale in our favour.

From the evidence obtainable, I incline to the view that the dry mash and dry feeding system is more expensive than where soft food is employed, for in each case where figures were given me, except among the Rhode Island farmers, who, by the way, use wet mash, or "dough" as they call it, the cost was greater than with us in England. The lowest figures stated, with the exception just noted, was 1 dollar 45 cents, which is just 6s. per annum, and in some cases it was 1s. to 2s. higher.

This is, I believe, due to the fact that the absence of natural food, the small runs given to the fowls, and the heavy feeding, lead to the consumption of a greater amount of food supplied, instead of encouraging the birds to obtain as much as possible naturally, providing them with what is deficient. Hence the common idea of lower cost of production in America is erroneous. The experience in Rhode Island confirms this view. I was unable to obtain any definite information as to the cost of producing a chicken either at killing or laying age, such as we have available at home.

Mr. Brown deals somewhat exhaustively with table poultry, and his remarks give one a good insight as to how they do these things in America. Methods of marketing, duck farming, and turkey raising are all dealt with interestingly, and there are also details of instruction of poultry-keeping given in the agricultural colleges, &c., and notes of the experimental stations.

In concluding, Mr. Brown gives several

POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

by those who are now or may be concerned in poultry breeding, and for these we must refer our readers to the book itself. We would, however, give the following, which appears in the summary chapter.

From the present report it will be realised that, while in many directions the British poultry industry occupies a more advanced stage of development than the kindred pursuit in Canada and the United States, our methods are better suited for the conditions under which we work, and there would be no advantage in attempting with present knowledge any modifications, there are others where we have something yet to learn.

It is important, therefore, that these should be carefully studied by farmers and poultry keepers with an open mind and a readiness to adopt such as would increase production, enabling us to meet the rapidly-growing demand for eggs and poultry, and be less dependent upon extraneous supplies of the higher grades of these articles of food.

We cannot hope to entirely meet our own needs, but the sale of first quality eggs and chickens is already very great and steadily increasing. It is the supply of these that should be the objects of British poultry-keepers. The cheap trade can be left to far-distant peoples, whether in Europe or America. They cannot compete with our own produce, and to compete with them would be fatal.

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The Dorset County Education Committee have approved of arrangements made for holding a winter's course of free instruction in agriculture for farmers and farmers' sons at Dorchester. The instruction is specially intended to be of a practical character, and such as to convey the results of scientific facts bearing upon agriculture which can immediately be turned to advantage by those who are actively engaged in farming. Should this course of instruction prove successful, it is proposed to conduct similar courses at a later date in other parts of the county.

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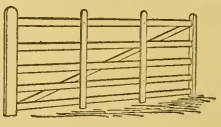

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USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

———	Peruvian Guano. Raw or Equalised.	Peruvian Guano. Phosphatic.	Peruvian Guano. Dissolved (soluble).	Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	—

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commerci cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soi and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Best Method of Applying Nitrate of Soda to Root Crops.

The ordinary method of applying nitrate of soda is to topdress it, but from experiments conducted over several seasons this method is not the best. For the third year in succession nitrate applied wholly as a top dressing failed to produce so large a crop as nitrate given wholly in the drills, and also for the third time it was found that the largest crops were obtained when the dressing was divided, one half being given in the drills, while the other half was applied as a top dressing. The superiority of the latter method was very manifest during the three years.

The conclusion seems therefore inevitable that of the three possible methods of applying nitrate of soda to the turnip crop, the one most extensively practised of applying it wholly as a top dressing is distinctly the least effective, and that the application of the fertiliser wholly in the drills, though not the best method, is nevertheless more effective. The practice of applying nitrate on the surface has been recommended on the ground that soils have no power to retain the nitrogen, and that if it be put in the soil before the roots of the plants are ready to take it up, it will be in great part washed into the drains and lost. Yet the test of trials has now conclusively shown that better results are obtained from the drill application than from the top dressing.

Cottoncakes—Egyptian and Indian.

The question of the relative value of different kinds of undecorticated cottoncake is often raised. It cropped up in the correspondence columns of this paper in the issue of 26th ult., so that the following particulars may be interesting:—

A report was made in 1903 by Professor Gilchrist, of the Durham College of Science, on the comparative value of cakes made from Indian and Egyptian seed.

Under the professor's supervision trials were made during the summer of 1902 on the effects of feeding two kinds of undecorticated cottoncake to cattle and to sheep while feeding on pasture. The two cakes were (*a*) Egyptian cost at that time £5 1s. 3d. per ton delivered, and Bombay costing then £3 10s. per ton delivered.

The latter cake is less palatable and contains more woolly fibre, but when the difference in price is taken into account the results were in favour of the Bombay cake, although, it is added, that they must be considered as of a tentative character.

In connection with the report, the chemical composition of some samples of cotton cake is given, as shown in the following table:—

	Egyptian Cotton-cake per cent.	Bombay Cotton-cake per cent.	Indian Cottonseed per cent.
Moisture	14·13	12·41	10·5
Oil	5·17	5·35	14·7
Albuminoids ...	24·19	21·19	16·6
Carbohydrates	32·10	36·49	29·7
Woody fibre ...	19·31	18·65	23·3
Mineral matter	5·10	5·91	5·2
	100·00	100·00	100·00
Nitrogen	3·87	3·39	2·66
Sand	·05	1·24	1·10

Judging from these figures, it may be seen that the Bombay cotton-cake has a distinctly lower flesh-forming value than the cake of Egyptian origin, an inferiority which is not quite made up by the greater percentage of fat-forming constituents. In no way, however, can the difference between the two cakes be considered of much importance as regards their chemical composition. The physical character of the fibre of the two cakes is, however, very different: the fibre of the cotton-cake having an objectionable woolly nature. Considering the rather large amount of sand in the Bombay cake, as well as the points noted above, the Bombay cake will be seen to be slightly inferior, though this may be compensated for by the lower price.

Manurial Value of Straw.

The straw of the cereal crops does not possess, according to Stephens, such high manurial value as is often imagined. The constituents of fresh straw are for the most part insoluble, so that straw is of little use in the soil unless it is well rotted. Indeed, the principal value of straw in the composition of farmyard manure is that it, in the first place, forms comfortable litter for animals, and afterwards is a suitable vehicle for absorbing and holding in a manageable condition the solid and liquid excreta. From this point of view it is apparent that the excessive use of straw as litter is wasteful, for while the bulk of the dung may be thereby greatly increased, there may be little more fertilising value than if less litter had been supplied to the animals.

It is an important fact that crops, while extracting from the soil a certain proportion of plant food, which can be replaced, enrich the soil in other elements of fertility. Plants draw nutritious ingredients from the sub soil; and some plants absorb nitrogen from the atmosphere. By the decay of their roots they leave the surface soil richer in organic fertilising material than it was before, and the larger the crop the more does it enrich the soil in those elements, because the greater is the residue of plant food derived from the roots which remain and gradually decompose in the soil.

Pastures.

Phosphate and potassic dressings are the most important for pastures. When clover is not abundant in the pasture 3 to 4 cwt. superphosphate with 2 to 3 cwt. of kainit may be applied with advantage every three or four years. When it is desired to develop the clover in the pasture, then a liberal dressing of 10 cwt basic slag with 4 to 5 cwt. of kainit will produce good results, lasting seven or eight years.

Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906.

Regulations as to Sampling, &c.

The new Act will now soon come into force, as it takes effect on January 1. The full Act was given in our issue of September 10, and recently the Board of Agriculture have issued drafts of sampling, &c, instructions to supersede the old regulations. As it will be useful to our readers to have these regulations before them for reference, we print them below.

Invoice, &c., to be sent to Analyst.

4. Where a sample is, or parts of a sample are, under Section 3 of the Act, sent for analysis to the chief analyst or to an agricultural analyst, there shall be sent with the sample or parts the invoice (if any) relating to the article from which the sample was taken, or a copy of the invoice or of such part thereof as is hereinafter prescribed, and also any circular or advertisement of the seller descriptive of such article which the purchaser may wish the analyst to consider in making his analysis and giving his certificate.

Prescribed Part of Invoice, s. 3 (7).

5. Where a copy of an invoice is sent to the chief analyst or to an agricultural analyst in pursuance of the Act, there may be omitted from such copy the name and address of, and any other matter which would identify or disclose, the seller of the article to which the invoice relates. The prescribed part of the invoice shall be the whole thereof except such name, address, and other matter as aforesaid,

Sampling.

6. Where, for the purposes of the Act, a sample is required to be taken in the prescribed manner, or in accordance with regulations made under the Act, the following provisions shall apply:—

(*a*) The person taking the sample shall give to the seller at least three days' notice in writing of his intention to take the sample, with particulars as to the place, day, and hour of sampling. If the seller does not attend, the sample shall be taken in the presence of a witness.

(*b*) The sample shall be taken in the following manner:—

In the case of a fertiliser—

(i.) When the fertiliser is delivered in bags or other packages, a number of bags or packages shall be selected as follows, viz.:—

Not less than two bags or packages where the quantity of the whole consignment does not exceed 1 ton.

Not less than three bags or packages where the quantity of the whole consignment exceeds 1 ton and does not exceed 2 tons.

Not less than 4 bags or packages where the quantity of the whole consignment exceeds 2 tons and does not exceed 3 tons; and, where the quantity exceeds 3 tons, one additional bag or package for every additional ton or part of a ton; provided that in no case need more than 10 bags or packages be selected. The selection shall be made from different parts of the whole consignment.

(ii.) The selected bags or packages shall be emptied separately on a clean and dry floor, worked up with a spade, and one spadeful from each set aside. The spadefuls so set aside shall then be thoroughly mixed together, and any lumps broken up by the hand or spade. From this mixture a sample, from about 2 lb. to 4 lb. in weight, shall be taken.

(iii.) When the fertiliser is delivered in bulk, a like number of portions, according to the quantity of the whole consignment, shall be taken from different parts of the whole consignment and thoroughly mixed together on a clean and dry floor, and a sample, from about 2 lb. to 4 lb. in weight, shall be taken from the mixture.

(iv.) When the fertiliser consists of bulky material, uneven in character and likely to get matted together, such as shoddy, wool refuse, hair, &c., portions are to be taken from the selected bags or packages, or from different parts of the fertiliser if in bulk, the matted portions torn up, and all the portions thoroughly mixed together. The sample shall be taken from the mixture and shall be not less than 3 lb. in weight.

v.) As an alternative method, where neither the seller nor the buyer signifies objection thereto, the sample of a fertiliser delivered in bags or other packages may be taken by a sampling pale or spear or pipe or tube, which shall not be less than twenty-four inches in length, and two inches in diameter. The sampling instrument shall be pressed into the mouth of the bag or package so as to pass through the entire depth of the contents or to the extreme length of the sampling instrument. The several quantities thus taken from the selected bags or packages, which shall be at least double the number of bags or packages required to be selected under regulation (i), shall be thoroughly mixed together and a sample, from about 2 lb. to 4 lb. in weight, shall be taken from the mixture.

In the case of a feeding stuff—

(vi.) When the feeding stuff is in the state of grain or meal, it shall be sampled in the same manner as prescribed for fertilisers. When the feeding stuff is in the state of cake a number of cakes shall be selected from different parts of the whole consignment, as follows:—

Not less than five cakes where the quantity of the consignment does not exceed 2 tons.

Not less than ten cakes where the quantity exceeds 2 tons and does not exceed 5 tons.

Not less than fifteen cakes where the quantity exceeds 5 tons and does not exceed 50 tons.

Not less than twenty-five cakes where the quantity exceeds 50 tons.

(vii.) The selected cakes shall either be passed through a cake-breaker or be broken into small pieces such as could be passed through a 1½ inch seive. The broken cakes or the pieces shall be thoroughly mixed, and from the mixture a sample, not less than 6 lb. in weight, shall be taken.

(viii.) As an alternative method, three strips shall be taken across the middle of each selected cake; and each of the three parts, into which (under Regulation 7) a sample is to be divided, shall contain one strip of each selected cake.

(ix.) Where, on delivery of the consignment, any appreciable portion of the feeding stuff is found to be mouldy, sour, or otherwise unsuitable for feeding purposes, separate samples are to be taken of the unsuitable portion and of the residue of the feeding stuff respectively; and, in the case of unsuitable cakes, the sample may consist of several large pieces fairly representative thereof. An estimate shall be made by the person taking the sample as to the proportion of the feeding stuff unsuitable for feeding purposes, and shall be communicated by him to the analyst.

(x.) When the feeding stuff is in a fluid or semi-fluid condition, three packages shall be selected, and, after the contents have been well stirred or shaken, a portion shall immediately be taken from each. The several portions shall then be thoroughly mixed together in a clean vessel, and from the mixture a sample, from about 2 lb. to 4 lb. in weight, shall be taken.

In the case of both fertilisers and feeding stuffs—

(xi.) Where the quantity of the whole consignment does not exceed 2 cwt., the sample may consist of such a portion of the consignment as is fairly representative of the whole, and the sample shall be of such a quantity that each of the parts, into which (under Regulation 7) it is to be divided, will be sufficient to enable a proper analysis to be made thereof

(*c*) General directions as to sampling:—

(xii.) In every case the sampling shall be done as quickly as is possible consistently with due care, and the material shall not be allowed to be exposed any longer than is absolutely necessary.

(xiii.) Each of the parts, into which (under Regulation 7) the sample is to be divided, shall be packed in a dry, clean bottle, or jar, or (except in the case of a fertiliser) in a dry, clean tin, or in some other suitable manner, so that the original composition of the fertiliser or feeding stuff may be preserved.;

(xiv.) Each of the said parts of the sample shall be so packed and secured that it cannot be tampered with, and shall be sealed and initialled by the person taking the sample. It may also be sealed by the purchaser and the seller if present and so desiring. If the seller does not attend, the witness shall initial it. It shall be marked with the name of the article, the date and the place of the sampling, and with some distinguishing number, in such a manner that the particulars so marked can be seen without breaking the seal or seals.

(xv.) Where a sample is taken in the presence of, and sealed by, the seller as well as the purchaser, it shall be deemed, as between the purchaser and the seller, to have been taken in accordance with these regulations.

Division of Sample, &c.

7. Where a sample has been taken, under s. 3 of the Act, with a view to the institution of any civil or criminal proceeding, the person taking the sample shall divide it into three parts, as nearly as possible equal, and shall cause each part to be marked, sealed, and fastened up, and shall forthwith deliver or send by post two parts to the agricultural analyst and one part to the seller.

The influence of the light from the early morning rays of the sun on plants has been found to be stronger than at other times of the day. This is assumed to be because the morning rays are more blue and yellow, while the afternoon rays are more violet

Farmers' Experiments.

Now is the time for farmers to consider what experiments they can conduct with advantage on their own farms. It may be thought that it does not fall within the scope of individual farmers to make experiments, and that such work had better be left to the experts of the experimental stations. It is true that there are some intricate and costly investigations which must be left to the station, but there are also simple experiments which furnish the farmer with a practical and useful knowledge of the character of the soil he has to manage, a knowledge which no experimental farm can impart to him. After all it is not a very difficult matter to conduct an experiment on the effect of different fertilisers if the plan is first carefully thought out and arranged. The trouble involved will be more than compensated by the information acquired; but when starting the experiment the farmer must make up his mind to carry it out with care and accuracy to the finish. The plots must be accurately measured, the fertilisers carefully weighed and mixed, and, finally, the crop must be gathered and weighed with scrupulous accuracy.

A farmer wants to find out what plant food, if any, his soil is deficient in, and to elicit information on this point he arranges plots.

1. Dressed with complete fertiliser containing ammonia, phosphate of lime, and potash.
2. Ditto, ammonia omitted.
3. Ditto, phosphate of lime omitted.
4. Ditto, potash omitted, and if he has time and inclination he can extend the experiment by trying one form of phosphate against another, such as basic slag against superphosphate, kainit against sulphate or muriate of potash, sulphate of ammonia against nitrate of soda, and so on.

A book should be kept and all details should be carefully recorded, and there is one more point: Definite conclusion cannot be drawn from the results of one season, and therefore the trials should be continued over a series of years in order to arrive at reliable average results, which is the only information to which a farmer can look for reliable guidance.

Noxious Weeds.

It is not necessary to enumerate the numberless ways in which weeds are harmful, but attention may be directed to the following:—Experiments show that a crop of wild mustard will take from the soil as much phosphoric acid and potash and twice as much nitrogen as an ordinary crop of wheat. As these constituents represent money, this fact is worth remembering.

Robbing the soil of moisture is very important, especially in a dry summer. In this instance all controllable water should be retained in the soil. Where weeds are present, they compete for the supply and reduce very materially the amount available for the crop. From experiments conducted some years ago, it was estimated that by allowing ten plants of wild mustard per square yard, there would be drawn from the soil and transpired into the air more than 20 tons of water daily.

The last point to which attention is directed by Professor Millar, and one which is not often considered, tends to the economic side only. It is stated as a fundamental law of agriculture that the presence of noxious weeds in any community is a fair criterion of the industry and thrift of that community. This is a reasonable deduction, and it cannot be denied that the presence of even a few weedy and carelessly kept properties depreciates not only the profits and value of the farms on which they grow, but injures neighbouring farms.

No desirable prospective buyer will purchase a farm polluted with weeds or that is likely to be from an adjoining farm. Thus merely to facilitate the ability to turn one's reality into cash in time of necessity, it is better to keep the weeds out.

Prices of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The following quotations are approximate and free-on-rail, London, cash payment.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda .....prompt delivery	11	12	0
,, ,, ...forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	15	0
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,, ...	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

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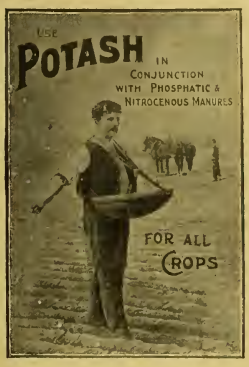

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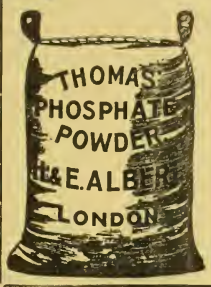

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When the calves begin to eat, we recommend a little dry feeding—a mixture of "Bibby" Cake, Oats and Bran is particularly suitable, the former being at once nutritious and digestible; and calves so reared are always one of the sights of the farm, and make fine well-grown heifers with nice loose skins and plenty of good hair.

One cwt., costing **15/-**, carriage paid, is enough for two calves. It costs about 1/3 more to rear a calf on "Cream Equivalent" than on the cheaper calf foods, while the difference in value of the grown animal is most marked, both as to condition, health, and growth.

It is the most soluble Calf Meal on the market, and can be made up simply by soaking the meal in cold water for six or seven hours, if this suits the feeder's convenience better than by making up with boiling water in the ordinary way.

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CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock Masters in the Kingdom.
IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor,
G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

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that make a horse Wheeze, have Thick Wind, or Choke-down, can be removed with

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Leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. in Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep.
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For want of HEATHMAN'S FIRE HOSE, which can be applied to the ordinary housemaid's tap and a fire rapidly extinguished. Price List, post free, from HEATHMAN'S FACTORY, Parson's Green, London, S.W.

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Invaluable for mixing with Chaff for all kinds of stock. Cheaper than Bran or Millers' Offals, and by analysis pronounced to be **50 per cent.** better. Only pure Cane Molasses used with Corn and Vegetable products as an absorbent.

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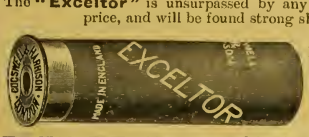

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SUTTON'S ROOT SEEDS.

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First Prize ...	Swedes	52 Entries.
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Five First Prizes in Root Classes.

The TWO 20-GUINEA CUPS presented by HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII. for best Root Crops in 1906 was won with the produce of Sutton's Seeds exclusively. These Cups will be on view at—

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal and Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

DECEMBER 10, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

PROGRESS OF THE SMITHFIELD CLUB SHOW.

The oldest of our agricultural national institutions, and for grazing farmers, the most important one will hold its 108th anniversary this week, and its 107th show opens to-day at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, which was built specially for its accommodation.

Formed in the first instance as a close trust by thirty-seven of the leading agriculturists of the period, it had no other object than to offer emiums for cattle and sheep fed solely on what was termed the natural food of the farm—grass, hay, roots, or cabbages—and those which, in addition, had received corn or oil-cake.

There were only two classes of cattle and two of sheep, no division of the breeds being made until the 1807 show. In those days steers were trained for the yoke, and were seldom grazed until they became old oxen. To convert a heifer to beef was regarded as almost as great a sin as to feed wheat to stock. Thus when cows were admitted to the annual shows heifers were rigorously excluded. The Smithfield Club Council have now for several years past entirely reversed this order of procedure.

Thus, when in 1821 John Duke of Bedford withdrew from the Presidency of the club on the ground that its original object had been accomplished, he was perfectly right in that assumption. The employment of what was termed artificial food in feeding animals was deemed a piece of extravagance at the beginning, and the popular notion that it could not be made to pay had to be dispelled. To do so animals fattened by the two systems were placed side by side on view at the early shows, and their exhibitors had to give a very exact statement as to how they had been fed, with particulars as to their ages and breeds, and everything calculated to bear on the principal point. The butchers refused to furnish the carcase weights of the prize beasts after killing them, otherwise everything would have been possible to advance the art of grazing as practised in those days.

But practical men in 1821 had learnt that other objects could be elucidated by the club's shows, especially as to the breeds and kinds of animals calculated to yield greatest profit for feeding and how far size and age contributed to that result. Thus the club had a renewed lease of progress, and the shows expanded in magnitude of stock so that the Baker Street Bazaar building had to be hired in 1839. But twenty years after the club was again distressed for space, and negociations commenced, which were successfully carried out, for the erection of the Hall at Islington, in which the club held its show in 1862 for the first time.

Even during the forty years odd during which the shows have been held at Islington there has been a thorough revolution in the character of the cattle and sheep exhibited. There were no classes for steers under two years old nor any lamb classes for some years after the show was removed from Baker Street. They now form the most important of the entire series. Early maturity is now recognised as the leading object to be promoted. The giant oxen of olden times, which often pulled down the scales to a ton and a half weight, have disappeared, and along with them monstrosities in the shape of over'ed cows and ewes. Carcase prizes have been instituted also that it may be seen what kind of animals yield the best meat for utility. Consequently the show may be considered more educational than ever it has been.

So mild has the weather been in Cornwall that last week ripe blackberries could still be seen near Probus and in other parts.

Notes of the Week.

The northern suburb of London is rejoicing in its annual invasion of visitors, ruddy of countenance and robust of figure.

For the Smithfield Fat Stock Show opens today, and, as far as one may venture to predict, will be a great success.

The show has a great attraction, not only for the man from the country, but also for the cockney, to whom it gives a whiff of country life.

Come all ye jolly Britons
To Smithfield's cattle *fête*,
It brings good cheer of Christmas
To men throughout the State.

Long years ago the Smithfield fires
Evoked the martyr's moan,
To-day the Smithfield sirloin makes
Our tables creak and groan.

The Farmers' Dinner will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Tuesday.

Amongst those who will be present are Earl Carrington, Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, Sir Thomas Elliott, Sir Edward Strachey, the President of the R.A.S.E., and several Members of Parliament.

The council and annual meetings of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, which take place on Wednesday, December 12, will be held at the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, and *not* at the Surveyors' Institution, as previously announced.

The Duke of Northumberland likened the Minister of Agriculture to a commercial traveller.

The remark was no doubt intended by his lordship to be derogatory, but for my part I look upon it as a compliment to Earl Carrington.

It shows that he is not satisfied with the *otium cum dignitate* of office, but takes a serious view of his important position.

And truly he is a busy man. To-day he visits the Smithfield Show, to-morrow he will be present at the annual dinner of the Farmers' Club, and the following day he receives a deputation of farmers on the milk-standard question.

And he has announced that he will be "at home" to farmers at the offices of the Board of Agriculture to-morrow and Friday.

This is an innovation which will be warmly welcomed, and, we hope, put to a good purpose.

A correspondent sends me a cutting from a newspaper of the following verses, which were headed Birmingham, December 3:—

Again his Majesty has scored,
And loyal men with one accord
Lift up their voices and applaud,
Nulli secundus.

Did Whig and Tory but agree,
Then Chamberlain would live to see
His great scheme, Fiscal Policy,
Nulli secundus.

Sons of the Motherland, unite,
Stand firmly for your King and right,
Once more you'll be if called to fight,
Nulli secundus.

He assumes that the verses celebrate the King's victory at Birmingham Fat Stock Show, but is puzzled because the reports of the show do not mention an animal with the name of *Nulli secundus.*

He will find on inquiry that it's a horse of another colour.

It is reported that the efforts of the authorities of Lincoln to obtain a good and ample supply of water have ended in failure and disappointment.

The supply which has been tapped by the boring is copious, but, unfortunately, its quality turns out to be bad, as its degree of hardness renders it unfit for human consumption, and presumably also for animals.

A sufficient supply of good water is one of the prime necessities for man and beast.

The unfortunate failure of the Lincoln authorities in this matter involves a serious outlook for the visit of the Royal Agricultural Society to Lincoln next year.

It is a matter of such grave importance that the officials of the society will have to give it serious consideration.

The "Report on the Decline in the Agricultural Population of Great Britain, 1881 to 1906," just issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, deserves to be noted.

The report deals with one of the sore places in the agricultural prosperity of the country:—
"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
When wealth accumulates and man decay."

The decline has been continuous for many years, but was most marked in 1901, when the figures showed a decline of 20 per cent. during the previous ten years.

The causes fall into two categories—(*a*) Diminished demand for labour and (*b*) diminished supply.

The first arises from the changes in farming operations, notably by the diminution of the corn crop.

The latter by the dislike of the growing population to remain on the land, and the greater attractions of town life.

It is easier to trace the causes than to assign the remedy for what is recognised as a "serious economic and social evil."

The most hopeful sign is the development which is taking place in what may be called secondary agricultural industries.

Fruit and vegetable growing, poultry rearing, small holdings, these small things will help to keep people from the towns.

And above all, the education imparted in rural schools must be of a more practical character, and such as to develop in the pupils powers of observation, a love of nature, and a knowledge of rural industries.

The Board of Trade returns of imported preserved meat are significant. A year ago the week's importation was 28,504 cwt., the same week this year it fell to 1,342 cwt.

Only last week the newspapers reported that a family on the Continent were poisoned by canned or tinned meat.

The Land Tenure Bill seems to be successfully encountering the shoals and contrary winds of the House of Lords.

It passed its second reading one day last week after a short and interesting debate.

A jade hog has been presented by the Tsar to his aunt, our Queen, on the occasion of her birthday.

This hog is no ordinary pig, as its eyes are large rubies, and its form is outlined with diamonds.

There is a class of farming which is unfortunately too often reported in the papers, and that is baby farming.

The sad feature of this baby crop is that the more it withers and dies, the more profit it yields to the grower.

The art of adulteration is now descending from butter to margarine. A provision dealer has been fined for selling margarine adulterated with 15 per cent. of mashed potatoes. Needless to say, the adulterated stuff comes from our good neighbour, Holland.

I have always regarded mistletoe as an eminently British product, but now it is being imported in quantities from France. Another illusion vanished.

The new jam, not strawberry or plum, but our friend Prince Ranjit Sinhji, the new Jam of Nawanagar, is reported to be thinking of buying a property in England and going in for stock breeding.

The Irish Potato Crop.—Mr. Bryce, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, replying to Mr. Dillon in the House of Commons on Wednesday, said that inquiries of the Irish Government went to show that there had been a partial failure of the potato crop in Ireland, due largely to the neglect of proper spraying. In some cases it was two-thirds of an average crop, and the quality was much below the average. The Government had under consideration the question of the sufficiency of the supply of seed potatoes, and also the undertaking of public works in order to provide employment

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11.—Smithfield Show, second day—Earl Carrington "At Home" to farmers at 4, Whitehall Place from 12 to 2 and 3 to 4 p.m.—The Farmers' Dinner at the Trocadero, 7 p.m.—Meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, 11 a.m.—Dairy Farmers' Association Meeting—Preston Fat Cattle Show—Leeds Cattle Show—Leighton Buzzard Horse and Cattle Fair—Agricultural Fair at Hay—Rugeley Cattle and Pig Fair—Haverfordwest Horse and Cattle Fair—Fairs at Abingdon, Bath, Boston, East Grinstead, Ringwood, and Rochester.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12.—Smithfield Show, third day—Dinner to Major Craigie, C.B., at the Cafe Royal, 7.30, the Minister of Agriculture presiding—Edenbridge Fat Stock Show—Edenbridge Farmers' Dinner, Mr. Leveson Gower presiding—Hereford Fat Stock Show—Basingstoke Fat Stock Show—Nottingham Fat Stock Show—Plymouth Fat Stock Show—Barnstaple Fat Stock Show—Aylesbury Fat Stock Show—Deputation to Lord Carrington on the Milk Regulations, 3 p.m.—Table Poultry Show, Islington—Peterborough Horse Sale—Malmesbury Great Cattle Market—Annual General Meeting of the London Flour Trade Association, Corn Exchange, 3.30—Black Pig Society's Meeting, 1 p.m., Lord Onslow presiding—Ramsey Horse and Cattle Fair.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13.—Smithfield Show, fourth day—Worksop Cattle Fair—Hemel Hempstead Cattle Fair—Crewe Horse Sale—Yeovil Fat Stock Show—Romsey Agricultural Society's Show—St Neots Fair—National Potato Show, Vincent Square, Westminster, first day—Boroughbridge Cattle Fair.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14.—Smithfield Show, last day—The Minister of Agriculture's "At Home" to Farmers at 4, Whitehall Place—Ludlow Fat Stock Show—Cattle Fairs at Bicester and Leicester—National Potato Show, second day—Fairs at Kimbolton, Leominster, and Leyburn.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15.—Helston, Buckingham, Malmesbury, and Northampton Fairs—Malmesbury Cheese Sale—Milborne Farmers' Club Dinner—Ashbourne Horse and Cattle Fair.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17.—Ashford Fat Stock Show—Mansfield Fat Stock Show—Bamham Great Market—Bridgenorth Fair—Welshpool, Warwick, Bedale, and York Fairs.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18.—Grantham Stock Fair—Macclesfield Horse and Cattle Fair—Carmarthen Fair—Thirsk Cattle and Sheep Fair.

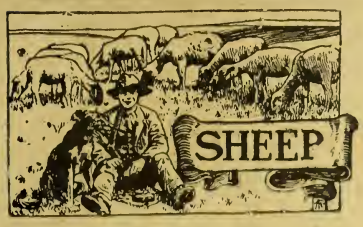
Many important Timber Sales are fixed for the period December 11 to 18 in different parts of the Country.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 4, 1906:—

Disease			Week ended December 1, 1906 (No.)	Corresponding week in 1905	1904	1903	Total for 48 weeks in 1906	Corresponding period in 1905	1904	1903
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		231	110	59	136	6,517	3,386	5,343	7,302
Swine Fever.	Outbreaks.		33	15	15	28	1,128	740	1,140	1,379
Sheep Scab	Outbreaks Reported.		31	23	14	57	426	801	1,193	1,486
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed.	Other Animals.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed.	Dogs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.		37	24	32	56	1,918	1,929	2,501	2,344
Glanders (including Farcy).	Outbreaks.		20	16	22	22	1,016	1,128	1,425	1,362
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Outbreaks.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		31	11	19	17	1,215	1,208	1,397	1,043
Anthrax.	Outbreaks.		28	9	16	15	861	888	933	696

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.



Notes and Jottings.

A SMITHFIELD SHOW without a Hampshire, Oxford, Shropshire, and Suffolk sheep would strike one as being strange in these days, when these breeds are familiar to everyone, yet for a good many years after the London Cattle Show was started, none of these breeds were represented. They could not be exhibited because they did not exist, and the evolution of the breeds had proceeded so little that only the very much advanced and most far-seeing men could have had even a glimmering of the breeds which were to be evolved.

ALTHOUGH it is little more than a century since the Woburn sheep-shearings gave rise to what has become an extraordinary far-reaching system of shows, still there are those who can look back half a century and remember the breeds mentioned above as being in a well advanced condition, although not possessing anything like the powers of early maturity which are so evident to-day.

EVEN before then the Oxford had been evolved from the Hampshire and the Cotswold, which implies that the Hampshire had been sufficiently long developed to have been able to again be hybridised. When one thinks of the advance made in a short time by what we are inclined to regard as the older breeds, even though they were in reality derived from crossings with older breeds, it should be encouraging to those who are interested in the newest breeds, not long invested with the patent of a flock book, and genealogical record, for what has been done with the older breeds may be done with the newer. In fact, the work may be done more quickly, for a certain amount of improvement has been going on for a long while, and they have not to be started from the wild heath condition that the breeds we have mentioned were.

WE always regard the Suffolk as one of the most interesting breeds because it is within the memory of so many that this breed has advanced from a very rough condition to the front rank; and its progress has therefore been under the observation of the majority of those now farming. Its records at the Christmas shows, where carcase competitions are in vogue, during recent years have been exceptional, and must have a marked influence in its wider adoption for crossing purposes.

BUT when all has been said, one cannot get away from the fact that the breed which stood pre-eminent for quality in the early days of the show still symbolises the highest quality and embodies the most complete collection of features desirable in a model sheep, and the fewest of those which are objectionable. A high-class Southdown is a vastly improved animal since Christmas shows were first organised, showing that the work of the sheep breed-maker must continue through many generations before perfection is attained.

NOW it is not so perfect as it most probably will become, though it is difficult to suggest where great opportunities for improvement lie; but that has been the position for very many years; yet improvements have been wrought by those whose lives are spent in trying to mould it to greater perfection. The Southdown has just reason to be proud of the other down breeds which have been developed from it, and which, in their respective districts, are quite as valuable as the Southdown in its own.

WHEN one notices some of the cross bred sheep at Christmas shows, where fixity of type has been obtained, one cannot resist the idea that there must lie the possibility of establishing a breed in which two or more breeds of long and short-woolled sheep are permanently amalgamated. There must be room for such a breed as this, which would possess features rendering them more valuable than a mere crossing, which, if persisted in, would be productive of mongrels.

IF there is a weak spot in the breeds, numerous as they are in this country, it is that we have not one in which the best features of the Down breeds and the Longwool breeds are brought together. We get the Oxford with a rather coarse wool as a result of the Hampshire and the Cotswold, but have nothing where the finer-woolled Longwools have been associated with the Down, unless it be in a very distant degree. A longwool Down may seem to be a kind of anomaly, but the crossbreds shown at the fat shows prove that it is not an impossibility; moreover, that a very high-class animal can be raised.

A specimen Stud Ram in the flock of Lincoln Longwool Sheep belonging to Mr. G. Hoyles, Skidby Manor, nr. Hull.

Lincoln Longwool Shearling Rams from Mr. G. Hoyles's Skidby Manor Flock, which were sent to the Argentine on Monday. They are sired by Biscathorpe Skidby 2nd, Skidby Riby Prize, Skidby Quadring, and Atwick Skidby.

SEE OUR STAND,
242, ARCADE GALLERY,
Smithfield Show, London, Dec. 10 to 14.

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Works—
HOPE'S WHARF, MILLWALL, LONDON, E.,

Will be pleased to see their numerous friends at the Stand, where samples of the following goods will be exhibited :—

Lard and Cylinder Oil, 2/6 a gallon.
Heavy Machinery Oils, from 1/- a gallon.
Hope's Special Harness Oils, from 2/6 a gallon to 7/6, according to quality.
Motor Oils, from 1/6 to 2/6 a gallon.
Motor Creases, from 4d. per lb.
Special Oils for Traction Engines, from 1/3 to 2/- a gallon.
Cylinder Oils, from 1/6 to 3/- a gallon.
Burning Oils, Colza, Rape and Seal Oils.
Engine Wastes and Engineers' Sundries.
Pynerzone Disinfectants—Powder, Fluids, Solid.
Carberzone Disinfectants—Powder, Fluids, Solid.
Carbolocide: Liquid Soap and Disinfectant, 3/- a gallon.
Weed Destroyer, from 2/- a gallon.
Jetol: Wood and Iron Varnish, from 1 2 a gallon for barrel lots.
Belting Composition, prevents Slipping, 10/- a gallon.
Boiler Fluid, 2/- to 3/6 a gallon.
Leather Coods, Belting Packings.

PAINT TRY LEETE'S ON IRON, WOOD & STONE 2½D 2lb
CHEAPEST HOUSE FOR BRUSHES COLORS VARNISHES ALL COLORS
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In view of the large amount of crossing that goes on it is strange, in this sheep-loving country, that someone has not been tempted to originate a breed, and have persistency enough to carry it through. Some of those who have been breeding animals consistently for the shows must have a foundation stock on which to build up a breed that would be well suited to graze on the better pastures and be well placed on arable land.

The fat stock shows miss their mark when the good examples shown yearly do not stimulate someone to take up breed-making on the lines which produce such good animals as are seen in the cross-bred classes.

A few very early breeding flocks have commenced lambing, and before the month is out quite a large number will be making a start, while a month hence, such breeds as the Hampshire will see most of the flocks in some districts well in the midst of lambing. With so little to suggest winter at present, it seems difficult to realise that the first stage of wintering is so nearly over; and all may congratulate themselves that, in spite of fears at an earlier period, the weather has favoured them so well. It is certain that at one time there seemed little prospect that the food would have held out so well up to Christmas, or that there would be so good a prospect for the New Year.

Ewes which are soon coming into the lambing pen require extra attention. This year the autumn growth has been rapid, and that means not rich in feeding matter, consequently there is great likelihood of the ewes dropping their flesh very rapidly during the few weeks preceding lambing, unless special feeding is provided. It is during the last few weeks that the fœtus makes specially heavy calls on the dam, and it is a critical period.

Lambs frequently come away before full time, because when there is not sufficient nourishment for both, nature solves the situation by letting the lamb slip, and so saving one life. Should an ewe become very poor, the difficulties of lambing are greatly increased; moreover, if the lamb comes away at full time the milk supply is liable to be deficient, and those who have been through lambing seasons with a short supply of milk, know the loss that is sure to occur.

As a rule, at this time, it is advisable to give muscle-making food, such as malt combs, bran, peas, beans, or cake. Clover or sainfoin hay are of special value at this time. Salt should always be available. Over-fat ewes do not lamb easily; but this is a condition in which ewes on an ordinary farm rarely are found. There is no doubt that the best success is met when the ewes are in a vigorous and well-fleshed condition.

Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association.

The report presented at the annual general meeting of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society held at Birmingham on Monday showed that the total worth of the society on September 29 last was £1,467 1s. 7d., including investments valued at £1,207 6s. and cash in hand £259 15s 7d. The increase on last year's statement was £51 2s. 10d.

The large and important shipments of Shropshire sheep had been, the report continued, a great feature of the year, and it was clear the breed was making considerable headway in the different countries, both as a pure breed and for crossing purposes. The total number of sheep exported during the year was 1,902, which was the largest aggregate in the history of the society. The increase over the previous year was 870, and compared with 1904 there was an advance of 1,109. Of the total 1,057 were exported to the United States, Canada, and Newfoundland, 657 went to Buenos Ayres, Uruguay, Montevideo, Chili, Peru, and Brazil, 82 to Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, 52 to South Africa, Algiers, Algoa Bay, &c., and 54 to Russia, Germany, France, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Hungary, Jamaica, Finland, &c.

It was further stated in the report that Sir R. P. Cooper, having offered £50 to sustain the selling class at the Royal Show at Lincoln, the council recommended that a sum not exceeding £150 (to include £50 selling class for shearling rams, £30 for pens of five shearling rams, and £15 for two shear rams at Lincoln) be set apart in 1907 for the purpose of promoting the interests of Shropshire sheep-breeders, and making more widely known the special attributes of the breed.

Mr. J. Bowen Jones, who presided, in moving the adoption of the report, said the financial position of the society was very satisfactory. He alluded to the increasing volume of business done in the exportation of Shropshire sheep, remarking that the total number sent abroad during the past year was nearly double the number in any previous year. That result must be gratifying to every member of the society, and it was still further satisfactory to find that since Sepetmber 29, 436 sheep had been exported.

Sir R. P. Cooper in seconding the resolution, which was carried, observed that there was every probability that during the coming year the demand for Shropshire sheep for exportation would be quite as satisfactory as it was during the past year.

Suffolk Sheep Society.

Before proceeding with the general business at the last meeting of the Council of the Suffolk Sheep Society, the chairman, Mr. S. R. Sherwood, remarked that he was sure they were all pleased to see Mr. Ernest Prentice with them on this occasion. That gentleman had not been at all well, but as this meeting marked the twenty-first year he had been their secretary, he felt that he must be present. All that time Mr. Prentice had conducted their meetings to the entire satisfaction of everyone connected with the society, and it was a remarkable fact that he had not missed a single meeting during all that time. That was a record of which Mr. Prentice might be justly proud, and they congratulated him upon it. (Applause.)

Several members were elected, and the awards from the judges in the flock competition (details of which were recently published) were received.

The Ipswich and district branch of the Meat Traders' Federation enclosed a copy of the Public Slaughter Houses Bill, and asked the support of the society in opposing it, as they regarded it as a serious matter indeed to the graziers of the county if it was carried through. The council resolved to oppose the Bill.

It was agreed to give £30 to the Highland Society of Scotland to be allotted as follows:—£10 for Suffolk ewe lambs, £5 for shearling ewe lambs bred in Scotland; £5 for ewe lambs bred in Scotland; £5 for pen of lambs, Suffolk, Cheviot, or Mountain; and £5 for pen of Suffolk Border Leicesters. It was further agreed that £10 and a silver medal be given to the Suffolk, £10 to the Essex, and £10 to the Norfolk Agricultural Associations.

Mr. T. G. Heatley, veterinary inspector, read a long report regarding diseases in sheep which had come under his notice during the year, and he offered much valuable advice on the subject—so much so that the council resolved to have the report printed in pamphlet form, and also to embrace it in the Flock Book.

It was agreed to hold the annual meeting on the second Friday in February, subject to it being convenient to the president.

Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Clonmel fair, co. Tipperary, held December 5, there was an average supply of cattle, chiefly second class; demand moderate, a clearance not effected. Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 10s.; 3rd class, £2 15s. to £3. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 10s. to £9; 2nd class, £7 to £8 5s.; 3rd class, £4 10s. to £6. Two-year-olds, 1st class, £12 to £14 2s. 6d.; 2nd class, £9 to £11 10s.; 3rd class, £7 10s. to £8. Three-year-olds, 2nd class, £13 10s. to £14 15s. Springers, 2nd class, £12 to £16. Very small supply of lambs; demand good; 2nd class, £1 5s. to £1 11s. Young pigs in good supply; demand rather quiet; 18s. to 24s. each.

At the Mallow Fair, co. Cork, held on December 4, there was an average supply of cattle; demand good for those in condition. Calves, 2nd class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 7s. 6d.; 3rd class, £2 15s. to £3 5s. Yearlings, 1st class, £8 2s. 6d. to £9 5s.; 2nd class, £6 15s. to £7 10s.; 3rd class, £5 10s. to £6 5s. Two years old, 1st class, £10 15s. to £12 15s.; 2nd class, £8 10s. to £10; 3rd class, £7 7s. 6d. to £8. Springers, 1st class, £14 to £16 15s.; 2nd class, £11 15s. to £13 10s.; 3rd class, £10 to £10 10s. Large supply of sheep: demand good. Lambs, 1st class, £1 15s. to £2 4s; 2nd class, £1 10s. 6d. to £1 14s. 6d; over twelve months, 1st class, £2 6s. to £2 14s.; 2nd class, £2 2s. to £2 4s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks, 20s. to 25s.

At Ballyshannon, co. Donegal, held on December 3, there was a small supply of store cattle; few buyers attended, and the demand was less brisk than in recent fairs. Springers were scarce and in good demand. Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. 6d. to £4 2s. 6d.; 3rd class, £2 10s. to £3 1s. 3d. Yearlings, 2nd class, £6 to £6 15s.; 3rd class, £4 2s. 6d. to £5 5s. Two-year-old, 2nd class, £8 to £10 10s; 3rd class, £6 5s. to £7 4s. Springers, 1st class, £17; 2nd class, £12 to £13; 3rd class, £10 5s. to £11. Young pigs eight to ten weeks old sold at from 14s. to 18s. each.

The Ipswich Guardians, who have been paying 9½d. a gallon for milk, have decided to purchase cows at an expenditure of £1,500, so as to ensure a pure milk supply for the inmates of the workhouse.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

IT is a curious thing how the best judges, when they are going to buy a horse or to look at a horse with a view to purchase, will listen to anything that they can hear about the horse, and allow what is often simply neither more nor less than meaningless gossip and unfounded rumours to influence their decision. I am quite sure that if a man would go to look at a horse with his mind quite clear of prejudice caused by what he has heard about him, he would do much better in the long run than he does when he allows himself to be influenced by what he has heard. When a man wants to buy a horse he should look at him as he would look at a horse he is judging—*i.e.*, as a stranger, and if he has not confidence in himself when it comes to passing him he should employ a good veterinary surgeon who is accustomed to examine horses for soundness. One thing he should be careful about, and that is not to take the advice of a friend who probably knows less about horses than he does himself.

THE foregoing remarks are caused by a transaction which I saw something of a little while ago, and they recall an experience of mine which, though rather a painful one in a way, I will relate as a warning to others. A friend of mine bought a very good looking weight-carrying horse. He was six years old, was as clever as they make them, galloped a good pace, and indeed he was about a perfect Hunter. That my friend could not ride him was not the horse's fault. Well, he rode him a season, but did not like him, and so he determined to sell him. Now, like many good Hunters, this horse had a peculiar shuffling walk and trot. He was not uncomfortable to ride, but his shuffling gait was certainly against him. I believe, but of that I cannot be confident, that he cost £160 originally. I know he was first offered at £100. Rumour had it that he had been sold and would not pass. Then it was said that he had been sold at £90, and had been rejected for his wind; and another gossip had it that he had been rejected for spavin, whilst a fourth said he had navicular disease.

I MET his owner one day and he told me he wanted to get rid of the horse, and that he would take £80 for him, and in reply to my inquiry as to whether he was all right, he said he had never been wrong in any way whilst he was in his possession so far as he knew. So when I had a little time I went to see him; and I liked him. I rode him on the stones, and though his peculiar gait was noticeable I thought him sound; and I galloped him for his wind and could hear nothing. Indeed I had made up my mind to buy when I met a friend as I was riding the horse back to his stable. "Surely you are not going to buy that horse," said he. "I certainly am," was my reply. Then my friend told me a tale which would, I think, have kept any man from buying. He was an excellent judge himself and a veterinary surgeon, and he told me that the horse had been sold and examined by an eminent man whom he named, and whom I had the greatest confidence in, and that that eminent man had rejected him for his wind. I said that I could not hear him make a noise of any description, and then my friend entered into a disquisition about roaring and kindred diseases. Finally I said that the horse, even if a whistler, was worth £60 to ride to death, in which he agreed.

WHEN I took the horse back to the stables I asked the stud groom if his master was at home—he lived at some distance from the stables—and he told me that he was away for a couple of months, and that he had the selling of the horse. I then asked him if he was prepared to consider a lower bid, and he replied that he could not under the instructions he had received, and there all my interest in the horse ceased.

IN the meantime the "crabbing" went merrily on, and in a few weeks the unfortunate horse was not left clear of a single infirmity which a horse is liable to. About six weeks after I saw the horse a well-known dealer came into the neighbourhood to look at some harness horses, and heard about him, and that he was "hanging" in the market. He heard all the "crabs" as well, but he was a man of wide experience, and always used his own judgment about the soundness of a horse, as a man who is passing two or three hundred horses through his hands in a year ought to do. So he went and saw the horse and rode him, and the first thing he said to the owner was, "He is sound in his wind." Then he told him that he could not find him lame at all, but that the horse was well known, and had been so much crabbed that with his peculiar gait he would be bad to sell, and he ended by bidding £60 for him as he stood, an offer which was accepted.

NOW comes the sequel. The dealer got the horse home, rode him, and found out what a good one he was. He rode him out cub-hunting a few mornings, and when the opening day of the season came, the horse and he were on the best of terms. It so happened the hounds had a brilliant forty minutes, and the crabbed horse cut out the work and made a great impression on another dealer who was out, and who was, perhaps, one of the finest horsemen of his day. This opening day was on the Saturday, and on the Monday horse-dealer No. 2, whom I will call Mr. B., came to see Mr. A. with a view to buying the horse. He knew how the horse had been crabbed, and he knew what he had cost. He saw him out, and then asked if he might have a ride. "Take him where you like," said Mr. A., "and if you can make him refuse, or he puts you down at any reasonable place, I'll give him to you." Mr. B. told me this part of the story himself, and he said in the view of the "crab" there was on the horse, he gave him a very severe trial indeed. He brought him back, had luncheon, and then saw him out again. Then, for the first time, he asked the price. "£250," was the reply. "I'll have him, send him along to-morrow," was Mr. B.'s answer. But Mr. B. was never to have a day's hunting on him, for he sold him in a few days' time for £350, and he made a big mark in the Shires where he was going for several seasons.

I MAY be asked how it was that the eminent veterinary surgeon whom I mentioned rejected the horse for his wind. This is a question I cannot answer, and I never liked to ask him, as the whole affair was naturally very much talked about, and it was, I knew, a sore point. But I would point out that a horse may have a little cold on him or he may not be quite himself, and so may breathe in a manner which may cause a man to be suspicious, especially when he has been so well crabbed as this horse was.

AND when one comes to consider it, a horse is not infrequently rejected for his wind when he is absolutely sound. I do not mean, of course, that this is of frequent occurrence, but it happens often enough for any man of wide experience to be able to recall a few instances which have come under his notice. And differences of opinion respecting other points of soundness are also occurring from time to time. One of the most extraordinary instances of this kind that ever came under my notice was that of a hunter which the late Mr. George Mulcaster bought in Ireland. He rode him for a season and sold him for £180. A very able veterinary surgeon came and examined him, and rejected him for spavin. Mr. Mulcaster was certain that there was no spavin, and when another customer came along he sold the horse for £200. This time he was rejected for his wind. Mr. Mulcaster did not lose faith in his horse, but "backed his own judgment," and in a few weeks' time he sold him again, this time for £250. Two veterinary surgeons came along to examine him, and Mr. Mulcaster wondered what they would reject him for this time; his eyes probably, he thought, as they began by asking for a candle, and examining him. When the examination was over and they went into the house, the elder of the veterinary surgeons asked the younger one, who was a pupil, to write out the report. When this was done he looked it over, and said: "Yes, you are quite right, this is one of the soundest horses I ever examined. If they were all like this there would be no trouble."

I HAVE called the last veterinary surgeon an eminent man, but I am not quite certain, though he has had some high appointments, that he stood any higher in the profession than the men who rejected the horse, and I would myself have employed one of the latter as soon as I would the man who passed the horse sound in such an exceptional manner. How, then, is it to be accounted for that men who have risen high in their profession should come to such different conclusions about a horse? Well, perhaps that is a question for professional men to decide, but it must be remembered that whilst a big blemish or fault is very palpable, the boundary between a slight one, and soundness is very slight, so slight that a difference of opinion as to the border line being overstepped may easily come about.

THERE is a subject on which I think there is a considerable amount of misconception, even amongst men who have had some experience. That is, that if a horse is offered at a certain price to one man it is not the right thing to raise the price to another. What men lose sight of is the circumstances of the case. I know a man who will nineteen times out of twenty take a clear ten pounds profit out of a horse if he can get it on the same day or on the day he is delivered. But if that man gets the horse home and finds out that he is better than he expected, he is not bound to ask the next man the same price or anything approximating it. Let me put a case. A gives £100 for a horse, no matter what his breed, and B, seeing him, asks his price. A offers to take £110, but for some reason or other B, either on his own initiative or acting on the advice of some friend, declines the horse. A fortnight afterwards C, having heard of the horse, goes to see him, and is scandalised when he finds that A asks him 200 guineas for the horse, and will not take any less. He quite forgets that during the time which has elapsed since B refused to take the horse at the "nimble ninepence" profit A has had time to get thoroughly acquainted with the horse's qualities. If A should chance to be a dealer in a large way of business, he will not require to be told that in many cases the intimate knowledge has led to this satisfactory sequel, and as a business man he

The Hackney Colt, Copmanthorpe, is the subject of the above illustration. It was bred by Mr. T. Hall, Copmanthorpe Grange, York, who won with it a First Prize at the Hackney Horse Society's Show this year in the class for yearling entire colts. Copmanthorpe is by St. Thomas 7261 out of 5670 Lady Wymondham by Maywood 2181.

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knows he must take advantage of this when he has the chance.

THERE is another phase of this question of "two prices" on which many mistaken notions are held. A man, perhaps a breeder, asks £150, or perhaps even more, from a customer who takes a fancy to a horse, and afterwards sells him to a dealer for £120, or perhaps less. Perhaps he may sell him so that the original customer gets him for about what he has asked for him—perhaps he may be able to sell him for less. Is the breeder treating his first customer unfairly? Many people with no experience of the horse trade will answer yes. But let them think carefully for a moment. The casual customer comes once in a way for the best, or what he thinks the best. The raw, irritable, nervous horse that requires handling is of no use to him; he cannot ride him, or would not if he could. Then there are the misfits. Obviously he does not want to have anything to do with them. But the dealer has a way for everything except the veriest screw, and he can perhaps put his breeder friend into the way of getting rid of that very undesirable article, so it is only natural that the breeder quotes a shorter price to him. Besides, the dealer comes again and again; the casual customer, even if a fairly regular one, only wants a horse now and then. The question, however, is one which it is as well not to generalise upon, each case depending so much on the circumstances which surround it. But, before giving an opinion, it is necessary to know *all* the circumstances.

THE LOOKER ON.

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In-calf Cows.

SIR,—About this time last year my cows commenced casting their calves; I had four cast between now and the middle of the next month. The same thing seems to be happening this time, as one cast her calf yesterday, which is three months from her calving time. Could any reader of this paper, or your M.R.C.V.S., advise me what to do to prevent this?—T. H. Y.

Answer: Probably you do not want to know anything about what you ought to have done, but what to do now. At the same time we cannot help remarking that it was very negligent not to have paid the matter some attention when, a year ago, you had four cows cast their calves. Had this been done it is possible that the same thing would not be happening now, or you would have at least been a year nearer to getting rid of the scourge.

It is very evident that you have to face an outbreak of contagious abortion, and it is marvellous that, considering all that has appeared in this and other journals, and the wide circulation given to the investigations into its cause and character since 1888, you should have been content to let the disease take its course and give it every opportunity of extending. As to "what to do to prevent this," nothing can be done to prevent other cows in-calf that have already received the infection from aborting, and prevention is only possible so far as the future is concerned. With reference to this matter we cannot, in the limited space available here, to go into the details of the complicated prophylactic treatment devised by M. Nocard, the discoverer of the infectious nature of the disease, in a manner to render it intelligible to one who appears to have never heard of epizootic abortion in cattle, and we can only recommend you to obtain from the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, S.W., a copy of Leaflet 108, which deals very exhaustively with "Contagious Abortion in Cattle." This can be obtained free of charge and post free, and the letter of application need not be stamped. Failing this, and preferably, perhaps, in your case, consult the local veterinary surgeon, and arrange with him for carrying out the prophylactic treatment.

M.R.C.V.S.

At Feltham last week a food and drugs inspector related that a sample of margarine taken from a local firm was found on analysis to be pure butter!

For selling margarine containing 13 per cent. of mashed potatoes as well as an excess of water, "which are entirely foreign to margarine," Henry Watkins, provision dealer, of Morning Lane, Hackney, was fined £10 and costs at North London Police-court on Wednesday. It was said that the margarine was manufactured in Holland, and intended for sale in Germany, but was sent by mistake to this country. The manufacturers were, it was added, willing to pay the fine.

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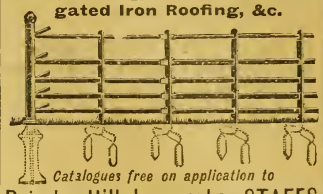

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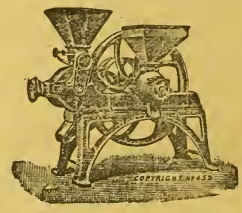

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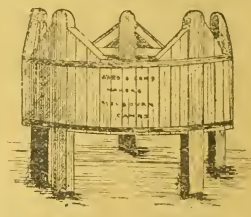

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SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Maldon, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

SEVERAL Sound Reliable Shire Stallions to Let for the season at reasonable figures. Apply, J. WHITEHURST, Markeaton, two miles from Derby.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exportor of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS. — COWS of the Seraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal; younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex. Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumcree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

THE Best Rent-paying Dairy Cattle in the World.—BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Young Bulls for Sale. Royal Duke, in service, bred at Hawkrigg, Wigton, grand stock-getter, combining quality with substance. 180 head kept; inspection invited. Telegrams: "Tewin."

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904, 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, Alfred, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Eboniser 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

HANDSOME Guernsey Bull FOR SALE; age 16 months; excellent pedigree; sound and reliable.—For photo and particulars, apply P. T. FOWLER, Importer, Watford, Herts.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners. Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL (*cont.*).

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams: "Dudding, Koolby."

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1906.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 215 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes. Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

(*Continued on next page.*)

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts' eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HODGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

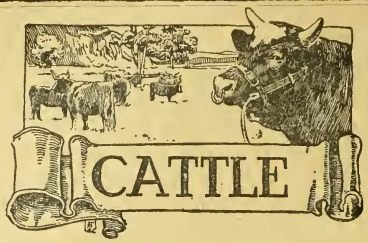
MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

A deputation from the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture will wait upon the President of the Board of Agriculture, on the subject of the Sale of Milk Regulations, on Wednesday, December 12, at 3 p.m. The deputation will be received in one of the upstairs committee rooms of the House of Lords. Delegates attending will ascertain from the constables on duty the number of the committee room, as this cannot be decided for the present.



Notes and Jottings.

THE mild weather and the cattle shows of Christmas fat stock are still with us, but as regards the latter the next ten days will make a clean breast of them. As regards the former there is no doubt, up to the time of writing, it is having a more or less depressing effect upon demand and prices for big beef, and is not helping the show cattle to stand their travelling and showing any too well, as the various halls in which the cattle are exhibited become very close and stuffy during the afternoons and evenings when the gaslights and large attendance of the public tend to prevent a free current of air. It has often struck one that the system of keeping these animals rugged so much in these halls is a mistake on the part of those caring for them.

WHILST bowing to the greater experience of the herdsman, who has perhaps had the care and management of Christmas cattle for very many years, and still adheres to this rugging system, we may be excused for mentioning that in the ordinary feeding of heavy fat cattle, fat cattle of very little or any less weight than many of the exhibitors' awards, such stock when left to their own devices of a warm shed or an open yard or a field, in nine nights out of ten, no matter how cold, will be found to have slept in the openest place available, more frequently than not the bleakest part of the field, scorning even the break that the hedges afford. The reason is very easily seen—namely, in the great amount of heating food that these animals are consuming, all of which tends, together with great covering of flesh and the great coats of hair that many of them possess, to cause them to be uncomfortably warm. It has been quite painful to witness the breathing of many of these animals during the evening of the show days, when the halls are crowded and the poor beasts rugged up for supposed comfort.

IN those admirably written pages of cattle breeding and feeding written many years ago by that cattle feeding king, the late William McCombie, of Tillyfour, reference is there made to this same thing, when the old herdsman received his orders to take such favourites as Black Prince and the like to the midland and southern shows. The old man replied in tones of deep sorrow, that he wished he "had na got to go for the sake of the puir beasties." Why," said the master, "don't you like Birmingham and London?" "Yes," was the reply, "the places are good enough, but it's the nasty gas and heat that perrishes the beasties worst of aught." It is precisely the same to day, and the cattle show it.

AT Birmingham the great honours of the show fell to the Shorthorn breed in precisely the same order as at the Newport Show the previous week, the champion honours of the breeding classes were allotted to the same breed. It is really quite wonderful that this breed should be able to supply so many champions in spite of the enormous drain that is continually going on for breeding purposes from all its best herds and leading representatives of those herds. There is, however, some little reason for this in the fact that the Shorthorn breed far outnumbers all other breeds, and therefore has a much greater extent of stock to draw upon. Not only England, but Scotland, Ireland, and Wales have all their herds of Shorthorns in great numbers, capable of supplying cattle fit for exhibition purposes, and with such an extensive hunting ground, the chances must naturally be a little more in their favour than that of the other breeds, whose whereabouts and numbers are so much more limited.

SOME of the other pure breeds of cattle at Birmingham were scarcely of as good quality as upon some previous occasions—notably, the two great beef breeds of Hereford and Angus. On the other hand, Welsh cattle and West Highlands have probably never been so good in quality as this year. With regard to the Hereford breed, there were several of these in the butchers' and extra classes, which, though not decorated with wing notices, were upon the second day of the show labelled with the very satisfactory notice "Sold," and the prices appeared to have given general satisfaction. The cross-bred cattle at Birmingham were in great excess numerically in the butchers' classes. A great many ordinary feeders have of late years taken to feeding one or two cross-breds rather as a hobby, and these tend to swell up the ranks. Many of these return to their homes for exhibition and sale at the local auctions where prizes are given and so, where good judgment and management are brought to bear, the project frequently turns out well; if not greatly profitable, it at least, to use the old saying, "holds the money together."

THE Hereford herd appears to have advanced very much in favour with the butcher all over the kingdom latterly. In Ireland the leading feeders and salesmen have been loud in their praises of the white-faced breed, being able to be marketed and eagerly sought for during the early summer months, whilst prices are as a rule at their best. Recently we have also heard that even in Scotland a good number of Herefords have been imported for feeding purposes, and with such satisfactory results that at the Edinburgh or Glasgow auction the highest price per cwt. was obtained for white-faced steers, butchers expressing themselves as being highly pleased with the dressing and sale of their beasts. There is no doubt a great deal of this improvement or more satisfactory results in the sale and dressing of these cattle is due to the fact that plentiful breeders have of late paid greater attention to size and are excluding the very short compact animals almost entirely, finding that such were giving a carcase possessed of little flesh and a superfluity of fat. From all time, and with all breeders of whatever breed of cattle, experience has always gone to prove that any reduction, or attempted reduction, in size has ended in a vastly increased preponderance of fat and a similarly decreasing amount of muscle and lean flesh.

AT Smithfield Show the usual carcase competitions will take place once more, and we cannot but repeat how much more useful and instructive the lessons taught by these tests would be were the exhibitors to state upon what foods the animals had been got up, and not only upon what foods, but also what systems of management had been followed, whether close and warm housing, or whether the animals had been allowed liberty more freely, and a certain amount of what may be called open-air treatment.

IN these very inventive and scientific days with regard to foods and their effect upon the live stock of the farm, visitors to our shows are bewildered by the number of stands and invitation cards issued calling attention to various kinds of fatting foods, cakes, milk substitutes, and the like, but the experience of practically a hundred per cent. of the feeders of this country goes to prove that up to the present time pure new milk stands at the head of all feeding stuffs, and this whether we refer to cattle (old or young) or to horses and pigs. Looking at a very young steer the other day in the showyard with rather a remarkable record of weight, its feeder says that it is new milk mainly that accounts for the development. Another feeder of more matured animals who lives in a mild district, and upon rich and warm soil, and has proved very successful in the ring with fat stock, says "I attribute much of my success to the milk, climate, and rich soil, which enables me to feed my stock upon green food throughout the year." Presumably the hardy kale plants filling up the gap that would occur in many places during the dead and frosty months. Then rye and Italian rye grass get fit to cut in the locality named by February or early in March.

IT is not often that the export of pedigree cattle continues so active during the rough period of the year as is the case this season. No matter who one meets interested in the pedigree export business, one is met with the information that our friend has been shipping so many cattle to such a place, and has purchased others for shipment to such a country, and is still looking out for any specimens likely to make their mark in new homes beyond the sea. The weather at the present time is not altogher inviting to ship cattle—stormy and unsettled, with heavy gales at times; but the more newly fitted up cattle boats are made very comfortable, and the total loss or damage on the voyage, wherever it may be to are very insignificant when the numbers shipped are taken into consideration.

THE tuberculosis question that we have been waiting long and patiently for, does not appear to have been settled in any decided form. It is surely high time something more was known or done by the commission entrusted with this important measure. The foreigner still objects to purchase unless the animals can pass the tuberculin test, whilst numbers that have been tested have proved by after results the unreliability of the test in many cases. The trend of all veterinary experience appears to point to a practically certain hereditary result, and many breeders also aver that

the disease is very super-hereditary. We may say, though varying very considerably as to the period when it may assert itself, some animals remaining sound and breeding well for several years though eventually succumbing, whilst others suffer at a much earlier stage, probably the mode of keeping may affect this.

Sale of Stock at Ipswich.

At Ipswich on Tuesday Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons brought under the hammer a number of the animals exhibited at the Suffolk Fat Cattle Club's Show. There was a large attendance and a sharp demand throughout. The champion beast was reserved for the Smithfield Show, and was, therefor, not put up, but many other prize winners were, including the reserve champion, Mr. Spencer Dawson's cross-bred. This weighed 15 cwt. 1 qr., and was knocked down to Mr. A. Mudd, Ipswich, for £35, but this was not the top price for cattle as Mr. J. C. Dawson's second prize cross-bred steer, whose weight was 15 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb., realised £36, the purchaser being Mr. S. Warth. Mr. S. W. Wrinch's Shorthorn heifer, commended, and winner of for Mr. Minter's special, was sold to Mr. C. Nash, Halstead, for £35. Sir Cuthbert Quilter's third prize cross-bred heifer, weighing 14 cwt 1 qr., went to Mr. W. Lay, Ipswich, for £34 10s.; and Sir Frederick Adair's cross-bred steer, second and reserve for Challenge Cup for best beast under two years, grazed in Suffolk (weight 16 cwt. 2 qr.), realised £33 from Mr. H. C. Chase, Bungay, and other cattle made up to £31 10s.

In the sheep sales the pen of three champion wethers shown by Mr. H. E. Smith sold respectively to Messrs. A. Mudd, Searf, and T. Mudd for £5 2s. 6d., £5, and £4 17s. 6d each. Mr. Smith's second prize pen went to Mr. Trenter, who took two at £4 5s apiece, the other selling for £4 2s. 6d. to Mr. Aggis. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark made £3 7s. 6d. and £3 (twice) for his pen of three pure-bred lambs, whilst the premier pen of pure-bred lambs, shown by Sir Thos. Gooch, realised £3 15s., £3 12s. 6d., and £3 10s.

The champion pig in the yard, a Berkshire just under twelve months old, and weighing a little over 4 cwt, was knocked down for £8 to Mr. A. Morse, Wreningham, Norwich, who was the purchaser of other lots as well. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark's (Sudbourne Hall) Large Blacks made £7 17s. 6d. and £6 7s. 6d. each; the same exhibitor's second prize pen of three were sold separately, two going for £5 12s. 6d. and the other at £5 10s. The winning pen of Large Blacks owned by Mr. Gerald A. Smith, of Bealings, which also won a special, made £7 10s., £7 2s. 6d., and £6 17s. 6d. each.

Fat Stock Sale at York.

The prize stock exhibited at the York Fat Stock Show, was sold by auction on Thursday, and some capital prices were realised. Messrs. T. Walker and Sons sold two Highland cattle sent by the King, both of which took the first prize in their class. The first, a two years and eight months old yellow ox, weighing 113 stones, was knocked down to Mr. Joseph Demaine, of Leeds, for £54; whilst the other beast, a three years and ten months old red heifer, weighing 97 stones, was bought by Messrs. Wilkinson and Sons, Selby, for £48. Amongst the other cattle disposed of by the firm were the following:—Lord Wenlock's white shorthorn ox, 127 stones, £30 15s., to Mr. John Whitford, Hull; Lord Wenlock's cross-bred ox, 147 stones, £37, Mr. Morris, Driffield; Mr. Brigham Carlton's blue-grey ox, 164 stone £40 15s., Mr. J. W. Gould, Hull; Mr. D. Lund's (York) black heifer, 128 stone; £33 5s., Mr. J. O. Whitford, Hull; Messrs. A. and C. McNeil's ox, 159 stone, £37, Messrs. Wilkinson and Sons, Selby.

Messrs Walker also sold the King's pen of three Southdown sheep for £6 2s. 6d. each, to Messrs. Mills and Burrell, Newcastle-on-Tyne; two pens of Mr. Stanyforth's Down sheep for £5 each, to Mr. Stoddard; Mr. P. Goodwill's (Stithenham) three Scotch cross sheep (first cross), for £3 18s. each to Mr. Dowell, York; and Lord Wenlock's three Scotch cross sheep (second cross), for £3 18s. each, to Mr. W. Dowell.

The firm also sold several bacon pigs, the top price being £14, for an exhibit by Mr. F. Davison, York, the purchaser being Mr. Blades, Leeds; other bacon pigs made from £8 7s 6d. to £11 12s. 6d. each, and pork pigs made from £2 4s. to £5 2s. 6d. each.

Messrs. Tomlinson and Sons also sold a number of head of exhibited stock, including the following:—A blue-grey spotted ox, the property of Mr. D. Lund, Flaxton, 155 stone, was sold to Mr. John Whitford, Hull, for £52; a red Irish heifer, the property of Mr. J. E. Jones, Eldmire Hill, Thirsk, 155 stone, Mr. John Whitford, Hull, £37 10s.; an Irish bullock, 152 stone, the property of Messrs. Thomlinson and Sons, Mr. J. W. Parsons, Tadcaster, £37 15s.; Irish bullock, belonging to the same owner, 151 stone, Mr. C. Wheldrick, Hemingborough, £34 15s. Three cross-bred sheep, the property of Mr. J. Bielby, Cattal, realised 96s. each, and three 92s. each; five cross-bred shearlings, the property of Mr. A. Penty, Whixley, realised 88s. each; Mr. Thos. Burton, Knapton, sold three cross-bred shearlings for 75s., and three at 78s. each.

English Jersey Cattle Society.

Council Meeting.

Eight new members were elected at a council meeting of the English Jersey Cattle Society, held at 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, on Monday.

The General Purposes Committee reported that they had considered the distribution of the £100 voted by the council at the last meeting for inspection prizes for 1907. They recommended that the sum of £20 each should be offered to the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the Bath and West Society for cows or heifers in milk, bred by exhibitor and sired in Great Britain or Ireland; that £60 be divided amongst the following societies:—Royal Counties Society, Tring Society, Oxfordshire Society, Essex Society, and Somersetshire Society. This report was adopted, subject to certain provisions.

A letter was read from Mr. H. S. J. Maas, Consul-General for the Netherlands, inviting the society to send delegates to the International Congress of Dairying to be held next year at The Hague. Dr. Watney and Mr. Joseph Carson, having expressed their willingness to attend the congress, were thereupon appointed to represent the society.

A proposition by Mr. Mathews, as to whether something could be done to bring before the public the excellence of Jersey butter and to further encourage members in its manufacture and sale, elicited an interesting discussion. Finally it was agreed to appoint a sub-committee to meet and further consider the matter.

Sir Thomas Elliott at Ripon.

On Thursday Sir Thomas Elliott, K.C.B., Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, attended a conference at Ripon, arranged by the Ripon Agricultural Association, to hear the views of the members on the Land Tenure Bill, the Sheep Dipping Order, and the Swine Fever Regulations. There was a large attendance, and the conference proved a most interesting one. Having heard the views of various members on the subjects mentioned, Sir Thomas Elliott said that he felt it would be a very serious disaster if anything was done by Parliament which would lead to friction and difficulty between landlord and tenant. Agriculture was having a very uphill struggle, and in every agricultural society he had visited—and they were many—there was a general desire that landlord and tenants should work together smoothly and for the common interest. "If," proceeded the speaker, "there is anything in the Bill which would bring about litigation, difficulty, and friction, no one would regret it more than myself. The Bill was picked up by the Government in a somewhat unusual fashion It was unkempt when it was introduced, and needed a great deal of motherly attention. That attention the Bill has undoubtedly received, and I think everyone will say that it is a much cleaner, a much brighter, and a much better child than it was.

The attention has not been given from one side of the House more than the other. As far as I can judge, the desire has been to find common points of agreement to make the Bill a workable and useful measure. I have no doubt some further amendments will be made to it. I have every hope the Bill will not give rise to friction and difficulty, but that it will do something to make the relations between landlord and tenant more harmonious."

Sir Thomas then went on to speak of the Diseases of Animals Acts. He said that the Board made the regulations as simple as possible. It was no pleasure for the Board to impose restrictions for the sake of imposing restrictions. At the present moment there was not a single disease affecting cattle in existence in the country. In regard to sheep, the speaker quoted figures showing the diminution which had taken place in the number of cases of sheep scab during the past few years. The country and the county were in a much better position in regard to this disease than was the case ten or fifteen years ago.

We are, added Sir Thomas, making progress, and there is a real hope that before very long we may get rid of sheep scab altogether in this country, and have a perfectly clean bill of health. The position in regard to swine fever was rather better than it was in regard to sheep scab.

In the evening, Sir Thomas Elliott was entertained to dinner, and in replying to a toast, said it was the desire of every official in the Board of Agriculture to do his level best for the agriculturist. During the last thirty years the value of the property of landlords had diminished by an amount exceeding the amount of the National Debt. Tenant farmers were now distinctly lower in the social status, and one agricultural labourer out of every three had left the countryside. He did not think that public men sufficiently recognised this state of affairs. If the agricultural Rating Act had been passed fifteen years ago, the position of agriculture might have been much better to-day During the last two or three years, however, some ground had been gained.

Midland Notes.

VERY seldom does it happen that a Birmingham show week has come and gone before the advent of at least one or two sharp frosts. But we have had nothing this season of severity enough to leave any permanent effect upon the land, and our heavier soils especially are sadly in need of the disintegrating influences of a few cold days.

IMPLEMENT makers are ingenious in devising new forms of harrows, all warranted to break up the most stubborn of clods, but nothing is likely to be invented capable of rivalling the expansive effects of frozen water. Following on the much too plentiful downpours of November, the renewed rains of the last morning and evening have left the surface of the land waterlogged once more, and even the subsoils are now wet a long way down. If only we could have a really sharp turn of frost now—such a one as came in the middle of November last year it would have a wonderful effect in expediting the work of tillage later on.

WE need a touch of cold also to put life and keenness into the markets. The Christmas sales in the Midlands are close at hand; very soon now such fixtures as those at Wolverhampton, Stafford, Stratford-on-Avon, Leicester, Kidderminster, and a hundred more or less of more importance will be taking place; and what inducement is there to be paying well for Christmas beef so long as the season remains mild and muggy, as it has been of late? Not much, we fear; and the corn trade is hardly less adversely affected.

TO read the local cattle market reports is to be convinced afresh of the handicap excessive railway rates impose on farmers. Probably no trade of anything like equal importance is so curiously localised. Twenty miles away supplies may be small and prices a farthing higher than at home—no small difference when one has half a dozen ripe beasts to dispose of—yet the railways make it impossible to move the stock across the county without loss. Owners were better off in the old days, when they could send their beasts by road. But the railways have made that impossible As it is, if a journey of any length had to be undertaken, how could one hope to house and feed the beasts by night?

IT is needless, I suppose, to expatiate in this column on the inconveniences that follow scarcity of money in the villages. How many quarters of wheat and barley are hurriedly sold every year below their value because the farmer must have money to pay his extra men and meet the ordinary obligations of the season. Do we not, again, hear constantly of small lots of feeding stuffs and fertilisers being purchased because ready money sufficient to pay for a quantity and secure the lower rates allowed to buyers in bulk is not at hand. Let us hope that the new co-operative agricultural credit society, which has just been registered, will give the Midlands the benefit of its aid. From the fact that the Earl of Coventry is on the board of management, one may pretty safely assume that Worcestershire will not be overlooked; and the Earl of Stamford's association with the enterprise should be welcome news to the East Midlands.

THE Bingley Hall Show this week furnished striking evidence of the extent to which the swede and turnip crops improved during the late autumn. With such ample supplies as most of us now possess, there will be no occasion for hurry in starting on the mangels; and with the general abundance of all roots and the dearness of store sheep, which has induced many buyers to purchase less heavily than usual—we shall see, no doubt, another extension of the system of green manuring. Mustard and other crops which are suitable for ploughing down have made very rapid growth this season, and where stocks are more or less depleted much of this green stuff must necessarily end its career underground. Considering its excellent effect upon the staple of the soil and the amount of nitrogen a leguminous crop like clover or vetches adds to the land, it is questionable whether the economic advantages of green manuring are sufficiently appreciated.

December 6, 1906.

At the Martinmas hirings at Dumfries on Wednesday young men were plentiful, but women servants were scarce. Young ploughmen received £8 to £10; byre-women, £9 10s. to £11, kitchen girls, £8 to £10, and £11 to those able to milk; boys, £7 to £8; all for the half-year, with board and lodging.

Northern Notes.

THE Martinmas just past has been one of the finest within living memory; the agricultural servants have enjoyed their week's carnival, going from fair to fair, spending money liberally, and being all the time in the best of humours. Martinmas customs were almost similar to what they are now 200 or 300 years ago.

AN account of the proceedings at Martinmas, which appears in the journal of a farmer who lived in the East Riding, tells us how that "aboute a fortnight or ten dayes afore Martynmasse the cheife constable of every division sendeth abroad his precepts to all pettie constables, willinge them to give notice to all masters and servants within theire severall constableries howe that hee intendeth to sitte att such a place on such a day, commandinge everie of them to bringe in a bill of the names of all the masters and servants within their severall constableries."

THE account describes how the "sittinges" for living are to be held. There are usually two, and sometimes three, for every police division, the first taking place a week or more before Martinmas, and the next three or four days after that. The chief constable sent out his warrant to so many towns to meet him at a certain place on a given day, and the towns that were first called were the most privileged. The sittings for a particular place were not always held in one parish.

THE record goes on—"Our sittinges weare both att Kirkburne this yeare; the cheife constable sate att Mr. Whipps, and the servants stood in the churchyard. There is allwayes a sittinges at Kilham the morrow after All Saint's Day, and usually another at Sledmere two or three dayes after. A master cannot turn away his servant, nor a servant goe from his master, without a quarter's warninge; servants will usually give theire old masters a day, some two dayes, and some will stay three dayes with theire old masters, and goe away on the foweth day after Martynmasse. They stay usually two or three dayes with theire friends, and then aboute the fifth or sixth day after Martynmasse will they come to theire newe masters."

THE most remarkable thing in relation to agriculture is the continued mildness of the weather, though at the time of writing a cold snap is being experienced, and snow has actually fallen at Hull. Up to mid-week, however, there had not been, day or night, for a month a lower temperature (on the grass) than 30 deg. November rainfall was liberal, very nearly 4 in. Farming operations have made progress lately; stock on the hills have done well on herbage fresh and palatable, and tenants are rejoicing in the prospect—almost an accomplished fact—that the back of winter is broken. The wheat plant has come on wonderfully, and how it will fare with an outburst of severe weather to contend with is a matter of conjecture.

THE lately predominant atmospheric conditions are regarded by some as a weather breeder. Be that as it may, there is much to interest the eye out of doors. The holly trees are a mass of scarlet, and flowers (daisies, cowslips, and primroses) are blooming in exposed situations. Nobody is sighing for an old-fashioned winter, when hedges and gates used to be under a snowy mantle for weeks together. The violent changes one used to experience thirty or forty years ago are now only a memory; and it is just possible we may have a "green" Christmas.

A FEW lambs are still coming to market. The buyers are farmers desirous of putting them on turnips, to be sold off in the spring. The best lambs are selling at over two guineas per head. We saw over a thousand penned in a country cattle market this week, and their exposers had to stand nearly half a day before effecting sales. Then a few were turned back in the end. It is astonishing how hard are some of the Yorkshiremen in making up their minds. They hang about a market for hours at this time of the year, and are like bees going from one salesman to another in the hope of picking up something cheap. In September the same men were almost running over each other's heads in their eagerness to purchase. The root crop being abundant, there is no prospect of hoggs becoming cheaper until all the roots left to be "eaten on" are exhausted. It is quite problematical what will happen in the spring. Mutton may be cheap; it may be dear. Most probably the latter "may" will rule the market.

MENTION was made under the head of "Seasonable Topics" a short time back of the badly-kept state of wayside roads. There is an abundance of these in Yorkshire and further north, where the accommodation roads are what are called "soft," and the ruts are occasionally filled in—or should be—with chalk; but this material is very quickly ground down, and the last state of the road is worse than the first.

ON the Wolds there is an occupation known as flint-picking, and some few families are quite expert at the work. Women engage in it as well as men. The flint on some arable land in East Yorkshire yields an apparently inexhaustible supply of flint, and the wonder is that plant life thrives and brings forth thirty to fifty fold on such stony ground. The flints, gathered in early spring and summer and left on the field sides, are eventually used for filling-in the ruts. They are much more durable than a chalk filling.

ONE of the most prosperous and useful organisations in connection with agriculture in the North is the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association. Formed seven years ago to combat the then frequent throwing-up of barley samples, it has grown to a huge membership of 650, all either tenant farmers or their sons. This society is regarded as the parent of the North Eastern Farmers' Federation, which has already got the credit of awakening a more lively and intelligent interest in farming topics on the part of M.P.'s and would-be members. This federation has no political object—its simple aim is to benefit agriculturists.

THE whole of the North Country farmers' organisations are gradually being affiliated, as tenants are clearly seeing the potentialities of combination—a thousand farmers banded together for a special purpose must be much more powerful than half a score putting their ideas together on a market day. Co-operation is also in the air at Northallerton, where a large meeting was held to consider the desirability of forming a branch of the A.O.S. The club has received the proposal most favourably.

December 6, 1906.

Royal Agricultural Society.

The annual general meeting of governors and members of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held at the Hotel Russell (Bernard Street entrance), Russell Square, London, W.C., on Wednesday next, the 12th inst., at 12.30 p.m.

The report of the Council is, as usual, a lengthy one, dealing with the events of the society's year, and noted from time to time in our reports of the council meetings. As regards the position of the society, the report states that the following changes in the list of governors and members have taken place:—

Eighty-five governors and 888 members have been elected, and 4 members have been reinstated under bye law 12; whilst the deaths of 5 governors, 73 life members, 98 annual members, and 3 honorary members have been reported. A total of 2 governors and 250 members have resigned, whilst 27 have been struck off the books under bye-law 10, owing to absence of addresses, and 30 under bye-law 11, for arrears of subscriptions.

The above and other changes bring the total number of governors and members now on the register to 9,620, divided as follows:—1 foundation life governor, 154 annual governors, 92 life governors, 6,196 annual members, 3,147 life members, 30 honorary members—total, 9,620, as against a total of 9,170 members on the register on December 31, 1905.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with the Society's Supplemental Charter of 1905, and the Bye-Laws made thereunder, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Governors and Members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England will be held at the HOTEL RUSSELL (Bernard Street Entrance), Russell Square, London, W.C., on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1906, at 12.30 p.m., to consider the balance-sheet and the reports of the Council and of the Auditors; to elect a President and Trustees, Vice-Presidents, and Auditors, to hold office until the next ensuing Annual General Meeting; and to take cognizance of the election of ordinary Members of Council made by Divisions pursuant to the Bye-Laws.

By Order of the Council,
THOMAS MCROW,
Secretary.

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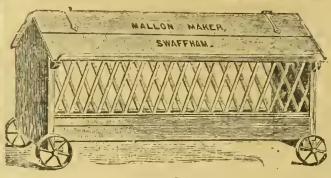

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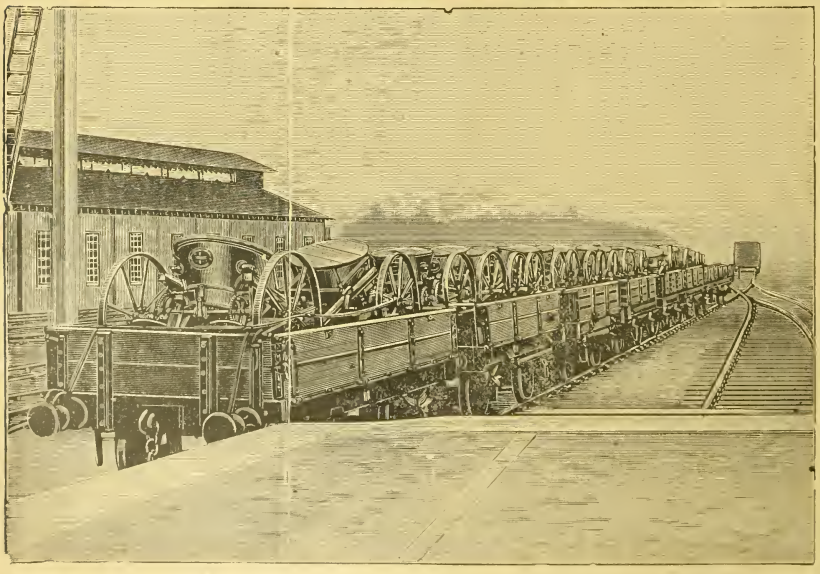

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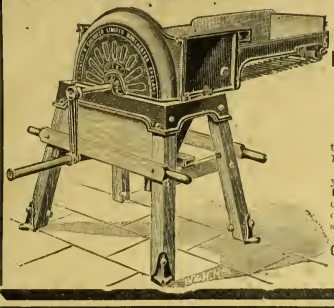

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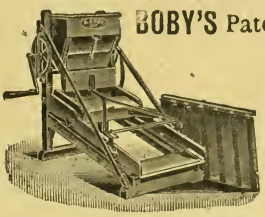

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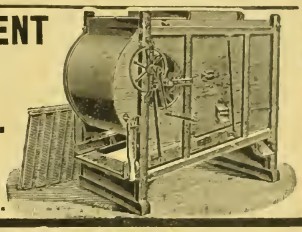

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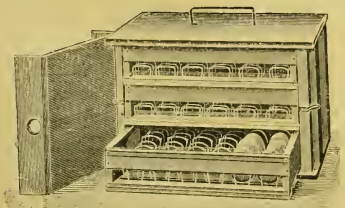

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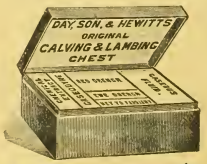

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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

The Consumption of Mangels.

A GLANCE at the returns of the Board of Agriculture relating to farm crops in 1906 shows that a greater area of land was devoted to mangels than heretofore, and in this fact we have evidence of the growing popularity of this crop. There can be no two opinions as to the value of mangels as a farm crop, the roots being almost equal to swedes for feeding purposes, with the advantage that they will keep considerably longer. Just so; but this is the point to which we would call attention. We know farmers who have been tempted to grow large quantities of mangels, and to do this they have had to utilise ground that would otherwise have been devoted to swedes and other feeding crops. The result is that they find themselves having to run on the mangels early in the winter, for the simple reason that they have got nothing else. We question the wisdom of this course, and though mangels are employed for feeding in the winter, it is in the spring and as long as they will last afterwards that they are in the best condition. The roots of mangels are not ripe when they are lifted from the ground, but they mature in the clump, and there undergo certain chemical changes, with the result that they arrive at the best conditions for feeding when there is naturally a scarcity of other succulent food. If a farmer relies too much on mangels—even admitting all their virtues—he is pushed to the necessity of using them before they are really fit, and stands a risk of finding himself short of roots at a time when they are in the best condition. We can grow mangels in bulk, and yet realise the value of swedes and other crops for early winter feeding.

Larks and Sprouting Wheat.

DELIGHTFUL is the song of the lark on a spring morning, when the bird, rising from the grass at your feet, soars higher and higher, singing as he goes, till his form becomes a mere speck in the air, or is lost to view, and the sound of the song fades away in the distance. You feel no animosity against the bird under these circumstances, but, on the other hand, are drawn towards him by a feeling of sentiment that is easily understood. Your feelings change, however, if you happen to be a farmer and you find a whole flock of larks busily making a meal on a promising piece of springing corn. Remember, however, that these are not the birds that you saw soaring heavenwards in the spring, but immigrant larks which visit our shores in large flocks every winter and make raids on the fields of springing corn about Christmas time. There are no magic ways of dealing with them, though it has been observed that the use of very plump seed at the late sowings is a means of attracting the thieves. Farmers suffer a good deal through the ravages of wild birds at different seasons, but the visitors are the biggest thieves, and if we had only the birds to deal with that are born and bred in our midst, we should have less need to complain.

Fencing Orchard Fruit Trees.

IN those parts of the country where there are fruit orchards attached to every farmstead, and it is necessary to run cattle and horses in the said orchards, the proper fencing of newly-planted trees is an item of considerable importance. And yet how often one sees it neglected. In more cases than we care to name, trees which cost half-a-crown or three shillings each are planted and bundles of thorns are tied round the stems or some primitive kind of a fence is fixed up to protect the specimens from damage. The apology for a fence gets quickly broken, the trees are gnawed, rubbed, or damaged, and the time and money spent over the planting are lost. If a thing is worth doing at all it is worth doing well, and this applies to the fencing of a fruit tree as much as to anything else. Not only must the stem be guarded, but the tree must be looked to frequently, for the breaking of a tie will cause the trees to rub against the fence, which is the first step towards gaping canker wounds, caused in the beginning through damage to the bark. Which is actually the best device for fencing fruit trees in grass orchards is largely a matter of opinion, but wooden guards of any kind are all more or less cumbersome and expensive, and now it is easy to get collar-like guards formed of wire netting, strengthened by means of straight pieces of stout barbed wire attached to the sides. These guards are fastened to the stake which supports the tree, they close round the stem like a collar and are closed up by means of a pin which is inserted at the top. We have found this wire arrangement be an effective means of protecting trees, besides being more sightly and less costly than wooden fences.

Fruit as a Farm Crop.

WE have no intention of urging farmers to become commercial fruit-growers, but we contend that in districts like the West of England, where apples and pears grow freely that there is no part of the farm more profitable than the orchard. In spite of this, in too many cases, it is the part that is the most neglected. What is the reason of it? It is simply because there are so many farmers who will not treat the orchard seriously. They look upon the fruit that is grown on the place in the light of a bye product which may give a return or it may not, just according to circumstances. This is entirely a wrong way of looking at it, and this is the reason why the farm orchards of Great Britain do not contribute what they ought to the fruit supply of the million. We emphatically contend that in favourable fruit-growing districts orchards are more profitable than many other parts of the farm, but if fruit is to pay it must be considered in the light of a crop and be treated accordingly, not merely as a bye product, as is the case in too many instances at the present time.

Dry and Wet-handed Milking.

ONE of our correspondents raised an interesting point in a recent issue as to whether the hand of the milker should be wet or dry when the milk is being extracted from the cow. Here is a matter regarding which some of our readers might express their views in the correspondence columns. According to the contentions of certain professors—oh dear, those professors, what theories they do propound!—dry-handed milking is the proper thing on the grounds of cleanliness. Just so, but the writer of the note bearing on the subject deals with the matter from another standpoint—that of the "coo," and argues that wet-handed milking is easier both for the operator and the beast, while it is more natural. So far as we see it, the hand of a milker need not necessarily be dirty because it is wet, and the best method is that by which the milk is extracted from the udder with the least inconvenience to the cows, having in view also the importance of cleanliness. Our mind is quite open in the matter, and we invite the views of our readers as to the merits of dry and wet-handed milking.

Farm and Stack Fires.

THOUGH the time when one naturally expects to hear of stack fires is over, we continue to read reports of both hay ricks and farm buildings being either damaged or ruined by fire, and in many cases it is not at all clear how the fires originate. In several instances of late, however, we have heard of ricks being deliberately set on fire by unscrupulous persons who have a grudge against the owner, and no words of ours are strong enough to condemn such proceedings. To burn a man's property, because one has a grudge against him, is worse than kicking him in the back, and severe flogging is not too bad a punishment. But all fires are not intentional, though there is scarcely less excuse for the persons who originate some of them, and one can have no sympathy for the wandering tramp who seeks shelter under stacks and in buildings and uses matches in lighting his pipe (it is a surprising fact that most tramps can find money for tobacco), regardless of the inflammable material all about them. Tired Mike is a bugbear to the farmer in more ways than one. Be the latter so busy

or badly in want of hands, Mike will have none of his labour, or he is off as soon as he has earned enough to pay for his next night's doss, and if he has not the wherewithal for this he seeks shelter on the farmer's premises, and the latter runs the risk of being burnt to death in his bed.

Cow Clubs. WE venture to draw further attention to an account which appeared in one of our recent issues of a very useful institution which is carried on in certain villages in the North, known as the cow club. By means of the cow club small holders are able to insure their cows without having to resort to any insurance society, and it strikes us as being an institution of mutual self-help the like of which might be established in many rural districts. We have had considerable experience with labourers and persons living on small places and owning one or two cows. Generally speaking, when a working man loses the one solitary cow he owns, it is a serious loss to him if it does not actually mean ruin to his farming prospects. We have known such cases in which well meaning and kind hearted persons have started subscriptions and collected money to replace the lost cow. The man who is benefited is grateful, but he feels that he owes his fresh cow to charity, and we strongly commend institutions such as the cow club referred to, into which small holders could pay something and receive benefit in the event of being so unfortunate as to lose an animal.

Christmas Beef. WITH the famous Smithfield Meeting as the most important, the farming world has been busy during the past week or two with shows, sales, and markets all associated with Christmas beef. A few weeks ago we heard complaints about there being a shortage of beef, except very fat animals, which were mostly suet, and this report was not surprising, because then feeders were saving their best for the great climax—the Christmas markets. To the man who knows nothing about the practical side of farming, a fat stock show is merely an array of animals fed up to a point of preponderance, but to a farmer such a show is interesting in more ways than one. Ten to one he has a beast or two in competition, and he is more concerned as to how they will fare in the auctioneer's ring than when subjected to the criticism of the judges. How prices rule at the Christmas market is a matter of great concern because for weeks past the food bill has been mounting up while beasts have been putting on flesh, and the owner's anxiety is to see all that back with a substantial margin of profit. Generally speaking, the money for Christmas beef is welcome enough, for there is something else to be thought about now, *i.e.*, Christmas bills.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Tenant-Right and Landlord-Right.

Now frankly, I am convinced, despite all that may be said to the contrary, and despite even the pessimistic assurances of Lord Carrington, that Lord Penrhyn's amendment to the Land Tenure Bill, which will restrict the tenant's freedom of cropping to practices recognised in the district as good husbandry, will not operate to the disadvantage of the farmers. After all, the custom of the country—and this amendment simply seeks that the custom of the country shall become the law of the land—is based upon experience, and experience is, after all, the best heritage of farmers. But, say the critics, such an amendment will prevent experiments. Well, let it be so—let progressive agriculture be unhappily affected. Ought the landlord, however, to be the victim of experiments? Ought he to have to bear the cost of departures in culture in connection with which he has never been consulted? If this were the law, then a worsement-clause ought to be included in the Bill. What is more, the tenant ought actually to give financial security—in other words, ought to reassure the landlord that if harm be done to the farm the landlord's property would be absolutely secure. We may, of course, laud the principle of tenant-right; but, after all, there is such a principle as landlord-right. It ought not at least to be banished to Saturn and Jupiter.

The Four Years' Proposal.

What could have been the purpose of the Duke of Richmond in moving, and his hundred and eleven fellow peers in approving, that in the case of leaseholds the freedom of cropping and disposal of produce should not apply to the four years immediately preceding the termination of the tenancy? To me the amendment seems not only to be bad and unjustifiable in character, but a work of supererogation. After all, under the Bill the landlord can prevent the tenant depreciating the productive value of the land. Surely this should be sufficient? Besides this, if the principle of freedom be wise, it ought not to be excluded from the last four years' tenure of a farm. Of course, I can understand that there should be some restriction imposed in the expiring period of a lease, but four years is an extravagant term. The proposal vitiates one of the cardinal purposes of the measure for what may be actually more than one-half the period of occupation. Two years should be enough, and would be a sufficient guarantee of the inherent virtue of the soil being unhappily affected. This was the view in the House of Commons—a view expressed with a vigour of language that would have surprised some of the peers could they have heard it.

Oaths Hurled at the Lords.

As a fact, the Commons—or rather the Liberal section of it—is by no means inclined to accept the purpose of the Lords. I have heard the tactics of the nobles described in a variety of fashions. "Mischievous," "wrecking," "discreditable," "selfish," "sordid"—these are only a few of the fevered adjectives which resounded in the lobby on Thursday night. The professional laud reformers in particular were singularly splenetic. While the ordinary Radical regarded the matter as an evidence that the House of Lords possessed a double dose of original sin, the land reformers accepted the incident as an assurance that land reform on more drastic lines must be introduced. "The Bill was never strong; it has now been so emasculated as to be worse than innocuous"—this was their general reflection upon the method pursued by the peers. Will the Lords' amendments be rejected? Frankly, I do not think the land reformers are anxious for this. They would prefer that the Bill should be abandoned. They now comprehend that it will accomplish but little—that it means but a platonic affliction of the landlords, and they want something infinitely more punitive than a platonic enunciation of a design. Besides, the mere fact that the Bill has passed the Commons is in itself an affirmation of the principle they have espoused—in a word, is a justification for a more emphatic legislative expression. They roll their adjectives upon their tongues as though they were the daintiest morsels, and then let them fever themselves into the maledictory resolve to be remorseless in their future hate.

The Milk Deputation.

I am bound to say that the majority of the House of Commons is not altogether in sympathy with the deputation which waited upon Sir Edward Strachey in reference to the milk standard. I will not say this majority is out of sympathy with the deputation. One M.P. put it to me: "Why should a farmer not be compelled to sell that which he professes to sell?" True, it was admitted freely that the farmer ought not to be held responsible for the condition of the milk once it had passed out of his control. It was, however, insisted that the vital importance of milk in the natural economy of the State imposes a direct duty on the farmer—the duty of complete purity. Of course, we live in what I will call a standardisation era. Every industry will soon have associated with it a standard of production. To suggest, therefore, that milk—an essential liquid and a necessary food—should have been permitted a reduced standard is regarded as something in the nature of half an offence against a national necessity. Said another M.P. to me—this time a Conservative and an agriculturist: "After all, the quality of milk is entirely a matter of feeding." "A little extra oil-cake in the case of deep-milking cows would," he declared, "bring the milk up to the requisite standard." This view was repeated again and again by men who echoed in order to conceal their ignorance. What is more, they utilised the sentences to emphasise their antipathy—largely based upon borrowed scientific views, of whose justification they were, again, ignorant—to the extensive use of preservatives. It is well that the industry should comprehend this temper. "What use," exclaimed an unthinking urban M.P., "asking us to pass a Bill providing for the purity of butter, and then in the next breath asking us to degrade the character of milk?"

The Unionist Agricultural Committee.

Well, we have again a Unionist agricultural committee in existence. Of course, we must be glad of the fact. Any organisation that helps to the disciplined consideration of rural problems is in itself an aid to the farming interest. Besides, I have now relinquished the hope, as a result of my experience, of the establishment of a Parliamentary Committee which shall be beyond and above mere partisanism. When Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes first called a Unionist agricultural committee into existence, I deplored his action. I believed then that a general Parliamentary Committee representative of both parties could have been evolved. This is impossible now. The Land Tenure Bill may not be very valuable in itself—its virtues may not be assertive; but it has at last sufficed clearly and distinctly to define the party boundaries. Liberals and Conservatives are on agrarian questions divided into camps. In securing the purity of an article of food—I am thinking of the Butter Bill, which Lord Carrington has resolved shall become law in the next session—there may be something like harmony of sentiment; but beyond that there will only be disharmony. The establishment of the Unionist agricultural committee is thus a wise act—all the wiser in that Mr. Walter Long is its chairman. Mr. Long silhouettes agriculture.

The Farmers' Club Incident.

In the House there was a good deal of interest exhibited in the Farmers' Club dinner incident, which I have no doubt you report. Mr. O. W. Bowen, the chairman of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, who interrupted Mr. Chaplin, is a very popular lobbyist, and is known outside the circle of his own Parliamentary friends for his intelligent advocacy of the reform and extension of the purpose of the Board of Agriculture—a project, by the way, which has now a considerable significance. I am personally not going to say whether Mr. Chaplin was wise in referring to the tariff-reform investigations. At all events, they have protruded into a considerable eminence phases of the land problem which have a vital moment. Mr. Bowen had, of course, been impressed by the anxiety of both Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes and Sir Edward Strachey to eliminate every discordant issue from the festival. After all, however, where farmers mingle together in this fashion their own vital concerns ought not to be left out of consideration. To say that the tariff-reform inquiry was a more important matter than even the Disraeli or the Gladstone Commission is to me an egregious assertion; for that Mr. Chaplin is alone responsible. To assert, however, that at a farmers' festival a direct, close, apposite, and suggestive report should not be discussed is worse. Mr. Fellowes and Sir E. Strachey had, by their honeyed courtesy, created a Laodicean atmosphere. Mr. Chaplin banished its cloying sweetness. Mr. Bowen, however, has the sympathy of Liberal members, who distrust an agitation that would make agriculture its handmaiden. Mr. Bowen, too, has evoked a little gratitude from even Conservative M.P.'s, who rejoiced that his piquant act induced Mr. Chaplin to the excellent confession that he hopes to return to the House of Commons. May that hope have an early fruition.

At Stockton County Court, on Tuesday, Isaac Johnson, farmer, Rift House, West Hartlepool, claimed £42 10s. from the North-Eastern Railway Company for damage to cattle. Plaintiff's case was that on October 19 last about a dozen of his cattle were being driven over a level-crossing at Urlay Nook, when a train dashed into them, killing three and maiming one. The gates were opened by a man in charge, who said that all was clear. Defendants pleaded that the crossing did not lead to a carriage way, but to a bridle path, and that the railway company took all the precautions that were necessary. Judgment was given for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed with costs. Notice of appeal was given.

PEN OF SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

This pen of Southdown Sheep was Reserve for the Breed Cup, and First in the Class for a pen of Three Fat Wether Lambs of the Southdown Breed under 12 months old, at the Smithfield Show. They are the property of and were bred by H.M. the King, Sandringham. They are 9 months old, and weigh 4 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs.

THE SMITHFIELD SHOW.

A Fine Exhibition—His Majesty's Shorthorn Repeats the Birmingham Victory—Scottish National Champion Reserve—Sheep Championship Goes to Sandringham—Messrs. Dean and Sons' Lincolns Winning Reserve.

CRITICAL REPORT OF ALL SECTIONS.

The annual show of fat stock in connection with the Smithfield Club took place last week in the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The show was the 108th in connection with the club, and prizes amounting to £2,013 were offered for cattle, £1,154 for sheep, and £457 for pigs. So there was little wonder that once more the leading breeders of the United Kingdom were splendidly represented. Included in these awards were the magnificent challenge cups presented by his Majesty the King for cattle, by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales for sheep, and by Prince Christian for pigs. Last year, it will be remembered, the challenge cup presented by the Heir-Apparent was finally won by his Royal father, and it was renewed by the Prince, who together with the King visited the show on Monday. Amongst the exhibits were the champion animals from Norwich, Birmingham, and Edinburgh Shows, and these came in for a good deal of attention.

The King was even more successful than he was at Birmingham, for he won seven first prizes and the breed cups (for Devons, Shortborns, and Highland cattle), three second prizes, and three thirds. Three other animals were reserved, and one was highly commended. In addition to these honours, his Majesty also secured the £50 silver cup for the best steer, and the championship of the show (which carried with it the champion plate of 100 guineas and the King's challenge cup for the best animal bred by the exhibitor), with the Shorthorn steer which was champion at Birmingham. In the sheep section he won two first prizes, one third, the Breed Cup for Southdowns and the £50 Champion Plate, and the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for sheep; while he was marked reserve for a pen of pigs. Altogether his Majesty won money and trophies to the value of £416 for cattle and £100 for sheep, or a total of £516, in addition to the King's and Prince of Wales's challenge cups. Thus, with the £490 secured at Birmingham, the King has achieved a great triumph in less than a fortnight by winning at the two principal fat stock shows in the kingdom money and trophies to the value of more than £1,000.

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The award of the champion prizes was looked forward to with intense interest, as there were so many candidates that were thought eligible for the distinction, and the results in a certain measure, it was thought, would hinge upon breed prejudices. However, the judges were very careful in making their selections, and in most respects gave satisfaction. The first honour to be decided was that for the best beast not exceeding two years old, in which Mr. John Ross's first prize Shorthorn steer succeeded in coming out above Mr. T. S. Morgan's very choice Devon. The next Cup to be decided was that for the best ox or steer in the show, in which H.M. the King's Shorthorn made good and safe ground, as the judges chose as his closest competitor Mr. Peter Dunn's first prize Angus, which was lengths behind the Shorthorn in the opinion of the public. The next championship was that for the best female in the hall, and here the final contest lay between Miss A. de Rothschild's first prize cross-bred heifer and Lord Rosebery's Edinburgh champion Angus heifer, fates ruling that the Angus was best. The next event was the supreme championship of the show, which now was reduced to one Royal Shorthorn steer and one Angus heifer, the judges after considerable deliberation placing these two animals in the above order. It would have been more consistent with the general order of things had the cross-bred heifer triumphed in the female championship, as she would have made a much more fitting reserve than the under-sized Angus heifer which had eventually to fill this important place.

CATTLE.

Devons.

The Rubies of the Western Hills made a good display with eight steers under two years, and the same number (two having been withdrawn from the original entry of ten) in the class under three years four heifers also appearing, this making just twenty. The awards were similar to those of Birmingham for the first prize animals, but different in regard to some of the other findings, partly attributable to some fresh blood coming into the lists. Thus among the eight younger steers there were three belonging to Mr. J. C. Williams, Mr. Charles Morris and Mr. J. P. Chissell, which were not at Birmingham. The exhibit of the first-named was of small bones and high quality, and was deemed worthy of being placed third, and Lord Rosebery obtained second prize for the steer, which was only reserve at Birmingham, to the disadvantage of H.M. the King's Bingley Hall second prize steer now put back into the position of reserve. This animal gave to view an excellent middle, with a broad table back, nicely covered, but possessed rather short hindquarters, scaling at one year, eleven months, two weeks only 17 lb. over 10 cwt., while Lord Rosebery's steer, seven weeks younger, weighed 11 cwt. 23 lb. He had a good, well-covered top, and although a little wanting at the flanks and fore-ends, seemed a worthy second. As for the first winner, Mr. T. S. Morgan's Whimple Model, he seemed a long way the best in the class, although there were three weightier ones in it.

In the senior steer class Lord Rosebery's Birmingham first winner held his own with a live-weight of 15 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. at two years, eleven months, and two weeks, and he carried flesh of the right sort on a broad, shapely form. Lord Rosebery's second Birmingham winner was not so successful, only reserve falling to him. Mr. T. Kidner's Curley, the third Bingley Hall winner, having now a set up to second place, while third prize was given to Mr. J. H. Cann's new-comer. Mr. Kidner's was an animal different judges might be expected to differ about. He scaled well according to age, and was well coated over a grand back and front, but his ill-shaped hind seemed to spoil all. Mr. Cann's steer was noteworthy for good quality. The Earl of Cawdor's Stackpole Klondyke was the heaviest in the class, but the judges sought after quality rather than substance. The keeping over of Viscount Portman's Reggie, which was in the prize list last year, has not proved a success. His lordship's Gay Lad, however, received barren honours. The four heifers which competed were a very prime lot indeed. As at Birmingham, H.M. the King's Caroline was the prima donna, and her shapely, nice character, affluent in rich flesh, secured for her the Breed Cup. Second to her came, as at Birmingham, Mr. Morgan's Whimple Beauty 5th. Viscount Portman's Coronet getting reserve, and Mr. Clatworthy's Cutsey Zenobia 2nd a ticket, the entire quartette being heifers that would have been valuable for breeding had they not lost the function through being trained for the summer shows.

South Devon.

A good upstanding steer belonging to Mr. Ben Luscombe represented alone this favourite variety of the butchers, with the exception of another solitary animal in one of the carcase classes sent by Mr. J. S. Wroth. There were four steers in the class last year, and if the breed is to be continued in the Smithfield list greater pains should be taken to have it better represented.

Sussex.

The entry of animals of this breed was originally twenty-eight, but two withdrawals and two absentees brought the number down to twenty-four. Ten of these were yearling steers, which were of such merit that a fourth prize was added, and there were four others to get barren honours afterwards. The leading animal was found in Earl Winterton's steer by President, of good shape and nice quality, flesh 12 lb. over 13 cwt. The Earl of Derby's Dragoon steer, which came second, was 54 lb. heavier, but Mr. Gerald Warde's third steer was much younger and not so weighty. The extra prize was given to Mr. W. W. Berry's steer bred by Colonel Hammond, the heaviest in the class, its live-weight being 14 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb.

The animal which won the Breed Cup as best Sussex was, however, the first winner in the senior steer class, Mr. W. Levett's Spimo Dick, whose weight was 10lb. over 17 cwt., although only two days over two years eight and three-quarter months old. The second winner of Mr. J. Aungier was almost as good, and, indeed, scaled rather heavier. The heaviest in the class was Mr. W. G. Fladgate's steer, whose live scaling was 18 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. Mr. Braby's Buxom Jim was

selected for third prize for good shape and quality of flesh. Mrs. Montefiore's Spring Flower was first heifer, a heavy-fleshed one, 8 lb. over 16 cwt. Mr. Joseph Godson's Bonette 28th was placed next, a very neat, shapely one. Mr. H. H. Hubble's Sardonic getting third premium for another level, nice-fleshed one. The Earl of Derby's Honey Dew could only obtain r, although of excellent character.

Herefords.

This breed would have been much better represented if the whole of those originally entered had turned up, but when out of twenty-two as many as eight are either withdrawn or absent, the residue of fourteen is scarcely what might have been expected for the representation of a breed which, at the period the Smithfield Show was first held, was deemed the chief grazing sort. The general merit of the exhibited Herefords was, however, decidedly above par. Although only three yearling steers appeared, they had at their front the Birmingham first winner, Mr. James Edwards' Twyford Magnum, which at one year ten months two weeks four days old scaled 14 cwt. 1 qr. 6lb. His fine stature and good form was much admired at Birmingham, and should he have another year's feeding and do well he will make a topper at next Smithfield Show. H.M. the King's steer by Fire King, the reserve at Birmingham yearling was placed next those which were second and third in Bingley Hall, not having been entered for this show. At about three weeks from the age limit, this Royal steer is 7 lb. over 12 cwt., and neatness of character seems his chief characteristic. The third steer, a much younger one belonging to Mr. Faber, M.P., and named Worcester Sauce, seemed very shapely and likely to make ample return for another year's feeding.

The six steers which came together in the senior class seemed a very prime collection, having at the front Mr. W. H. Cooke's level, evenly-fleshed Beet, which was also first at Birmingham. At about 2 years 10½ months he weighs 16 cwt. 16 lb., his merit lying in evenly-laid good quality flesh. Second to him was placed Mr. Lawton Moore's Bonanza steer, which was a reversal of the Birmingham ruling, by which H.M. the King's steer by Iron Duke had the second premium.

The Royal steer has a slight droop in the back which might possibly have caused this, but in quality surpassed by any competitor. The two heaviest were the third winner, Mr. A. E. Hughes' Prelate, which at rather under two years ten months weighed 17 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb., and Mr. E. T. Learner's Sirloin, which, although a prize-winner at Norwich, was now only he. At two years ten months he gave a live weight of 17 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. The judges therefore appreciated quality rather than size and substance.

There were five animals in the female class, with H.M. the King's Camilla at their head, a fine well-shaped heifer well grazed, scaling 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. Next to her came Mr. T. Morris's Symbol, the greatest in substance of the remaining ones with the flesh evenly laid on, and after her came the Bromsgrove champion Brampton Agnes 33rd, belonging to Mr. Lawton Moore, which was only reserve at Birmingham, where the yearling Gavel of the Earl of Coventry was placed above her. These heifers were made to exchange places here, and Mr. G. D. Smith's Rachael was he, a shapely, well-grazed heifer, which was not at Birmingham. The Breed Cup was awarded to Mr. Cooke's steer, as at Birmingham, the King's Camilla being reserve for it.

Red Polls.

A dozen of these East Anglian breed were originally entered, but one of the younger steers was an absentee. Sir W. Corbett won both first prizes in the steer classes. His winner in the junior one had laid on the flesh evenly on a larger, more lengthy form than any of the others had. Acrobat, belonging to the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, was noteworthy for nice quality. Mr G. D. Smith had also two nice ones, one of which was selected for third prize. Sir Thomas V. S. Gooch's Benacre Bobs seemed quite of the same character, very neat in outline and of prime quality. In the senior steer class Sir Walter had only one competitor, that of Sir Richard Cooper's steer by Felix, which, however, was nothing like the weight of the Acton Reynold, whose grand span of rib, deep shape, and well-covered flesh gave him the cup as well as first prize. The heifers were a very nice lot, having the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes' Appendix at the front, a heifer of good length and depth of form, carrying good flesh. Mr. J. B. Dimmock obtained both the other prizes with two heifers by the same sire of very like character. The high merit of the class will be at once understood by the fact of Sir W. Corbett's Acton Butterfly being only able to get reserve.

Shorthorns.

The Shorthorn classes at Islington were not quite as great a success as could have been desired in spite of the fact that these classes provided the best ox or steer, and also the champion of the entire show, in the shape of H.M. the King's steer that had been similarly honoured at Birmingham the previous week. The class containing this steer, however, was the main strength of the breed, as the younger steer class had but four entries. One of these, however, was good enough to carry off the cup for best animal in the show under two years old, and females had but a couple of representatives, so that the Shorthorns great cry was quality rather than quantity, and it was a great credit to the breed, in the face of such keen competition for breeding purposes, to be able to bring together so good a collection, for the older steer class contained five or six other remarkably good animals besides the two champions alluded to.

Judging commenced with the younger class of steers under two years old, of which four were in their places. Mr. John Ross had a practically easy victory in these with the steer, but later on carried off the under two years old cup, and that had also been successful at Edinburgh previously. This was bred by his owner and sired by Ajax out of a dam by Champion. The live weight of the steer is 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 8lb. at a year and eight months, which is very creditable, and he is symetrical and good in his flesh, with enough breeding and a good coat of hair on top, which is a very important matter in a show beast. Sir Oswald Mosley's steer that had headed the class at the Midland show came next, and was looking none the worse for his trip to town; a good quality, square steer by Beauty's Pride, the second entry from this herd, which was rather small, could not get higher than reserve, being beaten for the third place by another entry of Mr. Ross's with level outline and plenty of quality about him to go on with.

Steers above two and not exceeding three years were altogether a bonny class, and gave the judges considerable trouble to place them, the Royal steer having a rather formidable opponent in Captain Townshend's rare-backed and big bullock of Mr. Finlay Munro's breeding that stood second at Birmingham, and a year ago was placed above his now more favoured opponent. The Windsor steer, however, has a quality of handling that is very hard to get over, and he is well filled down his thighs, as well as in all his best roasting parts, and carries his weight of 17 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb., which is a little less than he scaled in the Midlands, in very small compass, and walks away without any burden at all; there was no doubt as to the correctness of the decision which eventually gave him the preference. The Caldecote steer pulls up a bigger weight, being 18 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in London, and he stands up a noble, eye-filling bullock, with very fine top and bottom lines, and carries himself well; behind the shoulder, however, he is a little weak, and in handling was not quite as good as the Windsor beast. This bullock was sired by Maxwell, and the winner by the famous bull Royal Duke. Changes were the rule lower down the class, as compared with the two previous shows of Norwich and Birmingham, as Mr. Learner's well-finished, weighty, and good-quality steer bred by Mr. John Cross, which had been first at Norwich and was lowered to a c card in the Midlands, was now reinstated so far as to be third best. He is undoubtedly a capital stamp of steer, and should give a good account of himself when killed. Miss Alice de Rothschild follows on with her very good quality, active, and well-bred steer by Waddesdon Youth that handles nicely and was given the reserve and he, whilst Mr. R. W. Hudson's steer third at Norwich and third at Birmingham, was he. This was bred by the Marquis of Exeter, and in appearance had improved whilst on his showing tour. Sir John Swinburne obtained a c for another good bullock, which concluded the class. The two females were H.M. The King's sweet heifer by Royal Chieftain, which is full of quality, breeding, and style, though not big, as she is at a disadvantage in age; and Mr. E. T. Learner's Lackadaisical, that had been first at Norwich, a sappy, useful heifer. The judges gave the public the impression that the contest here was very close, but these views were not endorsed, and the final placing, which was as above, was entirely satisfactory. The champion bullock was accounted best of the breed, and his herd companion the reserve best.

Cross-bred Cattle.

Taken all round the Cross-bred section was one of the best seen at Islington for some time. The quality was of a very high order, weights on the whole satisfactory, and there was more uniformity than is frequently the case. The section certainly did not provide the champion or r champion this year, which it has done upon many previous occasions, but the various classes formed, without doubt, one of the great features of the show. Commencing with the steers not exceeding two years old there was a very good entry of twelve catalogued, of which, however, some were absent, having been sold in the meantime probably. The first prize steer was of a comparatively new cross as regards prize winning, being by a Shorthorn bull from a West Highland cow, and was bred and exhibited by Mr. Robert Turner; he is a steer with great substance and muscular flesh, well put together, and feeding close to the ground; his very good coat of hair, too, is quite in his favour, and he handles well, and his weight record is 13 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. A very severe opponent to this steer was found in Mr. George Bruce's second prize one of Angus and Shorthorn crosses, a well-ribbed, good topped steer, symmetrical, and good in his quality; he scales well, too, being 13 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb. Mr. John Ross followed with a blue-grey of similar cross to the second prizewinner, out of a dam by Ringleader. Rich in his day, was probably the best sire of show fat stock that ever lived; this steer is also very straight, and pulls up the beam at the very good record of 14 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. A Devon and Angus cross of Mr. J. C William's came in for reserve, and a steer full of flesh and good shaped. Miss A. de Rothschild and the Earl of Durham were also honoured with minor cards. Steers above two and not exceeding three years old followed, and these were altogether a capital lot, several animals being left outside in the cold that were well fit for substantial honours. The first prize was accorded to Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Blue Boy, a big steer, one of the heaviest in the hall, and very good along his back, shapely, too, though possibly a little too much on the fat side, he is of Angus and Shorthorn cross; second honours was accorded to Mr. J. R. Sim for a roan of similar cross to the first prize one, and a good muscular butcher's beast, scaling over 18 cwt. Third prize was given to the Earl of Durham for an Angus and Shorthorn of exceptional quality and very pleasing in his outline. A fourth prize was awarded to Mr. C. Emmerson for a good cross-bred with famous top of beef and handling well, though a little light on the scales. Mr Wildman Cattley obtained the reserve card, and Sir John Swinburne and one or two other exhibitors received minor honours for good entries.

Heifers not exceeding two years followed, and this class was perhaps a little weak, though a good number received honours at the hands of the judges. Mr. John Ross was placed first with a very nice blue-grey from a Ringleader dam, Miss Alice de Rothschild followed with a particularly symmetrical heifer of the Angus

THE CARCASE CLASSES—CATTLE.

Class 90. STEER not exceeding 2 years old.

Name.	Live Weight. cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Carcase Weight. st (8lbs.)	lbs.	Suet, Caul, Reed Fat. lbs.	Fat, Gut Fat, Trimmings. lbs.	Tongue, Tail. lbs.	Head, Feet. lbs.	Heart, Liver, Lights. lbs.	Tripe, Feck, Reed. lbs.	Hide. lbs.	Intestines. lbs.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
Sir W. Gilbey's Crossbred	9	2	12	82	2	13	26	12	48	31	116	65	13	4th	R.
Mr. G. Young's Crossbred	10	3	18	96	3	16	26	11	51	37	107	83	14	3rd	3rd
Mr. J. G. Young's Crossbred	10	3	22	103	1	13	20	11	54	32	94	75	12	1st	1st & R. Cham.
Mr. J. D. Fletcher's Crossbred ..	12	0	0	110	1	25	37	13	54	38	91	82	17	2nd	2nd
Mr. R. M. Greave's Welsh	11	1	12	101	4	20	39	10	52	35	96	92	21		4th
Mr. J. C. William's Crossbred ..	11	0	1	106	2	20	26	10	44	33	70	75	15	C	

Class 91. STEER above 2 and not exceeding 3 years old.

Name.	Live Weight. cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Carcase Weight. st (8lbs.)	lbs.	Suet, Caul, Reed Fat. lbs.	Fat, Gut Fat, Trimmings. lbs.	Tongue, Tail. lbs.	Head, Feet. lbs.	Heart, Liver, Lights. lbs.	Tripe, Feck, Reed. lbs.	Hide. lbs.	Intestines. lbs.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
Sir W. Corbett's Red Poll	10	0	22	90	6	20	38	9	46	31	88	64	19		4th
Mr. G. Young's Crossbred	13	1	8	124	4	18	21	12	56	36	128	87	61	1st	1st & Champ.
Miss A. de Rothschild's Crossbred ..	16	0	16	153	1	29	44	14	63	45	133	103	24	C.	
Mr. R. Graham's Galloway	10	2	11	93	1	19	26	10	52	36	112	69	19		
Mr. J. G. Young's Crossbred ..	11	0	0	98	7	25	42	10	48	32	97	74	19	2nd	R.
Mr. W. Hughes' Welsh	13	1	12	123	6	24	51	12	58	35	92	90	21	4th	3rd
Mr. W. Kennedy's Crossbred	12	3	4	119	0	18	23	10	59	40	103	92	16		C.
Mr. R. M. Greaves' Welsh	14	3	18	133	7	29	45	14	64	44	120	119	28	3rd	2nd

Class 92. HEIFER not exceeding 3 years old.

Name.	Live Weight. cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Carcase Weight. st (8lbs.)	lbs.	Suet, Caul, Reed Fat. lbs.	Fat, Gut Fat, Trimmings. lbs.	Tongue, Tail. lbs.	Head, Feet. lbs.	Heart, Liver, Lights. lbs.	Tripe, Feck, Reed. lbs.	Hide. lbs.	Intestines. lbs.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
Mr. G. Young's Crossbred	9	2	5	90	5	20	22	11	41	29	89	77	13	C.	2nd
Duchess of Newcastle's Crossbred ..	11	1	2	102	6	28	46	11	46	39	87	77	23	3rd	3rd
Mr. R. Graham's Galloway	10	3	15	100	4	24	37	12	41	34	98	76	19	2nd	4th
Mr. J. G. Young's Crossbred	11	0	3	101	5	22	33	11	45	33	97	77	17	4th	C.
Mr. J. D. Fletcher's Crossbred ..	8	1	7	77	7	22	26	9	34	27	54	57	14		1st
Mr. J. S. Wroth's South Devon ..	16	0	23	147	3	81	47	14	60	50	148	85	30	1st	R. & H. C.

and Shorthorn cross, Mr. Robert Turner had a big heifer with capital top line and flesh that was placed third, she appears also to be of Shorthorn and Polled cross. Mr. J. C. Williams came in for the fourth time with another of his very neat and nice quality Devon and Angus crosses, and more honours were given to a second entry of Miss Rothschild's, one of Mr. C. Emmerson's, one of Mr. C. F. Raphael's, and one of Mr. John Ross's. Heifers above two and not exceeding three years old were the class of the section, as it contained three heifers that were quite fit to champion a good show. These were Miss A. de Rothschild's heifer, a roan, taking somewhat of Shorthorn character; Mr. R. W. Hudson's Angus and Dexter cross that was r champion of the Birmingham Show, and Mr. E. T. Learner's heifer that was champion of the Norwich Show recently, the former and the latter one of Angus and Shorthorn Cross. The weights of three heifers stand in London at: The winner, Miss Rothschild's, 16 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lb., Mr. R. W. Hudson's, 15 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb., and Mr. Learner's, 13 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. In quality there is not much to choose, but three are good in symmetry, too, and are capitally brought out finished in the best possible manner. It will be seen that the first and second honours are a reverse of Birmingham, where Mr. Hudson's stood first and Mrs. de Rothschild's second, whilst Mr. Learner's was third in both instances, her weight being against her considerably. Mr. J. J. Cridlan was reserve, and he cards awarded to Mr. R. J. Thomson and Mr. Alexander Smith. The first of those heifers also secured the cross bred breed cup, and was reserve for the best female in the show.

Aberdeen-Angus.

There was a total catalogue entry of something over twenty animals of this breed, and though it may be correctly said that there was nothing of outstanding merit in them when we carry our memories back to the splendid heifers of years gone by that brought such honour to the breed, yet the collection was altogether a fairly satisfactory one, both in breeding and beef, and the majority of the animals were very fitly brought out. The reserve champion of the show, too, as well as champion female, was found in this section.

Commencing with the steers not exceeding two years old, the entry consisted of eight in the catalogue, of which the judges made choice of Barbarian, a steer bred and exhibited by Mr. J. H. Bridges, sired by Lepanto of Careston out of Barbarina 2nd, a daughter of the famous sire in his day, Equerry of Ballindalloch. This steer is very satisfactory on the machine, recording 12 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb., and he is of very symmetrical build, with good rib and depth, plenty of mellow flesh, and an altogether pleasing steer for the feeder. Next in order was placed Mr. R. W. Hudson's very nicely built steer, bred at Danesfield, and sired by Danesfield Jester; he has very good quality and wealth of flesh on his best parts, but is considerably lighter than the winner, though the difference in ages fully accounts for this. still it is to his disadvantage at the time; the third steer was Mr. James McWilliams's very fine quality and all round fine steer by Alick of Aberlour, that was so highly honoured at the Birmingham show, and he scales 14 cwt. 0 qr. 4 lb., so that he appeared a little hardly used, looking at these lines. Mr. Robert Turner was reserve with a good fleshed and good back steer by Proprietor of Preston. Mr. J. J. Cridlan second and he for his good level, thick steer by Wizard of Misemore; and an entry of Sir James Duke's was also c. Steers above two and not exceeding three years, with seven entries, made up a good beef class. Mr. Peter Dunn came to the front in them with a blocky, thick-fleshed steer bred by Mr. J. H. Bridges, sired by Lepanto of Careston, with 16 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. to his credit at two years and nine months old, and he handles ripe. The reserve for best steer was also accorded this animal. Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Negro, that had been first at Norwich, and is very ripe and well brought out, made a very close second: he is in the hands of his breeder, and was sired by Kelgraston. Third honour was accorded to Captain Townshend's bullock that stood first at Birmingham, and was bred by H.M. the King at Abergeldie, and sired by Elandslaagte, whose weight in London is 17 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb., and with a splendid back of beef and ripeness. As a butcher's beast he appeared very badly used, though he was rather at a discount owing to a big knee that rather hindered his carriage, Mr. David Arnot was reserve with a good backed, heavy fleshed bullock, and Mr. James McWilliams's, that did so well in the Midlands, came down to an he.

Some half dozen heifers made up a very nice class headed by the Earl of Rosebery's Ida of Dalmeny 3rd, bred in the herd sired by Ebbero out of Coronal 2nd by Fitzsimmon, a heifer that had headed her class and secured the championship of the Edinburgh Show the previous week, and was later in the day honoured with the female championship at Islington, and rival to H.M. the King's Shorthorn for the supreme champion of the show. In symmetry this heifer is well nigh faultless, and her style and breeding are very sweet,

HIS MAJESTY INSPECTING THE CATTLE.

JUDGING THE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

HIGHLAND HEIFER, SHEILA 2nd OF GARTH.

The Highland Heifer, Sheila 2nd of Garth, owned by H.M. the King, but bred by Sir Donald Currie, Garth Fortingall, won the Breed Cup, and was First in the Class for a Highland Heifer not exceeding 4 years old, at the Smithfield Show. She is three years, 10 months 5 days old, and weighs 12 cwts. 3 qrs. 22 lbs. Her sire was Donnach n' Sheanchean 1507, dam Sheila of Garth 4985, sire of dam Buachaille Buidhe, 1172

but when we come to the more practical and necessary points, that the scales touch 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lb. at just upon three years old, is decidedly too light for the winner when of a breed that runs to the good average size usually reached by this breed of cattle. Colonel C. McInroy was placed second with Bourn Beauty, bred by exhibitor, and some 2 cwt. heavier than the winner at the same age, and a thick-fleshed, capital heifer all round. She was sired by Ben Vrackie out of a dam by Melville Castle. The Countess Dowager of Seafield came third with Kind Shade, by Portsman of Aberlour, a very firm handler and capital on the scale, being over 16 cwt. Mr. David Arnot obtained the reserve with Fickle Folly, a neat, rather small heifer; he was all that Mr. J. J. Cridlan could get for his capital-fleshed and well-brought-out heifer, Princess Hebe, and a c card to Mr. J. H. Bridges for Laurel of Langshott 5th concluded the honours of the class, the breed cup naturally going to Lord Rosebery's heifer, whilst the reserve was accorded to Mr. Peter Dunn's first-prize steer.

Galloway.

This Scotch breed had a very good representation in four steers under two years, six older ones, and four heifers. Messrs. Thomas Biggar and Sons had their usual good fortune in winning the whole of the three first prizes. Their younger steer Challenger was a very shapely one and had three excellent competitors in Mr. Robert Graham's Andy, which was placed second, and Mr. Alfred Palmer's Dick and Gowanlea, which were third and reserve. Glensman, belonging to Messrs. Biggar, which headed the two-year steers, carried a nice body of beef, and Mr. Robert Graham obtained second prize again with Sam, nicely fleshed, but not of the weight of the first winner. Mr. Alfred Palmer's Peter came into third position, He had two in the class, but the judges selected Peter as being of better quality than Jack. The heaviest was Mr. T. V. Earle's reserve steer, which scaled 15 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb. Nellie 5th of Hensol, from Messrs. Biggar's herd, not only came first in the heifer class, but won the cup, and was of very first-class character. Mr. Robert Graham's Esme II. of Stepford was a very worthy second winner, and Mr. Alfred Palmer's two heifers Joan and Lady 4th did honour to their respective positions for third prize and reserve.

Welsh.

Three very excellent classes of the Black cattle of Wales competed. There were eight in the class under two years, eleven older steers, and seven heifers. Mr. R. M. Greaves came to the front of the younger steers with Wern Dog Rose, scaling 14 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb., with about a week within the limit age, and carrying very nice flesh. The University College of North Wales came next for second and third prizes, their second prize steer being the heaviest in the class. Mr. Greaves had a second steer called Twrog, which did honour for reserve, and the steer of Mr. Robert Hughes was he, the class being certainly a superior one. But the steers above two years old were much better, and the first winner, Gwilym, belonging to the Coed Coch trustees, not only won first prize, but the Breed Cup. This steer scaled 24 lb. over 17 cwt., being exactly the weight of Mr. Robert Hughes' third prize one. The last-mentioned exhibitor also won second prize with a lighter but very nice steer. There was so much merit still remaining behind that the judges were allowed to award a fourth prize to Towyn, one of two steers belonging to Mr. R. M. Greaves, the other getting r. Two others in the class got barren honours, Mr. D. R. Jones' Cellar Boy and the exhibit of the University College of North Wales. Three prizes and two he's were awarded to the Welsh heifers, Mr. R. Roberts getting both first and second prizes with Laura and Jenny, while Mr. Robert Hughes gained a third prize with Polly, and the barren honours went to Mr. R. M. Greaves' Abbess 5th, which was r and he to Nancy, belonging to Mr. J. Wynford Phillips, M.P.

Highland.

These lords of the Scotch mountains were also in good display, and with their handsome heads and shaggy coats made as usual quite a feature in the general display. There were six steers not above three years old, and eight oxen over that limit, besides four heifers. In the younger of the steer classes, the Earl of Durham's Ross was first and reserve for the cup, admired by butchers for his good flesh down to the very heels. Both the other premiums were won by H.M. the King, and they were both rather weightier than the first winner, and handsome in their yellow coats. The heaviest in the class was Sir W. Ogilvy Dalgleish's Errol Chieftian, which was 14 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb. The reserve went to Mr. W. J. Nimmo's steer by Carrington. H.M. the King led in the next class with a handsome brindled steer, bred by the Marquis of Breadalbane, and he was second with another brindled one, of which the Countess Dowager of Seafield was the breeder. These Royal steers scaled respectively 17 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb., and 16 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. Sir W. O. Dalgleish won the third premium with Errol Candidate 4th, the Earl of Durham getting reserve with Willie of the Yellow Hue, and the Countess Dowager of Seafield being c with Prince Charlie, a black and brown. H.M. the King again led in the heifer class with Sheila 2nd of Garth, quite a yellow beauty, which won the cup, as best of the breed. The Earl of Durham and Sir John Swinburne coming second and third with two handsome heifers, both bearing the name of Nellie. The King had a second exhibit in the class which was r.

Kerry and Dexter.

These two breeds were shown together and had ten entries in the class for steers not above two years old and eleven in the steer class above two years, these classes being only added to by one heifer. H.M. the King won first prize with Robin Hood and third prize with Cock Robin in the junior steer class, both being Dexters, of a size and character to make the mouths of butchers water. The animal that divided the Royal pair belonged to Mr. R. M. Greaves, and was also a Dexter rather weightier than either of the King's animals. Mr. Martin J. Sutton obtained reserve, and the Duchess of Devonshire was he with two other Dexters. In the Senior Steer class the King was not so successful, his Dexter being only decorated with an he. Mr. R. W. Hudson carried off both first and third premiums with Danesfield Good Friday and Danesfield Sweep, the former taking the Cup as well. The Duchess of Newcastle won second prize with Ryecroft Model, and Mr. R. G. Nash obtained reserve. The King's steer was the heaviest in the class, scaling 10 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. The first winner of Mr. Hudson was the next heaviest, his live weight being exactly 10 cwt. The heifer which stood alone was Sir Walter Gilbey's La Mancha Ruby, of very nice quality, fully deserving the first prize awarded her.

Small Cross-bred Cattle.

There were three classes of these, and there were five steers not above two years, the same number of two-year-old ones, and eight heifers, which altogether made a goodly collection. In the junior class for steers, Mr. R. W. Hudson was first with Sweet William, of a shapely form nicely covered, Mr. R. G. Nash bringing from Finnstown the rather weighty one for his age to take the second premium, both these being of the Aberdeen-Angus Dexter cross. Sir Walter Gilbey won the third premium with a white steer, whose sire was a Shorthorn and dam a Dexter. All the three winners in the older steer class were of the Aberdeen-Angus Dexter cross, and the first and third prize takers belonged to H.M. the King, Sir Walter Gilbey's very nice steer dividing the Royal ones. The reserve went to Mr. Norman Cookson's Daniel Jack, which was from a Shorthorn dam by a Dexter sire. The small cross heifers formed a nice class headed by Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Forget-Me-Not, which carried off the cup likewise. Mr. Hudson also won the second prize with Sincerity, leaving the third to the Duchess of Newcastle's Little Dot, and barren honours to Mr. J. D. Fletcher's Lady Dixie and Mr. Cookson's Daniel Beautv.

Below we give a table showing the average daily gain of the prize-winning animals:—

Exhibitor and Breed.	Age. Days.	Weight. lbs.	Average Daily Gain. lbs.
DEVONS.			
(Steers not over 2 years old.)			
1 Mr T S Morgan (Whimple Model) ..	719	1,172	1·63
2 Lord Rosebery	659	1,255	1·90
3 Mr J C Williams	582	1,054	1·81
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Lord Rosebery	1,077	1,772	1·64
2 Mr T Kidner (Curley)	1,017	1,746	1·74
3 Mr J H Cann	1,075	1,556	1·44
(Heifers not over 2 years.)			
1 H.M. The King (Caroline)	1,047	1,493	1·42
2 Mr T S Morgan (Whimple Beauty 5th)	1,059	1,493	1·40
SOUTH DEVONS.			
(Steers not over 3 years.)			
1 Mr B Luscombe	724	1,713	2·36
HEREFORDS.			
(Steers not over 2 years.)			
1 Mr J Edwards (Twyford Magnum)..	686	1,602	2·33
2 H.M. the King	705	1,351	1·91
3 Mr G D Faber (Worcester Sauce).....	664	1,331	2·00
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Mr W H Cooke (Beet)	1,046	1,808	1.72
2 Mr Lawton Moore.....	1,021	1,874	1·83
3 Mr A E Hughes (Pentate)	1,023	1,980	1·93
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King (Camilla)	1,037	1,728	1·66
2 Mr T Morris (Symbol).....	952	1,678	1 76
3 Mr Lawton Moore (Brampton Agnes 33rd)	969	1,627	1·67
SHORTHORNS.			
(Steers not over 2 years.)			
1 Mr J Ross	630	1,408	2·23
2 Sir O Mosley	641	1,333	2·15
3 Mr J Ross	662	1,438	2·17
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King	1,077	2,008	1·86
2 Capt H L Townshend (Cicero).....	1,081	2,062	1·90
3 Mr E T Learmer (Great Scot)	1,059	2,095	1·88
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King	949	1,540	1 62
2 Mr E T Learmer (Lackadaisical)	1,048	1,706	1·62
SUSSEX.			
(Steers not over two years.)			
1 Earl of Winterton	696	1,458	2·09
2 Earl of Derby.....	706	1,502	2·12
3 Mr G Warde (Tutsham Twinkle).....	628	1,371	2·18
4 Mr W W Berry	724	1,621	2·51
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Mr W Levett (Spimo Dick)	984	1,914	1·93
2 Mr J Aungier.....	1,050	1,981	1·88
3 Mr E E Braby (Buxom Jim).....	1,082	1,869	1·72
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 Mrs Montefiore (Spring Flower)	1,063	1,800	1·69
2 Mr J Godman (Bonette 28th)	982	1,479	1·50
3 Mr H Hubble (Sardonic).....	1,059	1,738	1·64
RED POLLS.			
(Steers not over 2 years.)			
1 Sir W Corbet	690	1,436	2·09
2 Right Hon A E Fellowes (Acrobat)	712	1,302	1·84
3 Mr G Smith.....	685	1,104	1·74
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Sir W Corbet	1,050	1,821	1·73
2 Sir R Cooper	956	1,671	1·74
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 Right Hon A E Fellowes (Appendix)	1,059	1,374	1·28
2 Mr J B Dimmock	831	1,260	1·53
3 Mr J B Dimmock	881	1,350	1·53
ABERDEEN-ANGUS.			
(Steers not over 2 years.)			
1 Mr J H Bridges (Barbarian)	716	1,433	2·00
2 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Negro 2nd)	611	1,337	2·18
3 Mr J McWilliam (J.P.)	665	1,572	2·36
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Mr P Dunn (Sylvanus).....	1,032	1,834	1·77
2 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Negro).	1,035	1,796	1·73
3 Capt H L Townshend (Merry Monarch)	985	1,948	1·97
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 Lord Rosebery (Ida of Dalmeny 3rd)	1,038	1,557	1·50
2 Col C McInroy (Burn Beauty)	1,057	1,791	1·69
3 Countess Dowager of Seafield (Kind Shade)	1,081	1,844	1·70
GALLOWAYS.			
(Steers not over 2 years.)			
1 Messrs T Biggar and Sons (Challenger)	628	1,251	1·99
2 Mr R Graham (Andy)	625	1,247	2·01
3 Mr A Palmer (Dick).....	664	1,185	1·63
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Messrs Biggar and Sons (Glensman)	1,063	1,658	1·55
2 Mr R Graham (Sam).....	958	1,446	1·50
3 Mr A Palmer (Peter)	1,984	1,652	1·51
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 Messrs T Biggar and Sons (Nelly 5th of Hensol)	1,035	1,514	1·46
2 Mr R Graham (Esmee 2nd of Stepford)	1,085	1,370	1·26
3 Mr A Palmer (Joan).....	979	1,206	1·23
WELSH.			
(Steers not over 2 years.)			
1 Mr R M Greaves (Wern Dog Rose)..	719	1,628	2·26
2 University College of North Wales..	725	1,656	2·28
3 University College of North Wales..	708	1,427	2·01
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 The Coed Coch Trustees (Gwilym)..	1,052	1,928	1·83
2 Mr R Hughes.....	1,084	1,763	1·62
3 Mr R Hughes	1,063	1,928	1·81
4 Mr R M Greaves (Towyn)	1,040	1,673	1 60
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 Mr R Hughes (Laura).....	912	1,372	1·50
2 Mr R Roberts (Jenny).....	1,047	1,471	1·40
3 Mr R Hughes (Polly)	1,013	1,472	1·46
HIGHLANDS.			
(Steers not over 3 years.)			
1 The Earl of Durham (Ross)	866	1,475	1·70
2 H.M. the King	1,056	1,527	1·44
3 H.M. the King	965	1,506	1·56
(Steers or Oxen above 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King	1.389	1,958	1·40
2 H.M. the King	1,391	1,855	1·33
3 Sir W Ogilvy Dalgleish (Errol Candidate 4th)	1,315	1,857	1·41
(Heifers not over 4 years.)			
1 H.M. the King (Sheila 2nd of Garth)	1,043	1,450	1·39
2 The Earl of Durham (Nellie).....	1,252	1,659	1 32
3 Sir J Swinburne (Nellie)..	1,308	1,458	1·06
CROSSBREDS			
(Steers not over 2 years).			
1 Mr R Turner (Highland Chief)	723	1,532	2·11
2 Mr G Bruce (Tochinpal Charlie)	716	1,187	1·65
3 Mr J Ross	705	1,605	2·27
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Blue Boy)	1,053	2,102	1·99
2 Mr J R Sim (Gay Boy)	1,058	2,029	1·91
3 Earl of Durham (Matthin)..	1,012	1,924	1·90
4 Mr C Emmerson	1,025	1,846	1·80
(Heifers not over 2 years.)			
1 Mr J Ross..	634	1,316	2·07
2 Miss A de Rothschild (Waddesdon Silvio)	676	1,202	1·77
3 Mr R Turner (Purity 3rd)	719	1,371	1·90
4 Mr J C Williams (M.M.)	699	1,336	1·91
(Heifers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 Miss A de Rothschild (Waddesdon Primrose)	1,049	1,806	1·72
2 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Honey Bee)	1,064	1,743	1·63
3 Mr E T Learmer.....	1,012	1,485	1·46
KERRY AND DEXTER.			
(Steers not over 2 years)			
1 H.M. the King (Robin Hood)	668	793	1·18
2 Mr R M Greaves (Dandy)	721	906	1·25
3 H.M. the King (Cock Robin).....	612	744	1·21
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Good Friday)	992	1,120	1·12
2 Duchess of Newcastle (Ryecroft Model)	917	958	1 04
3 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Sweep)	1,054	1,057	1·00
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 Sir W Gilbey (La Mancha Ruby)....	1,030	820	0·79
SMALL CROSS-BREDS.			
(Steers not over 2 years.)			
Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Sweet William)	719	936	1·30
2 Mr R G Nash (Lucan Pet)	638	1,192	1·86
3 Sir W Gilbey	661	1,055	1 59
(Steers above 2 and not over 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King	918	1,217	1·32
2 Sir W Gilbey	1,028	1,226	1·19
3 H.M. the King	912	1,251	1·37
(Heifers not over 3 years.)			
1 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Forget-me-Not)	671	908	1·35
2 Mr R W Hudson (Danesfield Sincerity)	956	1,180	1·18
3 Duchess of Newcastle (Little Dot)..	796	987	1.23

SHEEP.

The Championships.

The first of these to be decided was that for the best pen of long-wooled sheep. Messrs. Dean and Sons, for the fourth time in succession, won it with their Lincoln pen, a grand pen this was, and worthily deserved their distinction. They were run, however, close for this honor by Mr. E. F. Jordan's Leicester pen; the intervention of the

umpire being necessary before the decision could be arrived at.

The Short Woolled Championship was another of those notable close contests, and the umpire here again had to decide between the great merit of the Southdown sheep from Sandringham and those of the Hampshire Down breed from Mr. James Flower. The award was given in the order named, resulting in the King being winner of this prize for the third year in succession, and Mr. James Flower being rn for the honour for the fourth successive year.

The Prince of Wales' Challenge Cup, as in the two previous years, went to H.M. the King for Southdown wethers, and Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons had to be content with the rn for their Lincoln wethers, which makes the fourth time in succession they have occupied that position.

The Leicesters.

The competition in these two classes was a limited one, two exhibitors only being represented, Mr. E. F. Jordan taking first and second in both, together with the Breed Cup and its rn, and Mrs. Perry Herrick the other awards. Better representatives of the breed have seldom been under hand than those with which Mr. Jordan won. His Breed Cup pen of wethers were an exceptionally good pen.

Cotswolds.

Only two pens represented this well-known breed, both of which were wethers owned by Mr. W. T. Garne. They won without question, and it is a matter of regret that more competition was not present, for they would have won in any competition, we think.

The Lincolns.

The number of competitors was smaller than it has been for some few years. The absence of any entries from Mr. Henry Dudding was a loss so far as the representative character of the exhibition is concerned. To him it doubtless meant a wrench after having competed regularly for so many years, but the specially high prices that he is making of his rams naturally prevents any being made wethers for exhibition.

An outstanding pen of very typical lambs won first honours for Mr. W. B. Swallow. They were a grand lot, ripe in the flesh and typical of their breed. R.n. for Breed Cup was also secured for this pen, which might have also been made winners of the cup, and they would probably have been so, but owing to the fact that Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons' pen of wethers were so extraordinary a weighty pen, in fact the heaviest pen exhibited at Smithfield, naturally inclined the judges to for once forgo early maturity and recognise weight. This pen of wethers, of which no word of praise can be too great so far as regard their flesh and type, was quite one of the section. Mr. F. Ward was second with a first-class pen of wethers, thoroughly representative of his high-class flock, but close at their heels with the narrowest of margins, came Mr. W. B. Swallow's typical pen of very choice and very ripe sheep. A small class this was it is true, but of excellent merit.

Kent or Romney Marsh.

The strength and quality of this exhibit is clearly shown by the fact that the two judges were unanimous in their decision all through, and that they included in the award list every exhibit present.

In the lamb class the first award went to a grand pen of lambs. They were evenly matched and most carefully drawn. With this pen Mr. C. Gordon Neame also won the Breed Cup, an honour that recognised the early maturity and ripeness of these fine lambs. Second honours went to Mr. T. Wotton, for a more weighty pen of lambs, and a pen that would have been far more dangerous competitors for first honours had they been more uniform in size, &c. Mr. C. Gordon Neame took third honours. Some exception was taken to the correctness of this award, to which we agreed, for the reserve number pen, from Mr. J. Egerton Quested was decidedly the better pen of wethers, and more typical of its breed. The second pen from Mr. T. Wotton's, together with those that represented Messrs. F. Neame and H. Rigden, were he.

In the wether class the winning pen was easily found. It came from Mr. F. Neame's well-known flock. They were three first wethers, of high-class merit, handling firm and well. They were made rn for the Breed Cup. Second and third honours went to Messrs. C. File and J. Egerton Quested in the order named. Very typical and well-fed pens they were, and Mr. C. Gordon Neame came in for rn.

Devon Longwool.

This breed has a single class for wether lambs. Mr. F. White was the only competitor, but his entries were of excellent merit and of very good quality. The winning pen took rn for the Breed Cup given for this breed and the South Devon breed, in conjunction. The cup-winning pen was of the latter breed, owned by Mr. A. C. Hall. A remarkable pen of excellent sheep, and it is a thousand pities that the South Devon breeders have not pluck or energy enough to send up a full exhibition of their sheep. They would do so if they could have only heard the number of inquiries made as to what breed of sheep these were. More than one export buyer was looking at them, for these lambs had size, early maturity, coupled with firm and distinctly good flesh.

Cheviots.

About the usual entry represented this breed, but Mr. John McDowall, who for many years has taken the bulk of the prizes, met this year with keener competition. First and third honours in the lamb class went to two very fine pens that handled well, from Mr. J. B. Clarke, leaving second and rn for the first-mentioned exhibitor.

In the wether class, Mr. McDowall held his own. His two pens won first and second, together with the Breed Cup and its reserve number. They were grand pens of their breed, and the third prize, which went to Messrs. Denny for some sheep of this breed fed in Kent, indicated that even out of its own district the breed will thrive and do well.

Mountain Breeds, other than Welsh.

The remarkable advance that has been made towards the early development of the Scotch Mountain breeds was fully emphasised by the excellent exhibits found in these classes. Sir John Gilmour's lambs first and reserve, and also rn for the Breed Cup, were a notable example of this. Equally also were those exhibits that first and third for Messrs. John McDowall and Mr. J. Howison, Mr. McDowall's two entries in the wether class responded in a most satisfactory manner to the touch, and indicated choice carcases of high quality mutton. The leading pen won first and Breed Cup, and the other third. A pen from Mr. A. Smith divided them.

Welsh Mountain Breed.

For an initial breed that which represented this breed at Smithfield was thoroughly satisfactory. The high reputation that Welsh mutton holds is well known, and so far as could be judged from the examination of these entries, those that won first honours for Mr. J. G. Gratton, and second and third for the University College of Wales, were fully able to uphold that reputation.

Southdowns.

No breed in the British Islands, nor in the world has a higher reputation for the quality of its mutton, and the saleability of its carcases than this. Small in size, but great in value is the description thoroughly typical with the best ideal of the breed. It would be well for its future reputation if all who judged the breed would bear this in mind. It may be that those who adjudicated at Smithfield thoroughly believed in this, and that it was owing to a momentary slip that this ideal escaped from the mind when that grand pen of the Exors. of Col. McCalmont was relegated to the third place. Their compact carcases, short legs, neat joints, and typical character far more than compensated for any defect that might have been urged against them by reason of want of touch.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS HEIFER, IDA OF DALMENY 3rd.

The Aberdeen-Angus Heifer, Ida of Dalmeny 3rd, owned and bred by The Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, won at the Smithfield Show, the Silver Cup for the best Heifer, and was Reserve for the Champion Plate for the best beast, Reserve for the King's Challenge Cup, won the Breed Cup, and First in the class for Aberdeen-Angus Heifers not exceeding 3 years old. She is 2 years 10 months 5 day old, and weighs 13 cwts. 3 qrs 17 lbs. Her sire was Ebbero 20399, dam Coronal 2nd 29254, sire of dam Fitzsimmon 14403.

The winning pen, placed in the position by the decision of the referee, came from Sandringham. They were grand lambs, but they did not match, neither had one of them the width and symmetrical proportions one looks for in the first prize pen. Mr. C. Adeane was second. No exception could be taken to the high merit and quality of the flesh of these lambs. It was worthy of the high reputation of the breed they represent, and they might have gone first, particularly when the pen alluded to above was placed third. The Earl of Ellesmere came in for rn with a pen of very well-fed lambs, and several others were noticed.

For the third year in succession H.M. the King won first honours in the wether class. This year's winners fully deserved their position. They were splendid sheep, and full of good sound flesh. They won the Breed Cup, and their flock mates, the second entry from Sandringham, took third honours, the Duke of Richmond's fine pen just managing to secure preference, largely owing, we think, to their grand touch and good flesh. Sir T. V. S. Gooch was rn, and the Exors. of Col. McCalmont were hc.

Hampshire Downs.

The high merit and quality of the Hampshire Down exhibit, particularly in the pens that won the Breed Cup and its rn, has seldom been exceeded, but although the lambs were an excellent class, these have been better taken as a whole. Dealing with this class first, no exception could be taken to the high degree of perfection and development obtained by the two pens that were at the top of the class. In securing first honours with so good a pen Sir W. G. Pearse is to be congratulated, particularly so because the merit of this pen has to be compared with that fine pen that followed it from Mr. James Flower's flock. This pen was one that experts declare to be thoroughly typical of all the best characteristics of its breed. Mr. T. F. Buxton was third with a real good fleshed pen, deep in carcase, and good on the top. A couple of very fine pens from Mr. S. Darling were rn and hc.

Allusion has already been made to the two grand pens of wethers that won first and second honours, &c., for Mr. J. Flower. These were of superlative merit. Third honours went to Mr. T. F. Buxton, whose pen was a good one, and would probably in some former years have been easy winners. Sir W. G. Pearse took rn, with a pen of creditable merit and nice type.

Suffolks.

The competition in these classes was not a large one, but no exception could be taken to the grand flesh and thoroughly good touch found in the four pens sent by Mr. A. C. Smith, two in either class. First and second honours were their class awards, and the two leading pens were made Breed Cup winners and rn for the same, the wethers securing the preference. Mr. R. Barclay was third for lambs and rn for wethers, with pens that were of high merit and good flesh. Sir A. G. Hazlerigg taking the rn for rams.

Shropshires.

The lamb class was a small one, but Sir Richard Cooper's first prize pen was of fine quality, with good flesh. Mrs. W. F. Inge and Lady de Rothschild owned the other winners.

In the wether class Sir Richard Cooper had two pens. They went first and second, and also took the Breed Cup and its rn. The winuing pen were lengthy, wide and good close to the the ground; under hand the loin, twist, and leg were found to be full and deep in flesh. They were an excellent pen of their breed, and the same remarks are applicable to the excellent pen that came in second. It is pleasing to note that the third prize pen that came from Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., is of high merit, because it indicates that this flock is rapidly approaching the front rank. Mr. F. Bibby was rn.

The Oxford Downs.

One of the best classes of lambs that has represented this breed for some time past at the Smithfield Show was found there this year. A better pen, more ripe in flesh and typical of their breed than that which won from Mr. W. H. Stilgoe, is not often seen. He won with plenty to spare. Mr. J. A. Preece came in second. These were wide and good topped lambs, but not so full in the twist or leg as the winner. Third honours went to Mr. J. T. Hobbs, a grand pen from the breed point of view, but not sufficiently good to the hand when in competition with the pens that secured preference in the class. Mr. John Hazell's reserve number pen were hardly up to the Smithfield standard in respect to flesh and touch. They will probably make excellent sheep next year.

In the wether class Mr. J. T. Hobbs was at the top with a remarkably fine, deep fleshed and good quality pen. They won the Breed Cup, and right well did they deserve it. Mr. John Hazell was second with a pen of special merit. The quality and depth of the flesh was noticeable; and the third pen, too, owned by Miss Alice de Rothschild, was another real good pen of wethers, ripe and fit.

Ryelands.

There were only two pens of this breed entered, both from Mr. W. T. Barneby. The quality of their flesh, together with the symmetrical form of their carcase, was very noticeable indeed, and those who examined them will readily admit that they were of high merit. First and second honours were awarded.

Dorset Horns.

The lamb class of this breed, although a small one, contained two of the grandest pens of lambs exhibited in it for some considerable time. They were both bred by Mr. C. Scutt, and exhibited by Mr. James Toop, the leading pen taking the Breed Cup, a well-deserved distinction.

The Wether class was equally good in point of quality. There were only two entries, but the winning pen, owned by Mr. S. Kidner, was a first class pen in every respect. They were made rn for the Breed Cup. Mr. E. Troyte Chafyn Grove, came in second. This was an excellent pen, and is, we trust, the forerunner of many more of equal merit from the same exhibitor, who is, we think, a fresh one at Smithfield Show.

Cross Bred.

These classes are full of interest and instruction to the observant man. They afford opportunity for the breeders of commercial sheep to see the result of the different crosses between pure breeds. In the winning pen superior quality was found. Mr. James Toop was first and reserve with two pens of the Southdown Hampshire cross. The winning pen was a particularly good fleshed pen, handling firm and good, whilst one lamb in the reserve number pen was probably one of the best lambs in the show. Mr. T. Rush was second and third with the Oxford Down Hampshire cross. These two pens were of very fine merit indeed. They were ripe and handled well, but not quite to that degree of perfection found in the wiuning pen.

In that excellent class of wethers Mr. Rush was first and second with two pens of the same cross as mentioned above. They were a grand lot of sheep, and the high merit of the winning pen that won the breed cup was distinctly shown by the fact that in the champion contest it was one of the last left in.

The two classes for Scotch cross-breed sheep were rather above the average in quality and number. Mr. W. M. Cazalett's rams were a superior pen. These were a cross between the Southdown and Cheviot, and easily led in their class. Mr. J. McDowall took second and rn. with Scotch sheep, and the same exhibition was first and third in the wether class, with sheep of similar breeding. These two pens being divided by another one owned by Mr. A. Smith, which like them, indicated high quality of flesh.

Below are give our usual tables showing the average daily gain of the prize-winning sheep:—

THE CARCASE CLASSES—SHEEP.

Class 93.—One PURE LONG-WOOLLED WETHER LAMB not exceeding 12 months old.

	Live Weight. cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Carcase Weight. stones (8 lbs.)	lbs.	Fat. lbs.	Pluck. lbs.	Skin. lbs.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
Messrs. W. Vivers and Son's Cheviots	0	3	25	8	3	9	3	12		1st
Sir J. Gilmour's Blackfaced	0	3	23	7	7	7	3	14		R. & H. C.
Mr. J. S. Clark's Cheviots	1	0	7	9	4	8	3	11	1st	3rd
Mr. J. D. Fletcher's Cheviots	0	3	23	8	2	6	4	12	3rd	4th
Mr. J. McDowall's Cheviots	1	0	8	9	2	6	4	11	2nd	2nd

Class 94.—ONE PURE LONG-WOOLLED WETHER SHEEP above 12 and not exceeding 24 months old.

Messrs. W. Vivers and Son's Cheviots	1	0	2	9	2	5	3	13	—	1st & R. Champion
Sir R. Gilmour's Blackfaced	1	1	26	13	2	13	4	20	1st	4th
Mr. J. D. Fletcher's Cheviots	1	1	13	13	0	11	3	14	2nd	R.
Mr. W. Kennedy's Cheviots	1	0	3	9	4	6	4	11	4th	2nd
Univ. Coll. of N. Wales's We'sh and Mountain	1	0	10	10	1	10	4	9	3rd	3rd

Class 95. ONE PURE SHORT-WOOLLED WETHER LAMB not exceeding 12 months old.

Messrs. W. Vivers and Son's Suffolks	1	1	3	11	4	12	4	11	1st	—
Mr. J. R. A. Bear's Hants Down	1	1	18	12	2	8	4	15	C.	—
Mr. D. A. Green's Suffolks	1	0	23	11	1	8	4	13	—	1st & Champion
Execrs. of late J. Webbs' Southdowns	0	3	21	8	6	6	4	8	H.C.	3rd
Mr. R. Barclay's Suffolks	1	1	0	11	2	5	8	12	2nd	—
Mr. R. Graham's Suffolks	1	0	10	9	2	6	4	14	—	H.C.
Sir A. G. Hazlerigg's Suffolks	1	0	24	10	3	10	5	8	—	C.
Mr. W. Kennedy's Suffolks	1	0	12	9	5	8	4	9	—	4th
Mr. H. E. Smith's Suffolks	1	1	12	12	0	10	5	15	H.C.	R. & H.C.
Mr. K. M. Clark's Suffolks	0	3	25	9	2	6	3	8	4th	2nd
Capt. R. P. Croft's Southdowns	1	0	10	10	1	8	4	11	3rd	—
Mr. S. R. Sherwood's Suffolks	1	0	19	10	3	9	4	13	H.C.	—
Sir W. G. Pearce's Hants Downs	1	0	17	9	7	8	4	15	—	C.

Class 96.—ONE PURE SHORT-WOOLLED WETHER SHEEP above 12 and not exceeding 24 months old.

Exors. of Col. McCalmont (Norfolks)	1	1	23	14	0	16	4	10	4th	
Mr. T. F. Buxton's Hant's Down	1	1	21	12	6	9	5	12		3rd
Mr. E. B. Kelsey's Suffolks	1	1	25	13	3	9	5	14	H.C.	
Mr. R. Barclay's Suffolks	1	3	15	18	1	16	5	16	2nd	
Mr. W. Kennedy's Suffolks	1	2	24	16	0	18	5	15	1st	2nd
Exors. of J. Webb (Southdown)	1	1	7	11	7	12	4	11	3rd	R.
Mrs. Lowe's Suffolks	1	2	21	15	6	10	5	18		4th
Capt. R. P. Croft's Southdowns	1	1	3	14	1	7	5	13	H.C.	1st

Class 97.—One CROSS-BRED WETHER LAMB not exceeding 12 months old.

Messrs. W. Viviers and Son (Suffolk Cross-bred)	1	0	3	8	6	6	4	12		
Mrs. Montefiore's (Hants-Southdown)	1	0	2	9	4	7	4	13		1st
Mr. A. Smith (Leicester Black-face)	1	0	15	10	1	11	4	15	H. C.	4th
Mr. W. M. Cazalet (Suffolk Cheviot)	1	0	13	9	4	9	5	12	4th	3rd
Messrs. Denny (Southdown Cheviot)	1	0	9	9	5	8	3	15	3rd	
Mr. F. W. Bocock (Southdown-Suffolk)	1	0	22	11	1	8	4	13	2nd	R. & H. C.
Mr. K M. Clark (Suffolk-Southdown)	1	0	18	10	5	9	4	11	1st	2nd

Class 98.—One CROSS-BRED WETHER SHEEP above 12 and not exceeding 24 months old.

Messrs. W. Viviers and Son (Suffolk Cross-bred)	1	1	18	13	1	11	4	14	1st	1st
Mr. J. G. Gratton (Welsh Cross-bred)	1	0	3	9	4	10	4	9	C.	2nd
Mr. R. Hughes (Southdown-Welsh)	0	3	19	8	3	7	3	10		3rd
Mr. R. Graham (Wensleydale Blackfaced)	1	1	3	11	7	9	5	16	4th	
Mrs. Perry Herrick (Suffolk-Oxfords)	1	3	20	18	1	14	6	18	H. C.	R
Mr. W. Kennedy (Cheviot-Suffolk)	1	1	15	13	2	12	4	12	2nd	R.
Mr. D. W. Crichton (Suffolk-Black faced)	1	0	18	10	3	11	3	12	3rd	4th

PIGS.

Class 99.—ONE PIG not exceeding 100 lb. live weight.

	Live Weight. cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Carcase Weight. stones (8lbs.)	lbs.	Pluck. lbs.	Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase Award.
Duchess of Devonshire's Berkshire	0	2	22	7	1	5	3rd	3rd
Earl of Carnarvon's Berkshire	0	3	7	8	3	5½	R.	1st & R. Champion
Mr. D. E. Higham's Berkshire	0	3	4	8	5	5½	—	C.
Mr. N. Benjafield's Berkshire	0	3	0	7	7	5½	—	4th
Middlesex Asylum's Berkshire	0	3	6	9	0	5	2nd	2nd
Mr. C. Spencer's Middle White	0	2	25	7	5	4½	4th	—
Mr. H. Oakley's Large Black	0	3	16	9	1	6½	1st	R.

Class 100.—ONE PIG above 100 lbs. and not exceeding 220 lbs. live weight.

Duchess of Devonshire's Berkshire	1	0	28	13	1	7½		—		4th
Mr. L. Currie's Berkshire	1	3	5	21	0	9		2nd		3rd
Mr. W. T. Hall's Berkshire	1	2	17	18	4	8		4th		2nd
Mr. G. Attkin's Crossbred	1	0	19	13	0	6		—		R
Mr. N. Benjafield's Berkshire	1	3	2	19	6	9½		3rd		—
Middlesex Asylum's Berkshire	1	3	1	20	2	10½		1st		1st & Champion
Mr. C. Spencer's Crossbred	1	2	24	19	2	9½		R		

Class 101.—ONE PIG above 220 lb. live weight.

Mr. J. L. Bucknall's Berkshire	2	1	27	29	2	12½			2nd
Earl of Carnarvon's Cross-bred	2	1	13	27	4	13½		3rd	
Sir A. G. Hazlerigg's Cross-bred	2	2	7	30	7	12½		4th	
Mr. D. E. Higham's Berkshire	2	1	14	27	5	11		2nd	3rd
Mr. G. Attkin's Cross-bred	2	0	8	24	2	11½		1st	1st
Middlesex Asylum's Cross-bred	2	0	10	24	3	9		R	4th

Breed and Owner.	Age. Days.	Weight. lb.	Average Daily Gain lb.
LEICESTERS OR BORDER-LEICESTERS. (Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr E F Jordan	242	589	2·22
2 Mr E F Jordan	242	484	2·00
3 Mrs S Perry Herrick	242	204	1·02

(Above 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr E F Jordan	607	904	1·48
2 Mr E F Jordan	607	826	1·36
3 Mrs S Perry Herrick	607	905	1·49

COTSWOLDS.

(Above 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Messrs W T Garne and Son	628	896	1·42
2 Messrs W T Garne and Son	628	899	1·43

LINCOLNS.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr W B Swallow	280	618	2·20
2 Messrs S E Deane and Sons	329	605	1·83

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Messrs. S E Deane and Sons	630	1,142	1·85
2 Mr F Ward	668	958	1·43
3 Mr W B Swallow	638	1,002	1·52

KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr C Gordon Neame	256	487	1·90
2 Mr T Wotton	256	521	2·03
3 Mr C Gordon Neame	256	491	1·93

(Above 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr F Neame	577	784	1·35
2 Mr C Fife	607	795	1.30
3 Mr J E Quested	607	760	1·25

DEVON LONG-WOOLLED.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr F White	273	572	2·09
2 Mr F White	273	502	1·83

SOUTH DEVON LONG WOOLLED.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr A C Hall	287	656	2·28

CHEVIOTS.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr J Stewart Clark	242	449	1·85
2 Mr J McDowall	242	418	1·72
3 Mr J Stewart Clark	242	391	1·61

(Over 12 months.)

1 Mr J McDowall	607	748	1 23
2 Mr J McDowall	607	683	1·12
3 Messrs F A a d E H M Denny	577	502	0 87

MOUNTAIN BREEDS OTHER THAN WELSH.

OXFORD DOWNS.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr H W Stilgoe	322	640	1 98
2 Mr J A Preece	303	598	1·97
3 Mr J T Hobbs	288	588	2·04

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr J T Hobbs	653	1,026	1·57
2 Mr J Hazell	668	814	1·21
3 Miss A de Rothschild	652	811	1·25

RYELAND.

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr W T Barneby	621	588	0·94
2 Mr W T Barneby	621	587	0·94

DORSET.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr J Toop	347	652	1·87
2 Mr J Toop	347	621	1·78

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr S Kidner	719	849	1·18
2 Mr G Troyte-Chafyn-Grove	698	835	1·19

CROSSBREDS.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr J Toop	303	611	2·01
2 Mr T Rush	294	678	2·30
3 Mr T Rush	303	630	2·07

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr T Rush	668	979	1·46
2 Mr T Rush	668	893	1·33
3 Mr J Newman	652	843	1·29

CHEVIOT, SCOTCH, AND MOUNTAIN CROSSES.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Mr W M Cazalet	273	347	1·29
2 Mr J McDowall	242	328	1·27

(Over 12 and under 24 months).

1 Mr J McDowall	607	835	1·37
2 Mr A Smith	591	791	1·33
3 Mr J McDowall	607	712	1·17

Pigs.

This year there was a very fine display of pigs for those who were enabled to see them outside their pens. The judges and the herdsmen as visitors and exhibitors were rigorously excluded whilst the decisions were being made. This is apparently the only section of the show where the judging is conducted in camera, and it is not so easy for one to describe a fat pig when it snuggles down into its straw in the pen as when it stands on its feet before the judge outside it comparisons cannot be so accurately made. The long expected has come to pass in these new utility classes, the Small Whites and Small Blacks, the latter first dwindled down to vanishing point, and now Small Whites have vanished also. In the class for pen of Middle Whites under nine months there was rather a large entry, but the quality was most decidedly at the top of the class than throughout it. Mr. Julius Fricker was first with his very typical animals with long even loins and very even, and took the Breed Cup. Mr. E. Henry Lloyd was second and third with two rather even pens, the second prize lot being very evidently the weightiest of the two. The reserve pigs of Mr. Charles Spencer was scarcely so matching. The class for Middle Whites over nine months and under twelve, did not constitute a large class by any means, only three being out before the judges. Mr. Alfred Brown was first with a capital pair by Southampton King. They were scarcely so fine as the younger pair, else they might have been otherwise than reserve for the Breed Cup. Mr. Charles Spencer was second with a very matchy pair by Holywell Middleton, Mr. E. H. Lloyd's reserve being rather on the plain side.

It nearly appears ridiculous with a well-established breed like the Large Whites that there should be a walk over in the young class, where Messrs. W. H. and E. Wherry's pair were given first, although they would have stood well with other competitors. However, there was an excellent class for the more matured specimens, Mr. R. A. Ayre was first and secured the breed cup with a very even pair, not overheavy in shoulder and jowl, but deep in the sides and hams; Mr. Alfred Brown was second prize and reserve for the breed cup with a heavy, well-fleshed pair, but they scarcely showed the bloom of the others; Messrs. Wherry were third with rare bacon pigs, such as the bacon curers desire; reserve went to Mr. R. R. Rothwell, one of whose pair was not quite so evenly finished as the other.

There was no mistaking the fact that the Large Black were entered to win, and that a strong rivalry exists between the breeders on the east and west coasts of England; and there is somewhat of a distinction between the two types which can quite easily be discerned when contrasted side by side. In the young class Mr. Henry J. Kingswell, South Brent, Devonshire, was placed first with a pair of lengthy, deep, and even pigs, by Prescome Pride, which, though only eight months old, constituted the heaviest pen of young pigs in the show. Mr. William Townsend, Stroud, was second with an even-matching pair, with good backs. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark fought for Suffolk with a more compact pair, scarcely showing the length of loin of the others, and he was highly commended with another pair, Mr. John Goddard, Suffolk, being reserve. In the older class the battle was more keenly fought still, but Messrs. John Bastard and Sons, Cornwall, sent forward such a pair by Whalesborough Chief, dam Tinten Black Bess 5th, that they not only constituted a record for the breed, but for the show as regards weight. At eleven months three weeks one day old they depressed the weighbridge to the extent of 11 cwt. 0 qr. 22 lb. They were tremendous pigs, and by many were esteemed worthy of the championship, but their weight was too much for their feet, and thus they were not quite so active as the champion pen of crossbreds. Second prize went to Mr. William Townsend with his pair of Bath and West winners at Swindon, they were full of meat and were placed reserve for the Breed Cub. Mr. John Goddard was put third with the pair with which he won at the Suffolk County Show. Mr. Kenneth Clark was reserve with a fat pair by Sudbourne Start 13th, his highly commended pair by Sudbourne Sam being scarcely so matching or so good in coat and hams when stood up.

The Berkshires constituted far and away the largest classes amongst the pure breeds, but still they were not quite so even as has been seen at Smithfield on some previous occasions. The prize went to the Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum, with as typical specimens of the breed as any breeder could desire, and they were accordingly awarded the Breed Cup, the second prize also went to the same institution. Mr. Laurence Currie was third and reserve with matching pens nearly as level as though they came from the same litter, but this was apparently due to their both being by the same sire, Polegate Dandy. His Royal Highness Prince Christian was highly commended, but his pigs were rather lacking in bloom. The older class was remarkable for its general evenness and excellence. There was no other class so notable in this respect in the whole show, and though there were a dozen entries all received mention. H.R.H. Prince Christian was here to the fore with a couple of very level profit-making pigs, but with these, as with the others in the younger class, they were somewhat deficient in bloom, and so they were only reserved for the breed cup, instead of taking it second went to a very matching pair with nice hams, sent by Mr. Julius Fricker. Third went to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. This pen of pigs were deep and weighty, but scarcely so even on the back as the others. Reserve went to the Visiting Committee Middlesex Asylum, whose pigs were just passing over their prime. All the others in the class were either highly commended or else commended.

The Tamworths made one of the most meagre displays of this breed seen at Islington in recent years there were the three exhibits of Mr. Robert Ibbotson, and that was all. These three pigs were full of quality and had grand coats, they were most meritorious. The cross-breds, as they usually do, constituted some really excellent classes, they were real bacon pigs. In the younger class, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield was first for long, even, deep pigs obtained from a Berkshire boar on Small White and Small Black cross; these pigs were very even and yet weighty. Second to him was the Earl of Carnarvon with Middle White Berkshire cross. The pigs here were not quite so compact, and there was but little difference between these and the same exhibitor's third prize lot of the same breeding. Mr. John Neverson who was reserved, pinned his reliance on Berkshire sire, dam Middle White Berkshire cross. As usual, the first cross was best. But the betterment pigs were seen in the more mature class here. Mr. Alfred Brown secured the Breed Cup, and subsequently the Champion Plate and Prince Christian's

SMALL CROSS-BRED HEIFER, DANESFIELD FORGET-ME-NOT.

This small Cross-Bred Heifer won the Breed Cup, and was First in the class for a small Cross-Bred Heifer not exceeding 3 years' old, at the Smithfield Show. She is the property of and was bred by Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks, and is 1 year 10 months 3 days' old, and weighs 8 cwt. 0qrs. 12lbs. Her sire was Principal of Danesfield 20519, dam Gort Magpie, cross-sire Aberdeen-Angus, dam Dexter.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Sir J Gilmour	226	410	1·81
2 Mr J McDowall	242	315	1.30
3 Mr J Howison	226	401	1·77

(Over 12 months.)

1 Mr J McDowall	607	614	1·01
2 Mr A Smith	591	581	0·98
3 Mr J McDowall	607	560	0·92

WELSH MOUNTAIN

(Any age).

1 Mr J G Gratton	561	402	0·71
2 University College of North Wales	607	421	0·69
3 University College of North Wales	607	384	0 63

SOUTHDOWNS

(Under 12 months).

1 H.M. the King	373	488	1·78
2 Mr C R W Adeane	303	448	1·44
3 Exors late Col H McCalmont	273	465	1·70

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 H.M. the King	638	638	1·00
2 Duke of Richmond	638	574	0 89
3 H.M. the King	648	606	0·95

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

(Under 12 months.)

1 Sir W G Pearce	303	657	2 16
2 Mr J Flower	310	632	2·03
3 Mr T F Buxton	303	663	2·18

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr J Flower	675	935	1·35
2 Mr J Flower	668	843	1·26
3 Mr T F Buxton	682	804	1 26

SUFFOLKS.

(Under 12 months)

1 Mr M E Smith	294	572	1·94
2 Mr H E Smith	287	598	2·08
3 Mr R Barclay	294	572	1·94

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Mr H E Smith	668	839	1·25
2 Mr H E Smith	668	832	1·24
3 Mr R Barclay	638	806	1·26

SHROPSHIRES

(Under 12 months.)

1 Sir R Cooper	273	487	1·78
2 Mrs F W Inge	273	448	1·64
3 Lady de Rothschild	273	449	1·64

(Over 12 and under 24 months.)

1 Sir R Cooper	638	798	1·25
2 Sir R Cooper	638	762	1 19
3 Right Hon V Cavendish	621	719	1·15

Challenge Cup, the Middlesex Asylum Committee's Berkshires being second to them on both occasions. The cross was Middle White sire, dam Berkshire; they were very level, had nice hams, were not too heavy forward, and constituted a fine exhibition pair, as they were in the pink of condition and bloom. Mr. George Attkins was second with a Large White sire, dam Berkshire, throwing rather coarser pigs, and he was also put third with the same cross. Mr. Alfred Brown was reserved with a Middle White sire, dam Berkshire, which, though well fed, were not so even. There was a fine entry of porkers, some exceedingly choice quality pigs being shown; some of these had, however, been forced off their feet. Mr. Alfred Brown was first with Middle Whites with splendid loins; second went to Mr. George Atkins with a Middle White dam Berkshire cross, the Earl of Carnarvon's Berkshire being third, Mr. Charles Spencer's Middle White being reserved; the highly commended card went to Mr. W. A. Dix with a Berkshire Large White cross, Mr. N. Benjafield's commended being by a Berkshire sire and a Large White cross. Single pigs made a good display in the class for specimens of any White breed. Mr. Alfred Brown was first with a very typical Middle White, and placed reserve for the Champion Plate for the best single pig. Mr. Arthur Hiscock was placed second with the same breed, whilst reserve went to the Sandringham herd of His Majesty the King.

Mr. John Bastard was placed first for specimens of black breeds with a Cornish Black; the challenge cup went to Mr. Julius A Fricker's Berkshire. As a whole the pig classes were noticeable for general merit rather than outstanding excellence.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

CATTLE.

Champion Plate, value 100 guineas, for the best beast in the show.—H.M. the King, Windsor, Shorthorn steer; r, the Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, Aberdeen-Angus heifer, Ida of Dalmeny 3rd.

The King's Challenge Cup for the best beast in the show, bred by exhibitor.—H.M. the King, Windsor, Shorthorn steer; r, the Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, Aberdeen-Angus heifer, Ida of Dalmeny 3rd.

Best beast not exceeding two years old, £25 silver cup.—Mr John Ross, Meikle Tarrel, Fearn, Shorthorn steer; r, Mr T S Morgan, Whimple House, Whimple, Exeter, Devon, steer Whimple Model.

Best steer or ox.—Silver cup, value £50, H.M. the King, Windsor, Shorthorn steer; r, Mr Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, Aberdeen-Angus steer Sylvanus.

Best heifer, Silver cup value £50.—the Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, Aberdeen-Angus heifer Ida of Dalmeny 3rd; r, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury, cross-bred heifer Waddesdon Primrose.

BREED CUPS.

Devon.—H.M. the King, Windsor, heifer, Caroline; r, Mr T S Morgan, Whimple House, Whimple, Exeter, steer, Whimple Model.

Hereford.—Mr W H Cooke, The Green, Stanford Bridge, Worcester, steer, Beet; r, H.M. the King, Windsor, heifer, Camilla.

Shorthorn.—H.M. the King, Windsor, steer; H.M. the King, Windsor, heifer.

Sussex.—Mr William Levett, 79, Queen's Road, Tunbridge Wells, steer, Spimo Dick; r, Mr John Aungier, Lynwick, Rudgwick, steer.

Red Poll.—Sir Walter Corbett, Bart, Acton Reynold, Shrewsbury, steer; r, ditto, steer.

Aberdeen-Angus.—The Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, heifer Ida of Dalmeny, 3rd; r, Mr Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull, steer, Sylvanus.

Galloway.—Messrs Thomas Biggar and Sons, Chapelton, Dalbeattie, heifer, Nelly 5th of Hensol; r, ditto, steer Challenger.

Welsh.—The Coed Côch Trustees of Llawes-y-Coed Farm, Abergele, steer Gwilym; r, Mr R Roberts, Bronygadair, Portmadoc, heifer Laura.

Highland.—H.M. the King, Sandringham, heifer Sheila 2nd of Garth; r, the Earl of Durham, Lambton Castle, Fence Houses, Durham, steer Ross.

Cross-bred.—Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury, heifer Waddesdon Primrose; r, Mr R W Hudson-Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks, heifer Danesfield Honey Bee.

Kerry or Dexter.—Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks, steer Danesfield Good Friday; r, H.M. the King, Sandringham, steer Robin Hood.

Small Cross-bred—Mr R W Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow, Bucks, heifer Danesfield Forget-me-Not; r, ditto, steer Danesfield Sweet William.

SHEEP.

PLATES AND CUPS.

The Prince of Wales Challenge Cup for the best pen of three sheep or lambs, bred by exhibitor. H.M. the King, Sandringham, Southdown Sheep; r, Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincolnshire, Lincoln Sheep.

Plate value £50 for the best pen of three Long-Woolled sheep or lambs.—Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincolnshire, Lincoln Sheep; r, Mr E F Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield, Leicester Sheep.

Plate value £50 for the best pen of three Short-woolled sheep or lambs.—H.M. the King, Sandringham, Southdown sheep; r, Mr J Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, Hampshire Down sheep.

BREED CUPS.

Leicesters.—Mr E F Jordan Eastburn, Driffield, sheep; r, ditto lambs.

Lincolns.—Messrs S E Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincolnshire, sheep; r, Mr W B Swallow, Wootton Lawn, Ulceby, Lincolnshire, lambs.

Kent or Romney Marsh.—Mr C Gordon Neame, Copton Manor, Faversham, lambs; Mr F Neame, Macknade, Faversham, sheep.

Devon and South Devons.—Mr A C Hall, Stanton Barton Marldon, Paignton, Devonshire, lambs; r, Mr F White, Norweston, Williton, Somerset, lambs

Cheviots.—Mr J McDowall, Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright; sheep, r; ditto, sheep.

Mountain.—Mr. J McDowall, Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright, sheep; r, Sir John Gilmour, Bart, Lundin and Montravo, Leven, Fife.

Southdown.—H.M. the King, Sandringham, sheep; r; ditto, lambs.

Hampshire Downs.—Mr J Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, sheep; r, ditto, sheep.

Suffolk.—Mr H E Smith, The Grange, Walton, Ipswich, sheep; r, ditto, lambs.

Shropshire.—Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., Ashlyns, Berkhamsted, Herts, sheep; r, ditto, sheep.

Oxford Downs.—Mr J T Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Glos., sheep; r, Mr H W Stilgoe, The Grounds, Adderbury, Banbury, lambs.

Dorset.—Mr J Toop, Bosham, Chichester, lambs; r, Mr S Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset, sheep.

Cross-breds.—Mr T Rush, Mitchells, Saffron Walden, sheep; Mr J Toop, Bosham, Chichester, lambs.

PIGS.

CUPS AND PLATES.

Prince Christian's Challenge Cup for the best pen of two pigs bred by exhibitor.—Mr Alfred Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton, cross-bred pigs; r, the Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting, S.W., Berkshire pigs.

Plate, value £20, for the best pen of two pigs.—Mr Alfred Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton, cross-bred pigs; r, the Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting, S.W., Berkshires.

Plate value £5 for the best single pig.—Mr J A Fricker, Burton, Mere, Wilts, Berkshire pig; r, Mr A Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton, Middle White pig.

BREED CUPS.

Middle White.—Mr J A Fricker, Burton, Mere; r, Mr A Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton.

Large White.—Mr R A Ayre, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford; r, Mr A Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton.

Large Black.—Messrs John Bastard and Sons, Tinten Manor, St Tudy, R S O, Cornwall; r, Mr W Townsend, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

Berkshire.—The Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting, S W; r, Prince Christian, Cumberland Lodge, Windsor.

Tamworth.—Mr R Ibbotson, The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire; r, ditto.

Any Other Distinct or Cross-Breed.—Mr A Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton: r, Mr G Attkins, High Street, Highgate, N.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.

Devons, South Devons, and Sussex.—Mr C N Skinner, Shortlands, Kent; Mr Daniel Swaffer, Mumford, Kingsnorth, Asford, Kent.

Herefords and Red-Polled.—Mr John H Yeomans, Withington, Hereford; Mr Fred Smith, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Shorthorns and Cross-Breds—Mr Arthur S Gibson, The Elms, Ruddington, Nottingham; Mr John Wortley, Shipdham, Norfolk.

Aberdeen-Angus and Galloways.—Mr C W Schroeter, Bella Vista, Hayward's Heath; Mr A B Matthews, Newton Stuart, N.B.

Welsh and Highland.—Mr R W Pritchard, Coedmarion, Carnarvon; Mr J R Campbell, Shinness, by Lairg, Sutherland.

Kerry, Dexter, and Small Cross-Bred Cattle.—Mr H D Betteridge, "Drayton," Woodstock Road, Summertown, Oxford; Mr Henry C Webb, Audley End, Saffron Walden.

£25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup.—Mr Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset; Mr William Reid, 160, Central Meat Market, E.C.

SHEEP.

Leicesters, Border Leicesters, Cotswolds, and Lincolns.—Mr George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington; Mr. Robert Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln.

Kentish or Romney Marsh, Devons, and South Devons.—Mr F Austin Bensted, The Lawn, Sittingbourne, Kent; Mr J G Pedler, The Barton, Sampford Peverell, Tiverton, Devon.

Cheviots and Mountain.—Mr M S McKerrow, Boreland of Southwick, Dumfries; Mr James Moffat, Craik, Hawick, N.B.

Southdowns and Shropshires.—Mr George F Hempson, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate; Mr Matthew Williams, Whiston Hall, Albrighton, Wolverhampton.

Hampshire-Downs and Suffolks.—Mr Casy Coles, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury; Mr D Abbott Green, Fingringhoe Hall, Colchester.

Oxford Downs and Cross-breds.—Mr John White, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon; Mr George Stimpson, 71, Central Meat Market, E.C.

Ryeland and Dorset &c.—Mr F Hawkins, Sugwas, Swanshill, Herefordshire; Mr L C Attrill, Bowcombe Farm, Carisbrooke

Champion Plates for Long and Short-Woolled Sheep, and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup.—Mr Henry Smith, jun., The Cottage, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham; Mr James P Case, Binham, Wighton, R.S.O., Norfolk.

PIGS.

Small White or Small Black, Middle and Large White Breeds.—Mr Herbert Broom, Wissett Hall, Halesworth; Mr John Angus, Whitefield, Morpeth.

Large Blacks and Berkshires.—Mr A H Cobbald, Eldo House, Bury St. Edmunds; Mr William A Barnes, Hasluck's Green Farm, Shirley, Birmingham.

Tamworths and Cross-Breds.—Mr D W Philip, The Redlands, Whitacre, Birmingham; Mr Robert Wallace, Achebrain, Mauchline, N.B.

Champion Plate and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup.—Col F A Walker-Jones, The Manor House, Burton, Westmorland; Mr S R Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich.

CARCASE COMPETITION.

Cattle and Sheep.—Mr William Coggan, Braemar, 58, Thurlow Park Road, Dulwich, S.E.; Mr G H Walker, Abbey Gateway, Great Malvern.

Pigs.—Mr J W Bowyer, 259, Central Meat Market, E.C.; Mr W E Hoare, 220, Central Meat Market, E.C.

Sale of the Carcases.

Unfortunately for sellers of the carcases entered in the Carcase competition the wintry weather had given way to a somewhat warmer temperature and rain while the sales were on, and the result was that buyers were able to purchase much cheaper than if cold weather had continued.

The champion carcase made 6s. 2d. per stone, the best price of the day, but last year 7s. was the highest figure, and the general run of prices seemed to be somewhat lower, about 4s. 6d. being the average for ordinary lots. In the case of mutton, however, trade was very good, and two carcases—the champion and reserve champion—reached 11s. per stone, against 9s. 6d. last year. Still, the general level of prices for good carcases was little better than last year, and, apart from first prize-winners, from 4s. 10d. to 5s. 6d. per stone would cover the majority of good lots. Pigs met a fairly good demand at prices up to 8s. given for the Earl of Carnarvon's winner, whilst the Middlesex Asylums first prize-winner made 7s. 6d., but the general range was from 4s. 2d. to 5s. 8d.

A table giving full details as to how the animals killed, together with the prize-winners, will be found on another page.

Annual Meeting of Members.

Lord Coventry presided at the annual meeting of the club on Tuesday.

The council, in presenting the annual report, congratulated the members upon the great honour conferred on the club by the acceptance of the presidency for the present year by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the further honour in the presentation by His Royal Highness of the magnificent challenge cup for sheep, to replace the cup won outright at the last show. The club's invested funds had been increased by the purchases of Consols to the amount of £400. The statement of accounts to October 31 showed the club's invested funds to be £4,860 Consols (valued at 90), and the balance of the current account at the banker's, and in the secretary's hands, to be £846 0s. 7d, and £2,000 on deposit at bankers.

The Chairman, in opening the meeting, said he was commanded by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to express regret at being unable, in consequence of another engagement, from presiding at that meeting. They probably did not forget that the Prince of Wales spent several hours at the show on the previous day, and it was evident to all that he took a great interest in the stock, and also the implements and other displays on the galleries. (Applause.) During the time he was in the hall the Prince went entirely through the show. His lordship concluded his observations by moving the adoption of the report.

Mr. W. Tindall moved, when it came to the election of a president, to succeed the Prince of Wales, that Mr. R. Hornsby, the oldest member of the Smithfield Club, should take that office. (Applause.) He represented the implement section of the club, and he was sure it would be a compliment if Mr. Hornsby, as the president-elect, was chosen.

Mr. J. W. Treadwell seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Hornsby, in returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him, said he would have to claim their indulgence in that he had the misfortune of old age to combat with. (Laughter).

H.R.H. Prince Christian, in moving the election of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon as president-elect, mentioned that the Duke had been a member of the club for forty years, besides being a regular exhibitor. As such he had followed in the footsteps of his father, who was such a good friend to the club. (Hear, hear.)

The Duke of Richmond, in expressing thanks, said when the time came for him to fulfil the duties of the chair, he hoped he might justify their expectations. He noticed that the new president became a member of the club in 1845; that was when he was ushered into this troubled world. (Laughter.) He hoped Mr. Hornsby would prepare him for the onerous duties that were expected of him.

The election of eleven gentlemen to serve on the council in place of those retiring resulted in the following gentlemen being chosen:—Messrs. W. Coggen, J. D. Fletcher, D. Abbott Green, W. Hayden, J. T. Hobb, J. Harold Howard, S. Kidner, T. Latham, E. C. Ransome, Martin J. Sutton, and Christopher Williams.

The chairman, in expressing the thanks of the members for the kindness of the Prince of Wales in accepting the presidency of the Club, said the members of the Royal Family had always shown a great interest in the welfare of that society. Their interest in agriculture had not been entirely confined to the club, but had always been great supporters of agriculture wherever it was well and conscientiously carried out.

The Herdsmen's Smithfield Club.

Few visitors to Smithfield are aware of the fact that the herdsmen at Smithfield have established a club of their own to recognise the merits of the herdsman who prepares the various first prize winning animals at the show, and also to render a little pecuniary assistance to herdsmen who are sick or fall out by the way. The club gains in membership yearly; it now totals 200 members, and an endeavour is to be made to introduce more of the friendly society and less of the prize winning element into it. During the last year the receipts and balance brought forward amounted to £163 3s. 1d. Out of this £34 was paid in prize-money to herdsmen, £22 to herdsmen on account of sickness and death in amounts vary from £1 to £2 10s., whilst necessary expenses absorb £14 8s. 3d., thus leaving a balance in hand of £92 14s. 10d. The annual dinner was held at Reggioria's Restaurant on Monday evening last under the presidency of Mr. W. T. Hall, of Highclere, and he was supported by Messrs. Arthur Hiscock, N. Benjafield, James Macdonald, secretary of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, Messrs. Snachell, and others. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Clement Stephenson, the retiring president, and Mr. J. Hallas Warrington was proposed as president elect. It was mentioned that the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland had forwarded a donation of £5 towards the funds of the club. A capital entertainment was provided by Messrs. Thorley, the proceedings being kept well up to the closing hour, Mr. Fred Snachel acting as conductor.

FAT STOCK SHOWS.

West of England.

The thirty-sixth annual show of the West of England Fat Stock Society, held at Plymouth on Wednesday and Thursday, was undoubtedly one of the best of the long series, for the entries were more numerous than ever, and the quality the highest all round. The total entry of cattle, sheep, roots, dairy produce, pigeons, and poultry classes was 1,100, nearly 100 more than last year, which up to then held the record. As the "Smithfield of the West," as it has been aptly termed, the West of England show attracts to itself most of the prize winners from the local fat stock shows of Devon and Cornwall, and in the poultry section exhibits from all parts of the country, and the visitor to the show can view, as he did last week, within its limited compass the pick of the fat stock of the south-western counties, as well as some of the choicest birds that the country can produce.

Cattle numbered 63, or three fewer than last year, but the quality was better than ever. North Devons, as usual, were in strong force, and a feature of this section was the remarkably close competition between two animals in the older class of oxen and steers—namely, Mr. Dyer's Tencreek Model and Mr. May's Lord Roberts. Though of the Devon breed, neither belongs to Devon county, the former coming from Cornwall, and the latter from Somerset. Bred by the exhibitor, Tencreek Model had had an unbroken record of successes at the Cornish shows, winning the championship prizes at Bodmin, Lostwithiel, Liskeard, and Callington, whilst Lord Roberts had also swept everything before it in the up-country shows. Both animals were magnificent specimens, and so difficult did the judges find the task of discriminating between them that they debated it for over an hour before finally awarding the prize to Lord Roberts, who later was given the cup presented by the president for the best beast in the exhibition and North Devon. Sir Massey Lopes's cup for the best ox or steer in the show, Lord Roberts, was subsequently bought by Mr. S Morgan, of Whimple, for £150, which is believed to be the highest price ever paid for a North Devon steer. Vanquished in its class, Mr. Dyer's fine steer Tencreek Model later on received substantial consolation by winning the silver cup presented by Mr. F. J. W. Nicholls for the best beast in the show exhibited by a tenant farmer, and also the special prize given by Hoyle and Son for the best beast in the show exhibited and bred by a tenant farmer.

The North Devon cows also formed an excellent lot, the chief award going to a shapely three-year-old, also hailing from Somerset. South Devons, though not so numerous as might be expected, so near the home of the breed, occupied three fairly well-filled classes. The young steers were of exceptional excellence, the first prize going to Mr. T. W. Luscombe, of Totnes, for a remarkably well-developed two-year-old steer, weighing over 18 cwt., which also secured the silver cup of the Plymouth Co-operative Society for the best South Devon beast in the show.

Cross-bred cattle were not numerous, but Mr. Alexander's Polled steer, which secured the chief award, excited general admiration. The dairy classes included several cows remarkable for their milk-giving qualities, whilst the class for butchers' beasts was well filled, and the animals were all of the type which butchers with an eye to profitable joints greatly esteem.

The five classes of sheep produced only eleven entries, but the whole were of exceptional quality. Long-woolled wethers (not Dartmoors) made a splendid couple of pens, and although the Earl of Mount Edgcombe showed some choice sheep, they were beaten by Mr. A. C. Hall's extraordinary sheep of massive size and great weight. The Dartmoors were strong and weighty, but the Exmoors only fair, the whole of the prizes going to one exhibitor. The governors of Dartmoor Prison had two pens of the very hardy breed sheep, and they secured first and third prizes. Mr. A. C. Hall won the champion prize of £5 5s., given by Mortimer Bros., of Plymouth, for the best pen of sheep.

Roots, dairy produce and poultry, as before mentioned, made highly creditable displays, and the whole show was a most interesting one.

Leeds.

The Leeds Smithfield show, held last week, suffered by clashing with the Smithfield Club's Show; but although the entries were not so numerous as at previous shows, there was a good, all-round display of stock, &c., and the show was a highly creditable one. The cattle championship went to a cross-bred, a blue and grey polled ox, named Linton, shown by Mr. Brigham Carlton, of York, and which was second at the York show. The contest lay between Mr. Carlton's cross-bred steer and a short-horn steer, Santa Claus, sent by Mr. W. T. Gibson, of Darlington. The winner was a butcher's beast all over—a fine, level-backed beast, of good bulk, and very fleshy. He took not only the two principal trophies, but also the Leeds butchers' challenge trophy for the best beast in the show most suitable for butchers' purposes, and the ex-Lord Mayor's special prize, and along with a black-polled ox, his byre companion, secured the Leeds tradesmen's plate for the best pen of Scotch or Welsh cross-breds. Mr. Gibson's short horn, which is just under three years old, is also an animal of great weight and good butchering quality; as at the Scottish National Show at Edinburgh, he headed the class for oxen under three years old, besides which he got the Leeds licensed victuallers' cup as the best Shorthorn. Mr. Peter Dunn's Shorthorn, which was second in the male class, looked heavier, but was not considered to be so much of a butcher's beast. Here the King was thus with a rather younger steer of nice quality.

In the female Shorthorn class the King was in the front rank with a two-year-old grand cow, well adapted for the milking strain, beating an animal (sent from Easingwold by Mr. J. M. Strickland), which perhaps did not show quite so much milk.

A good class of cross bred or Irish oxen under three years old was headed by a very useful blue-grey, the property of Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of Malton, a Darlington animal, shown by Mr. Earle, coming next. The winning female came from Scotland, was a level-backed heifer, full of quality. Mr. Earle's second prize cow appeared to have more scale, but was hardly so neat as the winner.

Once more there was cause to regret a paucity in the Scottish breeds. Four was the biggest entry in any class—the polled cows and heifers, in which a Yorkshireman, Mr. Robert Stubbs, of Baldersby, beat two Scotsmen, with a very useful three-year-old beast that might have won even in a larger class; but in the male class of the same breed Mr. Peter Dunn had a walk over, while Lord Durham enjoyed a similar privilege at the show in the Highland ox class and had only one entry against him in the cow or heifer section. A very good muster was seen of oxen of any breed. Here Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, of York, won with a black Angus-Shorthorn cross—one of the heaviest beasts in the show—a blue-grey, the property of the owner of the champion, being put second, probably because he lacked the weight of the winner. Mr. Carlton wins well all round, his victories also including the premier prize in the any breed female class. A York decision was upset in the class for pairs of horned Irish cross-bred bullocks. The keenest competition of the day was witnessed here, and it was only after long deliberation that the judges gave the first prize to Messrs. M. Tomlinson and Son's animals from Tadcaster, and the second to a pair of bullocks exhibited by Mr. Arthur Barker, of York, while Mr. H. Knowles's pair from Wetherby, which were first at York, were here relegated to third position.

There was a creditable display of sheep, the leading exhibitors being Captain Behrens, Major Willey, and Mr. T. Preston. In the pig classes, the Leeds Industrial Co-operative Society and Messrs. Dracup and Hodgson, of Shipley, exhibited. The champion cup for the best pig in the show fell to Mr. Leopold C. Paget (Harewood), who also won the Tradesmen's Plate. Mr. Dewhirst, of Dudley Hill, Mr. Matthew Bishworth, of Cowling, and Messrs. Dracup and Hodgson also won premier honours. Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of Malton, secured, for the second time, the Yorkshire Relish Cup, and also won the cup given by Mr. M. H. Schunck for the best pen of sheep.

King's Lynn.

The entries at the seventeenth annual show of the King's Lynn Christmas Fat Stock Society, held on Monday, created a record, numbering 109, as compared with 107 last year. H.M. the King made four entries in the cattle classes, two in the sheep, and one in the pig class. In the class for the best steer bred and fed by the exhibitor, the King won easily with a very fine white Shorthorn, from the Sandringham herd, two years ten months old, and weighing 18 cwt. 2 qr. The same animal was awarded the King's special champion prize of £10 10s., Mr. G. Heading's (Thornham) red-and-white steer being reserved for the honour. The King's roan Shorthorn was first in the heifer class, and his Majesty also led the way in the class for the best pair of steers with a brace of very superior animals. In the class for the best fat beast (open to Norfolk), Mr. Alfred Rowell secured the premier honour with a grand black, weighing 14 cwt. 7 lb. This was undoubtedly the best animal in the show, and would have taken the champion prize if it had been eligible. The sheep classes were well filled, the King taking the first prize for lambs and the second for wethers. Some very good pigs were exhibited.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The show of the Sussex County Agricultural Society at Brighton this year was not a financial success, a fact which was made perfectly plain at the annual meeting of the society, by the chairman (Mr. W. F. Ingram). He said that there was a balance brought forward on the show at Brighton in 1904 of £28 3s. 6d. Comparing the two shows, taking this year's show first, they found members' subscriptions totalled £366 and the money prize £158, as against £346 and £154 in 1904. Therefore they would see that they had got an increase of £20 on subscriptions and £4 on money prizes. Having made other comparisons on the receipt and payment side, he said that the position they were left in was that, notwithstanding that they brought a balance forward of over £28 in 1904, there was now a balance to the bad of £33 12s. as a result of the year's working. This was rather a serious state of things, seeing that it had arisen through holding the show at Brighton. Brighton was a place in which one would have thought the show would have gone well. The balance-sheet showed an overdraft of £33 12s., and the profit and loss account a loss of £61 15s.

Regret was generally expressed at the unfavourable result of the show, and one member raised the question of the desirability of not holding a show for one year. If they missed one year it would, he said, enable them to get upon their feet again. This, however, did not meet with much approval, and subsequently it was decided to appoint a sub-committee to consider whether it was possible to increase the subscription list and cut down the prize list. It was decided to hold the 1907 show at Hastings, provided that an invitation is received from that town, and that the necessary preliminaries can be arranged.

At a meeting of delegates from the Inverness-shire Farmers' Society and the three Ross-shire farmers' societies, held at Inverness, to consider as to the future holding of joint shows, it was unanimously agreed that a joint show should be held every second year, the centres to be Dingwall and Inverness, and it was resolved to hold a meeting in Dingwall in the third week of January to forward arrangements.

A discussion as to the method of selecting judges for their show took place at the last council meeting of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association. The subject was raised by the Hon. John Boscawen, who, when the election of a committee to select judges for 1907 came before the meeting, spoke against the election of a committee on which there were exhibitors. He thought it would be a good thing to leave the matter to the secretaries and president, who could select the judges from lists submitted by the Herd-book Societies. He did not intend to reproach any of the council; far from it. He had been on a committee for the selection of judges, and he had also shown. Outside people thought they chose their own judges. It was an unfair and nasty thing for it to be thought one did that, and the more they brought it to the eyes of the public that the judges were not selected for certain people only the better it would be. That was his reason for mentioning the subject He did not raise it to cast any slur on any person or body.

Mr. Rowe thought it better that the judges should be appointed by the whole council, and he urged that instead of having single judges, as in the past, there should be two judges in each department. A discussion then ensued on this new point, and it was finally agreed that there should be two judges in each department except in the dairy and horse-shoeing sections, but that to save expense their duties should be extended, as, for instance, the two judges for South Devon cattle should also take charge of the South Devon sheep and large black pigs; those for North Devon cattle should also judge long-wool sheep; the Channel Island cattle men should decide the prizes of the white pigs; and the Shorthorn cattle judges should deal with the Down sheep as well. In addition, there should be two judges for Shire horses and two for hacks and Hunters. However, this latter arrangement was left to the Judges Selection Committee, which, as on other occasions, will include breeders, Mr. Boscawen's proposal not being accepted.

The date of next year's show of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association at Liskeard has been fixed for Wednesday and Thursday, June 12 and 13, it being deemed inadvisable to have it on the Tuesday and Wednesday, as the Bath and West of England exhibition does not close until June 10.

At the last meeting of the council of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society it was agreed to hold shows of Shorthorn and Aberdeen Angus bulls in

(Continued on page [illegible]).

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Right Hon. Lord Desborough.
Fat Stock Show Winners, 1906:
Shorthorn Steer (the King's).
Cross-bred Heifer, "Danesfield Honey Bee."
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The Home of the Rural Child.
Mushrooms.
The Ferry.
A Kentish Farmstead.

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conjunction with those held by Messrs. John Robson, Ltd., on March 20 and 28 respectively, for the purpose of provisionally selecting animals for premiums under the scheme promoted by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for encouraging improvement in the breeding of cattle in 1907. The spring show will be held on May 22 and two following dates, and the horse and sheep shows on July 24 and two following dates; the dog and flower shows to be held on July 25 and 26.

At the above meeting a draft prize list of the spring show was submitted by the various sectional show committees and adopted. The principal alterations and additions are as follows:—In the cattle section an additional class will be provided for Shorthorn bulls, any age, awarded a premium in 1907 by County Antrim or County Down Committees of Agriculture. Classes for Herefords to be deleted, and three classes provided for Ayrshires. The classification for Kerry and Dexter cattle was slightly altered, an additional class for Kerry bulls to be provided. Competition in the majority of the dairy and general purposes cattle to be open to all, and with a view to affording greater facilities to farmers to exhibit, animals entered therein will only be required in the showyard on last day of show. The Dudley Cup, value 100 guineas, to be offered next year for the best group of Shorthorn cattle, and the Queen Victoria Cup, value fifty guineas, for the best yearling Aberdeen-Angus bull, bred in Ireland, and the property of an Irish exhibitor.

Competition in all classes for harness horses will be open to the United Kingdom, and a class will be provided for fast trotting horses, one mile record, whilst the jumping competition on first day of show will be omitted, and a champion wall jump competition will be provided on the second day. In the pig section four classes will be provided for Large Whites, and two classes for the first time for Large Blacks. It was decided to confine competition in the poultry classes to exhibitors resident in Ireland. In the dairy section an additional class will be provided for cured butter exhibited in any marketable package not less than 56 lb., and a class for sweet cream. It was proposed to hold butter-making and trussing competitions as at last show. Numerous and valuable offers of prizes were announced and accepted with thanks.

The Royal Dublin Society's annual show and sale of pure bred bulls (open to competition from all parts of the United Kingdom) will take place on Thursday, February 7, when prizes ranging in value up to £5 will be offered for Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, and Herefords. The first two breeds have three classes—viz., for bulls calved in 1906 on or after September 1, bulls calved in 1906, and bulls calved on or before August 31, 1905, whilst Herefords are given two classes, one for bulls calved in 1906, and one for bulls calved prior to 1906. Entries close Tuesday, January 8, and applications for entry forms should be made to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin, stating the number of forms required, and in which class the exhibitor desires to enter.

The council of the Wiltshire Agricultural Association have decided to hold their next year's show at Devizes on Monday 22 and 23, instead of May 29 and 30 as previously arranged, the alteration being consequent upon the Royal Counties Society having altered its show dates to May 28 to 31 inclusive.

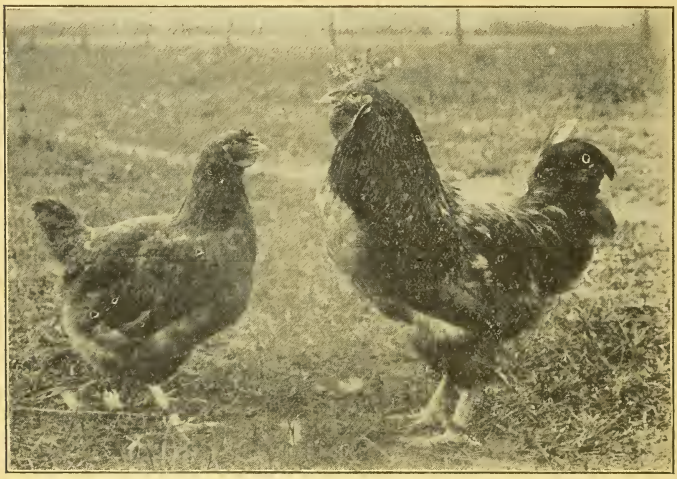
The Somerset Agricultural Instruction Committee were applied to by the Somerset County Agricultural Association for a grant of £35 towards the expenses of dairy demonstrations at the Wells Show next year, and for Miss Stubbs's services as dairy lecturer. The application was not only granted, but it was decided to make the sum of £45, the additional £10 to be awarded, if possible, in prizes to students.

POULTRY.

Scholarships in Poultry Keeping.

One scholarship of the value of £10 is offered to students taking the short course in aviculture at University College, Reading, commencing February 21, 1907, tenable at the terminal course commencing April 27, 1907. Students must enter in the usual way for the short course referred to above, and the scholarship will be awarded to the student who obtains the highest marks in the examinations on March 26 and 27.

Another scholarship of the value of £22 10s. is also offered, this being for students taking the terminal course in aviculture commencing April 25, 1907. The scholarship will include two terms' instruction in general agriculture, commencing October 3, 1907, and three months' practical work on the College Poulrry Farm, Theale, and enable the successful students to take the final examinations qualifying for the certificate in aviculture. Applications should be made to the Tutorial Secretary, University College, Reading.



A BUFF ORPINGTON COCKEREL AND PULLET.

Successful Co-operation.—A highly satisfactory report for 1906 has been presented by the directors of the Western Counties Agricultural Co-operative Association, Limited, for it shows that during the year 550 new shareholders and members were enrolled, whilst the sales increased by £41,628. The total turnover for the year was £524,505, with a net profit of £11,234 17s. 8d. During the eighteen years in which the business has been successfully conducted on a profit-sharing basis, the sum of £105,373 has been earned for distribution to shareholders and members pro-rata on their purchases. In addition to this, a regular dividend of 5 per cent. per annum has been paid on capital account, and ample reserves have been set aside for the financial security of the business. This maintains an unbroken record of success in agricultural co-operation. The directors propose that the net profit for the year shall be divided as follows:—Dividend of 5 per cent. on share capital, £1,326 3s. 11d.; reserve fund (making with premiums on shares, £1,000), £893 4s. 7d.; bonus to shareholders and members on net purchases at 4d. per £, equal to over 30 per cent. on share capital, or from 1s. 9d. to 3s. 6d. per ton allowance on feeding stuffs and manures, £8,361 13s. 8d.; bonus to employees, £300; balance to general revenue account, £353 15s. 6d. The annual meeting of the association will be held at Salisbury to-morrow (Tuesday).

A well-known gamekeeper has discovered that Mustard, given to hens in the morning food, wonderfully stimulates their egg-laying capacity.

See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1906.

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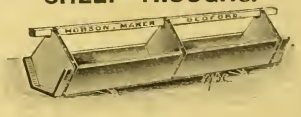

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR FARMERS WHEN BUYING.

Approximate Unit Cost of Fertilising Constituents.

It is necessary for guidance in the economical use of fertilisers, and especially in the purchase of Complete and Special Manures that the relative unit cost of the principal fertilising constituents should be studied: the subjoined table affords information on the subject. By multiplying the guaranteed minimum percentages of a fertiliser by the unit costs given in the table, the buyer will get a good idea of the commercial value of any chemical manure offered to him. The unit values are subject to variations from time to time, and in this respect we shall endeavour to keep the table up to date, besides which, buyers living in remote districts may have to pay a little more for heavier cost of delivery. If credit is required, this will also add to the cost.

	Peruvian Guano.			Nitrate of Soda.	Sulphate of Ammonia.	Bone Meal.	Superphosphate.	Basic Slag.	Bone Compounds.	Special Manures.	Kainit.	Sulphate of Potash.	Muriate of Potash.
	Raw or Equalised.	Phosphatic.	Dissolved (soluble).										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ammonia, organic as in Guano and Bones	15 0	12 6	15 0	—	—	12 6	—	—	15 0	0	—	—	—
,, in Sulphate of Ammonia ...	—	—	—	—	10 6	—	—	—	—	12 6	—	—	—
,, calculated from Nitrogen in Nitrate of Soda ...	—	—	—	13 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphate soluble in water	2 0	—	2 0	—	—	—	2 0	—	2 0	2 0	—	—	—
,, assimilable...	1 3	1 2	1 3	—	—	1 2	—	—	1 3	1 3	—	—	—
,, insoluble	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	—	—
Potash (pure)	4 0	4 0	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 0	3 10	4 0	3 10

N.B.—The above table is based on the commercial cost of the fertilising constituents. Agricultural value is not always synonymous with the commercial cost, and every farmer must exercise his judgment, while considering the cost, which fertiliser may be expected to give the most profitable return on his soil and for his crops. This is the cheapest manure for him.

Approximate Unit Cost of the Nutritive Constituents in Feeding Cakes and Meals.

June, 1906.

Cakes and other Feeding Stuffs.—In order to be able to form a correct opinion of their value, it is necessary to know the relative cost of the different nutritive constituents. The following note, by an eminent authority, supplies this information. By reference to it, a farmer can calculate out the approximate commercial value of a cake or meal, and then use his judgment as to which is most suitable for his special requirements.

	s. d.		s. d.
Albuminoids	2 8	to	3 0
Oil or fat	2 8	,,	3 0
Carbohydrates	1 1	,,	1 2

NOTE.—Most authorities in England are agreed that the value of each per cent. or unit of albuminoids and of oil is at least 2½ times that of 1 per cent. or unit carbohydrates. If, therefore, the percentages of albuminoids and oil in a feeding stuff be respectively multiplied by 2½ and added to the percentage of carbohydrates, the total feeding units contained in the article are obtained. The cost of the feeding stuff divided by this total of feeding units gives the price per unit. Example: A cotton cake contained

	Per cent.				Feeding units.
Albuminoids	22·1	×	2½	=	55·2
Oil	5·2	×	2½	=	13·0
Carbohydrates	33·2	×	1	=	33·2
Total feeding units					101·4

The price of the cake being £5 7s. 6d., the cost per feeding unit was just about 1s.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

The spaces allotted in the Agricultural Hall for the display of samples is not of a character to tempt many exhibitors, but some well-known manufacturers availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by the show to meet their old customers and to attract new buyers.

As usual at this show the manufacturers of fertilisers from the Eastern Counties were well to the fore, and the samples of special barley fertilisers and other chemical manures displayed by Messrs. Joseph Fisen and Co., of Ipswich, Messrs. Prentice, of Stowmarket, and Messrs. William Colchester and Co., of Ipswich, seemed to interest many of the visitors. Messrs. Edward Cook and Co., of London, also had an effective display.

Among the sellers of cakes and feeding stuffs, the exhibit of the Waterloo Cake Co. occupied a prominent position, and we noticed also that Messrs. Simmonds, Hunt and Co., and the well-known London Mark Lane brokers, Messrs. O'Brien and Butcher and Pinnock Bros., also were among the exhibitors.

Imports of Fertiliser Material during November.

	Tons	tons	tons	tons
Bones, whether burnt or not	3,117	4,699	14,876	10,268
Guano	2,926	276	18,448	2,458
Nitrate of soda (cubic nitre)..	3,286	7,883	45,115	82,278
Phosphate of lime and rock phosphate	44,013	34,814	76,129	55,902

Wire Worm.

Wire-worms, the larvæ of click beetles or skip jacks, are probably the worst pest against which the farmer has to contend. They attack every kind of crop, cereal, roots, or grass land, and as they live for several years before developing into the quiescent pupa stage, their mischievous stage is of long duration. Various measures have been tried of exterminating the pest, but no successful means practicable on a large scale.

Bisulphide of carbon appears the most certain remedy, but it is too expensive to be used in ordinary farming practice. For market gardens and in horticulture it should certainly be tried in the following way:—Pour a quarter of an ounce of the bisulphide into a small hole made in the ground, and at once cover over with a piece of tile with earth on the top, care being taken not to let the chemical come into contact with the roots of any plants, as it is poisonous. The above quantity would be sufficient for a square yard. It should also be mentioned that the bisulphide is of a highly inflammable nature, so care must be taken in manipulating it; the use of pipes and matches should be avoided when handling it. This remedy is best applicable in the early spring.

In ordinary farming the farmers' best allies against the enemy are the birds—rooks, starlings, and especially peewits—which should be encouraged in every possible way.

Constant ploughing and cultivating the soil enables the birds to get at the insects, and heavy rolling of the young wheat crops has been found efficacious, as, by consolidating the soil, it prevents the wireworms from moving about in the soil.

Gas lime spread over the soil in the autumn is sometimes very useful. It should be left on the surface of the soil about a month or six weeks before being ploughed in.

Soot has a good effect, and besides keeping the pest in check has the further advantage of supplying ammonia to the soil.

Seaweed, when easily obtainable, is useful, probably on account of the salt in it.

Rape-cake dust is often employed, and it is believed by some farmers that the wireworms are so fond of it that they overfeed themselves until they burst. There is probably no foundation for this idea, but the wireworms eat it greedily, and while doing so leave the young plants alone. In the end, however, the cake increases and develops the nuisance. When a young crop is badly infested, a dressing of nitrate of soda will help it to tide over the attack.

Higher Prices of Fertiliser.

In the observations on Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs in 1906 which appears in the MARK LANE EXPRESS ANNUAL just issued, attention is drawn to the advance in prices which have occurred during the year, especially in the case of nitrate of soda. The price of this important fertilising substance was £10 15s. per ton at the beginning of the year, and is now about £11 15s. Superphosphate and dissolved bones have also been advanced in price in consequence of the supply not being equal to the increasing demand all over the world. It is truly stated that in these times of intensive agriculture farmers cannot dispense with artificial fertilisers, and it is with equal truth added that in view of the higher prices, it is necessary to use fertilisers with great care and to make sure that good quality is obtained.

Prices of Fertilisers.

As the season for the purchase of fertilisers is now at hand, we shall give weekly for the next few months the London prices of the principal articles.

The following quotations are approximate and free-on rail, London, cash payment.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda .....prompt delivery	11	12	0
,, ,, ...forward ,,	12	2	6
Sulphate of ammonia	12	15	0
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.....	2	10	0
,, 35 ,, ...	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

Relative Advantage of Nitrate of Soda and Sulphate of Ammonia.

During the coming fertiliser season, if nitrate of soda maintains, as is probable, its present high price, and sulphate of ammonia continues to be offered at the moderate price now quoted, there will be a disposition on the part of farmers to employ more largely the latter fertiliser, and to limit the use of nitrate as much as possible.

With crops requiring liberal dressings of nitrogen, such as cereals and mangolds, the best plan will probably be found to apply half the requisite nitrogen in the form of sulphate of ammonia at the time of sowing, and the other half as nitrate of soda, as a top-dressing if the young crop should appear to require the stimulant If the season is a favourable one for the growth of the young plant, it may be possible to dispense altogether with the application of the nitrate.

But with turnips and swedes for which the quantity of nitrogen required, if any, is very small, it is scarcely practicable to divide the dressing, and therefore it will be better for the grower to use a bone compound which contains sufficient nitrogen combined with the soluble phosphate.

If he, however, prefers superphosphate with a separate nitrogenous fertiliser, he will have to consider whether it is not more advantageous, in view of the relative cost of the two fertilisers, to apply sulphate of ammonia. On this point attention may be directed to some experiments made by Mr. Patrick Wright, professor of agriculture in the West of Scotland Agricultural College. The nitrate of soda was applied at the rate of 1 cwt. per acre as a top-dressing after the plants had been thinned, while the sulphate of ammonia was applied in the drills along with the superphosphate just before the sowing of the seed, in quantity containing the same amount of nitrogen as was supplied in the 1 cwt. nitrate, which was approximately ¾ cwt. sulphate of ammonia.

The average result of the three years was as follows:—

	Roots per Acre. tons	cwt.	qr.
6 cwt. superphosphate.....	19	9	0
6 cwt. superphosphate... } 1 cwt. nitrate of soda ... }	20	5	0
6 cwt. superphosphate... } ¾ cwt. sulphate ammonia }	20	2	3

When this average result is taken into account, it appears that nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia exercised an almost equal effect and produced very nearly the same increase of crop. If the returns of each year are examined separately, it is noticed that nitrate proved considerably better in one year, and that the advantage lay with the sulphate for the other two years. It is thus apparent that the comparative fertilising efficacy of the two forms of nitrogen varies each year according to the character of the season.

Thus it may be concluded that the application of ¾ cwt. of sulphate of ammonia, applied in the drill, affords as good a chance of a satisfactory turnip crop as would be obtained from 1 cwt. nitrate of soda applied as a top dressing.

Varieties of Oats.

In some experiments carried out in Scotland with the co-operation of the Department of Agriculture of the University of Aberdeen, the object was to afford guidance as to the most suitable variety to be cultivated in the locality of the Moray Firth, where oats of fine quality, much in demand for seeds and milling are grown. The table below shows the respective yields of grain:—

Variety	Total grain, bushel of 42 lb. bushels.	Dressed grain. bushels.	Percentage of light grain. per cent.
Banner	88	83	5
Goldfinder ...	85½	81	5
Siberian... ...	85	79¼	6
Newmarket ...	81½	77½	4
Waverley ..	80⅔	75½	6
Storm King ...	76⅔	72¼	5
Potato	72	63½	12
Sandy	63¼	50⅔	19

Banner variety produced 32 bushels more of first quality grain than sandy and 20 bushels more than potato. The superiority of the "new" varieties, according to the report, is clear, and shows even better when the dressed grain only is considered. In other words, the new varieties yielded a larger proportion of good grain, as well as a heavier total yield.

The trials were carried on at a good many farms, and although the differences of the soil at the different farms had, apparently, little effect on the results as far as grain was concerned, it was not so with the straw, which showed striking variations.

In considering the combined yield of grain and straw, three points were apparent. (1) Potato variety produced the greatest weight of straw. (2) Siberian proved to be a good general variety, and the same may be said of Newmarket. (3) Banner, the best grain producer, was by no means the worst as regards straw.

The following is an estimate of the comparative total money yields, calculating the dressed grain at 18s. per quarter and the straw at 40s. per ton for feeding purposes:—

	£	s.	d.
Goldfinder	14	3	7
Banner	13	8	4
Newmarket	13	4	5
Siberian	13	3	6
Waverley	12	12	10
Storm King	12	8	10
Potato	12	3	2
Sandy	10	3	10

Manures for Pasture Land.

Professor Gilchrist has recently issued Bulletin N8 of the Cockle Park Experimental Station, recording the results obtained in the series of years up to 1905, during which the experiments have been conducted.

The report deals with the complete results of the Tree Field experiments for the nine years 1897-1905, being the period for which Dr. Somerville's original scheme has been carried out. The soil is a poor, stiff clay lying on Boulder clay.

Basic Slag shows up wonderfully well all through the experiments. On plot 3 a dressing of 10 cwt. slag, costing 23s. 6d., has given an average annual gain of 22s. 3d. per acre over the whole period of nine years, a really excellent return for the single dressing. The greatest effect was shown in the third season after application.

It should be noted that when the quantity of 10 cwt., instead of being applied all at one dressing, was divided into two applications, half being given in 1897 and half in 1900, the result was not quite so favourable, being reduced to 18s. per acre.

Another important point which appears to have been demonstrated is that it is not judicious to increase the quantity applied beyond 10 cwt. per acre. An experiment was made with 15 cwt. per acre versus 10 cwt. for six years, the result being in favour of the lesser quantity, which gave an average increase of 96 lb. live-weight increase per acre against 80⅔ lb. for the 15 cwt. applied per acre.

This unexpected result, according to the report, may be partly accounted for by the fact that while 10 cwt. slag developed 20 per cent. of clover two years after its application, 15 cwt. increased it to over 35 per cent., but Yorkshire fog was developed to the extent of nearly 50 per cent. four years after the heavier dressing of slag, whereas it increased in the same time to less than 20 per cent. by the lighter dressing.

The summary of the full results is given as follows:—

The tables contain what is probably the best summary of these experiments. To endeavour to sum up such elaborate trials in a few paragraphs would be almost certain to give misleading information to the practical farmer who reads this report. The matter in bolder type has been condensed to as near as possible the limit within which a clear idea of the objects and results can be contained. The scientific reader will understand that the body of the report has been written for the practical farmer, with as little use as possible of scientific terms. An endeavour has been made to reduce all the tables to a convenient size, and to make each of them as complete for their own purposes as possible. In a few cases, however, the manures applied to the various plots are given on one only of a group of tables.

The following main points, however, stand out as general results of all these trials:

1. For improving the extensive areas of poor boulder clay pasture in Northumberland, the best start can be made with a dressing of 10 cwt. an acre of basic slag. A judicious combination of superphosphate and lime will probably have the same effect, but at a considerably greater cost. Other phosphatic manures than slag are all useful for this purpose, but are not so profitable. It is probable that this initial treatment may be effectually followed by dressings of 5 cwt. slag per acre about every three years, and the judicious feeding of cake to the grazing stock. (See 3.)

2. For poor old pasture on sandy soils slag may also be exceedingly effective, if a potash manure is also used.

3. The feeding of cake on poor pasture will probably prove a most effectual assistance to slag in effecting improvement. The larger amount of stock carried when cake is fed entails closer grazing, and aids greatly in the development of sweet bottom herbage. When a pasture has become rather coarse the removal of the rough herbage by mowing at the end of the season is most desirable.

4. Liming of pasture is an expensive operation, and the returns may be most disappointing. It is only under special circumstances that this is likely to be profitable.

5. Judicious applications of slag and dung have proved a remarkably good combination at Cockle Park for developing sweet clovery herbage on thin hay and pasture land. When dung is used a potash manure is not needed, even on a sandy soil, and a nitrogenous manure should not be used. The results on plot 1 of Palace Leas show the disastrous effects of using complete artificials in combination with dung.

6. It is hardly necessary to state that the now well known rules as to the times and methods of applying the dressings, the making certain of the quality of the manures and the judicious stocking of pasture and managing of hay land, must all be followed, if the best chances of success are to be secured.

Soil Suitable for Lucerne.

The experimental section of Kansas Agricultural College have issued an instructive bulletin on the cultivation of lucerne. It would appear that lucerne will succeed on a variety of soils, grading from sandy to heavy clay, although with unfavourable soil conditions it becomes more difficult to establish a good stand. The crop, however does not thrive alike on all soils; perhaps a deep, fertile loam or clayey loam, well supplied with the mineral elements of plant food, is the most favourable soil for the plant. The crop needs a deep, well-drained soil; on wet land with water too near the surface lucerne will often produce poorly, and the plants soon die. The crop will not thrive on a soil deficient in lime, which shows an acid reaction. Some old lands, after years of cropping, have become deficient in humus and organic matter, and so deficient in lime that they will hardly produce lucerne successfully until the soil is fertilised by manuring and the acid condition is corrected by applications of lime and land plaster.

In order that lucerne may make a good stand and continue to produce large crops the land must be supplied with the nitrogen gathering bacteria which live on the roots of the lucerne plants and supply a part of the plant's food. Lands which have never grown lucerne may not contain these bacteria, and before the plant will grow well it is necessary to supply the bacteria by inoculating the new lands with sloil from an old lucerne field. From 200 to 500 lb. of infected soil, carefully spread and mixed with the soil by cultivation before the lucerne is planted, is sufficient to inoculate the new land and infect most of the crop plants within a year or so after seeding. The nitro-culture preparations for treating the seed before sowing, now manufactured and sold, also give good results when used carefully according to directions. The average farmer will secure better results by using the infected soil, when it can be secured at a reasonable cost, rather than to treat the seed with nitro-culture preparations.

In discussing the question of seed, it states that the first requisite in getting a stand of any crop is good seed. Not only should the seed be of good quality and strong in vitality and germination, but it should be clean and free from foul weed seeds. It seems hardly necessary to enlarge on this point, yet many farmers are careless, much poor seed is sold and sown, and many costly failures result. Lucerne seed costs so much, and the expense of a failure to get a stand is so great, that many farmers are discouraged by an unsuccessful trial, while others hesitate to make the venture. Those who are familiar with lucerne seed can usually recognise seed of low vitality. New seed of good quality has a characteristic bright, clear colour, while old seed or seed which has received injury from wetting or heating has a dull, dead colour, indicating its impaired vitality. Seed which is badly shrunken is also apt to contain a large percentage of seeds of low vitality which will not germinate and grow under ordinary soil conditions.

The only reliable way to determine the vitality of seed is to test its germination. This can be done in several ways. A simple and handy method is to use a cigar box; place several folds of wet paper in the bottom of the box, over it sprinkle the seed, and cover with several folds of wet paper; close the box and set it in a favourably warm place. Examine the seed in four or five days and count the germinations, remoistening the paper if necessary. At the end of eight or ten days the test may be discontinued and the percentage of germination calculated. A large percentage of germination the first three to five days indicates a strong, vigorous seed, while a slow, weak germination indicates seed low in vitality, which may not germinate when planted except under the most favourable soil conditions. For the best seed the percentage of germinatitn should be 90 per cent. or more. A low percentage of germination, and fairly quick and strong indicates a mixture of good and poor seed, and such seed may be sown, but more seed will be required per acre to ensure a stand.

Carefully examine the seed for impurties, and if weed seeds are present the lucerne should be carefully cleaned before seeding. The parasite "dodder" is a most dangerous pest, and it is usually unsafe to sow seed infected with dodder, even after thorough cleaning; but dodder seed is only about one-half as large as lucerne seed, and by careful cleaning, using a "dodder" sieve, which will also remove many of the smaller lucerne seeds, the dodder may be removed, leaving only the choice, plump, clean, pure seed to sow.

Is it better to supply Nitrogen to the Potato Crop as Nitrate of Soda, or in the Form of Sulphate of Ammonia?

The Potato crop is able to utilise with advantage a large supply of nitrogen, and it is generally considered that it is better to supply this ingredient in the form of guano or sulphate of ammonia than as nitrate of soda. To test the relative advantages of sulphate and nitrate the following trial was made in Lincolnshire by the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute:—

No. of plot.	Difference in the Dressings.	Total yield per acre. Average of six centres.	Value of increase over unmanured plot.	Cost of the manures.	Profit per acre.
		T. c.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5	2 cwt. of nitrate of soda along with phosphate and potash	7 19½	129 11	46 0	83 11
6	Same amount of nitrogen as No. 5, supplied as sulphate of ammonia along with phosphate and potash	8 1	132 6	44 10	87 8
10	2 cwt. of nitrate of soda, together with a large dressing of phosphate and potash ...	7 17¼	127 8	66 6	61 2
11	Same nitrogen as No. 10, part supplied as nitrate of soda, and part as sulphate of ammonia, with large dressing of phosphate and potash ...	8 5½	143 9	65 3	78 6

Let Plots 5 and 6 be taken first for comparison. By substituting the 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda on Plot 5 by an equivalent amount of nitrogen as sulphate of ammonia on Plot 6 the profit per acre is increased 3s. 9d. Again, in Plot 11, where a portion of the nitrogen was supplied as sulphate of ammonia, the increase in the profit over Plot 11, where all the nitrogen was supplied as nitrate of soda, was 17s. 4d. Although the amounts of the various manures were different in Plots 5 and 6 from the amounts in Plots 10 and 11, the odds in the profits were in both cases decidedly in favour of sulphate of ammonia. Comparison of the plots brings out the fact that it is better to supply the whole, or better still part, of the nitrogen to the potato crop in the form of sulphate of ammonia.

Winter Spraying of Fruit Trees.

The winter spraying of fruit trees with caustic alkali wash has been found to be very effective, Mr. Theobald, the expert of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, recommends the process for two purposes:—(1) to remove moss, lichen, and rough bark from trees; (2) as a means of destroying the aerial form of woolly aphis, and the hibernating quarters of such insects as codling maggot, thrips, apple blossom weevil, earwigs, &c.

At one time it was thought to have an injurious effect upon the eggs of the apple sucker, mussel scale, aphid, and red spider eggs, &c. It is now known not to affect them.

This wash need not be employed in an orchard every year, once in every three years will suffice.

It must only be used on dormant wood, and is best sprayed over the trees about the middle of February, and not later than the first week in March. As soon as the buds show signs of bursting it is too late to spray.

The two main constituents—namely, caustic soda, and carbonate of potash vary in strength. The former ranges from 60 to 98 per cent.; carbonate of potash from 40 to 85 per cent.

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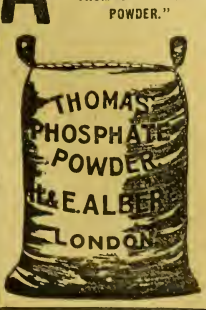

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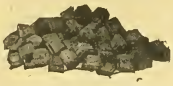

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It was doubtless the good condition of Mr. Brown's Cattle and the manifest handiness of the "Cakettes" which had finally broken down this buyer's conservatism; and now we have received a trial order we shall take good care to retain his business. Our method is a simple one: We put such value into all our Cakes and Meals as will insure the best results obtainable.

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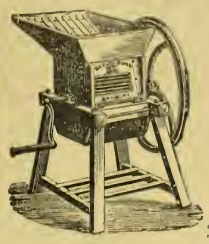

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DECEMBER 17, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

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A FARMERS' WEEK.

Last week was one of exceptional interest to breeders and feeders of cattle, sheep, and pigs throughout the whole of the country. The Smithfield Club Show is dealt with at length elsewhere, but, in passing, we may say that in some respects it was not equal to past exhibitions, but as regards the attendance, it maintained the high position reached in the estimation of the public.

The Farmers' Club dinner, which took place on Tuesday, was responsible for a number of speeches from Members of Parliament and others interested in the world of agricultural politics. The pronouncement by Sir Edward Strachey, who was present as deputy for the Minister of Agriculture, unfortunately prevented by illness from being present, to the effect that the Government intended to maintain the barrier against Canadian cattle, was welcomed. It is satisfactory to find that the Government has made up its mind upon this question, for, after all, it is one which is essentially an agricultural one. Possibly this will allay, if not actually put a stop to, the movement on foot in some of the boroughs which has for its purpose the removal of the embargo.

On Monday, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., entertained the representatives of the Breed Societies of the country, together with other well-wishers of the Royal Agricultural Society. Our Breed Societies have come to the aid of the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Lincoln in a remarkable manner, and it is doubtful whether a more complete and comprehensive schedule of prizes has ever been placed before breeders of stock. It is expected that the Royal Show at Lincoln in June next will be of a remarkably successful character. That the classes of live stock will be representative is already assured, and, judging from the enthusiasm in Lincolnshire, the financial result of the show is already assured.

The annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, when the yearly report of the council was submitted to members. This document disclosed no particular points of importance, and the very complete success of the show at Derby effectually disposed of criticism. Lord Yarborough was elected president for 1907, when it is expected that the Royal Show at Lincoln will meet with as great an amount of success as at Derby.

Other societies which have held meetings during the week are almost countless, practically all of the principal bodies taking advantage of their members' presence in London. Of these a great many will be found recorded in our columns, although, in consequence of our lengthy report of the Smithfield Show, some will not appear until our next issue.

THE BLOCK TEST.

The great national fat-stock shows of the season, which commenced at Norwich and afterwards had their annual festivals at Birmingham and Edinburgh, to be still more grandly displayed at the Smithfield Club Carnival, have brought under the public eye the first-fruits of the grazing industry.

Now, all but some of the younger steers, whose lives are prolonged that they may be shown again, are doomed for slaughtering. Melancholy is the thought that these animals which appeared so beautiful in life are being doomed to death that their carcases may make another grand display in butchers' shops and their best joints afterwards become roasts for Christmas tables. This is the fate at least of those which won the principal prizes, the fate of others being very various, and, as a rule, not very profitable to their graziers. Butchers who buy the beasts or sheep over-fattened for show purposes usually expect to lose money by them, which they debit to advertisement account; but those who do this look out for the animals which have distinguished themselves, or those which belonged to Royalty.

Not only will a great many people go long distances and put themselves to great pains and penalties to catch sight of the king or a prince of the blood, but eagerly crave for the smallest cut of beef or a bit of the fattest mutton from an animal of one of the Royal herds. Butchers know this perfectly well, and consequently only offer high prices for such animals, the joints of which will have a fancy value in the eyes of the public when exposed on their stalls.

But there are many misfits in grazing yearling steers thought to be likely animals to pay for another year's feeding. The block tests of last year proved that those which had the marbled beef in most notable appearance were not often those which had won the highest prizes, but usually the commended ones, or those which had remained unnoticed in the competition of the animals alive. In fact, the majority of two-year steers fed for show are over-larded with fat to such a degree that butchers could not afford to give high prices for them unless they had a fancy value such as above mentioned to cause consumers to seek after their meat.

When the carcase classes were established it was stated by the London butchers and their organs that they would prove educational object-lessons to show graziers the kinds of animals the Knights of the Cleaver like best. None of the animals which appear in them are fattened to anything like the high degree those

in the old ordinary classes are, and much smaller and lesser weight animals were entered for this year's competition. So far as can be seen, the carcase classes have not affected the old legitimate show classes one whit.

Consequently, if it leads London butchers to buy these results of the block test instead of going to Deptford for foreign dead meat, home graziers will be well satisfied. But these carcase classes have a sphere of their own, and would seem to have not the slightest connection with the older fat stock displays for Christmas, nor in all probability will they ever have that destiny. Ever since Royalty made it fashionable to fatten for the big Christmas shows the lists of exhibitors have been filled with titled names. This tends to the advantage of many a tenant-farmer breeder, whose yearling steers are readily purchased by those notables who desire to follow the King's lead. Some turn out highly successful, others the reverse, but all have to go to the shambles at the end of their second show season if not earlier, and the block test reveals their true utility.

Notes of the Week.

The Smithfield Fat Stock Show has come and gone once more. The event of the show this year has been the great success of the King.

His Majesty's good fortune is welcomed heartily by everyone, as he may be said to be the most popular farmer in the British dominions.

"Oh, what a surprise" was felt by one inquisitive individual who, when examining one of the King's Highland heifers, received a knock-down blow from the hind legs of the animal, and was sent sprawling on the ground.

The young lady artist working in the centre avenue was a great attraction. She accomplished the difficult task of doing two things at one time, for while she was drawing the animal, she was also drawing an admiring circle round her.

The annual dinner of the Farmers' Club and the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, which took place last Tuesday at the Trocadero Restaurant, was a most enjoyable function.

From North and South and East and West, farmers were gathered together round the festive board for social intercourse and to become better acquainted with one another.

Great sympathy was felt for Lord Carrington, compelled, by his doctor's orders, to be absent.

His place was ably occupied by Sir Edward Strachey, and it was pleasant to see by his side the late President of the Board of Agriculture, the Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes.

The honour of proposing the toast of the evening, "Success to Agriculture," was assigned to Mr. Fellowes, who acquitted himself of the task right manfully.

Sir Edward Strachey, in the course of his response, made a couple of welcome announcements. It is the intention of the Government, said he, to introduce a Bill at an early date for the purpose of stopping fraudulent competition with pure butter.

This promise was received with applause, as well as his assertion that the Government was determined to maintain the attitude taken by their predecessors upon the question of importations of live stock.

The Right Hon. Henry Chaplin proposed success to the Farmers' Club and the Chambers of Agriculture. On rising he was accorded a great ovation. The hearts of the audience evidently went out to the veteran agricultural statesman.

His speech was extremely interesting, partly historical, partly personal, and tinged in some passages with a political tendency.

This gave rise to the sensation of the evening. Mr. Oscar Bowen, chairman of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, rose and appealed to the chairman on a point of order.

He evidently took exception to some of the remarks of the right hon. speaker, and was understood to say, "this is degenerating into a political meeting."

The protest, however, did not meet with the views of many of those present, and finally Mr. Bowen left the room. It was an unfortunate and regrettable incident.

The predominating note of several of the speakers was the necessity of more combination among all those who gain a living from the land.

Farmers' Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture do much good in promoting agriculture, and are very properly kept free from politics.

But farmers want something more; political union, free from party, and constituted with the solo purpose of promoting agricultural interests, is necessary.

Then, and not till then, will farmers in this country make their power felt and be able to enforce respect for their legitimate rights and necessary legislation.

We should not omit to mention the happy little speech of Mr. Cornwallis, President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Alluding to the improved position of the Royal, and the advantage of publicity to attract public attention to it, he said—

There's no good in "Early to bed and early to rise"
Unless at the same time you "advertise."

Lord Carrington's "at home" at the offices of the Board of Agriculture proved a great success. The visitors were numerous, and such an informal exchange of views cannot fail to be helpful to all concerned.

We are pleased to see that the noble Lord was in his place in the House of Lords on Thursday evening to pilot the Land Tenure Bill through the House.

England expects that the Board of Agriculture will do its (mil-) dewty to repulse from our shores the insidious pest.

Mr. Haldane, the Minister for War, is carrying out experiments to provide our troops with different ammunition. He might try the effect of British-bred beef on the troops. It would do them more good.

Last week 12,747 tins of preserved food were condemned at one time; we understand it was afterwards bought by a chemical manure manufacturer. That is the only purpose it is fit for.

The Prussian Chamber of Agriculture have passed a resolution urging their Government to permit the importation of Chinese labourers to work on German farms!

In promoting Irish interests the Irish M.P.'s set the English members an example. They do not mind making themselves a nuisance, and they advance the interests entrusted to their care.

The indefatigable Mr. Yerburgh was re-elected president of the Agricultural Organisation Society at their annual meeting held on the 11th. With all respect, we may say that the society knows how to beat the big "drum," and it is now considering whether it cannot have an official "organ" to assist in forwarding the movement.

Wife: "Was that man ever a farmer?" Husband: "No." Wife: "But he's always talking about the delights of living in the country." Husband: "Exactly. That's what shows he never was a farmer."

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club mentioned that the accounts were in a satisfactory state. The balance at the credit of the club, exclusive of outstanding annual subscriptions valued at £50, was £606 2s. 3d. The members on the roll numbered 683 at September last, as against 686 at September, 1905. The chairman remarked that the report was satisfactory, and the show continued to prosper. It was agreed that next year's show be held on December 4 and 5, 1907, which is the week before the Smithfield Show, it having been fixed for December 9 to 13.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18.—Grantham Stock Fair—Macclesfield Horse and Cattle Fair—Carmarthen Fair—Thirsk Cattle and Sheep Fair.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19.—Basingstoke Great Fat Stock Sale—Bedford Cattle Fair—Hereford Horse Fair—Malmesbury Cattle and Sheep Fair—York Agricultural Fair—Live Poultry; Hereford Great Market.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20.—Cheltenham Agricultural Fair—Kettering Cattle and Sheep Fair—Chester Horse Fair—Special Horse Sale, York, first day.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21.—Yeovil Live Stock Sale—Special Horse Sale, York, second day—Nottingham Horse Fair—Penrhyn Cattle Fair—Dressed Poultry; Hereford Great Market.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22.—Newport Pagnell Fair—Brecon Asylum: Farm and Dairy Tenders to be sent in—Dressed Poultry: Wolverhampton Great Market.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24.—Christmas Eve—Mark Lane, the Baltic, and the Term Market Closed—Newtown Agricultural Fair—Pickering Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair—Newcastle Special Cattle Market (transferred from the Tuesday).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25.—Christmas Day. All English markets closed.

A Pure Milk Supply.

On the 5th inst. Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., received at the Board of Agriculture, on behalf of Earl Carrington, who was unable to be present, a deputation from the Royal Institute of Public Health, who urged the carrying out of a variety of precautions recommended by their committee, which was appointed to consider the best means to ensure a clean milk supply to the consumer.

Sir E. Strachey, in reply, said that the Board of Agriculture was anxious that every possible precaution should be taken to protect the public and to secure a pure supply of milk. At the same time they were anxious that nothing unreasonable should be done to hamper an industry which was not in an altogether prosperous condition. What was wanted was a Public Health Act Amendment Bill on the lines of the Scotch Act of 1897. As regarded contagious diseases contributed to milk by human beings or transmitted by cows, agriculturists generally would welcome the most stringent precautions, as it was to their interests that the demand should be maintained and increased. The whole of the questions raised would be carefully considered. The Board was anxious to do everything necessary to encourage agriculturists, and at the same time to protect the public.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

The following account issued yesterday shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended last Saturday. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (10,731), 11,740; sheep and lambs (1,931), 927; horses (176), 219.

Fresh meat:—Beef (100,826 cwt.), 106,775; mutton (69,563), 92,905; pork (14,866), 14,397.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (110,344 cwt.), 99,905; beef (2,902), 1,015; hams (24,090), 20,546; pork (1,809), 1,989; meat, salted or fresh (14,482), 11,823; meat, preserved (30,482), 3,134.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (76,160 cwt.), 73,789; margarine (23,470), 19,265; cheese (47,945), 32,841; milk, fresh (4), nil; cream (89), 104; condensed (17,267), 11,858; preserved (323), 591.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(449,482), 372,005; poultry (value £14,684), £14,546; game (value £2,261), £1,567; rabbits, dead, not tinned (21,025 cwt.), 4,421; lard (49,022 cwt.), 43,492.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (1,516,100 cwt.), 1,656,100; wheat meal and flour (367,600), 321,000; barley (593,400), 318,000; oats (389,900), 209,300; peas (26,830), 29,740; beans (3,020), 10,890; maize or Indian corn (313,800), 849,500.

Fruit, Raw:—Apples (133,860 cwt.), 130,450; pears, (5,260), 2,042.

Hay (2,073 tons), 2,299; straw (1,315), 482; moss litter (1,795), 1,544; hops (8,997 cwt.), 9,153; locust beans (39,860), 11,778.

Vegetables, raw:—Onions (168,140 bushels), 186,391; potatoes (29,030 cwt.), 33,075; tomatoes (9,488), 4,165.

The Elsenham Sparrow Club, of which Sir Walter Gilbey is president, has closed its record for the season with 2,409 sparrows killed, making 47,266 destroyed in the sixteen years of the club's existence. The members have decided to raise standard of killing from one bird to one and a-half birds per acre.

CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

THE Christmas season, as regards its fat stock shows and markets, has been so far (and the events named are now nearly over) attended by very satisfactory results. A glance at the various first prizes gives us the very satisfactory result of a Shorthorn winning the championships of both the Birmingham and Smithfield shows, and this result is the more gratifying because this Shorthorn carries very considerable weight alive, and will, if appearances and handling go for anything, be a fair representative of a fat show animal when dressed, as he seems likely not only to yield a heavy dressed percentage, but he should cut without an excess of fat beyond what is inevitable with high-pressure feeding carried to such an extent.

THEN another cause for satisfaction is the fact that most of the other breeds and crosses came very near to the championship. In the contest for supremacy at Islington when the best beast in the hall under two years old was sought for, a very fine Devon succeeded in getting the reserve, and was a very close runner-up of the winner. When the best female was being sought for, a cross-bred heifer was the chief opponent of an Aberdeen-Angus that had championed all breeds of the Edinburgh show. So that cross-breds, Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, and North Devons all shared in the championships of the great Smithfield meeting. Some of our breeds are not show cattle in the sense in which a good deal of showing is now followed, nevertheless, these said breeds are more or less prohibited as practical cattle.

THE tendency to-day with many judges in the fat-stock rings is to set symmetry right away before any other property, and this has not proved itself to be the correct theory. Small, symmetrical cattle almost invariably give detestable results when killed, being simply rolls of fat. The question of live-weight undoubtedly ought to enter much more largely than it does into the making up of the awards in these classes. Watching closely the proceedings of a good judge at one of these shows, we noticed that when he had arranged according to the eye and the hand, or, as it is more generally called, by inspection, before marking off the honours, asked for the weight of each animal, and one or two changes were made in the position in consequence.

A LIMIT as to this weight should be set forward in the conditions of each class scaling the limit according to breed and age, just as is done, and has been done for some years past, in the small breed classes, except that in the case of the bigger kinds the wording should be "not under so much live weight" instead of as is the case with the small breeds "not to exceed so much live weight." Some such arrangement as the above would tend very much to keep our breeds of cattle up to a much more profitable standard to the producer, and would give in many cases much more edible meat to the consumer, for, as already intimated, a small animal fed thoroughly ripe in nine cases out of ten kills far too fat for the average of families.

COMING to the breeds that prove themselves practically good and profitable, but fail to reach the showyard standard as set by some of the more generally shown breeds when in open competition, the Welsh and Sussex breeds have had for years to endure rather hard lines. Welsh cattle at Smithfield last week were a very large show numerically, and some very fine shaped and truly bred specimens were seen in the ranks, whilst their weight was also most encouraging to the breeder, yet the best of this breed were quickly dismissed from the competition for the open championships. In proof, too, of the great practical value of these cattle, London and other butchers were very anxious purchasers as soon as the show was opened to them.

LIKE the Welsh the Sussex breed also gave very good weights, and these cattle make excellent feeding beasts for the general market, yet in the pen championships they seldom remain long in the ring. A little plain generally in their build, they fail to fill the eye like the more symmetrical breeds that have so long held sway over the champion prizes, for the great honours have for several years past been practically left in the hands of the Shorthorns, Herefords, Aberdeen-Angus, and Crosses. At one time of day the North Devon breed were frequent winners of the higher honours, but latterly they too appear to have been left behind in the champion races, though we must say it has many times appeared as though their outside position was due to the judging more than to the lack of qualification.

THE Galloway and West Highland breeds and also the small cattle have upon several occasions during recent years brought out specimens that were well worthy champion honours, yet, like the Devons for some reason or other, their supporters have failed to get them at the top. The award of the champion prizes at the leading shows where all breeds are concerned has ever been beset with difficulties, and as years go on there does not appear any likelihood of such difficulties being removed. Whether the whole bunch of judges acting in concert and giving in their votes by ballot as to the champions would have the effect of giving greater satisfaction, or whether another change could be made that would remedy the system is hard to say.

THE system we would rather suggest would be that of giving the champion honours to be competed for one year by the first breeds mentioned as being so continually successful, and alternate years to the other breeds, excluding these greater favourites. Years ago the awarding of the first Challoner Plate of the Dublin spring show, which was generally done by voting from the whole bench of some ten or eleven judges, was attended with anything but satisfying results, the ring in those days usually voting in the smart tact and diplomacy displayed by some one or two judges over the rest of the community, and these smart men were frequently influenced very considerably by breed prejudices rather than by actual discussion of the merits of the individual animals.

TRADE in the fat stock markets generally, as well as in the shows, has been fairly brisk, and few exhibitors have had cause to complain of the prices realised, though it may fairly be said without contradiction that there is not a solitary instance in which an animal of the highest section has been profitable, that is, paid for feeding. This, however, is not and ought not to be expected, feeding of these cattle up to show condition is intended, or it appears to be so, to let the public see to what a pitch of weight and quality the animals can be raised, so that those who wish to be educated in the results of the different breeds may assume that the one that has given best results under high pressure would give correspondingly better results with ordinary feeding, that is, feeding for profit and commerce.

THAT the show season is likely to continue in as great perfection in the future as it has done in the past appears highly probable indeed. There has probably never before been so much energy displayed in searching for and purchasing young animals for exhibition purposes as has been the case during the last month, and the prices

HEREFORD HEIFER, CAMILLA.

The Hereford Heifer, Camilla, owned and bred by H M. The King, at Windsor, was Reserve for the Breed Cup, and First in the Class for Hereford Heifers not exceeding 3 years old, at the Smithfield Show. She is 2 years 10 months 4 days old, and weighs 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs. Her sire was Earlsfield 19387, dam Cherry Blossom, sire of dam Bourton 11005.

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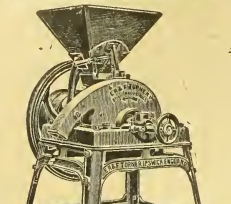

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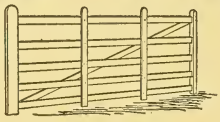

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AUCTION SALES.

Auctioneers will favour us by sending in their advertisements as early in the week as possible.

Charges for announcements under this heading, Six Shillings an inch.

By HENRY DUKE & SON.

Notice of an important Two-Days' Auction Sale at ANSTY FARM, HILTON, DORSET (eight miles from Blandford and ten from Dorchester), comprising 150 CROSS-BRED DAIRY COWS (being three distinct Herds), a DORSET DOWN FLOCK of 600 BREEDING EWES and EWE TEGS, Teams of Cart Horses, several Hunters, 100 Pigs, and Farm Implements.

MESSRS. HENRY DUKE & SON (by instructions from the Trustees of the late Mr. J. P. Norton) beg to give notice of SALE by AUCTION on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, and following day.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Dorchester, Dorset.

paid for young steers and heifers of promise have been such as to leave these quite clear of loss, but then they are not quite the finished article. The art of feeding and exhibiting fat show cattle possesses a fascination that is not easily set aside, and there is another point to mention whilst upon this subject—viz., how the fascination coupled with the difficulty of purchasing suitable subjects, has tended to cause greater attention to be paid to the breeding of first-class.

FROM this latter argument it must be inferred that the fat stock shows have had as great and beneficial influence upon the breeding of cattle, or more properly, the improved breeding of cattle, as have the breeding classes at our great exhibitions. The catalogues at all the shows this year strike one as being very much fuller of entries where the very gratifying words "bred by exhibitor" appear than has been the case before. If this is so, then there is further cause to hope that the show system, as regards its Christmas shows of fat stock, will continue to be carried on with the same enthusiasm and energy in the future as has been the case in the past, and all sections of the stock-breeding community will benefit thereby.

WE cannot conclude these notes, which have some especial reference to the Christmas shows, without pointing out the great successes achieved by the Royal herds, a circumstance that every breeder of livestock the world over ought to be thankful for, as by no other means could our splendid breeds of cattle be put before the world with so great effect and benefit to British breeders. H.M the King has certainly been most successful, and the awards have passed without question in nearly every instance, so fairly were the animals worthy of their distinctions. Shorthorns, Herefords, and Devons were very prominent, whilst Highlanders and Aberdeen-Angus also shared in the spoil, and another notable case was the Angus bullock bred by his Majesty and exhibited by Captain Townshend, which was placed at the head of his class in Birmingham and third at Smithfield, all these fine animals bred in the Royal herd have but the one important lesson to teach us—namely, that if breeding is carried on with skill its results are certain.

Sale of the King's Fat Stock.

A large consignment of fat stock belonging to H.M. the King, comprising 31 Devon and Hereford bullocks and heifers, 220 sheep, and 83 bacon hogs and porkers, bred and fed at the Royal Farms, Windsor, was included in Messrs. Buckland and Sons' Christmas sale at Slough on Tuesday. A large attendance of buyers was present from all parts of the kingdom, many of whom were anxious to purchase attractions for their Christmas stock. The pigs were disposed of first, the 83 animals realising a total of £485 9s. 6d., an average of £5 17s. each, the highest price for a single pig being £12, given by Mr. Waseley, of Aldershot. The King's bullocks made a total of £1,166, an average of £35 6s. 8d. per beast. Mr. Willis, Sheffield, gave the highest price of £45 for a single beast, and Mr. Waseley, of Aldershot, two at £43 each. The sheep realised a total of £935 7s. 6d., the average price per sheep being £3 5s. 10d; the highest price was £5 for a Hampshire. The total sum realised for the King's stock was £2,586 17s.

In the show classes connected with Messrs. Buckland and Sons' sale, for which prizes were offered by the Duke of Leeds, Lord Desborough, Lieutenant-Colonel Davis, the Eton College Beagles, and others, a black ox, from Mr. R. W. Hudson, of Great Marlow, secured the champion prize presented by the auctioneers, and was sold for £47, the highest price in the sale, and a Devon ox, shown by Mr. Jason Wilshin, of Hayes, won the prize given to tenant farmers, and was sold for £35. High prices were also realised in the general show and sale, the prize-winning exhibits being principally sought after, for which there was a keen competition among the buyers. The total day's sale realised, including the King's stock:—Pigs, £1,749 5s.; sheep, £2,764 2s.; calves, £153; beasts, £5,518 15s.; making a total of £10,185 2s.

Gooseberry Mildew in Worcestershire.—At Monday's meeting of the Worcestershire County Council, the Agricultural Committee reported an outbreak of American gooseberry mildew at two places in Worcestershire—one a nursery—and also reported that the Board of Agriculture expert believed the outbreak was not confined to one nursery. It was decided to petition the Board of Agriculture to take steps to obtain powers to deal with diseases of plants such as existed in the cases of diseased animals, and to prevent the importation of the plant. It was further decided to carry out the inspection of nurseries and gardens in the county to detect any further cases.

PIGS.

Tuberculous Pigs at Birmingham.

In the House of Commons last week, Mr. Ffrench, the Nationalist member for South Wexford, asked the President of the Local Government Board whether he is aware that the value of pigs seized and destroyed weekly in Birmingham for tuberculosis has been estimated at £100, and that it has been admitted by the town clerk of Birmingham that the approximate value of pigs destroyed each week for the four weeks ended November 17 was £31 18s.; and whether he will take steps to have those dealers recompensed whose pigs have been destroyed in the interests of the public.

Mr. John Burns (President of the Local Government Board) said he was not aware of any authority for the first statement. Its accuracy was denied by the Town Clerk on behalf of the Corporation. He was informed that the value of pigs destroyed for the four weeks ended Nov. 17 was as stated, but that the number was considerably above the average of the year. He had no authority to cause the dealers to be recompensed. Mr. Burns added that he hoped by means of a Bill he had before the House to ensure that these pigs were not sold as food for human consumption.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

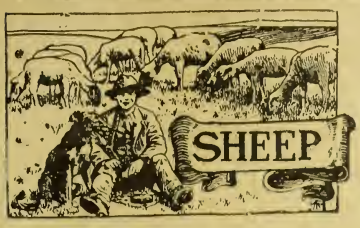
Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 11, 1906:—

Period			Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
Week ended December 8, 1906		No.	16	12	...	...	29	16	...	...	22	35	160
Corresponding week in	1905		26	22	...	...	32	18	...	...	25	25	132
	1904		34	17	...	...	25	15	...	...	30	13	59
	1903		25	20	...	...	40	24	...	...	59	26	300
Total for 49 weeks in 1906			1,231	873	...	...	1,947	1,032	...	...	448	1,163	6,677
Corresponding period in	1905		1,234	910	...	...	1,961	1,146	...	...	826	765	3,518
	1904		1,431	950	...	...	2,526	1,440	...	...	1,223	1,153	5,402
	1903		1,068	716	...	...	2,384	1,386	...	...	1,545	1,405	7,602

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

At the annual meeting of the Poulton-le-Fylde and District Agricultural Society it was decided to hold the next show on August 14, 1907, at Poulton-le-Fylde.

The Prescot Agricultural Society, according to the annual report just issued, sustained a loss of £9 2s. 2d. on their show this year, this small deficit being entirely owing to the inclement weather on the day of the show, the receipts from the gate and stands being only £233 5s. 3d., as against £409 19s. in 1905. In all other respects the exhibition was the best yet held by the society, the number of entries exceeding the previous record by 163, and the amount received from entry fees being £34 2s. 6d. in excess of last year, which was the largest amount received in any one year up to that time: the increase exactly corresponding with the additional prize-money paid this year. The committee having invested a portion of the Society's funds in the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, the interest received from such investment and the bank has amounted to £16 10s. 2d., as against £4 1s. 8d. received from the bank in 1905. The subscriptions received also show a slight increase, and the committee thank subscribers for their support, and trust that by their help in the future the exhibition will continue to maintain the reputation it now enjoys.



Notes and Jottings.

THE meat show at the Cattle Show was a fine exhibition, in which the mutton section was very commendable. A few carcases were fatter than one desires to see them, but the freshness of the meat showed that the feeding had been skilfully managed, as ill-feeding would have been noticeable in such a climate or atmosphere as that to which it was subjected, though it must be admitted that there was a freshness in the air of the carcase hall that compared favourably with that in other parts of the building.

THE Suffolks added to their laurels by again taking the championship of the carcases, more noticeable because it was secured by a lamb. In lamb classes one would naturally look to the breeds which have longest been subjected to the development of the features of early maturing, but the newest Down breed has again secured first honours, which must be encouraging to those interested in the breed. The success of the Suffolks, both pure and as crosses, must be regarded as the most striking feature of the carcase show.

CHEVIOTS hold a good position among the prize-winning breeds in the carcase competitions, being successful as pure-bred Long Wools and also crossed. The Cheviot meat showed up well, but on the whole the breed may be considered fortunate in being classed among the Long Wools, for the Cheviot is not a Long Wool in the sense that a Lincoln, Leicester, or Kentish is; for it is a hill sheep, and not of the same origin as the lowland breeds in which it is brought into competition. It is not a Down, but it belongs to the heath breeds, all of which have a mutton quality superior to the lowland breeds. It was these heath breeds crossed with the Southdown which made our other Down breeds.

THE Cheviot gave the point of advantage the Kentish sheep possesses over the other Long Wool breeds which had no cross with heath sheep; and when one looked through the pens of Kentish sheep in the live classes one could not fail to notice how different in type about the heads some of the Kentish are from others. While many retain the clean head and frilled neck of the Cheviot, others have been developed so that the heads are almost as much covered as are Shropshires, while almost all stages of covering between these are represented. No breed shows so much difference in this respect, and the type of head is indicative of much that is reflected in the meat and wool. It is suggestive that the future of the breed is to be made in the direction of wool improvement rather than meat improvement, which may be instigated by the increasing demand the breed has acquired for transportation to the wool-growing countries.

INTER breed competitions offer anomalies, and though the perfection of the pen of Downs which won the championship of the breeds rendered them almost unbeatable, still the size and quality of the Hampshire Downs which were placed next to them must have found many supporters to their claim for the first position. The reversion of position of the two animals which came up top in the competition for the cattle championship at Norwich, where quality or perfection of points supersoded the daily increase in weight, to find the judges at Smithfield placing the greater value on weight; and the sheep championship going to the lighter weight in the case of sheep, suggests that there is very considerable lottery in fat stock competitions. It has always been somewhat a mystery to us that quality should be judged on perfection of appearance on the lines of breeding animals rather than of profitable meat. Feeding to perfection is often regarded as fattening to a point which shall obliterate faults in make; and provided this has been successfully accomplished, although the weak points in the more marketable animal may not have been essential from the butcher's point of view, the lighter weight very frequently is more highly regarded by judges. It is thus open to much contention how far the points accepted as best in a breeding competition should hold in a fat stock show.

PEN OF SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

This pen of Southdown Sheep, owned and bred by H M. The King, Sandringham, won, at the Smithfield Show, the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for the Best Pen of Three Sheep or Lambs, a Piece of Plate value £50 for the Best Pen of Three Short-woolled Sheep or Lambs, the Breed Cup, and also First in the class for a Pen of Three Fat Wether Sheep above 12 and under 24 months old, of the Southdown Breed. Their age was given as 21 months, and their weight 5 cwts. 2 qrs. 22 lbs.

THE types of sheep shown in the Welsh Mountain classes had considerable variation. However, a good many of the sheep had never been on the mountains, but were valley raised and fed; they included some very sweet animals, and showed many points which would be admirable in the most improved breeds. The question, however, which naturally arises is how far they would be maintained were they allowed to range the hills in the ordinary manner. Another striking fact was the wide season of lambing. Many that were shown were bred in January, while some were dropped as late as August, if the ages were correctly given, as doubtless they were.

THE Shropshire breeders have reason to congratulate themselves on the good exporting season they have experienced, having eclipsed anything accomplished in the past. South America is their great stronghold, and there is every reason to suppose that the prognostications of even a better year to come will not be belied. It is, however, perhaps more satisfactory that the home trade is so constant. The Shropshire can fairly claim to be the Down breed of the richer pastures, for it has a great hold on them in England, Ireland and Wales. It is only when going about in comparatively out of the way districts in the two last countries that one realises how important the breed is. During the last few months we have spent a considerable time in these countries in districts with which we were familiar a few years ago, when it was quite exceptional to meet with them; whereas now, provided the pasturage is good, one constantly meets with them, keeping up their character very closely as pure breeds, or doing well crossed with native stocks. Breeders in these far lying districts are little affected by the higher priced animals which the wealthy foreigner is able to secure, but they can get a well bred animal for a compartively small sum, and there is no doubt that the mutton output has been improved, both in quality and quantity.

The Sheep Dipping Orders: Yorkshire Breeders' Difficulties.

Mr. J. T. Hedley, of Grosmont, Yorkshire, secretary of the Blackfaced Sheep Breeders' Association, has sent to the President of the Board of Agriculture a resolution passed by the association condemning the Compulsory Sheep Dipping Order. In an accompanying letter of protest Mr. Hedley draws attention, on behalf of the association, to the difficulties which sheep-breeders on the North Yorkshire moors experienced in carrying out the Order.

In the district covered by the association, he says, there is a right of stray for sheep attached to every farm, and the Marks Book of the association contains the recorded marks of sheep on about 500 different farms, the moors or common extending from near Scarborough nearly to Northallerton, without a fence.

It is, says Mr. Hedley, well known that, though the sheep are kept as much as possible on the common allotted to each particular farm, there are, and always have been, sheep in every flock of wandering propensities. Some may be on their own common six days, and not the seventh, or may be at home one day and away for months. There are also so many that may be on the common to-day, and are never seen or heard of more—at least by their rightful owner.

These wandering sheep just make compulsory dipping impossible — at any rate under the present regulations. The origin of the greatest number of sheep scab outbreaks may be traced to the roughest and most inaccessible hills in England and Scotland—places where the sheep, endowed with a wonderful amount of cunning, managed to elude the most careful shepherd and the cleverest dogs. Odd sheep are missed when gathering, and the hill having been infected with scab previously, these sheep keep the contagion going.

While away out on the hill some old ewe may be lying in shelter or in shade lazily chewing her cud, her eyes half shut, innocently defying the legion of shepherds' dogs, "persons appointed," and the whole machinery of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, backed up by all the might of what stands for the time being as the Government of the British Empire. It would be quite an easy matter dipping that old ewe, if only you had her at the tub.

It is also quite an easy matter for farmers of enclosed land to dip their sheep, and be in favour of compulsory dipping for the whole British Isles. It would also be probably no great hardship on these farmers holding half a score of grazing farms to buy £20 worth of approved dip and send it out to their shepherds with orders to get the sheep dipped without delay. It is those who have the carrying out of the Order who, without exception as far as I know, condemn it as an unmitigated nuisance.

Mr. Hedley adds that there have only been three cases of sheep scab on these moors in forty years. Government, he says, did not invent dipping; it has been regularly carried out by stockmen for over half a century; it is against what are considered to be the impracticable conditions of the Order that his association protests.

Sheep Breeding and Rearing.

An interesting paper on "Sheep Breeding and Rearing" was read by Mr. J. A. Preece, Thrapston, the well-known breeder and exhibitor, at a recent meeting of the Hunts Chamber of Agriculture. His remarks applied more particularly to half-bred sheep, and for the purpose of his illustration he took a farmer starting at Michaelmas with a mixed flock of 200 ewes picked up at various sales, such a one as he had when he commenced farming thirty years ago.

Although a farmer might have been obliged to purchase ewes he did not altogether like, yet, said Mr. Preece, he should not grudge £10 or £20 in the purchase of his rams. If he (Mr. Preece) had had a measure of success, it had been due to the fact that he had never stopped at £10 or £20 in the purchase of a good ram. He did not necessarily mean fat ones, but dark in colour, with a good scrag and dock.

FEEDING.

For the first five months little expense need be gone to, for if the farm was fairly good the sheep would act as scavengers and would keep their con-

dition without much assistance until they commenced to lamb, except in snowy weather, when some chaff and chaffings, a few roots, and perhaps a little hay might be given. Care should, however, be taken that they did not get too low. A few beans in the straw would prevent this.

The pinch began with lambing, say the middle of March, and he would warn them against false economy at that critical period. He would for a month at least after lambing give 1½ lb. of corn (peas and oats for preference) per day, also a little sainfoin or clover, but mangolds should be used sparingly, not more than two or three per ewe per day.

When, however, the weather got warmer, mangolds, if plentiful, could take the place of corn, and, in fact, none should be used after the middle of May, and the sheep should have the run of old seeds or sainfoin, the latter for preference. Personally he knew of nothing that would do sheep so well as sainfoin, and it was a crop which would grow well on clay land if well drained.

FOOT-ROT.

Dealing with the foot-rot, Mr. Preece declared, although he said he knew many would not agree with him, that no farmer need have his flock suffer from foot-rot if he would persevere and once get rid of it. Foot-rot would never be produced spontaneously, no matter how wet the land, unless by contagion and infection. He farmed a thousand acres of poor clay land and had not had for some years any lame sheep upon his farms. A friend of his, Mr. Rowland Wood, would tell them that once foot-rot was got rid of it would never occur again if fresh sheep were not introduced, although great care was necessary.

The disease could easily be cured by putting 4 lb. of blue vitriol in a stone jar and pouring upon it one gallon of boiling vinegar. The hoof should be pared well and each foot dipped into the liquid. For a large number of sheep they should be run through a trough containing several gallons of liquid, the lame ones being weeded out and kept by themselves.

DIPPING.

Touching on the importance of dipping, Mr. Preece said where a flock of 400 or 500 were kept, it would always pay to have a swim bath. He could easily pass through such a bath 1,000 sheep per day, but if there was one thing essential more than another, it was that the master should be there to pass them through himself. Fly would give no trouble if sheep were dipped three times—say, in June, July, and August—and if the lambs were to be sold, the dipping would improve their coats and give them a splendid bloom.

For the prevention of husking he always made a rule as soon as the lambs were taken from the ewes to drench them, but this should always be done when the lambs were fasting. Formerly he used to feed his lambs on roots, but it was difficult to do all things well, more particularly when turnips had to be taken and the master's eye was not always on the look out.

There were, however, four things he always insisted upon: plenty of trough room, a top rail to prevent sheep getting into the troughs, separate troughs for corn and roots, and always to turn the corn troughs over every day and keep a lump of rock-salt in the pen.

Perhaps they might ask him what he meant by corn. If he had a preference, it was peas; but, like everything else, a mixture was best.

SHEEP V. HORSES.

He believed nothing paid so well on a cold clay farm as a flock of ewes, and if anyone doubted this let him spend £100 on forty ewes and £100 on a mare or two. He knew he was treading on tender ground, but this he did know, that with sheep they had always something to sell, and something they could sell any day of the week.

He could not, added Mr. Preece, understand their Agricultural Society. It seemed to believe that horses were the things for tenant farmers to breed, and the result was that £400 was given in prizes for horses, and the magnificent sum of £21 only was offered for sheep. He had heard it stated that Huntingdonshire was not suitable for sheep. If his cold clay land was suitable for sheep that county must be also.

Past and present students of Cirencester Agricultural College held a most successful dinner at the Trocadero on Wednesday, December 12. The attendance was good, and the gathering of the most agreeable description.

At a meeting of the council of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association last week it was reported that Lord Falmouth had indicated that he would be pleased again to offer the special prizes for the best Devon bull belonging to a Cornish tenant farmer, for the best cow so owned, for the best ram in the sheep classes, and for the best pig—£22 altogether. The secretary stated that his lordship and his father had given those prizes for thirty years without intermission, and a special vote of thanks was given Lord Falmouth for his generosity.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

IT has long been the opinion of men who look a little farther than the mere surface of things that the breed societies of this country do not receive sufficient encouragement from the outside. That these societies contain all the machinery for advancing the breeding of various domestic animals past experience proves. It is with horse breeding that I have to deal in this column, and if the Government were to subsidise the various breed societies which look after the interests of horses, it would get a much better result from the expenditure of less money than by adopting any other plan.

IT is not intended to convey the idea that breed societies are faultless, that they never spend money foolishly, that they are never actuated in their policy by the mere trade considerations of the moment. I have had occasion to point out some glaring inconsistencies on the part of the councils of breed societies, and probably I may have again, though I am of opinion that the day for these has practically departed. But the breed societies consist for the most part of practical men, who elect practical men to represent them on the council. And, speaking broadly, every man on the councils of these societies has the breed which he represents and its best interests at heart. He does not go down to the council meetings merely to register his vote for this policy or for that, he has something to initiate or something to say about what others initiate, and his interest in the society is a perpetual interest, occupying his thoughts from day to day and week to week. This is the secret of the great success which the breed societies have had.

IT may fairly be said that, notwithstanding the proved benefits which have been derived from the action of the various breed societies, they have not been supported as they ought to have been. It is true that many of them are in a very prosperous condition financially—it is equally true that there are many of them which find themselves crippled for want of funds. It may be said that these societies are of comparatively small importance, but this is begging the question with a vengeance. There is not a breed of horses in the United Kingdom from the New Forest pony and Shetland to the Thoroughbred and Shire which it is not a matter of national importance to maintain and improve on the lines of the breed itself. This is a first principle, and as such it must ever be kept in view.

IT would be absurd to deny that many men in joining the breed societies and in registering their stock have been actuated entirely by trade considerations, but I think a strict examination would prove that these men are after all comparatively few. It was pointed out at the dinner which Sir Gilbert Greenall gave to the secretaries of the breed societies last Monday that those men did the best who regularly registered their stock whether trade was good or bad, and whose support of the society to which they belonged was systematic instead of spasmodic. In the first place it may be said that there was never any doubt about the pedigrees of their horses. They had bred them with the purpose of breeding the best possible of the breed so far as the materials to their hand permitted them. Therefore when the boom arrives they are prepared for it, and as a natural consequence they get the cream of the market. Whereas the man who waits till the boom comes before he registers his stock is not infrequently a careless breeder. He is the man you will hear laughing at pedigree stallions when the trade in pedigree horses is languishing. "There's Thistlewhipper, he's good enough for me," he will argue, with a laugh. "Look at his stock, and he's close at hand, and costs 20s. less than your fine pedigree stallion. I sold a three-year-old by him the other day for quite as much money as Jim Smith sold his pedigree horse for. It is the horse I want, not the pedigree." So our friend continues to use Thistlewhipper, and then when the boom does come, and it comes periodically, mark that! he finds his Thistlewhipper stock, of which he is so proud, will not register, and so he has to wait to grade it up, by which time, perhaps, the tide is on the ebb again.

Mr. McNeilage, in his speech on Monday night, mentioned a very interesting fact, and one which shows in a remarkable manner the benefit which the breed societies are to the agricultural community. During the present year he told us that he has issued 1,200 export certificates for Clydesdales. Now, as he put it, assuming that the average value of these horses was £50, we have a sum of £60,000 coming into the hands of British farmers from abroad. But £50 is a very moderate average indeed, and I should have been inclined to put the average at at least double that if the question had been put to me. It is needless to insist on what a wide margin there is left for distribution in either case when horses are sold for £400 and £500 and more. I have no means of ascertaining whether any foals were exported, but I fancy not many of any breed are, and even yearlings would bring up to £50, and many of them would bring more.

NOW if we add to the Clydesdale Society, which is the oldest of the breed societies, the Shire Horse Society, the Hunters' Improvement Society, the Hackney Horse Society, the Suffolk Horse Society, the Polo Pony Society, the Cleveland Bay Horse Society, the Yorkshire Coach Horse Society, and the Shetland Pony Society, we shall see that by these means an immense annual income from foreign sources is distributed amongst the farmers of Great Britain and Ireland. Leaving out the Thoroughbred which I have purposely omitted from the calculations, it is, I think, not too much to estimate the revenue of farmers from these sources at £200,000 per annum. The Shires will amount to quite as much as the Clydesdales, perhaps a little more; and the Hackneys will add a substantial amount to the total. The Hunters Improvement Society will add its quota of registered mares or mares bred from registered stocks, and that exports of the other breeds have not, perhaps, been very numerous during the present year, they, at all events, help to swell the bill.

NOW, taking into consideration that this is part of the material wealth of the country, the societies which have done so much in establishing it on a firm basis certainly should receive more support from the outside public than they do. A few far-sighted and enterprising men are to be found supporting them with purse and working hard to promote their object; but the general view is that they are merely trade associations, got up for the benefit of the trade in certain breeds of horses, and as such they should be self-supporting or go under. That they are trade associations is true up to a certain extent, but up to a certain extent only. It is manifest that it would be useless to breed horses unless there was a profitable market for them. But the breed societies are much more than this. They foster and encourage breeding to type. They do more, they make breeding to type possible; and it is in breeding to type that the future prosperity of British agriculture has to depend upon. And, after all, the agricultural industry is the largest and most important of any in the country.

"WHY don't the Cleveland Bay and Yorkshire Coach horse breeders bring themselves more in evidence?" asked a friend the other day; "there is no disputing the fact that are amongst the finest harness horses of the world. See what the Hackney men have done by keeping themselves constantly before the public." Well here is perhaps one reason why they have not done so. The societies are principally composed of small breeders, and save from one or two enthusiasts they have received no support from the general public. That, when so much is talked about our getting our harness horses from abroad, these societies should receive more general support than they do is manifest. And here is a reason. My friend told me that he was at one of the meetings of the Four-in-Hand Club last summer, and he was particularly struck with the style and elegance of a leader in one of the teams. He knew the owner, and asked what the horse was. He was told that it was a Cleveland bay stallion, who was registered in the Stud Book, and who had been "added to the list" in February! My friend, who is a Hackney man, told me he was the best-looking harness horse there.

THE LOOKER-ON.

A Racehorse Owner on Horse Breeding in England.

Colonel Hall Walker, M.P., who was the chief guest at the annual dinner of the famous Gimcrack Club, in the course of a speech said that the Jockey Club might include in their duties the preservation of the horse breeding industry, as the Government authorities had failed to realise the fact that we were losing annually many of our

best stallions, and what was an even greater loss, many of our best half-bred mares.

The maintenance and improvement of Thoroughbred horses was the avowed object of horse-racing; hence the necessity for the association of the Jockey Club and the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding. At the present moment the Commission possessed no income, no stallions, no mares, no land; surely a poor state of affairs in the case of a horse-breeding nation like ours, and in comparison with the fostering care bestowed upon horse breeding by other European countries. The one thing lacking, before progress could be made, was money.

In this country of so-called freedom we could not adopt that simple French remedy the pari-mutuel. Our protective laws were all for our morals and not for our pockets. By the time State aid was forthcoming it would be another case of locking the stable-door when the steed had gone, but a time would come when horses were urgently required for necessities of war, and then the State would search for them in vain.

VETERINARY.

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Contagious Abortion.

Sir,—As a constant reader of the Mark Lane Express I should be glad if you could, in your next issue, give me some idea and cause of the following inquiry. Since June last my cows—about twenty-four to twenty-seven in all—have constantly been turning to the bull at three weeks, some at six, and even at three and four months. Several have warped their calves about six weeks before calving or due to be calved. These we have kept apart, and have disposed of some as barreners. We have bought fresh stock heifers and calves and also bull, and even now still get the same trouble. The cattle milk and also look well when on the grass, and we have fed no cake whatever this past summer. The pasture is chiefly sand, and has recently been laid down to permanent pasture—about three years. There is a great amount of cocksfoot grass about same. My taking of above farm was September 29, 1905, and my predecessor kept a small pack of hounds, which he hunted over same, and used a lot of rough dead stock to feed same. And oblige yours truly, B. Foord.

December 5, 1906.

[Answer: That you have isolated some of the aborting animals, and disposed of others as "barrens," looks as though you had some better idea of the cause and character of your trouble than would appear from the general tone of your letter. It is very obvious that you have to face an outbreak of epizootic or contagious abortion, and we fear you are rather ill-equipped in point of experience to combat it. You may dismiss all your theories as to the influence of the character of the grasses, the use made of the ground by your predecessor, &c., for infectious abortion is due to a specific micro-organism which causes disease of the foetal envelopes and premature delivery of the calf.—M.R.C.V.S.]

Offal for Pigs.

Sir,—Would you kindly tell me if the offal from slaughter-house washed and boiled is good for feeding pigs? I have been using this for some months, but I am told the meat is not so good as that fed in the ordinary way.—J. W.

Answer: A great number of pigs are fattened in this country on butchers' offal, and I might say some are so fattened on almost every butcher's establishment where slaughtering is done. In fact, there is scarcely anything else to do with offal. And the pork and bacon so made is sold in the usual way, and is no doubt quite wholesome. But one can hardly fancy the meat so well as such as is made on meals and milk. Still, it appears a case of what the eye never sees the heart never grieves at, because it is impossible to tell what your pork or bacon is fed on unless you feed it yourself, and not quite then. You, however, it appears, are fattening your own pigs. And it does not appear that you are running the slaughter-house, but are buying the offal. In such a case, if I were you, I would drop the offal feeding and buy some other and sweeter victuals. It is different with the butcher. He has his living to get, and he has to make the best of his waste. This much, too, should be borne in mind. The pig is omnivorous and a foul feeder; is to a certain extent a scavenger, and whether you supply such food as offal or not, the animal will pick up and root about to find undesirable diet, so to a more or less degree takes it.

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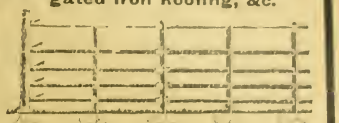

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Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes; also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

SEVERAL Sound Reliable Shire Stallions to Let for the season at reasonable figures. Apply, J. WHITEHURST, Markeaton, two miles from Derby.

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MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

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CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Breeon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 88184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 78605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

SHORTHORNS.—COWS of the Seraphina, Julia, and Old Fairy families. Young BULLS and HEIFERS, sired by Blood Royal; younger stock by Jeweller, son of Blood Royal, a Bull shown with great success last season, and recently sold for exportation.—J. R. WILKINS, The Grove, Longton, Lancs.

TAYLOR, GEORGE, Cranford, Middlesex.—Bates' Shorthorns, deep milkers. Winners Milking Competitions, London Dairy Show, 1905-6. Bull Calves for Sale. Stock Bulls: Beau Sabreur, Drumeree, Rowbury, and Kirkcharm.

THE Best Rent-paying Dairy Cattle in the World.—BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Young Bulls for Sale. Royal Duke, in service, bred at Hawkrigg, Wigton, grand stock-getter, combining quality with substance. 180 head kept; inspection invited. Telegrams: "Tewin."

CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS.

JACKSON, R. NEWTON, Blackbrooke, Pontrilas, Herefordshire. Pure-bred Hereford Cattle, with pedigrees dating back to very early volumes of Herd Book. Bulls and Heifers for sale at reasonable prices. Shire Horses and Shropshire Sheep.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904, 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, Alfred, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

RED POLLS.

CRANWORTH, Rt. Hon. Lord, offers reasonably, from his prize-winning herd of Red Polls, Bulls, Cows, Heifers, from good milkers.—Apply, C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

MERTON GRANGE GUERNSEYS.—Property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. This Herd contains Champion Bull Royal Counties, Portsmouth, and Champion Cow Royal Derby, 1906. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of best Breeding for Sale.—Telegrams and particulars, W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Championship and other prize-winners, Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL (*cont.*).

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1906.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 26 5 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Short-wools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury

WINCHESTER, the Most Hon. the Marquis of, Amport St. Mary, Andover, Hants. Pure-bred flock of Hampshire Down Sheep; high-class Rams and Ewes always on Sale.

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COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigree Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

(*Continued on next page.*)

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

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LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Nowland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

STROUD HERD Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Noted for length and depth; five 1st and 2nd Prizes at Bath and West of England Show, 1906; young Boars and Sows (sired by Borstal Masterpiece, 1st and Champion Royal Show) at very reasonable prices.—WM. TOWNSEND, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.

BERKSHIRES.

BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

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ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Annual Meeting of Members—Lord Yarborough President, 1907
Council Meeting—Election of Members—Total Prizes at Lincoln £8,000.

Annual Meeting.

The annual general meeting of the governors and members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held at the Hotel Russell, W.C., on Wednesday, there being a satisfactory attendance, under the chairmanship of Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, the retiring president. The company included—Duke of Richmond, Lord Jersey, Lord Yarborough, Lord Derby, Lord Middleton, Lord Moreton, Sir Edmund Verney, Mr. Victor Cavendish, Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, and Sir John Thorold.

The President, in opening the proceedings, expressed regret that he was not able to welcome the members in the new premises of the Society that had been acquired in Bedford Square. He should like to remind members there was a room at the disposal of members on any occasion they wished to visit the headquarters. Speaking of the report, the president said it contained a detailed account of the work of the past year. It was in reality based upon the recommendations of the special committee which was appointed to deal with the re-organisation of the society. Practically all the recommendations had been carried except that relating to the conference of secretaries of agricultural societies, which it was hoped to hold in the spring; also the actual sale of Harewood House, the society's former headquarters in Hanover Square, had not been completed. It was hoped by the end of the year that that valuable property would have been sold, but unfortunately at the last moment the negotiations broke down. The council was using every endeavour to dispose of that property at as early a date as possible. In spite of the fact that at the present moment they were the owners of two houses, they were living more cheaply than when the owners of only one house. (Hear, hear.) They might congratulate themselves that the financial position of the society was more hopeful than what it was when he took office seventeen months ago. Thanks to the administrative work of Sir Gilbert Greenall, they had such a successful show at Derby that they were able to considerably increase their finances. (Applause.) An encouraging feature was the increase in membership; he said that because the strength of the society depended upon it. They were now approximately 10,000 strong, but that was not sufficiently large for a society representing England, and having a little Scotch representation as well. There were a few acknowledgments he must make; the society owed a deep debt of gratitude to the Mayor and Corporation of Derby, to the Lord-Lieutenant of Derby, and to the local agricultural societies for the way they co-operated in promoting the success of the first of the revived provincial shows. It was necessary, too, to extend very hearty thanks to the breed societies for the handsome and generous way they contributed to the prize fund. With regard to the financial position of the society at the close of the current year, he could gladly tell them that they were £5,000 better off at the close of the current year than at the end of last year. (Applause.) The financial results of the Derby Show meant a profit of over £2,000. (Applause.) The number of members on the society's book was 9,630, against 9,269 in December; the increase was not greater because of the large number of resignations of members living in the neighbourhood of Park Royal, and the loss of many members by death. During his terms of office no less than 1,023 new governors and members had been elected. (Applause.)

Adoption of the Report.

Sir John Swinburne moved the adoption of the annual report, which stated that the council had decided to hold their sixty-eighth annual show at Lincoln in 1907. The prize sheet for the show was now under the consideration of the council. Prizes amounting to £300 had been accepted by the council for farm prize competitions. Sir J. Swinburne suggested that improved facilities should be given to visitors to the shows to go round the showyards. It would be a great convenience if a single tramway line were constructed right round the yard, and if the visitors were permitted, at a small charge, to ride in the cars, which should make frequent stops on the journey.

Mr. W. A. Prout seconded the motion, observing that the report was the most successful one which had been presented to the society for many years.

The motion was adopted.

Election of President.

Mr. F. S. Foljambe, who proposed the election of Lord Yarborough as the new president, said that gentleman was a man of business, and one who possessed more acres of land than were contained in many counties of England. That land was cultivated by the finest lot of tenantry to be found in England; they were men who carried on agriculture on scientific principles, and, likewise bred successfully.

Mr. C. W. Tindall, who seconded the motion, said it would be source of a great satisfaction to the tenant farmers of Lincolnshire to know that Lord Yarborough had been selected as the new President.

The proposal was accepted with acclamation. Lord Yarborough acknowledging the compliment paid him.

The trustees of the society were elected for the ensuing year, the list of names being headed by those of the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Bedford. The vice-presidents were also elected, the list including Prince Christian, Lord Jersey, Lord Feversham, Lord Northbrook, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., and Mr. Henry Chaplin.

Members' Observation.

Mr. Walker, on behalf of the cider makers of the West of England urged the council to deal with a grievance which they had. At present they were suffering under two great disabilities. One was the gross faking of cider by the use of salicylic acid to the extent of 60 to 70 grains. That was very injurious to health. The other was colouring a fictitious beverage, and selling it as cider. They were asking the Board of Agriculture to define what was cider, and they hoped the council would support them in the deputation to the Board about February.

Mr. James Watt, Carlisle, complained that the railway companies on the occasion of the show made no reduction of fares on behalf of either exhibitors or their assistants. The Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland were able to get cheap fares, and he thought the Royal could also if they used sufficient pressure.

The chairman said the question of reduced railway fares had not been lost sight of, and the council were working in hearty co operation with the committee of which Mr. Cavendish was chairman. The question raised by Mr. Walker in regard to cider would be referred to the council in due course.

Mr. R. F. Elliot, Clifton Park, expressed the hope that the council would urge upon the Government the need for establishing a seed-testing station. It was only what every civilised Government had done—even Ireland had a seed-testing station. The chairman promised that the Council would consider the matter.

The Rev. Dr. Gillespie, Mousewald, Dumfriesshire, proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring president, and in acknowledging the vote. Mr. Cornwallis said that under the able guidance of Lord Yarborough the society was sure to prosper.

Council Meeting.

A monthly council was held at the Hotel Russell on Wednesday, Dec. 12, 1906, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (president) in the chair. Present:—

Trustees.—The Earl of Coventry, the Earl of Derby, K.G., Lord Middleton, Lord Moreton, Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart.

Vice-Presidents.—H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G., the Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, the Earl of Jersey, G.C.B., the Earl of Northbrook.

Other Members of the Council.—Mr. George Adams, Mr. Charles R. W. Adeane, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. S. N. Bankart, Mr. T. A. Buttar, Mr. Richardson Carr, Sir Richard P. Cooper, Bart., Sir H. F. de Trafford, Bart., Mr. H. Dudding, Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Mr. James Falconer, Mr. R. Forrest, Mr. J. W. Glover, Mr. R. M. Greaves, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. J. Harris, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. J. H. Hine, Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Mr. J. Howard Howard, Sir Charles V. Knightley, Bart., Mr. George Lobb, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. W. A. May, Mr. C. Middleton, the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., Mr. Ralph Palmer, Mr. C. M. S. Pilkington, Mr. G. G. Rea, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. C. C. Rogers, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. W. Seeby, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. H. Tallent, Mr. George Taylor, and Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler.

The following members of the Lincoln local committee were also present:—Mr. A. H. Clark, Mr. C. W. Pennell, Mr. C. W. Tindall, and Mr. E. E. Tweed (local secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting of the council, held on November 7, 1906, having been taken as read and approved, the election of two governors and thirty-two members was proceeded with.

Mr. Adeane (chairman) reported that the accounts for the month ended November 30, 1906, as certified by the society's accountants, had been submitted. The balances at the bank on October 31, 1906, were:—Reserve fund, £3,123, 15s.; ordinary account, £4,391 5s. 3d. The total receipts for the month had been £1,175 5s., and the expenditure £1,050 12s. 11d. The balances then standing to the credit of the Society's

accounts were :—Reserve Fund, £3,294 15s. and the ordinary account £4,373 17s. 4d., making a total credit balance of £7,668 12s. 4d. Accounts amounting in all to £10,078 12s. 11d (including the repayment to Sir Walter Gilbey of the loan of £7,785) had been passed and recommended for payment. The committee had recommended the transference from the ordinary account to the reserve fund of the sum of £4,028, 8s. 4d., being £2,028 8s. 4d. the credit balance on the Derby show, and £2,000 the contribution from the ordinary funds of the society to the Show Fund. The secretary had reported the following additional donations to the society's funds amounting to £57 4s. :—

	£	s.	d.
Clement Stephenson (£1 1s. for each year he has been a life member)	35	14	0
Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors	21	0	0
T. A. Coward	0	10	0
	£57	4	0

The secretary had laid upon the table the final balance-sheet of the Derby Show, which had been approved and certified by the auditors on the 5th inst. Various questions which had arisen in connection with the winding-up of Park Royal, Ltd., had been considered, and the committee recommended that the seven shareholders be requested to authorise the liquidator to account for and pay over their shares of the assets of the Park Royal, Ltd., to the society.

And further, that the Liquidator of Park Royal, Ltd., be requested to pay over the surplus assets of the company (after discharging or providing for its liabilities) to a special account at the London and Westminster Bank, St. James's Square, in the name of the society, earmarked at Park Royal Proceeds.

The work at the society's new offices being now practically completed, the committee recommended that the seal of the society be affixed to the counterpart of the lease from the Duke of Bedford of the society's premises, and that the lease be taken up in due course.

In presenting the report Mr. Adeane said that the committee laid before the council that day a balance-sheet of the Derby Show, and they asked the council to approve it. The only remark that he had to make was that it was extremly satisfactory. Financially it showed an actual profit to the society of £2,028, which, together with the contribution of £2,000 from the ordinary funds of the society, gave a gross profit of £4,028, which they would ask the council to authorise them to put to the Reserve Fund, thereby increasing the general security of the society. He thought they would all wish to acknowledge on that occasion that these results could not have been obtained had it not been for the energy and enthusiasm of their honorary director, Sir Gilbert Greenall. They also asked the council to authorise the repayment of Sir Walter Gilbey's loan amounting to £7,785, and they were glad to be able to announce that Lord Rothschild had kindly consented to take over that loan bodily, thus giving great help to the society at the present time, because with the bank rate at 6 per cent. they would have to pay 6½ per cent. for the money if they went to the bank, whereas they would now only have to pay 4 per cent. With regard to Park Royal, as the questions were of a technical character, he would ask Mr. Clarke, of Messrs. Garrard, James and Wolfe, the society's solicitors, to explain them to the meeting.

Mr. Clarke thereupon explained the position of affairs, and more particularly that portion of the Report which recommended that the liquidator should be requested to assign the benefits of certain Covenants of Indemnity to the Society, and to distribute the assets of the company without regard to the company's liabilities to the society.

Farm Prizes in Lincolnshire.

Lord Middleton reported that the forms of entry for the Farm Prize Competitions had been issued, and the particulars of the classes and prizes had been fully advertised throughout the county of Lincoln. An inquiry as to the eligibility for entry of a farm which had been in the occupier's occupation since April 6, 1905, had been considered, and the committee recommended that under the circumstances the farm should be considered to comply with the condition that the land must have been in the competitor's occupation for not less than two years.

It was decided to open the showyard to the public on each day of the show from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., the yard being cleared each evening at 8 oclock.

Prizes at Lincoln, £8,000.

Mr. Reynard (chairman) reported that the prize-sheet had now been settled, and the various offers of champion and other prizes which had been received included therein.

The ages of the "old" bull classes had been increased by one year, making the classes for bulls calved in 1902, 1903, or 1904, instead of bulls calved in 1903 or 1904. The fees to non-members for the entry of poultry and produce had been reduced to 3s. 6d. per entry.

The committee had again considered the question of the date from which the ages of Welsh cattle were to be calculated, and recommended that the request of the Welsh Black Cattle Society that the ages of Welsh cattle be reckoned from December 1, instead of from January 1 as heretofore, be acceded to.

A sub-committee consisting of the chairman (Mr. Reynard), Sir Gilbert Greenall, Sir Richard Cooper, Mr. Crutchley, and Mr. Rowell, had been appointed to consider the arrangements for the auction sales in the showyard, and the committee recommend the adoption of their suggestion that the sales of sheep should be held on Wednesday, June 26th, and of cattle, horses, and pigs on Thursday, June 27.

Mr. Reynard, in presenting the report, mentioned that through the generosity of the breed societies, the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, the Local Committee, and other friends of the society, they had been able to prepare a very comprehensive prize-sheet. The total value of the prizes to be offered in connection with the Lincoln Show, including the prizes for farms, would approximate the sum of £8,000.

Election to the Council.

Sir John Thorold (chairman), reported that the Earl of Yarborough had expressed his willingness to be nominated as president for the year 1907, and the committee recommended that his lordship's name would therefore be suggested to the general meeting of members, to be held on that day, for election as president of the society, to hold office until the next ensuing annual general meeting.

The president had submitted to the committee the following results of the election to the council for the divisions of Group C :—

UNCONTESTED ELECTIONS.

Cumberland.—Mr Joseph Harris, Brackenbrough Tower, Carlisle.

Westmoreland.—Mr C W Wilson, Rigmaden Park, Kirkby Lonsdale.

York, East Riding.—Mr Fredk Reynard, Sunderlandwick, Driffield.

North Wales.—Mr R M Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc.

Lincoln.—Mr Henry Dudding, Rigby Grove, Grimsby.

Huntingdon.—Mr John Rowell, Burr, Huntingdon.

Cambridge.—Mr C R W Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge.

Oxford.—Mr Robert W Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

Kent.—Mr T L Aveling, Boley Hill House, Rochester; Mr H. Fizwalter Plumptre, Goodnestone, Dover.

Glamorgan.—Mr Robert Forrest, St. Pagan's, near Cardiff.

Somerset.—Mr R J Bayntun Hippesley, Stone-Easton Park, Bath.

Berkshire.—Mr George Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Wadley House, Faringdon.

Sussex.—The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., Goodwood, Chichester; Mr Walter F Ingram, 2, St Andrew's Place, Lewes.

Ireland.—Mr R G Carden, Fishmoyne, Borrisoleigh, Co. Tipperary.

CONTESTED ELECTIONS.

Gloucester.—Mr H Dent Brocklehurst, of Sidney Castle, Winchcombe, R.S.O., 101 votes; Mr W T Garne, of Aldsworth, Northleach, 94 votes.

Warwick.—Mr James W Glover, of Jury Street, Warwick, 133 votes; Mr W Hanson, of Arden Hill, Atherstone, 61 votes.

Standing Committees for 1907.

The following standing committees were appointed for 1907 :—Finance, House, Journal, Chemical and Woburn, Botanical and Zoological, Veterinary, Stock Prizes, Judges' Selection, Implement, Showyard Works, Selection, Education, and Dairy and Produce.

The present members of the various standing committees were (with some exceptions) reappointed to those committees. Mr. Cornwallis was added to the Finance, House, and Selection Committees; Mr. Hippisley to the Journal and Implement Committees; Mr. Rogers to the Journal, Chemical, Botanical, and Veterinary Committees; Major Brocklehurst to the Chemical and Education Committees; Mr. Hiscock to the Veterinary and Dairy Committees; Mr. Buttar, Mr. Carden, Sir Humphrey de Trafford, and Mr. Dudding to the Stock Prizes Committee; Mr. Falconer and Mr. Glover to the Implement Committee; the Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes and Mr. Carr to the Committee of Selection; the Earl of Jersey and Mr. May to the Education Committee, and Mr. Plumptree to the Dairy and Produce Committee.

Thanks to President.

The Earl of Onslow said he thought it would be the unanimous feeling of the society that they should not separate without passing a hearty vote of thanks to their president. (Cheers.) Many distinguished men had filled the office of president of the society, many of them had been liberal donors to its funds, but he did not think that any president had ever had to face a condition of affairs of the society so difficult as that which had confronted Mr. Cornwallis, and he thought it must have been a matter of very great congratulation to him to see the society during the past year emerge from that cloud of darkness which had overshadowed it in the few years preceding his term of office.

The Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes said that he had the very greatest pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks proposed by Lord Onslow.

Mr. Cornwallis felt that they had done him far too much honour for any little work that he had been able to do during the past seventeen months. He had only been one oar in the boat, perhaps the stroke oar for the time being, but every member of that boat had rowed with equal vigour and determination to see that the race should be won, and he only hoped that the prophecy which Lord Onslow had made that the society saw before it a good sound future might be fulfilled, and if this should be the case it would be because every member of the council had put his back into the work, and had loyally supported the president in anything that had been necessary for carrying on what certainly had been arduous work during his period of office. He could not sit down upon that occasion without saying how much the society owed to Mr. McRow and the staff, who, in spite of great difficulties in moving into their new house, had carried on without hitch the work of the society during that time.

Other business having been transacted, the council adjourned until Wednesday, January 30, 1907.

The Agricultural Annual and "Mark Lane Express" Almanac, 1907.

The 1907 edition of the "Agricultural Annual and MARK LANE EXPRESS Almanac," popularly known as the "Farmers' Red Book," eclipses all its predecessors as regards size, and we think it will be generally agreed that the contents are even better than other years. They are certainly more numerous and deal with all branches of farming; cattle breeders will find useful articles for them, sheep breeders are provided for, and the pig-keeper also receives attention, whilst general agriculture is dealt with. All the articles are by writers foremost in the agricultural world, so that the remarks and suggestions are made by those well qualified to give them.

The Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs section, introduced last year, has been enlarged and made even more useful, and the same remark will apply to the tables' section, in which farmers have found a veritable mine of useful information; in fact these, with the other contents, make the Farmers' Red Book a source of reference which buyers of previous years have found indispensable throughout the whole of the year, and with the 1907 edition we feel sure they will not be disappointed, but on the other hand, declare it to be of greater value than ever.

The illustrations, an always prominent and distinctive feature of this Annual, are again on a very extensive scale, and executed in the high-class style for which they are justly renowned. That they are up to date is proved by the fact that several full-page illustrations of winners at this year's fat stock shows at Norwich and Birmingham. These include the King's Shorthorn steer, which was champion at the Smithfield Club Show, as well as at Birmingham.

A few words as regards the articles may now be given. As usual, the first deals with the weather, season, and crops of 1906, by Joseph Darby, who also contributes some notes on Stock Breeding and Feeding in 1906; whilst W. W. Chapman contributes his usual exhaustive and interesting record of pedigree live stock sales, so that the articles mentioned give a complete record of how agriculturists fared this year. A bit of humour, but containing many striking facts, is "The Agricultural Candidates, an Electioneering Dialogue," and there is a lot of truth in "Grievances, Sentimental and Otherwise," by W. A. Brown. Then we come to what might almost be termed the live-stock section, for in addition to the pedigree stock sales, we have "The Breeding of Harness Horses," by W. Scarth Dixon; "The Broken Winded Horse," by M.R.C.V.S.; "Judging and its Results," by Breeder and Exhibitor; "Systems of Calf Rearing"; "How to Ascertain the Weight of Cattle by Measurement"; "Winter in the Sheep Pens," by W. J. Malden; and "Bacon and Pork Pigs," by that authority on pigs, Sanders Spencer. The titles themselves suggest the usefulness and interest of the articles, so that they need no description, but it may be pointed out that they appeal to breeders of all classes of stock.

Other articles include a consideration of Milk as a Powder, by C. W. Walker-Tisdale; an interesting article on "Midland Folk Lore and Superstition," by L. C. Hadley; "Clover Dodder," accompanied by several interesting illustrations by D. Finlayson; and a thoughtful article by E. G. F. Walker on "The Rural Child."

The sole aim of the Annual is to be useful to those to whom it appeals, and we think it will be generally agreed that it fulfils its aim. It is published at 1s. net, and can be had of all booksellers or direct from the publishers, the MARK LANE EXPRESS, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C., price 1s. 4d., post free.

For selling margarine as butter, John Morgan Williams, of Camberwell, was fined £100 at Lambeth on Friday. There were previous convictions.

THE FARMERS' DINNER.

The Government and Canadian Cattle—Contagious Abortion in Cows.

There was a large company at the Trocadero on Tuesday evening, under the chairmanship of Mr. F. E. Muntz, of the Farmers' Club. Those present numbered about 250, and included Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P., Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, Right Hon. H. Chaplin, Mr. F. S. Cornwallis (president of the R.A.S.E.), Mr. T. Courtney Warner (chairman of the Central Chamber), Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., Sir Thomas Elliott, &c.

Earl Carrington, the President of the Board of Agriculture, who was to have been present, sent a letter apologising for his absence, saying that it was only caused by the imperative orders of the doctor.

After the loyal toasts had been honoured, Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, the late President of the Board of Agriculture, gave "Success to Agriculture," declaring that as agriculturists they knew no politics. Our farmers had had hard times, but never knew when they were beaten, although prices fell and rates were ever higher. (Hear, hear.) Their industry was one on which the life-blood of the country depended, and he welcomed certain combinations, particularly in the North, which promised better co-operation. He congratulated the Board of Agriculture on its work this year, and expressed the hope that a Butter Bill was not far distant. As to the importation of cattle, he would like the question settled once for all, and trusted the Board would take a firm line on the point and not leave it to the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.)

Sir E. Strachey, who responded, remarked that while the strict regulations in force against cattle disease had been eminently successful in some directions, there had, on the other hand, been outbreaks of anthrax and glanders. The latter disease was virulent in London, but the president was hopeful of obtaining a grant from the Treasury to assist him in stamping it out. (Hear, hear.) The committee appointed by Mr. Fellowes to study the causes of abortion in cattle had ascertained that it was caused by bacillus, and was contagious, and they were now endeavouring to discover whether it was possible to make cattle immune by means of inoculation. There had been renewed agitation for a removal of the embargo against the importation of live stock, but he had Lord Carrington's authority to say that the Board were determined to maintain the attitude taken up by his predecessors. (Cheers.) It was the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill at an early date founded upon the report of the Butter Committee for the purpose of stopping fraudulent competition with pure butter. (Cheers.)

Mr. Henry Chaplin next proposed "The Farmers' Club, and the Central and Associated Chambers of Commerce." In doing so, he remarked that the Land Tenure Bill had been divided on in the Commons. He was sorry to say that the condition of agriculture in this country was not all that they had a right to expect, and it was of no use pretending it was. In speaking of the agricultural report of the Tariff Commission, he said he was glad to be able to announce that only the other day he received a message dictated by Mr. Chamberlain, in which the right hon. gentleman said he had every hope and expectation of being in his place in the House of Commons next session. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Chaplin proceeded to quote the report of the Commission, advocating a change in fiscal policy of this country as the remedy for the present state of agriculture. when a gentleman rose to a point of order. He was greeted with cries of "Sit down!" and "Turn him out!" and, sticking to his point, was eventually shown the door.

Mr. Chaplin then read the recommendations of the Commissioner, and said it was upon the broad lines laid down in the report that he thought remedial measures ought to be framed, and within the four corners of that report was the basis on which a great and united agricultural party might be formed. If they adopted the recommendations of that report it would, he felt certain, result in the creation of an absolutely united agricultural party to give effect to their proposals, and through them give new life and bring new prosperity to the fortunes of what had always been an ancient and noble cause. (Cheers.)

The chairman, Mr. F. E. Muntz, replied on behalf of the Farmers' Club, and Mr. Courtenay Warner, M.P., for the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture. Other toasts were those of the "Agricultural Societies of the United Kingdom," given by Mr. E. L. Courthope, M.P., and responded to by Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Dr. J. A. Voelcker, who fittingly alluded to the large number of distinguished guests, and Mr. James Macdonald replying on their behalf brought a successful evening to a close.

CENTRAL CHAMBER.

The annual general meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture was held at the Society of Arts, John Street, on Wednesday, Mr. T. Courtenay Warner, M.P., presiding.

The annual report stated that the number of outbreaks of glanders in the country had increased, while the number in London had decreased. The council, therefore, deplored the refusal of Treasury to grant the £25,000 asked for by the President of the Board of Agriculture, and trusted that, for the sake of future economy and the prevention of further danger to human life, the Treasury would make the necessary grant at the earliest possible date.

Mr. Middleton said that the spread of the disease in the country had been largely increased by the substitution of motor-car for horse traffic on London streets, and the consequent removal of London horses to the provinces. Glanders had previously been confined to London.

Sir F. A. Channing, M.P., said the spread of the disease constituted a grave danger to human life, and was really a very serious matter.

Mr. Thomas Davies (Cheshire) moved a resolution urging the Government to deal with the question of local taxation, and to bring in measures dealing with the whole question on the lines of the King's Speech. He expressed strong objection to the education rates and the feeding of school children being placed on the local rates, and urged that land should be treated by the local authorities on the basis of raw material.—Mr. Priday (Gloucester) seconded.

Mr. Nunnerly (Northampton) proposed, as an amendment, to add to the resolution: "But that all national services, including elementary and secondary education, should be paid for from national funds to the extent of three-fourths instead of one-half, and that agriculture should be exempt from lighting, sanitary, baths, library, and other special rates from which they receive no benefit, and from any rates imposed in the future." (Laughter.) Mr. West seconded the amendment.

Mr. Kidner (Taunton) said that the chamber should do something instead of continuing to discuss this vexed question, which had been before them for years. They had voted upon the matter time after time, and had made up their minds what they wanted.

Mr. Henry Chaplin urged that they should have a clear issue before them, and asked Mr. Nunnerly to withdraw his amendment. His views were in entire and hearty accord with the resolution.

Mr. Nunnerley declined to withdraw the amendment, and it was put to the meeting and defeated by a large majority.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and it was agreed that the Local Taxation Committee should arrange for a deputation to wait upon the Government and urge the views of the chamber on the matter.

Mr. Latham (Berks and Oxon) moved a resolution approving the report of the Royal Commission on motors subject to their being no relaxation with regard to the speed limit and the extra cost of roads incurred through motor traffic being defrayed by further taxes on motors. An amendment was moved to secure that lights carried on motor-cars should be strictly regulated, this, with the resolution, being carried.

Mr. Goulder (Norfolk) moved a resolution urging that army meat contracts should be limited to home-bred and fed meat, and that foreign-bred and fed meat should bear a distinctive mark.

Mr. Bruxnor Randall (Leicester), seconding, said Mr. Haldane had been asked to receive a deputation on this question, but he made a rather autocratic refusal to their request.

The motion was carried.

The meeting also approved the Land Purchase Bill of Mr. Jesse Collings, and urged that the Government should take up the Bill as a Government measure.

Mr. Collings, explaining the Bill, said that it enabled a tenant farmer to become the owner of his land on easier terms than when he was the tenant. It was designed to prevent the unfair raising of rent when an estate changed hands and the ominous statement appeared in the advertisement, "Those rents are capable of improvement." It is also proposed to give power to the local authority to purchase land for small holdings. Farming had no force behind it in the House of Commons, and every Government knew that a farmer's question could be ignored with impunity. He had come to the conclusion that the Bill was the only hope for the farmer.

Highland.

At a meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society, held in Edinburgh on the 5th inst., Mr. Macdonald, secretary, reported that a committee, appointed two years ago for considering the matter, had recommended that the Edinburgh Show next year should be held on the same ground as in 1899—namely, at Prestonfield. This was agreed to, whilst sanction was given for the erection of a pavilion for the accommodation of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Mr. Macdonald intimated that the committee appointed to make trials of machines exhibited had decided to give the large silver medal of the society to Mr. Wilson, East Linton, for a machine for sorting and dressing potatoes. The committee were authorised to continue their operations.

Mr. Middleton reported the result of an inquiry into the objections which exhibitors of implements had expressed in regard to the proposed increase in the rates. The following resolution on the subject was approved:—"The committee are compelled to adhere to their opinion that the society is unable to carry out the desired reorganising of the implement yard without some slight increase in the rates, to which the implement exhibitors are strongly opposed. The committee regret that the implement exhibitors do not see their way to in any way meet the directors in this matter, but under the circumstances the committee recommend that no further action be taken in the matter."

The agenda paper contained the following motion by Mr. Andrew Hutcheson, who was unable to be present:—"That the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, having observed that in the Small Landholders (Scotland) Bill there is a proposal which would have the effect of transferring part of the work of the Board of Agriculture to the Department of the Secretary of State for Scotland, desire to record their opinion that this step would be detrimental to the interests of Scottish agriculture, and that it is important that all the branches of the work of the Board of Agriculture should remain under the special care of the Minister of Agriculture for Great Britain."

The Rev. Dr. Gillespie said he was prepared to move the adoption of the resolution, and after a short speech it was adopted.

OBITUARY.

Mr. J. Bolam.

We regret to learn of the death of Mr. Bolam, of Bilton House, Lisbury, R.S.O., which took place on Friday, the 7th inst., after a brief illness. The deceased was in his 82nd year, and has been connected with the farming industry for a period of sixty years. During that time he held the farms of West Fleetham, Chathill, Tyneley, Ellingham Glebe, and Bilton, the last named since 1882. He was also in business in Henwick as a corn miller, seedsman, and dealer in feeding stuffs, &c., in which departments his sons took an active part.

In addition to the above he found time for other work, for he was the oldest member of the Northumberland Agricultural Society, and at one time was a regular contributor of reports to the MARK LANE EXPRESS. In addition he was a member of the Northumberland County Council, the rural district council (of which body he was chairman for several years), and of the Alnwick Urban District Council for some time. His familiar figure will be greatly missed in the county, throughout which he was highly esteemed.

Mr. W. M. Harris.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. W. H. Harris, of Long Sutton, Hants, one of the leading agriculturists of the county. He was for some years a member of the Council of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, and had frequently officiated as judge at shows in Hampshire and elsewhere.

Mr. T. Fearnall.

Mr. Thomas Fearnall, of Royton, of Wrexham, who died on Thursday, was one of the most experienced agriculturists in the country, and his farm, which occupies nearly the whole of the township of Royton, is considered a model farm, and has been visited by the leading agriculturists in the kingdom.

The Barnstaple Agricultural Association has decided not to abandon their show next year on account of the visit of the Devon County Agricultural Association to Bideford, but to postpone it from July 3 to August Bank Holiday.

The English Guernsey Cattle Society has given a cup value £3 for competition at the Devon County Agricultural Association's show next year, which will be held at Bideford on the site where the Bideford Horse Show has customarily been held—viz., on the north side of the town.

The attention of the Home Secretary has been called to the danger of anthrax which appears to attend the use of East Indian wool, and he has under consideration the question of bringing it under the regulations—so far as they are applicable—which have already been made for other classes of dangerous wool. Before coming to any decision the Home Secretary will be glad to consider any observations which manufacturers may wish to bring to his notice.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING.

A meeting of the Central Committee of this union was held at the Albion Hotel, Lincoln, on Friday, when Mr. Colin Campbell presided. The secretary stated that he had received a letter from Mr. A. W. Dean enclosing a copy of the resolution to be submitted to the various branches asking them to discuss the Land Tenure Bill as amended, and to express their views on the matter.

Mr. Wood thought it was no good discussing the question again, and moved they proceed with the business. (Hear, hear.) This was carried unanimously.

Increased Burdens on the Land.

The secretary stated he was at the annual general meeting of the Sleaford branch, and the chairman of the meeting, Mr. Seth Ellis Dean, had sent him the following copy of resolution, and asked him to put it on the agenda for that day. The resolution was as follows :—"In view of the ever-increasing burdens upon land, a readjustment of the incidence of local taxation is of paramount importance, and this branch urge the central committee to take up the question at an early date." One member thought they ought to back this resolution up. The Secretary : Mr. Dean's idea in sending the resolution to the Central Committee was to appoint a sub-committee to see if they could take any action at an early date.—Mr. Featherstone declared that the only thing they could do was to go to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.—Mr. Bellwood moved that the matter be left in the hands of the General Purposes Committee to see if any action could be taken and the committee report to the branches.—This was unanimously agreed to.

Pure Beer.

The secretary read another resolution with regard to the Pure Beer Bill, which was unanimously carried at the annual meeting of the Sleaford Branch. It stated that in the interests of the consuming public and the cause of temperance and growers of barley in this country that the word "beer" should be defined and a standard should be established for its manufacture, and that it should contain not less than 75 per cent. of barley malt.

The chairman reminded those present that they had already supported the resolution.

Mr. Bellwood suggested they leave it to the General Purposes Committee, and this was agreed to.

A Farmer's M.P.

The chairman brought up the subject of Parliamentary representation, and said what a good thing it would be if they could get a Parliamentary representative. He thought it would be judicious if they asked some member of Parliament to their annual meeting.—Mr. Bellwood said it seemed funny to him that other trades and professions could be represented. Joiners and men who earned from £1 to £2 per week could have their members of Parliament, and yet there was not one tenant farmers' representative on whom rested the burden of caring for the interests of agriculture in its present condition.—Mr. Blanshard said working men had learned the art of combination, and they had yet to learn it.—Mr. Featherstone stated that it was impossible to be heard in the House of Commons as they should be unless they had direct representation there. He thought it would be a good thing to get a Labour member down to their annual meeting. The chairman, interposing, said : "Not necessarily Labour." Mr. Featherstone (continuing) : Or if you want something more refined you can get another member to give you his ideas on the whole matter. It was decided to refer the matter to the Parliamentary Committee. The chairman thought if Lord Carrington was able to go anywhere he would come to their annual dinner.

It was decided to form a small committee to inquire into the possibility of having a pavilion at next year's Royal Show.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SLEAFORD BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Sleaford Branch was held on Monday, the 10th inst.

It was resolved, amidst applause, on the proposition of Mr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Wilson, that Mr. S. E. Dean be reappointed chairman.

The chairman remarked that it was with some diffidence he took the chair for a second year, as he did not look upon that position as a freehold. By having a fresh chairman each year they received new ideas and fresh blood, which must prove of great advantage to the union. A slight difference of opinion had arisen between them, but his sole object and idea was to do everything he possibly could to further the true interests of that union.

Incidence of Local Taxation and Pure Beer.

The Chairman urged that these two subjects were of paramount importance to each member of that union, and every agriculturist throughout the country irrespective of party or creed. The incidence of local taxation pressed unduly and very unjustly upon every occupier of land in the country, being based upon a system which could not be defended by any impartial individual or tribunal. It had been laid down that property was the basis of taxation, and they accepted that principle, and did not expect land to be excluded from taxes, but were prepared to pay a fair and just taxation side by side with other owners of property. Of late years the wealth of the country had considerably shifted, and though it had vastly increased from commercial and mercantile sources, the value of land had greatly decreased. At the present time, although only £160,000,000 was taxable for local burdens, property assessable for income-tax amounted to 600 millions sterling, which showed that two-thirds of the wealth of this country did not contribute a brass farthing towards local burdens. (Applause.) The relief afforded by the Agricultural Rates Act had been altogether swamped by increasing rates for education and the repair of highways, their rates now being as high as they were before the Act was passed. (Applause.)

Mr. T. Jones seconded this reasolution, being convinced that what they had just heard was a step in the right direction.

The chairman in dealing with the Pure Beer Bill, proceeded to say that up to the year 1901 they were under the impression that the principal ingredients of beer was barley, malt, and hops, but when the poison scare arose they found this was not the case. They had also ascertained that though the consumption of beer had enormously increased on the one hand, the demand for barley had diminished on the other. What they now required was a definition of beer, for at present it could be made of anything the brewer liked.

Mr. Dean appealed to the temperance party to help them on this matter, and proposed that the Central Committee be also asked to take it up and press it forward.

Mr. Powell advised those present to drink only those beers guaranteed made from malt and hops.

Mr. G. Tomlinson said if they had pure beer in the country it would shut up half the asylums.

Mr. Sardeson thought the Liberal Government had a fine opportunity of winning the gratitude of agriculturists, considering how the late Government had disappointed them in regard to a Pure Beer Bill.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted and ordered to be forwarded to the Central Committee :—

"That in view of the ever-increasing burdens on land, a readjustment of the incidents of local taxation is of paramount importance, and this branch urges the central committee to take up the question at an early date."

"In the opinion of this branch it is desirable in the interests of the consuming public, the cause of temperance, no less than the growers of barley in this country, that the word beer should be defined, and that a standard should be established for its manufacture which should be from not less than 75 per cent. of barley malt."

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business.

NEWARK BRANCH.

A meeting of the Newark branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held on Wednesday. The retiring chairman (Mr. A. Stretton) had given notice that he would be unable to accept office again owing to business engagements, and after explaining his reasons he proposed that Mr. Storm be raised from the vice-chair to the chairmanship.

Mr. Allen seconded, and it was carried.

Several names were submitted for the vice-chairmanship, and Mr. J. Pennington was elected.

Mr. Hopkinson was re-elected secretary, and a committee was also appointed.

Mr. J. Pennington proposed that the branch support the Central Committee in their view that the Tenant-right Valuers' Association should make no changes in the rules of their business without the full consent of the Union, and that all inventories be given with full details, and that they be notified of this at once.

It was contended that such a resolution should not be moved without notice being given, and on the proposition of the chairman it was referred to the committee for consideration.

Mr. Everitt Brown proposed "That this union, having supported Mr. Starkey's candidature as member for his division, request him to present a Bill in Parliament that all butchers and poultry dealers selling foreign meat or poultry shall be licensed, and have notices in their shops showing that they deal in foreign goods."

Mr. W. S. Brown seconded.

Mr. Bullen proposed that the resolution be sent to the Central Committee, who would then submit it to all the members in the divisions covered by the union.

Mr. Clarke seconded, and it was carried.

Mr. Hopkinson proposed "that this union considers that, owing to the condemnation of large quantities of tinned food, steps should be taken to advertise the fact by posting notices in order to encourage the public to eat home-fed meat, and thus improve trade at home."

Mr. Boddy seconded, and this resolution was also ordered to be submitted to the Central Committee.

Farmers and the Milk Standard.

Sir Edward Strachey, in the absence of Lord Carrington through ill-health, received, on Wednesday, a deputation from the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Association of Dairy Farmers with reference to the sale of milk. The deputation urged the department to take steps to obtain powers to alter the regulations in the direction of safeguarding the producer against prosecution, if the milk is genuine, even if it is below the standard, but when the fluctuation is due to natural causes. The deputation was introduced by Mr. T. Courtenay Warner, chairman of the Chambers of Agriculture.

Mr. C. Middleton urged that one of the causes for the milk falling below the standard fixed by the Board of Agriculture was the seasonal cause, and sometimes the quality was below that required. Another difficulty was with regard to milking periods. These two were beyond the control of the farmers to alter, as the hours of milking had to coincide with the hours at which they supplied their customers. The time had come when the Board of Agriculture should either prohibit or permit within reasonable limits the use of preservatives in milk.

Mr. J. Sadler, of the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, supported the deputation's views.

Sir Edward Strachey, in reply, said, considering all their premises, the deputation had made out a good case that very great hardship had been inflicted in certain districts upon agriculturists in regard to this question, though he thought there were very great difficulties in the "appeal to the cow" which they suggested, and there was little probability of being able to carry legislation at the present moment upon this point. He thought that, in any legislation on this point, it would be desirable to stipulate that a farmer ought not to be responsible as regards criminal proceedings for the condition of the milk after it had once left his control. That seemed to him only a matter of ordinary justice and fair play. He hoped that the outcome of this deputation might be that the Board might be able to devise some means by which they might alter the present unsatisfactory condition of affairs. Referring to preservatives, Sir Edward Strachey said that at the present moment it was not illegal to add preservatives in such quantities that they should not be injurious to health and in circumstances that they were necessary for purposes of conveyance or carriage to consumers.

At the annual meeting of the Agricultural Organisation Society last week it was stated that during the five years of the society's existence the number of affiliated agricultural co operative societies had increased from twelve to 134, and their turnover had grown from £9,467 in 1901 to £221,524 in 1905, while in the present year it was estimated that it would reach £350,000. Mr. Yerburgh stated that the only bounds to the usefulness of the society were those imposed by the smallness of its income. It was hoped that before long the Government might give them a grant.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Calving Curiosity.

SIR,—Your correspondent who signs his letter "A. J. R.," and headed "A Calving Curiosity," and writes to know if any of your readers have experienced a similar case to the one he mentioned, I for one can say I have. When at home with my father we had a Shorthorn dairy cow served to a Shorthorn bull, and about one month after she turned again, and then we put her to a Hereford bull. At calving time, to our great surprise, she brought a calf which apparently was a month before its time, and in a very short time after she brought another calf, which was quite developed and appeared to be to its time. The first calf had all the makings, with white face, &c., of a Hereford, and the last calf the colour and appearance of a Shorthorn.

Both the calves were dead at time of birth, and we nearly lost the cow. I think it occurred about May, and we fed her that summer and sold her the following February for £32 10s.

While writing about calves and their many freaks, perhaps it will be interesting to know what I witnessed this autumn with one of my best milking cows. She was down calving, and I saw her turn her head along her side and with the greatest ease suck her own teats, which she did before and after calving.

You are at liberty to make use of my name in which way you like, as I can vouch to the truth of all I have stated.—Yours respectfully,

SAMUEL DREW.

Wallcroft House, Bromyard,
December 6, 1906.

The Tomato a Fruit.

SIR,—I observe in your notes in the issue of November 26, that you remark that the tomato is not a fruit but a vegetable.

Now, if you will allow me the privilege of contradicting you, I must state that the tomato is a true fruit for the reason that it is the product of the ovary after fertilisation and consists of the pericarp, mesocarp, endocarp, and seeds.

You would probably have no hesitation in calling an apple a fruit, and yet the apple is not botanically a true fruit, although the tomato certainly is.—Yours truly,

O. R. THORNTON.

The University, Leeds, December 7, 1906.

The Weights and Measures Muddle.

SIR,—In a recent issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS there appeared a note urging the desirability of adopting a general standard of weights and measures in the different markets throughout the country. I quite agree with all that was said in the note referred to about the whole thing being in a glorious state of confusion and muddle, and I contend that it would be better both for buyers and sellers if the imperial standard of weights and measures were adopted throughout the country. And why is it not done? Simply because certain districts have certain customs which people in the particular locality have got used to, and no change is made for the want of an organised beginning. But how absurd it is! Here we have an imperial standard of weights and measures which every child at school learns in his tables, and when he wants to make use of the information he finds that it is no good to him, and he has to begin again and learn about the standards adopted in the local market. The whole thing is just as puzzling to those who study the prices given in your Market Supplement week by week. Take potatoes as a case in point. Wishing to know something about the price of potatoes in various markets, I glanced at the list given in the MARK LANE EXPRESS for December 3. In the Borough potatoes were quoted by the ton, which was plain enough, except Dutch potatoes, which were offered at 2s. 9d. per bag. How many pounds of potatoes are there in a Borough market bag? At Carlisle the return was given at 6d. per stone, which I take it is 14 lb., but they may have their own special stones up at Carlisle. From Doncaster the return came at 6s. to 7s. 6d. per load of 18 stone. If there is 14 lb. to a stone, a load should represent 252 lb., but at Preston potatoes were selling at from 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per load of 240 lb. Again I see at Lancaster potatoes were quoted by the stone, at Manchester by the load, and at Malton by the bag. If one could be sure of the actual weight in a bag, a stone, or a load, there would be no need to complain, but it would take a lifetime to become acquainted with all the local weights and measures used in different parts of the country, and where is the sense in all this muddle? Would it not be just as easy to sell and quote all potatoes in the country by the ton or cwt. instead of being mixed up with bags, strikes, stones, loads, and so on. But potatoes are only one item, for when you come to fruit the muddle is worse, with the mystifying terms about pots, kipps, sieves, strikes, &c., each one representing a different weight, according to the nature of the fruit and the locality. It is said that the English language is the most difficult one for a foreigner to learn owing to our absurdities in the way of pronunciation and spelling, but I am sorry for any foreigners who attempt to master our methods of buying and selling, because to do this is sufficient to turn the hair of any native-born Briton grey. To say that we are conservative in the way we stick to local weights and measures is putting the thing very much too mildly. The whole thing is absurd, and if there are any of your readers who can bring forward arguments in defence of the system, or rather want of system, I should like to hear them.

LEX.

December 6, 1906.

The New Fertilisers Act.

SIR,—In publishing in your issue of the 10th the official regulations for drawing samples and obtaining analyses, you omitted to point out that these regulations applied only to samples officially taken with a view to the institution of civil or criminal proceedings.

Fortunately the Act provides for a class of unofficial analyses under section 3 (1), so that a purchaser can within ten days of the delivery, take a sample himself without giving notice to the seller of his intention of so doing, and under section 3 (4) (a) having sent the sample to the agricultural analyst for the county or borough, the analysis is to be sent to the purchaser, and apparently no copy of such analysis is to be sent to the Board of Agriculture as is required in the case of the officially drawn samples.

It is very important that this provision in the Act for obtaining analyses in such a simple manner should be recognised not only by farmers but also by merchants, for according to section 10 (2) the Act applies to wholesale as well as retail sales. County councils will have to arrange for the two classes of analyses, and as they have the power of fixing the fees to be charged respectively, it will be desirable to insist that, if a portion of the fee is paid out of the county rates, the results of such analyses shall be published in the local papers for public information. Further, that the invoice itself, and not a Partial copy omitting the sellers' names, shall in all such cases be sent to the analyst, for the production of the invoice is the only proof of actual purchase. Under the existing Act, farmers occasionally attempt to obtain analyses of samples sent on approval, and are only prevented from obtaining them by their inability to produce the invoice.

It is probable that these unofficial analyses, which are intended for the purchasers own information, will constitute the most useful and practical feature of the new Act, and it is very desirable that such analyses should be encouraged by the fees being arranged on a moderate scale.

JOHN HUGHES,
Agricultural Analyst for Herefordshire.
79, Mark Lane, London, E.C., December 14.

The Farmers' Club.

Mr. F. E. Muntz (Birmingham), the retiring chairman of the Farmers' Club, presided at the sixty-fourth annual meeting of the club, held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on Monday. The annual report referred to the satisfactory condition of the affairs of the club, mentioning that the membership was now 915, 184 new members having been elected during the year. The accounts showed the year's receipts as £1,085 5s. 7d., as against £935 13s. in 1905. The ordinary expenditure was £1,015 9s. 3d., being £277 4s. 7d. in excess of that of last year.

After the vote of thanks to the chairman, it was announced that the committee had appointed Mr. Harold Howard, of Bedford, to be chairman, and Dr. J. A. Voelcker to be vice-chairman of the club for the ensuing year.

Mr. H. Trustram Eve, secretary of the club, then read a paper on "Freedom in Farming, with Special Reference to Selling of the Produce," of which we gave extracts in our last issue. A discussion followed, in the course of which

Mr. T. Latham said he thought an agreement between landlord and tenant was quite unnecessary, but, at the same time, it was essential that the tenant should be a competent farmer. Farmers needed fuller information as to the value of artificial manures used to replace the hay and straw sold.

Dr. J. A. Voelcker agreed that restrictive covenants were practically useless, for a bad farmer would grow all crops badly, and the best thing to do would be to get rid of him. But while not inclined to give the tenant absolute freedom, he considered that a landlord would be very short-sighted to impose restrictions on a good tenant and good farmer.

Mr. T. Christian was not inclined to the opinion that agreements were unnecessary, but he thought they should be so framed as to induce the tenant to keep the farm in good heart and condition to the very end of the term.

Mr. Amos considered that the only way a tenant could be assured of receiving full value for improvements effected by him was allowing him to sell his tenant-right or goodwill to the incoming tenant.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Eve concluded the meeting.

Borough Notes.

The uncertainty of human affairs is frequently exemplified in the hop trade. We predict that this or that will surely come to pass, and the opposite of predictions happens. We argue from accepted premises, and our arguments are falsified by unforeseen results. We must, therefore, always qualify our expectations by the recollection that "one never knows what may occur." An illustration of the difficulty of any ideas making a reliable forecast is before me to-day.

During the last few weeks clouds have hung heavily over the Borough, the hearts of traders have been depressed, and even as recently as the beginning of this week, there seemed to be no hope of any revival of business. We had all settled down to wait for the new year, having almost abandoned any ideas of earlier improvement. But now a different aspect is presented. Without any apparent cause, a certain demand has set in, merchants are buying, and I am happy to report that values have advanced by 5s. to 10s. per cwt.

I cannot ascertain that this movement originated with the consumers, therefore we may safely conclude that merchants are convinced that soon after Christmas brewers will be compelled to replenish their stocks, and that it is well for traders to take advantage of the low rates to which prices have fallen, in order to be prepared for the expected business.

Whatever may be the influences that are working, it is very satisfactory to know that the results are thus far favourable. From this better tone which undoubtedly governs the market to-day we may hopefully anticipate further progress, and I earnestly trust that such anticipations may be realised. Although some holders are not unwilling to sell at current figures, there is no general pressure in this direction, the majority having made up their minds to wait for the new year. This is wise policy under present circumstances, as it is generally considered that values cannot go lower, and the present tendency seems to suggest the probability that profit will accrue from a continuance of firmness.

It will be interesting to watch the course of events next week, usually the most quiet week of the season. If it should reverse our previous experience, it will add zest to our holiday, and impart brightness to many a family gathering.

Our Foreign Trade.

We are beginning to feel the force of the flood of increased imports, as according to the returns last issued by the Board of Trade we have received during last month from the United States 26,903 cwt., and from other countries 23,944 cwt. The total, 50,847 cwt., adds a heavy weight to our depressed market, and creates fear lest we shall be burdened still further, and if so, what the results will be.

Our imports since the beginning of the season also give rise to thought as to our future prospects, as we have received from all sources, since September 1, no less than 82,971 cwt. of foreign hops, which is rather more than double the weight of our imports during the same period of last year.

Unfortunately we have very little to set off in our exports, as they only total this season to 4,010 cwt., leaving the balance against us of 78,961 cwt., whereas last year at this time the

balance was only 30,629 cwt. Of course we cannot forget the exceptionally large English crop of 1905, and it may therefrom be argued that the increase of imports this year is proportionally unimportant, when our present limited native supplies are taken into account.

This argument would be sound if we had as strong a market as might be reasonably expected as the result of our small yield. But, unhappily, our planters have been grievously disappointed, and under present conditions the increase of imports can only be looked at with apprehension.

There is, however, some consolation to be found in the fact that the manufacturing trade of the country is rapidly improving, and that consequently artisans are generally well employed, and are earning good wages.

There is therefore room for hope that the consumption of beer will increase without any detrimental effects, and that for the excessive supplies of hops an outlet will be found.

In such case our enlarged imports will not hurt us to any material extent, although there is little doubt that they must act as checks upon the advancement of values that, in their absence, would almost certainly be brought about.

The Proposed Memorial to the late Dr. Fream.

A meeting of the General Committee of the Dr. Fream Memorial was held on Wednesday last in the Prince's Saloon of the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The Earl of Jersey, P.C., President of the Committee, was unavoidably prevented from attending.

In the regrettable absence of the Hon. Treasurer, Sir George Barham, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. F. Strawson, reported that since the last meeting a very considerable advance had been made, and that many subscriptions and promises of support had been received. Amongst these was a subscription of 10 guineas from the Royal Counties Agricultural Society and 25 guineas promised from the Surveyors' Institution.

Upon the motion of Mr. Martin John Sutton, it was resolved that the subscription list should be kept open meanwhile, as there are still many old friends of the late Dr. Fream and others in sympathy with the movement who have not yet had an opportunity of contributing towards the fund.

Mr. Strawson reported that the General Committee now numbers 143, and he would be glad to receive early intimation of any further contributions towards a Memorial for the perpetuation of the name of one whose life's work was devoted to the cause of agriculture.

All subscriptions and communications should be addressed to Mr. G. F. Strawson, Hon. Secretary to the Dr. Fream Memorial, 71A, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

Messrs. Prentice's Barley Competition.

The eighteenth yearly barley competition, arranged by Messrs. Prentice Bros., of the Great Eastern Chemical Works, Stowmarket, and Great Yarmouth, for the best samples of barleys grown in the Eastern Counties during the season with the aid of "Prentices' Champion Barley Fertiliser," proved as popular as any of its predecessors.

The conditions of this competition are such that any farmer can compete who has used not less than 2 tons of this fertiliser on any given acreage; no stipulations are made as to the seed barley, but every competitor must have at least twenty coombs, from which samples had been taken, if the judges need to verify the original samples sent in for the awards. Messrs. Prentice set aside about £100 per annum for these competitions, and they claim a large amount of credit for the increased interest in the preparation and tilling of this valuable crop. Improvements are manifest everywhere, owing to more careful seeding, harvesting, and threshing, than was the case generally a few years back.

It is not the actual money value of the prizes won by the successful growers that is of so much consequence as an outcome of these annual competitions, but the impetus given to barley growers generally to see that the soil is so carefully prepared and manured that the very best results are obtainable. Year by year the samples exhibited at Messrs. Prentice's exhibition show a steadily improving quality, and this year's competition was said by the judges to contain samples of excellent grain far above those of former years.

The judges were Mr. W. W. Pallett, of North Walsham, and Mr. Ernest Cross, of Norwich, two of the largest buyers of malting barley in the Eastern Counties. These gentlemen had a somewhat difficult task in adjudicating the eventual winners. They spoke in very flattering terms of the excellent assortment of samples, and Messrs. Prentice were congratulated on having received so marked a testimony of the value of their champion fertiliser, from which all the samples were grown.

The leading prizes were awarded as follows:—First prize, Messrs. T. and C. Bickmore, Flories Farm, Great Tey, Kelveden, Essex; second prize, Mr. George Horrex, jun., Brettenham; third prize, Mr. George P. Watkins, Culpho Hall. The seed of the first prize sample was Hallett's Pedigree Chevalier; date of sowing, March 10; date of harvesting, August 26; soil, heavy loam; preceding crop, wheat. The second prize sample: Seed barley, Page's; date of sowing, April 3; date of harvesting, August 28; soil, heavy; preceding crop, mangolds. The third prize sample: Seed barley, Chevalier; date of sowing, March 31; date of harvesting, August 20; soil, mixed; preceding crop, mangolds and cabbages.

The judging was followed by a *récherché* luncheon under the presidency of Mr. Harry Prentice, and the judges in response to the toast of their health referred in terms of the highest praise to the all-round excellence of the samples, so much so that the task of selecting the prize-winners was anything but an easy one. The prize-winning samples were regarded by them as exceptionally good, and so evenly matched that there was little to choose between them.

Mr. Pellett, in the course of some remarks on the quality of the barley grown this year in East Anglia, alluded to the great value of competitions of this kind in encouraging agriculturists to give closer attention to the production of fine quality barley of the character which had come into competition by the use of high-class barley fertilisers, and suggested that the Messrs. Prentice might with advantage introduce an annual competition of the kind in Norfolk in connection with their Great Yarmouth branch.

National Potato Show.

The third annual show of the National Potato Society, held in the Horticultural Hall, Westminster, last Thursday and Friday, furnished gratifying evidence that growers this year have had little disease to contend with in their crops. Over 400 entries were received from all parts of the country, and although the average of success was highest with the southern growers, the chief prices, including the President's Challenge Cup, were deservedly awarded to a Lancashire grower, Mr. B. Ashton, gardener to the Earl of Lathom, of Lathom House, Ormskirk. The silver medal for the best dish of white potatoes, went to Mr. S. Cole, Earl Spencer's gardener, for the variety Duchess of Norfolk, and the silver medal for the best dish of coloured potatoes to Mr. A. Lawson, Kingskettle, Fife, for the variety King Edward VII.

An interesting and useful feature was the competitions in cooking. There are, it is asserted, no fewer than 250 different methods of cooking the tuber, but the conditions governing the competitions did not permit of much diversity of method. The society provided gas stoves, saucepans, and the potatoes to be cooked, and seven representative popular varieties were selected — What's Wanted, Duchess of Cornwall, Factor, Highlander, Peacemaker, Up-to-Date, and Warrior.

The Cheshire Agricultural Society have decided to hold their 1907 show at Chester on Wednesday, August 28, entries closing on August 7. The secretary is Mr. T. A. Beckett, St. Werburgh's Chambers, Chester.

Over £1,100 was subscribed last night at the thirty-second anniversary dinner of the Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution, held in London.

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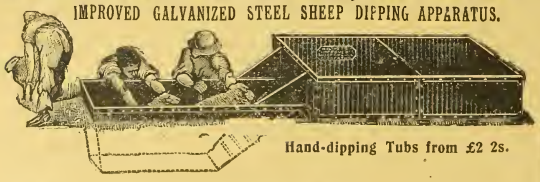

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The most complete, thoroughly practical, economical, and cleanly dipping arrangement in the market. Always ready, not as wooden tubs—always eaking. The best Sheep Rack made, £3 10s. Improved Lamb Rack and Troughs, £2 2s. Largest Makers of Galvanized Sheep Troughs.

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DEAR SIR,—It is with great pleasure I write you to say a word about your famous Buggies. Having been practically out *every day* driving in summer and winter, and on all sorts of roads, I cannot find a more suitable gig, they being light and durable, warm and very comfortable, and I can recommend them to anyone who has a lot of driving to do.—Yours truly,

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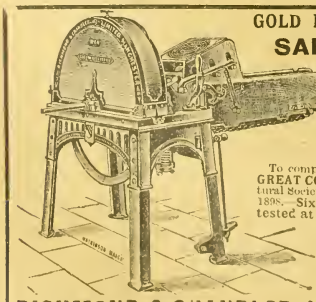

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To comply with the new Act of Parliament. GREAT COMPETITION at the Royal Agricultural Society of England's Birmingham Show, 1898. Sixteen different Appliances were tested at the Trials. The Judges awarded the PRIZE of £10 to Richmond & Chandler, Ltd., for their "Multiplex" Patent Safety Feeder. Since improved, and numerous other Prizes have been awarded.

CORN CRUSHERS, ROOT PULPERS, OIL CAKE MILLS.

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PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE"

IT will be generally admitted that unless the findings of science are carefully tested by the experience of actual practice, that science is more likely to hinder than to help the farmer. This is particularly true in relation to the question of the analysis of Feeding Cakes and Meals, although the Proposed amendments in the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act of 1893 will tend to give greater protection to the farmer and improve the position of the honest manufacturer. We do not under-rate the value of the chemist's certificate, for we have always insisted on the importance of a good analysis, and have had **our guarantee printed on every bag,** as well as on the invoice, which, so far as we are aware, has not been done by any other manufacturer. Moreover, we have always asked our customers to have the goods analysed regularly, and in the event of any deficiency being found, we bind ourselves to pay the analyst's fee and **three times the value of the deficiency**—this is our testimony to the value we place on analysis, and to the confidence we have in the quality of our goods. After all, however, the analysis is only the finding of science, and if it were conclusive, then the work of both the manufacturer and feeder would be much simplified; but, as we have often pointed out, it is possible to show a high analysis and yet leave the cake or meal at very low feeding value, and it is here that science must be confirmed by practice. It is no secret that unsound materials (unless absolutely perished) will in most cases analyse as well as sound ingredients, although the former may be of very little value for feeding; while in the case of oil, it may also show a high analysis, and yet prove to be of a kind altogether unsuitable for fattening purposes. You must test the analysis at the feeding trough, you must combine

The following letter from an esteemed customer, who is a very extensive feeder of stock, is typical of many others received:—

[COPY.]

Greengill, Penrith.
25.11/05.

Dear Sirs,

Having used a quantity of your Fattening Cake, averaging up to 100 tons per annum, for the last 13 years, I have much pleasure in stating it has given me every satisfaction.

Previous to using your Cake I was a stout believer in pure linseed, but find your quality of Cake gives better results at considerably less cost. Being both a Winter and Summer Feeder, I also see telling results on my grass land, it being both earlier and sweeter where the Cake has been used.

I might say I have used other Compound Cakes costing less money, but find yours the most satisfactory and always analysing according to guarantee.—Yours truly,

(Signed) THOS. MITCHELL.

Messrs. R. Silcock & Sons, Liverpool.

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if you are to buy to the best advantage as regards price and quality. The feeder's interests are fully protected by our system of doing business, as we not only give a guarantee, but penalise ourselves in the event of any deficiency. Hundreds of farmers bear testimony to the excellence and value of Silcocks' Cakes and Meals for Cattle and Sheep.

For particulars of the various Cakes and Meals apply to Local Agent, or to

R. SILCOCK & SONS, STANLEY HALL, UNION STREET, LIVERPOOL.

A. T. JONES,

BANKSIDE OIL MILLS HULL.

BEST QUALITY

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A Guarantee Given with Every Delivery.

SOLD AT REASONABLE MARKET PRICES.

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ROTPROOF AND . . . WATERPROOF COVERS

For Wagons, Engines and Machines.

The Best for Estate and Farm Purposes.

All sizes complete with Brass Eyelets and Best Quality Cords.

Qualities—	D	E	A	B	C
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PER SQUARE YARD.

5 per cent. discount for cash, Carriage Paid on orders of 40s. and upwards.

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"EXCELTOR" CARTRIDGE.

Loaded in paper cases, made in England, Special "EXCELTOR" Smokeless Powder, four wads, any size shot. Cash per 100,

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OIL AND GAS ENGINES, 1½ h.p. £20; no lamp required. Specially simple, and suitable for all farmers' work. Any size equally cheap. List free.—CLIFFE ENGINE WORKS, Morton, Bingley.

BASIC SLAG, 42/50, 38/45, 30/35, and 28/32 % phosphates; Kainit, &c. Prices quoted to any station in England and Wales.—CHAS. PICKEN, Merchant, Wolverhampton.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1s. per lb., over 3 lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddalit Fawr, Carnarvon.

AUTOMATO SHAFTS remove and deposit flat Poultry Coops, Houses, and Kennels, wheels rising automatically off the ground. Price 10s. 6d.—Patentee: PARKER, Moss House, Baguley, Altrincham.

PEN up and fatten your old hens for New Year.—Remarkable prices given by GEEN & Co., Smithfield Market, London, throughout January. Write for dates and crates.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro Farmer writes:—"After using a 1/- Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, Broad Street, Reading.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

WATER TANKS for storing water, will hold 400 gallons, wrought iron, with manhole at top, weight 476 lbs., size 4 ft. 3 in. square. Carriage paid, for £4 each. Cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

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WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets; 12 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 18s. 9d; and so on to any size at 1s. 3d. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity large pieces Tarpaulin, £15s. cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. cwt.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

HORSES' LOIN CLOTHS, lined throughout with Army Woollen Rugging; best and strongest in the market, 46 in. long by 38 in. wide; Waterproof on Stout Navy Canvas, and weigh 4 lb., 3s.; any size made; price in proportion. Special Carriage Loin Cloth, 4s. 6d. Either post free.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

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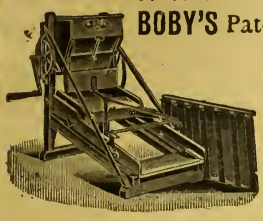

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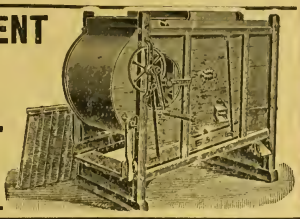

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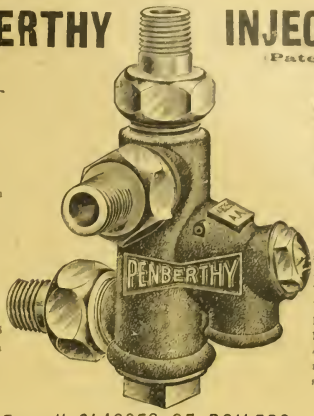

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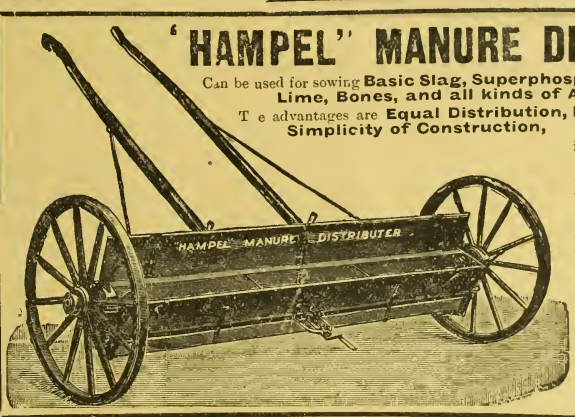

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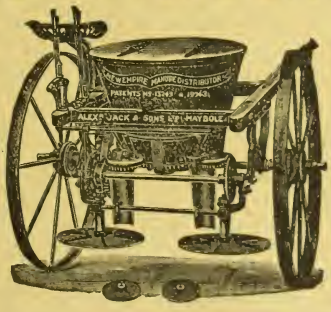

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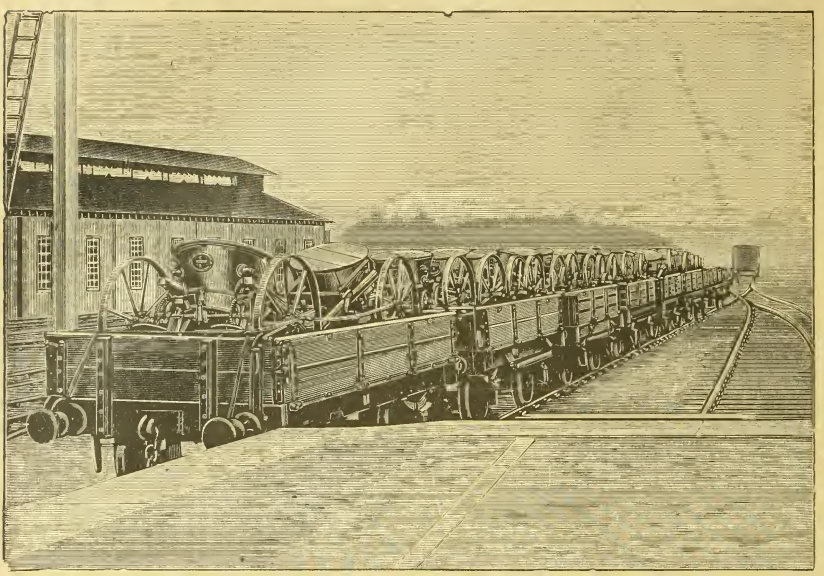

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LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1906.

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Seasonable Topics.

The Spirit of Christmas. CHIEF attention for a few weeks past has been centred on fat stock shows and Christmas markets, but they are now all over, the prize beasts have been turned into beef, and we hail once more the Yule tide feast. A merry Christmas to you! As we write the old, old wish is being passed from lip to lip, also, we hope, from heart to heart, just as it has been throughout the generations that have passed. And why should not the world make merry at Christmas time! In these rushing, pell-mell days when keen competition makes life's race a hard one to run there is little enough room for sentiment and relaxation, and we have reason to be thankful for the spirit of Christmas, which takes possession of men at this time of the year. Of course, there are Scrooges now, just as there were in Dickens's time, who wrap themselves in their wet blankets of discontent and vote the whole thing to be humbug. Let them think so, and enjoy the thought if they can, so long as they keep themselves aloof from those who believe in Christmas and honour its traditions. We have nothing in common with the Scrooges and the grumbler, but wish every one of our readers—a right merry Christmas!

Christmas-Boxes. IN penning this paragraph a vision of recent legislation dealing with secret commissions rises before us, and wonder how far in the future it will affect the giving and taking of Christmas-boxes. The question is, of course, what is a genuine Christmas-box and what is a bribe? As we travel on the railway at this time of the year we notice hampers and boxes, turkeys and game being sent from business houses of all kinds to various customers, but it is no business of ours to ask whether the giving of the same is prompted by a natural outburst of Christmas generosity or whether it is merely a bait to catch orders. Apart from this, however, it is characteristic of men to be more free-handed than usual at Christmas time, and the boy who brings you your daily paper, his Majesty's servant who hands in your letters every morning, and the fellow who clears your dustbin, all look to you for their Christmas-box with an expectation that has grown natural through long custom. For our own part we see nothing wrong about the genuine Christmas box, and grudge not the little trifles once a year which are given to those who minister in one way or another to our daily wants. We are taught to believe that it is better to give than to receive; just so, but human nature likes receiving all the same, and there are few of us who do not grow excited over the Christmas boxes that drop in from friends at this season of the year.

The Mistletoe Trade. IT would probably be stretching things a bit to class the mystic mistletoe as a farm crop, but it is not an uncommon sight in the West of England, during the weeks that precede Christmas, to see carts and waggons journeying to the railway stations, and laden with mistletoe. One may gather from this that the parasitic plant, which is associated with Christmas in every British home, is a means of bringing some grist to the mill of those farmers who cut it in their orchards and send it to market. Such, indeed, is the case, and we know men who look forward every year to making something tangible out of the mistletoe which grows on their holdings. Mistletoe is not everybody's plant—perhaps some of our readers have never seen it growing—but it flourishes on the cider apple trees in the West of England, and is treated as a source of income. Of course the plant is a parasite, and its presence on apple trees is not an indication of high-class fruit culture, but we are afraid many farmers in the western counties are far from being up to date in the way they treat their fruit trees, and trouble not as to whether the mistletoe growing on the branches is injurious or otherwise. From a sentimental point of view there is something fascinating in the sight of a big bunch of mistletoe growing on the limb of an apple tree, and the mind wanders back over the pages of history to the days of the Druids, when the cutting of mistletoe was a great occasion, accompanied by feasting and the sacrifice of a white bull. There is no sentiment in the mistletoe cutting of to-day—it is all a question of money—but the sentiment comes in when, after passing through various hands, the mistletoe is suspended in some English home on Christmas Eve.

PLOUGHING.

Christmas Bills. IT seems unfair to mix up sordid matter-of-fact things like bills with Christmas sentiment, but there is no getting away from them. and when one section of humanity is sending out its cards of greetings and good wishes the business element is preparing and posting its lists of glaring figures, which remind you of your liabilities, and also of the fact that Christmas is the time when you must pay, pay, pay. Of course there is one way of dispensing with Christmas bills—pay as you go on, which is an excellent principle for those good people who have a certain income coming in at a certain time, but the farmer does not belong to this class, and he has to sell what he produces before he can discharge his debts to other people. Very often, unfortunately, he has to sell in a bad market in order to get the money that is necessary to meet current expenses; but if Christmas bills are unavoidable one piece of good advice may be accepted—keep a strict account of what you owe. Christmas bills have no terrors if one knows what is owing and there is a balance at the bank to meet the liabilities.

Christmas Customs. OLD customs die hard in rural Britain, and to the agricultural community may be given credit for attempts at keeping them alive. Since last Christmas there has passed away a farmer friend of ours of the good old school, who to the very last took a delight in keeping up the old yuletide custom of his forefathers, and we think now of early boyhood's days spent near the manor farm, which was liberty hall at Christmas time. We can see now the roaring log fire in the big old kitchen, where master and mistress, friends and relatives, menservants and maidservants made merry altogether once a year. We can taste still the "posset" that was sent round hot and steaming, hear the singing of the waits, the rattling of

the sticks of the "Morris" dancers, and the jargon of the lads who bedecked with coloured paper, went through some extraordinary dramatic performance in the kitchen, and then gorged themselves with mince pies as a reward. It sounds somehow old worldly to be writing of these things, as many old Christmases had died away, and with them, we are afraid, some of that spirit of hospitality, sociability and good fellowship, which was characteristic of the yuletides of long ago.

The Passing Year. THE year 1906 is growing old, in another week it will have reached its end and be gathered to its fathers, leaving nothing behind but its memories and its records. In looking back over the months that have rolled away since we wished 1905 adieu, we can mark many changes, and make a summing up as to the way we have fared in the year now passing to its close. There were figures and faces round us last Christmas that are not here now, and the farming world mourns the loss of good men who, though dead, live as examples for the rising generation to follow. When we think of some years in the past we have reasons to regret the departure of 1906, for farmers have been favoured in it. A good season and good harvests are things to be thankful for, and though farmers have still many grievances, and there is room for much improvement in their affairs, still they may enter on the coming new year with hope and satisfaction that they have not fared amiss in 1906.

The Holiday Week. IN some of the dairy farming districts in the Midlands it is customary for the single men and maidservants to leave their places on Christmas morning, and enter on another year's engagement either with the same employer or a fresh one on New Year's Day. In the old days, of course, cheese was made at every farmhouse, and consequently Christmas, when cheese-making was at a standstill, was a convenient time for changing servants. Now that milk selling has taken the place of cheese-making farmers are put to more inconvenience, but the old custom must be kept up, and the farm lads swing away on Christmas morning with their bundles under their arms to enjoy their one week of freedom in the year. They do enjoy it too in their way, for hiring fairs are still held at the various local market towns during the week—"Gauby's Market" is the name given to them — and though there does not seem to be much actual hiring done now, the show men, and the cheap jack, and the purse trick swindlers are in attendance, and as alert as ever in relieving the farm lads of their superfluous cash. After all, one can hardly wonder at the youths letting themselves go a bit in Christmas week, because apart from the time being one of general festivity they know that New Year's Day begins another round of toil which has little break Sundays and week-days for a long twelve months—and farm lads are human like the rest of us.

The Social Life of Farmers. THERE is a considerable amount of whole-hearted freemasonry amongst farmers. Their lives are spent for the most part in quiet places, and there is a spirit of neighbourliness amongst them that one does not find in other walks of life. From time immemorial it has been customary for farmers to pursue a spirit of borrowing and lending, to help one another, and take a mutual share in the troubles and pleasures of each other. This spirit displays itself in the direction of mutual hospitality, and about Christmas time it is customary for farmer Giles and his family to spend a social evening with farmer Brown, and the former in due course returns the compliment. This kind of thing is doubtless a relic of the customs which existed when farming flourished, but when rural districts were much more isolated than they are now, and when country people had to make their own amusements or go without them. Nevertheless, the custom is a commendable one, for it is not good to have one's nose always on the grindstone, and people who are obliged to live in towns miss that neighbourly spirit which is still a living thing among farmers.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The Bill in the Lords.

What was the ameliorative influence upon the House of Lords it is unnecessary now to speculate. A fortnight ago its temper towards the Land Tenure Bill was almost fevered, certainly splenetic. A fortnight ago no observer would have dared prophesy that the Bill would have gone through with the celerity that it has. As a fact, I myself, with my twenty years' experience of Parliament, would have prophesied that it would emerge from the noble crucible a mangled, mutilated *tertium quid* (Mr. Birrell, I thank thee for the phrase). At this moment (I write, unfortunately, early) it is in a large measure a reflection of what I will describe as the chamber-of-agriculture mind. It passed back to the House of Commons having this guise. Of course, I make one particular exception to the Duke of Richmond's amendment forbidding freedom of cropping and free disposal of produce (in the case of leaseholds) in the four years immediately preceding the termination of the tenancy—an ostracism which, I am compelled to say, deprives the measure of more than half its effectiveness. Still, despite the benison which the Bill in its original shape received from the Central Chambers (and Earl Carrington is quite right in making the most he could of this benison), I aver that it now more deliberately reflects the farmers' anxiety. "Farmers' anxiety!" A pretty phrase this, which has no justification. If anything has been apparent in the debates over this Bill it is—to use the assertion of a glib lordling who has a seat in the Lower House—that farmers do not individually care a tinker's curse about the measure. Had it been an urban Bill, and as directly affected one of the supreme urban interests, we should have had the very stones in the streets in clamorous rebellion against its opponents. Now, Arcadia has seemed to be afflicted with a double-dose of its inherent stupor.

Lord Carrington's 'Cute Plea.

After all, Earl Carrington—whom, by the way, his colleagues ought to dub "Mr. Worldly-Wise," for his conduct of this measure in the Lords was marked by astuteness, conciliatoriness, and great sagacity—was entirely right in the reasons which he urged for refusing to accept Earl Wemyss's antagonism to compensation for unreasonable disturbance. His suggestion, urged with racy, refreshing, unconventionality, came to many of the peers as in the nature of a revelation. Who would suffer if this proposal were eliminated from the Bill? Why, primarily, the leaseholder; and the leaseholder is the best of all tenants. The Act—for that it will become an Act is now indisputable—would thus become an instrument for the advantage of the yearly tenant; hence the landlord would be subjected (if the amendment were carried) to ever-recurring resorts to the officialdom established under the measure. I noted the House as the Minister for Agriculture expounded this practical plea, and I perceived that it was at once possessed of that physical restlessness which bespeaks mental disquietude. Noble lords looked at the author in amazement, and when the calm, icily-level accents of Lord St. Aldwyn enforced the point they were convinced. Lord Carrington's worldly-wisdom had avoided the supreme menace of the Bill. By the way, I wonder how his lordship's logic commends itself to Parliamentarians, say, of the type of Col. Kenyon-Slaney, Lord Turnour, and Lord Helmsley?

On the Horns of a Dilemma.

I have been placed on the horns of a dilemma—and that, too, with deliberate intent by a well-known Hampshire farmer. This act of his is anent my justification of Mr. Chaplin's conduct in introducing the subject of the agricultural report of the Tariff Reform Commission at the Farmers' Club dinner. "Now," writes this correspondent of mine, "don't you, I beg, be among those who will say that what in the captain is but a choleric word, in the seaman is sheer blasphemy. Mr. Oscar Bowen, in protesting against Mr. Chaplin's action, simply did what a friend and political ally of Mr. Chaplin's has done. The Right Hon. Evelyn Ashley—who, like Mr. Chaplin, is a Unionist, and who, like Mr. Chaplin, is an ex-Minister of the Crown—refused, as president of the Romsey Agricultural Society, to present a letter to be read at the annual dinner which had been received from the Liberal M.P. for the division, Sir Robert Hobart. This, said the right hon. gentleman, is a non-political organisation, and this letter is of a political character! Well, the Romsey Society is of the same type of organisation as the Farmers' Club. The letter simply referred to the fact that the Liberal party had passed through the Commons a Bill giving compensation for damage done by winged game, giving freedom of cropping and disposal of produce, and yielding compensation for unreasonable disturbance. These remarks belonged to the same category as those made by Mr. Chaplin. If the Right Hon. Evelyn Ashley was right the Right Hon. Henry Chaplin was wrong. You can't have two standards of conduct. Now, do you denounce Mr. Evelyn Ashley's conduct as arbitrary and unfair?" Well, frankly, I shall refuse to answer; I prefer a Sphinx-like silence.

A Wise Inquiry.

The appointment by the Government of a committee to inquire into agricultural education should revive interest in the Bill of Mr. Jessie Collings dealing with the subject. Mr. Collings—confessedly the precursor in this matter—would associate with each school not merely what I may describe as minor museums of practical and physical interest, but actual gardens and a definite training in farm-life. With him in this purpose have been associated so many distinctive politicians that, frankly, I find it difficult to explain his failure to crystallise his Bill into an Act. I can only account for it, in fact, by reason of Mr. Balfour's ineradicable lack of sympathy with the agricultural interest. If Earl Carrington's committee proceeds upon the lines indicated by Mr. Collings it will have in itself evolved a method of dealing with the problem on sane lines. It is at least of moment that the political mind has now been wrought to such a height of sympathy that it is willing to deliberately consider this matter, and is anxious that it should be rescued from the mere partisan interest and intention. Mr. Collings—who certainly has not been over-friendly to the present administration of the Board of Agriculture—should not be ungrateful to Earl Carrington for this attitude. He could not have done better himself, and he was able to achieve less when his own friends were in power. I pray he does not denounce the Government—he is really full to repletion with denunciation—for its kindliness and sympathy.

What Radical Land Reformers Want.

I see that the National Liberal Club has reprinted the lecture which Mr. James Rowlands, M.P., the secretary of the Land Law Reform Association, delivered at the club on the tenure question. I am glad of this, for the lecture gives us a view of the internal mind of Radical land-reformers. Mr. Rowlands is, frankly and avowedly, a Channingsite. He would reproduce in this country the agrarian economy of Denmark, with, I must confess, the intention of supplying ourselves with our own necessities. He is, too, in a sense—heavens, how he will excoriate me as he reads—a Chamberlainite. "Why," exclaims he, in effect, "go to Denmark for what we can produce ourselves." He takes butter, cheese, eggs, and—he dwells with almost unctuous affection on the quadruped—pigs. All that we require could be produced in this country. The pig is to him no Gadarene swine that runs down the hill to destruction; he is a source of profit and pleasure—he would produce him at home, season him with sage and onions, and serve him up at a financial advantage. And how would Mr. Rowlands accomplish this? Would he mathematically parcel out the land? Well, he and his friends do not entirely believe that the big farmer is an excrescence—they would not divide the land into pound plots. They would, however, establish a tenure system far beyond that suggested in the present Land Tenure Bill. They would have the State step down and create a disciplined system of small holdings. They would have the State establish a system of cheap transit. They would have the State encourage a wise method—even to the establishment of depôts of co-operative distribution. They would resist (more power to 'em) the transportation of our best bone and sinew, and encourage it to stay at home. They would practicalise our system of rural education. They would ask the State by financial means to aid in the voluntary dispossession of landlordism.

Ashford Fat Stock Show.

Amongst Kent fat stock shows none is senior to the above. This year's show was its forty-ninth annual exhibition, and in all its sections there was no sign other than that of progress. The two features of this show, so far as regards the live stock section, were the Sussex cattle and the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep. Taking the former first, we found it to be one of the best of the year, and when the special merit of its principal entries be considered, there are good grounds to term it a first-class exhibit of this grand old pure breed of beef cattle, the antiquity and purity of which exceeds many of the present-day more widely-known breeds.

Mr. W. Levett's grand steer, breed cup winner at Smithfield, won similar honours here and also the champion honours of the show, a grand animal in all respects second; and third winners in the senior class were from Messrs. W. F. Winch and F. S. W. Cornwallis. The two year old class was a large one, many of its exhibits showing superior merit, notably that proudly fleshed steer of the Earl of Derby's, the winner, and the almost equally good one that won second honours for Mr. L. Hardy, M.P. The heifer classes were not so well filled as the steers, and the winners in these came from the herds owned by the Earl of Derby and Mr. W. Ford. The Earl of Derby's success at this show was completed by the first prize in the calf class, won by a notably evenly fed and well-grown young steer just under twelve months of age.

The other section of the cattle classes was for cattle of any other pure breed or cross-bred. Here again there were many fine exhibits, none of which could excel Mr. W. Levett's typical Aberdeen-Angus steer bred by Mr. T. Wotton. This animal was first in its class and rn for champion honours, being quite one of the best of its breed seen out this season. Two others of the same breed won second and third for Mr. W. W. Berry, whose herd also supplied the winner in the younger steer class, in which two locally bred and fed exhibits, owned by Messrs. R. W. Wood and J. E. Quested, were second and rn; an heifer of fine symmetry, but somewhat soft to the hand, from Mr. W. Cattley's herd, bred by Mr. C. Stephenson, was winner in a very good class of older heifers; Mr. W. W. Berry wth a Scotch-bred crossbred took second honours.

In the winner of the younger heifer class, Mr. R. J. Balston owns a remarkably good fleshed and typical exhibit that handled well, Sir H. E. Dering's entry taking second honours.

The calf class proved to be a good one, and its winner, Messrs. F. A. and E. H. M. Denny's grand young Shorthorn steer, was one of the best of its age seen in the South for some time; Messrs. Berry and Sir H. E. Dering were respectively second and rn.

Reference was made in our introduction to the general excellency of the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep classes, and from the comments heard around the pens it was evident so high an average degree of merit was not anticipated, when the large number of entries was taken into consideration. The wother class had all its six pens present. Mr. C. Gordon Neame was first and rn, Mr. J. E. Quested second, and Mr. C. File third, with a further prize for Mr. H. Rigden's capital pen. This was the order of awards, but except to the expert but little difference could be noticed between the three leading pens, so close were the respective merits. The fifteen entries in the lamb class made up one of the strongest representing this breed seen for some long while. Here Mr. T. Wotton was well to the fore. First and champion honours went to his excellent pen, with the rn to a second entry. Second and third honours went to the share of Mr. C. Gordon Neame, the better pen of which were splendidly matched and of excellent merit. Sir H. E. Dering, Bart., owned the fourth prize pen, a pen in which were many qualities fully sufficient to have secured them a higher place in the class. Many, indeed most of the other entries, came in for some notice of higher or lower degree.

The Southdown classes were of good merit; a capital pen won first honours for the South-Eastern Agricultural College at Wye, Mr. W. W. Berry taking second and rn with two pens bred by Colonel W. W. Hammond. The College pen won also champion honours.

The lamb class was a capital one; the three leading pens, two from Mr. W. M. Cazalet and one from Lord Northbourne, were of first-class merit; the former took first and third and the latter second award. A capital class of cross-bred lambs finished this section; the winners were Mr. W. M Cazalet, Captain S. Webb, and Sir H. E. Dering.

The pig section was not a large one, but its quality was very good, and that section of the show given over to the classes for roots, corn, hops, wool, butter, and bread was one of the best we have seen here for some considerable time, making one of the most interesting features of this well-managed and popular show

Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show.

The above Society held its annual show in the halls of the Society at Ball's Bridge on the 12th and 13th inst. The weather was comparatively seasonable, being very cold, though rather unpleasant in the way of gusty wind and occasional sleet upon the first day. The attendance was again somewhat disappointing, the writer show of the Society failing to attract visitors beyond those immediately interested either as exhibitors or purchasers of the stock exhibited with perhaps some breeders and farmers added.

The prize schedule was considerably altered from previous years and the number of classes very considerably reduced. This had the effect of reducing the number of entries, which gave the show rather the appearance of being a very small one. The general quality of the stock was in most cases, notably the in-fed and small cattle classes, very superior to last year's exhibition, and as regards the out-fed section, though there were a good number of specimens that could not be considered show stock, yet there was a great quantity of first-rate beef here, and beef which, though older, had cost less money per lb. to produce than much of the early-matured, milk-fed article.

A very large proportion of the cattle were cross-breds in one shape or other, pure breeds being shown in very few instances. The crosses generally were Herefords and Shorthorns, Angus and Shorthorn, Shorthorn and common cows, or Angus and Hereford, also a good number of the small crosses were produced by Dexter or Kerry blood, intermixed with the above larger breeds. The stock generally, as intimated, were superior to last year, and this may be taked to mean better in quality and shape as well as in the manner in which they were brought out. The bulk of the awards in the past have been cross-breeds more or less, but on inquiring why some few names that had been very successful in past years were not to be found in the present catalogue, the answers received were to the effect that some of them were finding it more profitable to breed pure-bred stock now that the export demand is so good, and were accordingly devoting their energies and abilities in that direction. For all this, however, the feeders' spirit of fascination still clings to many Irish graziers whose names were yet to be found in the catalogue, and the animals exhibited by them possessed the same capital finish as regards feeding and with an improved appearance as regards breeding. The weights of the cattle were generally fairly satisfactory, and the breed-

SHORTHORN STEER.

This Steer won First Prize for Shorthorn Steers not exceeding 2 years old and the Cup for the best Shorthorn, at the recent Smithfield Club Show. It was bred and exhibited by Mr. J. Ross, Meikle Tarrel, Fearn, N.B., and at time of exhibition was 1 year 8 months 3 weeks 2 days old, and weighed 12 cwt. 2 qrs 8 lbs.

ing, as intimated, of an important character. It was simply a triumph for the purely-bred stock that though so few of these were exhibited the championship of the entire show fell to one of the number. This was a purely-bred Aberdeen-Angus bullock, bred and exhibited by Mr. R. G. Nash, sired by Jumper 2nd out of a cow by Wilfred 22nd, which at two years and ten months old scaled 16 cwt. 2 qrs., and presented admirable breeding, shape, and quality. It had been intended to exhibit this bullock at the English shows, but a little lameness developing it was not deemed prudent to risk the long and trying journey across the water, otherwise his chance of success would have been more than a good one. Following upon this animal, the reserve champion was also practically purely bred, being by a Shorthorn bull out of what is termed a common cow, the other was bred and exhibited by Viscount de Vesci and sired by Bapton Jehu out of a common dairy cow. At a year and about seven months old this steer weights 11 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb., and is very perfect in his build and outline, with good quality of flesh and plenty of it. There were also some, indeed rather a number of, very superior Hereford and Shorthorn crosses exhibited, Colonel Everard's entries providing some admirable ones, including the first prize steer under three years old and over two. This steer was very shapely and scaled close upon 16 cwt., and was full of quality without excess of feeding. Miss Staples, as usual, also contributed some very good crosses of Angus and Shorthorn cross, with which prizes were won. The Earl of Bessborough was also a successful exhibitor in these classes with good Angus crosses. Mr. Matthew Franks, Mr. M. Farrell, Mr. F. J. Beaumont Nesbitt, and Mr. H. De Stevenson were also well represented.

Coming to the Kerry, Dexter, and small cattle classes, which were well filled with very fine quality stock, the championship for the best of the section was awarded to Mr. M. H. Franks for an Angus and Dexter of 10 cwt. live weight, very level in symmetry, and nicely finished, altogether a very nice heifer. Mr. R. J. Nash was also successful in winning one of the prizes with very neat Dexters or crosses, so was Mr. L. F. Ball, Mr. A. Alexander, Mr. Farrell. the Marquis of Waterford, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Woods, Mr. Williams, and one or two others.

The outfed section was filled generally with older cattle that had been more lightly fed in their younger days, and allowed to develop gradually upon natural food, many of these were of Shorthorn blood, and had grown into 16 cwt. to 19 cwt. without being in any way excessively fat, and a good number of them were well shaped and short legged. The same may be said of a number of very big grown Angus Cross bullocks that ran into 16 or 17 cwt. each. The chief winners in these were Mr. Nicholson from Co. Meath, Mr. Markey, Mr. Malone, Mr. E. Kelly, Mr. Polterton Mr. M. Farrell, the Earl of Bessborough, Mr. E. J. Beaumont Nesbitt, and one or two others. A very satisfactory feature of the exhibition was the capital trade that prevailed for practically all classes, many animals being sold on the eve of the show, while by the time judging was concluded very few had failed to change owners, and very good prices were the rule.

Sheep.

There was not by any means a large show of these, and the best features of the classes were the fine exhibit of Scotch Black-faced sheep, which appear to be growing very much in favour in Ireland of late, and the capital lot of cross-bred tegs, the latter being all shown in untrimmed condition and strong good sheep with valuable skins. These latter are in appearance crossed of Border, Leicester, or Roscommon and Oxford or other Downs. Mr. M. H. Franks was the most successful exhibitor, his pens scaling just upon 4½ cwt. The Blackfaced sheep were mostly shown by Mr. Arthur Alexander and the Marquis of Waterford.

The Champion pen of the section were a splendid entry of three Roscommon ewes bred and exhibited by Mr. J. R. Acheson, with fine fleeces and weighing 8 cwt. 10 lb.

York Horse Fair has for many years been on the decline, and this year's showed a still further decrease. A walk round the principal hotel yards which provide stabling accommodation, revealed the fact that the supply of really good animals for hunting, riding, and driving work was smaller than ever, and that many of the foreign buyers failed to find what they were in search of. The best Hunters made up to 80 guineas, while roadsters and other light horses fetched up to about 50 guineas, and for one good bred saddle horse, Herr Woltman, of Berlin, who supplies the German Emperor with horses, gave 129 guineas, but this was an exceptional case. The carriage-horse trade was practically gone from the fair, very few animals of this type being on offer. In agricultural animals, young, upstanding horses commanded prices ranging up to 65 guineas. Carting horses for colliery, brewery, and railway purposes made similar rates, and a few clean-limbed, active young horses fit for town work made from 25 to 50 guineas.

SOCIETIES.

Essex.

At the annual meeting of the Essex Agricultural Society, held at the Shire Hall, Chelmsford, Mr. Christopher W. Parker proposed the election of Sir Walter Gilbey as President of the Society for 1907, remarking that in spite of advancing years Sir Walker has yielded to the unanimous wish of the Council that he should accept the position, and he would be supported in it by his two sons.—Col. Tufnell seconded, observing that Sir Walter was undoubtedly the right man in the right place for their jubilee show.—The retiring President agreed that they could not possibly get a better President if they searched England through.

The election was unanimous, and hearty thanks were accorded to the retiring president (Mr. Horton), who, in acknowledging the compliment, said his duties had been very congenial, and he had been assisted by a most courteous committee, and an energetic and capable secretary in Mr. Taylor.

The financial statement to October 31 last showed total receipts £3,746 3s. 9d., against £3,654 13s. 3d. in 1905, and a balance at bank of £507 8s., against £409 13s. 4d. The principal items on the receipt side were:—Subscriptions, £795 3s. 6d.; donations, special prizes, and grants, £392 4s.; from the Brentwood Local Committee in connection with the last show, £450; entry and shedding fees, £510 13s. 4d.; and gate money, £1,019 13s. (against £1,203 in 1905). The expenditure side of the account showed that prizes and medals cost £1,525 10s. (against £1,355 12s. 6d. in 1905), show ground expenses £912 6s. 8d.; advertising, printing, and stationery £286 15s. 8d.; hire of ground, £64; judges', analysts', and veterinaries' expenses, £73 14s. 3d.; band and military display expenses, £47 15s. 4d.; subscriptions and grants to various societies, £43 3s.; police, £30 9s. 7d.; secretary's salary, £150, and the usual other incidental expenses.

The accounts were approved.

Prior to the annual meeting there was a meeting of the council, at which a letter was read from Mr. F. Thomas Goodchild, suggesting that all the members should be written to, asking them to double their subscriptions for 1907 to enable the society to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary with an extended prize list, and making the show as great a success as possible.

Mr. Percy Reid thought the suggestion a good one, but thought it would be best to simply ask for an increase, and he proposed a resolution to this effect.

The chairman (Colonel W. N. Tufnell) thought it might interfere with the subscriptions to the local fund.

Mr. Reid said they could earmark the extra subscriptions from local people, and hand them over to the local committee.

Mr. Walter Whitlock seconded the proposal to ask all the members to increase their subscriptions, and this was agreed to.

A letter was read from Mr. D. Abbott Green, suggesting that as the Bath and West of England Society had altered their dates, they should alter the dates of the Essex Show.

The Secretary (Mr. Fred Taylor) said that the Bath and West of England Show would start on June 10, and last five days.

Eventually it was decided to alter the dates of the Essex Show, and hold it on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 11 and 12, in the event of the International Horse Show at the Olympia being held on June 13.

Norfolk.

The annual meeting of the Norfolk Agricultural Association was held at Norwich on the 15th inst., Mr, Sancroft Holmes presiding. Mr. Hervey Mason, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, which were carried, observed that the balance showed very satisfactory results. The association had an income of £2,585, out of which they spent 60 per cent. in prizes, and 40 per cent. in expenses, and they gained 2¼ to 2½ per cent. on the year's working, the amount being £129 18s. 5d. This satisfactory result was due to the success of the show at Harleston, which was well attended, being favoured with fine weather. As would be seen from the figures submitted, it required very careful management on the part of their secretaries to reach a financial balance on the right side. They had a fair reserve fund, to which the small balance would be added, and as a net result they had a capital sum of £3,550 well invested, and which would avail them for a rainy or bad day. The association was now stronger in membership, and the subscriptions amounted to £796, being £34 above the average for the past ten years.

A communication was read from the local committee, at Fakenham, inviting the association to hold the show for 1907 in that town, a donation of £150 being guaranteed. Viscount Coke had consented to act as president for the year. The invitation was accepted, and subsequently the date of the show was fixed for June 19 and 20, and the Spring Horse Show, at Norwich, for March 23.

Viscount Coke, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, was elected president for the ensuing year, and a vote of thanks passed to the retiring president, Mr. Sancroft Holmes, who in reply said that the people of Harleston were extremely gratified that the association had had a successful visit, and, on their behalf, he assured the association that if the time came when the association thought it desirable to again visit that part of the county, they would have another warm invitation.

Mr. Holmes subsequently dealt with the question of the establishment of an agricultural bureau for the county.

The object of which, he said, would be to make known to the farming community generally, scientific and expert knowledge. He maintained that the time had come, if they were to successfully fight the battle against the whole world, and especially against America, when they should try and make scientific and expert knowledge more generally known. He had consulted various gentlemen with regard to the question and had received very warm support from many quarters. He only asked them, however, that day to appoint a small committee in conjunction with the representatives from the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture to consider the advisability of forming an agricultural bureau of the county, and report to a future meeting.

Mr. Collinson seconded the motion.

Mr. Hervey Mason, as vice-chairmain of the Council of the Association, pointed out that, if anything of the sort suggested were carried out, involving the expenditure of money, the constitution and rules of the Association would have to be altered. They had no power to spend any money outside their legitimate business of holding the show. With regard to the £129 gained on the year's working of the show, he could not see that such a sum would go very far in support of the suggested bureau; and, besides, he did not think it would be sound finance to allocate any portion of such a fund for the purpose suggested. He admitted the value of expert and scientific knowledge to the agriculturist, but there was the difficulty of dealing with the matter, so far as that Association was concerned, by reason of the limited funds at their disposal.

The motion was carried by nine votes to three, and a small committee was then appointed to inquire into the matter, in conjunction with a committee of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture.

Yorkshire.

The members of the council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society met at York on Thursday, when in response to a letter from the Royal Agricultural Society, delegates were appointed to meet the council of the Royal with a view to discuss questions affecting the future organisation of agricultural societies. The council also decided, at the request of the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies, to sign a petition to the Railway Clearing House asking the railway companies to grant lower rates to exhibitors attending shows. The election of president was deferred to the next meeting of the council. The retiring president, the Marquis of Zetland, was placed on the list of vice-presidents.

The draft prize list of the Barnsley show of 1907 was presented and passed, the amount of prize money being approximately £2,000. The list has been slightly varied. All the committees were re-elected, and Professor Dewar, of the Royal (Dick) College, Edinburgh, was appointed a veterinary inspector in the place of the late Professor Cope. The other officers were re-appointed.

At the annual meeting of members of the society subsequently held, the proceedings of the council were confirmed, and on the motion of the Hon. G. E. Lascelles, seconded by Lieutenant-Colonel H. F. Dent, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded the Marquess of Zetland for his services as president during the past year.

Sir Reginald Graham, Bart., moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor, Corporation, and burgesses of Middlesbrough, and remarked that they had done everything in their power, financially and otherwise, to make this year's show a success. The attendance of 42,000, in view of the unfavourable weather, was most satisfactory.

Col. W. Scoby seconded the motion.

Mr. Thos. Curry, in responding, said Middlesbrough considered the visit of the society a great honour, and they hoped at some future time to be able to welcome them again.

British Dairy Farmers.

At the meeting of the council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association held on the 11th inst. the General Purposes Committee reported that in the four weeks ended December 1, there were no imports of fresh milk into the United Kingdom, the total for the corresponding weeks of last year being 75 cwt. Of cream the imports were 303 compared with 396 cwt.; of preserved milk, 908 against 524 cwt.; and of condensed milk 59,037 compared with 79,214 cwt.

The show committee submitted a series of proposals with regard to the details of conducting the milking trials in future. These were discussed and agreed to, it being left to a sub-committee to bring up further suggestions before the schedule of prizes was issued for the 1907 show. Notice was given by Mr. J. F. Spencer and Mr. A. L. Alexander that at the next meeting they would propose and second a motion in favour of abolishing the points for lactation in the milking trials.

The council proceeded to consider the question of appointing a consulting veterinary surgeon in succession to Professor J. Wortley Axe, who, after holding the office for many years has been obliged to resign owing to ill-health. It was decided to appoint Mr. Sidney Villar, F.R.C.V.S., of Harrow-on-the-Hill.

A letter was read from the Royal Agricultural Society of England inviting the association to appoint representatives to attend a conference of the secretaries and delegates of the principal agricultural societies throughout the country next spring to discuss various questions relating to the management of shows and the general well-being of such societies. It was agreed to send delegates to the conference.

The various standing committees for 1907 were appointed as well as delegates on the British Dairy Institute Joint Committee, and delegates to the Central Chamber of Agriculture.

It was resolved to join in a deputation to the President of the Board of Trade with the object of endeavouring to obtain the support of the Government for Mr. Hooper's Bill to amend the law relating to Railway and Canal Companies' Rates and Conditions of Conveyance, and facilities for its passage through Parliament. Mr. S. J. Pocock was asked to represent the society.

In reply to a letter from the Free Importation Canadian Cattle Association of Great Britain, the secretary was instructed to say that as the council had no sympathy whatever with the objects of the said association it could not appoint delegates to attend the conference convened by them.

The council adjourned until the first Wednesday in February.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the council of the Smithfield Club was held on the second day of the Club's show, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Mr. James Hornsby, president-elect, in the chair, when the award of the judges was laid on the table, and the stewards' report on dentition cases at the present show was read.

On the motion of Mr. T. A. Edney Hayter, seconded by Mr. T. Goodchild, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. C. J. Proctor, Vicar of Islington and Rural Dean, for holding divine service for the herdsmen and shepherds in the Hall on Sunday, December 9.

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones presented the report of the finance committee, and recommending that cheques be drawn in payment of the prizes awarded at the present show and the usual accounts.

This reported was adopted and seventeen new members elected.

The next meeting of the council was fixed for February 6, 1907.

The value of the wheat and flour exported from Australia to oversea destinations in the year 1905-6 shows an approximate increase of £660,000 compared with the previous year. The total amount exported was 37,513,550 bushels, equivalent to 1,004,827 tons, valued at £5,960,000. Victoria exported 16,135,251 bushels, of which about 1,000,000 bushels were from New South Wales. The export from South Australia amounted to 14,968,453 bushels and from New South Wales 6,402,645 bushels.

The Warrington and District Agricultural Society at their annual meeting on Wednesday, decided to increase the society's area on the Cheshire side to within a radius of sixteen miles of Market Gate, excluding that part lying east of the railway from Broadheath to Manchester and north of the railway from Broadheath to Stockport. On the Lancashire side the radius is twelve miles. The society will now, said Sir Gilbert Greenall, who made the proposition, cover a larger cheese and butter making area of Cheshire than hitherto, and at the same time it will have a good effect on the light horse section of the show. The treasurer's statement showed that the receipts for the year amounted to £747 and the expenditure to £927. The deficit of £180 was generously made up by a special donation from Sir Gilbert Greenall. A member, however, said the society should be made self-supporting; it was a wrong principle to look to Sir Gilbert Greenall every year to make up the deficit. Had it not been for his financial assistance they would have been in a state of bankruptcy.

SHOW GOSSIP.

The Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society's 1907 shows will take place as follows:—Bull show, April 4; spring show of cows and heifers, May 16; summer show of horses, cattle, &c., August 21 and 22.

His Majesty the King has been pleased to grant his Royal licence to Mr. Frank F. Euron, secretary of the Hackney Horse Society, to accept and wear the cross of officer of the Royal Order of Orange Nassau, which her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands has conferred upon him in recognition of services rendered in connection with the annual International Horse Show at the Hague.

It having been represented to the authorities at Dorchester that the Bath and West Society would be prepared to entertain an invitation to visit Dorchester in 1908, a county meeting to consider the proposal was held at Dorchester on the 8th inst., and was very largely attended. The Mayor of Dorchester (Mr. E. W. Young) presided, and he had the support of the High Sheriff (Mr. H. Stilwell), Mr. T. T. L. Scaresbrick (member for South Dorset), the Mayor of Weymouth (Mr. J. Templeman), Captain Gerald Digby, Mr. A. Pope, &c. The Mayor, who said the proposal had been very favourably received throughout the county, stated that it was a *sine qua non* to accepting an invitation that a sum of £800 should be raised as a guarantee fund, and they also stipulated further that the water and gas arrangements should be provided to the society's satisfaction. Generous promises to help forward the matter had been received from Lord Digby, Lord Wynford, Sir J. Hanham, Sir H. Poto, Sir H. Pelly, Sir R. Baker, and others.

As the meeting seemed unanimously in favour of the visit, the High Sheriff moved that an invitation be sent to the society to hold their show at Dorchester in 1908, and this was unanimously agreed to. It was also agreed to invite the Prince of Wales to attend the show, as the present King (then the Prince of Wales) did on the last occasion. A very large and representative committee was chosen to assist in furthering the proposal, and Mr. Douglas Thornton agreed to undertake the duty of hon. treasurer, and Mr. A. G. Symonds (town clerk of Dorchester) that of hon. secretary.

SHOW SECRETARIES.

Mr. R. H. BRITTAIN.
Ripley Agricultural Society.

The Somerset County Agricultural Society evidently believes in looking well ahead, for they are already making arrangements for their show at Wells on May 15, 16, 17. It has been decided by the association to spend the sum of £800 on prizes. The schedule will include a champion jumping prize of £10, to be competed for on the last day of the show by exhibitors competing in the other classes. The prizes for Jersey cattle will be increased, and three classes will be allotted to Hampshire Down sheep. It has been decided to make a suggestion to the Prizes and Judges' Selection Committee that a separate class should be added to those for jumping, this to be restricted to horses regularly hunted with any recognised pack in the county and entered by their owners, who must have hunted and ridden them at least six times with any one pack. The Wells Harriers Hunt has offered special prizes for the meeting. The dates for the closing of entries have been fixed as follows:—Implements, April 4; live stock and produce, April 11; poultry and pigeons, April 23.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

A special meeting of the members of the Staffordshire Farmers' Association was held at Stafford on the 15th inst., the Earl of Harrowby presiding, to consider the advisability of altering the name of the association and of extending the area to be covered by the operations of the association. The object of the proposed alteration is to bring the farmers in Staffordshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and a part of Shropshire into line in regard to their trading interests, especially in reference to the wholesale milk trade. The chairman strongly urged the importance of the proposed alteration, and stated that it had the hearty concurrence of the Earl of Lichfield, who had done so much for the Staffordshire Association.

A report of a committee was presented to the meeting in which they stated that they had satisfied themselves that in the Midlands there was a considerable area which did not at present come under the influence of any association whose objects were the same as those of the Staffordshire Association, and that they were of opinion that the bringing of the farmers in that area into line with the Staffordshire farmers could not be otherwise than for their mutual benefit. The committee recommended that the existing rules should remain unchanged for the present, except so far as to make them applicable to the larger area, and that the name should be changed to that of the Midland Farmers' Association. After some discussion the recommendations of the committee were approved by 12 votes to 6.

Amongst the subjects considered at the meeting of the Lancashire Farmers' Association held at Preston recently was the recommendation, made by many branches, that a mutual assurance fund should be formed by the association for insuring its members against fire and employers' liability risks. The chairman (Mr. W. J. Fitzherbert-Brockholes) said the financial question must be carefully considered, and the matter should be referred to a committee. Mr. Ibison said insurance companies had to do a lot of policing work. The association would have to do this if they started the assurance scheme. A guarantee fund would also be required. He suggested all the members should pay to the association, who should insure the members *en bloc*. Mr. Kay said the association had 1,350 members, and was therefore strong enough to form its own fund. On the motion of Mr. Sherdly the matter was referred to the Executive Committee.

The auditor's report presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society contained the following:—"We find that while there is an estimated falling off of subscriptions of £20 to £25, and an increase of £40 in the amount of prizes paid in cash by the society, there is still an estimated balance in hand of about £100, as against £86 last year. This must be considered satisfactory under all the circumstances. On the receipt side we note records in the amount of entry fees, sum taken at the gate on the show day, and receipts from the sale of catalogues." The draft balance-sheet showed that the year commenced with a balance in hand of £100 on deposit, and £86 2s. 8d. on current account. The receipts, including £341 6s. 6d subscriptions, came to £1,132 1s 8d., making the total receipts for the year £1,318 4s. 4d., as estimated. The expenditure included £661 11s. in prizes, against £656 2s. last year, the special prizes given otherwise than through the society, or in plate, totalling to £136 8s. 6d., as against £163 13s. 1d. last year, although the amount offered for competition was greater. The balance at the close of the year was estimated at £104 11s. 9½d. The society have therefore reason to be gratified at the success of their year's working.

At a meeting of the Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture, held on the 15th inst., Mr. Beeson reported that he brought the question of the Army meat contracts before the Central Chamber of Agriculture, but as that body seemed backward in dealing with it, he moved, and it was carried, that the Central Chamber be requested to arrange for a deputation to wait on Mr. Haldane with reference to the Army meat contracts.

Northern Notes.

THE Christmas fat stock shows have been remarkable for the good quality of the entries, especially considering the poor returns feeders obtain for beef. There is still a spirit of emulation abroad, and it is an indisputable fact that we have better quality all round both of beef and mutton, than that offered in the markets thirty years ago. An instance is on record of a beast being sold at Bedale thirty-two years since for £52 13s. Its weight was 140 stone. Last week at the same place a prize-winning bullock weighing 142 stone made £37 5s. at auction.

WHAT a contrast in the prices! The contrast emphasises in a striking way the tremendous downfall in value of beef. Farmers used to be advised to "walk their grain to market" on the hoofs of cattle and sheep. Provided they could be certain of as good a return, manurial value of the food consumed taken into account, farmers would be only too glad to be relieved of heavy cake bills, and the disgust of having to sell good wheat and barley at 9d. per stone.

THE Bridlington Agricultural Society had a "record" entry this year, but unfortunately that fact does not spell success, and a score of pounds were lost on the show held in the height of the season at this fashionable Yorkshire seaside resort. These small societies, which serve a local area, are worked on too expensive lines; they have large ideas, and too many departments are included in the show.

MOST societies which have done best this year in Yorkshire are those which devote their attention almost entirely to horses, or to horses, sheep, and cattle. Were we to calculate the cost of providing accommodation at our small agricultural shows for dogs, poultry, &c., and estimate how much office work they entailed, and then compare the outlay with that in respect of the three classes of farm stock we have named—horses, sheep, and cattle—it would be found that the latter are housed or provided for more cheaply than the "smaller fry."

THE fur and feather departments are not to be despised. They have their place; but we contend they may with advantage be kept apart from what may be termed a real "agricultural" show. There is quite sufficient interest in a show of horses, cattle, and sheep to attract all the countryside, and especially the ladies, who make of these occasions a day specially set apart for displaying their summer toilettes.

IF there is any great desire for a fanciers' department, the fanciers themselves should either guarantee that their classes shall not be an encumbrance financially, or they should act independently, and arrange an exhibition entirely in their own interests. By tacking themselves on to an agricultural society they too frequently hazard its success. Is the agricultural world served in any useful way by mixing up fancy pigeons and poultry with the animals on which the success of farming depends?

MR. E. F. JORDAN, the well-known Yorkshire breeder of Leicester sheep, met with great success at Smithfield, and came very near carrying off, in addition to two first and two second prizes and the breed cup, the cup offered for the best pen of Longwools. Mr. Jordan's sheep gained the chief prize for Longwools in 1892, 1894, and 1896, and his father was the recipient of the highest awards for his Leicesters at Smithfield in 1858 and the following year. The total value of the prizes won by representatives of this flock from 1876 to 1905 reaches a total not far short of £4,000.

ONE view of Martinmas in the North of England is that it has been a "quiet" one. The report on Rural Depopulation tells us how wonderfully agricultural labourers have diminished in number. This is hardly observable in a casual way; nevertheless, if the Government books tell us it is a fact, we have no option but to believe the statement. Agricultural servants are becoming better behaved when they assemble in the streets of market towns in their numbers; still there is room for improvement. A writer in a North Riding newspaper says it is now quite certain that farm servants are saving money, from the increased rush there is for small holdings, which can be entered upon by a thrifty man and his wife with the savings of some ten years in service. In this way one of the problems of the country is finding a solution.

THE art of hedge-cutting is so much thought of in the North that a championship is attached thereto. This honourable position is now held by Mr. James Bowen, of Stainton. He has won 142 prizes in his day, also four special prizes. He entered the lists twenty-six years ago. Mr. Bowen has had several competitors who ran him very close for the coveted honour. One, the late Mr. J. Cook, of Bilsdale, won more than 100 prizes; and there is Mr. J. Musgrave, of Sutton, near Thirsk, an expert, who may very possibly surpass the achievements of the champion, as Mr. Bowen recently met with a very painful accident, a thorn piercing his left eye during a competition.

THE climate is as fickle as ever up North, each of the last two weeks we had snowstorms; the effects of the latter have been to leave the land and highways in a "dirty" state. Arable land is very wet and unmanageable, and any sort of carting is an impossibility. Shepherding is anything but pleasant in the turnip fields, especially in the valleys. General work is, however, so well forward that farmers can possess their souls in patience for a time. After the fat stock markets which ended in mid-week, trade is very quiet in agricultural circles, and at this present date the weather has anything but a Christmassy feeling, being foggy day by day, a sure precursor of winter ills for man and beast.

December 20, 1906.

The Position in the Borough.

I am very happy to be able to report that the firmness of tone in our business, noted as having been restored last week, is well maintained. Brewers are evidently feeling that it is desirable to take advantage of the present moderate currency, some fairly substantial orders having been recently placed. Merchants, encouraged by these indications, are much more willing to operate, consequently some important lots of hops have changed hands during the last few days, and we may safely assume that values are now advanced 10s. to 15s. from the recent lowest points.

A leading authority says that activity and firmness have increased, especially with regard to useful qualities. The scarcity of strictly choice hops, either from Mid or East Kent, is, says the same authority, very marked for this time of year, and those growers who are still holders, are more inclined to take their chance after Christmas than offer at any price at the present time. It must be admitted that the outlook has decidedly improved, especially in view of the continued strength in the Continental markets.

In Nuremberg especially the values of export qualities have advanced, and it appears that the local demand there is likely to be sufficient to improve the position of sellers as soon as the New Year's trade commences.

Concerning our own stocks, I am informed by an experienced observer that he does not estimate the holdings of English growers to exceed 30,000 pockets, or, say, about 50,000 cwt. This quantity does not represent more than one months's consumption, and considering that the unsold stocks of yearlings and olds are much smaller than the average, it now seems clear that the New Year will introduce us to a very different condition of affairs than we have hitherto experienced this season. There is, however, one element that we must not lose sight of.

As usual, the American supplies are uncertain, but from what we hear from the other side, they may possibly raise an obstacle to our anticipated progress. We are told that large quantities are waiting a favourable moment for shipment. Thus far they have been held back in consequence of the low level of our prices, but I expect that as soon as our advancement offers the chance of profit to shippers, we shall hear of important arrivals. It is, therefore, desirable that holders on this side should carefully watch the course of trade in America, lest they be taken unawares and lose the opportunity of making their legitimate profits.

It is at all events very pleasant to be able to talk about a renewal of business at this period when, in face of the great holiday of Christmas, our trade is generally so dull. I trust our expectations of further success will not be disappointed.

Foreign Affairs.

America.

In New York State growers seem to be able to command fairly favourable prices, their claims being based on the good average quality of their average growths. My latest reports tell me of the passing of a large volume of business, for which from 19 to 20 cents. have been paid. The demand for export is, however, comparatively small, and the market appears to be upheld by local buyers, who, finding that Pacific Coast hops average a low quality, are anxious to secure good parcels that may be available.

From Washington I have a cable message, which says:—"Many hops are being shipped to London on consignment, and we believe the market will go lower later on." Reading between the lines, I gather from this that there is difficulty in making local sales, and that as growers are wanting money, they are consigning their hops under advances. This looks like a policy of desperation, and we may therefrom conclude that these shipments will be forced upon the English market at, perhaps ruinous prices. The other aspect of the matter is that as the qualities will not be acceptable by our consumers, they will not be saleable, and, in such case, will not be likely to be detrimental to our position. The early future will decide.

Nuremberg.

Activity of demand continues to prevail, being supported principally by local consumers, with some shipments to Belgium, England, and America. The tone of the market is consequently very firm, and any parcels having pretensions to colour and quality that may be offered are taken with avidity at full prices. It is becoming evident that continental brewers are not as fully supplied as was supposed at the opening of the season, this knowledge makes holders somewhat independent, and there appears every probability that with the renewal of business after the holidays, still further advances in value will be established. The official market returns show that from November 15 to December 13 8,800 bales of hops arrived, and 10,900 bales were sold. Stocks were therefore reduced during the month by over 2,000 bales, and these figures therefore confirm the general statements as to the strength of the trade. The actual transactions are reported to be chiefly in market hops at 85s. to 110s.; medium Hallerdaus at 85s. to 95s., selected lots realising 120s. to 125s., the best qualities of Alsace and Wurtemberg coming out as high as 107s. to 118s. The most recent report states that the tendency of the market is extremely firm.

Belgium.

The general tone of the markets, whether for home consumption or for exportation, is very quiet. Only a small amount of business is being done, the present quotations for Pops or Alosts being approximately 52½ francs. An Alost correspondent writes to me this week as follows:—"I estimate that the Belgium crop of 1906 may be set at 50,000 cwt. Of this we have sent about 10,000 cwt. to England, about 1,000 cwt. to Germany, and our brewers have taken about 14,000 cwt. The stocks in the hands of merchants amount to about 5,000 cwt., and growers are still holding about 20,000 cwt." According to these figures the business done in Belgium this season is very small, and I am inclined to think that the crop must have been under set, and thus we can explain the low range of values that has continued.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Advice of a Legal character is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Right to Ground Game.

SIR,—Where the shooting is let, has the shooting tenant any right to the ground game?—A READER.

[The shooting tenant has a right to shoot over the land when the landlord has reserved the shooting rights, and he has a right to shoot the ground game concurrently with the tenant, who obtains the right to shoot by virtue of the Ground Game Act.—BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Clifden Fair, co. Galway, held on December 17, much smaller fair than usual; moderate attendance of buyers and demand brisk, especially for cattle in condition. A good clearance was effected at prices favouring sellers. Calves, 3rd class, £1 15s. to £2 10s; yearlings, 3rd class, £3 15s. to £5 2s. 6d.; two-year-old, 3rd class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7 7s. 6d.; three-year-old, 3rd class, £7 10s. to £8 12s. 6d.; 8 springers, 3rd class, £7 15s. to £9 15s.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Wet and Dry Milking.

SIR,—As you invite the views of your readers as to the merits of dry and wet-handed milking, I should without the least hesitation endorse the opinion of the writer dealing with the matter bearing on the standpoint—that of the cow, for, with all due deference to learned professors and their theory, I fail to see how the dry-handed would answer if brought into practice otherwise than by failure.

The results would, I venture to predict, soon show that dry-handed milking was impracticable, if not impossible, to strip the udder out dry, which is most essential in milking.—Yours, &c.,

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

December 20, 1906.

SIR,—In response to your invitation to your readers to give their views on the above matter, I beg to say that having lived all my life on a dairy-farm, milked thousands of cows myself, and seen tens of thousands milked by hundreds of different milkers, my experience is that no person can milk a cow properly with wet hands. Personally, I could not tolerate my own hands being wet whilst milking, though I have known some rare instances of men preferring to milk with wet hands, but most certainly they could not be called good milkers.

There can be no doubt as to which is the more cleanly method, though what is used to wet the hands with in wet-handed milking might make a difference. I have heard of men dipping their hands into the milk-pail for that purpose, but if any man dipped his hands into milk belonging to me he would be forcibly removed into the public road forthwith.

But probably we shall be enlightened by some advocate of wet-handed milking as to what is the proper thing to wet the hands with.—Yours truly,

A. J. K.

December 18, 1906.

Is the Tomato a Fruit?

SIR,—With respect to the letter from Mr. O. R. Thornton, which appeared in your last issue on the much-debated question as to whether the tomato is a fruit or a vegetable, he is, of course, correct in saying that it is a fruit, but in spite of this it is always classed and treated as a vegetable.

If a man exhibited a dish of tomatoes in a collection of fruit, he would stand a good chance of being disqualified, unless some special wording of the schedule admitted the inclusion, because it is a matter of general custom to class the tomato as a vegetable.

It fell to the lot of a waiter in a restaurant to settle the debated question to the satisfaction of his employer, if not to the general public. A gentleman ordered some tomatoes for his lunch, and thinking to get a rise out of the waiter asked him whether the tomato was a fruit or a vegetable.

Without moving a muscle of his face the waiter promptly replied, "Neither, sir, they're an extra," and so the gentleman found out when he came to settle the bill.

RUSTICUS.

December 19, 1906.

Potatoes in North Lincolnshire.

SIR,—All through the summer, which was so very dry, we imagined that our crop of potatoes could only be a small one, and as one dry week succeeded the other, the fear of disease was becoming non-existent in our minds.

Nice rains, however, came, and the crop increased, so that on October 1 a fairer scene could not be desired. Dales looked most flourishing, and better still, there was a big crop, underneath most luxuriant haulm.

I left my potatoes in this state, going up to assist at the Dairy Show, where, when I worked a little (which I sometimes do), I was so moistly hot, such was the state of the atmosphere, that the perspiration ran down my face.

Knowing by sad experience that this was the acme of weather for the dreaded Phytophthora infestans, my heart would travel up to my potato rows; 'twas in vain that my scientific friends tried to comfort me by saying that disease could not flourish after so dry a year, I refused to be comforted.

Returning home, the haulm, as I expected, was more than spotted, and in a few days complete blackness succeeded the intense green.

Much has happened since then. A bumper crop of Dates for quality and quantity has been gathered, showing at the time a little disease, which has increased in the pie during the hot October and November, until now three tons of bad must be thrown out for pigs before one ton can be found for human food.

I have just returned from the Smithfield Show, where the great lights of the potato world foregather, and we have told each other our tales of woe, some better and others worse than the above, ever and anon asking what must we plant in lieu of Dates as a late variety, which question I most earnestly ask you, Mr. Editor, or your readers to answer.

The public need not fear a scarcity, for German potatoes will grace (?) their tables, and in the meantime we will with pleasure pay the rates and taxes for them.

NORTH LINCOLN.

December 18.

THE NATIONAL POTATO SHOW: GENERAL VIEW OF THE HALL.

Calving Curiosities.

SIR,—I read with interest, in your issue of December 17, a calving curiosity

I thought I would send you an experience of mine.

I had a Shorthorn heifer which was due to calve at a certain date. About three months before her time her udder sprung, and she produced milk, and was milked for some time, thinking she had slipped her calf, but could not find it. After a time she came in season, and was put to bull. The same thing happened several times. I particularly wanted her in the dairy, but I found it no good, so I fattened her, and sold her to a butcher, about nine or ten months after I thought she slipped her calf, when he found a putrified calf in her. I may say she used to come in season about every nine days—a most extraordinary thing, I think.—Yours, &c.,

GEORGE COLLINS.

St. Michael's, Ashford, Kent,
December 19, 1906.

Abortion of Cattle.

SIR,—With regard to this subject it would not be out of place to mention the mistletoe as a dangerous source of trouble at this time of year. The careless handling of these boughs—much sought for at Christmas time—by gatherers in our orchards is greatly dreaded by farmers. I can speak from experience, having been a victim to serious results from cows picking up portions of these boughs which have been thus littered about.

It is well known that cases of abortion are highly contagious, and that prompt isolation is necessary, otherwise it is sure to be communicated to the rest of the herd in the way spoken of by M.R.C.V.S.—Yours, &c.,

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

December 19, 1906.

Shorthorn Judges.

SIR,—I will feel obliged if you could kindly let me have, or let me know where I could obtain, a list of English Shorthorn judges.—Yours truly,

M. W. LITTON.

County Cork Agricultural Society,
21, Cook Street, December 15, 1906.

[We can only suggest that you should communicate with the Secretary of the Shorthorn Society, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.C.—ED.]

The latest number of "Thornton's Circular" to hand is No. 153, Vol. 20, which gives a complete record of Shorthorn transactions from April 1 to June 30, 1906, and also gives the awards of Shorthorn prizes at the Royal Show, and details of the sale there.

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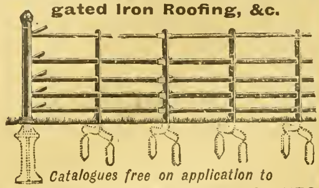
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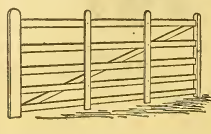
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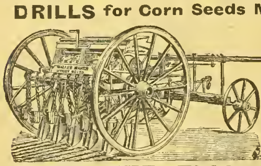
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BARLEY & MALT.

Barley at the Dublin Winter Show.

The barley-growing industry in Ireland has profited immensely by the efforts of, and money spent in prizes under the auspices of the Royal Dublin Society some years ago. The soil of the greater part of Ireland must be very eminently suited to the growth of this cereal or such number of samples with bold, plump berries that one sees in the sacks exhibited from all parts at the annual winter show at Ball's Bridge year after year would not be forthcoming.

Upon the present occasion there were no less than 287 entries, each entry consisting of one sack weighing 16 stone The long rows of sacks in the galleries of the large hall give the judges no little trouble in dealing out the prizes to their satisfaction, as a vast improvement has taken place the last two or three years in the dressing of the samples as well as in their growth the one great drawback at present appears to be due to the more weeping skies that prevail in Ireland over our own eastern and southern counties, which tend to give a much deader and somewhat stained colour to a good many of the lots, but as the majority of these samples are for the use of distillers, instead of the bright ale brewers on the English side of the Channel, the colour is not of as much consequence as the plumpness and soundness of the grain.

The bulk of the sample sacks this year were well brought out and must have been harvested very satisfactorily as such a thing as a sprouted corn could scarcely be found. A few sacks were rather spoiled by the presence of some wild oats to a small extent, and occasionally other seeds, whilst also now and again the piles had not been taken off any too well. In some cases, however, the samples were so uniformly good in berry, in dressing, and also in colour, as to be fit for any purpose. The sum of £290 was presented to the Barley Committee of the society to provide special prizes to be allocated to the various counties where the cereal is grown.

The various entries were, for the most part, furnished with ample particulars as to the growth, such as time of sowing and date of harvesting and threshing, previous crops, quantity of seed used per acre, distance of drilling, manures used, and yield of the crop, to which was also added a brief description of the nature of the soil upon which the crop was grown. The exhibits came from a very wide range of counties, seventeen sending entries which ranged from districts as wide apart as Kerry and Louth on the one hand, and Wexford and Galway on the other.

The co. Kildare supplied the greatest number of exhibits, and the general quality of these also stood highest. Wexford also sent up some very good barleys, and furnished twenty-five entries. Queen's Co. is also one of the finest barley-growing centres, both for yield and quality as well as acreage, and twenty-five entries came thence. The yield varied very much, in many instances being rather light, whilst in others very heavy crops must have been harvested.

The first prize sample in the co. Wicklow was grown from farmyard manure on light soil after potatoes and oats, sown on March 1 and cut August 17, the variety Chovalier. A heavier crop of the same variety carried off first prize in co. Louth, without manure, soil, light clay, and gravel, two previous crops oats and roots, time of sowing March 5, and harvesting August 10.

One of the best samples from Kildare was also Chevalier, previous crops barley and turnips, time of seeding April 12, and cutting August 28. No manure was used in this case and the yield fair. Another equal first from this county was very similar in all respects A first prize lot from co. Carlow was also Chevalier grown without manure, two previous crops oats and potatoes, time of sowing March 15, and there was a very good yield here.

From Wexford a first prize lot of very good barley and heavy yield was grown from Scotch seed no manure being used, and the two previous crops were oats and roots, this was sown February 11th and cut September 8th, showing a great variation in the period of growth and ripening.

Most of the first prize samples appeared to have been grown either without manure or with a little farmyard manure, as is usually the case this side of the Channel, too heavy dressings with artificial often causing the barley to bodge and spoil in a very growing season.

Altogether the barley exhibition appeared to create a good deal of interest, and is proving a great incentive to better cultivation and marketing. In Ireland too, the straw is of good value for feeding purposes (fodder).

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The annual dinner of the Old Students' Club was held at the Trocadero, Piccadilly, W., on Wednesday week, Mr. B. S. Cave, C.B., M.R.A.C., H.M. Consul, at Zanzibar, in the chair. The chairman proposed the toast of the Surveyors' Institution, to which Mr. Langridge and Mr. Goddard replied. Mr. E. B. Haygarth, secretary of the Royal Agricultural College, propesed the toast of the Board of Agriculture, and Mr. Winfrey, M.P., in reply, said it was the Cinderella of all the State departments, having only £120,000 a year to carry on its work, being one-third the sum allotted to Ireland for a like purpose. He hoped, however, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer had put more taxes on those best able to bear them they would get a larger grant, and be able to spend more than a beggarly sum of £10,000 a year on agricultural education. Later in the evening Mr. A. G. Weigall, replying to the toast of the Royal Agricultural Society, referred to Mr. Winfrey's allusions to the Land Tenure Bill, and said that as a land agent he could not find out that the farmers wanted it.

The chairman, in proposing the toast of the Royal Agricultural College, said it was not only the premier agricultural educational institution in the Empire, but it was the only one of a like character doing a great public work that received no recognition or assistance from public funds, and he thought the time might come when the State or the county councils would have to repair that omission.

The winter term of this college closed on Wednesday, when the principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the diplomas, scholarships, and other honours on the successful students. Owing to an alteration in the curriculum, which enables students to take the diploma examination in two parts, there were fewer candidates than usual for the final diploma examination, but the scholarship competitive was very keen, and the number of students obtaining scholarship standard marks larger than in any previous term. The external examiners for the diploma were:—In agriculture, Mr. H. W. Adams. Beds.; in agricultural chemistry, Dr. J. A. Voelcker, M.A. (Lond.); in land surveying and engineering; Professor H. Robinson, M.Inst.C.E. (London); in veterinary science, Professor W. Hurtung, F.R.C.V.S.; and in agricultural botany, Professor G. S. West, M.A. The chief awards were:—

Honour Diploma of Membership.—Maximum marks 2,000. Qualifying marks, 1,400. Algernon Stokes Mathias, Lamphey Court, Lamphey, Pembrokeshire, 1,447. Final examination, part 1: Craven. Popple.

Associateship.—Joscelin Maitland Turner, Birmingham, 1,316. Alexander Algernon Osborn, Johannesburg, S. Africa, 1,306.

Certificate of Proficiency in Practical Agriculture.—Maximum marks, 600. Qualifying marks, 450. Henry Nichols Mortimer, Ricards Lodge, Wimbledon Park, 458.

Scholarships.—Open to the whole College. Maximum marks, 5,600. Qualifying marks, 3,000. First scholarship, £25: Wathen Arthur Waller, Leek Wootton, Warwick, 3,237. Second and third scholarships, £10 each: Robert Henry Price, Cloudesdale Road, Balham, 3,169 (*eq*): Pandit Ram Gopal, M.A., Delhi. India, 3,152 (*eq*). Honourable mention for scholarships: Henniker, Joynson, Peek, Rebsch, Singh, P. Wright, W. Wright. Honourable mention on the term's work other than for scholarsbips: A. Casey, Sowerby.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

A useful catalogue of forest, fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, roses, herbaceous, &c., has beon issued by Messrs. Kennedy and Co., Dumfries, whose business dates back as far as 1787.

The "Canada Year Book, 1905" (second series), issued by the Census and Statistics Office, Ottawa, abounds with statistics on every conceivable subject, all, of course, relating to Canada. The tables deal with population, agriculture, manufactures, trade and commerce, public accounts, railways, and, in fact, practically everything under the sun that shines in Canada, and must have entailed an enormous amount of work.

The "Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales," published under the title of the "R.S.A. Annual," is conducted on much more popular and sensible lines than those of our agricultural societies. In the first place, it is published at the modest price of 2s. 6d. (members free); secondly, is is neatly bound in stiff covers, and profusely illustrated; and, thirdly, all the articles are of an interesting nature and not too technical, whilst another good feature is that the society's current show is confined to a comparatively small number of pages. It is altogether a Journal on which the society can be congratulated.

There are two ways of getting more eggs. Get more hens or feed those you have with a little Colman's Mustard in the morning food.

See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1906.

One teaspoonful of Colman's Mustard to every six fowls is about the right quantity, and it is most conveniently given by mixing with the dry meal before adding the water. It also helps to keep the hens in good condition.

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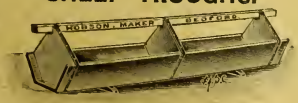

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"Sutton's Amateur's Guide in Horticulture for 1907," is, if anything, better than any of its predecessors, as for the first time the work is printed on paper that does full justice to the many splendid illustrations which abound in its pages, and the result is a highly artistic production. The aim of the compilers has evidently been to enable lovers of a garden to ensure a continuous supply of the finest vegetables and a constant succession of beautiful flowers and on the wise selection of varieties, combined with good management, the pleasure and the profit of a garden naturally depend, no matter what the extent of it may be. Therefore this charming annual is undoubtedly a valuable one to the amateur and, it may be added, no less to the professional. It can be obtained from Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, for 1s. post free.

In Part XVI. of the "Atlas of the World's Commerce" the full-page plates deal with telegraphic communication, showing at a glance the British and Foreign cables, and the various countries with and without telegraphic communication. Such a map as this should be in every merchant's office. Another full-page plate is given of Central Europe—Industrial, where by an ingenious set of signs and colouring the different productions of this part of the world will be readily understood. The other coloured plates deal with India—Agricultural and Industrial, and portion of map, Europe—Industrial; a set of four maps of the British Isles, dealing with agriculture, iron industries, textiles, glass, &c., with an interesting diagram based on the latest census showing the occupations of the people of the British Isles.

Retail Corn Merchants' Association.

A meeting was held at Mark Lane on Monday to form an association of this nature. Among firms who gave their adherence to the movement were Messrs. Smith and Co.; Messrs. Wellers, of Cranleigh; Messrs. Farrington, of Reigate; Messrs. Lillico, of Croydon; Mr. Poulter, of Wimbledon; Messrs. Trowers, of Redhill; Messrs. Osborne and Young, of Brixton; Messrs. Sanders Bros., of Limehouse; Messrs. Marcuse and Co.; Messrs. Bussell and Pike, of Chippenham; Messrs. Edwardes Bros.; Messrs. Glosters, of Woking; Mr. Strapp, of Mildmay Park; Messrs. Attlee, of Dorking; and Mr. Snowdon, of South Kensington. A few advised delay, but the Illicit Commissions Act, which comes into force on January 1, is held to make a definite association desirable as and from that date.

POULTRY.

Eggs from South Australia.

A new development in the egg trade, which is now being brought before the notice of the London produce merchants, is likely to turn out a great success. For some years poultry-farming has been increasing more and more in South Australia, and the quantity of eggs produced is now so large that the local and Commonwealth markets cannot absorb the supply.

The South Australian Government undertook to advance the freight on a small trial shipment, the producers themselves supplying the eggs, with the result that 700 cases of eggs were shipped by the steamship *Britannia*, and arrived in London on the 10th inst.

They were graded, packed, and chilled at the Government Produce Export Department, Port Adelaide, and none but absolutely fresh-laid eggs were accepted. They have arrived in first-class condition, and it would take an expert to tell the difference between them and fresh-laid English eggs. These eggs have not been frozen, but merely chilled to a temperature which has been proved by experiment to be most suitable for them.

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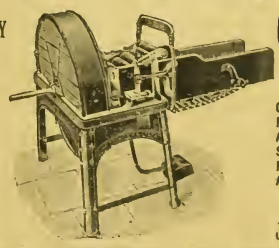

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Note to Regular Subscribers.

We may remind our readers that we are prepared to analyse free of cost for our regular subscribers, who are farmers, and not in trade as vendors of fertilisers or feeding stuffs, samples of minimum lots of 2 tons of either article, in cases where there is solid reason to suspect an attempt to defraud. The analyses are published, under a *nom de plume*, in the paper.

We are also willing to publish replies in these columns to inquiries relating to the quality and use of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

Fish Guano and Raw Phosphates.

To the Editor MARK LANE EXPRESS.

DEAR SIR,—I am sending to you per parcel post two samples of manure for analysis, one manure being fish guano, of which I have bought thirty tons on following guaranteed analysis:—10·11 per cent. ammonia, and 16·18 phosphate, which cost me £7 8s. per ton to my station.

The second manure is raw phosphate, the quantity purchased being 25 tons, with 50 per cent. guaranteed, which cost 9d. per unit.

In the fish guano I doubt the quality, and with the raw phosphate I have been led to understand it has been treated with some chemicals which are detrimental to the soil and plants.

Will you kindly analyse these manures and give full particulars of both through your valuable paper, of which, needless to say, I am a constant reader.—Yours, E. H. R B.

Fish Guano.

Results of Analysis.—The sample contains percentage of:—

Phosphate of lime	15·62
Nitrogen	7·58
Equal to ammonia	9 20

The sample is slightly deficient in both ammonia and phosphate, and if "E. H. R. B." will calculate out the value of this deficiency at the rate at which he is paying for the manure he will find that it amounts to over 9s. per ton.

Phosphate.

Results of Analysis.—The sample contains percentage of:—

Phosphate of lime	50·34

The sample is up to the guarantee. The addition to the phosphate consists mainly of carbonate of of lime, and appears to contain nothing detrimental to plants.

A Word for Bone Manures.

A few years ago there was a disposition on the part of agricultural analysts and professors to depreciate the fertilising value of dissolved bone manures, and to express the opinion that mixture of superphosphate of lime with a little sulphate of ammonia or other nitrogenous material could be depended on to produce equally good results at a less cost. Greater experience, however, has shown that the old-fashioned preference of many farmers, practical and intelligent men, for a bone manure is not without its justification, and can be defended even from a purely scientific point of view. A greater knowledge of the action of bacteria teaches us that these useful organisms flourish best when there is a supply of organic substances in the soil, and it is this organic character of bone manures which makes them more valuable than simple mineral compounds, such as superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda.

A pure dissolved bone fertiliser, in which the bone material has only been partly dissolved by acid, or a bone compound manure containing a considerable proportion of the bone structure softened and rendered friable by the action of the acid, possesses fertilising qualities which might with advantage to agriculture be more widely appreciated than they are by farmers. The plants may be regarded as the best judges as to what is good for them, and the luxuriant appearances of pastures dressed with such manure, or turnips to which they have been applied, are significant of their value.

Atmospheric Nitrogen.

The International Nitrin Company has been formed in Zurich, with a share capital of £80,000, to construct works on the Malaja Pass (Switzerland) for the extraction of nitrogen from the air by means of electricity and water-power.

On Manuring Malting Barley.

It is the experience of all barley growers that good malting samples cannot be obtained if the manures employed are highly nitrogenous in character.

According to Professor Percival, as expressed in his brochure, "Malting Barley," the direct application of large quantities of farmyard manure or heavy dressings of sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda will ruin the prospect of obtaining a good malting sample. Not only is there danger of the crop becoming laid, and consequently ruined in colour and plumpness of grain, but under such conditions it is coarse and thick skinned, and the large proportion of nitrogen in the ground makes it difficult for the brewer to produce sound beer from it.

In the ordinary four-course system barley follows turnips or swedes fed off with sheep, often with the addition of cake, corn, or hay. The soil in such cases becomes highly fertilised with manure containing an excessive proportion of nitrogen, the ingredient which above all others tends to produce a late-ripening and laid crop.

In addition to the badly-balanced manuring which this system entails, there is the objection that the land cannot be manured evenly by sheep-feeding, and the necessary fine, uniform tilth is difficult to obtain.

The ordinary four-course rotation seems, therefore, unsuited to the growth of barley of first class quality. Where, however, this system is practised and every care taken in the folding to secure an even distribution of the droppings, a great improvement in the quality of the succeeding barley crops can be secured by the application of 2 or 3 cwt. of superphosphate at the time of drilling the seed or just after. The superphosphate tends to check luxuriance of flag, indirectly strengthens the straw, and conduces to an early ripening of the crop.

Good results sometimes follow late sowing, as late as the last half of April on land upon which turnips have been fed off, and it is possible that this practice might be generally useful.

Barley of good quality may be grown after leys, sometimes after mangels carted off, but the best crop is, without doubt, most generally obtained after a white straw crop, preferably wheat. The Wiltshire system of two successive root crops followed by a crop of wheat, leaves the land in good enough condition for the growth of a crop of barley, even without the addition of artificial or other fertilisers.

Where the land is poor and a good crop of wheat has been previously taken from it, manuring for the barley crop becomes a necessity, as without such manuring the yield is too small to be remunerative, and the grain is liable to be thin.

The following mixture per acre is well suited for such cases:—

¾ cwt. of sulphate of ammonia,
2½ ,, ,, superphosphate of lime,

with the addition of ¼ cwt. of sulphate of potash in the lightest class of soils.

Purely Nitrogenous Manures.

The most important are nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, others being guano, rape dust, dried blood, fish guano, shoddy, &c. Other things being equal, nitrate of soda is specially suitable, say the Board of Agriculture in their leaflet on the subject—

(*a*) For use in spring and early summer, as in the manuring of hay, cereals, potatoes, and mangolds.
(*b*) For use on heavy land.
(*c*) For use as a top dressing.
(*d*) For use in a dry district.
(*e*) For use where immediate effect is desired.

Speaking generally, sulphate of ammonia suits better:—

(*a*) For use on crops that make their growth late in the season, for example, turnips.
(*b*) For use on light land.
(*c*) For use on soil holding abundance of lime.
(*d*) For use where it can be mixed with the soil (in contrast to top-dressing).
(*e*) For use in a wet district.

It is, however, often difficult to say for which of these two manures the conditions are most suitable; and then the question should be decided either by the relative cost of the substances, or by using a certain amount of both.

If one of the organic manures can be bought at a cheap rate, it may be used to some extent as an ingredient of a mixture.

Nitrogenous manure cannot usually be profitably employed on leguminous crops (peas, beans, clover, &c.); and on a mixed crop of, say, clover and grass, if the clover is to be preserved against suppression, they must be used sparingly, if at all. They must also be used with caution on barley, and especially so where a fine sample, rather than large yield, is looked for. Other crops, however, generally respond satisfactorily to the use of this class of manure.

Nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia are apt to be lumpy, therefore the farmer should look carefully to the mechanical condition. Nothing should be applied that will not pass a ½ in. riddle. Lumps larger than this will often kill plants with which they may come into contact.

Nitrate of soda is generally offered on the basis of 95 per cent. of purity (= 15·6 per cent. nitrogen or 19 per cent. ammonia), while commercial sulphate of ammonia usually contains 97 per cent. of the pure article (= 20·6 per cent. nitrogen or 25 per cent. ammonia). Sulphate of ammonia is thus the more highly concentrated manure.

Solid Excrements of Animals.

The solid excrement of the sheep is, weight for weight, according to particulars given by Dr. Aikman, the most valuable as a manure, as it contains more nitrogen and phosphates than the others, and at the same time is much drier.

The quantity of dung voided by different animals varies: thus the cow exceeds the horse in quantity of dung.

Horse Dung.—The composition of horse manure is perhaps the most uniform of all the manures produced by the different farm animals. This is due to the fact that the food of the horse is generally of the same kind, consisting of oats, hay, and straw.

The total excrements voided by a horse in a day have been calculated at 28·11 lb., of which only 6·37 lb. consisted of dry matter. These 28·11 lb. contained ·18 lb. of nitrogen and ·92 lb. of mineral matter. The amount of straw necessary to absorb this amount of excrement may be stated at from 4 lb. to 6 lb. The amounts of nitrogen and mineral matter in 4 lb. of straw are ·01 and ·23 lb. respectively. The total amount of nitrogen and ash, therefore, in the farmyard manure produced by a horse in one day would be ·19 lb. nitrogen and 1·15 lb. mineral matter; or, if we take the larger quantity of straw, somewhat more.

Taking these figures, we find that the amount of manure produced by a horse in a year will be from 11,720 lb. to 12,450 lb. (*i.e.*, from 5¼ to 5½ tons), containing from 69 lb to 73 lb. nitrogen, and from 420 lb. to 460 lb. mineral matter.

Horse dung being, comparatively speaking, of a dry nature, it is extremely difficult to effect its thorough mixture with the litter. For this reason the manure formed from horse excreta is particularly liable to rapid fermentation. In the process of fermentation the nitrogen is converted into carbonate of ammonia. As nitrogen in this form is of an extremely volatile nature, the risks of loss from this source are considerable. As illustrating this fact, it may be mentioned that the total percentage of nitrogen contained by fresh horse manure might be reduced in the process of fermentation to one-half of its original amount by loss from this source.

Cow Dung.—The composition of the manure from the cow is very much less constant than is the case in the horse-manure. An average statement of that composition is therefore very much more difficult to obtain. The number of analyses available for the purpose of forming this average is, however, very large. The manure produced by cows contains a large percentage of water. This is due to the large quantity of water they drink. It has been estimated that milch cows drink along with their winter food, for every pound of dry substance, 4 lb. of water, and in summer about 6 lb.

According to some experiments the excrements of a cow in a day amount to 73·23 lb., of which only 9 92 lb. are dry matter. These excrements contain 256 lb. of nitrogen and 1·725 lb. of mineral matter. Cow-dung is, owing to its more watery nature and poorer quality, very much slower in its fermentation than horse-dung. When applied alone, cow-manure is very slow in its action, and makes its influence felt for at least three or four years. It is difficult to spread it evenly over the soil, owing to the fact that, when somewhat dried, it has a tendency to form hard masses, which, when buried in the soil, may resist decomposition for a very long period. The cause of this is due to the presence of a considerable amount of mucilaginous and resinous matter in the solid excreta, which prevents the entrance of moisture and air into the centre of the mass. This tendency of cow-manure to resist decomposition will be greatly lessened in the case of a cow richly fed.

Chemical Manure in Russia.

A congress of landed proprietors of the Governments of Kieff, Kursk, and Kharkoff, at which the consumers of large quantities of superphosphates were represented, decided that, in the event of the syndicate of Russian superphosphate manufacturers not agreeing to reduce their price, they would purchase the whole of their requirements abroad.

Mixing of Artificial Manures.

Many of our readers will soon be considering what fertilisers they will be requiring, and what proportion of the different fertilising ingredients the fertilisers should contain. In our opinion it is best to buy the manures with the requisite guarantee from a reliable agent or from the manufacturers, but many farmers prefer to purchase the ingredients separately and mix them together as required. In such cases sulphate of ammonia is the usual and most convenient source of ammonia, and, therefore, it may be pointed out that it must not be mixed with another manure containing free lime, such as basic slag; but it may be compounded quite well with superphosphate, guano, bone meal, dissolved bones, kainit, and sulphate of potash.

Nitrate of soda, on the other hand, should not be mixed with dissolved manures, such as superphosphate, dissolved bones, or dissolved guano, but may be mixed with slag. Superphosphate should not be mixed with slag.

When mixing manures which seem inclined to be sticky, it is a good plan to add a little gypsum to the mixing, as it helps to make the mixing drier and generally improves the condition.

The Destruction of Rats.

Not only are rats most repulsive, but they are also a source of danger to mankind, as well as the cause of serious losses. It is estimated that the damage caused by them in one year in Germany exceeds £20,000,000, in Great Britain £10,000,000, and in Denmark £400,000.

Various means are adopted to keep down their numbers, but it is difficult on account of their fecundity, as they multiply at the rate of 800 a year from one pair. Traps are useful for a time, but the cunning animals soon know the meaning of the trap and avoid the danger. Poisons are partially efficacious, but endanger the lives of other animals, and have the additional disadvantage that the poisoned carcases become offensive.

Recently the aid of bactoriologists has been called in, and Professor Neumann was invited by the German Government to make a series of experiments. His investigations have resulted in the discovery of a preparation, which he calls "Ratin." The German Government have subjected this preparation to searching tests, and the Minister of Agriculture has sent out a circular in which he says:—In order to test the efficacy and practical use of "ratin," the Chamber of Agriculture for the province of Saxony has made exhaustive trials in its own bacteriological institute, as well as on a number of farms. The results of these experiments have now come to hand, and show that "ratin," when applied in solid or liquid cultures, causes among the rats (even in cases where ordinary poisons failed) a deadly epidemic, which kills off most of the animals, reaching often 100 per cent. The cultures, which are readily eaten by the rats, are easily applied, and in marked contrast to the usual ordinary poisons, are quite harmless to all domestic animals. In consequence of the successes that have so far been achieved with "ratin," the Chamber of Agriculture in Halle will in future prepare cultures of "ratin" at its own laboratory.

Prices of Fertilisers.

In consequence of advice of increased production in Chili, and the arrival of large shipments, the price of Nitrate of Soda has fallen considerably during the past fortnight.

The following quotations are approximate and free-on-rail, London, cash payment.

	£	s.	d.
Nitrate of soda	11	10	0
Sulphate of ammonia	12	10	0
Superphosphate, 26 per cent.	2	10	0
,, 35 ,,	3	6	3
Pure dissolved bones	5	7	6
Bone compound, ordinary	3	8	9
Bone Meal	5	10	0
Ground hoofs, 15 per cent.	9	10	0
Fish guano, first quality, scarce & dear	6	12	6
Ditto, second quality	5	7	6
Kainit	2	5	0
Sulphate of potash	10	0	0
Muriate of potash	9	0	0
Basic slag, 30 per cent. (ex works, Midlands)	1	13	0
Ditto, 38 per cent.	2	3	0

BASIC SLAG.
Highest Guarantees and RELIABLE.
Ask for LEEDS Brand
From any Agricultural Merchant of repute.
MANUFACTURED BY
THE LEEDS PHOSPHATE WORKS LTD.,
LEEDS (Yorks.)

INTERNATIONAL STOCK FOOD.
SIX FEEDS FOR ONE PENNY.
Makes CATTLE Quick Growers.
Keeps HORSES Healthy and Strong.
Fattens SHEEP in 30 Days' Less Time.
As a PIG Fattener it is Wonderful.
Prices: 1/- packet, post paid, 1/4; 2/- packet, post paid, 2/6; 4/- packet, post paid, 4/7; in pails, 14/- carriage paid. Poultry Food prices same as for Stock Food. Prices for Veterinary Preparations and Poultry Remedies on application.
Write for full particulars to the Sole Importers for the United Kingdom—
F. C. SOUTHWELL & CO., LTD., 75, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON,
OR THEIR LOCAL AGENTS.

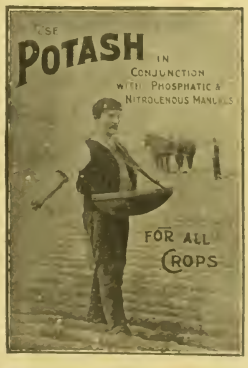
"A TRUE PLANT FOOD."
Gives immense increase in CORN, ROOT and GRASS CROPS, MARKET GARDEN CROPS, HOPS.
NITRATE OF SODA
Can be bought of all LEADING DEALERS in MANURES.
PAMPHLETS GRATIS from the PERMANENT NITRATE COMMITTEE,
3, Gracechurch St., London.

FERTILISERS & FEEDING MATERIALS
HY. RICHARDSON & COMPY., Agricultural Merchants and Manufacturers of Chemical Fertilisers, *will be glad to forward favourable quotation on application.*
Linseed Cakes, Cotton Cakes, Decorticated Cotton Cakes and Meals, and other feeding materials. Basic Slag, various qualities, percentages and fineness guaranteed.
Offices and Works: Skeldergate Bridge, YORK.

Burnard & Alger, Ltd.,
PLYMOUTH.
MANUFACTURERS OF . .
Complete Fertilisers for all Crops.
XXX Superphosphate, &c., for Grass Lands.

GUANO
PERUVIAN GUANO (as imported),
OHLENDORFF'S (Soluble)
DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO,
With Guaranteed Analysis.
Bone Manures, Superphosphate, Bone Meal.
SPECIAL MANURES FOR ALL CROPS.
ANGLO-CONTINENTAL (Late Ohlendorff's) GUANO WORKS.
London Agency: 15, LEADENHALL ST., E.C.

ALBERT'S BASIC SLAG.
Original Brand—"THOMAS PHOSPHATE POWDER."
BRITISH MAKE.
GREAT PHOSPHATIC MANURE,
SUITABLE FOR
ALL SOILS AND ALL CROPS
UNDER SUITABLE CONDITIONS.
Grass, etc., on Light Soils need Potash as well.
Pamphlets (regarding use on all crops) and names of Local Agents on application to—
CHEMICAL WORKS late H. & E. ALBERT,
15, Philpot Lane, London, E.C.



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SULPHATE OF POTASH,
MURIATE OF POTASH,
FOR ALL CROPS ON ALL SOILS.
Ask your Manure Merchant for Prices or apply to
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FOR NAME OF NEAREST AGENT.

BIBBY'S - - "CREAM - - EQUIVALENT" MEAL - - -

FOR

CALF-REARING.

Our Agents are continually hearing some such remarks as:—"I want you to send me two more bags of that 'Cream Equivalent' Meal. It is fine stuff, and I should like you to see my weanling calves; they are a splendid lot—a perfect show."

We like to hear talk like this, and do not wish for a better advertisement of this Meal than these "Cream Equivalent" reared calves are all over the country.

It is quite easy to prepare. It swells out into a fine creamy substance, the calves are fond of it, and there is no scour.

When the calves begin to eat, we recommend a little dry feeding—a mixture of "Bibby" Cake, Oats and Bran is particularly suitable, the former being at once nutritious and digestible; and calves so reared are always one of the sights of the farm, and make fine well-grown heifers with nice loose skins and plenty of good hair.

One cwt., costing **15/-**, carriage paid, is enough for two calves. It costs about 1/3 more to rear a calf on "Cream Equivalent" than on the cheaper calf foods, while the difference in value of the grown animal is most marked, both as to condition, health, and growth.

It is the most soluble Calf Meal on the market, and can be made up simply by soaking the meal in cold water for six or seven hours, if this suits the feeder's convenience better than by making up with boiling water in the ordinary way.

If you are interested in this subject, write for our new circular, "How to Rear Calves for the Dairy." It will be sent free of cost to any address on receipt of postcard.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS:

J. BIBBY & SONS,
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FOR HIGHEST CLASS—

"C&F" Pure Linseed Cakes,
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APPLY FOR PARTICULARS TO—

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(ESTABLISHED 1854),

OIL MILLS, HULL.

THE ABOVE BRANDS SUPPLIED THROUGH LEADING CAKE MERCHANTS.

MILES' CHAMPION NORFOLK BARLEY.

WORLD'S CHAMPION PRIZE,
Silver Cup and Gold Medal,
BREWERS' EXHIBITION 1905.

Patronised by H.M. THE KING.

Samples and Prices on application
DIRECT FROM THE GROWER.

C. G. MILES,

Abbey Farm, Alburgh, HARLESTON.

NO AGENTS.

CALF REARING

THE BEST METHOD, BUT THE MOST EXPENSIVE

SILCOCK'S (SOLUBLE) CALF MEAL

We only make one quality, viz.—the best. We solicit a trial and invite comparison by practical feeding.
At **12/6** per cwt., carriage paid, it is impossible to obtain better value; equal to most Meals at 5/- to 15/- per cwt. more. **R. SILCOCK & SONS, Union Street, LIVERPOOL.**

SHOWS

ANOTHER METHOD AND THE MOST PROFITABLE ONE

NO CURE! NO PAY!!

(Registered Trade Mark.)

G. F. DAWES'

is the only Guaranteed Cure for FOOT ROT.

Leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep. Trial Pot Free from the Manufactory.

Requires no Reduction in Price to Sell it.

G. F. DAWES,
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, Suffolk.

THE ONLY HUMANE PIG RING THAT PREVENTS ROOTING HAVING ENORMOUS SALES.

THE "PERFECT" PIG RING.

PRICES FROM IRONMONGERS AT

No. 1	2	3	4	5	6
4½d.	5d.	6d.	8d	10d.	1/2 per doz.

F. W. HARRIS & CO., Ltd. Plymouth.

LEARNER'S PATENT FOOT-ROT CURE

Guaranteed to cure & leave the Hoof soft & pliable.

TINS 3/- & 1/6 EACH.
POST FREE.

ALFRED J. LEARNER.
REDHILL, SURREY.

Appointed by Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural and Horticultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

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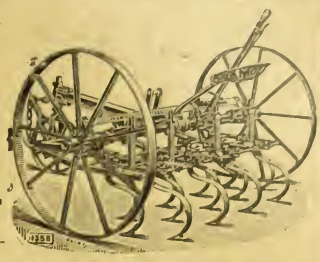

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WINTER WASH FOR FRUIT TREES.

ONE WASHING IN WINTER SAVES MANY IN SUMMER.

C.U. Winter Wash is a perfect wash for removing all Moss, Lichen, and Loose Bark from trees; absolutely uniform in strength; mixes instantly with cold water. Destroys the haunts of insects and thoroughly cleanses the trees. Every gallon makes 40 gallons ready for use. Sold in 2 and 5 gallon drums and 40 gallon casks. For full particulars write to—

THE CHEMICAL UNION, Ltd, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

DECEMBER 24, 1906.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: One year, 15s.; Six months, 7s. 6d.; Three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: One year, 17s. 6d.; Six months, 8s. 9d. Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

CHRISTMASTIDE.

We are on the eve of a festival not only universally observed throughout Christendom, but the most beneficent of any celebrated among the civilised nations of the earth; one in which the lion and the lamb may be said, in figurative speech, to lie down together, for the weak and most helpless are taken charge of and embraced by the strongest and most distinguished of their fellow-creatures, and it is regarded by all as an offence against the laws of propriety to allow any one to go hungry on a day peculiarly devoted to charity and goodwill to men.

The agricultural classes have always shared very intimately in the social reunions of the festival, the ancient traditions handed down to us of the burning of the ashen faggots, the Yule log, and the roasting of barons of beef in manorial house kitchens have only got into disuse by larger social organisations.

So far as farmers are concerned the year has proved more than a usual bountiful one in their corn harvest and realisations of good returns in live stock, so that it is only natural that they should rejoice and celebrate the annual festival with domestic and social ardour, but aid their farm labourers and their families to be gleeful. The British farmer at home is seldom done justice to as regards his hospitality and genial and hearty assistance to those most dependent upon him. Those who know him best are fully aware that his bounty comes spontaneously from his good nature. He has often to deal with the idle vagrants and impostors who give him an ill name, but there is seldom a case of destitution in his immediate locality or among those directly or indirectly dependent upon him that he does not to his best ability relieve.

Let us hope, then, that the sixth Christmas of the twentieth century will be a peculiarly happy and enjoyable one to the farmers and their households in rural districts universally. The year has been more than usually bountiful, and although prices of grain and of some other products may yield too low market prices to be quite agreeable, there are intelligent ways of consuming home corn advantageously give a higher return for it than by direct marketing.

Times are continually changing, and every succeeding Christmas Day the up-to-date farmer has something fresh to note down and observe in the rapidly-changing circumstances of land occupation in our thickly-populated wealthy country, but if he has his wits about him he will endeavour to march with the times rather than lag behind them.

The past year has been peculiarly successful to owners of pedigree stock, and all who can afford it find their best interests lie in endeavour to get a slice of good fortune to be found in the export trade. The statement is frequently made, and, of course, perfectly true, that the emoluments thereof are in comparatively few hands; still, there are reasonably good returns for all who breed with good judgment and discretion.

For ourselves, we have made extraordinary endeavours during the past year to make our journal serviceable as a general business paper to the agricultural classes. Our efforts have been well appreciated, but we further trust that the helpful work we have done will receive due recognition during the coming year.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

The following account issued yesterday shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended last Saturday. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (8,972), 11,287; sheep and lambs (1,928), 4,588; horses (273), 103.

Fresh meat:—Beef (162,172 cwt.), 75,857; mutton (80,113), 39,137; pork (18,207), 17,972.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (101,591 cwt.), 119,730; beef (1,786), 1,241; hams (21,933), 31,405; pork (4,135), 3,751; meat, salted or fresh (16,060), 8,842; meat, preserved (13,700), 3,073.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (78,252 cwt.), 78,230; margarine (29,656), 27,009; cheese (28,651), 46,124; milk, fresh (27), nil; cream (138), 133; condensed (21,881), 16,030; preserved (299), 326.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(396,289), 415,496; poultry (value £68,960), £28,870; game (value £2,221), £4,828; rabbits, dead, not tinned (3,568 cwt.), 2,854; lard (52,238 cwt.), 62,872.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—Wheat (2,078,300 cwt.), 1,252,200; barley (415,700), 667,900; oats (145,000), 168,400; peas (31,360), 22,030; beans (20,159), 10,040; maize or Indian corn (1,198,800), 783,800.

Fruit, Raw:—Apples (106,947 cwt.), 164,510; pears (797), 3,028.

Hay (1,805 tons), 2,668; straw (1,435), 527; moss litter (1,467), 2,325; hops (7,503 cwt.), 7,886; locust beans (8,260), 3,354.

Vegetables, raw:—Onions (119,122 bushels), 130,496; potatoes (15,070 cwt.), 21,735; tomatoes (8,236), 8,256.

The Decline of Agriculture in England.

In the House of Commons the other day, Captain Faber asked whether, during the last thirty years, the dependence of the United Kingdom on imported food had increased from £124,000,000 sterling to £205,000,000; whether the area of corn crops had diminished in the last thirty years by 3,000,000 acres; and whether any other European country showed such a marked decline in agriculture.

Mr. J. A. Pease, Lord of the Treasury, in reply, said the total value of the articles classified as food in the trade returns (excluding tea, coffee, cocoa, wine, beer, spirits, and mineral waters) imported into the United Kingdom was £126,000,000 in 1875, and £208,000,000 in 1905. The area under all corn crops in the United Kingdom was 11,399,000 acres in 1875, and 8,350,796 acres in 1905. Similar returns for the same period are only available for certain European countries, but in no case do they indicate so great a reduction in the acreage under corn.

Notes of the Week.

During the past week the influence of the festive season made itself felt in the country markets. There was little disposition to enter into business, and the markets will remain listless until the turn of the year.

Many a housewife is grumbling at the great advance in the price of Christmas fare.

It is a pity that the British farmer is not in a position to supply a larger proportion of the Christmas good cheer.

My acquaintance who accosted me at the Smithfield Show was evidently a little mixed. He said, "Merry Christmas, old friend," and
"A pocket full of cellar
And a money full of beer."

"John, dear, try this delicious butter. I bought it from a farmer's wife who called this morning," said John's affectionate spouse.

But John was very disappointed with the butter. The farmer's wife was a fraud.

She was only sly Mary Fox attired as a farmer's wife, who sold as fresh butter margarine wrapped up in muslin.

She was fined £10 and costs for what the magistrate described as the most wicked fraud ever brought before him.

And yet the same fraud on a wholesale scale has been perpetrated for a long while, and still goes merrily on.

The importation of eggs from Australia is likely to become a factor in the trade. A first shipment of 700 cases has been made, and is to be followed by regular consignments.

Perhaps the time will eventually come when English eggs and butter will be curiosities to be seen only in museums.

A Chicago merchant, according to the *Board of Trade Journal*, wishes to be put into communication with a buyer in this country of desiccated eggs and milk.

His wish, we expect, will remain unfulfilled, as for the present the British public have no appetite for Chicago preserved goods.

A selection of the best American horses, including some champion Yankee trotters, will be exhibited at the International Horse Show to be held in London next June.

Neglect of spraying is said to be the cause of the partial failure of the Irish potato crop.

In order to stimulate the consumption of milk in Germany, a society of farmers have established a Milk-Drinking Halls in many of the large towns.

These halls are sumptuously fitted up and made bright and cheerful. Milk, hot and cold, and in various attractive forms, is on sale, as well as light refreshments.

The system is said to be proving a great success and developing among grown-up people a taste for milk as a wholesome and popular beverage.

The French cider production during the year has been a bumper, the production being 21,714,381 hectolitre, against 4,000,000 in 1905.

"The faithful old cow." A writer pays the following tribute to the cow:—"You draw your dividend on your cow every night and morning. The wheat crop may rot in the field, your hog may die from cholera, the beef trust may squeeze the profit out of the steers, but the old cow quietly plods along, always doing her share to make the farm profitable."

The daily newspapers of all shades of political opinion contain sympathetic remarks in connection with the recently-issued report on the decline of our agricultural population.

But "fine words butter no parsnips," and sympathy which finds expression only in words will do nothing to remove the serious economic evil.

The remedy will have to be found in some more drastic measure than public opinion at present is prepared to carry out.

At a recent show in New Zealand it is reported that one firm sold £3,000 worth of milking machines.

At several of the recent Farmers' Club meetings the subject of beet sugar manufacture was discussed, and it only wants a satisfactory announcement by the Government on the question of the Brussels Convention to encourage the erections of factories in different parts of the country.

For some unexplained reason the beech tree is struck by lightning less frequently than other trees, while the oak seems to exercise an attraction for the electric fluid. For every beech tree struck there are fifty-four oak trees.

The president of the Canadian Manufacturer's Association recently said at a meeting: "West of us 171,000,000 acres of arable land await the plough. If we cultivate only one quarter our granaries will contain more than four times the requirements of Great Britain." A cheerful future prospect for our wheat growers.

"On the whole," said the aged weather prophet, "I have found that the safest course is to predict bad weather." "Why?" asked the student. "Because people are much more ready to forgive you if the prediction does not come true."

The deputation from England which recently went to New York to arrange for the exhibition of the best American horses at the International Show, to be held at Olympia next June between Derby and Ascot weeks, has returned with its mission accomplished.

A representative committee, including Mr. Alfred Vanderbilt, Mr. Reginald Vanderbilt, and Mr. Clarence Mackay, is now engaged in arranging for the selection and transport of the best American animals.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25.—Christmas Day. All English markets closed—Many Fat Stock Shows in Scotland—Inverurie Cattle and Sheep Market.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26.—Boxing Day. All English Markets closed—Horse Fairs at Sheffield, Shrewsbury, Saintfield and Colne—Pig Fairs at Colne.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27.—The "Baltic" reopens: London—The "Atlantic" reopens: Liverpool — Metropolitan Cattle Market reopens—Chester and Ilkeston Horse Fairs—Nantwich Cattle Fair—Rugely Agricultural Hiring Fair.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28.—Business resumes at Mark Lane—Agricultural Tenders for the Petworth Union. Last sending-in day Sandbach Cattle Sheep and Hiring Fair.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29. — Ashbourne Fair.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31.—Rugby Horse and Cattle Fair — Bridgnorth and Skipton Fairs.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1. — The "Baltic," "Atlantic" and Term Markets closed — General Holiday in America, on the Continent, and in Scotland. But all the ordinary Corn Markets of a Tuesday: Lynn, Ipswich, &c., will be held as usual.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 18, 1906:—

Period	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection. No.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks. No.	Sheep Scab. Outbreaks Reported. No.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Other Animals. No.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs. No.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked. No.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks. No.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked. No.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks. No.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked. No.	Anthrax. Outbreaks. No.
Week ended December 15, 1906	230	52	30	...	...	23	15	...	...	26	20
Corresponding week in 1905	166	22	30	...	...	38	22	...	...	39	24
1904	55	8	42	...	...	36	23	...	...	39	25
1903	142	28	76	...	...	23	17	...	...	27	16
Total for 50 weeks in 1906	6,907	1,215	478	...	...	1,970	1,046	...	...	1,257	893
Corresponding period in 1905	3,684	787	856	...	...	1,999	1,168	...	...	1,273	934
1904	5,457	1,161	1,265	...	...	2,562	1,463	...	...	1,470	975
1903	7,744	1,433	1,621	...	...	2,407	1,403	...	...	1,095	732

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

PIGS.

The British Berkshire Society.

Included in the report which was adopted at council meeting of the British Berkshire Society, held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, in Smithfield week, was the decision to offer the value of £18 in prizes to the Royal Agricultural Society of England for their young sow class at Lincoln; three champion prizes of £5 each to the Royal Counties, the Bath and West, and the Oxfordshire societies for their next year's show. Also champion prizes of 3 guineas each to the Suffolk Agricultural and one or two other societies.

A report from a special committee appointed to revise the schedule of the "standard of excellence" for Berkshires was received and approved; a copy of the same will be printed in future volumes of the Herd Book.

A resolution was passed—to become effective after the issue of Vol. 23:—"That no entry shall be registered unless the pedigree is signed by the breeder (his agent or executors) of the animal."

The summer meeting of the council was fixed to take place at the Royal Counties show at Maidenhead, and then twenty-five new members were elected.

The general meeting of members took place immediately afterwards, the President in the chair. After the Minutes were read, Mr. R. W. Hudson, of Danesfield, was unanimously elected president for the year 1907.

A resolution, proposed by Mr. W. T. Hall, was passed, "that breeders be allowed to register a prefix, or affix on payment of 2s. 6d., such prefix or affix (after being registered) to be the property of the person registering, and may not be used by any other person."

The adoption of the report from the council was proposed by the chairman, seconded by Mr. J. Jefferson, and carried.

The president, commenting on the very satisfactory financial and general position of the society, said how gratifying was the substantial increase of membership by the election of twenty-five new members, making thirty-five for the year, and a present total of 177. The number of entries in our last volume (twenty-two) was the largest issued hitherto. The report certificates issued this year numbered 288 against 153 last year, half of these being sent to the Argentine, where he believed there would be a great future trade. He would also like to mention that in the carcase classes at the present Smithfield Show the majority of the prizes, including the championship, were won by animals of the Berkshire breed.

Successful Co operation. — Mr. E. J. Cheney, who presided at the second ordinary meeting of the Eastern Counties Co-operative Farmers' Association, held at Ipswich on Tuesday, was able to give a highly satisfactory report to the shareholders. He said that the turnover for the year ending December 31 last was between £49,000 and £50,000, of which £17,352 related to pigs. This year, for the eleven months ending the 30th of last month, the turnover amounted to no less a sum than £110,462, of which £43,189 was in connection with their pig trade. These are figures, said Mr. Cheney, of which I think everyone will agree you have reason to be justly proud, and they form a striking object lesson of what can be accomplished when farmers stand together to advance their common interests. The increase in our membership and credit is no less gratifying. At the end of last year we had a membership of 289, representing 99,730 acres, and a nominal capital of £2,493. To-day we have a membership of 445, representing 142,950 acres, and a nominal capital of £3,576; and further, we have been able to do our large turnover on a called-up capital of under £1,000.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

THE Englishman, thinking himself a horseman—as to a great extent he is justified in doing for is not England the stud farm of the world, despises or affects to despise the humble mule, and when mules are wanted for transport much money goes out of the country to those who have no prejudices against anything which they can breed to a profit. I was talking to a gentleman the other day, a distinguished naturalist as well as a practical breeder, and he expressed his surprise at the bitter prejudice which many English farmers have against an animal which our history proves is of the most useful and hardy, and that for certain work is invaluable. He has had considerable experience with mules, and he resents the commonly received idea that the mule is stupid and obstinate. Mules, according to him, are much more intelligent than horses, and they also are hardier, and will live well and have a sleek coat where horses will starve. As beasts of burden and for farm work of certain kinds they are admirably adapted, and where would the Mountain Battery be without its mules?

HUNTER FILLY, "WATERCRESS."
Won in addition to a First Prize, the Challenge Cup for the best Young Hunter at the Hunters Improvement Society's Show this year. She is a three-year-old by Burnock Water, out of Mullingar Junior, and was exhibited by Mr. F. A. Rickaby, Prospect Stud Farm, Easingwold, Yorks.

CURIOUSLY enough, a day or two after I had the conversation with my friend I came across a very interesting article in *Blackwood's Magazine* which corroborated everything that he said. That they are more intelligent than horses the writer of this article insists, and he gives his reason, which seems to me a perfectly valid one. The mule, he tells us, has no nerves, whilst, as we know, the horse is a bundle of nerves which he has under no control whatever. The experiences of this artillery officer are that, if mules are treated kindly they will be docile enough, and he testifies to their courage and stamina, and tells of one mule that kept her place in the march without making a sign of fatigue till she fell down in a dead faint. But the mule will stand no nonsense; no tricks must be played with him, or he will be sure to resent it, and the mule, it must be remembered, gives no warning when he is about to kick as the horse does, and he seldom misses his mark.

I HAVE written about mules this week because, on the face of it, my friend's assertion that English farmers were neglecting their own interests for a foolish prejudice seemed one that was worth examining. Granted that the mule is a fine draught animal; that he can do nearly all farm work as well as a horse: that if he is fairly treated, he is docile and even affectionate, what is there to say against him? Well, I think no one will say that he has a good mouth. The set on of his head proves that to pull at him would be like pulling at a standing tree. And so it is impossible to make a hack of him, though he shapes none so badly in harness. It seems to me that the great objections to breeding mules are that they are fitted for draught alone, and that they will not reproduce the kind. So that the balance is certainly in favour of the mule so far.

WITH respect to the statement that mules are impossible as hacks I remember one that was a very hard nut to crack indeed when hounds were running in a wild moorland country. He was a big mule, standing over 15 hands high, and it was of course necessary to ride him with a crupper. He was treated with the customary derision when he appeared at the meet ridden by a lad, and people said all kinds of things about him. They said something very different when at the end of an hour and a half over the moors and hills the mule was in nearly as good a place as any of them. He could go where no horse dared go, and the way he picked his way from one fairly sound place to another over some of the bogs would have been a treat to see if we had not had to gallop a long way round. He was hunted for half a season and then he was bought by a friend of mine, a large dairy farmer, and he ran in his milk cart for years, and wore out more than one horse. I do not remember ever seeing him jump what might be called a fence—that is a big flying jump such as a stiff thorn hedge or big timber, but he could creep over a country wonderfully, and was a safe mount. I believe he developed a temper after some years, but I am not sure on this point. It is possible, however, for the lads who drove the milk carts in those days were incorrigible, and were always teasing the animals they drove. And a mule will not stand teasing.

THIS, however, is a digression. Let us look for a moment at the breeding of mules in England. Of course, no one would advocate breeding mules from Shire mares, or Clydesdales, or Suffolks. But there is a class of small sturdy cart mares which could well be utilised to breed mules, and breeding mules for them would mean a readier profit than grading them up to the Shire or Clydesdale or Suffolk type For hill farm work mules are admirably adapted, and if we could get over our prejudice against them, they are good for roadwork too. They would be found much more economical on some of the small hillside farms than horses are, and there will always be a good market for army purposes alone for more mules than are likely to be bred in England.

MY readers do not require reminding that I have always held that the cry of the pessimist about the scarcity of brood mares has been exaggerated, and that it is the loss of the quality rather than the numbers of our brood mares that we have to regret. Sir Walter Gilbey, in a very interesting article, expresses it as his opinion that we have quite as many, if not more, brood mares than we can use economically, and that the quality of the mares we have will compare favourably with those of their predecessors of forty five years ago. He cites the quality of the horses which are shown at the various horse shows in the country in support of his contention, and he certainly makes out a good case. That we are short of good stallions is his complaint, and, to a certain extent, this is very true, and it will continue to be true.

WITH much of what Sir Walter Gilbey says about the supply of mares I am in strict agreement. I have always held that we have a sufficiency of high-class mares to make a start on an improved system of breeding, and I have never been one of those who have gone about lamenting the decadence of our horse stock. But I am not quite sure that Sir Walter Gilbey is correct in saying that our best mares are not taken abroad. In some breeds, the Cleveland Bay and the Yorkshire Coach Horse for example, I am sure that the best mares have been sold to go abroad, and that those breeds are suffering now from the mistaken policy of selling the best mares. Of that there is no doubt. With Hunter or Hackney mares, or with mares of the heavier breeds, the same sort of thing does not prevail. They are not so much of the General Purpose horse, as the two former breeds, and hence, perhaps, the reason that the drain has not been so heavy upon them.

SIR WALTER GILBEY gives it as his opinion that though we have plenty of brood mares, we breed fewer horses in proportion than we used to do, and in that he is certainly right. And he says, and quotes Mr. Charles Tindall in his support, that the reason is that it does not pay to breed Hunters at any rate. In which, perhaps, he is only partially right. There is no doubt at all that fewer farmers hunt, the more the pity, than did thirty or forty years ago, but I think it is rather because their expenses, social and otherwise, are much heavier than they were thirty years ago, and consequently they do not breed Hunters, as hunting would take up too much of their time, and it is rather a risky business. Risky of course it always was, but a man did not mind the risks when he could ride the misfits himself, and get a good pull out of the plums.

IT comes as a surprise to anyone who has to pay a big figure for the horse that can carry him—and you do not get much in the way of a Hunter for £100—that Hunter breeding does not pay. If a man can sell his four-year-olds at anything from £80 to £100, hunter breeding will pay well enough. But I am afraid our farmers are not, as a body, such good horsemen as they were. In pre-railway days they had to be good horsemen. They had to ride, at any rate, for it was practically the only way of getting from one place to another. The next generation or two were bred up to the same traditions, and as times were good they kept the hunters. Then came other means of locomotion, and a more complicated civilisation, and then, of course, other interests interfered with the riding in early youth. The older generation of farmers had to ride, and consequently most of them rode well. Unless a man can ride and train his own hunters he is not likely to make much profit out of breeding them. But I can put my hands on several men who make a very good thing out of breeding Hunters, even in these days; but they are all riding men.

THAT no system of premium will ever bring breeders of half-bred horses and Hunters the class of stallions which their predecessors could get at when there were no railways is certain. The Government may spend £50,000 a year in premiums, and they will never secure for tenant farmers and breeders of half-bred stock such stallions as Hambeltonian, Haphazard, Camillus, Pacolet, Delpini, and others of like class whose services were obtainable in the early part of the last century. It stands to reason that they should not. But that is no reason why they should not increase their grant to the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding. Since the inauguration of the Royal Commission Show at Nottingham, in 1888, a great improvement has taken place in the class of stallions shown and in the class of Hunters bred, quite sufficient improvement to justify further expenditure in this direction.

I CANNOT agree with Sir Walter Gilbey that the Brood Mare Society stands self condemned. I have not seen any of the mares which the Brood Mare Society has leased out to farmers, but I have seen the mares which the Duke of Portland has lent to his tenants, and I am confident that anyone who knew what light horse breeding was in the Welbeck district will agree with me that since the Duke has provided his tenants with brood mares the improvement has been marked. An expensive mare is not necessarily a good brood mare,

and the £40 does not look much to give for a brood mare. I have known more than one that has cost less than that, and that won all over the country to boot. Perhaps the friends of the Brood Mare Society may over-state the case, but it is so easy for enthusiasts to over-state a case on either side of an argument, especially when the real facts are so difficult to get at.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale of Hunters at Leicester.

Messrs. Warner, Sheppard and Wade held their last sale before Christmas at Leicester on the 15th inst., when there was a big attendance and trade was very brisk, the top price during the afternoon being 190 guineas, which was paid for a five-year-old chestnut gelding sent up by Sir George Farrar, D.S.O., who has returned to South Africa. The Duke of Penaranda having met with an accident all his hunters were sent up for sale, and capital prices were paid for the best of them. Bandit, a seven-year-old, realised 180 guineas, Whitelegs, 155 guineas, Hemplow 110 guineas, and Somerby 81 guineas, Mr. W. Newman accepted 90 guineas for a weight carrier well known with the Croome and Worcestershire packs, and Cribbage, the property of Mr. W. Carnley, realised 80 guineas, while Mr. F. M. Balding sold a bay gelding up to a good weight for 90 guineas. Mr. W. Threlkeld, of Kirkoswald, Cumberland, who sells annually, accepted 75 guineas each for First Flight and Bander, and 68 guineas for Surety; while Lord Howe sold Narboro' for 60 guineas, and Mr. T. H. C. Cox a bay gelding with which he had won two point-to-point steeple-chases for 75 guineas. The Master of the Rochdale Harriers, Mr. J. T. Pilling, sold Comrade for 75 guineas, and a bay gelding by Yard Arm, sent up by Mr. W. Graham Niven, was a bargain at 50 guineas.

The International Horse Show at Olympia.

The directors of the proposed International Show to open in Olympia on June 7 next recently sent a deputation to the New York Show to make arrangements with the principal American and Canadian exhibitors, and to urge them to join in the international competition. The result has been entirely successful, and all the Americans consulted expressed themselves most heartily in support of the idea. The owners of the principal stables are already preparing for the trip, and the support of such influential men as Mr. Alfred Vanderbilt, Mr. Reginald Vanderbilt, Mr. Gerken, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Stotesbury, &c., makes the show a foregone success. The following report of the preliminary meeting is copied from the *New York Herald*:—

Prominent horsemen were called together by James T. Hyde, assistant secretary of the National Horse Show Association of America, yesterday, to discuss the question of the proposed International Horse Show to be held in London June 7 to 13 next year. They met in the directors' room at Madison Square Garden. A committee consisting of Alfred G. Vanderbilt, John Gerken, and James T. Hyde was appointed to select a committee to have charge of the arrangements for American exhibitors.

Nearly every one present expressed his intention of crossing the sea and sending his best horses to compete.

Mr. Euren, who had come over from London to interest American horsemen in the proposal, pointed out that the date of the show, June 7 to 13 inclusive, was between the Derby and Ascot weeks, when everyone will be in town. The prize list, said Mr. Euren, totalled 35,000 dols., besides which numerous special prizes had been offered the directors by private individuals.

He also pointed out that should American and Canadian exhibitors care to, they can enter a circuit of shows, beginning with the International Show, from June 7 to 13, then going to Richmond open-air show next day, then to the Royal Show at Lincoln, and after that to The Hague Show.

With regard to the judging, Mr. Euren said it was proposed to have an international jury, each country concerned to have representatives among the judges.

James T. Hyde thought it was no use attempting to send American horses over unless at least one hundred representative animals could be sent.

Alfred G. Vanderbilt said: "I shall be glad to send all my horses over and I intend going over myself."

Reginald Vanderbilt, in a speech as short as his brother's, said: "I shall be very glad to send mine over, too."

John Gerken caused a laugh by saying: I will send mine over providing they have a four-in-hand event for horses under 15 hands."

Clarence Mooro said he was not doing much exhibiting, but would go over and take some horses with him, "just to make a show of it."

Mr. Beck suggested that the American Government be approached and asked for help to enable representative horses to be sent over. He said that the Canadian Government would assist the Canadian representatives, and he thought that President Roosevelt, sportsmen that he is, would be found willing to lend his aid in this direction.

Subsequently the provisional committee met and elected a strong representative American board to make arrangements on the American side, to examine the prize list which the English directors had submitted for their suggestions, to see to the shipping of horses, gathering of entries, enrolling members, and to do all other things necessary to bring the affair to a successful issue.

Shire Horse Society.

Fifteen new members were elected at the meeting of the council of this society held at the society's house, 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 11th inst., Mr. R. W. Hudson (president) in the chair.

At this meeting Mr. A. H. Clark presented the report of the Editing Committee, and stated that the committee had that day confirmed the minutes of their previous two meetings, at the last of which, viz., on November 20, they had revised the proofs of Volume 28 of the Stud Book, and also authorised its issue when completed.

They recommended that the issue of duplicate export certificates printed in red (for the use of the Customs authorities) be discontinued, as they were no longer collected from the exporter. Applications had been submitted for the following prefixes and were granted:—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Chearsley	Exors. of R. Roadnight.
Cleveleys	Thomas Waring.
Tidenham	J. L. Talbot.
Vicarwood	Ralph Wooddisse, jun.

The notes on the 1906 show had been submitted to the meeting on that day and had also been approved.

Mr. Hudson reported that the references from the last meeting had been carefully considered, and the Horse Show Committee recommended that the conditions created in 1905 and 1906 by the foaling regulations for brood mares should be brought up again at a meeting of the Horse Show Committee held after the next show. The misuse of soap and its inclusion (when used for other purposes than washing) as a disqualification had also been carefully considered, and the committee recommended that Rule 24 relating to disqualification should be so amended as to read:—

"The use of resin, soap, or other substances designed to give an artificial appearance, &c., will act as a disqualification."

An application from the Territorial Live Stock Association of Calgary was favourably entertained, and the secretary was instructed to offer them a silver medal for the best Shire horse exhibited at their show.

The secretary read a letter from the secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, inviting the society to send delegates to a conference to be held to discuss various questions with reference to the management of shows, &c., and after a short discussion it was resolved, upon the motion of Mr. E. Snow Fordham, seconded by Sir P. Albert Muntz, that the council approved of the suggested conference, and they would be prepared at the right time to nominate delegates to represent the Shire Horse Society.

The dates for the council meetings in 1907 were arranged as follows—viz., January 29, February 28 (at show), March 26, June 4, November 5, and December 10, after which the council adjourned.

Hunters' Improvement Society.

Among other matters dealt with at the meeting of the Hunters' Improvement Society's Council, held on the 6th inst., was a letter from Colonel Deane with memorandum on national horse-breeding signed by himself, Lord Donoughmore and Mr. Algernon Turnor, C.B., with reference to the recent conference on horse-breeding at the Board of Agriculture. Sir Merrik Burrell briefly explained the purport of the memorandum, pointing out that if the Government could see their way to increasing the grant of the Royal Commission on Horse-breeding to £25,000, it could be used to great advantage in three directions for the benefit of stallions and mares. They could maintain and enlarge the present premium system and apply to England the system which was working so favourably in Ireland, and also bring into operation that started by the Brood Mare Society. The main idea was to put suitable stallions at the disposal of farmers at a low fee. If the War Office could see their way to purchase horses at a younger age there would be a prospective market available. He therefore moved:—

"That this council is in entire concurrence with the views expressed in the memorandum on National Horse-breeding, and think it advisable to forward this memorandum to the Minister of Agriculture, signed by the president of this society, together with a covering letter expressing the opinion of the council as to the great and urgent need of substantial addition being made to the grant already voted to the Royal Commission on Horse-breeding.

Colonel Victor Van de Weyer seconded the resolution, and urged that the council could not do better than co-operate and sign the memorandum. They would be following the suggestion of the Minister of Agriculture, who would be better able to present the scheme to the Chancellor of the Exchequer with a representative body of opinion in its support.

H.R.H. Prince Christian (the president) agreed with the views they had heard, and expressed his willingness to sign both the memorandum and the covering letter.

The resolution was adopted, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Colonel Victor Van de Weyer and Sir Merrik Burrell for so ably representing the society at the Conference on Horse-breeding.

Mr. Romer Williams, chairman of the Editing Committee, reported that the committee had again considered the pedigrees of the three of the brood mares awarded gold medals at shows during 1906, the entries being deferred from the October meeting pending further proof of breeding. They now reported that only in one case could they recommend the confirmation of the award.

Hon. Alexander Parker, chairman of the Horse Show Committee, reported that letters had been received from the Highland and Agricultural Society and the Royal Dublin Society accepting the gold medals authorised by the council at the October meeting. The Royal Commission on Horse Breeding had intimated that, subject to the approval of His Majesty and the Treasury, they unanimously accepted the invitation to hold their 1907 show in conjunction with the Hunters' Improvement Society in March next, giving the Hunter stewards access to the ring and veterinary yard on the Tuesday, as in previous years.

The prize list, as revised by the Committee at their last meeting, was presented, and its issue recommended.

The Chairman reported that the circular letter conveying the revised offer of gold and silver medals at affiliated shows has been under his consideration, and the Committee shared his opinion that these medals should be offered, as in previous years, as special prizes, and that they should only be open to those animals awarded class prizes at the affiliated shows. This report was adopted.

In response to the invitation from the Royal Agricultural Society, the Council appointed Sir Merrik R. Burrell, Bart., and the Secretary as representatives of the Society at the Conference which the Royal Agricultural Society of England were convening to discuss various questions relating to the management of shows and the general well-being of the Societies.

Six new members were elected and the following dates fixed for the meetings of the Council in 1907.

Thursday, February 7; Tuesday, March 12 (at Show); Thursday, April 11; Monday, June 3; Thursday, October 17; Thursday, December 12.

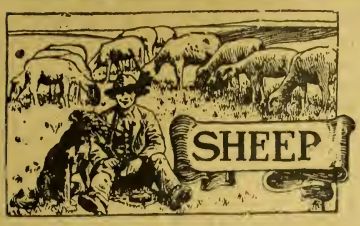
VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Mare with Tender Feet.

SIR,—I bought a half-bred mare last spring, seven years old, very poor. Since she has got into condition she seems very tender on fore-feet; she lifts first one up, then the other; also stands propping with them when stood in cart. I have got her shod in leather; feed her on chop and bran and very little oats. I should be pleased to know if she can be cured, and the best way to treat her. —ANXIOUS.

Answer: Lameness is not, as so many appear to think, a disease of the feet or limbs, but the manifestation of the pain caused by the disease. "Tenderness" is slight lameness, the pain not being sufficiently great to cause halting, and thus "tender on the fore-feet" does not give any clue to the cause or the nature of the disease. You might be "tender on the feet" yourself—some folks are—but you would hardly expect a doctor to prescribe for you on the strength of that. Horses sometimes go tender from chronic laminitis, incipient navicular disease, laminal congestion, corns, contraction, and a number of other diseases of the feet, the pain of which is not sufficient to cause actual lameness or sheer inability to stand concussion with the ground or sustain the weight of the body. In very many cases what is put down to "tender on the feet" has nothing to do with the feet at all, which are as sound as the proverbial "bell of brass," but is due to excessive "wear," or injury to the tendons. We cannot tell you "if she can be cured" when we know nothing of what is the matter with the animal; nor can we advise "the best way to treat her" under such circumstances. We want to know why the mare goes tender, and something about the appearance and condition of the feet. In the meantime, try cold water swabs, and stick to the leathers unless the frogs are thrushy.



Notes and Jottings.

THE Smithfield Show is associated intimately with the Leicester breed of sheep, because in its early days interest was very closely centred on it; in fact, the improvement taking place in the breed and the interest aroused in it was a very potent cause of the society's formation. The breed in its pure state does not loom so large in the public eye as it did then, but it was the means by which so many other breeds were improved, that in looking at any long wool breed we see strongly-marked evidence of its influence.

IN some ways the Leicester seems to be overshadowed by its sub-breeds, which appear able to adapt themselves to an extremely wide range, and one had an impression some years ago that it might in a comparatively short period be regarded as a disappearing breed. However, there is little doubt that there has been an increased stamina worked into it that has placed it on a stronger basis. The sheep shown at Smithfield did not suggest any appearance of decadence, in fact were full of vigour and the essential features of modern Whiteface quality. This we have noticed in the breeding shows also; and, doubtless, the breed is feeling and will feel the benefits of its modernising. It still is a necessary breed, as on some soils breeds which are partly descended from it have a way of running away from type, and require to have fresh dash of the original blood instilled to keep them up to the mark. Nor is the foreigner by any means done with it.

THE Leicester takes part of the credit for the great success of the Lincoln longwool; it did not give the size for which the Lincoln has always been celebrated, but it toned down the coarseness which was once a distinguishing feature of the breed. Messrs. Dean's wonderful pen of wethers stands out as a fine example of the way the Lincoln men have developed quality and yet maintained all the size and vigour that any one could wish for. It was a pen which will not be forgotten for a long while.

WITH the finish of the fat stock shows and markets the thoughts of shepherds will be directed to the more ordinary, but not less essential, duties of the lambing pens, and while most people are enjoying their Christmas beside a cheery fire, not a few shepherds will be watching their flocks by night in lambing pens on some bleak down, awaiting the advent of the early arrivals; not always the most inspiriting period in a lambing season, as so often where they have unfavourable conditions during the season of pregnancy they reveal themselves in bad presentations or premature ones. If the start is good, there is always hope of a favourable season.

THOSE who postponed buying in store sheep until the New Year in the hope of getting them cheap will not find themselves in such a favourable position as they reasonably expected in the early part of autumn, when the food supply looked like giving out early in winter. If ever there was a season, over a very large portion of the country, which looked like giving trouble, it was suggested in the autumn, but the openness of the weather since has been truly phenomenal, and the situation is entirely changed. Instances of late flowering of plants are very common, but my own experience of gathering a Royal poppy from an exposed position in my garden during the Cattle Show week must be as exceptional as most cases, for it ordinarily flowers in June, yet it was a finely developed, well covered head. If this could go through safely it is not surprising that the hardy roots have grown rapidly.

THE difficulties of the lambing pen have markedly lessened since the more general use of antiseptics has been adopted. It stands in some relation to the great saving of life that has been secured in surgical hospitals, where hospital fever can be regarded with comparative lightness, though previously to the use of antiseptics the percentage of deaths from septic poisonings was dreadful. Meadows, who was for a number of years shepherd at the Hollesley Bay College, went there with a good reputation as an ewe manager, and he subsequently maintained an average of lambs per ewe, which the county competitions showed to be quite exceptional. He has repeatedly assured us that the use of antiseptics and information he had collected from the veterinary surgeons there had made a difference of quite 15 per cent. more lambs he could raise as compared with what he was able to do from his previous experience. It might be explained that in calculating his lamb average accordingly with the terms of the competition, he regarded a ewe saved as the equivalent of three lambs. If about 15 per cent. saving could be effected among our lambs it would have a striking effect on the value of our flocks. Doubtless a considerable portion of this is done among a very large number of our flocks, though there is reason to believe that there are too many cases even yet where the losses are much because the nature of contagions and the simple means of preventing are either not understood or not enforced. Cleanliness in the bedding; the proper disinfection of the hands before handling another sheep; the application of suitable disinfectants early after lambing, certainly cause some little extra trouble; but, so far as the farmer is concerned there is no doubt that he greatly profits by seeing that they are rigorously enforced.

PEN OF SUFFOLK SHEEP.

At the recent Smithfield Club Show these Sheep were First in the Class for Three Fat Wether Sheep of the Suffolk Breed over 12 and under 24 months old, and also won the Cup for the best pen of Suffolks. They were bred and exhibited by Mr. H. E. Smith, The Grange, Walton, Ipswich, and at time of exhibition were 22 months old, whilst their weight was 7 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lbs.

National Sheep Breeders' Association.

The financial statement presented at the annual meeting of the Sheep Breeders' Association was of a very satisfactory kind. Both the report and the financial statement were agreed to, and it was further decided to place on deposit £100 to £140 belonging to the society, leaving a balance of £50 on current account for working expenses. Mr. H. Smith, jun., proposed Mr Henry Dudding as president elect. He said it was the turn of the Lincoln flockmasters this year to nominate the president. Wherever Lincolns were known the names of Dudding and Riby were known.

Mr. Webb seconded the resolution, which was heartily carried.

Mr. A. Mansell submitted the following resolution, of which he had given notice:—"That as the regulations relating to the shipping of sheep for Australasia are so carefully drawn, that sheep are inspected by the veterinary surgeon appointed by each Colonial Government before shipment, and the voyage occupies six weeks, the council respectfully suggests that the period of quarantine, nearly thirty days, is excessive, and trusts that the respective Governments will see their way to modify the period of quarantine." He had reason to believe that the Colonial Governments, if properly approached, would reduce the period of quarantine. A reasonable period would be sixteen days.

Mr. Carey Coles seconded, and the resolution was adopted.

A committee already in existence were authorised to consider any replies that might be received from the Colonial Governments, and to report to the next meeting of the council of the association.

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, during the Smithfield Show stated that the progress of the association had again been most satisfactory, both as regarded membership and the number of sheep registered. During the year fifty-three members were elected, making the total number of members (after allowing for withdrawals upon dispersion of flocks, death, &c.) 422, or a net increase of sixteen. The total number of sheep entered in Vol. 17 was 236,617, viz., 169,515 breeding ewes, 64,368 stock ewe tegs, 2,734 rams (540 of which are registered singly), total 236,617, this being a total increase of 7,752 head; the number of new flocks registered was sixty, and old flocks recorded 343; total 403, or a net increase of thirteen.

The report further stated that the issue of export certificates during the year had very considerably increased, 236 having been issued in respect of 770 animals for export to widely different foreign countries and colonies—a fact which testifies to the increasing popularity of the Hampshire Down as an early maturity and prime mutton-producing class of sheep.

Mr. Cary Coles, who presided in the absence of the president, in moving the adoption of the report, which was carried, commented upon its satisfactory character, and pointed out as particularly gratifying the increase in the number of members, and the number of flocks registered, whilst the Association had a balance in hand of £1,043 18s. 3d., as against £943 13s. 6d. in 1905.

Votes of thanks were subsequently passed to the retiring president (Sir Alex. Henderson), the secretary (Mr. J. E. Rawlence), the assistant-secretary (Mr. J. Mountford), and also to the auditors.

Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association.

At the annual meeting of the above association, held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on the 11th inst., Captain Lougworth Dames was elected president and Mr John Bryant president-elect for the ensuing year. The present vice-presidents were re-elected with the addition of Mr Hugh W. Stilgoe and Mr. S. Whitbread.

The accounts were passed, and showed a surplus of £32 on the year's working.

The council were pleased to report the greatly increased number of rams entered in the Flock Book, and to note the rapid progress the breed is making for crossing purposes in the Lowlands of Scotland and North of England.

The following important decision was unanimously adopted:—"That no new flock be entered in the Flock Book after April, 1908, unless they are directly descended from a flock or flocks already registered."

At a special meeting of the East of Fife Agricultural Society to consider a scheme of amalgamation of the society with the North of Fife and Windygates Societies, a motion against amalgamation was carried by 27 votes to 11.

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CATTLE.

Notes and Jottings.

AT the time of writing these notes everything points to a more than usually busy Christmas. Tradespeople are running to and fro, shops are gaily decorated, and poultry and the meat-producing animals, with fat cattle heading the list, are being slaughtered in greater numbers than ever, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that in many cases at least the retail demand is all that could be desired, notwithstanding the unseasonable change in the weather that took place on Sunday last, and for the present appears likely to continue with us Christmas over. It was a most unfortunate change for the late markets, which included many of the largest in the country. Many pounds' loss were suffered by the consigners of big, heavy cattle after the change in temperature as compared with those who marketed a few days earlier.

HOW the dead meat trade and the enormous importation of foreign cattle, dead and alive, has revolutionised the cattle markets of the country. What a poor figure the Great Day Market in the Metropolis cuts now as compared with even twenty years ago, and the comparison is still greater a few years further back. To-day, of course, Deptford furnishes a great number of marketable cattle, some of which, according to the quotations, are running the home-fed beasts rather closely, as I see as much as 4s. 10d. per stone is quoted in some instances. Then there is undoubtedly another point that affects the Metropolis very much, and that is the enormous quantity of dead meat that finds its way thence as compared with the more inland towns, which leaves a greater proportion of the supply for the latter to be provided by country-fed animals.

LEAVING the seasonable topic of beef for a few moments and looking into other matters that are commanding a great deal of attention at the present time, we find the question of butter-making once more prominent. Now it must be potent to most people that the average dairy farmers of this country do not care to run a butter producing dairy. Whether the price is the great reason of this, or whether it is the apathy, and, more than this, carelessness that is manifested by most of those connected with the manipulation of the milk from the drawing it from the cow up to the making up and weighing as well as marketing the butter, one cannot say, or whether it is that England and English people, as regards their majority, consider themselves more suited to other spheres of life than the ordinary work of the dairy.

THOSE who have witnessed the interest and enthusiasm that some of the dairymaids from other countries display in their attention to dairy work will be compelled to admit that the continental maids devote much more energy to their work, and appear far happier and more at home in the dairy. The milking competitions that were instituted a few years ago at the London Dairy Show have so far appeared to be working some slight revolution in this respect, and a good number of Scotch and English maids have been taking part in these contests, and did their work well. Many English people who are not connected at all with agriculture and stock-keeping have set their faces very much against the employment of female labour in the sheds and yards, and no doubt this had not been without its effect.

FOR the other side of the question we know of some places where the sheds and their occupants are kept in a cleanly and up-to-date manner, and maids are employed in the milking as well as in the manipulating of the milk where matters run very smoothly. As a rule, cows are much quieter, and give down their milk quite as well or even better where females are concerned with them, than when everything is done by the rougher hands of the other sex. And we are also able to state that these girls are not one wit the worse afterwards for having taken part in the milking. Indeed, a clean suit of clothes is at once exchanged for the covering that was made use of whilst the milking was going on, and no traces of anything in the slightest degree objectionable follows.

OTHER countries appear, however, so much better suited to the butter-making side of dairying than our own country that it seems quite likely that our butter supply will be drawn much more largely from abroad, either from our own colonies or other countries, in the future than it has been in the past. New Zealand appears to be increasing its output at an enormous rate. Creameries are doubling in number and extent; and so it is also in the Argentine; and then we have to bear in mind the fact that the climate of these countries is much more favourable for the production of butter than our own, and especially in the one point of being able to furnish us with the best grass-made butter at a time when our home make is too often anything but even palatable.

HAVING regard to the whole of the points mentioned above, there is not much to encourage English dairy farmers to go in for butter-making as their staple dairy business, except in some especial farms such as were a number of pigs are kept, or where it is desired to bring up a number of calves every year for the purpose of fattening as two-year olds. Where this is the case, the skimmed or separated milk from a herd of well-fed dairy cows that are used for making butter, fills a place where it is of greater value than could possibly be the case were it either disposed of in its whole state or used even for cheese-making. Wherever butter-making is attempted as the main dairy business of a farm it is absolutely necessary that the strictest cleanliness is observed with regard to all the utensils used in or out of the dairy, also in regard to those who are doing the work. It is equally necessary that the greatest care be taken in the churning and working of the butter, not a drop of butter-milk must be left in, or the case is hopeless, and it is further equally necessary that the cows are fed upon proper pastures during the summer where there is an absence of herbs, such as wild garlic and the like, that always taint the butter, and in winter the feed must consist of the best green hay, carrots or mangolds, and good sound cake or meal. These conditions strictly observed will insure an uniform quality, and that of the very best all the year round, and where this is the case there is little difficulty in finding private customs at a remunerative price. It is also well to have some cows coming in fresh every month from the end of June to the following March.

I NOTICED in an agricultural paper the other day a case in which a breeder is very much troubled with contagious abortion, and asked several questions as to what is likely to be the procuring cause of this trouble. Memory fails me as to what some of the causes suggested were, but one question that struck me very much was as to the probabilities of cocksfoot grass, which grows very luxuriantly in the pastures, causing the trouble. Now I should not be at all surprised were this so. Cocksfoot is a very rank-growing grass, particularly under trees where there any, and the cattle frequently refuse to bite off its coarse heads of seed whilst young and sweet, and I have distinct proof that the eating of these ripened heads of strong grass seeds in the autumn brought disaster to two different herds in the shape of abortion.

EXPERIENCE has convinced one that there is no better way of keeping a breeding herd healthy upon their pasture than by continually grazing these pastures with mixed stock horses as well as sheep, but more especially the former. I believe the horse to be the best possible scavenger on a pasture field; every tuft that has grown up from the droppings of the cattle grows up and seeds, the cattle refusing to eat it, but where horses are present this is all cleared off by them, and the risk of these deleterious seeds damaging the cattle is thus entirely avoided, the pastures at the same time being kept more level and thereby improved, while the horses grow and improve under such circumstances in a most pleasing and profitable way.

THERE are several kinds of food that we use for cattle feeding, too, that do not have altogether a wholesome effect upon the breeding cows. One of these is green vetches. I have known this food, where given very liberally during the early summer months, to give a good deal of trouble with the cows holding to the bull, sterility rather than abortion. Brewers' grains, too, have in some instances given similar trouble. The latter feed varies very considerably; indeed, there is greater variation in the quality and feeding results of these than almost any other food. Whether the difference is due to the malting or brewing or mixing other substances is not easy to learn, but the results as stated have been noted upon several occasions, and have in some cases been disappointing.

WHERE troubles occur with foods as in the cases mentioned, it sometimes happens that unfavourable results are the outcome of a too liberal use of the articles that have caused the trouble. When the vetches are a heavy crop and the grass perhaps a little short the cattle are

naturally thrown upon the former feed more wholly, and by the same rule with roots, when plentiful they are doled out with less care, whilst in the case of grains (brewers') when very cheap, as often happens, a much more liberal supply is given to the cows than at a scarce and dear time, and these excesses may probably have something to say when the untoward results mentioned have taken place. A little care pays at all times, but is much more needful where a herd of breeding cows is concerned.

Sale of the Earl of Durham's Fat Stock.

The Christmas sale of the fat stock reared on the farms of the Earl of Durham attracted a larger gathering than usual to Bowes House Farm, near Fenelhouses, Durham, on Monday, and included in the visitors was the noble lord himself. The stock submitted was about up to the average in number, and included 93 cattle and 450 sheep, whilst in quality they more than equalled the high reputation Lord Durham's stock enjoy. At the great shows of Christmas stock recently held at Smithfield, at Bingley Hall, at Leeds, and at York the Lambton stock has taken a prominent part, and at each place has secured the notice of the judges. Three of these prize beasts were sent on to the sale, and were all bought by the Stanley Stores, who gave £100 for the trio—a black and white steer, a Highland Kyloe steer, and a Highland heifer. Beyond these, the cattle were of a smaller class. The sheep were also a nice lot, and included a contingent of twenty-five Southdown wethers from his lordship's Newmarket estate.

The sale commenced with a herd of thirty Shorthorn steers, which ranged in price from £27, given by Mr. Thompson, of Philadelphia, an old attender at these sales, down to £17 10s., the total realising £668 10s. Nine Shorthorn heifers brought an average of £20 12s. 2d., and a total of £185 10s. Following these came the special beasts, a grand party of three, whose appearance evoked general admiration. The buyer of the Stanley stores secured all three, and, strange to say, in comparison with the other cattle these brought an average of 1s. a stone less. Next in order were the blue-greys, a useful lot of twenty heifers and twenty steers, which brought good averages all round. The heifers totalled £437, and the steers £449. A quartette of Highland steers brought an average of just over £20 each, the four realising £80 5s. Seven fat cows brought £120, and this ended the cattle sale, the total of ninety-three head averaging £21 10s. 1d. each, or an aggregate of £2,041 15s.

The sheep brought equally good prices, 155 mule sheep averaging 60s. 11½d.; twenty-five Suffolk hogs, 79s. 2d.; forty cross-bred Oxford hogs, 56s. 9d.; 125 half-bred Cheviot hogs, 51s. 1½d.; 105 half-bred Cheviot ewes, 46s 7½d.; and the 450 sheep sold averaging 55s. 9½d., whilst the total for the sale was the good one of £3,297 11s. 6d.

Prizes for Shorthorns in 1907.

At the last meeting of the council of the Shorthorn Society it was decided to offer the following prizes for Shorthorns in 1907:—

CHAMPION PRIZES.—Royal Agricultural Society of England: Two Champion Prizes of £30 each, for the best male and best female Shorthorn. Highland and Agricultural Society: Two Champion prizes of £25, for the best male and best female Shorthorn. Royal Dublin Society: A Champion Prize of £20, for the best yearling Shorthorn bull bred in Ireland. Bath and West of England and Southern Counties Society: A Champion Prize of £10, for the best Shorthorn bull. Welsh National Agricultural Society: Champion Prize of £10, for the best Shorthorn bull.

DISTRICT PRIZES.—For the best Shorthorn bull calved in 1906, located in the undermentioned districts. District prizes of £10. The name of the show at which the prizes will be awarded are given in parentheses:—

Beds, Herts, and Middlesex (Bedfordshire), Berks, Wilts, and Hants (Royal Counties), Cambridgeshire and Essex (Essex), Cheshire (Cheshire), Cornwall and Devon (Devon), Cumberland (Cumberland), Derbyshire (Derbyshire), Durham (Durham), Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire (Gloucestershire), Herefordshire and Worcestershire (Herefordshire and Worcestershire), Isle of Man (Isle of Man), Lancashire (Royal Lancashire), Leicestershire and Rutland (Leicestershire), Lincolnshire (Lincolnshire), Norfolk and Suffolk (Norfolk), Northamptonshire and Hunts (Hunts), Northumberland (Northumberland), Nottinghamshire (Nottinghamshire), Oxfordshire and Bucks (Royal and Central Bucks), Shropshire (Shropshire and West Midland), Somerset and Dorset (Somersetshire), Staffordshire (Staffordshire), Surrey, Kent, and Sussex (Tunbridge Wells), Wales (North) (Denbighshire), Wales (South) (United Counties), Warwickshire (Warwickshire), Westmorland (Westmorland and Kendal), Yorkshire (Yorkshire).

In Scotland there will be four district prizes of £10 each for the following districts, the names of the shows at which they will be awarded being those in parenthesis:—Argyle, Perth, Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan, Stirling, Linlithgow, Dumbarton, and Renfrew (Stirlingshire); Ayr, Wigtown, Lanark, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Edinburgh, Haddington, Peebles, Berwick, Selkirk, and Roxburghshire (Border Union); Elgin, Banff, Aberdeen, Kincardine, and Forfarshire (Royal Northern); Inverness, Nairn, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, and Orkney (Northern Counties).

For Ireland three distinct prizes of £10 each are offered for the following districts:—Connaught (Ballina), Leinster (Royal Dublin), Munster (Co. Cork), Ulster (Royal Ulster).

REGULATIONS.—The regulations applying to bulls competing for the Shorthorn Society's district prizes are as follows:—

1. All bulls competing for these prizes must be the *bona fide* property of the exhibitor, residing in the district for which the prize is offered, and such bulls must be there located from the time of entry until the show, and entered in the special classes provided for these prizes, and in the ordinary classes for which they are eligible at the shows where the society's prize is awarded, and have been calved in the year 1906.

2. All bulls must be eligible and entered in Coates' Herd Book, with a registered number, or their pedigrees sent for such entry previous to the show. Note.—The entry as "produce, under dam," will not be sufficient.

3. No bull to be allowed to take more than one district prize offered by the Shorthorn Society.

PEDIGREE SHORTHORN COWS IN MILK.—At the shows of the undermentioned societies for the year 1907, a prize of £10 will be offered as a first prize in a special extra class for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, four years old and upwards, the societies named to offer in such class a second prize of £5.

England and Wales.—Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, British Dairy Farmers' Association (in this case for best animal exhibited in pure-bred Shorthorn class gaining most points on inspection and milking), Cheshire Agricultural Society, Durham Agricultural Society, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society, Leicestershire Agricultural Scocicty, Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, Royal Counties Agricultural Society, Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society, Somersetshire Agricultural Society, Staffordshire Agricultural Society, Tunbridge Wells and Southern Counties Agricultural Society, United Counties Agricultural Society, Warwickshire Agricultural Society, Westmoreland and Kendal Agricultural Society, Yorkshire Agricultural Society.

Scotland.—Border Union Agricultural Society, Royal Northern Agricultural Society, Strathearn Agricultural Society.

Ireland.—Royal Dublin Society (£15). This society to offer a second prize of £10 and a third prize of £5; County Cork Agricultural Society, Ballina Agricultural Society, North-West of Ireland Agricultural Society, Royal Ulster Agricultural Society.

The above prizes will be offered in a special extra class for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, four years old and upwards on the date to which the dates are calculated at the show at which the prizes were offered, eligible for, and entered in, Coates' Herd Book, or pedigrees sent for such entry previous to the show. Such cows to be clean milked to the satisfaction of the stewards at six o'clock on the previous evening, and to be milked in the ring on the first morning of the show in the presence of the judge, who shall see the milk weighed, and any cows that does not yield up to the following standard shall not be awarded a prize:—Cows having calved within three calendar months of the first day of the show, 25 lb. of milk. If calved more than three calendar months from the first day of the show, 20 lb. of milk. No animal having once taken one of these prizes is eligible to compete again the same year.

The Canadian Cattle Question Again.

At a conference held in London under the auspices of the Free Importation Canadian Cattle Association of Great Britain to consider what steps should be taken to attain the object of the Association Bailie Watson, of Glasgow, who presided, said the Prime Minister and, probably, two-thirds of the Cabinet, were pledged to support the repeal or amendment of the Diseases of Animals Act of 1896, and so provide for the abolition of compulsory slaughter of Canadian cattle at the ports of debarkation in Great Britain. The question now was, whether they should approach the Prime Minister and those associated with him, and ask them to implement the pledges they gave on former occasions. There was a strong opinion among members of the Association that they should endeavour to obtain an answer "aye" or "no" from the Prime Minister. He was satisfied that unless the Government introduced a message, or gave an undertaking that they would bless the measure of a private member there was no hope of carrying a Bill under the present Government.

Mr. W. Henderson, of Lawton, Coupar Angus, moved a resolution affirming the purpose of the association, and resolving to ask the Government to introduce a Bill dealing with the matter, or, failing that, to give facilities for a private measure, and also to ask the Prime Minister and the other members of the Government pledged to support the movement, to receive a deputation on the matter at an early date, and this was carried with only one dissentient. A committee was subsequently appointed to arrange for a deputation to the Prime Minister.

Shorthorn Society.

Eleven new members were elected at the council meeting of the Shorthorn Society held on the 11th inst., when the prize scheme of the society for 1907 was decided upon, and will be found set out elsewhere. In connection with this it was pointed out that the prizes for Shorthorn cattle offered by the Royal Agricultural Society in 1907 will be increased by the addition of the following prizes offered by the Shorthorn Society. A class for a Shorthorn bull and two, three, or four of his male offspring bred by the exhibitor, not less than six months old on the day of entry, with prizes of £20 and £10; also two extra classes for bulls, with prizes £10, £6, £4 in each class. A class for Shorthorn heifers in milk, calved in 1904, with prizes £10, £6, and £4. Also two classes for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk—viz., cow in milk, four years old and upwards, &c., £10, £6, £4, and cow in milk, under four years old, £10, £6, £4, such cows to be entered or eligible for entry in Coates' Herd Book; also £5 to the breeder of the first prize animals in the Shorthorn classes, these prizes being in addition to the two champion prizes of £30 each offered by the Shorthorn Society for the best male and best female Shorthorn exhibited.

Lord Middleton reported that the Editing Committee had examined the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the committee—viz., for South America 50, New Zealand 4, total 54.

In pursuance of notice, Mr. B. St. John Ackers moved: "That there should be a minimum age limit for Shorthorn bulls which would be accepted as sires of animals entered in the Herd Book." It would be remembered, he said, that at the last meeting the committee reported an application for the entry of an animal stated to have been got by a bull calf at four months old, and which the committee had not accepted. He thought that if a limit was adopted—say, nine months—breeders would be more careful to keep their calves separate, and so prevent applications such as he had referred to. He suggested nine months, but as to this he was quite willing for the limit to be fixed by the council.

Mr. W. Duthie, in seconding the motion, thought it was desirable to have such a rule, although it was not well to fix the minimum age limit too high.

Mr. R. Stratton thought that such a rule should not be retrospective; he knew of animals now in-calf to bulls which were only eight months old at time of service.

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was approved in principle, and the question referred to the Editing Committee for a rule to be drawn up on the subject.

A letter was read from the Royal Agricultural Society of England with reference to a proposed conference of delegates, &c., of agricultural societies to the council to appoint delegates to represent the society at the proposed conference; and on the motion of Lord Middleton the president and secretary were appointed the society's delegates.

A letter was read from the Right Hon. F. Wrench, of Killacoona, Ballybrack, co. Dublin, suggesting that a meeting of the society should be held once a year in Ireland, at the Dublin Society's spring show. Shorthorn breeders were increasing in Ireland, and the trade looked very healthy, but it appeared that the Irish breeders were not sufficiently in touch with the parent society. It would give Irish breeders an opportunity of meeting and discussing any subjects of special interest to Ireland, such as the selection of a member to represent Ireland on the council, &c.

Lord Lovat thought the idea a good one, and that it would no doubt increase the interest in Shorthorn breeding in that country, and he therefore moved that a meeting such as suggested should be held.

Mr. J. A. Preece seconded the motion.

Mr. Richard Stratton thought they should have time to consider this question, as the matter had only just come before them, not having been received in time for the agenda. He could not see how they could hold a meeting of the society there. Why should not Irish breeders meet and send any suggestions to this society? If the society held meetings in Ireland, similar meetings would have to be held in other parts of the country, and this was more than they could undertake.

Mr. A. M. Gordon was of opinion that if a

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THE Best Rent-paying Dairy Cattle in the World.—BROWN, JOHN, Marden Farm, Hertford. Young Bulls for Sale. Royal Duke, in service, bred at Hawkrigg, Wigton, grand stock-getter, combining quality with substance. 180 head kept; inspection invited. Telegrams: "Tewin."

CATTLE—*continued.*

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THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has in 1904, 1905 and 1906 won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by Endale, Bage Protector, and Fusilier. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

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ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

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SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Ebonister 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

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PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
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LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

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PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
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SHEEP—*continued.*

LINCOLN LONGWOOL (*cont.*).

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

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COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

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PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

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(*Continued on next page.*)

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

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OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

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THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

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SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

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BEVAN, C., Mapledurham, Reading.—Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, pure-bred Boars and Gilts, of all ages, and at moderate prices.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds. — Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

A remarkable record of farm service is held by Mr. Richard Bell, of Ruston, near Scarborough, who recently completed fifty years of continuous service. Mr. Bell was ten years of age when first hired as farm servant. He is a single man, and has always lived in, according to the custom of farm servants who, not being married, have not to keep a home of their own.

Lincolnshire Farm Prizes.—The council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England have decided that a farm which has been in the occupation of an intending competitor from April 6, 1905, will be considered to come within the terms of condition four, which states that a farm must have been in the occupation of the competitor for two years.

meeting was held in Ireland the society would have applications from Scotland and elsewhere for similar meetings. He suggested that the council send a courteous reply regretting that the society could not hold a meeting as suggested.

Mr. Wm. Duthie agreed with Mr. Gordon. He thought they should send a reply as suggested, and on Lord Lovat's motion being put to the meeting it was lost.

The next meeting of the council was fixed for January 29, 1907.

Dairy Shorthorn Association.

The first annual general meeting of the above association was held at the Agricultural Hall, London, during the Smithfield Show week.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Crewe was elected president of the association for 1907, and the retiring president (the Right Hon. Lord Rothschild) was elected vice-president.

The report received from the council, which was adopted, stated that the total number of members of the association was now sixty-one.

The council, the report continued, think it is a subject for congratulation that at every show where the association offered money there have always been pedigree Shorthorns capable of yielding sufficient milk to qualify for the prizes, and there is no doubt the formation of this association, and the friendly spirit in which the Shorthorn Society has assisted its efforts, have been the means of proving to breeders both at home and abroad that the Shorthorn is the best dual-purpose cow, since it can be bred to produce the maximum of either beef or milk.

The council thanked those gentlemen who so generously contributed to the prize fund in 1906, and they hoped that they would again assist with their subscriptions to this fund during the coming year, and thus enable the association to carry on its work of helping to improve the Shorthorn dairy cattle of this country.

It was decided to issue certificates to all cows competing for prizes given by the association that reach their milk standard.

In future the association's financial year was fixed to end on August 31, and the annual general meeting is to be held during the London Dairy Show week.

A Public Abattoir at Islington.

The foundation-stone of the first public abattoir to be erected in London was laid at the Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington, on Wednesday, by Mr. Alfred Bower, chairman of the Cattle Markets Committee of the Corporation of London.

The City Corporation are the owners of several abattoirs which were erected in the vicinity several years ago, but these are let to private owners. In the new buildings, which, it is expected, will be completed in about six months, cattle will be slaughtered under the supervision of the corporation's own officials, and the abattoirs will be available to any butcher or meat salesman who wishes to avail himself of them.

The buildings will cover about two acres, and will be equipped in the most modern fashion, the cost being about £40,000. A commendable feature in their construction will be the complete separation of the slaughter-house from the cooling-rooms. After the animal is slaughtered it will be sent on an over-head rail across an open space to the cooling-rooms, and the system used will prevent contact between any two carcases, and so prevent the spread of possible disease.

The system of veterinary inspection will be very thorough. On another portion of the ground occupied is to be erected a destructor house where condemned carcases can be destroyed at once. Apart from the obvious security to the public ensured by having animals intended for public consumption slaughtered under these conditions the good prospect which the undertaking has of proving remunerative may be gauged from the fact that in the private abattoirs alluded to no less than 236,000 animals were killed this year.

The charges to be made are, as at present arranged, sheep 2d. per head, calves 5d., pigs 6d., and bullocks 1s. 6d.

Mr. Bower, before laying the foundation-stone, stated that only 21 per cent. of the meat sold in the Central Market at Smithfield was home-bred out of a total of £3,000,000 of produce which passed through that great emporium annually. He hoped the new abattoir would be the means of increasing the demand for home-fed meat, which would benefit not only the London traders, but also the farmers of this country. To secure that the new abattoir should be built on the most improved hygienic conditions, the slaughterhouses in France, Germany, Austria, and many of the big provincial cities had been visited, and he was sure that their buildings would be at least equal to any of those on the Continent.

Mr. Joel Goodwin, a well known Lincolnshire agriculturist, proceeding to attend an allotment committee meeting at Boston on Wednesday afternoon, when he fell dead in the Sessions House yard, as the result of an apoplectic seizure.

Weather, Crops and Stock.

Yorkshire (North Riding). WE are passing through a quiet time in North Yorkshire. There is little doing on the land, and the Christmas fat stock markets are over. The latter have not, on the whole, been quite up to the standard of recent years in quantity and quality. Farmers are tired of putting prime stock on the market and selling it at less than ordinary prices, as they have often done at Christmas, hence the falling off. For the last month or six weeks there has been a slightly better feeling in the beef trade, but the price has advanced slowly, and is still far below what farmers consider a remunerative level. Mutton has sold much better, and the same may be said of pork. We have plenty of fodder with which to face winter. Grain has been a good crop, so there is plenty of straw; we have an average crop of hay well-won, and roots are excellent and only missed being the crop of a life-time owing to a bad attack of mildew. So far as this aspect of agriculture is concerned, we have much to be thankful for. Potatoes have risen considerably in price, but they are a very short yield in this part of the country—the worst for several years. We have not yet found the maincrop variety we are looking for. Less wheat has been sown than has been customary for the last year or two owing to a break in the weather at a critical time. Farms are letting well at advanced rents. If there are districts where land is a drug, let the owners apply here, for we have spare tenants, and good men, too. Several left from this district for Canada last year, and have sent home good reports, others will join them next spring. We are not having roaring times. There is more stuff about the homesteads, and this gives us the air, if not the reality, of prosperity, but prices are too low for doing great things. Industrious men are making a living, and that is the best that can be reported at present.

Essex (Maldon). AFTER a few sharp frosts and wintry days, mild and growing weather has again set in. Wheats appear to have come up a good plant and look well, also winter oats. There is a larger acreage of winter beans sown this autumn, which look well on a whole; the low price of wheat and higher price of beans has tempted growers to sow more of this crop. I observe some few acres of winter barley have been sown in this district, which is just coming out, it having proved to be a profitable crop this last season. The wheat crop last year in the light lands did not rise very heavy, but on the heavy land it was a very good crop; in fact, the heavy-landers have had the best of it all round during the past season on account of the dry summer. Barley has yielded well everywhere. The mangold crop came off a good deal heavier than at one time was expected. Swedes are a very poor crop on the whole, but kohl-rabbi have done very well. They have proved themselves to be a much hardier root than swedes, and make a lot of very healthy and forcing food. Turnips are not a very good crop, many of them do not look like standing the winter, and are very much inclined to rot. There has been a very good show of fat beasts at all the local markets in this district, and trade has been very good. Mutton has been selling well for some time, it appears to be very scarce about here. Some few young lambs have made their appearance, and may be seen running about looking forward to an early Easter.

Kent. AGRICULTURAL prospects in this district are so far fairly favourable, in spite of a very wet November. The land has worked well, and most of the wheat has been put in. The present month has not been up to much for making up arrears, there not being two consecutive days alike—frost, snow, rain, and fogs—and at present it seems more like spring than Christmas. On the whole, it has been good for stock, as there is still a fair bite on the marshes, and sheep have done well, especially the breeding flocks; but frost is now required, so that carting manure may be got on with, which is getting behind. Potatoes are keeping badly in the clumps, and one often hears of these "dropping" in through blight and rot. There is a good crop of mangold generally, which has been secured in good order. The one and chief thing against the farmer is the price of all produce, which is lower than it has been for several years, the only exception probably being mutton. Hops too, were very disappointing, and a heavy loss to most growers, considering the heavy expense of growing a small crop this year, several acres are being grubbed about here, and another year like the last two will about settle hop growing in England.

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AUTOMATO SHAFTS remove and deposit flat Poultry Coops, Houses, and Kennels, wheels rising automatically off the ground. Price 10s. 6d.—Patentee: PARKER, Moss House, Baguley, Altrincham.

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RATS! RATS!!—A Truro Farmer writes:—"After using a 1/- Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, Broad Street, Reading.

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GALVANISED Corn Bins, 12s. 6d.; Cattle Cribs, 35s.; Pig Troughs, 3s. 6d.; Wrought Iron Sheep Hurdles, 2s. 9d.; Cattle Hurdles, 3s.; catalogues free.—DAVID & Co., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

VESICO SUDORIFIC is the most famous remedy in the world for curing Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, Curb, Windgall, Tumours, Strained Sinews, and Strengthening Legs of Horses without blemish or needing rest. Price 2s. 6d. to 5s., of chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & Co., Temple, Bristol.

WILD RABBITS taken wholesale by new Rabbit "Stopper" (improved snare); needs no fixing; sample, 8d., post free; 3 for 1s. 6d.; 6, 2s. 9d. Ordinary snares (27 inches long), fitted with my improved eyelet to ensure easy running, 2s. 3d. doz. Recipe for attracting rabbits free with every order.—ERNEST HARWOOD, 209, Barr Street, Birmingham.

BAGATELLE BOARD, mahogany, folding, 8ft. long, two pockets, indiarubber cushions, nine balls, cue, mace, bridge, rules and marking board, never used; bargain, 67s. 6d. Approval.—SMITH, 20, Eccleshill Potteries, Bradford.

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Galvanised Cisterns, corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs at very low prices. Lists free.

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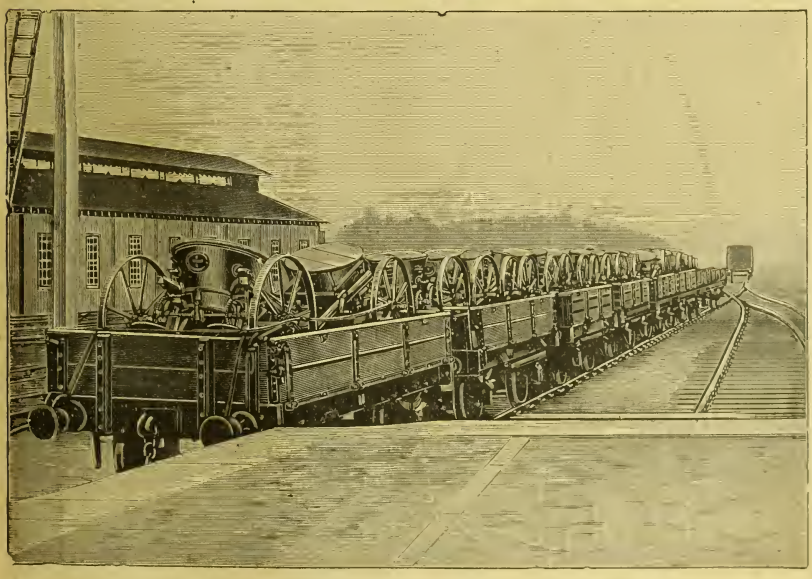

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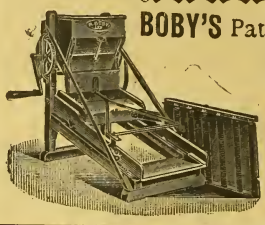

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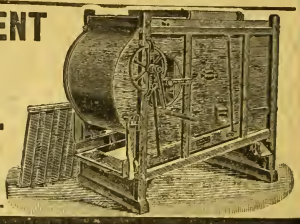

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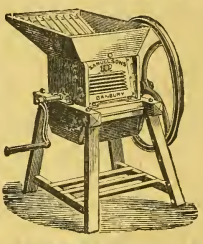

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Seasonable Topics.

The New Year.

As this issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS will reach our readers on the first day of 1907, we offer with it our sincere wishes for a Happy New Year. Behind us is 1906, old and tried, worn-out and gone; before us is 1907, new, fresh, young, and full of possibilities. Merrily the bells ring out the old and ring in the new as if it were a good thing to get rid of another year and hurry on the passage of time. The world likes novelty, and we treat old men, old servants, and old customs much as we treat old years. As they pass we mark their good points and enlarge on their virtues, but as we shake one hand in farewell to men who are passing from the scene of action, we beckon a welcome with the other to those who are to take their places. It is all in the common order of things, for the world with the years must keep moving on, and as we remember with feelings of pleasure the seasons that are favourable, we forget not the men who have done life's work well. What has 1907 in store for us? We know not. It is stretched open like the front page of a new copy-book, unmarred by any blot, but at the same time bearing no record of work accomplished. It is full of possibilities in the way of health, wealth, and prosperity, but—ah, we must not forget the but—there are chances also in another direction, and in the rough and tumble game of life never a year passes but what some go down as surely as others go up. But we will not dwell on adverse chances now, the New Year is a time of hope and gladness, and it is in this spirit that we tender to our readers the time-honoured wish.

Should Women Milk?

If this question had been put a matter of half a century ago it would have been answered with a united reply of "Certainly they should," but of late years we have got to look on many things in a different light to what our grandparents did, and this is a case in point. There are a good many people in this world who know nothing whatever about farming, but they freely express their opinions that milking is nasty dirty work quite unsuitable for women. The farmer's daughter, too, who has had a smattering of a boarding school education, objects to milking, not because she has any antipathy to work, but because there is a certain lowering of dignity about milking; and as for maidservants—well, a good many of them never learn to milk, perhaps because they think ignorance will be a means of getting out of a task that is personally distasteful. But after all, is there any real reason why girls should not learn to milk? We think not, and there is no need for the work to be dirty or unpleasant. This is largely a question of cowsheds, and when we think of the interiors of some of these structures we certainly have some sympathy with the girls who object to milking therein. It is not the milking so much as the sheds that are obnoxious, and it is quite a different thing to milk a cow in a dairy show competition to what it is performing the operation in a good many sheds where cows are tied up to be milked. In up-to-date establishments the cowsheds are so clean and spotless that one would not object to dining in them, but it must be remembered that these structures are not typical of the cowshed on the average farm.

Snow.

As we write the country before us is covered with a thin white mantle of snow, and people are saying that the weather is seasonable. Just so, but the worst of seasonable weather in this country is that it does not often last long enough. We get a few sharp frosts and a fall of snow, and then promptly follows a cold thaw, making everything wet, dirty, and uncomfortable. Except, perhaps, for the inroads that would be made in the fodder supplies, a spell of sharp, wintry weather would be welcome now, as there is nothing like frost for pulverising newly-turned-up ground, and it would get rid of a good many obnoxious pests that survive through a mild winter. As for snow, it is Nature's means of supplying moisture to the earth and is also an excellent means of protecting crops in the ground when frost is very severe. Of course it has its discomforts, and it is not pleasant to have roadways snowed up and all that sort of thing, but when snow comes and stops for a while we can easily employ implements for clearing roads, and means of travelling are not seriously hampered.

Another Pill for Poultry Farmers.

We have been reminded so often of late of the millions of eggs that annually come into this country from the Continent that the figures have got a little wearying, and now poultry-keepers have another pill to swallow in the shape of eggs from Australia. The first consignment arrived not long ago, and the process of chilling is said to be so effectual that after travelling 13,000 miles it would take an expert to tell the difference between them and new laid English eggs. This is comforting, perhaps, to the man who has had painful experience of the typical "shop 'un" with his morning rasher, but the British poultry-keeper will naturally ask what chilled Australian eggs will be sold as. A newspaper man asked if the South Australian Government intended to adopt any means by which their eggs could be identified by the consumer so as to prevent their being sold as English, but he got a negative reply and an explanation that the duty of the above authority ended in delivering the eggs to the English merchants. It seems to us that this is where a grievance is likely to come in. Chilled Australian eggs may be very good, in fact perfect, but some of us have a weakness for the real new-laid article, and if prepared to pay the price asked for it, we would prefer to run no risk of getting a Cornstalk substitute.

Why People Leave the Land.

We are reluctant to discuss again the hackneyed topic of back to the land, but we had an instance brought before us the other day which provides one answer to the question why some people leave the land and others are unable to return to it. It was a case of a family on a lordly estate consisting of a man and wife and six children occupying a two-roomed cottage, and the whole family sleeping in the same apartment. The place is a mere hovel, and when asked why he did not leave it the man replied that he could not get another cottage if he did, and as it was part of the farm on which he worked, and the rent of one shilling a week part of his wages, he had to make the best of it. There is no need to ask why this man does not leave the land; it is simply because he has not the means to get away, but one need not wonder that those who are away do not return to conditions of this kind. We are inclined to think that the solution of the rural labour question consists after all in better housing, because twelve shillings a week and a two-roomed hovel are not very great attractions. We are not sure whether the custom of letting labourers' cottages with farms is a good one, for while there are some farmers who see that the cottages on their holdings are kept in proper habitable order, there are others who are very negligent about this, and apparently think that anything is good enough for labourers. This might have answered in the old days of ignorance, but it will not do in the twentieth century, and one of the best means of keeping workers on the land is to provide them with suitable habitations to live in.

Oxygenised Meat.

Frozen meat is common enough in our markets, but we understand that the Australians are about to go one better by means of a new process called oxygenising. This consists of placing carcases in an hermetically sealed chamber, which is charged with oxygen up to a certain pressure, and after being under this treatment for a number of hours the carcases can be shipped as bulk cargo. It is stated that the idea has been patented in Sydney, where a powerful syndicate has been formed to push the new process. The new method has simplicity to

recommend it as well as cheapness, for whereas it costs from £3 to £4 per ton to freeze meat, it can be oxygenised at from 8s. to 10s. per ton. Again, a freezing plant may cost £20,000, whereas the oxygenising apparatus that will do the same work will, according to statements made, entail an outlay of only £5,000. Whether the oxygenising process will revolutionise the frozen meat trade and do away with refrigerating chambers remains to be seen, but if it succeeds it will mean cheaper foreign meat in our markets, and with it will come the stern necessity of having foreign meat labelled and sold as such, instead of being offered for sale, as a good deal of it is now, as home-fed and home-killed meat.

In View of Lambing. WITH the turn of New Year's Day the thoughts of sheep breeders and shepherds turn in the direction of the important season of lambing. In some districts there will be no lambs for some time to come, but in the southern counties the early arrivals make their appearance in January, when the time of anxiety commences. But if lambing is an anxious time, it is also one of pleasure and excitement provided all goes well, and it introduces one of those varieties in the yearly routine which prevents farm life from ever being monotonous. One man naturally grows more serious than usual as the ewes get advanced in pregnancy, and it is the shepherd who realises that on his shoulders there rests a weight of responsibility. Sheep are naturally nervous animals and liable to abortion through frights and rough treatment, and consequently every possible care should be taken of them prior to the hour of lambing. Then, again, there must be nothing wanting when the actual season begins, and the shepherd who is up to his business will see that his yard is ready, pens are in order, and he has plenty of straw, &c., at hand to run on as he needs it.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Two Significances.

The report of the Small Holdings Committee has many significances. To me the greatest of all lies in the fact that the committee—unlike the feather-headed philanthropists who believe that every street-corner loafer or unfortunate of the towns is a heaven-sent farmer—is anxious to make the small holder the physical apex of a rural edifice. The small holder, and for the matter of that the labourer, should, it is advised, be first of all created in the school. He should receive the advantage of nature-study, and be trained in manual work based on rural needs. Even demonstration-plots should be provided. The small holders once called into existence, they should, it is advised, be aided by credit societies, which should be in themselves associated with a disciplined system of co-operative culture. The regular proposals of the report were expected. The requisition of land under compulsory conditions when it cannot be obtained otherwise, the sub-division and equipment of the land so secured either for letting or for sale, the adoption of a scheme of repayment by annual instalments, the period of repayment to be as prolonged as is possible, and the concession of State loans to landlords to enable them to equip their estates for small holdings, the interest of those loans to be at as low a rate as possible—all these suggestions (despite Mr. Jesse Collings' protest against State-loans to private owners) were anticipated. They may be said to have been regarded as the inherent mosaics of the fabric. They were the first fruits of the remarkable and complete failure of the Act of 1892. What is gratifying is the evidence revealed to lighten the financial burden both upon the landowner and upon the small holder—in itself a remarkable testimony to the anxiety penetrating the committee and an evidence of its refusal to be trammelled by the quakings and fears of the individualistic economists.

Needed—a Policy for To-Day.

For my part, I am not much moved by the reservations of Sir F. A. Channing—even though he has associated with him the authority of Professor James Long—or by the objections of Mr. Jesse Collings to the extension of State loans to landlords. Sir F. A. Channing should comprehend that the new policy will have a greater chance of success (and, frankly, we cannot afford to repeat the lamentable, almost grotesque, failure of 1892) if this carries with it the sympathy of the landlords. That sympathy would be absent if the policy were based on the example of the Scottish Small Landowners Bill. Nay, after the experience of the Land Tenure Bill, I doubt that the House of Lords will be ripe for a measure of that character for another decade. True, despite the anxiety to modify the expense, the cost associated with the compulsory acquisition of land would, under the proposed scheme, be very serious. However, a universal compulsory scheme based on the Scottish Small Landholders Bill would provoke an antagonism—partly, because of the repugnance felt towards its progenitor—which would be a bar-sinister to success. It is no use blinking our eyes to one fact. That fact is that the Scottish Small Landholders Bill—many of whose principles I am in favour of—is regarded with a feeling which is very much worse than disquietude and distrust by the landlord class. The more practical policy is, I repeat, to seek to enlist the sympathy of the landlords. That the method of State loans under generous conditions would accomplish. Sir Francis Channing is, perhaps, a herald of a future policy. We want, however, a policy for the moment.

Supervision—not Centralisation.

May I add one or two reflections, based on my knowledge of the Parliamentary temper, and suggested by Sir F. A. Channing's criticism of the proposal to make the executive authority in the new policy a branch of the Board of Agriculture. Well, whether that body be a branch of the Board or a distinct Commission, for heaven's sake don't throttle the business by a system of bureaucratic centralisation. A county council should not only be endowed with powers of compulsory acquisition, it should be associated with the administration of the scheme. In other words, we should have local administration with a central supervision. In this way we should have the advantage of local knowledge, and associated with that local knowledge such expert information (the lessons deducible, for instance, from the experience of the experimental farms) as would be in the possession of the special branch or commission. Centralisation too often spells damnation. This is the era not of the bureaucracy, but of representative municipal institutions. Never mind the failure of the local authorities to act under the measure of 1892. That failure will not be repeated. The generous financial suggestions would, if they were carried out, partially prevent this. A greater guarantee of non-failure would be the suggested possession of power by the supervising body to act, should there be a refusal to act on the part of those whom the *Daily News* genially describes as "the village mandarins (that is, the landlords and farmers who control the county and district councils) who have hitherto robbed the labourer of his birthright upon the land."

Would he Combine both Roles?

How will Parliament regard the implied suggestion of one part of the main report that the small holder should also combine in himself the *rôle* of labourer. I am bound to say the Radical politician is against it. He does not want the peasant proprietor to remain a dependent labourer, or, as some of their number would put it, "a serf." Their vision is not of a small holder who is half a peasant proprietor and half a labourer; their dream is of an independent peasant proprietary. They do not stay to think that there are economic conditions under which the peasant cultivator must inevitably combine both capacities. They do not reflect that there are labourers who are mentally and constitutionally unfitted for a position of complete independence. They do not even pause to remember that in many a case the weekly wage received as a labourer would be a great advantage to that labourer in his *rôle* of small holder. Hence we may expect a good deal of criticism at the proposal to moderate the size of the holding to permit of this dual capacity. Herein, however, is where local knowledge would be of the greatest value. Of course, the local mind would comprehend that the cost of equipping a holding sufficiently large for an independent family of cultivators would be less than the cost of equipping that same plot for a number of labourers.

The Future of the Board.

I pray, Earl Carrington—to whom we must all look as the acclaimed friend of the small-holding principle—that, when he presses his colleagues in the Cabinet to carry the proposals of the report into effect, he will not in any way be coerced by the seductive parsimony of the Treasury into relinquishing the suggestions for increasing the effectiveness of the Board of Agriculture. Never mind whether the executive authority be a special branch of the Board or a special Commission, there was beyond this present in the mind of the members of this committee the anxiety to clothe the present framework (and the Board is little more than this) with palpitating flesh. The establishment of experimental farms, the organisation of rural education, and the distribution of knowledge and assistance—these be proposals which indicate the desire that the Board should be worthy the nation's traditional interest. The Board of Agriculture is, frankly, in its present innocuity and impotence out of harmony with the fine practical character, strenuous desire for usefulness, and original ambitious and methods which characterise Lord Carrington. His lordship is deserving of being something better than a lay figure in the sphere of action. He ought to be strengthened in his antagonism to the Treasury's parsimony by the fact that Lord Onslow was one of the sponsors of these proposals enlarging the area of the Board's work.

The Future Building Laws.

The member of the committee, Mr. James Long, who dwelt upon the necessity of devoting attention to the building bye-laws, did a useful piece of work. Those bye-laws are a terrible jumble, differing in localities, in character, and in the costs they inflict according to the caprice of rural pundits, who may know as much about building as they do about the Pons Asinorum. The consolidation of the bye-laws, and the drafting of a set of rules suggested by expert experience and the knowledge of landlords like Lord Carrington, must be an achievement coincident with the adoption of the proposals of the committee.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mr. Jesse Collings: This new scheme of village education will be as much an achievement of his as if he had carried his Bill through the House of Commons.

A Compliment!

Mr. Digby Collins is a well-known Cornish squire and politician. Mr. Digby Collins is the chairman of management of the Western Counties' Agricultural Co-operative Association. This is Mr. Digby Collins' opinion of the Associated Chamber of Agriculture: "I hear more nonsense talked there in one hour than I hear in most mixed assemblies in about three."

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

The Annual Dinner.

The annual dinner of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union is to take place on January 25 at the Drill Hall, Lincoln, at 6.30 p.m. The President of the Board of Agriculture (Earl Carrington) was to have attended, but owing to his doctor ordering him rest it is doubtful whether he will be able to put in an appearance. His representative in the House of Commons (Sir Edward Strachey) will, however, be present, and invitations have been sent to various local M.P.'s, M.F.H.'s, &c., so that a most representative gathering is expected; in fact it is estimated that between 250 and 350 persons will be present.

Donington Branch.

The annual general meeting of the Donington Branch was held at the Peacock Hotel, Donington, on Thursday, December 27.

Mr. T. Harrison was unanimously elected chairman, and Mr. S. Hansard hon. secretary of the branch. The committee was re-elected with the addition of Mr. G. Barton.

The meeting was most enthusiastic, and the secretary of the union obtained a useful increase of membership.

It was resolved to ask the Central Committee to accept holders of five acres and upwards as full members.

FARMING IN 1906.

The year that is rapidly drawing to a close will go down to posterity as a remarkable one on the score of weather. It was preceded by an autumn of peculiar suitableness for all farm operations; but this was succeeded in turn by a cold February and a wet spring. The sowing season brought with it a favourable change, and full advantage was taken in this direction. A more favourable April for arable cultivation and cropping is not on record, and that it was fully appreciated may be seen from the figures concerning the crop of the country. Both April, May, and June were exceedingly cold months.

July came in with a complete change, and from that day onward the summer was remarkably brilliant, while the sunshine was greatly in excess of the normal. It is many years since we have had such a summer, and although the droughts, which must necessarily go hand-in-hand with the heat, have been very troublesome, the year itself cannot be summed up other than as of a favourable nature. The autumn was exceptionally mild and open, while the substantial rainfall has done something to repair the ravages of a spell of heat upon our wells and water-courses.

Crop Areas.

Naturally the total area of land and water in Great Britain has not changed from last year, but the total acreage under all crops and grains shows a further contraction of 0·1 per cent., a small decimal truly, but a large area when applied to such figures as 32,266,790, which is the area for the present year.

Turning to the various crops, wheat shows a further shrinkage of 41,279 acres, the area under the premier foodstuff this year being 1,755,716. This reduction is not altogether unexpected, as the unfavourable weather at sowing time was expected to have some such result. Of barley there is a substantial increase, and now this crop is almost as much grown as wheat—1,751,238 acres being devoted to it this year. Oats are now by far the most popular corn crop, and the figure shows only a slight variation on last year, the area being returned at 3,042,936 acres. The minor crops in this section, rye, beans, and peas, are noticeable for the remarkable increase in the cultivation of beans, and the almost corresponding decline in the popularity of peas. Of beans there are 288,891 acres, an increase of 34,126 acres compared with 1905, and of peas 153,979 acres, or 21,256 acres fewer than a year ago. Rye is grown on 64,808 acres, which shows an increase of 2,611 acres.

The abundant yield and low price of potatoes last season has left its mark on the crop, for there is recorded a decline of 42,552 acres as compared with a year ago. The area grown this year is 565,921, and the amount of contraction is 7 per cent. The great root crops, turnips and swedes, the back of the winter food supplies, are practically unchanged, and it is hoped that the 1,590,920 acres devoted to this culture will give a satisfactory and profitable yield. Mangels show expansion to the extent of 6·8, the area now devoted to them being 431,458 acres.

The various green crops, such as cabbage, kohl rabi, rape, vetches, and lucerne, show a striking general tendency to expand. The most important of these is vetches, and here we find that there has been an increase of 4·1 per cent., the area now cultivated in this way being 142,047 acres. Rape is grown on 93,820 acres, while cabbage monopolises 70,368 acres, which shows an expansion of 3·9 per cent. Lucerne has grown to the extent of 4·4 per cent., and is now cultivated on 55,734 acres. The generic term, other crops, accounts for 114,003 acres, and it is obvious from the growth of 7·4 per cent. in this item that great attention is being paid to the minor crops of the farm. We hope with profitable results.

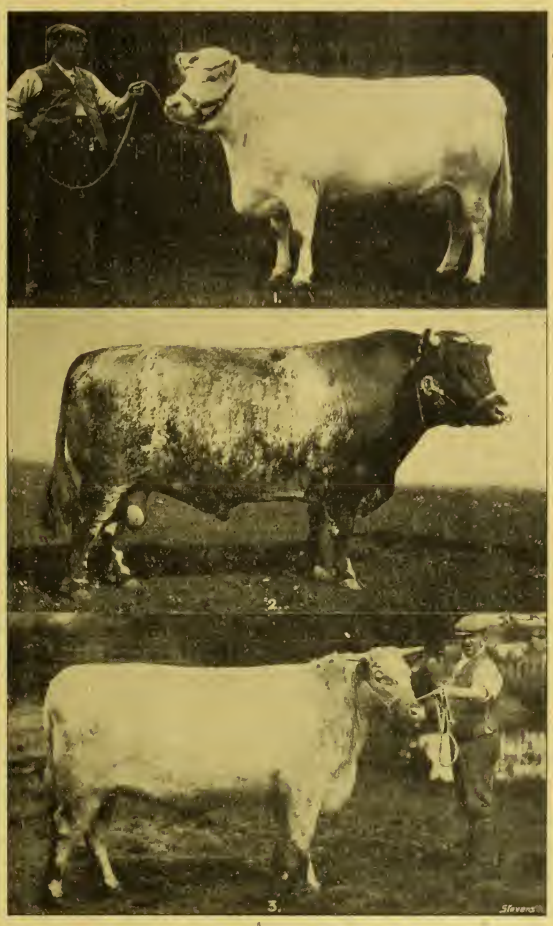
The season for grass and hay was variable, and the yields are likely to be poor in the southern half of the country. The respective areas devoted to this crop, however, show only slight alterations from the standard, beyond the tendency to expand. Of clover and rotation grasses for hay there are 2,191,587 acres, a slight growth of 0·1 per cent.; the same crop grown not for hay runs to 2,249,159 acres, or a decrease of 1·7 per cent.

The greatest areas of the country are, of course, devoted to permanent grass, considerably over half the total acreage under all crops being found under this heading. Of grass for hay there is 4,785,613 acres, an increase as compared with last year of 2·1 per cent.; while of permanent grass used for grazing there are 12,459,121 acres, a figure which varies by 0·4 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Flax seems to have a tendency to pass out of cultivation altogether, as this year there are only 263 acres, as compared with 441 acres in 1905; possibly, however, exigencies of rotation have something to do with the contraction in its area. Hops are growing on a smaller scale than last year, there being 2,245 acres less, the total area under cultivation being 46,722 acres. So much depends on the price obtained for the produce that a smaller crop often brings in a better return than a large one.

Small fruit shows a tendency to grow this season, there being 80,226 acres, a figure which has expanded from 78,825 a year ago. Orchards, too, have a similar disposition to increase, this year monopolising 247,687 acres, or an increase of 3,364 acres. Bare fallow has greatly decreased, something like 10 per cent., this year's figures being 314,552.

FAMOUS SHORTHORNS.



Photos. by G. H. Parsons.

1. WHITE HEATHER. Champion Cow R.A.S.E., 1904; First Prize R.A.S.E., 1905. 2. ROYAL EMBLEM. Champion Shorthorn Bull R.A.S.E., 1905 (sold for £3,230). 3. LADY AMY VII. Female Champion R.A.S.E., 1905.

Produce of Crops.

The estimated total produce and yield per acre of the principal crops in the year 1906, is always of great interest. The yield of wheat was 59,091,772 bushels, against 58,902,499 bushels in 1905; barley, 60,553,977 bushels, against 58,902,499 bushels; and oats, 123,383,857 bushels, against 116,436,887 bushels. The average yield per acre in the two periods was: Wheat, 33·66 and 32·78; barley, 34·58 and 33·91; and oats, 40.55 and 38·16. The average yield in bushels of the ten years 1896 to 1905 was: Wheat, 31·22; barley, 33·04; and oats, 38·92.

Beans show a big increase with 9,970,892 bushels this year, against 8,201,730 last year on an increased acreage this year of 30,000 acres. Average yield 34·73 bushels against 32·28 last year, and for the last ten years 28·59.

Peas are estimated to yield 4,515,783 bushels, against 4,439,483 last year, with a decreased acreage this year of over 20,000 acres. The average is put at 30·21, last year 25·71, and for the last ten years 26·61.

The total potato crop of 1906 is estimated at 3,428,711 tons, against 3,762,706 tons last year; and the average yield 6·06 tons in 1906 and 6·18 in 1905, the average of the past ten years being 5·78 tons.

Turnips and swedes show a general advance, 22,627,840 tons being grown this year, against 21,840,582 last year, and this year there is a slight increase in the land sown. The average is put at 14·22 tons per acre, against 13·74 last year, and 12·96 for the ten years respectively. This year, 8,538,480 tons of mangold were grown, against 8,213,260 last year. The average is 19·79, against 20·32 last year, and 18·70 for the ten years.

Hay from clover, sainfoin, &c., shows an increase, being 3,200,969 cwt. this year, against 3,143,443 last year. The acreage is almost the same; 29·21 cwt. is the average yield for this year, against 28·72 last year, and 29·06 for the past ten years.

Hay from permanent grass is put at 5,834,892 tons this year, against 5,087,917 last year, and there is an increased acreage this year of nearly 100,000 acres. The average this year is 22·51, against 21·71 last year.

Corn Markets and Prices.

The importance of corn prices to farmers in this country becomes year by year a decreasing one. It is said to have made the admission that what should be the principal industry in the country, that of producing food for the inhabitants, becomes increasingly unprofitable. In spite, however, of the changes that have come over farming in Great Britain, the corn crops are still of importance not only for rotation exigencies, but also for the production of straw, which is essential for our live stock. Turning to the corn markets, we find from the imperial weekly averages that, roughly speaking, wheat is 2s. a quarter less than it was this time last year. Since the new crop has come into the market prices have fallen by 4s., and there seems to be little hope of any improvement setting in. The price of flour is likewise substantially lower than was the case a year ago, the quotations per sack for the last monthly average being respectively 22s. and 25s. in 1906 and 1905.

Of barley prices it is rather more difficult to speak, as no difference is made in the returns between that used for malting purposes and the inferior qualities used for feeding. For malting barley of the best class there is always a keen demand, at prices which leave a substantial profit. This year has been no exception to the rule in this respect. As regards feeding barley, which is controlled to a very large extent in price by the huge importations of foreign feeding stuffs, values show little variation from last year, ranging as they do now just over the 24s. per qr.

Oats have met a fairish trade during the year. Last January they were selling at 18s. 2d. per qr., a figure which gradually appreciated until the new crop came onto the market, when, as is usual, prices fell away. Since then there has been a

gradual improvement, and they are now well over 17s. per qr., with a hardening tendency. Other feeding stuffs have been obtainable at reasonable prices throughout the year, at values similar in range to what present-day farmers are accustomed.

An attempt was made some two or three months ago to get up a bit of a scare concerning the cornering of the wheat market by an American syndicate, but nothing came of the "nine days' wonder," which died a natural death.

The following table shows, in a simple form for Great Britain, the

Acreage and Yield of Principal Crops.

	Total produce.	Acres.	Yield per acre.
	Bushels.		Bush.
Wheat	59,091,772	1,755,716	33·66
Barley	60,553,977	1,751,238	34·58
Oats	123,388,857	3,042,926	40·55
Beans	9,970,892	288,891	34·73
Peas	4,515,783	153,979	32·10
	Tons.		Tons.
Potatoes	3,428,711	565,921	6·06
Turnips and swedes	22,627,840	1,590,920	14·22
Mangolds	8,538,480	431,458	19·79
	Cwt.		Cwt.
Hay from clover, &c.	3,200,969	2,191,587	29·21
Hay from perm. grass	5,384,892	4,785,613	21·71

Fat and Store Stock.

The droughts of the past year was utterly disastrous to those graziers who were only possessed of coarse inferior grade stock, not worth going to extraordinary outlay to ripen. Large numbers of such were pressed on the market in half-fatted state with the result of depressing the beef trade more than it had been before. In the summer months there was a slight appreciation for secondary, first quality remaining pretty much the same until August, when a considerable decline in second quality took place in the Metropolitan market, and provincial markets became glutted with the half-fed of every inferior grade.

Fortunately the markets for sheep were well supported even in the districts which suffered worst by a far different state of things being experienced in the north-western and other northern counties; and in Scotland, Wales, and the border counties of the Principality. Prices at autumn fairs are always chiefly affected by the prospects of the root crop, and although deplorably bad in the eastern, southern, and south-western counties, the fact that there were bumper crops of roots and hay in the parts of the kingdom above named, which had been beneficently visited with summer rains, turned the scale, and the congested districts shared in the better fortunes of those which, by covering a greater extent of territory, and from the affluent of their treasures, mastered the situation.

Pigs, both fat and lean, sold at high rates throughout the year. The average values for baconers and porkers, as chronicled for the months of March and April, were not, however, sustained afterwards. In November the rates had again appreciated almost to the range of spring ones. Notwithstanding the fact of good prices having prevailed for three or four years, the breeding of swine is not pursued to the same extent as formerly.

The following figures show the price of beef and mutton at the Metropolitan Market at the end of each quarter:—

	Beef.		Mutton.	
	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
March 30	4 4	4 4	5 8	6 4
June 30	4 8	4 10	5 10	5 8
September 29	4 6	4 6	6 0	5 10
Christmas Market	5 2	5 0	6 6	6 2

Numbers of Live Stock.

The returns relating to the number of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs show, perhaps, less variation than usual. The total number of horses used for agricultural purposes of all ages is, 1,565,681, a figure which shows a slight decrease on last year's to the extent of 0·2 per cent. It is satisfactory to be able to record that unbroken horses exceeding one year old have grown by almost five thousand.

The total number of cattle in the country is 7,010,856, or 23,836 more than a year ago, this number is further divided into sections. For instance, of cows and heifers in milk or in calf there are 2,738,411, or a percentage increase of 0·8; those between one and two years old number 1,494,795. The only decline to be recorded is among yearlings, which number 1,350,986, or a decrease of 3·6 per cent.

The total number of sheep shows a slight, but satisfactory increase; they now number 25,420,360, or a gain of 163,164 over last year. The growth, it is pleasing to record, is principally among ewes kept for breeding purposes, while young sheep under one year in age are also substantially more numerous.

Pigs again show a decline in numbers; there are now 2,323,461, or 101,458 less than last year. Sows kept for breeding, however, show a tendency to expand, so with the present price of pork it is quite likely that a year hence pigs of all descriptions will be considerably more numerous.

The following figures show how our live stock population have fluctuated during the past two years:—

	1906.	1905.	+ Increase. − Decrease.
Horses	1,568,681	1,572,433	− 3,752
Cattle	7,010,856	6,987,020	+ 23,836
Sheep	25,420,360	25,257,196	+ 163,164
Pigs	2,323,461	2,424,919	− 101,458

Animal Diseases.

The health of farm animals has been satisfactory during the year. Anthrax shows no movement in either direction; the number of outbreaks, it is true, are somewhat fewer, but the animals involved are almost as numerous. Foot and mouth disease continues happily to be a stranger to these shores, while rabies are also non-existent in this country. Glanders, which perhaps is to a great extent a disease more to be found in town stables, has remained stationary, while the number of outbreaks of sheep scab is very nearly half what it was last year, and over a third less than in 1903. Swine fever, on the other hand, has been more prevalent than for some time past. Whether this is due to more stringent regulations, or to the increase of disease, is a matter of opinion, but suffice it to say that up to the present time, this year 6,677 animals have been slaughtered as diseased or exposed to infection, as against 3,518 in 1905 and 5,402 in 1904.

Pedigree Stock Sales: Cattle.

Breeders of pedigree stock have found throughout the whole of the year a firm and buoyant trade. The demand from Argentina, Australia, and other countries has been maintained, and in consequence a high level of prices has been reached.

The ubiquitous Shorthorn takes first place in any review, and the sale of the year was that of the late Mr. P. L. Mills' sale at Ruddington, for 115 head realised an average of £155 18s. 5d. per head. The Argentine buyers who secured many of the jewels of the herd only did so after the stiffest contest with England's foremost breeders, many of whom were able to retain at home some very choice stud animals, including that noted stud bull King Christian of Denmark. Amongst the prices paid for bulls were 1,100 guineas, 900 guineas, 420 guineas; for bull calves, 130 guineas; for cows, 600 guineas (the top price of the year for females), 500 guineas, 390 guineas; for three-year-old heifers, 310 and 300 guineas; for two-year-old heifers, 420 and 330 guineas; for yearling heifers, 420 guineas; and for heifer calves, 378 guineas. The best average of the year was Mr. W. Duthie's—namely, £304 15s. for eighteen calves, the top price being 850 guineas. Mr. A. T. Gordon (for fourteen) obtained an average of £120 12s. 6d., cows making up to 250 guineas, two-year-old heifers to 200 guineas. Mr. A. M. Gordon's average was £123 16s. 6d. for the same number (a bull making 700 guineas), seven of which gave the handsome average of £211 8s. Mr. John Marr's average for seven bull calves was £122 5s. The late Mr. James Webb's forty head gave an average of £98 4s., an average just in excess of that secured by Mr. H. Dudding, whose annual sale took place on the previous day, when an average of £94 4s. 8d. for fifty-one head was secured, the best price being 1,000 guineas for Alastair 2nd.

Other breeds, although overshadowed by the "red, white, and roan," have had their share of success. The demand, both home and export, for the Hereford breed was good, best prices being: bulls, 100 guineas, at Mr. J. G. Jones' sale; two-year-old bulls, 90 guineas, at the society's spring sale, at which fixture the yearling bulls went up to 120 guineas, the best sale price of the year. The top price for females was 104 guineas, at Mr. D. Price's sale. The Sussex sales have been about the usual number, and none call for any special note save a draft sale held by Lord Winterton, while the top price for bulls, 135 guineas, is stated to be a record one. There have been some better prices realised for Devons. Mr. C. L. Hancock realised for sixty head the very excellent average of £35 7s., bulls making up to 52 guineas and cows 65 guineas. The society's sale at Exeter was good, and the prices ranged from 61 guineas. The Jersey sales have shown a good demand for all the best animals offered. Lord Rothschild's sale, with an average of £31 3s. 5d., heads the list of sale averages, and at this sale the best price of the year was made for females, 70 guineas.

Horses.

Shire horses continue to make satisfactory prices. Mr. H. Jaggar's sale gave the best average for the home sales, £83 19s. for thirty-nine head. Several excellent prices were made: 250 guineas for brood mares, 300 guineas for a three-year-old filly, 220 guineas for a yearling filly, the top price of the year for this age. Sir A. Henderson's sale at Buscot came out with an excellent average: thirty-five head made £80 8s. per head. The top figure of the sale was 310 guineas for a three-year-old filly, the top price of the year. The late Mr. P. L. Mills' stud, dispersed in September, concluded a notable series of stud stock dispersal sales. The best prices were brood mares 220 guineas, yearling fillies 230 guineas, and several others between these figures and 125 guineas, making a general average of £65 6s. 5d. for fifty-five head. At the annual Shire horse sale the aggregate sale total was an excellent one, and the average worked out at £93 5s. 11d. for 110 head. The highest price of the year for brood mares—510 guineas for the champion mare—was realised here.

Clydesdales had a more than usually prosperous year, four stallions of Mr. Smith's (Blacon Point) making 700, 400, 295, and 250 guineas, and an average of nearly £220 for fourteen head. Suffolks have been in good local demand, but otherwise there is not a great deal to record.

The sales of Hackneys, &c., have not been so numerous as in some former years. Sir Gilbert Greenall secured an average of £58 15s. for fifty-four head; 350 guineas, the top price, being realised for a harness mare. Some capital prices were realised at Mr. R. Whitworth's sale, notably, 200 and 100 guineas for pony stallions, and 300 guineas for harness horses. Mr. R. W. Jay sold twenty-four for 128 guineas average; Helma made 650 guineas, and 250, and 210 guineas were made for geldings. The best prices for what may be fittingly termed show horses were 1,175 guineas for Menella and 650 guineas for Gay Matthias.

Among the Hunter sales Mr. A. Bourne realised the top price of the season with 600 guineas, and his average for eleven—£283 10s.—is the best noted. Mr. Downer sold five at from 420 guineas, and averaged £231 1s.

Sheep.

Our flockmasters have had a splendid season, and the demand from abroad has been really phenomenal. Lincoln Longwools are the most remarkable. The record price and average of the breed at Riby sale is one almost, if not quite, without equal. 1,450 guineas for one ram, and several others making up to £500 guineas, with an average of £152 1s. 9d., is an average that no other living breeder has ever realised. Mr. Dudding heads the list both for individual prices of yearling ewes, 30 guineas, and average of £16 17s. 4d. for twenty-three. Messrs. Dean average £71 3s. 1d. (top price, 280 guineas); Mr. J. Pears, £47 13s. 4d. (top price, 203 guineas). Messrs. R. and W. Wright's names are absent, and the reason is one worthy of record—namely, because the whole of their noted flock has been purchased for export as a whole to the Argentine, the sale being one of the most important ever effected in connection with any breed of sheep, and one that involved the largest sum of money ever paid or received for a sheep deal in England. Leicesters have experienced a good home and export trade, and made up to 20 guineas; Cotswolds have done slightly better and made up to 30 guineas.

Down lambs have sold well; Oxfords have been sold as high as 75 guineas for one of Mr. Worley's. Southdowns have also had a good season, with prices up to 100 guineas for one of the Duke of Richmond's. Among Hampshires Mr. Carey Coles made the best figure, a ram lamb being let for 105 guineas, a close runner-up being Mr. J. Flower, who made 180 guineas. Shropshires have met a good trade. Sir R. P. Cooper's 115 guineas, at the Royal Show sale, where the capital average of £23 19s. was realised, was top sale price. Prices and averages for Kent sheep have made remarkable progress. Until Mr. J. E. Quested made 120 guineas for one at Ashford sale, and averaged £20 18s., both records for this breed. Other breeds which have also done well are Dorset Horns, South Devons, Border Leicesters, and Black Face.

Pigs.

Pig breeders have had a fair inquiry for their stock. Among Large Whites the dispersal sale of the late Mr. P. L. Mills realised top average—£9 3s. 9d. for 150 head. The Middle White breed has but few sales on record of this year, Mr. T. S. Jay's £8 5s. 6d. being the best average. The Berkshire sales have shown a capital demand, Mr. A. Hiscock's average of £11 11s. was the best of the year.

Agricultural Shows.

A fine summer is always beneficial to agricultural shows. The Royal Show at Derby, as regards weather, struck one of those bad patches which we invariably experience in this climate. Notwithstanding this the show was a fine one, while the financial result was so satisfactory as to make it evident that the new series of movable shows which commenced at Derby will be crowned with success. The good fortune at Derby appears likely to extend to the exhibition at Lincoln in 1907. The Bath and West and Southern Counties' Agricultural Societies met on the outskirts of

Swindon, and this fixture will be remembered by the fatal tram accident, in which both exhibitors and visitors were concerned. The show itself is likely to be a financial failure, but the 1907 meeting at Newport will make up any shortcomings in this direction. The Royal Counties' Agricultural Society met at Portsmouth in brilliantly fine weather, and again success attended their efforts; the Royal Lancashire at Lancaster are able to record a favourable verdict, but visitors to the succeeding fixture—the Yorkshire—have recollections of Middlesborough; its thunderstorms, heavy rains, and inclement conditions of anything but a favourable nature.

The Highland and Agricultural Society, who met at Peebles, were rewarded with success. The site of the show was in one of their "lean" districts, but it is on this account all the more gratifying to find a substantial margin of profit. The Irish Shows again had a successful season. The Royal Dublin Society's fixtures are of such a well-known character as to defy competition, while the gatherings at Belfast are doing good work in providing Northern exhibitors. The Welsh National Show at Aberystwith bids fair to establish a society for the principality that will be productive of great good.

Minor Points.

Agriculture has come in for a greater share of attention in Parliament than usual. Of the Land Tenure Bill and the Report of the Agricultural Committee of the Tariff Reform Commission it is undesirable to speak here, as both lend themselves to a considerable amount of political feeling. The Dogs Bill, which comes into effect on January 1, 1907, is a short Act which deals with the worrying of sheep, and it will be welcomed by all farmers; while the New Fertilisers Act, which comes in operation at the same time as a useful measure supplementing other Acts dealing with the sales of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

The potato boom has left its trail all over the country, and new varieties are under a cloud at present. We cannot say that this is undeservedly the case, and the folly displayed by those responsible for the ridiculous claims put forward for new varieties have reaped their own reward. There is no doubt that potato disease is very prevalent in this country, and big growers are looking forward anxiously and eagerly for a variety to take the place of the Up-to-Dates which has served them in good stead for so many years.

Home Affairs.

Writing in the Christmas holiday week, I ask myself if there is any place for hop trade reports at such a time. I hope that every one of us has enjoyed to the full the happiness arising from joyous social gatherings with their festal accompaniments, and that we have all been free from any note of sadness that might otherwise have marred our pleasure. But the days of relaxation from the cares of business have passed away for the nonce, and our offices are again open.

It is therefore incumbent upon us to face the more serious aspect of life, and while we examine the records of the season thus far, to look at the possibilities of the future. Unfortunately, our experience since September is somewhat clouded by disappointment. Neither planter nor trader (with but few exceptions) can congratulate himself upon the results of his efforts. Despite of our limited crop, that reasonably raised expectations for a brisk demand and remunerative prices, we have had a dragging, dull trade, and values have been low.

Nevertheless the crop is now practically cleared, the unsold balance being reduced to such an insignificant point, that we may surely anticipate a stronger market when the New Year comes in. Such an anticipation is encouraged by the course of affairs during the last two or three weeks. When business was suspended for the holiday, the market had maintained the firmness that was initiated by the recent upbringing of healthy demand. A large quantity of hops had changed hands, and the advanced values were well supported up to the last moment. By inquiries from factors to-day, I ascertain that they are very confident as to the tendency of the trade. There are well founded reports that brewers are coming forward in January, prepared to take over a good proportion of the hops on offer, and from all present appearances we may expect that in a short time the English market will be clear of stock if holders are willing to sell. These conditions necessarily imply further advancement of prices, and I sincerely trust that growers who are holders will be amply rewarded for their patience.

Another encouraging feature may be found in the views expressed in my foreign notes by American correspondents. These are much more optimistic than previously. One of them says that he appreciates the difficulties I labour under in getting reliable reports from his side, having noticed my bewilderment at the conflicting statements I receive from time to time. I fully agree with this remark, and also with the advice given me to "shake them up together and take the average," as by that means I shall get somewhere near the truth. I am doing this to-day, and find, in the average arrived at, that the dreadful bogey of American competition is not so black as he was formerly painted. He will doubtless disturb our calculations to some extent, but we need not be so much afraid of him, as to lose our confidence in the more favourable prospect, now presented to us.

The Le May Challenge Cup.

In order to encourage excellence of quality in English hops, and to stimulate planters in their endeavours to attain to the highest standard, Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May have for some years offered for competition at the Ashford Cattle Show a valuable sterling silver cup, open to the whole of the hop-growing parishes of England. It becomes the absolute property of any grower who wins it three times, but it is not necessary it should be won in three successive years.

That it is worth the winning will be seen by a glance at the appended engraving, especially when we add that its net weight is 81¼ ozs., and that, including the plinth, its height is nearly

24 in. The design is exceptionally elegant, and the fortunate possessor of such a cup may well be proud of the testimony it furnishes of his practical skill in his profession. The winner this year is Mr. W. Rogers, of Horton Kirby, Dartford, who also secured this distinction in the same competition in 1904, so that he has only to repeat his success once again to enable him to hold the cup in perpetuity.

This final result may be safely anticipated when we examine the record of Mr. Rogers at the hop competitions at the Brewers' Exhibition. Being a regular exhibitor since 1900, he has as regularly been distinguished in the prize lists. In 1903 and in 1905 his samples secured the Gold Medal and Championship, and he has, in addition to these honours, taken six first, four second, and one third prizes. No other English planter, as far as I am aware, holds so high a position, and approving the principle of giving honour to whom honour is due, I have great pleasure in making these facts public.

Notes from Foreign Markets.

America.

A correspondent in Tacoma (Washington) writes me this week as follows:—"Reading your interesting reports in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of November 19 we note that you publish extracts from a letter received from a Washington dealer, which gives a very "bearish" view of conditions on this side. There are always two sides to every question, and your correspondent is certainly very one-sided, being no doubt prompted by his anxiety to force the market down to as low a point as possible in order to cover sales made at low prices last summer. To give you the other side of the situation, we ask your attention to the enclosed statistics, compiled by Oregon dealers, who are as much on the "bull" side as your correspondent is on the reverse. We desire to say that as regards prices we do not agree with either of these extreme views. We believe that after the New Year conditions will change, and that we shall then see buying more brisk, and prices go up a notch or two. We do not believe in either a 10 cent. or 20 cent. market, but certainly think that present prices, which average 12½ to 14 cents for good useful hops, are lower than the situation warrants, taking into consideration your abnormally small crop and our increasing consumption. We do not lose sight of the fact that brewers' carry-over stocks were large, but surely at these prices they are not likely to let them get smaller."

The figures referred to show that, including the old hops carried over into the 1905 season, and the crops of 1905 and 1906, after making allowance for imports and exports, the supplies for two years amounted to 590,000 bales. The local consumption for the two years, 1906 and 1907, is calculated at 520,000 bales, on the basis of the production of 120 millions of barrels of beer, averaging rather over ¾ lb. of hops per barrel. The compilers consequently conclude, after taking imports, &c., into account, that the surplus this season in the U.S.A. available for export is round about 80,000 bales. In their accompanying remarks they estimate that, owing to English requirements, the exports will probably amount to 110,000 bales, and that this will create a shortage in America, which must certainly enhance values. They also point out that the marked increase in the production and consumption of beer in the United States will demand about 30,000 bales more hops per annum, and as there is no enlargement of the hop-growing area, it will be found that, by the time the 1907 crop has arrived, the whole of the earlier growths will be cleared out. Thus they predict that the Pacific Coast markets will be advanced to 20 cents, within the next few months, and practically advise growers who have not sold their 1906 hops to await the issue of events.

The views thus declared appear to be confirmed by the official reports of exports and imports during the first three months of the present season, when compared with the corresponding movements of 1905. The exports this year are 26,548 bales, and last year they were only 8,361 bales. The imports this season are 1,963 bales, as against 5,242 bales in same period of 1905.

Nuremberg.

Although the proximity of the holidays usually affects the market by reducing the volume of business, this year's experience is quite exceptional, as the activity which has prevailed during the past few weeks is still maintained. The new supplies for the seven days ending December 20 amounted to 1,700 bales, the sales totalling 2,200 bales. Stocks are therefore substantially reduced, and sellers are consequently very firm in upholding their quotations. The principal business has been done in the best green hops, which are sought for by local brewers. Choice Hallerdaus have been sold at as high a price as 130s., and choice Wurtemburgs same figure. Lower qualities are also being freely taken at 90s. to 105s. for home consumption. But in consequence of the small demand for exportation yellow samples may be bought rather more easily, and can be obtained at from 75s. to 80s. The general tendency of the market at the close of the business for this year is in favour of continued firmness, with the probability of further advancement when the New Year's trade opens.

Belgium.

After a rather long period of comparative depression, the Belgian hop markets have caught something of the stronger tone prevailing elsewhere. Values of Alosts have advanced several points, and may now be quoted at from 65 to 70 francs, Poperinghes having also improved in like proportion. The outlook for the New Year appears to be indicative of further strength.

What is a steer? was the question that gave the Buckinghamshire Divisional Bench some trouble the other day. A farmer was summoned for allowing two beasts to stray on the public highway, and the summons went on to specify one as a heifer and the other as a steer. The defendant said he had not had a steer on his farm since the beginning of August, and that if he was convicted he should appeal. The question arose as to what really was meant by a steer. Johnson gives it as "a young bullock," but this one appeared to be little more than a calf, though in time it could be properly classified as a steer. To meet the difficulty, the bench suggested omitting the "steer" from the summons. To this the defendant consented, and, pleading guilty to allowing the heifer to stray on the public highway, he was ordered to pay 11s. 6d.

THE SMALL HOLDINGS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Important Recommendations.

The report of the Departmental Committee appointed in April, 1905, by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, to inquire into and report upon the subject of small holdings in Great Britain, was issued last week as a Blue-book. The referendum of the committee was to inquire into the administration and working of the Small Holdings Act, 1892; to examine the various arrangements made by land owners in recent years for the provision of smaller agricultural holdings; and to report as to the conditions under which such holdings are most likely to be attended with success, and as to the measures which may most advantageously be taken, either by legislation, co-operative association, or otherwise, to secure the increase of their number.

The committee consisted of the Earl of Onslow (chairman), Earl Carrington, the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., Sir Ralph Anstruther, Major Patrick Craigie, Mr. C. Bidwell, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., Mr. James Long, Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund, and Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P. On his appointment as President of the Board of Agriculture, Earl Carrington appointed Mr. R. C. Munro Ferguson, M.P., as a member of the committee in his place.

The committee state that they have examined witnesses drawn from all parts of Great Britain, and including members of county council small holdings committees, who detailed operations carried out under the Act, and dealt with the deficiencies and difficulties in connection with the administration thereof; an official from the Land Registry Department, who went into the question of registration of title under the Act and generally; landowners and land agents who have had experience in the creation of small holdings, and who also gave evidence on the general question; representatives of associations and co-operative and other societies which have acquired land for the purpose of disposing of it to small cultivators; individual cultivators of small holdings; witnesses who have visited and reported on small holdings in what may be described as the small holdings districts; officers from the respective Local Government Boards of England and Scotland who gave evidence on building bye-laws; witnesses who dealt with co-operation and co-operative credit banks; a superintending inspector from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and an inspector from the Board of Education, who went into the question of agricultural education; the secretaries of the Crofters' Commission and Congested Districts (Scotland) Board, who outlined the functions of those bodies and the action they have taken. Representatives of the English and Scottish Chambers of Agriculture and the secretary of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland also gave evidence. Other witnesses included the High Commissioner for New Zealand, who described the system of land settlement in Australia and New Zealand, and the Vice-President of the Irish Local Government Board, who stated the provisions of the Labourers (Ireland) Acts as to erection of cottages. A total of fifty-eight witnesses were examined, and 10,990 questions asked and answered.

Committee's Recommendations.

The recommendations embodied in the report are numerous and far-reaching. The principal proposals are:—

1. That in addition to the machinery provided by the Small Holdings Act, 1892, the provision of small holdings should be assisted by the direct intervention of a central Government Department.

2. That, with this view, special branches of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries be formed for England and Scotland to make definite experiments in the creation of small holdings.

3. That Parliament be invited to make an annual grant for the conduct of such operations.

4. That, in the event of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries being unable to obtain by agreement land required for these operations, compulsory powers should be conferred on the board.

5. That the Board should make annually to Parliament a return showing the progress made in the provisions of small holdings by local authorities, and the extent of the difficulties or the measure of success experienced; and for this purpose the board should have statutory power to procure from the county councils the necessary information on these points.

6. That where the Board considers action is feasible, it should take such steps as seem advisable to secure suitable land, to properly set out, sub-divide and equip it, either to let at an annual rent or to sell to suitable applicants, the purchase price to be repaid by such annual instalments, including the interest and sinking fund, as will repay the total outlay over a prolonged period of years.

There are, in addition, a series of recommendations for the amendment of the Small Holdings Act of 1892. The first two are intended to relax the conditions of repayment, which at present press rather heavily on the small occupier.

One of the recommendations is that the purchaser shall pay down one-eighth instead of one-fifth of the purchase money as at present. The second is that, after payment of the first instalment, the county council shall have power to defer the payment of the instalments from time to time in such cases as it deems advisable. It is also proposed that county councils may relax the condition prohibiting the erection of more than one dwelling-house on the holding, if, in their opinion, such relaxation will tend to develop the use of the holding for agricultural purposes. Another important recommendation is intended to obviate the necessity of a holding being offered for sale, to the person entitled to the land of which it forms part, when the small holder has paid all the purchase money and wishes to use the land for other than agricultural purposes.

It is also recommended that, in addition to the experimental action of the Central Department in acquiring land and establishing small holdings in particular localities, State loans, similar to those granted under the Public Money Drainage Act of 1846, should be made available for the purpose of enabling landowners, under certain restrictions, to undertake the necessary adaptation and equipment of voluntarily providing small holdings throughout the country. Such advances are to be granted at the lowest rate of interest possible without loss to the Treasury.

Additional recommendations are that further facilities should be provided for agricultural instruction in rural districts, and that for this purpose an addition should be made to the present grant to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; and that practical steps be taken by Gavernment to promote all forms of agricultural co-operation, and especially to encourage the formation of agricultural credit societies by means of State loans, on the approved security of a central co-operative agricultural credit association.

Reservation Reports.

Mr. R. C. Munro Ferguson, M.P., while approving of the main lines of the report, suggests some financial modifications; and reservations on minor points are also made by Sir Ralph Anstruther, Mr. James Long, and Sir Francis Channing, M.P.

Mr. James Long urges in his reservation report that something more should be done for the farm labourers by the provision of "substantial and roomy cottages and an acre of land at rents within their narrow means," and he comments on the hindrance caused by the arbitrary character of the building by-laws of many local authorities. He also agrees in the main with the supplementary report of Sir F. A. Channing, especially as to the causes of rural depopulation and as to the great importance of co-operation and suitable education.

Sir F. Channing's Views.

In his supplementary report, Sir Francis Channing submits an alternative scheme of the most drastic and effective character. After urging at length and with many illustrations from the evidence—(1) that the interference of the State to develop small holdings can only be justly called for if the small holdings to be erected are based on real economic demands and capable of being worked at a profit; (2) that experience of the success of co-operative land societies in England, and of the history of the development of Danish agriculture, demonstrates that by co operative methods will land be provided most cheaply, supervised as to its cultivation most effectively, and profitable working of the industry in all its branches made most possible; (3) that the essential condition of rural regeneration is the expansion of agricultural education on practical and novel lines.

Sir Francis makes his principal suggestion as an amendment to the report in the suggestion that a small holdings policy will best be pushed by an independent land or small holdings commission with universal compulsory powers of hiring land by an order of the commission, fixing a per cent. to be paid to the landowner and security of tenure for the small holder.

In other words, Sir Francis wishes to apply, with such modifications as may be necessary, the principle and the procedure of the Small Landholders (Scotland) Bill, introduced this session by Mr. John Sinclair for Scotland—to the whole of England and Wales also. Under this procedure any land of under £50 annual value can be provided, the Commission undertaking the cost of equipment, compensation to outgoing tenant, &c., and charging a small percentage on the small holder. In this operation Sir Francis suggests that the action of co-operative societies, as in the "Garden City scheme," should be enlisted by the Commission.

Mr. Jesse Collings' Suggestions.

Mr. Jesse Collings, in his separate report, says that he considers the committee's recommendations as to the provision of small holdings by the central authority and by county councils quite inadequate, and he condemns the recommendation of State loans to landowners to adapt and equip voluntarily provided small holdings "as a retrograde step, which, if taken, would create a distinct barrier to the restoration of a peasant proprietary in this country."

To deal effectively with the question under consideration the following provisions are, in his opinion, absolutely necessary:—

1. A substantial sum to be placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture for the purpose of creating small holdings throughout the country. The terms, as to loans to small holders, to be such as will secure that poverty be no bar to suitable men acquiring the ownership of the land they till.

2. The Act of 1892 to be amended in the manner suggested above.

3. That as Parliamentary grants are made to the Congested Districts (Scotland) Board, 1897, for (among other purposes) the "creation of a body of small proprietors," so grants of a similar kind should be given to local authorities in England for the equipment of small holdings. Such grants-in-aid to be apportioned among the county councils according to the liabilities which the councils themselves have undertaken under the Act of 1892.

Correspondence.

American Linseed Cake.

SIR,—With regard to the new Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, which comes into force on January 1, 1907, the effect of same will tend to show the consumer more than ever the best value obtainable, for the reason that sellers will be obliged to state on every invoice the oil and albuminoids contained in the article sold.

It is authoritatively computed that each unit of oil and albuminoids is of equal feeding value, also respectively two and a-half times that of every unit of carbohydrates; hence it is a simple operation for the intending purchaser to judge the real total worth of the feeding properties of individual brands or makes of cakes, meals, &c.

For example, the following analysis recently taken of two sorts of foreign made showed results:—

Ordinary American Linseed Cakes.

Oil.....	6·76	multiple	2½	equals	16·90
Albuminoids	36·77	,,	2½	,,	91·92
Carbo-hydrates	35·17	,,	1	,,	35·17
Feeding units.....					143·99

Ordinary Russian Oil Cake.

Oil.....	10·81	multiple	2½	equals	27 02
Albuminoids	27·91	,,	2½	,,	69·77
Carbohydrates	36·94	,,	1	,,	36 94
Feeding units.....					133·73

Our friends on the Continent have learnt from experience that American linseed cake is purer and higher in oil and albuminoids combined than almost any other description. The imports into Antwerp alone of this make are about 4,000 tons weekly. The only reason that American brands are not favoured in England is on account of the hardness, but the continental farmer does not object to this, as by damping the cake with a little water after being passed through the breaker, and subsequently keeping same for twelve hours the cake becomes as tender and palatable as the higher-priced softer makes.

R. & J. HEWETSON.

1, Catherine Court, December 28, 1906.

Dry and Wet Handed Milking.

SIR,—In my opinion "wet-handed" milking is the best way, and most natural. Was ever a calf known to suck a cow with a dry mouth? There is a peculiar softness in milking with a hand moistened with a little fresh-drawn milk. The cows like it and the milkmen like it. We milk over fifty cows daily, and have quiet cows to milk and also fidgety ones. But I believe in the "wet" hand.—Yours faithfully, THOS. DAWS.

Soggs House, Ewhurst, Hawkhurst,
December 19, 1906.

The Northamptonshire Agricultural Society have altered the date of their 1907 show to Wednesday and Thursday, May 22 and 23.

Earl Carrington, President of the Board of Agriculture, is to be the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Liverpool and District Farmers' Club on February 8.

At a public meeting held in Glasgow it was unanimously resolved that the time had come when the Glasgow Veterinary College should cease to be carried on by private enterprise alone, and should be established on the basis of a public institution under a board of governors, and a committee was appointed to deal with the matter

Hens keep in better condition and lay more eggs if given a little Colman's Mustard in their morning food.

See "The Field," Feb. 6, 1906.

The truth of this statement has been proved again and again since its discovery last February.

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Midland Notes.

AFTER a succession of green Christmases, we have enjoyed—or suffered—one this year of the "real old-fashioned" type. In this district of Warwickshire the open fields are covered three or four inches deep, but, of course, the drifts are considerably more. Something like that appears to be the rule, but in North Stafford and Derby the fall is much heavier, and one hears gloomy stories from Notts. The change came suddenly, so that losses of sheep are spoken of in hill districts. But it is early to be prophesying evils like that. Our Midland breeds can hardly claim the stout resistance to cold which makes the Herdwicks so popular in the north, but sheep are always wonderfully hardy, and however deep the snow, need never be despaired of until the dead bodies are actually discovered.

ONE of the minor troubles of the season is the poor keeping qualities which the potatoes are showing. A large grower in South Nottingham was giving me a distressing account of his experiences a few days ago, and nearer home, as in Staffordshire, for example, complaints are almost as bitter. It is some consolation that prices show a tendency to rise; but, so far, the advance is nothing like enough to counterbalance the loss on diseased and rotten tubers.

THE fining of batches of farmers for selling milk not up to Board of Agriculture standard has been a subject of conversation lately in Worcestershire and elsewhere. One need never be surprised at city magistrates showing entire ignorance of milk vagaries; but some recent cases seem to indicate that even in rural and semi-rural districts the bench is apt to be less enlightened on these subjects than it should be.

WHETHER the milk in any particular case is watered or not is always a question of fact which the court must decide for itself. But when the "appeal to the cow" is disregarded, and a farmer defendant is told in effect that the official standard is so low that no pure milk can fall below it, then the need for magisterial instruction on these points is pretty evident.

YET there is room for doubt whether all farmer milk-producers are as straightforward as they ought to be. The manager of one of the largest Midland milk-retailing concerns assures me that in times of scarcity the supplies which reach him are often found to depreciate in quality also. Taking advantage of the low official standard, the pure milk is watered down until it only just exceeds the legal minimum requirement. One cannot call it downright dishonest, but it is a straining of the law in a manner that reflects no credit on him who adopts such a course.

NOT a little interest is being taken in the small holdings report, for the Midlands possess some of the favoured districts where miniature occupations can be relied upon to pay their way, provided always the tenant knows his business and the seasons are not wholly unpropitious. There is still plenty of room for more small holders in the fruit and market gardening districts of the Avon, Teinc, and Severn valleys. The fruit industry shows signs of development also in Warwickshire, where the soil and climate have long been considered unpropitious.

BUT what, one wonders, has become of the scheme which was whispered of a year ago for cutting up a very large estate in Warwickshire into small holdings? Has it all come to nothing? Apparently so.

December 27, 1906.

The Local Government Board have just issued a return giving the rateable value of agricultural lands and the amount of grants made to each union under the Agricultural Lands Act, 1896, which would otherwise have to be raised by poor rates year by year. The total amount of the grants so paid to all "spending authorities" in respect of the deficiency arising from the provisions of the Act in the produce of the poor rates for the year is estimated to have approximated £1,314,000, an amount equal to about 2d. in the £ on the total rateable value outside London.

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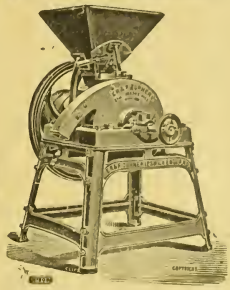

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Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.

Interesting Case under the Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893.

Probably the last case under the old Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act took place last week at Wells County Petty Sessions. It is of interest as showing the difference of opinion which sometimes occurs between agricultural analysts themselves and also the difference between the practical results obtained and what might have been expected according to the view of the expert.

Thomas Turner Chard, trading as T. T. Chard and Sons, of Weston-super-Mare, and also of Valenta Mills, Sevier Street, Bristol, feeding-cake manufacturers, were summoned at the Wells County Petty Sessions on Monday, by Mr. G. I. Simey, clerk to the Somerset County Council, for selling to F. G. Nurse, as food for cattle, 10 cwt. of loose young stock cake, which contained ingredients deleterious to cattle, namely, indigestible fibre and sand. In a second summons defendant was charged with selling to Mr. Nurse cake, to which had been added certain indigestible fibre and sand, worthless for feeding purposes, and which was not disclosed at the time of the sale. There was a third summons under which defendant was charged with sending out with the feeding cake in question an invoice which failed to disclose a material particular to the prejudice of the purchaser. Mr. Vachell (instructed by Mr. Simey) was counsel for the prosecution, and Mr. Garland (instructed by Mr. A. J. Mawer, of Wells) was counsel for the defendant. The cases were of an important nature, both to farmers and to feeding stuffs manufacturers, and the court was filled with farmers, dealers, and several representatives of cake firms.

Mr. Garland said, unfortunately, the previous night at the Swan Hotel Mr. Chard met with a very serious accident. He fell on a narrow stairway and badly injured his knee, and was unable to be present. He did not intend to ask for an adjournment, though one would rather Mr. Chard was present, though it was out of no disrespect that he was not there, but his traveller was present.

The summons was then read out, charging defendant with selling the loose young stock cake containing fibre and sand.

Mr. Vachell: There are two other summonses, and I propose to first proceed on one of the other two—the one with sending out a certain invoice which was false in a material particular to the prejudice of the buyer. The learned counsel then proceeded to open the facts, stating that the informations had been laid by Mr. Simey, clerk to the Somerset County Council, who directed these proceedings under the powers which the council possessed. The summonses were taken out under the 1893 Fertilisers and Feeding Foods Act, which was passed to protect farmers against unscrupulous manufacturers. The defendants' traveller, Mr. J. Jones, was at Wells Market on May 5, and persuaded Mr. Nurse, of Wick Farm, Coxley, to purchase half a ton of loose young stock cake at £6 10s. a ton.

The Chairman presumed there was no guarantee.

Mr. Vachell said there was something in the nature of a guarantee, but there was no description of the ingredients of the cake. Mr. Nurse saw Mr. Burton, of the county council, and, in no spirit of antagonism, asked him to take a sample of the cake for analysis to see whether it was suitable for young stock. The invoice was a warranty that the stuff was reasonably fit for food for young stock. If the analysis of the county council was challenged, it could be analysed by the chief analyst.

Mr. Garland: Of course it was challenged.

Mr. Vachell then read some correspondence that had passed between the defendant and Mr. Burton, and, proceeding, said the cake was very low indeed so far as nutrition was concerned, and the purchaser was paying £1 2s. 6d. for the cake in question for that which was not only useless, but for that which was positively dangerous.

Mr. George Frederick Nurse having given evidence of purchasing the cake,

Mr. J. H. Burton, county instructor in agriculture, and the authorised representative of the analyst of feeding stuffs under the Acts, said he took three samples of Mr. Nurse's cake on May 18. One was sent to Mr. Lloyd, of London, the other to Mr. Nurse, and one he kept. The tins were sealed and air-tight. He received a certificate from Mr. Lloyd of the result of his analysis, which read:—"Moisture, 14·40; oil, 5·20; albuminoids, 14·25; carbo-hydrates, 43·48; indigestible, 15·07; mineral matter, 7·60." The comment was:—"This is a very poor, dirty, indigestible cake, and not fit for young stock." A copy of the analysis was sent the defendants, who wrote that it was not an analysis of their cake. He (the witness) was very annoyed at this letter because it inferred that he had not taken a proper sample.

Mr. Garland intimated that there was no intention to cause irritation.

Witness, proceeding, said that the nutritive part of the cake was very low. It was extremely low in albuminoids; the carbo-hydrates were for the purpose of keeping up heat. This cake was the lowest, except one, which was sold by the same firm, in albuminoids of any cake he had analysed during the last two years. The cake contained Bombay cotton-seed, which was the worst that could be used for young stock. No farmer in his senses would so use it; 15·07 of indigestible fibre was, he considered, quite an inadmissible amount, having regard to the fact that the cake was for young stock. For mature animals Bombay cotton-cake might be all right. The percentage of sand was the highest he had found out of seventeen samples.

In cross-examination by Mr. Garland the witness said the invoice he considered false in that it implied that the cake as sold was guaranteed fit for young stock, whereas they (the prosecution) said it was not fit for young stock. The expression "sand" included silica. Generally speaking, he did not approve of compound cakes for the feeding of young stock. He condemned Bombay cotton cake, and did not recommend it under any circumstances for young stock. He did not recommend any particular cake. He recommended a cake if asked. He never recommended any particular firm.

Mr. Garland: Have you ever taken commission from any firm?

Mr. Burton: Oh, dear, no, certainly not.

Mr. Frederick James Lloyd, Fellow of the Chemical Society and Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry, and agricultural analyst to the counties of Somerset, Devon, Kent, and Surrey, put in his analysis of the cake (given above). The examination of the cake showed that it contained Bombay cotton-seed and rice meal. It also contained an excessive amount of sand, such as no cake given to young stock should contain. It contained a very high quantity of indigestible fibre for young stock. He should not care to give Bombay cake to any stock under eighteen months.

By Mr. Garland: He attacked that food on the questions of woolly fibre and sand. His assistant helped in the analysis. He could not swear that he was present all the time his assistant was making the analysis. He did not make the analysis as to the fibre or the sand contained in the cake. Different parts of the cake when analysed might give different analysis.

By Mr. Vachell: His assistant was thoroughly competent, and if there was any doubt the analysis was repeated.

By the Chairman: His assistant had not taken any degrees, but he was perfectly qualified to make the analysis. Witness frequently checked the analysis. He thought it was very unfair to suggest in court that his analysis was unjust and take no steps to prove that it was wrong. He was quite willing that the third sample should be sent to the chief analyst at Somerset House.

This was the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Garland, for the defence, called Mr. F. G. Cosh, clerk and chemist to the defendant, who said his firm carried on a large business as manufacturers of feeding stuffs. When they were going to make a large bulk a small portion was first made and tested, and if the analysis was satisfactory then the bulk was made. He analysed a sample of the cake in question, with the following result:—Moisture, 14·48; oil, 5·90; albuminoids, 16·62; carbo-hydrates, 44·06; fibre, 11·33; ash or mineral matter, 7·61. The mineral matter contained sand, 1·81 per cent.

By Mr. Vachell: They did not make an analysis of the bulk in all cases. The main bulk of the cake in question was analysed on May 10. Witness afterwards said the bulk was not analysed.

Counsel next asked what were the ingredients, and witness said locust beans, Rangoon rice meal, Bombay cotton-seed——

Mr. Garland objected. It was Mr. Chard's desire that the recipe, which was a trade secret, should not be made known in open court.

The Chairman agreed, but thought they might know the percentage of cotton-seed.

After some discussion, the witness said he did not know. (Loud laughter.)

Charles James Waterfall, of Bristol, analyst, F.C.S. and F.C.I., gave the result of an analysis of the sample of the cake taken by Mr. Burton. He made a first analysis on May 30 and another on June 13. His analysis on May 30 gave:—Moisture, 13·52; oil, 5·84; albuminoids, 16·63; carbo-hydrates, 48·17; fibre, 8·24; mineral matter, 7·60; sand, 1·60. The analysis taken on June 13 was:—Moisture, 13·84; oil, 5·80; albuminoids, 16·74; carbo-hydrates, 45·72; fibre, 9·20; mineral matter, 8·70; sand, 1·80. He did not agree with Mr. Lloyd that Bombay cotton-seed was injurious; the prejudice against it was dying out. Rice meal was a fine food for young stock.

By Mr. Vachell: Care had to be exercised in the use of Bombay cotton-seed because of its astringent character. He wrote down the name of another manufacturer who sold a cake one of the ingredients of which was Bombay seed; but in answer to Mr. Vachell, he said it was not sold as a young stock cake.

William Green, a foreman in the defendant's employ, said the cake was made from a formula, and the ingredients were carefully mixed.

Ernest George Wait, of Temple Farm, Upton, said he had been a customer of Messrs. Chard since 1898, and his father before him. He had some of the cake in question, and fed his lambs and other young stock with the most excellent results, the stock realising the best prices.

George Crew, of Cold Farm, Bruton, and manager to Miss Hoddinott, gave similar evidence. In May he had two tons of the cake in question, and fed his young stock with it with very good results.

John Edward Whatley, Bishop's Stoke, Shrivenham, Berkshire, farming 1,000 acres, said up to May, 1904, he used from Messrs. Chard a cake known as treacle cake. He had since bought over 20 tons of the cake in question. He bought 20 tons of it in May last, and fed his lambs with it, and got the best price for them.

William Palmer, manager to the defendant, deposed to sending out the young stock cake—By Mr. Vachell: There was no general stock kept. It was made as the orders for it came in.

This concluded the case, and Mr. Garland proceeded to address the court on behalf of the defendant, and submitted that there was no evidence that the cake contained any deleterious ingredients; neither, he argued, was the invoice untrue. He defied his friend to produce a case where the prosecution had been conducted on such lines as the present one. It was simply an attack upon Bombay seed. The proceedings there were entirely misconceived. He commented upon the fact that the analysis was made in May, but the summonses were not issued till October, which he thought showed they had some doubt in their minds.

Mr. Vachell replied on a point of law.

The chairman, in giving the decision of the court, said they could not get over the fact that the analysis was not made by Mr. Lloyd, but by his assistant, a young man of 23. Upon the evidence of three farmers, who apparently dealt very largely in cattle, they could not see that there was anything deleterious in the cake. In the face of this and the variety of the analyses there would be a verdict for the defendant, with costs to the extent of £20.

The other two summonses were adjourned.

Liming Meadow Land.

The good old practice of liming at regular intervals meadow land has fallen into desuetude, but as attention is being drawn to the advantages attending the process, it is to be hoped that it will be again more frequently adopted.

The Agricultural Department for the County of Lancaster have been conducting experiments with the object of ascertaining in what form a dressing of lime can be best given. As the report states, it is a common custom when liming land to apply the material as cob lime (called also lump lime, burnt lime, shell lime, and quick lime) in small heaps placed regularly over the field. In this way, the lime acted upon by the influence of exposure to the atmosphere, is converted into a fine powder called slaked lime, most of which, in a shorter or longer time, combines chemically with the carbon dioxide of the air, and becomes once more carbonate of lime.

As the cob lime is converted again into its original condition carbonate of lime, what, it may be asked, is the advantage of applying the more expensive cob lime? The advantage arises from the much finer condition of the material after it has been burnt and becomes slaked lime.

Recently ground lime, produced by grinding the cob lime by suitable machines, has been put upon the market. It can be spread more evenly over the land. Being burnt lime, the chemical changes indicated above take place, and it becomes carbonate of lime, in a very fine condition, distributed evenly over the surface.

The question arises, seeing that the burnt lime becomes carbonate of lime, whether ordinary limestone rock—carbonate of lime—ground to a fine powder and evenly distributed over meadow land might not produce results equal to those obtained by cob or burnt lime, and thus dispense with the expensive process of burning the rock.

This is the question, the experiments were

undertaken to investigate, and the conclusions arrived at are summarised as follows :—

1. Taking into account the results obtained at the County Council farm in the two years 1905-6, and also the price per ton, ground limestone can be employed economically upon meadow land where a dressing of lime is needed.

2. According to the results obtained at the various farms in the county, the more finely divided forms of lime are more immediately effective than cob lime. The results indicate also that ground limestone is a more profitable dressing than either ground lime or cob lime; and the following remarks are added :—

1. In districts where, owing to nearness of lime-kilns it is more convenient to use cob lime, it is essential that the lime be spread from the heaps as soon as fallen, and also, in order to ensure more effective distribution, the light harrows should be passed over about two or three days afterwards, so as to scatter any lumps that may not have fallen in the heaps.

2. Ground lime should not be delivered at the farm until all arrangements have been made for its application, as loss will be occasioned by the bursting of the bags. The ground lime should be finely ground, 35 per cent. to pass through a sieve with 10,000 holes to the square inch, and should contain about 90 per cent. of lime.

3. When ground limestone is used it should contain a large percentage of fine powder; it should also contain a high percentage of carbonate of lime. When the purer limestones are used for the preparation of ground limestone, the percentage of carbonate of lime may be higher than that given in the analysis table 1—viz., 95 per cent.

Rules to be Observed in Fattening Stock.

The following practical suggestions for the rational treatment of fattening cattle are worth noting. They are published by a continental agricultural journal somewhat as follows :—

1. It is necessary to be very punctual in the times of feeding.

2. The rations should be moderate in quantity, so that the animal eats the entire portion, and does not get into the bad habit of leaving some in the crib.

3. And yet the quantity of food supplied must be so measured that the animals after eating it are thoroughly satisfied.

4. Any sudden change in the food is to be avoided. On the importance of this point the following examples are not without interest :—

Two 2½ years old oxen received each per day 5½ lb of hay, 5½ lb. of straw, 1½ lb. rape cake, and 45 lb. of beetroot. When the latter was replaced by half the quantity of meal, the beasts not only ceased to increase in weight, but even lost weight, so that it required some days before they again regained the weight they had attained before the change in food.

This point should especially be borne in mind when making a change from winter to green fodder. Two one and a-half year oxen were fed ninety-nine days with 5½ lb. hay, 4½ lb. of straw, and 22 lb. of potatoes. In May, clover, as much as they would eat, was substituted for the old ration. As a result they lost weight during the first eighteen days of the change.

If the change of food is arranged very gradually and judiciously, it can be made without loss. The point we wish to urge is that it must not be made suddenly.

5. Indeed, in fattening, an effort should be made to introduce gradual changes in the food in order to excite the appetites of the beasts. In this direction the use of condiments mixed with the food can be recommended, always bearing in mind that the condiments are only to excite appetite and possess no real feeding value.

6. Quiet and rest is essential for the animals.

7. In the preparation of the food scrupulous cleanliness is necessary; the beast must also be kept clean and the stalls maintained in a healthy condition, and all dirt regularly removed.

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The importation of fertilisers into Japan for the year 1905 was considerably larger than that for the previous year. The remarkable increase in the demand for artificial fertilisers is a noteworthy feature of Japanese agriculture.

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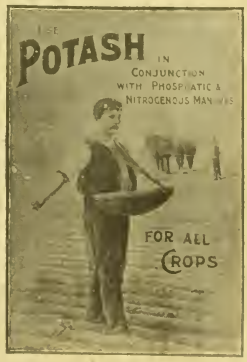

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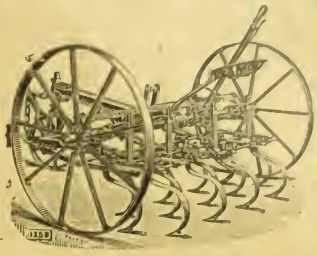

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RING OUT THE OLD YEAR; RING IN THE NEW.

Our present issue falls on the last day of 1906, a year that will long remain in the memories of farmers as one of the best experienced for a considerable period, at any rate since the first decade of the twentieth century opened, and its bounties were all the more appreciated because for a very lengthy period unexpected.

For instance, it was not until the latter part of May that there were any signs of a bountiful corn harvest, and although in large portions of the north-west of England, parts of Scotland, Wales, and the counties bordering on the Principality, there were early signs of roots and hay being added to the cornucopia of the year, there were regions further south and east that were not so fortunate in this respect. Still, the fodder and root produce of the whole was sufficient to sustain the sheep industry to a high standard of marketable value, while in regard to all kinds of pedigree stock the demand has been exceedingly appreciative throughout the year, especially the stock that has been required for the Argentine.

The dairy industry, it is true, suffered from a severe drought in August and the early part of September; and the fruit and hop industries have failed to a remarkable degree. But these are only quite exceptional features to the general prosperity of the year, and nine-tenths of those who make their living out of the land will look back gratefully and lovingly on the year we are bidding adieu to, being loth to part from it as from an old friend.

The year has been remarkable in its weather throughout, but in nothing more so than in the almost total absence of frost and snow at the period of the year when it is usually most intense. January was a remarkably wet month, but almost one of the mildest on record, followed, it is true, by a much colder February, but certainly not the one to fill the dykes with snow. Only within the last ten days, as if mindful of its omission in no Arctic taste of real winter having presented itself, Christmas brought in its train snow-clad lands almost from the Highlands of Scotland to Land's End. May this seasonable white shroud envelop the reptile and vegetable pests which are destructive to vegetation and fruition; and may the earth prove refreshed thereby, and impart in return for it an early springtide of freshness and beauty, to be followed in turn by a genial hot summer and another fruitful season.

While wishing bounteous harvests, with the same prosperity in live stock which has been experienced in the present year, to all our readers, especially those who cultivate the land, we add a Happy and Prosperous New Year, especially those who have been left out in the cold in the past season. May they be included in the next without any detraction from the more prosperous classes.

Northern Notes.

THE master-butchers of the "third port" are doing their level best to retard the abattoir question. There cannot, however, be the shadow of a doubt about its consummation. The addresses of the experienced meat inspector to the corporation of the ancient city of Hull have thoroughly aroused public opinion to the importance of such a provision being made, so as to ensure perfect supervision of the meat supply. Every reasonable citizen fully recognises that the butchering trade, like all other trades, have their difficulties to contend with. When beasts bought in the market prove on slaughtering to be diseased, it is a most unfortunate circumstance for the trade; but it is only fair to state that the loss in this direction is a very small percentage indeed, and that by a system of insurance the individual butcher does not lose very much.

THE citizens of Hull are a reasonable people, and there can be no desire on their part to prejudice public opinion against the butchers; but is it not somewhat absurd and childish for the trade to say they will not use an abattoir if it is provided? Many of the slaughterhouses at present in use are undesirable in construction and situation, and where such places are scattered all over the town, an efficient system of inspection is well nigh impossible. The Master Butchers' Association know that the question as to the use or otherwise of the abattoir by those in the trade is not for them to decide. The general public will determine that question by demanding that the meat shall be supplied from the place where the most efficient system of inspection prevails.

THE cup of grievances of the pig dealer and breeder in the North is well nigh full. One hears the Board of Agriculture anathematised in the country places, and not a good word spoken for a representative, from the President to the junior inspectors. What can the Board do? The pigs go on catching contagion to an alarming extent, as the returns published in the last issue of this journal clearly showed. One feels sorry for the dealers, sorry for the Board, and also sorry for the sick animals, which are giving the whole country-side a tremendous lot of trouble. As to the swine fever orders prevailing in East and West Yorkshire, the Board of Agriculture was recently appealed to by an influential M.P., but they cannot be moved to taking the responsibility for revoking or amending them in the direction of withdrawing the obligation on the part of an owner to obtain a licence prior to moving his pigs out of a market and then subjecting them to a twenty-eight days' quarantine. The Board is as adamant. Some of us think that Sir Edward Strachey, when he delivered his post-prandial speech at the Farmers' Club, might have devoted more attention to this swine fever business. If the stamping-out of this disease is a question of money, then the cash ought to be immediately forthcoming from a Treasury that seems to be overflowing. Sir Edward dwelt on the hope of obtaining a grant for the extirpation of glanders. While the Board is in a suppliant attitude towards the Treasury, it might extend both hands and humbly request a grant for eradicating both glanders and swine fever. The latter is by far of more importance, and its effects are more far-reaching than the former disease.

THE decision of the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation at Darlington to ask county councils to offer a prize for the school book most

suitable for use in rural schools is an opportune one. "There is also some alteration needed in other directions," says a correspondent of a Northern paper. Requests are now being made for workshops to be attached to various schools in the larger towns, in order that scholars whose parents wish them to do so may get an idea of various trades. Why then, it is asked, cannot pupils in rural schools be allowed to learn something of the occupations by which in future they are to earn a livelihood?

THE Leicester Sheep Society is gaining a nice addition to its membership. Many flocks of Leicesters have been kept for several generations in a pure state; and the owners of some of them in North Yorkshire particularly are coming into the fold of the society, which has had a Flock Book for fourteen years, the society being, as a matter of fact, just a year younger than the Lincoln Society, which is now a very large aggregation of flock-owners. The Leicester Society has members scattered about in several widely-separated counties, from Leicester to Durham, and from Durham to Cumberland and Westmorland. The winning pen of Mr. Jordan's Leicester wethers at Smithfield weighed on leaving his place at Driffield 66 stones 6 lb. These were the heaviest sheep he had sent up during the last ten years.

December 28, 1906.

Notes of the Week.

We have become so accustomed to mild winters that the heavy fall of snow on Wednesday night came as a surprise.

It has stopped all out-door farm work for the time, and is causing great trouble and anxiety to sheep farmers.

Someone with a love for figures has calculated that 11,190,650 tons of snow must have fallen over London between midnight and breakfast time.

This blizzard recalls to memory the great storm of January 18, twenty-six years ago.

We are always glad to say goodbye to the shortest day of the year. It is a date of which we are pleased to see the back, and to welcome the gradually lengthening days.

The new Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act comes into force to-day. We hope it may prove useful to the farming community.

Among the bills which received the Royal assent before the prorogation of Parliament was the much-debated Land Tenure Bill, now known as the Agricultural Holdings Bill.

Small Holdings are now being boomed for all they are worth, and probably for a good deal more than they are worth. Time will show.

Vegetable and fruit growing are to form the staple product of the small holders. The following is a concrete instance of the experience of one vegetable grower.

He sent to a Midland market 592 dozen heads of celery, which sold for £5 19s. 4d. The railway carriage cost £3 13s. 2d., porterage 12s., commission 9s., leaving 25s 2d. for the grower, who had to pay 33s. for the labour of taking up the celery and carting it to the station.

The Central Co-operative Agricultural Bank starts under favourable auspices. Among its first directors are the Marquess of Zetland, the Earl of Stamford, the Earl of Coventry, Lord Lucas, and the Hon. T. A. Brassey.

There are about 3,400,000 milch cows in the United Kingdom; it is not the cow that eats the most or the cow that eats the least that is the best cow, but the cow that makes the best use of what she eats.

A lady who kept poultry had, among others, some Andalusian fowls. One day she had one killed for dinner, and it proved to be a very tough bird. "Rachel," said the lady to her old servant, "what fowl is this? It seems an extremely ancient one." "Well, mum," replied the servant. "no wonder, it's one of these there Antedeluvians!"

"He who puts his hand to the plough must not turn back," said the eloquent orator, but he was nonplussed when an old ploughman among the audience shouted out: "Then what is he to do when he gets to the end of the furrow?"

Butter, supposed to be 400 years old, has been found buried in an Irish peat bog. Its origin is unknown, but it is thought to be ordinary butter buried in the peat for preservation and afterwards forgotten.

Scientific men say its origin is unknown. We know that the origin of much of the butter sold in the shops is quite as much unknown.

The lowest price touched by wheat during the year just closed was 25s. 9d. towards the end of September, while the highest price was 32s. in the month of July.

When laying the foundation stone of the new abattoirs at the Islington Cattle Market, the chairman of the Cattle Markets' Committee said he hoped it would be the means of increasing the demand for home-fed meat.

That is a consummation devoutly to be wished.

At present only 21 per cent. of the produce sent into the market is English grown and fed. During the coming year it is estimated that 263,000 animals will be slaughtered in the abattoir.

It is sometimes very difficult to ascertain the origin of infectious diseases. Diphtheria recently broke out among the children of a country school, and finally it was traced to some chickens that had diphtheritic throats. The germs were conveyed to the children by means of the playground dust.

An instance was also mentioned where a cat, having slept in the nest of a diseased fowl, contracted the malady and communicated it to a child.

Among the greatest curiosities of the Christmas fruit market were some enormous dessert pears, which we are pleased to say are of home growth.

They are known as the Doyenne du Comice variety, and some of them turn the scale at 12 oz. They sold at top prices, realising wholesale up to 12s. per dozen.

It is interesting to note that this variety was cultivated by the late well-known novelist Mr. R. D. Blackmore, author of "Lorna Doone" and other popular novels.

Something like a Turkey!—an enormous turkey, weighing 33 lb.—was reared for this Christmas by Miss Down, of North Devon.

As indicative of the progress of agriculture at the Cape, it may be noted that a Lincolnshire potato grower is sending out 500 tons of seed potatoes.

Some of the old Christmas superstitions are very curious. In Cornwall there is a quaint custom of dedicating the apple trees to the New Year. A few of the household take out a jar of cider, an empty bottle, and a gun to the orchard. A small bough is put into the bottle.

Then the following incantation is sung:—

"Here's to thee, old apple tree,
Hats full, packs full, great bushel bags full,
Hurrah! and fire off the gun."

In Lincolnshire it is a popular belief that the sun shining through the church window on the apple trees on Christmas Day betokens a heavy crop of fruit in the ensuing year.

The late Mr. Marr's Shorthorns and Estate Duty.

In the inventory of the personal estate of the late Mr. W. S. Marr, Uppermill, Tarves, lodged by his executors for the purposes of estate duty, his stock of cattle, including his famous herd of Shorthorns, was entered at the valuation put upon them by Mr. William M. Ritchie, Old Meldrum—viz., £9,031. This valuation was made on June 20, 1904, just about a fortnight after Mr. Marr's death. Estate duty had been paid on that amount. The herd was not disposed of until October 11, 1904, when it realised the sum of £17,722 17s., being greatly in excess of the value put upon it in the inventory.

The commissioners of Inland Revenue, being dissatisfied with the value put on the herd in the inventory for the purpose of estate duty as largely an under-estimate, raised an action to compel Mr. Marr's trustees to lodge a corrective inventory of the personal or movable estate and effects of the deceased William Smith Marr, including therein the full and true value of the herd of Shorthorn cattle which belonged to him, based on the proceeds actually realised through sale. The Commissioners, therefore, confined their demand to an account stated on the basis of the sale prices.

The action was heard by Lord Johnston, who said he was of opinion that the position taken by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue was not well founded. The question depended upon the statutory provision, Finance Act, 1894, section 7—"The principal value of any property shall be estimated to be the price which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, such property would fetch if sold in the open market at the time of the death of the deceased." Now, property regarded in view of this provision might be of different descriptions. When one came to deal with a subject of a fluctuating value, the fluctuation depending upon natural increment or, rather, on the excess or otherwise of natural increment over natural decrement, a different question arose.

Such a subject was a herd of cattle. It was in a definite ascertainable condition at the date of the deceased's death. But in the lapse of months important changes took place. At the date of the death a cow might be two or three weeks from calving. In the course of three or four months the risks of calving and the risks to the life of a young calf were over. The cow in calf was one thing; the cow and her calf on its feet and three or four months old was a totally different thing.

Again, a calf a few weeks old at the date of the death and a calf some months old ate a date posterior to the death were also very different things. The calf was over the troubles of its early weeks, and every month was developing more of its quality. Similarly, a cow might prove either to be barren or to be in calf. Again, losses by death occurred from time to time, and cattle which might be perfectly healthy at the date of the death of the owner might, either singly or as a herd, be afflicted with disease, rendering them valueless at the end of three or four months.

He therefore thought it was obvious that the call for a valuation (and no valuation could be better than actual exposure to sale by auction) at a date three or four months posterior to the date of the death would not give the true value of the herd at the date which the statute itself fixed—namely, the date of the death.

There could be no question that, in interest of the estate, the trustees acted prudently in taking the risk of carrying the herd through the summer and selling it in October, rather than selling it at once, and they also acted prudently in not taking the risks of carrying it through the winter and selling it in February, which was the other chief market month for prize cattle. Even if he had not to consider the special circumstances, he should have no hesitation in saying that the herd must be valued at the date of the death, though it might have been imprudent to bring it to the hammer till three or four months later, and that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue were not entitled to have a valuation as in October, when the best market might be anticipated or a valuation based on the result of actual sale at that period.

His lordship therefore found for the defendants with costs.

THE FARMERS' DIARY.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1.—New Year's Day. Scotch Corn Markets Closed. All Continental and American Corn Markets Closed. "Baltic" and "Atlantic" Cargo Markets Closed—Act against Secret Commissions comes into force — Rawtenstall Horse, Cattle, and Sheep Fair—Stockport Horse, Cattle, and Pig Fair—Wells Cattle Fair—Dog Licenses need renewal.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2. — Congleton Horse and Cattle Fair—Oswestry Horse and Cheese Fair—Thurles Horse and Cattle Fair—Downpatrick Horse, Cattle, Sheep, and Pig Fair—Mark Lane First Corn Market of the Year.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3 — Bristol and Birmingham First Corn Markets of the Year—Clitheroe Fair—Hereford Horse Fair —Carlisle Horse Sale.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4.—Yeovil Horse Sale—Lincoln First Corn Market of the Year—Cockermouth Horse Sale.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5.—The first Saturday Markets of the Year are generally of importance and well attended. Trade suspended over Christmas being now resumed—Leicester Horse Sale—Northampton Horse Sale.

MONDAY, JANUARY 7.—Twelfth Day falling on a Sunday, many fairs held that day usually take place on the 7th instead. This is Plough Monday, and has its own list of local fairs. Spring Ploughings if the weather allows are supposed to commence —Manchester Horse Sale.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8.—This is St. Lucian's Day. For some unknown reason it has a series of local fairs—Towcester Horse Sale.

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

AFTER a long period without winter severities, we have had a return of frost and snow, which recalls the fact that our climate holds possibilities even though it may not always assert them. Those who had their food supply in safety on Boxing-day had reason to congratulate themselves, as it is poor satisfaction to have to search for it under three to six inches of snow, and then only to find it frozen hard into the soil. As of late years there has been a disposition to disregard the necessity of getting food into safety, it is to be hoped that milder weather may soon come and set the food free again.

WE have been surprised in our travels to see what a small portion of the root crop is put into safety in comparison with that customary to clamp in years gone by, and have given a warning note from time to time as to the danger of so doing. The loss that may be sustained by omitting to control the effect of frost, by securing the more dangerous portions of the root crop, far exceeds the cost of securing it during many years. It is a risk, however, very often taken. Personally we have a distinct inclination for fatty foods in cold weather, though they may be distasteful to us during the heat of summer; and the Esquimo would starve on the dietary of a West Indian.

IT is the same with animals, and more so with sheep which live entirely exposed to the inclemencies of the weather than with cattle which have some degree of shelter. The rational feeding of sheep must therefore be guided to a considerable extent by the climatic conditions—directed somewhat by the market prices of the food. Fats as supplied by linseed, cattle seed, cod-liver oil, and other foods in less degree are specially valuable in such weather as we have recently experienced, as they afford a ready means of supplying heat to animals. But heat-giving matter can be supplied by sugary or starchy foods.

ONE of the most striking features in connection with feeding stuffs in recent years is the better recognition of the value of good decorticated cotton-cake; a gap of some pounds sterling between the price of cotton-cake and linseed cake was constant for many years; now, however, it is a matter of a few shillings only, which is much more in accordance with the actual value, especially when advantage is taken of the relatively low price at which some of the starchy foods are purchasable. For all that, linseed cake of good quality at anything like £8 per ton is cheap mutton making material, provided it is not used to excess. We put ¾ lb. per day as an outside limit for a sheep. After that quantity additions should be made in the form of oil or starch.

LOCUST beans under £6 per ton are a cheap additional food, and are very safe. Maize at £5 per ton at port is well worth attention, as is good grinding barley from £5 to £6. It is doubtful if there is anything cheaper than ground cotton-seed, containing 20 to 25 per cent. of oil, at about £8, but unfortunately this article has been submitted to a considerable amount of adulteration at times, and it is very necessary to ensure getting it genuine; moreover, it is not a good keeper, as it is liable to heat, and must be watched closely, as heated food of this kind is deleterious; if it is of a ruddy tinge it has heated at some time, and should be avoided. Taking the present prices, the best admixtures of foods, best suited to sheep feeding at this season, ought not to cost over £8 per ton after paying carriage, and mutton can be made cheaply when this is the case.

THE Spanish Armada has credit for the introduction of several breeds of animals to this country, in fact, where local evidence as to the origin of local breeds is not strong it is quite customary to ascribe it as due to animals shipwrecked at that time; and for that matter any distant shipwreck is located to the time of the Armada. The Hardwick sheep is one of the breeds which is locally regarded as the progeny of some forty sheep which long ago came off a Spanish vessel stranded on the Sandy Coast Drigg, and taken possession of by the lord of the manor.

DEVON LONG WOOL SHEEP.

This pen won the First Prize in the class for three fat wether lambs of the Devon Long-woolled breed under 12 months old, at the recent Smithfield Club Show. They were bred and exhibited by Mr. F. White, of Torweston, Williton, Somerset; were nine months old when shown, and weighed 4 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lbs.

WHATEVER their origin, they gradually won their way to the highest of the Cumberland fells, where their hardiness was much appreciated; in fact, at the request of the tenants a certain number was apportioned by the lord of the manor among them, and they gradually increased until at the beginning of the last century they were the preponderating breed on the highest mountains; often in circumstances where other breeds found it impossible to thrive. The year which comes to end now will be a memorable one in the annals of the British sheep farmer, be he an exhibitor and exporter, or one who caters for the ordinary home markets for meat and wool. It has been singularly free from diseases, and even the minor diseases left to us such as scab are being hounded out of existence. Good weather has kept the sheep in excellent health, and though at one time there seemed the possibility of a distressing shortness of sheep food during winter the exceptional autumn has made this good, and, moreover, ensured the spring catch crops a full plant.

WOOL has been thoroughly satisfactory, and the keen business being done at manufacturing centres causing a brisk trade is not likely to allow the falling away in price that has sometimes been predicted since the top prices failed to be maintained. America has evidently calls to make yet, which should act beneficially. The choicest mutton still fetches well over 6s. per stone, and where this is the case it may generally be accepted the sheep farming is in a satisfactory condition. Considering the large importation of foreign mutton the trade for coarser mutton leaves no cause for complaint, especially when the price of wool is considered. Whilst the snow is on the ground, and work on the land cannot be proceeded with, a good opportunity is afforded to have a look at the sheep which have been sent out to agist on keep that is not too plentiful. There are, doubtless many who, if they saw their sheep faring as many do in this weather, would gladly pay a trifle more to have them better treated, and find it profitable to do so. Sheep agisting on poor pastures, and these covered with snow, or frozen block, rarely get as much hay as they should have, and it is no wonder the death roll is so heavy.

VETERINARY.

Advice of a Veterinary character, by an M.R.C.V.S., is offered to Readers entirely free of charge. Particulars of cases should be addressed to the Editor, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," *3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.*

Contagious Abortion in Cattle.—I.

Some two years or more ago it was pointed out by a deputation which waited on Lord Onslow, the then President of the Board of Agriculture, to urge the Government to take up the subject of abortion in cattle, that one of the greatest difficulties which had to be contended against in dealing with specific abortion was the comparative ignorance of the farmer with reference to the insidious character of the disease. Since that time a good deal has been done by the Board of Agriculture, by the agricultural press and various other agencies, to educate the farmer up to the measure of his responsibilities in relation to the suppression of the disease, but many do not read or do not pay much attention to what is recommended, for there are yet large numbers of farmers and dairymen who have not the haziest notion that there is such a thing as contagious abortion in cattle, or who, at any rate, behave as though they never heard of such a thing.

We are reminded of this by two recent questions relating to cows casting their calves and the failure of others to breed, which are so obviously outbreaks of epizootic abortion that it is simply marvellous that their true character was not long ago recognised. To these and other readers in similar position a few notes on this subject may be useful, but we may premise them with the remark that they will contain nothing that is new, except to those who do not keep themselves up to date in connection with the causes of animal diseases.

The first thing we would impress on the farmer and cowkeeper is that there are two varieties of abortion—simple or sporadic, and specific or contagious—and that it is very necessary to distinguish between them. Simple or sporadic abortion is due to some mechanical or chemical agency acting injuriously on the system, and it is a matter of accident or bad feeding or mismanagement; but by far the most common and serious form—serious on account of the large loss it occasions for several years in succession when it gains a footing on a farm, is that known as epizootic, infectious, contagious, or specific abortion. This is defined in the Leaflet (No. 108) issued on the subject by the Board of Agriculture as "an infectious catarrh of the womb, transmitted from one animal to another by the transference of the specific microbe," and as the introduction of this form of the disease into a herd is followed by the premature expulsion of the fetus in practically the whole of the pregnant cows, with subsequent difficulty in getting the animal, including the heifers, to breed regularly, it is of the utmost importance that its character be promptly recognised.

There is, it must be admitted, a difficulty in differentiating between simple and specific abortion in first cases, but the safe plan, unless it be satisfactorily demonstrated to the contrary, as where an accident has happened, is to regard all cases of abortion as specific and contagious, and at once commence the precautions as to strict isolation, &c., to which we shall presently refer. An accurate history of the first case occurring on any premises is of immense importance in aiding diagnosis, or forming a correct conclusion as to the exact character of the disease.

The Board of Agriculture recommends, in order that a correct conclusion be arrived at, that inquiry should always be made in the following manner:—

"(*a*) Was the recent purchase of a cow followed by cases of abortion in a herd previously exempt?

"(*b*) Did abortion occur in cows standing alongside the new comer?

"(*c*) Did the herd from which the new purchase came suffer from abortion?

"(*d*) Does abortion continue to appear in the herd year after year?

"(*e*) Has any cow in a previously healthy herd been served by a bull which had formerly served a cow which had suffered from abortion?

"(*f*) Was any bull bought from a herd where abortion is common, and has this been followed by abortion in the cows which he serves in the new and previously healthy herd?

"(*g*) Has any abortion appeared among the cows in a herd from which an infected cow has recently been removed?"

When these inquiries point to the presence of contagious abortion, immediate measures to minimise, and, if possible, to suppress it, should at once be taken. To wait a whole year before beginning to seriously consider the character of the cases is not only an occasion of loss, but a means of extending the disease and increasing the difficulties attending its eradication. The owner of every sound herd must recognise that there is a danger of introducing the disease through the agency of each cow he purchases, and as it is impossible to tell by any method of examination whether the proposed new purchase harbours the specific microbe responsible for producing epizootic abortion or not, no precaution can be too stringent. Only to buy when satisfied that the herd from which the cow comes is, and has been, free from abortion is one of the precautions recommended to be taken, and to, as far as possible, make the herd self-supporting by rearing heifers for the dairy is another, but very often, indeed generally, cows have to be purchased in the open market, and no previous history is obtainable. In such cases isolation for some time before placing new cows in direct contact with the herd tends to minimise the risk, but isolation can never be regarded as complete where the same attendants wait on both lots. Labour difficulties are, however, already sufficiently acute without having to provide two sets of attendants.

In the case of a newly purchased bull it should always undergo, before being used for service, a thorough irrigation of the sheath and genitals with an antiseptic solution.

There is no doubt whatever that the breed kept for public service is an important factor in the dissemination of the disease. Owners of aborted cows often send them to a bull belonging to someone else without the slightest pretence of treatment, and without disclosing the fact; indeed, it often happens when, as is generally the case, there is failure to conceive, such cows are sent to several different bulls in the neighbourhood, thus providing for the infection of healthy cows and heifers subsequently sent to him for service. In a few cases it is ignorance, but in many it is carelessness and neglect, or sheer recklessness of consequences to others that causes men to send aborting cows to a bull used for public service or, in order to get rid of the cow that has "picked her calf," sell her in open market as newly calved, very often with a calf at foot belonging to another cow. Such tricks are more than mean and discreditable. They ought to be made a penal offence, and to this end contagious abortion ought to be scheduled as a contagious disease, and restrictions on the movement of untreated aborted cows imposed.

M.R.C.V.S.

(*To be continued.*)

PIGS.

National Pig Breeders' Association.

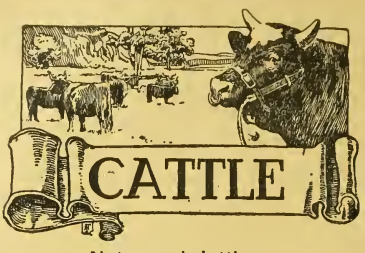
At the last meeting of the council of the National Pig Breeders' Association the Finance Committee reported that Mr. Howard Taylor had been elected chairman for the year. The balance in hand was £82 1s. 9d., and £18 18s. subscriptions, outstanding accounts for payment £26. The secretary was instructed to collect subscriptions outstanding after January 1. Report adopted.

The Editing Committee reported that they had granted six applications for prefixes, and decided that the conditions of entry for Vol. 24 be the same as Vol. 23. They had arranged to meet at Derby on February 11, 1907, to revise the entries for the volume. Report adopted.

The winners of the medals given by the association in 1906 were given, and silver medals were again offered to any society complying with the conditions laid down by the association.

A letter was read from Sir J. Greenall asking the association to continue the classes for young sows under eighteen months at the Lincoln meeting. This was agreed to, and delegates were elected to attend the conference the council of the R.A.S.E. are arranging relative to the management of shows generally in the spring.

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, March 6, 1907, at the Bingley Hall, Birmingham.



Notes and Jottings.

AT the time of penning these notes stern winter is upon us, with every appearance of continuing for a time. Snow is lying a considerable depth, and all horned stock are seeking shelter of some kind or another from the sleet and blast. Fodder, if only straw, must be liberally handed round to even the most backward stores, whilst the milkers and feeders will do with closed doors for a time during the night. Good ventilation, however, is very necessary, and if it can be given without producing draughts it is altogether most beneficial. This is different to the theory our forefathers used at one time to teach by showing you sheds full of fattening steers kept in such warm and close buildings as often to be found in a steaming sweat when visiting them in the middle of the day.

I AM pleased to see that the note *re* wet or dry milking given in a recent issue has elicited some replies, and which are not by any means one-sided. As regards the cleanliness of the two systems, for my own part I think the moist system is decidedly the cleaner of the two, in proof of which I may say that in my own sheds there are no rules as to whether dry or wet milking should be practised, the matter being left entirely with the operator, and I find that the majority milk wet handed. It may here be mentioned, too, that new milk is supplied retail to some few customers, one of whom, a very particular party who has milk from other dairymen, said to me a short time ago, "Yours is the cleanest milk I ever saw; there is never the slightest sign of anything objectionable about it, very different from some others."

THERE is another point, too, I have noticed when watching milkers in our showyards, and that is, many cows are fitted with such tiny teats that a man cannot possibly milk them full handed, and when the thumb and finger only can he applied dry milking is very hard for both cow and milker. Then, again, when coarse, windy-teated cows have to be dealt with, like "Gloucestershire," your correspondent's, I cannot see how the animals can be properly cleared out with dry hands. Of course, care must be taken that the hands are clean to begin with, and that nothing but clean moisture is used. I have noticed, too, where dry-handed milking is the rule that there is often considerable sediment in the bottom of a pail or churn that has been allowed to stand for a time.

IT is satisfactory to note that a motion is on foot to discontinue or revise the points given for periods of lactation in the milking trials at some of our shows. It is well known that in the past some cows have won their honours almost entirely upon lactation points, these said cows being barreners, whose flow throughout has in consequence been larger and has naturally been retained for a considerably longer period. As the object of giving prizes for milking trials is to improve the milking properties of our various breeds by enabling those who desire to do so to purchase the offspring of such cows, the benefits likely to accrue are very much minimised when the cow is not likely to produce another calf and has also won her prize by recording an abnormal yield owing to being barren.

A REVIEW of the average weights of the steer classes at the recent Christmas Show at the Agricultural Hall gives some rather interesting information. Some of the classes are considerably heavier than a year ago, whilst others are somewhat lighter, and yet a third section vary but a matter of a few pounds per head in the two years. Aged Shorthorn bullocks (between two and three years old) give a capital average of weight this year; Red Polls are also better, and so are some of the Angus and crosses, other classes of the latter section being lighter. The variation, however, in any case, when age is taken into consideration, appears to be too slight to suggest that the breeds are any of them losing ground in weight, and also rather suggests that for some time past breeders and feeders have been doing their best.

TAKING the breeds in catalogue order, Devon steers under two years old have eight entries this year that average alive 10 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. as against 10 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. for a similar number in 1905. Steers of this breed above two years old and not exceeding three years had seven entries last year that gave an average of 14 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. against 14 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb. average of eight animals this year, so that the difference in this class amounts to but 22 lb. per head. South Devons in 1905 were represented by four entries that averaged 15 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. each and this year the solitary steer of this section gave 15 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. Heifers of this breed were some three-quarters of a cwt. heavier last year than upon the present occasion, the number of this sex (four) being equal in both years.

HEREFORDS in their younger steer class at Islington gave rather an unsatisfactory account of themselves this year. Only three animals of this age were competing, and their average was 12 cwt. 3 qr., whilst last year the corresponding class of this breed gave the excellent average of 13 cwt. 9 lb. for nine head. This class in 1905, however, was an exceptionally good one, weight and numbers considered. Steers above two and not exceeding three years old in 1905 were six in number, with an average weight of 16 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb., whilst at the recent show a similar number were catalogued which gave an average weight of 16 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb., being but 5 lb. per beast difference in the two classes in 1905 and 1906.

SHORTHORNS as a display varied very considerably numerically in the two years, especially as regards its class of steers under two years old. This class in 1905 contained eleven entries, which gave an average live weight of 13 cwt. 0 qr. 13 lb., as against four entries in the present year with the lower weight of 12 cwt. 0 qr. 7 lb., being more than a cwt. each lighter than last year, and four in number as against eleven. The steers under three years and over two years were better this year in weight with the excellent average of 17 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb., against 16 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. last December, and the numbers were eight in 1905 and seven in 1906. Heifers of this breed were heavier last year than upon the present occasion, and there were four of them instead of two.

SUSSEX cattle are a very wonderfully improved breed when compared with a few years ago, and the weights of both classes of steers were very good this year, though not quite as heavy as in 1905, when ten of them scaled an average of 13 cwt. 0 qr. 4 lb. This year the class of ten averaged 12 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb. The older steers not exceeding three years old were also lighter a year ago, giving an average of 16 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. for ten animals, as against the very good record of 16 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. for seven entries at the recent show. Red Polls were a very short entry both years; in 1905 the four steers under two years scaled an average of 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb., and three steers under three years 14 cwt. 1 qr. This year the younger class were 11 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. average, and the older ones, of which two animals only were entered, averaged 15 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

IN 1905 Aberdeen-Angus steers not exceeding two years old were a very strong class numerically, and for their breed did not weight exceptionally well; thirteen steers scaled an average of 11 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb., and this year eight of similar age averaged 12 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. The older class of steers, too, over two years and not exceeding three were rather light on the scales a year ago, giving but an average of 15 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. for five animals, whilst this year half-a-dozen of them ran to 16 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. apiece, which, though lighter than either the Sussex, Shorthorns, or Herefords of the same age, is still a very fair weight.

GALLOWAYS, both years, came out quite as light in weight as could be expected; indeed, neither classes, junior or senior, were quite as heavy as they should be. In 1905 the juniors averaged 11 cwt. 0 qr. 2 lb., and the seniors 13 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.; whilst at the recent show the figures were: for the steers under two years, 10 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb., and for the older ones, 14 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. Welsh cattle this year were exceedingly good in quality, but their average weight was somewhat marred by the presence of several animals that were not well finished, and there were no correspondingly heavy weights to level these up. Steers under two years in 1905 weighed 12 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb., and the older classes the very good average of only 5 lb. short of 16 cwt. each. This year the young ones pulled up an average of 12 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb., and the older ones 14 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb.

HIGHLAND cattle only varied 7 lb. per head in their average weight in the two seasons as regards the class not exceeding three years, being 13 cwt. 2 qr. this year, which is 7 lb. heavier than a year ago. Steers above three years

old were 18 lb. per head heavier in 1905, with an average of 16 cwt. 0 qr. 6 lb. Crossbreds in their junior classes were lighter this year than in 1905, the steers under two years by some hundredweight each, being 12 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. last year and 11 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. this year, the heavier class of steers being 16 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in 1905 and 16 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. this year, which looks as though feeders have been doing their very best in this section for some time past. The aged class of heifers also varied but 10 lb. per head in the two years.

HORSES.

Notes and Jottings.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—"Merchant of Venice."

IT seems an anomalous state of things that there should be large classes of Hunters shown and big prizes given for the breed in a country in which hunting does not exist. Yet this is the case in New South Wales, where but one hunt is now in existence, the Sydney Hunt Club, the Goulbourn and other hunts, for some reason or other, having been discontinued. In spite, however, of there being only one hunt in New South Wales, at the New South Wales Royal Agricultural Society's Show there were no fewer than ten classes for Hunters, the prizes in which amounted to the handsome sum of £250. It may be remarked, in passing, that at the Royal Show at Derby in June there were fourteen classes of Hunters (exclusive of the jumping competitions), the prizes in which amounted to £350.

GALLOWAY HEIFER, NELLY 5th OF HENSOL.

The Galloway Heifer, Nelly 5th of Hensol, who is the property of Messrs. Thomas Biggar and Sons, Chapelton, Dalbeattie, but was bred by Captain R. D. Barre Cunninghame, Hensol, New Galloway, won at the recent Smithfield Club Show the Breed Cup, and was First in the class for Galloway Heifers not exceeding 3 years old. She was, when exhibited, 2 years 10 months 2 days old, and weighed 13 cwts. 2 qrs. 2 lbs.

THE conditions under which the two Royal Agricultural Societies hold their shows are so different that it is scarcely possible to make a general comparison between them, but the circumstance of their being ten classes of Hunters, all of which seem to have been well filled, and which certainly were a great attraction at the show in a country in which hunting can scarcely be said to exist, is curious when one comes to look at the fact that in a country in which there are close upon 300 packs of hounds there should only have been fourteen classes and only some £70 more should have been given in prizes. The question naturally presents itself—How does the executive manage to get entries enough to fill these ten classes? This question is in a measure answered by the classification. Of the ten classes seven are for jumpers. They are neither more nor less than simple jumping competitions. It certainly is remarkable that in a country in which there is no hunting or practically no hunting, jumping competitions should be so popular as they are in New South Wales. The writer of the official report of the New South Wales Royal Agricultural Society's Show says:—"The real hunting is done in show grounds, and instead of Hunters being brought out by the agricultural societies to be sold to hunting men or hunted by their owners, the only effect of the competitions in showyards is to encourage horsemen to breed or buy horses and school them solely for exhibition purposes.

UNDER these circumstances one would scarcely look upon Hunter breeding as a very great source of profit in New South Wales. The best prize at the Royal Show was £50, and of the total amount given £162 was won by four horses. It may well be that a good show jumper is worth a lot of money, especially in a country like England where there are plenty of prizes to be jumped for every day of the season, and where a really good horse can make quite a nice little income for his owner without much expense. But even here the moderate jumper, the horse that only flukes into a place now and again, is of little value if he cannot do something else to earn his living. And one would think that the value of a moderate jumper in New South Wales must be small indeed. Of course, the cost of horse breeding is infinitely less in New South Wales than it is here, and there is a market there which we have not, the squatters requiring many horses to enable them to go round their immense holdings. But why men should be at the trouble to school horses to the jumping business on the hard ground and to breed extensively for it is puzzling, to say the least of it.

IT may be said that jumping competitions are popular in England with a class that have never been on a horse and are never likely to get on to one, and so they are. Probably—nay, certainly—they are more popular with them than they are with hunting men. But the reason for this is not difficult to find. In England there is a strong tradition in favour of hunting. Most men if they have not seen hunting themselves have some friend who has. Hunting pictures of greater or less merit are in most picture shop windows. Our literature is full of allusions to the sport; men who know something about it or who know nothing are equally keen to write about it, and the ground is, as it were well prepared. I certainly think it is the tradition of hunting which makes jumping competitions so popular in this country.

THE writer of the report of the New South Wales Royal Show says "one grows rather tired of hearing that the most successful of showyard Hunters would not follow hounds two miles." Well, perhaps we do hear a good deal to that effect, and the inference is that the statement is correct and is the result of accumulated experience. To begin with there is a very great deal of difference between the good going of the show season and the deep going of midwinter, but I take it that the reason why the showyard jumper is seldom a good hunter is that in the hunting field he meets with a class of fences such as he is unaccustomed to, and which he does not know what to do with, and the consequence is disaster

(*Continued on page 717, column 2*).

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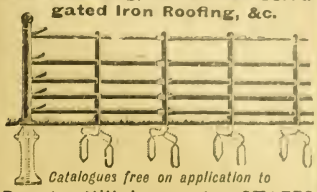
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Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

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JOHNSON, WALTER, Hatfield, Doncaster. Stud Horse, Lambton King 16757. Stallions for hire. Weighty young Stallions, Mares and Fillies on Sale.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

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HACKNEYS, &c.

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CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

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WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

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CATTLE—*continued.*

HEREFORDS (*continued*).

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BOWERMAN, Alfred, Capton Williton, Taunton, Breeder of Pedigree Devon Cattle. A speciality for large size, with quality and robust constitutions; colour dark red. Sent to all parts of the world. Prices moderate.

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SHEEP.

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SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gs. challenge cup. Chicago, 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1906.—Extraordinary records: Twin ram lambs let for 205 and 120 guineas. Ninety averaged £21 10s. Selections always for Sale.

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PIGS.

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KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

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(*Continued on next page.*)

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

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SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

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CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

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CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars nd Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

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WANTED to Buy for export, 100 PEDIGREE BOARS and 300 SOWS for breeding purposes; type small, compact, good flesh.—Send fullest details, with lowest price, to LIEBMANN BROS., Hop Exchange, London, S E.

200 Acres for Small Holdings.—A big development of the small holding system is projected at Bromham, a village in the neighbourhood of Devizes. The parish council, who for a long period have held a large quantity of land under the Crown, hearing that the tenant of Abbotswood Farm—a holding over 200 acres in extent—was negotiating with the Crown for the surrender of his tenancy, applied for the same to be cut up into small holdings. Mr. F. E. N. Rogers, M.P. for East Wilts, interested himself in the matter, and the chairman of the parish council has just received a letter from him stating that Lord Carrington has authorised him to say that so soon as arrangements are completed with the present tenant for quitting, the parish council will be accepted as tenants. This decision has given the greatest satisfaction at Bromham, for the soil is admirably adapted for early produce, and the villagers find a ready and profitable market at Bath and Bristol.

I remember when Bailey and Barnum's Circus visited the north a few years ago talking this question over with the manager. They had a horse there which was certainly the best timber jumper I ever saw. I forget the exact height he cleared, but it was considerably over 6 ft. 6 in. I believe somewhere about 7 ft., and he possessed the world's record then. He seemed when he jumped to rear up and lift himself over the rails. I asked the manager what would happen if one was to take him at a nice half-pace gallop over a few fences which were within sight of the circus. They were stiff, but not one of them over 4 ft. high. The first, indeed, was a bit of very stiff timber certainly 6 inches lower. "I guess he would fall," was the reply, "it is a different game."

STILL I have known some showyard jumpers that were brilliant performers in the hunting field, and I shall never forget the pleasant ride I had on one a few seasons ago. He was a remarkably temperate horse, had a fair turn of speed, and was as clever as he was a bold and good jumper, and I was glad to see him going well not so very many weeks since. But the show jumper that was particularly called to mind by the sentence quoted at the commencement of the preceding paragraph was Mr. John Harrison's Topsy, a chesnut mare that flourished in the sixties and early seventies. Topsy was a clean thoroughbred one, was foaled in 1856, and was by Pilgrim, dam by Eclipse or Freedom, grandam by Perion. She was a wiry mare, with capital shoulders, rather straight in the neck, and as quick a one as I ever saw. She was also one of the hottest. She used to go down to her fences in a series of buck jumps, which were enough to upset any ordinary rider who was not prepared for them, and very often she would go sideways till she got within four or five lengths of them, when she would straighten herself and bound over them like a deer. There was no touching or brushing the fences with Topsy, unless, as happened occasionally, she got a little too near before she took off.

IN her time Topsy played many parts. She took prizes as a hunter; she won jumping prizes when she was well advanced in her teens; she was a very good hunter, though in the hunting field it must be admitted that she was rather a handful; and she won many a steeplechase in useful company. As a chaser her manners were perfect; she laid herself out to gallop and jump in approved style, and was much easier to ride between the flags than she was in the hunting field or showyard, which was a very singular thing. And when she jumped in a steeplechase she used to spread herself instead of jumping "straight up and down," as was her custom in the showyard, and sometimes in the hunting field. She was a rare good sort, and was a little annuity to her owner. I believe, but of this I cannot be quite certain, that she took a prize or two, or, at any rate, "got into money" as a brood mare.

IT is interesting to look for a moment through the prize list. The winning Thoroughbred stallion was the imported Sir Foote by Sir Hugo, dam by Galopin—Miss Foote, second to him being

ROOTS AT THE SMITHFIELD SHOW

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another imported horse in Flavus by Hampton—Alavra. Then the champion Coaching stallion was Count Risby 2256, who was bred by Mr. Parker, of West Cottingwith, and who took first prize at the Yorkshire Show at Leeds in 1902, when he was the property of Mr. George Burton. He is now owned by Mr. Philip Clearley, who also took first prize in the class for stallions between three and four years old with a son of his, a very satisfactory incident. The champion Hackney stallion was also a Yorkshire-bred horse, to wit Moncrieffe Statesman by Garton Duke of Connaught—Lady Salisbury.

MR. ABRAHAM GRANDAGE, of Bramhope, near Leeds, has just lost that well-known Shire stallion Nyn Hitchin Duke 14782. Nyn Hitchin Duke was bred by Mr. Arthur Ransom, of Hitchin, Herts, and was foaled in 1891. He was by Hitchin Duke 9586—12545 Hitchin Beauty by Brailsford Hero 3484, and was a good prize winner in his day. As a foal he took three first prizes and one second, and as a yearling he made a similar score. He began his two-year-old season well by winning in a strong class at the Shire Horse Society's Show when he had such horses as Catthorpe Gold, Rebel Chief of Hothfield, and Menestrel behind him. He was then the property of Mr. J. P. Kidston, of Nyn Park, Potter's Bar, N., who sold him to Mr. Grandage. For that gentleman he did very well the first year he had him. He took first and special prize at Otley, first at the Royal at Cheshire, first at Peterborough, first at the Royal, Manchester, Liverpool, and North Lancashire at Blackpool, and first at the Yorkshire at Dewsbury. In the following year he won in a very strong class of three-year-olds, in which Vulcan VII. was second to him, and Double X., Wiliam, East Anglian, Royal Salute of Bury, Victor Chief II., and other good horses were behind him in a class of sixty-four. He was also reserve for the Junior Stallion Cup to Rokeby Harold. This was probably his best performance in the show ring. I do not remember him being shown very much after this, but he did good service at the stud, and filled the country with a lot of active and powerful cart horses.

THE LOOKER-ON.

A cottage and one acre two roods of land at Smallwood, Cheshire, rented at £14 per annum, has recently been sold for £420, which works out at over £250 per acre, and exactly thirty years' purchase at the present rental.

The cowkeepers at Stone, Staffordshire, who have a right to pasture cattle at a nominal rental on what is known as the Common Plot, received an offer of £40 per annum from the local golf club for permission to construct a nine-hole course. At a meeting of the cowkeepers the proposal met with great opposition, and by a unanimous vote the offer was declined.

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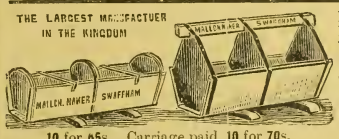

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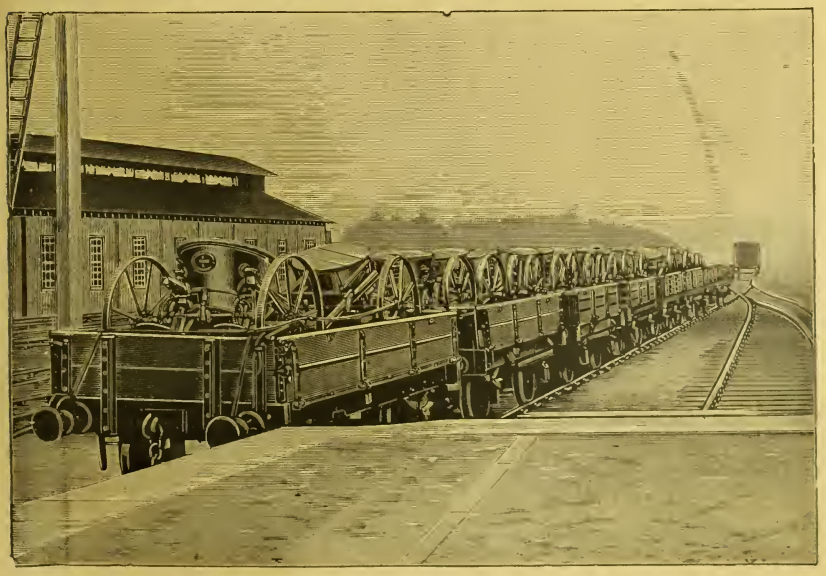

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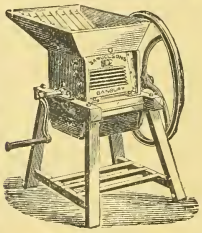

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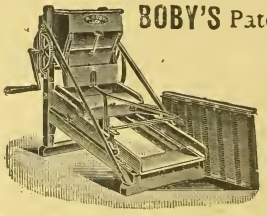

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather of June has been exceedingly remarkable; after a spell of forcing heat and very bright sunshine a torrential rainfall has been accompanied by a drop of 20 degrees in the day temperature. The weather records of June, therefore, show a rather low average rainfall, a fair amount of sunshine, and slightly under a good summer temperature. Years hence, when monthly records are consulted, those who knew not June 1906 themselves will be tempted to regard it as on the whole about an average month, whereas it has, of course, been an erratic month, of which the variations have done a good deal to balance one another. The growth of the hay in the North has been greatly favoured, and fine crops will result, while in the south the very reverse is the case. Wheat has come on well, and the recent heavy rains should, if we have a return of heat soon, give a far better yield of straw than a week ago seemed possible. The oats will have been much benefited by the rains, which were only of tropical severity in S E. England for the most part. In the other regions they were seldom violent enough to injure the growing corn. The weather record for the completed half-year is as follows (these are our own records at a station ten miles west of London):

1906.	Rain (inches).	Sun (hours).	Warmth (degrees).
January ...	3·70	30	46·0
February..	3·75	80	45·0
March	1·08	85	47·0
April	·70	201	48·0
May.....	1·71	121	49·0
June	3·06	225	57·5

The French wheat crop is put, by a preliminary estimate, at 3·8 per cent. below that of last year. If we accept 42,000,000 qr. as last year's yield, the resulting expectation for 1906 will be 40,656,000 qr. This should mean import needs of 2,344,000 qr., against 1,000,000 qr. needed for the current cereal year. France will on this hypothesis be rather a help to British markets than the reverse.

Germany reports crop promise for wheat at a small percentage better than in either 1904 or 1905, but the crop is backward, and another month must elapse before estimates will be of much value.

The Indian wheat crop is threshing out better than the trade anticipated, but it is only in the North-West, from Kurrachee to Cashmere, that there is a large export surplus. The three old provinces of Bombay, Madras, and Bengal are shipping nothing.

The range in British wheat prices last week was as follows:—

Chichester	31s. 5d. per qr.
Reading	28s. 0d. ,,
Gradient	3s. 5d. per qr.

There were more markets about 30s. to 30s. 6d. than at any other price. The sales of wheat at the Berkshire centre must have been confined to poultry corn.

The range of British barley prices last week was trivial, a few pence on either side of 23s.—a feeding barley price. No malting samples reached any market.

The range of British oats in value was as follows:—

Reading	20s. 10d. per qr.
Chelmsford	19s. 11d. ,,
Gradient	11d. ,,

Oats show a uniformly good price obtainable for the scanty remains of the 1905 crop.

The sales of British wheat at the 190 statute markets last week were above the average for the time of year, and since harvest the total sales have been very liberal indeed.

This season, 2,840,000 qr. at 28s. 6d. per qr.
Last season, 1,576,000 qr. at 30s. 7d. per qr.

The sales of British barley have been rather larger than last season, and the result has been a slight fall in the price. Of course, deliveries are now at their lowest ebb.

This season, 3,198,000 qr. at 24s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, 3,132,000 ,, 24s. 10d. ,,

The sales of British oats have, since September last, been very small off the farm, and prices have been enhanced by the market scarcity.

This season, 901,000 qr. at 18s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,117,000 ,, 16s. 10d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were very large of wheat, maize, and oats, but small of flour and barley.

Qr.	Last week.	Since Sept. 1.
Wheat.....	654,000	17,199,000
Flour	92,000	3,969,000
Breadstuffs...	746,000	21,168,000
Barley	44,000	5,183,000
Oats.....	171,000	4,528,000
Maize	258,000	8,712,000

The wheat and flour (breadstuffs) stocks on July 1 are, of course, not yet ascertained, but the following is a forecast:—

In merchants' hands	U.K.	2,300,000 qr.
,, ,,	U.S.A.	4,390,000 ,,
,, ,,	Russia	900,000 ,,
,, ,,	Argentina ...	400,000 ,,
,, ,,	Continent ...	500,000 ,,
	Total	8,490,000 ,,

The supply of wheat on passage is still very large, but a diminution of about 300,000 qrs. on the month makes the market feeling less depressed than would otherwise be the case. The following are the quantities of wheat on passage on 1st of each month:—

January 1, 1906 ...	1,716,000 qrs.
February 1 ,, ...	2,673,000 ,,
March 1 ,, ...	3,686,000 ,,
April 1 ,, ...	4,032,000 ,,
May 1 ,, ...	3,818,000 ,,
June 1 ,, ...	3,627,000 ,,
July 1 ,, ...	3,337,000 ,,

Supplies on passage were steadily on the increase up to the end of March, but since then there has been a gradual, if slow, improvement in the situation from holders' point of view.

The supplies of flour on passage are 302,000 sacks against 212,000 sacks a month ago. Of barley there are afloat:—

Russian	81,000 qr.
American	75,000 ,,
Various	35,000 ,,
Total	191,000 qr.

The supply of oats on passage is 240,000 qr., as compared with 170,000 qr. a month ago. Of maize the following is the quantity on passage:—American, 750,000 qr.; Argentine, 875,000 qr.; various, 70,000 qr.; total, 1,020,000 qr. Other "quantities on passage" are as follows:—Linseed, 145,000 qr.; rapeseed, 20,000 qr.; and cottonseed, 24,000 tons.

Linseed shipments for the first half of 1906 are thus returned:—

From Argentina, 1,771,000 qr.; India, 570,000 qr.; Russia, 155,000 qr.; America, 410,000 qr.: total, 2,906,000 qr.

In the first half of 1905 shipments were 3,600,000 qr., including 2,483,000 qr. from Argentina and 976,000 qr. from India.

America last week was a very small shipper, the total quantities clearing from her two seaboards being 81,000 qr. of wheat, 11,000 qr. of barley, 18,000 qr. of oats, 62,000 qr. of maize, and 135,000 sacks of flour.

Argentina was a fairly vigorous shipper of wheat, and a very energetic shipper of maize, but of linseed her exports were small. The actual shipments were:—wheat, 176,000 qr.; maize, 300,000 qr.; oats, 15,000 qr.; and linseed, 49,000 qr.

Russia shipped wheat freely last week, oats and barley in average quantity, maize in small quantity only. The actual exports were:—Wheat, 400,000 qr.; barley, 175,000 qr.; oats, 203,000 qr.; and maize, 15,000 qr.

Roumania shipped last week 51,000 qr. of wheat, 15,000 qr. of barley, and 75,000 qr. of maize, while India shipped 201,000 qr. of wheat, and 19,500 qr. of linseed, and Australia shipped 8,000 qr. of wheat.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The shortage in supplies still continues, with prices ruling firm; there is not, however, a large business passing, the trading now being done is principally among dealers, the retail and consuming buyers not yet being much in evidence at the late advance in values. With haymaking now in full swing we must look for small supplies for some time to come, but the trade will have to waken up considerably before there is any further rise in prices. All best qualities find a ready market at full values, but there is a quantity of poor and inferior stuff on offer, which is more difficult of sale. The show trade is dull with no change in prices to report. The foreign hay trade shows signs of hardening this week, and we hear of sales of Canadian hay being made at more money. There is also a better demand for French clovers, which are also the better demand for French clovers, which are also the turn dearer, certainly with the poor harvest here the foreigner is bound to have another look in.

Prices ruling are about as follows: English: Best meadow hay, 77s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 62s to 72s 6d per ton; inferior hay, 52s to 62s per ton. Best clovers, 85s to 92s 6d per ton; inferior to good, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 82s 6d to 87s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds mixture, 60s to 65s per ton; wheat straw, 26s per load; oat straw, 26s per load; barley straw, 27s per load; balo wheat straw, 41s 6d per ton, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, 77s 6d per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 77s 6d per ton; large balo French wheat straw, 48s per ton; small balo French wheat straw, 41s 6d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.—WALTER H. PRENTIS.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Fairly good trade. Kent fleeces, 14d per lb; lamb wool, 9d; half-breds, 14d: Downs, 15d to 15½d per lb.

Glasgow, Monday.—As usual, at this period of the year, there has been a good deal of activity in the Scotch wool market. After a rather cold May, the past month opened dry and bright—very favourable for clipping—so that a large show of the new wool was forward at the Leith sales on the 12th. There was a full muster of buyers, and a fair proportion of the offerings was disposed of at prices quite equal to those previously ruling. At the Glasgow sales, on the 26th and 27th, there was again a good attendance of buyers, and a considerable quantity of wool changed hands, and values were not quotably altered. The clip this season is being marketed in first-rate condition, and is also, as a rule, of excellent quality. The month closes with a healthy and hopeful tone, without any pressure to sell, while on the other hand, brokers are meeting the market freely.—J. AND W. GREIG.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 5s to £15; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 10s to £13. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s 0d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9½d to 10d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10 to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 11d to 1s; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d. Crosbreds—Grs. Vic., good to super. 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 1s to 1s 1d.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fair demand was experienced for a fair supply. Country dressed chickens, 2s to 3s.; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Goslings, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 3s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; home fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 4d; quails, 6d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English firm, but quiet. Foreign steadily held at unchanged prices, but inactive. South Russians, ex ship, quoted at 29s 9d to 33s; landed, at 30s 6d to 33s. Plata, landed, at 31s 6d to 33s. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, at 34s; No. 2 at 32s 9d; No. 3 at 32s, ex ship to arrive: South Russians, ex ship, at 29s 9d to 33s; landed, at 30s 6d to 33s; choice white Karachi at 31s.; red Karachi at 30s 6d, ex ship to arrive. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steady, but quiet. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 9d to 23s 3d; River Plate, ex ship, at 21s to 21s 3d; landed, at 21s 9d to 22s. Barley quiet, unchanged. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 9d; landed, at 19s 3d; New Smyrna, unscreened, ex ship to arrive, at 19s 6d to 24s; screened, at 22s to 26s. Oats dull, unchanged. Russians quoted at 15s 6d to 16s; Americans, 17s to 17s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was a very poor attendance of buyers, and of sellers of English corn there were almost none. Wheat was quoted unchanged, oats the turn cheaper, and maize slightly dearer. Wheat, 31s to 34s; English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; foreign barley, 21s to 23s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; flat maize, 26s to 27s; round maize, 25s to 26s; white oats, 21s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 23s per quarter.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Market thinly attended, and only a very small quantity of wheat on offer. Trade quiet, and prices unchanged, at 31s to 31s 6d per qr. Oats and beans scarce and firm, at last week's prices. Maize, round, the turn lower, at 23s per qr. Other feeding corns and stuffs in very quiet demand, at about last week's prices.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans, (new), 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 19s to 25s per qr; peas, 31s to 36s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Very thin attendance. Trade very quiet. Foreign wheats remain at about late rates. Quotations:—River Plates, 30s 3d to 31s 6d per 496 lb; Russian, 30s 6d to 32s per qr., both at Sharpness. Only a very small quantity of English wheats showing, which made from 11s 6d to 12s per 186 lb delivered. Plate maize was 9d lower at 21s per 480 lb, Bristol. Flat maize was unchanged at 22s 6d, Bristol. Grinding barley was 9d per qr lower at 19s per 400 lb at Bristol. English oats, 22s 6d to 23s per 312 lb; beans, 13s 3d per 196 lb delivered.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on our market to-day. No English wheat offering; foreign very firm at unchanged prices. Maize, unaltered for spot, 3d to 6d dearer for future. Barley, unaltered. Oats, 3d dearer. Flour, firm.—GRACE BROS.

Berwick, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, with few samples of grain on offer. Wheat, 28s to 30s; oats, 22s to 23s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was no corn on offer, and business was practically confined to feeding stuffs. The attendance was small.

Coventry, Friday.—The attendance was only small. Show of wheat samples practically nil, and trade inclined to be a shade quieter. All classes of spring corn well maintained late rates, but there was comparatively little on offer. Quotations:—Wheat, 11s to 11s 9d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb; beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; oats, 24s 6d to 27s per 352 lb.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was again a very thin attendance, and a very small supply of corn on offer. A few samples of wheat changed hands at unaltered values. Reds, 31s to 32s, and white up to 33s per 504 lb. No spring corn showing. Harvest is expected to begin in about a month.

Chester, Saturday.—There were no changes in prices, except for beans, which are dearer. English grain commands the full rates of late Trade was very slow, with a smaller attendance, farmers being busy with the hay. Quotations: New white and red wheat, 4s 7d to 4s 10d per 75 lb; new grinding barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; old beans, 6s 3d to 6s 6d, and new, 5s 5d to 5s 8d per 80 lb; old oats, 3s 3d to 3s 6d, and new 2s 8d to 3s per 64 lb; old Indian corn, 13s to 13s 3d, and new 12s to 13s per 240 lb; ditto River Plate, 12s to 12s 6d.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Trade was very quiet, supplies being limited to only a small supply of English corn, which maintained recent rates. English oats 19s to 23s; foreign slightly dearer, 19s to 22s per qr. English grinding barley is practically exhausted.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at late rates; 22s to 23s per 336 lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Colchester, Saturday. — Quiet market with very poor attendance, the few samples showing making about the same as last week, but tendency easier. Recent rains have done good to grass and roots, but some of the corn crops are badly laid.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was no change in prices at to-day's market. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Derby, Friday.—Scarcely any wheat or other grain offering, owing to the small attendance of either sellers or buyers. Prices remained nominally unchanged. White wheat, 32s to 34s; red, 31s to 32s; beans, 31s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 22s to 24s.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a small attendance and a quiet feeling, but firm tone. Irish wheat quiet. Barley nil. Oats limited. Oatmeal steady. Quotations:—Wheat, 19s to 20s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; oats, 11s 6d to 13s; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—As farmers are now in the midst of haymaking and a big fair follows next week, but very few attended to-day's market, where the business was of a most limited character. Very little grain of any kind offering, especially of wheat, prices of which for home grown kept steady, whilst foreign ruled quiet, and but few sales resulted, these being at barely late rates. Grinding barley has rather favoured buyers, as did maize, prices of which in some cases declined 3d qr. Oats, which are very scarce, made full prices, as did both beans and peas, supplies of which are almost, if not quite, exhausted.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very small supply of English wheat, and scarcely any trade done. Prices a shade easier, up to 11s 9d per load being paid. Foreign also the turn in favour of buyers. Flat maize firm, round maize and beans a little dearer. Other things at late rates.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade quiet. English wheat scarce and rather dearer; foreign unchanged. Barley and maize, 3d to 6d cheaper. Oats and flour firm. English wheat, 4s to 4s 1d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s; fine, 22s to 23s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been quiet, but prices have been firmly maintained for bread stuffs, and feeding stuffs have been in rather better demand at last week's prices. Barley has been held for some slight improvement in value. There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat quietly firm. Flour unchanged and in slow demand at late rates. Maize 3d. per boll dearer on the week. Corn (owing to scarcity) fully 6d per boll dearer since last Wednesday. Oats—Home quiet and unchanged; foreign a shade easier for spot prices, but firmer for forward. Barley quietly steady. Beans unchanged for foreign but English 3d. per boll dearer. Pease unaltered. Bran and thirds show no change. Oatmeal quiet, but steady in price.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market very quiet. Business difficult, and compared with last market day, prices are wholly unchanged.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in such small supply as to be unquotable. A quiet trade in foreign wheat at prices practically unchanged. Plate maize 6d, flat and Bessarabian 3d each cheaper. Barley 3d lower. Oats scarce.

Grantham, Saturday.—The farmers' supply of grain in the district is now practically exhausted. Only a few samples were offered, and these sold at prices which showed no variation from those of last week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Attendance small, with prices tending in buyers' favour. Quotations:—Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per bushel; barley, 3s to 4s; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; beans, 4s to 4s 3d; and maize, 3s to 3s 3d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A thin attendance, people being busy at home with the hay. Very little wheat was offering, but this seems to have no effect on the price. Good reds nominally unchanged at 32s per 504 lb. Oats rather scarce and firm, but with only a quiet demand, at 22s 6d to 23s 6d per qr. Maize: Round the turn lower at 22s; flat firm at 23s 6d per qr. Linseed cakes quiet and unchanged. Middlings scarce and firm; fine at £6 5s to £6 10s, coarse at £5 10s per ton. Bran quiet at £4 15s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The quantity of wheat on passage shows a substantial reduction; on the other hand, granary stocks have increased. Arrivals off coast are liberal, and the Russian exports continue to exceed expectations. Crop reports from America and Russia are less favourable, and keep the trade in a firm state; the demand, though not active, is more general, and holders of wheat insist upon fully last week's rates. The supply of English is now extremely small. Maize 3d easier; oats in poor demand; beans scarce.—DUNNS AND CO.

Lincoln, Friday.—Business quiet, there being no English wheat on offer. Foreign samples were firm at unaltered rates. Feeding stuffs without change.

Leeds, Friday.—With a limited demand for both English and foreign wheats, there was no change from last Tuesday's prices, except that inferior descriptions of foreign were the turn easier in face of the heavy arrivals coming to hand. Malting barley firmly held, with a substantial advance for finest qualities. Maize was a shade easier. Beans, peas, oats, and flour unchanged.

Liverpool, Friday.—There has been a moderate attendance of millers, but wheat meets only a small inquiry, and values are ½d to ½d below last Tuesday. Flour.—A quiet trade for all qualities without quotable change in prices. Maize.—Mixed is steady at ½d to ½d decline, with more inquiry. Plate steady, with a moderate trade at ½d advance. Barley.—Malting quiet, and the turn lower. Feeding quiet, unchanged. Beans slow to move at about recent prices. Peas quiet, generally the turn lower, with a small trade passing. Oats quiet but steady, with little actual change in prices, and a slow sale. Oatmeal firm, unchanged, but inactive. Oilcake.—A quiet trade, unchanged for American but occasionally 2s 6d per ton lower for English linseed. Indian meal is in slow demand, but sellers hold at late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a very dragging sale; red wheats, 31s to 33s; white wheats, 32s to 34s, per 36 stones. Grinding barley slow. Fine oats steady, at 23s to 25s per 26 stones.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat in short supply. Foreign wheat was fairly firm. Indian corn and mixed American firm, and in sellers' favour; Plate a shade easier. English beans firm and about 6d dearer. Oats quiet. Other cereals showed little change, but were steady.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet market; trade dull; little change in prices Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 29s 6d to 31s per qr; barley, grinding, 22s to 24s per qr; oats, white, 21s to 22s 6d per qr; black, 20s to 21s 6d per qr; beans, new, 32s to 34s per qr.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance and little business was done. Wheat showed a drooping tendency. Maize slow, but firm. Other kinds of corn unchanged. Flour, fines, 24s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Better attendance, but very little corn on offer. Wheat, 31s to 32s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 21s to 22s 6d new black oats, 19s to 20s; beans, 32s to 33s; peas, 29s to 30s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand for wheat of all grades, and prices in buyers' favour. Maize steady at unchanged prices. Oats remain steady, and are held for full prices. Peas slow sale, and slightly in the favour of buyers. Beans remain firm, and held for last Saturday's quotations.—J. POLLARD AND CO.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was very little doing in the wheat at our market to-day, and no alteration in values. Copions rain has fallen during the past day or two, which will be of great service to the growing crops. Wheat, red, 32s to 32s 6d per qr, weight 63 lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending June 16, 1906:—Wheat 1,134 qr, 30s 3d.—J. A. MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small attendance. Wheat held for full rates, both English and foreign Grinding barley steady trade. Oats and beans but few offering, and prices in sellers' favour.—R. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was very limited supplies on offer at the market, and although business was inactive, late rates were fully maintained.

Preston, Saturday.—Last week's prices for wheat remain unaltered, only a small volume of business having passed during the week. There was a moderate attendance. Farmers' wheat made full prices, and oats, being scarce, were dearer. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white,

new, 13s 9d to 14s 3d per windle of 220 lb; ditto, red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, 3s 3d to 3s 4d per bushel; oatmeal, 26s to 26s 6d per load of 240 lb; beans, 16s 6d per windle of 220 lb.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had some heavy rains during the week which have partially laid the crops on the fens. The few samples of wheat on the market to-day made late rates. —THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Ripon, Thursday.—The market has a brisker tone, and a fair trade was done. Round maize shows a downward tendency. Prices:—Wheat, 29s 6d to 30s; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; malting, ditto, 27s to 29s; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; round maize, 23s to 24s; ditto, flat, 24s per qr.

Reading, Saturday.—There was an improved attendance and a fair trade at the following prices: —Wheat, 29s to 36s; grinding barley, English, 25s to 29s; foreign, 18s to 21s; oats, English, scarce and dear at 23s to 25s; foreign, American mixed, 17s to 21s; English beans advanced 1s, but trade in peas, with the exception of good blues for boiling, was dull.

Retford, Saturday.—The attendance to-day was about an average. Wheat was a comparatively small supply, but trade was rather inactive, and currences generally remained about the same as those of last week—30s to 31s per qr. Oats were, if anything, slightly lower, owing to foreign competition, white making 22s to 23s, and black, 21s to 22s per 24 stone. Flat maize scarce and rather dearer at 25s 6d, delivered here, and Plate maize 25s. English beans a small show and inquired for, selling at 33s 6d to 35s per 38 st.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — Quiet trade and late prices ruled. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; ditto, red, 31s 6d to 32s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 20s to 21s; ditto, white, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 31s 6d to 32s; ditto blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s to 36s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto Plate, new, 22s 9d to 23s; ditto flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Poor attendance, but there was hardly any grain on offer, and no demand. Wheats, 31s 6d; oats, 20s to 21s per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 225 lb; new oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Sunderland, Saturday. — Grain rather less freely offered. Wheat maintained last week's prices. Barley dull. Oats quiet. Arrivals: coastwise, wheat, 615 qr; oats, 597 qr; foreign wheat, 9,164 qr.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—White wheat, 32s 6d to 33s; red ditto, 32s to 32s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 19s to 23s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 42s to 50s; maize, 22s to 24s.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Small attendance, and scarcely any grain on offer. White wheat, 30s to 31s; red ditto, 29s to 30s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 22s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 21s; flat maize, 25s to 26s; round maize, 26s to 27s per qr.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Small attendance, and the tone of the trade was flat. Quotations were about the same as last week. New wheat, 14s per 216 lb; flat corn, 27s; English beans, old, 15s 6d, new, 15s; oats, old 18s, new, 15s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small market and very little grain of any description on offer. What little wheat there was is unchanged in value. Oats and beans, &c., about the same.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat quiet and unaltered. Foreign firm and unchanged. Barley, oats, and maize held at last week's prices. Flour a fair demand at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A thin attendance at market, and no change in prices from last Saturday. Scarcely any samples offering from farmers.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown wheat continue scarce, and what remains in farmers hands is firmly held. Foreign maintained last week's advance. Grinding barley down 6d. Maize flat and 6d cheaper. British wheat of best quality, 31s to 32s per qr; secondary, 28s to 30s; foreign wheat, 32s to 34s; English white oats, 21s 9d to 22s; black, 21s 6d to 22; Irish white oats, 21s 6d; ditto, black, 18s 9d. English barley, 28s 6d to 32s; secondary, 22s to 26s; grinding barley, foreign, 19s; round maize, 21s to 21s 3d; flat, 22s to 23s; winter beans, 35s to 39s; spring, 36s to 37s; winter tares, 56s to 62s 6d; spring ditto, 61 6d to 70s; rye, 25s to 26s 6d. A steady trade in flour at last week's rates. Meals and milling offals continue in good request at firm rates.

York, Thursday.—Only a very small supply of grain, the locally grown samples being nearly all exhausted. Wheat meets a slow trade at last week's prices. Fine white realised 30s to 32s, red and mixed 29s to 30s per qr of 36 stones; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per qr of 32 stones. Oats slow; white Tartary, 19s to 20s, black 20s to 21s, white Garton 21s to 22s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 24s; beans about 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg Saturday.—We had forcing hot weather with occasional thunder showers. The growing crops are making satisfactory progress. Market quiet for wheat and rye, while feeding barley and maize are meeting some attention at reduced prices. Fine red Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat being scarce is firmly held at 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b.: 80 Ko Bahia Blanca Russo afloat is offering at 29s 3d, South Russian and Danubian at 27s 9d to 29s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Sound rye in demand, but scarce, many parcels South Russian arriving out of condition. Pud 9 10/15, sound quality, is selling at 23s 3d to 23s 6d, parcels afloat are offering at 22s 6d to 23s, Pud 9 15/20 at 23s 3d; August-September shipment, 22s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. The growing crop of barley in Bohemia and Moravia, which had suffered from unfavourable weather, according to latest reports has much improved, and promises to turn out a fair average result. In the Saale district the prospects are highly satisfactory. Stocks of malting barley are cleared. 60/61 Ko South Russian feeding barley on the spot is selling at 17s 6d; August-September shipment at 16s 9d; 18s per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. American mixed maize in better demand. June shipment is held at 21s; July at 21s 3d; River Plate June-July at 20s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, June 30, 1906:—

Wheat	2,588,400	cwts.
Wheat-flour	227,200	,,
Barley	244,600	,,
Oats	458,300	,,
Maize	927,700	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	1,831,000	2,079,000	2,323,215	1,278,538
Wheat-flour	113,700	279,400	604,337	421,305
Barley ...	144,400	477,800	341,597	141,971
Oats ...	582,100	240,000	386,404	178,048
Maize ...	694,000	1,106,800	811,992	895,388

Weekly Arrivals into London.

June 20 to 27, inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	1,450	130,000	131,450
Barley	750	3,300	4,050
Malt	21,898	—	21,898
Oats	140	114,000	114,140
Beans	130	190	320
Peas	141	2,600	2,741
Maize	—	35,963	35,963
Tares	9	—	9
Dari	—	5,000	5,000
Dholl	—	900	900
Millet	—	2,000	2,000
Haricots	—	75	75
Lentils	—	5,500	5,500
Hempseed	—	292	292
Rapeseed	—	1,400	1,400
Linseed	—	7,000	7,000
Cottonseed	—	9,400	9,400
Canaryseed	—	150	150
Sacks	—	—	—
Flour ...sacks	24,900	43,000	67,900
Middlings	—	1,340	1,340
Ricemeal	—	10,000	10,000
Maizemeal	—	1,500	1,500

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat		Barley		Oats		1906. Wheat		Barley		Oats	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	30	5	24	9	16	5	28	6	24	9	18	5
Feb.	30	7	25	1	16	9	28	10	25	4	18	11
Mar.	30	10	25	1	16	11	28	5	24	8	18	11
April	30	9	24	8	17	3	29	1	24	2	19	1
May	30	10	24	8	18	5	30	2	24	0	20	0
June	31	8	24	4	19	2	—		—		—	
July	32	0	22	8	18	4	—		—		—	
Aug.	29	6	22	10	16	10	—		—		—	
Sept.	26	10	23	9	16	6	—		—		—	
Oct.	27	1	24	11	16	6	—		—		—	
Nov.	28	3	24	8	17	6	—		—		—	
Dec.	28	5	24	6	18	0	—		—		—	

Imperial Weekly Averages

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
July 3	9,579	31	7	289	23	2	3,488	18	10
,, 8	7,864	31	0	375	22	11	2,532	19	7
,, 15	4,884	32	1	34	23	10	1,952	19	6
,, 22	6,558	32	3	52	23	7	2,434	19	7
,, 29	7,691	32	2	24	23	11	3,065	18	11
Aug. 5	5,062	32	3	371	22	0	4,344	19	3
,, 12	8,184	31	11	548	22	5	8,974	18	4
,, 19	32,715	30	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	11
,, 26	88,636	28	5	6,461	23	6	20,855	16	4
Sept. 2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	24,090	15	9
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,196	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,316	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
June 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	1

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending June 30, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	12,047	30	8	104	25	5	868	22	5
1903	32,403	27	9	630	20	7	8,946	18	6
1904	21,475	26	4	527	18	8	5,699	17	1
1905	9,579	31	8	289	23	2	3,488	19	7
1906	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	1

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900 s.	d.
Jan.	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb.	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July			25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August			25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept.			24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct.			25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	22	1	24	9
Nov.			25	0	26	9	24	9	22	9	22	1	24	3
Dec.			25	0	26	9	24	9	23	3	22	1	24	0
Yrly Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	[illegible]	2

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat s.	d.	Barley s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	32	0	25	1	18	5
Lowest of Year	26	10	22	8	16	0
Gradient	5	2	2	5	2	5
Mean of Year	29	9	24	4	17	4

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week there was a small decrease in the number of beasts offered for sale. Trade for all descriptions of both prime and second quality fat beasts was rather a disappointing one so far as consignors were concerned, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one, especially towards the close of Monday's business, a protracted finish ensuing. Notwithstanding, a few choice grass fed beasts (Herefords and Lincolns) were offered for sale; these met with a limited inquiry, rates ruling 2d. per 8 lb. easier than in the previous week. Both Scotch and Irish fat cattle were conspicuous by their absence. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply, and met a slow sale, buyers hanging back for lower prices, which in most cases had to be conceded. On Thursday trade was practically at a standstill in this part of the market.

At Deptford there was also a shorter supply this week, trade in consequence ruling slightly firmer, though no appreciable advance in value can, however, be noted. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,018, as against 4,656 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 850 British, decrease 40, and 3,168 foreign, decrease 598, these latter comprising 2,717 from United States, and 451 Canadians. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincoln Shorthorns, 4s.; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 10d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 11d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d.; 100 stone fat bulls, 2s. 8d. to 3s.

The sheep trade confined entirely to Islington proved dull and heavy as a whole, owing to the poor trade experienced lately at the dead meat market. Choice quality sheep sold fairly well, but other grades were rather lower in value, as also were ewes; even at this reduction a clearance on neither market-day was possible. For prime quality fat grass lambs there was a steady inquiry at last week's quotations, heavier descriptions being in excess of the demand. Scotch sheep also sold fairly well, late currencies governing all transactions; Irish, on the other hand, were very little sought after, owing to so many half finished sheep being penned. The total number penned was 10,840, and showing a decrease of 740 as compared with last week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 6s.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 6 stone half-breds, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 11 stone half-bred ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 7s.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 6s. (offal given in).

Calves were in average number and met a slow but steady; inquiry the best on offer to dress from 166 lb to 177 lb were quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d per 8 lb., all being sold, though late in the day.

Trade in the West.

Now that rain has again fallen pretty copiously in most parts of the country, we are hoping to see an improved trade for stores, which has of late been exceptionally quiet for everything but the very best, and these, unfortunately, are only coming to hand in very small supply, the great bulk of the stock now coming out being of a decidedly indifferent character, and such as claim but very limited attention. The better-class grades of stock—either for milk or for grazing purposes—readily maintain their value, but anything of a medium stamp distinctly favours the buyer. Young, fresh-condition barreners are now making £24 to £30 per pair, and sales are easy to effect on these terms, as this is just the class of stock wanted; but the plainer grades, which are difficult to cash, can be bought in any quantity at prices ranging from £15 for anything very plain up to £22 or £23 for the animals showing better condition. The same remarks apply to dairy beasts, the best, which command a quick sale at from £16 to £22, being scarce and difficult to procure: whilst just the reverse is the case with the ordinary runs, these ranging downwards from about £15 to as low as £9 or £10 for, principally, milked-out cows or for heifers with something wrong in their quarters. Stirk heifers are also none too saleable at prices ranging from about £8 to £11; and yearlings are even more unsaleable at from about £5 to £7. A few stock bulls are still being brought out, the more serviceable changing hands up to £15, ranging down to £7 or £8 for younger and less promising animals.

The sheep trade is devoid of anything great activity as yet, but with the improved keep prospects trade should look up a little in view of the general demand for ewes and lambs; even mutton is scarcely selling so well as it has been of late. This, however, is not likely to affect the price of keeping sheep very much, seeing what a shortage there is and how difficult it is in many cases for flockmasters to replenish their numbers; and consequently we anticipate seeing prices fully maintained even if they are not improved upon, a prediction that was fully verified at Blandford on Thursday, ewes there selling readily from 46s. to 54s., and wether lambs to 38s. Store pigs, too, are selling very well indeed, and so are calves for rearage, though the latter are certainly easier in value than they were.

Some very prime quality fat beasts, Devon and Shorthorn steers and heifers are now being offered, and for these a good trade rules at fully late rates—4s. 6d. to 4s 10d for the neater weights, and 4s to 4s. 4d. for those not quite so well finished (of from £16 to £24 each), the rougher grades of fat bullocks meeting a much slower sale at 4s. to 4s. 2d. or a trifle more. The veal trade, although keeping fairly firm, is scarcely so good as it has been; but this may in a measure be due to the hot weather, which is a factor purveyors have always to reckon with, particularly in regard to this class of meat. From £3 to £5 has been the general run of values during the past week (or from 7d. to 8½d. per lb. for the best).

The mutton trade has kept fairly steady for all the neater weights in Downs and crossbreds, which may be quoted from about 6s. 2d. to 6s. 6d. per stone, and coarser weights 5s. 8d., and occasionally 6s., these quotations having reference to wethers and tegs; but ewes, especially where at all coarse or a little bit aged, have dropped in value from 2d. to 4d. per stone. The lamb trade, except for the very best grades, has also lost some of its buoyancy, which is hardly more than can be expected, seeing how the season is going on; but some of the ripest Downs and crossbreds make up to 11d., though 10d. to 10½d. is a more general range, and coarser breeds, 9d. to 9½d., with less demand than there has been.

Pigs continue to find a decent market, porkers making 10s. to 10s. 6d. per score, this price now being rarely exceeded; whilst hogs sell at 9s. to 9s. 6d., and coarse heavy pigs at 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d., the weather being largely responsible for the drop there has been in values of late.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been almost similar to last, and trade in favour of buyers. Fat cows have been shown in rather larger numbers, and they, in keeping with the cattle, made decidedly less money. Sheep were a decidedly better show as to quality this week, and an improved trade was got to the extent of 1s. to 2s. per head. Lambs also made quite last week's prices. Heavy ewes, however, on account of the warm weather, were 1s. to 2s. a head cheaper. There was a small show of calves which made more money. Pigs also were in smaller numbers, and they were easily sold at higher prices. A large show of store cattle also met a stiffer market, although a considerable number of the best conditioned cattle and stirks were sold out. Store sheep in very small numbers, and they quite maintained recent high prices. Milch cows met rather a better market. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s.; current, 35s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; mutton, from 8½d. to 10½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

Trade for cattle in last Thursday's Dublin market maintained the improvement of that day week, although supplies showed an increase of practically 500. The continued firmness was due to the appearance of about half-a-dozen extra buyers from cross-Channel centres, who bought very freely, and quite counterbalanced any influence that larger supplies would undoubtedly have had. Another thing which makes beef sell well is that the heifers and bullocks now on offer are of exceptionally good finish, and just the kind that English and Scotch buyers are in want of. Prices all round showed an upward tendency, especially for choice beef. A good and early clearance was made. The live weight for best beef ruled from 31s. to 33s. per cwt., but some extra choice Shorthorns and Aberdeen-Angus made up to 34s. 6d. per cwt. in a few instances. Good second-class beef sold at from 28s. to 30s., and coarse cattle from 24s. to 27s. per cwt. (live weight). Dead weight prices for choice ox and heifer beef may be given at from 56s. to 59s. 6d., and a few extra lots up to 61s. 3d. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 50s. 6d. to 54s., and coarse quality from 44s. to 48s per cwt.

In the mutton department trade was decidedly weaker, though the increase in supply of sheep was only slightly larger than that of the previous market. The demand was sluggish, and buying slow and dragging—more especially for heavy weight sheep and hoggets suitable for the London market, and lighter hoggets, such as are generally in demand for the big Midland English towns were more difficult to dispose of. Dublin butchers chiefly bought Cheviots and mountain sheep. We have been inundated with foreign sheep during the week, a cargo having been landed at this port, of 4,000 carcases, together with several hundred cases of shoulders of mutton, and 300 carcases of frozen lambs. The latter importation seriously affected the lamb trade in the Dublin market. The inquiry from home buyers for mutton was disappointingly slow, they seeming to require very few sheep as compared with previous markets. The dulness of the English trade made exporters deal with great caution. Prime wether mutton sold at from 7¼d. to 7¾d. per lb.; ewe, 6¼d. to 7d.; inferior sheep from 5¾d. per lb. Good lambs sold at from 32s. to 43s each—the latter price being paid by a local butcher for an exceptionally choice pen of lambs. Prime veal made from 7¼d. to 8½d. per lb.; inferior calves, from 5¾d. to 6¼d. per lb. Milch cows met with a satisfactory inquiry, especially choice springers and newly-calved cows. Other sorts made about late rates, store cattle selling well, as the pastures are excellent after the heat and late rains. At nearly all the country fairs taking place lately prices have risen for good store stock. There were 1,664 cattle and 9,268 sheep offered for sale in Thursday's market.

Pigs made a small show. Trade was dull in the opening hours, even although several cross-Channel dealers were in attendance, and business did not begin to improve until the morning was well advanced, when scarcity of supplies made matters more lively at slightly improved prices. It was only in choice light weight pigs that this improvement could be noticed, and they sold at from 51s. to 53s. per cwt. Heavy shipping pigs did not share in this rise; but a good all-round clearance was effected.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and fair demand for fresh meat. Pork dearer. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 7d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; ditto, shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, seconds, 2s 10d to 3s; ditto, forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; ditto, tegs, 5s 8d; ditto, ewes, 3s to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto, ewes, 3s to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 6s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 10d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted of fat butchering cows and bulls, and small consignment of prime quality cattle, Norfolks for latter trade was practically at a standstill, prices consequently being unquotable, whilst the former, though very slow of sale, found buyers at about last Monday's quotations. Top prices paid per 8 lb.; Fat bulls, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; exceptional fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s. Increase of 480 in number penned in sheep market supply, including seventy Scotch, for which trade ruled fairly steady, late currencies governing most sales. English sheep, however, met limited demand, with downward tendency in value, though not sufficient to quote. Lambs were difficult to vend, even at reduction of 2d per 8 lb. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 8 stone Scotch sheep, 3s 8d to 6s; 8 st Downs, 5s 8d; 9 st ditto, 5s 6d; 10 st ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10 st half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10 st ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 5 st fat grass lambs, 6s 10d; 6 st half-bred ditto 5s 10d. Calf trade slow but steady at late rates. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 8d to 6s; calves, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; lambs, 5s 4d to 6s 10d. Total supply: Beasts, 30; sheep and lambs, 2,470; calves, 50; milch cows, 5.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Slow trade for beef: Best, 4s 5d to 4s 8d; cows, 3s 8d to 4s per stone. Mutton 2d cheaper; Down wethers made 5s 6d to 6s; small Kents, 5s to 5s 4d; and barrens, 3s 6d to 4s. Veal a little cheaper, 5s to 5s 6d. Pork unchanged at 4s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs, trade slow. Beef made 5d to 6½d per lb, mutton, 6d to 8½d. per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 7s per score

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but enquiry limited, and prices declined, best qualities selling at 56s to 58s per cwt., and secondary at 54s. About average business done in mutton and lamb, of which there was a good supply at late rates. Pigs were fairly numerous, and quotations were unaltered, trade being quiet.

Berwick, Saturday.—Consignments totalled 670, 20 less than the previous Saturday. A small attendance of buyers, and though quality generally was good, a dull trade was experienced. Calves, £5 10s to £6 15s; heifers, £7 10s; stirks, £11 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12.

Chester, Thursday.—There was a large show of cattle, with only a small attendance of buyers. The demand generally was slow, and a large amount of stock remained unsold. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £21; calves, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; stirks, £6 to £9; heifers, £9 to £14.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a quantity of Irish cattle offered at to day's market, but trade was very slow. Sheep were in small supplies, and better-class made 54s; old sheep with lambs, 38s; working tegs, 36s; and useful working lambs, 18s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone; fair supply. Mutton, 5s 6d to 6s per stone; short supply, but good trade. Lamb, 6s 8d to 7s per stone; good supply and good trade. Pork, 8s 6d to 9s per score; good supply, but slow trade.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was a good supply of Irish cattle on the Sands, which met a steady inquiry. Small heifers £7 10s to £10; better descriptions, up to £15 10s.

Dublin, Thursday.—A better tone and more animation in trade for cattle. Choice lots of finished bullocks and heifers were placed without difficulty at last week's best quotations; other sorts earlier sold at late rates. No material alteration in the price of sheep. Lambs, though in good demand, not so easily placed at last week's prices; fair clearance effected. Cattle—live weight (best), 31s to 33s and 34s per cwt; secondary and inferior lots, 26s to 30s per cwt. Mutton—dead weight, 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Dorchester, Saturday.—For the time of the year moderately good supplies came to hand at Messrs. T. Ensor and Sons' repository sale, at which, however, buyers were well represented. Good useful barreners met a decidedly better inquiry after the late rain; but milch beasts sold much more quietly, though at very trifling, if any, alteration in values. The range for the more serviceable grades of barreners from £24 to £26 per pair; others, £20 to £22 10s; good reliable milch beasts met a fair sale at from £16 to £21 15s, and plainer kinds, 13s 10d to £15; bulls to £15. Fair trade in beef, only the best of which maintained its values, heifers selling from £16 10s to £19 (or 10s 6d to 11s 3d per score); fat cows, £15 to £18. Small show of mutton, best qualities of which made 7½d to 8d; and seconds, 6½d to 7d. Lamb steady at unchanged values.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle for the time of the year, but trade slow, and prices unchanged. Milch beasts made £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; and young stores, £7 to £9 each. Few sheep on offer, and no improvement in prices. Hogs made 42s to 48s each.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Trade quieter. Bullocks made from £12 10s to £16 15s; stirks, £8 5s to £10 10s; bulls, £10 to £10 15s; best Shorthorns, £23s to £26 15s; Ayrshires, £14 to £19. Sheep sold well; half-bred hoggs, 43s; grey-faced, to 41s; black-faced, to 33s 6d; half-ewes and lambs, singles, 60s.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of fat beasts; very quiet trade; late prices barely maintained. Steers and maiden heifers, 11s 6d to 11 6d; cows, 9s 6d to 10s. Also small supply of sheep; quiet demand; small wethers, 8d to 9d; large, 8d; ewes, 6d; lambs in wool, 10d; rams, 5d. No keeping sheep.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Smaller show of cattle and sheep, and trade fair. Prices firm. Quotations:—Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s to 62s per cwt; top hoggs, 10d; heavy weights, 9½d to 9¾d; ewes, 6d to 8½d per lb. Dead meat quiet. Prices: Best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5½d to 5¾d; best Canadians, 5¾d to 5½d; wedders, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Sixty cows and calves for which there was a better demand. Short supply of store cattle with a slight improvement in trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Dragging trade for over supply of beef; best sorts, 6d to 6½d, per lb., secondary, 4d to 5d; calves, 7d. Sheep not overstocked; wethers 8d, ewes 6d to 7d, and lambs 9d to 10d. Pigs limited; porkers, 5½d. Trade for tore stock the same as last week.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts smaller show, trade very slow, 6s 9d to 7s per stone. Very few stores and very little trade, £6 to £12 each. Average show of fat sheep, very slow trade, 8s 6d to 9s per stone. Stores slow trade, 40s to 46s. Store lambs, 25s to 33s; fat lambs, 30s to 40s each.

Lincoln Friday.—A small number of buyers attended, and the supply of store beasts was limited, but there was a fairly good trade.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle met a firm, dear trade; prime heifers, 8s 3d to 8s 6d; second-class, 7s 9d to 8s; steers, 8s to 8s 3d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; pigs, 6s to 7s 3d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9½d; lambs, 9d to 11d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb. Cattle, 423; sheep and lambs, 5,380; calves, 131; pigs, 364.

Newport Wednesday.—A short supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. A large attendance of buyers, and a good trade all round. Quotations: Best English beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 6½d to 9d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lamb, 9d; calves, 7d to 8d; porker pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a considerable falling off in the show of fat cattle, but still the supply was much above the average of the season. Trade was not fast, but showed a slight improvement on last week. There was no quotable difference in heifers. Store cattle were in limited supply, and the demand was very poor, sales being effected with difficulty, whilst a large number remained unsold. Compared with last week, prices were in favour of buyers. There was a small show of sheep. Lambs trade 25s to 35s per head, and breeding ewes 45s to 60s. Small market for sheep and dull sale, with downward tendency in values; prices averaged from 8s 9d to 9s 9d. Fat store pigs were offered in rather larger supply, and were again in brisk demand, all being sold. Fat pigs average 7s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Average show of milk beasts with rather better trade. Best milk cows made £17 to £21: in-calf heifers, £13 to £17. Fair share of store beasts, with trade about the same. Strong beasts made £10 to £14; younger beasts, £6 to £9; calves 25s to 45s. There were no sheep.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a smaller show of stock, and only a moderate attendance of buyers. A brisk trade was done in mutton, but beef ruled slow. Quotations:—Heifers and bullocks, 6½d to 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; hoggs, 9d; lambs, 8¾d to 9½d; fat calves, 7½d to 8½d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade very slow. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in average supply, trade slower and lower, at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade about the same. Best small, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; large, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade much lower at 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Lambs in good supply, trade a little better at 6s 4d to 6s 6d per stone. Nostore beasts on offer. Small supply of pigs, trade unchanged: Neat porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; large pigs, 3s 8d to 4s per stone.

Retford, Saturday.—Few head of store stock on offer, but sufficient to meet all requirements. Prices unaltered.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small supplies all round. Slow trade in store cattle, but good demand for fat sheep, calves, and pigs. Beef trade much better than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7¼d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; porket pigs, 9s to 9s 9d per score; bacon pigs, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per seore. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 583, sheep and lambs 1,249, calves 110, pigs 259.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a good trade. Best milch cows, £19 to £22; secondary qualities, £14 to £15 10s.

Thame, Tuesday.—Again a large entry of stock, but a smaller attendance of buyers. Beef trade, especially for cows, was decidedly slower. Mutton barely retained late rates. Lambs were in good demand, and sold well. Veal maintained late rates. Messrs Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 96 fat beast, 345 fat sheep, 84 fat and weaning calves, and 120 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £15 15s. to £21 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £21 10s; fat-tegs, 42s to 54s; fat ewes, 36s to 46s; fat lambs, 28s to 41s; fat calves, £3 to £5 6s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 to £4 15s; porkers, 28s to 36s; store pigs, 12s to 22s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Smaller supply than usual, with trade good. Best beef made 6s 9d to 7s; secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone; Southdown wethers and crossbreds, 7d to 7½d, and in a few instances up to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6½d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; veal, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A moderate trade and supply all round. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 7d to 9½d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Heifers and calves sold at from £10 16s to £17; cows and calves, £11 to £18 15s; barreners, £9 5s to £11 15s; yearlings, £7 5s to £8 15s; store bulls, £7 to £12 12s; Down ewes, 35s to 43s; Down wethers, 40s to 49s; Down lambs, 27s 6d to 32s 6d; horn ewes, 37s 6d to 45s; horn wethers, 44s to 52s 6d; horn lambs, 30s to 32s.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Small supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, only 403 head being penned in the lairages. There was a fairly large attendance of buyers, and business, following upon a quiet opening, became active towards the close, and a total clearance was effected at all the stands at prices somewhat similar to those ruling in the early part of last week, while at the same time the tone of the market was distinctly firmer. Bullocks made a really good show, and for those of well-finished description a steady demand was experienced, choice beasts making 60s per cwt. deadweight, other sorts ranging from 57s to 58s per cwt., according to quality and finish. Bulls were scarce and dear, prime choice animals selling at about 48s per cwt. deadweight, rough and heavy goods making from 1s to 2s per cwt. less.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The improvement of last week is fairly well maintained, and although only a small inquiry exists for spot parcels, there is more inclination to enter into contracts for autumn and winter delivery even at the premium asked of 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton. Russian are attractively offered at last week's low values. Canadian purcs may be bought at £7 5s. to £7 7s. 6d. East India seed purcs make 2s. 6d. per ton more money. London made are procurable for immediate removal at temptingly low figures. Cotton Cakes:—Egyptian continue in good request, and with the prospect of limited shipments in the near future, values are fully as dear, while English command extreme prices. Decorticated American brands are available at £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d., and Meal at £7 10s., but there are now sellers of New Crop Meal at £6 17s. 6d to £7 per ton. Rape Cakes.—Scarce East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—A parcel of white American on the quay is quoted at about late rates, while English is more reasonably offered. Maize gluten meal moves off steadily at £5 15s to £6 per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon sell slowly at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s., while for steamer parcels to come along, £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d, ex ship terms, would be accepted. Locust beans remain quiet but firm at £5 15s for whole, and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Nitrate of soda is without change at £10 17s 6d per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
Russian, in mats	7 6 3 to	7 7 6
,, in bags	7 8 9 to	7 10 0
Calcutta ....to arrive	7 10 0 to	7 12 6
Canadian....ex quay	7 5 0 to	7 7 6
English ....ex mill	7 10 0 to	7 12 6
Cotton Cakes.		
Egyptian.... ex warehouse	4 15 0 to	4 17 6
English	4 18 9 to	5 0 0
Bombay	4 5 0	
Cottonseed Cakes and Meal.		
Decorticated	7 12 6 to	7 15 0
,, Meal		7 10 0
Rape Cakes.		
East India	5 0 0	
Ravison	4 15 0	
Maize Germ Meal.		
White American....ex quay	5 13 9 to	5 15 0
English ....ex mill	5 7 6	5 10 0
Maize Gluten Feed ...ex mill		5 15 0
Rice Meal.		
Rangoon ....ex quay	4 13 9 to	4 15 0
,, ...ex ship	4 11 3 to	4 12 6
Locust Beans.		
Whole		5 15 0
Kibbled		6 0 0
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda, ex quay		10 17 6

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—In spite of light shipments the market has ruled very inactive, and prices have declined about 9d per qr on the week. Spot Plate, 39s 3d to 39s 6d; afloat, 39s 9d; June-July, 39s 9d; July-August, 40s. Cottonseed.—The market turned quiet again last week for old crop Egyptian, and £6 10s accepted passage, but sellers to-day ask £6 11s 3d; June, £6 12s 6d July sold and still offers at £6 13s 9d. Small sales November-January reported at £6 2s 6d. Bombay has ruled quieter, and very little business done; spot, £5 4s 6d; June-July, £5 6s; and July August, £5 6s 9d, nearest values. Oils. The market is quiet. Linseed Oil: 19s spot, 19s 3d June-December, 19s 6d September-December Cottonseed Oil: 19s 3d spot, 19s 4½d June-August, 17s 6d November-April. Crude Oil: 17s 10½d spot, 18s 1½d June-August. Rape Brown East Indian, 23s spot. Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed: Hull made are 2s 6d per ton cheaper, with a steady market at the decline. Foreign scarce and steady. Cotton.—Quiet, but very firm in all positions.—Keighley, Maxsted and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 2

Supplies of home-grown grain still on offer are held with great firmness, and to-day were saleable for previous extreme rates. The large arrivals of foreign are very difficult to place, but the holders show a greater degree of confidence than many had expected, value can seldom be called definitely low on the week. Maize to-day was a quiet trade, with round corn again rather cheaper to buy, but prices for flat and yellow sustained at their previous level. Barley was 3d. cheaper for Russian, Persian, and American 400 lb. descriptions, but all 424 lb. to 448 lb. barley made fully former rates. Oats were decidedly against holders of Russian, American, and Argentine, but good prices were paid both for heavy Baltic oats and for New Zealand. The late are the heaviest and best samples on the market, but supply is extremely limited. Foreign beans and peas were dearer than ever.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

July 2.		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	31	— 34
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	28	— 29
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 36
Brewing	,,	29	— 31
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	27	— 28
,,	(per 400 lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 30
OATS, Fine-t Scots	,,	23	— 24
Black Winter	,,	21	— 22
Grey Winter	,,	22	— 23
Storm Kin s	,,	23	— 24
Black Tartary	,,	22	— 3
White Gartons	,,	21	— 22
Sound Secondary	(per 32 lb.)	20	— 21
Ordinary	(per 312 lb.)	19	20
Light	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 27
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	44	— 45
Tick	,,	39	— 41
Wint r (Old)	,,	37	— 38
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
Spring	,,	36	— 37
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb)	65	— 73
Unpicked ditto	,,	49	— 57
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple (Old)	,,	37	— 39
,, (New)	,,	36	— 37
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
(Spring)	,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):

	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	33	—33/3
,, ,, 2	32	—32/3
,, 3	31	—31/3
American Red Winter	32/6	—33
,, H'rd ,,	31	— 32
Argentine	31	— 32
Australian	32	— 33
New Zealand	31	— 32
Californian	33	— 34
Blue Stem	33	— 34
Walla Walla	32	— 33
Saxonka	33	— 34
Azima	32	— 33
Ghirka	31	— 32
Indian White		
,, Red		

BARLEY:

C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30
Russian 400 lb)	19 6	20
Am'can (400 lb)	18 6	19
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	21
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22

MALT (336 lb.):

Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36

RYE (480 lb.):

Russian	24	— 25

OATS:

N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	22	— 24
Austral'n (320 lb)	18	— 19
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	20	— 21
Libau (320 lb.)	19	20
,, (304 lb.)	16	16/3
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	16	16/6

MAIZE (480 lb.):

	s.	s.
American	22	— 23
Argentine	22	— 23
Bulgarian	23	— 24
Roumanian	23	— 24
Italian	64	— 72
Burmese	32	— 42
Chilian	56	— 64

LENTILS (cental):

Split Egyptian	10	— 11
Whole Indian	7	— 8

PEAS (504 lb.):

Konigsberg	44	— 46
Indian White	35	— 36
Indian Green	29	— 31
Tasman'n M'ple	40	— 42
NewZeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Victoria Dun	33	— 34

MILLET (416 lb.):

White	42	— 44
Yellow	22	— 24

Sorghum 20 22

RICE (cwt):

Indian	14	— 16
Burmese	9	— 10
Siamese	8	— 9

DARI (480 lb.):

Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	26	— 27
Persian	22	— 24

BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)

French	26	— 27
Russian	25	— 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, JULY 2.

The tendency of London makes is still against the holder, and there are complaints of overproduction within the London area. The country flour, however, which continues to arrive in far larger quantity for the time of year has a good deal, if not most, to do with the feeling over-supply of the London district. Foreign flour has declined 6d per sack for all sorts of Hungarian and French, and is also inclined to go back for American. There is too little Argentine on offer for prices to be modified. The sale of middlings, bran, and pollard is small, but rice meal at the low prices ruling has met with some request.

London Flour.

Top Price (per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0	net.
Town Whites	,, 26 6	,,
,, Households	,, 23/6	,,
No 2	,, 21/6	,,
Who'e Meal No 1	,, 24 6	,,
,, No. 2	,, 22/6	,,
Paste Flour	,, 20/6	,,

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Best Patents (per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites	,, 22 9	— 23
Ord'y Roller ,,	,, 21/9	22
Stone made	,, 21	21/3

Foreign Flour.

	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	24	—24/6
,, Second Patents	,, 23	—23/6
,, First Bakers'	,, 21	—21/6
,, Second Bakers'	,, 20	—20/6
Milwaukee Patents	,, 24	—24/6
,, Bakers'	,, 21	—21/6
Canadia	,, 26	— 27
Manitoba Patent	,, 23/9	—24
Manitoba Ordinary	,, 22/9	— 23
Hungarian, 0	,, 30	—30 6
,, 1	,, 29	—29/6
,, 2	,, 28	—28/6
,, 3	,, 27	—27/6
French, Corbeil	,, 23/6	—24
,, Renaux	,, 22/9	—23
,, P.S.D.	,, 21/9	—22
Australian	,, 23	— 24
Argentine	,, 26	— 27

Meal, &c.

	s.	s.
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,, 13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,, 11	— 12
Pollard	,, 9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings	,, 15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,, 14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,, 13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,, 16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,, 27	— 28
,, Seconds	,, 25	— 26
Barley Meal	,, 18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,, 24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,, 32	— 34
Groats	,, 33	— 34
Oat Flour	,, 34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,, 17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,, 14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,, 19	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,, 15	— 16
,, Coues	,, 20	— 21
,, Gluten Meal	,, 15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,, 20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,, 18	— 19
Rye Meal	,, 17	— 18
Pea Meal	,, 22	— 23
Bean Meal	,, 22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal	,, 18	— 19
Rice Meal	,, 18	— 14
Rice Flour	,, 19	— 20
Rice Concs	,, 17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH SALES VERY SLOW, BUT NO BRANCH OF TRADE COULD BE CALLED DEPRESSED.

TERM MARKET.

Futures this morning are firmer for maize, but for wheat they are weaker. There is not much doing in either market. To-day's calls are as follows:

Wheat	July delivery,	6s 7d	per cental.
,,	Sept. ,,	6s 8d	,,
,,	Nov. ,,	6s 8d	,,
Maize	July ,,	4s 9d	,,
,,	Sept. ,,	4s 8d	,,
,,	Nov. ,,	4s 7d	,,

A small inquiry for new Russian barley, October delivery, was reported at 17s 9d per qr. (of 400 lb).

THE BALTIC.

The large number of cargoes of wheat now on offer of ports off call necessarily makes the spot market for the leading cereal rather weak. Cargo sales on the four last days of June included No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 30s 3d per 480 lb., White Kurrachee at 30s 9d per 492 lb, Red Kurrachee at 29s 3d per 492 lb, Rosario at 29s 3d per 480 lb, Victorian at 31s per 480 lb, and White Walla at 31s 6d per 500 lb.

Maize cargoes inclined on Saturday to favour buyers. The prices accepted included 20s. 9d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, 21s. 9d. per 480 lb. for Novorossisk, and 21s. 6d. per 480 lb. for American.

Barley cargoes have been in poor request, yet some business for futures has to be recorded, namely, two cargoes for July shipment from Odessa at 18s. and two for October shipment from Nicolaieff at 17s. 3d., all per 400 lb.

Other cargo sales include Smyrna beans at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb., white American oats at 16s. 9d. per 320 lb., and Calcutta linseed at 41s. 3d. per 440 lb.,

During the last six days of June the large number of 33 cargoes arrived on sale at ports of call. Of these 28 were wheat and 5 linseed For the first half of 1906 the arrivals have been 218 wheat cargoes, 5 maize, 21 barley, 30 linseed, and 4 mixed cargoes.

STATE OF TRADE. 1 P.M.

Wheat cargoes are in such free offer that it is difficult to keep prices up to Saturday's level; nevertheless values cannot be quoted lower. Maize, barley, and oats are offered for future shipment at prices about 3d. per qr. under Saturday's rates. Linseed cargoes open firmer from Saturday, but cottonseed is weak.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Blue Stem, 31s 9d per 500 lb arrived; New South Wales, 30s 9d per 480 lb, arrived; Argentine, 29s per 480 lb. arrived; Red Walla, 30s 9d per 500 lb, arrived; Bessarabian, 30s 9d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Rosario, 29s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Bahia Blanca, 29s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Red Kurrachee, 29s per 492 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; American, 21s per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Odessa, 17s 6d per 400 lb, September shipment; Nicolaeiff, 18s per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—American, 16s 3d per 320 lb, prompt shipment; Petersburg, 15s 3d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Vologda, 15s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Archangel, 15s per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Peas.—Indian Dun, 29s 9d per 504 lb, prompt shipment.

Dari.—Persian, 22s per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Haricots.—Burmese, 39s per 504 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 39s 9d per 416 lb, arrived; Duluth, 38s 9d per 424 lb, July shipment; Indian, 41s per 410 lb, arrived; Russian, 40s 6d per 416 lb, July shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 12s 6d per 2,240 lb, July shipment; Egyptian, £6 3s 9d per 2,240 lb, November shipment.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The market for oilseeds is steadier from last week.

LINSEED	per 416 lb. s.	s.	COTTONSEED.	per ton. s.	s.
American	41 to	42	Egyptian	136 to	138
Calcutta	41 to	42	Indian	106 to	108
Bombay	42 to	44	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.	
Russian	40 to	42	English, Best	16 to	17
Morocco	44 to	46	Russian, White	14 to	15
Argentine	40 to	41	,, Black	13 to	14
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.		SESAME.	per cwt.	
Best English	61 to	63	Indian	14 to	15
Yellow Guzerat	46 to	47	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.	
,, Cawnpore	44 to	45	Russian	49 to	50
Brown ,,	42 to	43	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.	
Brown Calcutta	40 to	41	English	50 to	52
Ferozepore	44 to	46	Spanish	82 to	86
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb		Turkish	48 to	49
Indian	44 to	46	Argentine	47 to	48

SEEDS.

London. Monday. There is an increased demand for rape and mustard. Prices unchanged, but firm. The new crops, Dun and Blue Peas, so far promise well.—PICARD AND Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is no change to report on this market, prices remain very firm with an upward tendency. The reports from the plantations speak of a continued attack of fly and fresh lice and matters are becoming serious now that we are into July. W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Prices unchanged with small business passing. Grain.—American corn is more plentiful on spot, but the price is firm. Danubian maize on spot is selling freely at 4½d per boll at recent Plate values. Home and forein oats are a slow sale. Pease very dull. Feeding beans firm on spot, and grinders are 1½d to 3d per boll dearer for shipment. Oatmeal unchanged, Oilcake firm but not much inquired for. Barley steady. Mill stuffs.—The demand continues good for common and fine thirds. Bran is still dull and unchanged in value.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Quotations remain unchanged ; demand languid ; business more in favour of buyers than of sellers.

Offals.—The demand for bran has somewhat improved, and prices are now firmer.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour on the spot has met a limited demand, the trend of prices being in buyers' favour, forward prices show no change on the week.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are moderate ; the trade is quiet, and prices are unchanged. Maize sells slowly at last week's prices. Barley is 3d per qr lower. Oats sell slowly at about last week's rates.—Coventry and Shepherd.

Miling Offal.—All grades of offal are steady at last Mondays prices, with a short supply.—John Bawcomb and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 1,793 bales, and from foreign ports 12,360 bales. There was a firm steady market for bacon, and Irish and Danish were quoted some 1s to 2s dearer. Irish, 60s to 66s up to 72s ; Danish, 60s to 67s up to 72s ; Canadian, 59s to 62s up to 65s. Butter : The butter market was firm.—French, 92s to 106s ; Danish, 108s to 110s, up to 112s ; Russian, 76s to 94s, up to 98s ; Irish, 92s to 106s ; Australian, 80s to 102s ; New Zealand, 78s to 106s.—Lard was a steady market. Irish, 54s to 63s ; American, 44s 6d to 45s 9d ; Danish, 50s to 58s.

EGGS.

Saturday.—Appleby : 13 and 14. Berwick : 9d to 10d per doz. Bridgnorth : 12 and 13. Carlisle : 12 and 13. Doncaster : 12 and 13. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden : 14 and 15. Ipswich : 12 to 14. Lancaster : 9 to 12. Malton : 13 and 14. Pontefract : 13. Retford : 1s 5d to 1s 6d per score. Richmond (Yorks) : 12 Shrewsbury : 13 and 14. Stokesley : 12 and 13. Whitby : 12. Worcester : 12. York : 12.

BUTTER.

Saturday.—Appleby : 8d to 10d ; Berwick : 6d to 10d. Bridgnorth : 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle : 9d to 10d. Doncaster : 11d to 1s. Grantham : 11d. Howden : 9d to 1d. Ipswich : 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster : 1s. Malton : 9d to 11d. Pontefract : 11d. Retford : 11d to 1s. Richmond (Yorks) : 10d to 11d. Shrewsbury : 1s. Stokesley : 9d to 10d. Whitby : 10d. Worcester : 10d to 1s 2d. York : 1s.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—The market continues without any particular change, and owing to the large increase in quantity now being dried, prices are firmly maintained at about 13s ale and 10s 3d porter. Distillers, 25s, and pressed white distillery meal, 32s 6d per ton. Dried grains are without change at ale, 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, distillers, 110s per ton on rail in London ; ale 90s, and mixed, 82s 6d per ton on rail at Burton. Oat feed, to arrive, 67s 6d ; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d ; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d ; fine ground rice husks, 60s ; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail, London.—Hamlyn and Co.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The fine weather improved the growth of the plant and colour of the foliage. The aphis blight is particularly severe, and washing is vigorously proceeded with. Prices range from 45s to 95s per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—Although the hops grow, washing does not appear to check the blight, and many yards, even where well washed, appear sickly, and only the young work has any vigorous appearance. Business is confined to retail sales from merchants' stocks, as growers ask more than buyers will give. Brewers are well supplied as a general rule, and will only purchase anything very special in quality or value.—Charles Faram and Co.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 2, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, July 3, 1905.
Beasts	610	610	1,070
Sheep and Lambs	7,460	7,460	8,090
Calves	10	10	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 8
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 2
Lambs	5 8	6 0	7 2
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows :—Scotland, — ; Eastern Counties, 231 ; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 374 ; Devon, 5 ; Ireland, —.

There was a decrease of 210 head in the number of beasts offered for sale to-day compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply being drawn from the Eastern Counties. The arrivals from the Midlands were larger this week, the season for grass-fed cattle being now in full swing. For both prime and second quality beasts, trade was of a slow, but steady nature, late currencies governing all transactions. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with very little demand from either town or country buyers, late values, however, governed all sales. No stores were offered for sale to-day. There is every prospect of a clearance being made to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day. s d s d	Monday, July 3, 1905 s d s d
Scotch	—	4 8 to 4 10
Devons	—	—
Herefords	4 6 to 4 8	4 6 to 4 8
Norfolks	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 4
Runts	—	4 4 to 4 6
Lincolns	3 10 to 4 0	3 10 to 4 0
Irish	—	4 0 to 4 3
Canadian	—	—
Fat Cows	3 4 to 3 6	3 6 to 3 8

There was a decrease of 910 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a firm and steady nature, at slightly higher rates for both wethers and ewes. Irish descriptions, on the other hand, were difficult to vend, whilst Scotch shared in the general brightening up of trade, sellers both asking and obtaining 2d per 8 lb more money. Prime quality small grass lambs met with a brisk sale and cleared early in the day. Very little inquiry was experienced for heavier descriptions. The supply included 200 Scotch, 400 Irish, and 1,670 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance will be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day. s. d. s. d.	Monday, July 3, 1905. s. d. s. d.
8 st Scotch	5 10 to 6 2	5 6 to 5 8
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 8 to 5 10	5 4 to 5 6
9 st. Downs	5 4 to 5 6	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Halfbreds	5 2 to 5 4	5 0 to 5 2
10 st Yorkshires	—	4 4 to 4 6
12st Lincolns		4 4 to 4 6
10 st Irish	5 0 to 5 2	—
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4 2	3 10 to 4 0
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4 0	3 8 to 3 10
5 st Grass Lambs	7 0 to 7 2	6 2 to 6 4
6 st Halfbred ditto	6 0 to 6 2	5 8 to 5 10

Calves not worth noting or quoting. No pigs on offer.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supply. Slow demand. Beef : Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d. English, 3s 6d to 4s 6d ; American, 3s to 3s 5d. Mutton : Scotch wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 6d ; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d ; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s 6d ; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb : English, 5s 8d to 6s 8d ; veal, 3s to 4s 4d ; pork, 4s to 4s 6d per 8 lb.

St. Ives (Hunts.), Monday.—Beasts, 302 ; sheep and lambs, 1,981 ; pigs, 282. Fat cattle met a fair demand, stores a fair trade, fat and store sheep fair demand, and fat pigs a better trade ; milch cows were on short supply and met a middling trade. Prices :—Beef, 7s to 7s 9d ; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d ; lamb, 10d ; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d ; milch cows, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,428. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 681 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States as far as beasts are concerned. Trade was of a firm and steady nature at late values. Besides the above about 300 more were withheld for Wednesday. The best on offer were quoted at from 3s 9d to 3s 11d ; seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 8d ; per 8 lb (offal given in). 149 Canadian sheep were consigned, but there was not sufficient trade to quote prices when our report left. On Saturday 1,533 from the United States and 451 from Canada were offered for sale, and with a firm and steady trade were quoted at from 3s 9s to 3s 11d. for the former and from 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 8lb for the latter.

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was about same as last week. Demand slow and late rates barely maintained. Sheep and lambs in greatly increased numbers, demand in consequence very slow, and prices for both in buyers' favour. Beef, 6½d to 4½d ; mutton, 9d to 6½d ; lamb, 9½d to 9d per lb. Atmarket : 504 cattle and 9,877 sheep and lambs.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake : There is no fresh feature to report in the trade, which keeps dull. The only inquiry that exists is for the cheaper brands of Russians in bags. Cotton Cake : Demand is much better, and values have increased 1s. 3d. per ton for Egyptian made. Linseed : Market steady, with a quick trade in No. Duluth.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	£7 12 6 to 8 0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	—
American Western Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 5 0
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive)	ex quay	—
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 6 3 7 12 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal	ex quay	7 10 0
London-made ,, Cake (best	ex mill	5 0 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 16 4 4 17 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 7 6
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb	ex warehouse	—
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb	ex warehouse	2 5 0
La Plata Linseed (in bags) per 416 lb. (screened)	ex warehouse	2 5 0 2 10
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2 5 0

—Robt. & John Hewetson.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Large and varied supplies of fruit and vegetables and trade fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce :—Grapes, 1s to 3s 6d ; melons, 1s to 2s 6d each ; peaches, 2s to 12s ; green figs, 1s 6d to 5s ; nectarines, 2s to 12s per dozen ; strawberries (Southampton), 1s 3d to 2s 6d per basket ; ditto (Kent) 2s 6d to 4s per peck ; ditto (Cornish), 2s 6d to 3s 6d per dozen punnets ; apricots, 9d to 1s per box ; ditto, 2s to 2s 3d per case ; red currants, 6s 9d to 8s ; black ditto, 5s 6d to 7s per half-sieve ; gooseberries, 2s to 3s per half-sieve ; tomatoes, 4s 6d to 6s ; asparagus, 6d to 2s per bundle ; green peas, 2s to 3s per bushel ; ditto, 4s to 5s 6d per bag ; broad beans, 1s 6d to 2s ; beetroot, 1s 6d to 2s ; spinach, 2s to 3s per bushel ; horseradish, 9s to 13s per dozen bundles ; cabbages, 3s to 4s 6d ; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s per tally ; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt ; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb ; green beans, 6d to 8d per lb ; cauliflowers, 4s to 5s per tally ; mint, 1s to 2s ; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s ; carrots, 2s to 3s 6d ; turnips, 2s 6d to 4s ; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen bunches ; cucumbers, 5s to 7s per flat ; radishes, 4d to 6d per dozen bunches ; [illegible], 1s 3d to 1s 6d ; vegetable marrows, [illegible] per dozen ; potatoes (old), 50s to 85s per ton ; [illegible] (new), 4s 6d to 8s per cwt.

CHEESE.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 24 tons of cheese pitched, and with a [illegible] of buyers all was cleared. Best [illegible] up to 48s per cwt., secondary dairies 45s to 47s 6d, and other dairies, 42s to 44s. [illegible] failed to reach 40s. Cheddars [illegible] 62s to 66s ; truckles, 57s to 59s 6d ; [illegible] 54s.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—There was a fair inquiry for the good deliveries this morning. New, Cherbourgs, 5s; Jersey, 6s 6d; St Malo, 6s per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—Old clover hay, 85s to 90s; old meadow hay, 75s to 80s; wheaten straw, 50s to 55s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Average supplies of potatoes at the public retail markets, and a steady sale at 5d to 6d per stone for old potatoes, and 4d per quarter for new.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply of new Jerseys and St. Malo potatoes, and a good trade at 6s 6d to 7s per cwt, or 1d per lb. No demand for old potatoes.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was very little doing in the potato market In the retail market 5d to 8d was reached for old potatoes. New potatoes made 1s 4d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday. — Yorkshire warps, 8s to 9s; sands, 6s to 7s; Cheshire, 5s to 6s; ditto, new, unwashed, 13s to 15s; ditto, washed, 14s to 16s per load; Jersey, 7s to 8s;; Cornish, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals were smaller, but demand proved slow. New: Cherbourgs, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; St. Malo, 5s 6d to 6s per cwt. Dutch, 2s 9d per basket.

Stockton, Wednesday. — Jersey potatoes, 8s per cwt, old potatoes, £2 5s to £2 10s per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Old potatoes, 5s 6d per load of 18 stones; new potatoes, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per cwt.

York, Saturday.—Old potatoes are practically unsaleable. New Jerseys are plentiful, and sell at 5s to 6s per hamper of 6 stones, Lincolnshires at about 6s to 6s 6d, and a few local-grown tubers are on offer at from 6s to 7s. The condition of the new crop is reported good.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £4 2s 6d to £4 5s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s per ton; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d; secondary ditto, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, ditto, 50s to 60s; chop ditto, 51s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Very little business passing. Hay in the stack made 55s to 60s per ton, and straw, in the bulk, 35s to 40s.

Lincoln, Friday.—Old hay in fair demand. Best quality, £4 per ton on the ground; inferior, £3 to £3 10s; highland grown straw, £2 per ton on the ground

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 6¾d to 7¼d; clover, 6¾d to 7¾d; straw (wheat), 3¾d to 4d; oat 4d to 4½d per stone.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Meadow hay, 7d; clover, 7½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There were 13 carts of hay and 7 carts of straw at market. Old land hay, £4 10s to £5 10s; new land hay, £5 10s to £6 10s; wheat straw, £1 3s to £1 4s 6d; oat straw, £1 12s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Average supply at market, which met with a slow sale. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s: prime ditto, 85s to 90s; inferior to good clover, 78s to 80s; prime ditto, 85s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supplies shown. Business quiet, dealers asking fully late prices. Choice seeds, £4 15s to £5; prime old hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; seconds, £4 to £4 5s; straw, £3 10s to £3 15s per ton.

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The herd has been bred with special regard to its milking properties. It contains a capital lot of good yearling heifers and calves; several of the cows have calves at foot. Prizes have been won at the Royal, the Smithfield Club, the Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, and other County Shows, as well as at the International Show at Paris.

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London, E.C. June 5, 1905.

Composition of a sample of Dried Grains sent by the English Grains Co., Ltd.

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Oil	7·25
*Albuminous Compounds (flesh-forming matters)	19·25
Mucilage, Sugar, Digestible Fibre, &c	42·72
Woody Fibre (Cellulose)	16·30
†Mineral Matter (Ash)	4·23
	100 00
*Containing Nitrogen	3·08
†Including Silica	1·69

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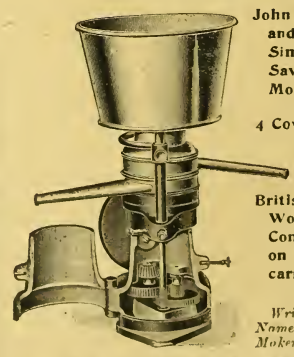

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You Can't Cut Out a Bog Spavin or Thoroughpin, but

ABSORBINE (YOUNG'S)

will clean them off, and you work the horse same time. Does not blister or remove the hair. Will tell you more if you write. 8s. 3d. per bottle, delivered. Book 4 C free. **ABSORBINE, JR.**, for mankind, 4s. 6d. bottle. Cures Varicose Veins, Varicocele, Hydrocele, Ruptured Muscles or Ligaments, Enlarged Glands, Allays Pain. Genuine manufactured only by W. F. YOUNG, P.D.F., Springfield, Mass., U.S.A. Sole Agents for United Kingdom: THO. CHRISTY & Co., 4, Old Swan Lane, London, E.C.

VERMOREL'S KNAPSACK SPRAYERS
for Fruit Trees, Rose Trees, Root Crops, &c.

Have won over 400 FIRST PRIZES and MEDALS.

"ECLAIR" Spraying Pump, price 35/6.

"TORPILLE" Powdering Pump, price 19/- and 25/6.

"VERMORITE" (Eclair Bouillie). The best Spraying Mixture for instantaneous use.

SOLE AGENTS—CHARLES CLARK & Co. 20, Great St. Helen's, London, E.C.

In writing to advertisers, readers will confer a favour by mentioning the "Mark Lane Express" as the source of their information.

H. P. SAUNDERSON & CO., LTD.,

ELSTOW WORKS,

BEDFORD, ENGLAND.

Awarded the SILVER MEDAL of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, Derby, 1906.

UNIVERSAL MOTORS.—For Carrying as a Lorry; for Hauling, Ploughing, Mowing, Reaping, Binding, Cultivating, &c.; for Threshing, Chaff-cutting, Grinding, Sawing, and Driving Machinery of all Kinds. Burns both Petrol and Oil. R.A.S.E. Silver Medal, Derby, 1906.

PETROL AND OIL ENGINES.—Stationary and Portable, Car and Launch Engines.

WATER WEED CUTTING MACHINERY. Complete Weed Cutting Launches driven by Steam or Motor Engines.

WIND MOTORS.—For Pumping and Driving Machinery.

PUMPS of all Kinds.

SEND FOR OUR ILLUSTRATED LISTS.

J. ZACHARIAS & CO.,

Makers of Waterproof and Porous

RAINPROOF GARMENTS & INDIARUBBER GOODS,

OXFORD.

The "Master of Fox Hounds" RIDING & SPORTING WATERPROOF.

The Acme of Comfort and Style from 35s.

CHEST MEASUREMENT ONLY REQUIRED.

ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION, on FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 6 (one o'clock) at the Park Hotel, close to Bletchley Station, about

40 KERRY AND DEXTER CATTLE

the property of Messrs. Robertson and Sons, of La Mancha, Malahide, by whom many prizes have been won with both breeds in past years, the two fifty-guinea challenge-cups, presented by Lord Ashburton, having been won outright. The sale this year comprises a very choice lot of animals, including some prize-winners, whilst many of the younger ones are likely show yard winners; several of the cows have calved, or are in calf again. Last year at the R A S E Show at Park Royal two second prizes, two thirds, and two high commendations were obtained.

RIBY GROVE, GREAT GRIMSBY.

JOHN THORNTON & CO (in conjunction with DICKINSON, RIGGALL, and DAVY) will SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, JULY 12 (twelve o'clock), at Riby Grove, 3 miles from Stallingborough Station, and 6 miles from Great Grimsby, about

60 SHORTHORNS & 60 YEARLING LINCOLN RAMS,
specially selected and the prize-winning
YEARLING EWES.

from Mr. HENRY DUDDING's extensive and old-established herd and flock.

The sale comprises most of the three-, two-, and one-year-old heifers and young bulls. They represent many of the most distinguished specimens of the Bates, Booth, and Scotch strains.

The sires have been large framed masculine animals of fine quality, selected from the best breeders, the most recent being the late Mr. W. S. Marr's Wanderer's Chief, 80210, Mr. Waind's Merry Squire 5th 86626, a son of Mr. Haley's great bull Sir George, and the late Mr. P. L. Mills' Scottish Daisy Duke 79916, a son of the prize bull Best of Archers; this bull with that handsome young prize animal Prince Alastair 89647, included in the sale, is now in service.

Many of the older heifers have calves at foot, and the young heifers and bulls comprise many beautiful animals.

LINCOLN SHEEP.

About 60 of the best specially selected Lincoln Long-woolled yearling rams and the prize-winning yearling ewes will also be sold.

MELTON ROSS, BARNETBY JUNCTION.

JOHN THORNTON & Co. will SELL by AUCTION on FRIDAY, JULY 13 (one o'clock), at Melton Ross, about a mile and a quarter from Barnetby Junction, the late Mr. Jonas Webb's old-established choice herd of Bates

SHORTHORNS,

which comprises many fine specimens of the famous Duchess, Grand Duchess, Waterloo, Oxford and Thorndale Rose tribes, as well as several good animals of the Lauretina family. First class bulls have been used and the herd kept pure to the old Bates and prize Linton blood. Laureate 81433 by Mr. C. R. Lynn's Stroxton Prince from the champion cow Laureat na Maid, and his sons Melton Duke of Leicester 3rd 86605, Melton Grand Duke 2nd 89289, Melton Baronet 2nd 89285, and Melton Knightley 89290, are now in service, the three latter being included in the sale.

The herd has been bred with special regard to its milking properties. It contains a capital lot of good yearling heifers and calves; several of the cows have calves at foot. Prizes have been won at the Royal, the Smithfield Club, the Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, and other County Shows, as well as at the International Show at Paris.

Continued in next column.

AUCTION SALES.

Continued from previous column.

SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

The flock of Southdown Sheep, comprising about 200 Ewes and Yearling Ewes, will also be sold; they are bred from the old flocks at Babraham, and Stretly Hall rams from Mr. Adeane's celebrated prize flock have lately been used.

(See displayed Advt. page 8)

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1906.

LEWES, SUSSEX.
SECOND ANNUAL SALE OF SOUTHDOWN RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.

MR. J R. THORNTON begs to announce that he will hold the above sale in the Field adjoining the LEWES CATTLE MARKET, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1906, at 2 o'CLOCK.

Early entries are solicited so that they may be properly advertised, and should be sent as soon as possible to the AUCTIONEER, at 173, High Street, Lewes.

IMPORTANT CITY LEASEHOLD INVESTMENT.

A fine commanding block of Business Premises, occupying a very prominent position at the corner of Aldgate High Street and Jewry Street, near the junction of Fenchurch Street and Leadenhall Street, having a total return frontage of about 116 feet and covering the extensive ground area of about 4,000 feet super. Held from the Corporation of the City of London for 89 years from March 25, 1860, at a ground rent of £361 per annum, and let by underleases to Ridgways, Limited (the well-known wholesale and retail tea dealers) at rents amounting to £1,116 per annum. By order of Trustees.—Messrs.

DEBENHAM, TEWSON and Co. will SELL, at the Mart, on Tuesday, July 17, at 2, the highly important and valuable LEASEHOLD PROPERTY, known as Nos. 87, 88, and 89, Aldgate High Street, and 37, Jewry Street, City. The premises are very substantially built, particularly well lighted, and of imposing elevation, each portion comprising three upper floors, ground floor, and basement. No. 87, Aldgate High Street, having an additional upper storey, and No. 88 extending to and having an entrance from Little George Street in the rear. The premises include spacious ware rooms, private and general offices, a lofty retail shop, tea tasting and sample rooms, strong room, &c., also a capital series of large vaulted wine cellars in the basement of Nos. 87 and 88, Aldgate High Street, and 37, Jewry Street. Particulars of Messrs. TAMPLIN, TAYLER and JOSEPH, Solicitors, 165, Fenchurch Street, E.C.; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside, E.C.

THE ANNUAL SALE of the TRING PARK FLOCK of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS, the property of the Right Hon. Lord ROTHSCHILD, is fixed for FRIDAY, JULY 20, 1906.

Further particulars will be published later, and in the meantime may be obtained from RICHARDSON CARR, Esq., Estate Office, Tring, and of

W. BROWN & Co.,
Auctioneers, Tring.

PRELIMINARY.

THE 21st ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of Mr. LAMBERT'S pure-bred HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS will take place at CAMBRIDGE, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1906.

Messrs. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street,
Cambridge and Linton.

AUCTION SALES.

PRELIMINARY.

BROUGHTON LODGE, KETTERING (one mile from Kettering Station, Midland Main Line.)

ANNUAL SALE of HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE.

BERRY BROS. AND BAGSHAW have received instructions from Mr. W. SHATFORD JAMES to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises, as above, on TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1906,

45 PURE-BRED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS and
10 PEDIGREE ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE.

Catalogues may shortly be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS, Kettering.

BRIZE NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT of the IMPORTANT DISPERSAL of the very old-established and famous flock of

OXFORDSHIRE DOWN SHEEP,
the property of the late
Mr. JOHN WOBLEY.

MESSRS. FRANKLIN & JONES are favoured with instructions from the Executors, who are relinquishing farming at Michaelmas next, to announce the dispersal of the above old-established flock as under.

At OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1906,
The Annual Draft of
40 GRAND SHEARLING RAMS.

At the MANOR FARM, BRIZE NORTON, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1906 (the day following),
The Dispersal of
550 STOCK EWES and THEAVES, RAM LAMBS, &c.

Full particulars with Catalogues and Pedigrees are in preparation, and will be announced in future issues of this and other papers, and may in due course be obtained of Mr. EDWARD CASTLE, Tackley, near Oxford, or of Messrs. FRANKLIN and JONES, Land Agents and Auctioneers, Frewin Court, Corn Market Street, Oxford.

FOR SALE, at most reasonable prices, to make room for young stock,
30 PURE-BRED LARGE WHITE GILTS,
8 to 10 months old; also
10 GRAND YOUNG BOARS
fit for service.

All eligible for registration in Herd Book; inspection invited.—Apply, HERBERT BROOM, Wissett Hall, Halesworth.

SOCIETIES AND NOTICES

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW, SEPTEMBER 19, 1906. £160 in prizes, JUMPING, DRIVING, TURNOUTS, &c. Entries close September 5, 1906 —W. H. M. BARTON, Sec., Church Hill, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

MADRESFIELD SHOW.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9.

Open classes for Cattle, Horses, Jumping, Driving, etc.
Entries close JULY 5.
Schedules and entry forms from
A. D. MELVIN, Secretary.
Abbotsford, Malvern Link.

WEST GLOUCESTER FARMERS' CLUB, AUGUST 6, 1906. DURDHAM DOWN, BRISTOL. Open classes for Cart Horses, Harness, Double and Single, and Jumping. Entries close JULY 12. — HENRY NICHOLS, Sec., Iron Acton, and 26, Nicholas Street, Bristol.

BISHOP AUCKLAND AGRICULTURAL SHOW, TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1906. Horses, Cattle, Produce, Poultry, Dogs, Cavies, &c. Great Leaping and Driving Competitions. Over £340 in Prizes. Entries close July 6th.

G. TIPLADY,
Bishop Auckland. Hon. Sec.

SOCIETIES AND NOTICES.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW at MIDDLESBROUGH, AUGUST 8, 9, and 10, 1906.
£2,400 OFFERED IN PRIZES.
Entries close June 30.
Late Entries July 7.
For Prize Schedules and Forms of Entry apply, JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary, Blake Street, York. Telegrams: "Yas, York." Telephone, 61Y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GARDEN NETTING.—Price List of good, strong, small mesh, oiled and dressed, 100 yards long, 1 yard wide, 4s.; 100 yards long, 2 yards wide, 8s.; 100 yards long, 3 yards wide, 12s; any width or length required. Carriage paid on all orders over 5s.—H. J. GASSON, Garden Net Works, Rye.

TENTS! TENTS!!—Suitable for gardens, cricket, or camping out purposes; 40 ft. in circumference; pegs, poles, mallet, and lines complete (with tent bag included). I will send one complete for 35s. Price list of marquees, any size, post free.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK COVERS, quite new, all sizes, 6 yds by 6 yds., 27s.; 7 yds. by 6 yds., £1 11s. 6d.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., £2 8s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., £3 15s.; or any size to order at 9d. per square yard. Good hemp rope. Fitted easily. Returned if not approved of. Carriage paid — H. J. GASSON, Rick Cloth Manufacturer, Rye.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets: 12ft. by 9ft., 12s; 15ft. by 9ft., 15s; and so on to any size at 1s. per square yard, with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 2Cs. per cwt; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt. Cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

WATER TANKS for storing water, will hold 400 gallons, wrought iron manhole at top, weight 476lbs, size 4ft. 3 ins. square, £3 15s. each; Iron Corn Bins, hold 25 gallons, airtight lids, 6s. each; Galvanised Iron Mangers, hold 8 gallons, 4s. each; any of the above carriage paid.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

STRAWBERRY Netting.—Small mesh; keeps out the smallest birds; oiled and dressed; will not rot if left out in all weathers; 100 yds. by 1 yd. wide, 4s.; by 2 yds. wide, 8s.; by 3 yds. 12s. and so on up to any width; carriage paid on orders over 5s.; cash returned if not approved of. —H. J. GASSON, Net Works, Rye.

STRAWBERRY NETTING.—Strongest, Cheapest, Best, 100 by 2 yards, 8s. Any size made. List free.—SPASHETT & Co., Net Manufacturers, Lowestoft.

RICK CLOTHS! RICK CLOTHS!! —Russell's chemically-dressed Covers are the best value in the Kingdom; 8 by 6 yds., 48s.; 8 by 8 yds., 64s.; 10 by 8 yds., 80s.; 10 by 10 yds., 100s.; 12 by 10 yds., 120s.; all carriage paid; thousands in use.—A. M. RUSSELL, Maker, Grassmarket, Edinburgh.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines, Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase. Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash. Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

SEED POTATOES.—From healthy, selected crops. Scotch Yorkshire or Lincolnshire grown. Quotations for autumn or spring delivery.—For prices apply, W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

PEDICURA for HORSES. Cures Thrush, Seedy, Brittle, Shelly Hoof, Foul Smell of Feet, Greasy Heels, Itchy Mane, Tail or Legs, Mangy Skin, Fleas and Lice in all Animals. Tins, 2s. 6d.—GREGORY AND Co., Temple, Bristol; or through Chemists.

WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS. Packets, 7 Powders, 7d.; 16, 1s. 2d.; boxes, 48, 3s.; 144 8s., all post free.—STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough,

AUCTION SALE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

HOWLETTS ESTATE—Area 1,832 acres.

In the Eastern division of the County of Kent, comprising exceedingly valuable Freehold Agricultural, Sporting, and Residential Estates, in the picturesque parishes of Petham, Thanington, Milton, Chartham, Harbledown and Westgate, Bekesbourne, Ickham and Well, and Littlebourne, near the cathedral city of Canterbury, divided into eight capital Farms, with superior Residences and premises and some of the finest hop land in the county, and including the Mansion known as "Howletts," seated in a beautifully-timbered park, occupying a charming situation close to Bekesbourne Station and within 3½ miles from Canterbury and 10 from the famous golf links at Sandwich.

MR. JOSEPH STOWER has been favoured with instructions to offer for SALE by AUCTION, at the Auction Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, on THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1906, the above ESTATE, in 12 lots, as follows:—

	a. r. p.
Lot 1.—Debden Court Farm, next the village of Petham, with residence, outbuildings cottages, and pasture, arable, and orchard lands, including some accommodation, meadow, and excellent partridge shooting	204 1 26
Lot 2.—Newhouse Farm, Thanington, with superior residence and buildings, cottages, arable and sheep pasturage	230 3 0
Lot 3.—Thanington Court Farm adjoining, and close to Canterbury, with excellent family residence and farm premises, cottages, marsh, pasture, hop, and arable lands, intersected by the River Stour, and having extensive road frontages ...	240 3 5
Lot 4.—Tonford Farm, Thanington, with historical residence, outbuildings, cottages, and capital arable, hop, marsh, pasture, and woodlands, intersected by the Great Stour, which affords good trout fishing...	222 1 4
Lot 5.—Howfield Farm adjoining, with residence, farm premises, modern cottages, and enclosures of pasture, arable, marsh, hop, orchard, and woodlands ...	350 2 34
Lot 6.—Part of Howfield Wood, with gravel pit, arable land, and garden plot adjoining at Chartham Hatch	45 1 7
Lot 7.—Part of Cobham Court Farm, Bekesbourne, including a superior family residence, with capital farm premises, arable and pasture lands and plantations ...	124 3 6
Lot 8—The Mansion of "Howletts," with lovely pleasure grounds, stabling, kitchen gardens, and park, including part of Howletts Home Farm, with residence and extensive outbuildings, cottages, and the remainder of Cobham Court Farm, adjoining, together with thriving plantations, and woods, affording ample facilities for game rearing.	329 1 24
Lot 9.—Enclosures of Arable and Woodlands, with extensive building frontage and four capital cottages with gardens, an enclosure of Building or Accommodation Land, with good road frontage	82 1 1
Lot 10.—An enclosure of Plantation, about 600ft of road frontage, close to Bekesbourne Station	1 0 35
Lot 11.—A group of five cottages and gardens at Bekesbourne Hill	0 2 28
Lot 12.—Bekesbourne School with house and premises. Leased for 80 years at a ground-rent	0 0 36
Total Acres ...	1,832 3 6

(Continued on next column).

Continued from previous column—

A considerable area of the land, a large portion of which contains some valuable minerals (including brick earth and, it is believed, coal deposit), is situate within the city boundary of Canterbury, with valuable frontages capable of building development either immediately or in the near future.

The several properties may be viewed by permission of the tenants, and particulars, with plans and conditions of sale, can be obtained, when ready, of:—

Messrs. TROWER, STILL, and CO., Solicitors, 5, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.

Messrs. VIGERS & CO., Surveyors and Land Agents, 4, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, London, E.C.; and of the Auctioneer, Mr. JOSEPH STOWER, 43, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual SHOW and SALE of Registered Rams consisting of the first selections from most of the leading flocks will take place on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1906, In the Cattle Market, Ashford, Kent, after 12 o'clock luncheon. Prizes are offered for the best yearling Ram, the the best Stud Ram, and the "Best Woollen Ram."

Catalogues and full particulars in due course from W. W. CHAPMAN, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.

At low reserves to dispose of an outlying Estate.

ISLE OF SHEPPEY, KENT.

In the Parishes of Minster, Eastchurch, and Leysdown, close to Eastchurch Station, and intersected by the light railway from Leysdown to Queenborough, whence London is reached in about one and a half hours.

FREEHOLD PROPERTIES, covering an area of 2521a. 3r. 22p., comprising the very interesting and historical house known as "Shurland" (the site of the 13th Century Castle), eight farm houses, 31 cottages, agricultural buildings, and various enclosures of productive arable and excellent grazing land; also the Eastchurch Cattle Market and building land in the village.

The arable, besides being good corn land, is well suited for the growth of turnip and mangold seed, canary, &c., and the pasture for sheep grazing or dairying purposes, for which the light railway offers considerable advantages, besides affording facilities for the sale of produce and purchase of manure and feeding stuffs.

Portions of the Estate, having charming views over the North Sea, the River Thames, Medway, and Swale, might profitably be developed for building purposes, whilst other portions afford sites for the erection of commercial premises, with the advantage of rail and water carriage.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION by Messrs. COBB, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C., on Friday, July 13, 1906, at 2 o'clock precisely, in nine convenient lots, viz.:—

	a.	r.	p.
1. Shurland	393	2	1
2. Rides	65	0	20
3. Old Rides	443	0	12
4. New Rides	408	2	28
5. Parsonage	154	2	24
6. Building Land... ...	3	0	0
7. Eastchurch Cattle Market	1	2	12
8. Groves and New Buildings	744	0	11
9. New Hook	308	0	34
	2,521	3	22

Possession of nearly the whole may be had on completion of the purchase.

Particulars and conditions of sale, with plan and views, may be obtained at the place of sale; The Crooked Billett, Eastchurch, Isle of Sheppey, Kent; of Messrs. FRERE, CHOLMELEY, and CO., Solicitors, 28, Lincoln's inn fields, London, W.C.; of DAVID LINDSAY, Esq., Land Agent, Tetbury, Gloucestershire; and of Messrs. COBB, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester, Kent.

LLANMAES

HACKNEY STUD FARM, ST. FAGAN'S, near CARDIFF.

IMPORTANT SALE OF 50 HARNESS HORSES.

MESSRS. STEPHENSON AND ALEXANDER are instructed by Mr. JAMES HOWELL to SELL by AUCTION, at the above Stud Farm, On TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1906, ABOUT 50 HACKNEY HORSES.

Broken to harness and to ride.

This is the best lot ever offered by Mr. Howell.

There will also be included a few HACKNEY AND PONY BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

SALE AT 1.30 P.M. PUNCTUALLY.

Further particulars and Catalogues may be obtained upon application to the AUCTIONEERS, 5, High Street, Cardiff.

SUFFOLK PUNCH HORSES' ANNUAL SALE,

On MONDAY, JULY 30TH, 1906, At IPSWICH

(G.E. Rail, 2 hours from London), Under the directions of the SUFFOLK HORSE SOCIETY.

100 HEAD of SUFFOLK HORSES, including the entire BENTLEY STUD (late the property of Mr. Edward Quilter, deceased), consisting of some **50** noted Stallions, Mares and Fillies, including many prize-winners.

Catalogues in due course on application to the Auctioneers, Alfred Preston, Worlingworth, Framlingham, and The Arcade, Ipswich.

FREC. SMITH, Secretary.
Suffolk Horse Society, Woodbridge.

HAVERHILL. ANNUAL SALE OF SHEEP AND LAMBS.

MR. CHAS. BOARDMAN will SELL by AUCTION on MONDAY, JULY 9, at 12.30 o'clock sharp, upon the meadow adjoining the Great Eastern Railway Station,

5,500 REGISTERED SUFFOLK SHEEP, Black-faced and HALF-BRED SHEARLING and FLOCK EWES, SHEARLING WETHERS and LAMBS, comprising

2,500 Suffolk Ewe and Wether Lambs from registered flocks.

2,000 black-faced and half-bred Lambs.

1,000 Suffolk and half-bred Shearling Ewes and Shearling Wethers, including 320 grand registered Suffolk Shearling Ewes and 100 Suffolk Shearling Wethers, from A. W. Ruggles Brise, Esq., J.P.

Further entries solicited.

Auct on Offices.
Haverhill, Suffolk.

Buckton Hall Farm near, Bridlington, E. Yorks.—Comprising an exceptionally well-built and superior RESIDENCE, well arranged Homestead, and about 415 acres of splendid Fertile Arable and Pasture Lands in the heart of condition. The Farm is well watered, and has been in the occupation of the present owner, Mr. Joseph Jackson, for about 53 years. Possession on completion —

MESSRS. MABBETT & EDGE, in conjunction with Messrs. G. W. Clark & Sons, will SELL the above by AUCTION at the Station Hotel, Hull, on TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1906, at 4 o'clock p.m. (unless previously sold).

Particulars of Messrs. HARLAND & SON, Solicitors, Bridlington; Messrs. G. W. CLARK & SONS, Driffield, the Station Hotel, Hull; and of Messrs. MABBETT & EDGE, 127, Mount Street, London, W.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION on

FRIDAY, JULY 6.—Messrs. Robertson's DEXTERS and KERRIES at Bletchley.

THURSDAY, JULY 12.—Mr. Henry Dudding's SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN SHEEP at Riby Grove, Stallingborough, Lincs.

FRIDAY, JULY 13.—The late Mr. Jonas Webb's entire herd of SHORTHORNS and flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP at Melton Ross, Barnetby Junction, Lincoln.

FRIDAY, JULY 20.—Mr. H. Sessions' SHORTHORNS, RYELAND SHEEP, and LARGE BLACK PIGS at Ifton Manor, Newport, Mon.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Mr. D. Arkell's entire herd of SHORTHORNS, at Butler's Court, Lechlade, Glos.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' entire herd of LARGE WHITE PIGS at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY, JULY 26.—The late Mr. P. L. Mills' entire herd of BERKSHIRE PIGS at Ruddington, Nottingham.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2.—Col. H. W. Shakerley's and Mr. E. A. Hambro's GUERNSEY CATTLE at Burgate, Godalming, Surrey.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.—Mr. E. Henty's prize SOUTHDOWN FLOCK at Ferring, Worthing, Sussex.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—Mr. F. H. Jennings' flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and herd of BERKSHIRE PIGS at Cockfield Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Mr. G. J. B. Chetwynd's DEXTER CATTLE and BERKSHIRE PIGS at Wyndthorpe, Doncaster.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.—The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Feversham's SHORTHORNS at Duncombe Park, Helmsley, Yorks.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—The late Mr. J. P. Cross' SHORTHORNS at Catthorpe Towers, Rugby.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. W. J. Chick's BERKSHIRE PIGS at Stratton, Dorchester.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Amherst's RED POLLS at Didlington, Brandon, Norfolk.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Lilford's SHORTHORNS at Lilford, Oundle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—Sale of SHORTHORNS at Chipping Norton Junction, Oxfordshire.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. H. Shore's JERSEYS at Whatley House, Frome, Somerset.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON & CO., 7, Prince's Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON, TUESDAY JULY 24TH, 1906.

IMPORTANT SALE OF PEDIGREE HACKNEYS AND PONIES, the property of SIR GILBERT GREENALL, BART., comprising about

16 YEARLING COLTS,
8 YEARLING FILLIES,
2 THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES,
16 THREE-YEAR-OLD GELDINGS,
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PUBLIC NOTICE.

PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE SIR WALTER FRANCIS HELY-HUTCHINSON,

Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, etc., etc., etc.

WHEREAS it has been shown to me to be expedient to alter and amend the Regulations, promulgated by Proclamation No. 75, bearing date the 21st day of April, 1900, providing for the examination and quarantine for the disease known as Tuberculosis of cattle introduced into this Colony from any country oversea other than the Colony of Natal:

Now, therefore, under and by virtue of the powers and authorities in me vested by the seventh section of the Act, No. 27 of 1893, intituled the "Animal Diseases Act, 1893," I do hereby proclaim, declare and make known that the Regulations contained in the subjoined Schedule shall be the Regulations for the examination and quarantine of cattle which may be introduced into this Colony from any country oversea other than the Colony of Natal, and shall have force and effect from and after the 1st July, 1906, in lieu of those promulgated by the aforesaid Proclamation No. 75 of 1900, which is hereby superseded and repealed.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Given under my Hand and the Public Seal of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, this 5th day of May, 1906.

WALTER HELY-HUTCHINSON,
Governor.

By Command of His Excellency the Governor in Council
ARTHUR J. FULLER.

No. 156, 1906.

Schedule to the foregoing Proclamation.

1. The word "Cattle" in these Regulations shall be taken to mean and include all animals of the bovine tribe.

2. All cattle, save as hereafter excepted, shall upon arrival at any Port of this Colony from any country whatsoever oversea be liable to be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the test, known as the tuberculin test, before being allowed to land.

It will, however, be within the discretion of the Veterinary Officer aforesaid to accept the certificate of any duly qualified Veterinary Surgeon of the country from which such animals have been brought, supported by a record of temperature re-actions, to the effect that such cattle were submitted to the tuberculin test immediately before being embarked and had given no indication of the presence of tuberculosis.

3. In the absence of a satisfactory certificate as aforesaid the cattle shall be removed to a place provided by the Government or by the owners subject to the approval of the Inspecting Officer for quarantine purposes, and shall be subjected by a Government Veterinary Surgeon to the necessary testing by tuberculin to ascertain whether they are or are not affected with tuberculosis.

4. In the event of the test indicating the existence of tuberculosis, the animals shall not be removed alive from the quarantine station, but shall be destroyed there, and the owner shall be allowed to deal with the carcases as he may think fit, provided, however, that the flesh shall not be used for human consumption unless the said officer shall give a certificate that it is fit for that purpose.

5. All expenses of inspection, quarantine, testing, destruction and otherwise shall be borne by the owner of such cattle.

6. The foregoing Regulations shall not apply to cattle entering by sea from the Colony of Natal, so long as similar regulations remain in force in that Colony, nor shall they apply to cattle imported solely for purposes of slaughter, provided that, before being landed, they shall be inspected by the Government Veterinary Surgeon and declared to the best of his belief to be not unfit for human consumption, and the owners or importer shall sign and deliver to such officer an undertaking to the effect that none of such animals shall be used or disposed of for any other purpose than for *immediate* slaughter for food.

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—July 2, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK.

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

When we hear of wheat cutting having begun in France, the commencement of our own harvest appears to be near at hand. In Sussex under the Downs, and in Thanet on the top of the chalk cliffs, the wheat is beginning to show a harvest tinge. The crop on present appearances will be a full average, though two bushels, perhaps, short of last year's really fine and heavy yield. Austria-Hungary, like France, has begun to reap the wheat crop, and is expecting a full average yield. Roumania anticipates a short wheat crop of specially high quality and good weight; the heat has withered the plant on poor soils, but gives some magnificent yields on the more tenacious formations. The winter wheat now being harvested in Southern Russia, is put by good judges at 10 per cent. less than last year. In Eastern Russia the deficiency amounts to 30 per cent., but against this has to be set the decidedly good crops of Poland and Western Russia.

The course of prices of late in this country has been somewhat in buyers' favour, but as general breakdown of value is to be feared, American wheat is scarce on spot and in small offer for future shipment; the price asked is not below 32s. per qr. for Red Winter. The flour trade is for the moment the focus of depression; millers at their Windsor Conference will have something to say about this, though not in any formal paper or address. The London mills have been turning out flour very fast, and there is some fear of the metropolitan area being too overstocked with flour. There might with advantage be an agreement for London production on the basis of deducting flour imports from an estimated maximum of local requirements.

The first car of American new wheat was delivered at St. Louis on the 16th ult., and samples, by parcel post, are now not unfrequent in Mark Lane and St. Mary Axe offices. The quality is excellent, the strength in gluten remarkable. If the bulk of the crop is up to this standard, full amends will be made for somewhat deficient results per acre. Cables from St. Louis, Baltimore, and New Orleans speak well of the wheat delivered during the last ten days of June; deliveries representing the first arrivals of new crop in bulk.

London averages for the first half of 1906 have been as follows:—

1906	Per quarter. Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s	d.
January	29	11	24	5	19	4
February	29	11	24	6	19	4
March	29	3	23	3	19	4
April	29	8	23	1	20	0
May	30	10	23	3	20	10
June	31	2	23	7	20	11

The steady rise in wheat-since March and in oats since the same date more than balances the decline in barley from February to May, especially as the June average shows 4d. net recovery from the depression of May.

London arrivals of grain for the first half of 1906 have been as follows, in quarters:—

1906.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.
Jan.	201,000	54,000	121,000	121,000
Feb.	276,000	90,000	273,000	257,000
March	200,000	74,000	221,000	152,000
April	370,000	60,000	362,000	135,000
May	229,000	55,000	228,000	95,000
June	458,000	31,000	460,000	208,000

It will be seen that June arrivals were decidedly heavy, and that the very dull markets since Midsummer do not lack explanation.

The arrivals of flour have been: January, 350,000 sacks; February, 380,000 sacks; March, 278,000 sacks; April, 291,000 sacks; May, 205,000 sacks; and June, 303,000 sacks.

Stocks in London July 1 thus compare with those on New Year's Day:—

	July 1.	January 1.
Wheat, qrs.	64,600	106,000
Barley, ,,	62,000	131,000
Oats, ,,	348,000	486,000
Maize, ,,	47,000	34,000
Flour, sacks	310,000	230,000

Other holdings in London at the present date include 6,680 qr. of beans, 6,260 qr. of peas, 1,370 qr. of malt, 1,110 qr. of tares, 14,400 qr. of linseed, 600 qr. of rapeseed, and 19,000 qr. of cottonseed. The quarters of linseed and rapeseed weigh 416 lb., those of cottonseed, 448 lb. Reserves of oilcakes are as follows:—

July 1, 1906	5,997 tons.
July 1, 1905	5,026 ,,

English wheat last week had the following range of value:—

Chichester	33s. 6d.	per qr.
Bridlington	27s. 10d.	,,
Gradient	5s. 8d.	,,

This is a remarkable difference. Shall we see wheat shipped from Bridlington to Selsey?

English barley last week had the following range of value:—

Reading	25s.	per qr.
Salisbury	21s.	,,
Gradient	4s.	,,

The barley crop, however, is to all intents and purposes played out.

English oats last week were kept up at a good level of value.

Nottingham	21s 4d	per qr.
Peterborough	19s 6d	,,
Gradient	1s 10d	per qr.

The fact of a 1s 10d gradient is less important than that of the 19s 6d quotation being the lowest average quoted. No averages are struck in English beans and peas, but mean prices have been decidedly good.

Sales of English wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been liberal, but the price has been rather low. Value, however, rose to 30s. in May and has entered on July at a 30s. 3d. level.

This season, 2,855,000 qr. at 28s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,586,000 qr. at 30s. 7d. ,,

Sales of English barley since harvest have been a full average, but prices are not good.

This season, 3,198,000 qr. at 23s. 11d. per qr.
Last ,, 3,132,000 qr. at 24s. 10d. ,,

Sales of English oats since harvest have been very small, an unusually large proportion of the crop being consumed upon the farm. Prices for what farmers had to spare have not been unsatisfactory.

This season, 902,000 qr. at 18s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,121,000 qr. at 16s. 11d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 604,000 qr.:	A very large supply.
Flour, 91,200 sks.:	Much less than usual.
Barley, 69,000 qr.:	A very small arrival.
Oats, 169,000 qr.:	Above the average.
Maize, 217,000 qr.:	Above the average.

The sale of breadstuffs since harvest have included the following quantities of imported wheat:

Wheat	17,803,000 qr.
Flour	4,045,000 ,,
Total	21,848,000 qr.
Last season	23,298,000 qr.

The increased sales of farmers' wheat nearly make up this deficiency, but they do not quite do so; the stocks are therefore lower to some degree than they were a year ago.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom 3,220,000 qr. of wheat, against 3,360,000 qr. on 1st inst. The present total is thus made up:—Californian, 400,000 qr.; American, 250,000 qr.; Russian, 330,000 qr.; Indian, 650,000 qr.; Argentine, 675,000; Australasian, 850,000 qr.; various, 70,000 qr. Total, 3,220,000 qr.

The supply of flour on passage is 322,000 sacks, against average expectations of 500,000 sacks.

Of barley there are on passage:—Russian, 185,000 qr.; American, 85,000 qr.; various, 15,000 qr.; total, 285,000 qr.

The quantity of maize afloat is:—American, 65,000 qr.; Argentine, 875,000 qr.; Roumanian, 75,000 qr.; Russian, 15,000 qr.; total, 1,030,000 qr.

There are also on passage, 335,000 qr. of oats, 173,000 qr. of linseed, and 28,000 qr. of rapeseed.

American shipments last week were 108,000 qr. of wheat, 7,000 qr. of barley, 23,000 qr. of oats, 71,000 qr. of maize, and 120,000 sacks of flour; the grand total was much below a July average of weekly exports. June shipments of linseed, 135,000 qr. are, however, much above the usual exportation of that oilseed of which the production in the United States is seldom appreciably in excess of the home requirements.

Argentina last week was a very heavy shipper of maize, 430,000 qr., of wheat 111,000 qr., and of linseed, 33,000 qr., were shipped.

Russia last week was a good all round shipper, the exports being thus returned:—Wheat, 400,000 qr.; barley, 150,000 qr.; oats, 274,000 qr., and maize, 10,000 qr. Roumania added 60,000 qr. of wheat and 170,000 qr. of maize. Indian shipments since July came in have been 117,000 qr. of wheat, 63,000 qr. of linseed, and 18,000 qr. of rapeseed, while Australasia has shipped 32,000 qr. of wheat.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The demand this week shows considerable improvement, and with supplies still coming along, very short prices are a shade dearer; all best qualities are in most request, and find a ready sale. There is also a little inquiry for ordinary stuff, and now with expectation of supplies continuing short until haymaking and harvesting is over, we look for a steady trade for some time to come. The reports of the yield of this season's crop from the Home Counties are very conflicting, but on the whole it seems to be estimated that hays will be very much under average. Clovers and mixtures come down a bit heavier, but still may be reckoned as a very low average. The straw trade this week at last shows signs of improvement, with more business doing; prices are 1s to 2s 2d dearer. In the foreign hay trade there is almost a dearth of shipments, and the lots which have arrived find a ready sale at more money. Prices ruling are about as follows: English: Best meadow hay, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good meadow hay, 67s 6d to 75s per ton; inferior hay, 55s to 65s per ton. Best clovers, 87s 6d to 92s 6d per ton; inferior to good, 72s 6d to 82s 6d per ton. Best mixtures, 86s 6d to 87s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds mixture, 60s to 65s per ton; wheat straw, 27s per load; oat straw, 27s per load; barley straw, 28s per load; balo wheat straw, 41s 6d per ton, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; large bale French wheat straw, 50s per ton; small bale French wheat straw, 41s 6d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.—WALTER H. PRENTIS.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £3 17s 6d to £4 2s 6d per ton; clover, £4 10s per ton; straw, 2s 10d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s per ton; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 55s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Business was very flat, with hardly any quotable change. Hay in stack, 55s to 60s per ton; straw in bulk, 35s to 40s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 7d; clover, 7½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The hay harvest is now in full operation, but the demand for old hay continues active, and prices are fully maintained. Straw and green clover meet with a good consumptive demand. Quotations:—Meadow hay, 7d; clover hay, 7½d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 8d per stone; green clover, 6½d per bundle (retail).

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair demand for old hay. Best realised £4 to £4 5s, and secondary £3 to £3 10s; highland grown straw, 35s to 40s; fen grown ditto, 30s to 35s on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 5½d to 6d; clover, old, 6½d to 7½d; ditto, new, 5½d to 6½d; straw (oat), 4½d to 4¾d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay from £4 10s to £5 10s; new land hay from £5 10s to £6 10s per ton; wheat straw from £1 4s to £1 4s 6d per load; oat straw, £1 5s to £1 10s. There were 16 carts of hay and 22 carts of straw at market.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Small supply at market, which met with a good demand for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 85s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 85s to 100s; wheat straw, 50s to 55s per ton.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English was scarce and ruled firm; the few samples shown were of good quality, and realised high prices. Foreign held steadily at late rates, but in poor demand, 33s 7½d wanted, No. 1 Northern Manitoba, landed; 32s 9d Australian, ex quay. Flour: English quiet, unchanged. American steady but with a poor demand. Iron Dukes quoted 20s 6d, ex ship to arrive; and patents, 25s, landed. Maize: American scarce, and sound quality commands firm rates. La Plata firmly held, but quiet, 21s 6d quoted, ex quay. Barley dull and neglected, values nominal, 18s 6d American (46 lb), Winchester, ex quay. Oats very slow, and, in absence of demand, values ruled nominally unchanged, 17s 3d quoted No. 2 white clipped American, ex ship. Beans and peas receive no attention, and values remain unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, inactive, at late rates. Whites quoted at 31s to 34s 6d; reds at 30s 6d to 34s. Foreign sellers ask late rates, but demand very poor. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 29s 6d to 33s, landed at 30s 6d to 33s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 33s 6d; No. 2 at 32s 9d; No. 3 at 32s, all ex ship to arrive. Australian, landed, at 32s 9d, ex ship at 32s. Choice white Karachi at 31s., red Karachi at 30s 6d, both ex ship to arrive. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize slow, with an easier tendency. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 9d to 23s; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 9d, landed, at 21s 6d. Barley dull, inactive. Odessa-Nicolaieff Kherson, ex ship, quoted at 18s 3d to 18s 6d, landed at 19s. Oats—Sellers maintain late rates, but to effect sales less money would have to be taken. South Russian quoted at 16s 3d to 16s 6d; Americans, 17s to 17s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was rather more trade, though English corn was very scarce. Rates, on the whole, were unchanged on the week, wheat making 32s to 34s; English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 21s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 23s; foreign barley, 21s to 23s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; flat maize, 26s to 27s; round maize, 25s to 26s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 31s to 32s per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 19s to 24s per qr; peas, 30s to 37s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small attendance, with practically no grain on offer. Wheat, 29s to 32s; oats, 22s to 23s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A very poor market, there being a small attendance, and very few buyers. There was no change in values of foreign wheats, but the tendency was in favour of purchasers. So very little English wheat on offer that it becomes difficult to quote. Both River Plate and flat maize were at last week's prices, and met with slow demand. Grindg barley was 3d easier. English oats and beans were unchanged.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade at last week's prices, and small attendance. The few samples of wheat offered were too dear for buyers. Best bran, 90s per ton. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, English, 19s to 23s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 34s to 35s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat, although in small supply, was unchanged in value at 31s to 31s 6d per qr. Oats and beans were firm at last week's prices. Maize, round, unchanged at 23s, and flat at 24s 6d per qr delivered. Grinding barley: English scarce and firm; Russian, 21s per 400 lb, and fine dressed at 25s 6d per 448 lb. Oilcakes and bran quiet at last week's prices.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Thin attendance, and very little business doing. A few samples of wheat met a slow trade at unaltered prices—31s to 32s per 504 lb. The present forcing weather is bringing the crops on very fast, and harvest may be earlier than at one time expected.

Canterbury, Saturday.—English wheat is still making up to 34s 6d; oats firm at from 19s to 23s; English feeding barley, 25s to 27s per qr. Some heavy corn has been laid by recent rough weather, but cereal crop prospects are generally satisfactory except for oats.

Chester, Saturday. The attendance of farmers was smaller than usual, and trade generally was dull, with prices for maize easing off. Full prices were asked for all classes of English grain. Wheat was very sparingly offered. Quotations: White and red wheat, 4s 7d to 4s 10d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; old beans, 6s 3d to 6s 6d, and new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per 80 lb; old oats, 3s 3d to 3s 6d, and new 2s 8d to 3s per 46 lb; old Indian corn, 12s 9d to 13s, and new 12s to 13s per 24 lb; ditto River Plate, 12s to 12s 6d

Chichester, Wednesday.—No corn on offer by farmers. Trade very quiet, but more doing in feeding stuffs. Grinding barley, 19s to 19s 6d; oats, English, 18s to 23s; beans, 33s to 36s; maize, 22s to 22s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday. — Very little grain offering, but trade quiet. Wheat slightly better. Prices of other grain unchanged.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Consequent upon the hay harvest the attendance of farmers was very meagre, and scarcely any samples of English-grown corn offering. Prices nominally unchanged. Wheat, 11s to 11s 9d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, 24s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; beans, 12s 6d to 13s; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a small attendance and little business, without any change of note in any kind of grain. Wheat, white, 32s to 34s; red, 31s to 32s; beans, old, 34s to 35s; oats, old, 24s to 25s; new, 22s to 24s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was no change in prices at to-day's market. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, both English and foreign, and a very slow trade, scarcely any business being done. English wheat made up to 11s 9d per load. Scarcely any demand for other cereals, and last week's prices were repeated in all cases.

Dorchester, Saturday. — The corn market wore a very deserted appearance to-day, and very little if any business was done. Prices remained nominally unchanged from previous market.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a moderate attendance and a quiet business. Flour in quiet demand. Irish wheat and barley practically finished. Oats dull. Oatmeal firm. Bran quiet. Pollard scarce. Wheat, 19s to 20s; barley, malting, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding, 12s 9d to 14s 6d; oats, 12s to 13s; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d. each.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade dull. Scarcely any English wheat on offer. Foreign unchanged. Barley 6d cheaper. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour quiet. English wheat, 4s to 4s 3d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s; fine, 22s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was about the usual attendance. Wheat and flour in slow demand at unchanged prices. Maize and corn dropped another 6d per boll since last Wednesday owing to large arrivals. Barley—a dull trade at low rates Oats—Scotch quiet but firm; foreign 3d per boll cheaper on the week. Beans firm for Scotch, but unchanged for foreign. Pease in better demand at firmer prices. Beans firm but unchanged, with thirds 2s 6d per ton dearer owing to scarcity. Oatmeal quiet, but 6d per sack dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat quiet and unchanged. Flour had a slow sale. There has been a little doing in Kansas patent and new winter crop patents; prices steady for town patents at 24s to 24s 6d per 280 lb. Round maize quiet at 12s 9d per 280 lb. Mixed American corn, 13s to 13s 1½d. Grinding beans on spot favour buyers, but forward positions favour sellers. Other articles unchanged.

Gloucester, Saturday. — No English wheat offering, foreign occasionally 3d lower, very dull trade. Maize and barley could be bought at 3d less. Oats unaltered.

Grantham, Saturday.—A nominal market, with practically no corn on offer, and prices about the same as last week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The market was very small indeed, there being practically no business done in any kind of English grain. Prices unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: Supply very small, but this affected the trade but little, as English wheat is now being used only to a small extent, other sorts being relatively cheaper. Reds sold at 32s per 504 lb, delivered at Ipswich. Oats: Useful parcels rather scarce, and firm, at 22s to 23s 6d per qr. Beans firm at 33s to 34s per qr. Grinding barley firm; Russian, 19s 6d to 20s per 400 lb; fine dressed, 24s 6d per 448 lb. Maize: Round, unchanged at 22s; flat, steady at 23s 6d per qr. Oilcakes and bran quiet at last week's prices. Middlings very firm at full prices.

Leeds, Tuesday. — There is no important change in the trade since last week. Cargoes off the coast have been fairly cleared, and prices for shipment rule above present spot values; thus with conflicting crop reports holders of wheat remain very steady, and buyers have to concede fully late rates; the demand, however, continues far from active. Indians are fully 3d per qr lower. Maize 3d easier, beans and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat was in small supply without any change from Tuesday's prices; good supplies of foreign which favoured buyers. Samples of new foreign barley were deficient in quality, and prices irregular. American maize firmly held. Beans, peas, and oats fully maintained late rates. Second and third qualities of flour were the turn easier.

Leicester, Saturday.—Restricted supplies of home-grown wheats, and with a moderate attendance trade ruled slow, buyers being indifferent to operating. red wheats, 31s to 32s 6d; white wheats, 32s to 33s 6d per 36 stones; grinding barley slow at unaltered prices; beans steady; yne oats, 23s to 25s per 36 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate attendance and languid tone prevailing. Scareely any English wheat on offer, and prices unaltered. Foreign in quiet demand at last week's rates. Feeding stuffs firm and unchanged in prices

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a fair attendance, and wheat meets more inquiry with a moderate trade, but Manitobas are ½d to 1d lower; other grades unchanged from last Tuesday. Flour.—A quiet trade for both foreign and home-made brands, without quotable change in values. Maize.—Mixed is ½d to ¼d lower, but meets a better demand at the decline. Plate is in fair demand, and ½d lower owing to fresh arrivals. Barley.—Malting quiet, unchanged. Feeding meets a moderate inquiry, but prices are about ½d lower. Beans is a slow article, at occasionally the turn lower prices. Peas sell slowly, and are quoted fully ½d per cental lower. Oats in quiet demand at last market day's prices. Oatmeal steady at late rates, but very inactive. Oilcake.—Not much doing; too much grass about. No change quoted in values. Indian meal is a poor sale at late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The wheat trade was firm to-day at the market as the stock of English is in a small compass, and holders secured fully last week's rates, an occasional very slight advance for a "picked" sample. Not any change of importance in the cost of other grain. Charming weather this week.

Manchester, Thursday.—In wheat the price of English was nominal, but foreign did not show any quotable change. Flour very slow, and occasionally 6d per sack lower. In Indian corn, mixed American showed little change, but Plate was about ½d. lower. English barley was dearer and in demand. Beans and peas unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Thinly attended market; trade very dull. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 30s to 31s; grinding barley, 21s 6d to 23s; oats, white, 21s to 22s 6d; black, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; new beans, 33s 6d to 35s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The wheat trade ruled quiet at our to-day's market, and to do business merchants would have accepted 3d to 6d per qr under last week's quotations to bring about business. A slow demand for maize at 6d per qr under last week's prices. Oats remain steady; demand, however, is not active. Beans firm at late rates. Peas in buyers' favour. Feeding barley steady.—J. POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was little business done. Maize very firm. Other kinds of corn unchanged. Flour, fines, 24s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday. — Small attendance, farmers being busy haymaking. Very little corn on offer. Wheat, 31s to 32s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 21s to 22s 6d; new black oats, 19s to 20s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 29s to 30s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no alteration in the wheat trade at our market to-day, and very little business doing as farmers are busy hay harvesting. Fine and hot weather now prevails. Wheat, red, 32s to 32s 6d per qr, weight 63 lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending June 30, 1906:—Wheat 525 qr, 29s 10½d.—J. A. MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—No English wheat offering, the little passing in foreign at late rates. Grinding barley steady. Oats and beans in small supply, and full rates supported.—R. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday. — We have had favourable weather on the whole during the past week for the growing crops. Scarcely anything doing on our Corn Exchange to-day, and prices remain nominally unaltered.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston, Saturday.—Moderate trade has been done in wheat, and sellers had to make slight concessions to do business. To-day's market was thinly attended. Quotations:—Wheat, white, per windle of 240 lb, 13s 9d to 14s 3d; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 26s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was on the small side, and trade ruled dull. Wheat realised 32s to 35s, but there was practically no trade for grinding barley. Oats, which were

again scarce, sold at 21s to 23s 6d; beans and peas at current rates.

Retford, Saturday.—Very small supply of English wheat, but there was no improvement in trade, and prices generally remained unchanged at 29s 6d to 30s qr. Flat maize was scarce, and worth 25s 6d; Plate maize, of which the new crop was said to be just in the market, was selling at 24s per 34 stones. Shortage of English beans, which were worth 34s 6d per 38 stones. Limited supply of English white oats, which were quoted at 23s to 24s; black ditto, 22s to 23s; foreign oats were a fair show, and also made 22s to 23s per 24 stones.

Ripon, Thursday.—A better attendance, and business was brisker. Flat maize firm, and 6d per qr. dearer. Prices:—Wheat, 29s 6d to 30s; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; malting ditto, 27s to 29s.; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; round maize, 23s to 24s; flat ditto, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With simultaneous arrivals of different shipments of Plate maize, shippers are easier, and a dragging market was experienced at 3d to 6d per qr under last week's rates. There was a slow trade in English oats, beans, and wheats at late prices, but foreign oats were slightly lower. Millers' offals quiet and unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; ditto, red, 31s 6d to 32s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 20s to 21s; ditto, white, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 32s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 36s 9d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto Plate, new, 22s 3d to 22s 9d; ditto flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 225 lb; new oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—There was a good attendance of farmers and dealers. Wheat, 31s to 31s 6d; oats, 20s to 21s 6d; beans, 31s 6d to 32s 6d. Maize and other feeding stuffs firm and unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was not much wheat showing, which sold at 30s to 30s 6d per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps very slow at prices 3d to 6d lower on the week. Oats quiet. Maize 3d down.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little business passing at this day's market. Wheat steady and unchanged. Barley and oats quiet. Arrivals nil.—E and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—White wheat, 34s to 35s; red ditto, 33s to 34s; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 23s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 42s to 50s; maize, 22s to 23s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Scarcely a sample of English grain on offer, and very small attendance owing to haymaking. Prices not quotable, but feeding stuffs inclined to easier.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. No samples of English offering. Values unchanged. Weather favourable for crops.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — A very quiet market; very little business being transacted owing to the absence of farmers. Quotations: New wheat, 14s per 216 lb; flat corn, 27s; English beans, old, 15s 6d, new, 15s; oats, old 18s, new, 15s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Slow market, with practically no local grain showing. Wheat, white, 30s to 30s 6d; ditto red, 29s to 30s; barley, malting, 28s; ditto grinding, 25s; oats, white, 22s to 24s; ditto black, 20s to 21s; flat maize, 25s; ditto round, 24s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday. — English wheat in small supply. Foreign a fair sale. Home-grown barley sold at 6d advance; foreign down 6d. Other grain without quotable change. Best quality home-grown wheat, 31s to 32s per qr; secondary, 28s 6d to 30s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s to 34s; English barley, 28s 9d to 33s; secondary, 22s 6d to 27s; grinding barley, foreign, 18s 6d; English white oats, 21s 9d to 22s; black, 21s 6d to 22; Irish white oats, 21s 6d; black, 18s 9d; flat, maize, 22s to 23s; round, 21s to 21s 3d; rye, 22s 6d to 25s; winter tares, 52s 6d to 57s 6d; spring tares, 57s 6d to 65s; winter beans, 35s to 36s; spring, 35s 6d to 37s 6d.

York, Saturday.—Wheat is nearly exhausted in this district, and very few samples are on sale; prices are unaltered. Fine white, 30s to 31s; red and mixed 29s 6d to 30s 6d per qr of 36 stones; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per qr of 32 stones. Oats dull, the high prices asked for Yorkshire corn preventing business. White Tartary, 19s to 20s; black, 20s to 21s; short, 21s to 22s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 24s; beans, 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg Saturday.—Weather forcing hot, with occasional showers. Crop prospects are still satisfactory. We had a firm market for all descriptions of grain without much business doing. German wheat, stocks of which are much reduced, is firmly held at 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 504 lb, f.o.b.; 19 Ko River Plate, Barletta Russo, afloat is offering at 28s 9d; No. 1 Macaroni, promptly from America, at 29s; 79/80 Ko new Danubian, July-August, 29s per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye in fair demand at the reduced rates; 9 11/15; South Russian near at hand is selling at 22s 9d; 9 15/10, July, old style, offering at 22s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Reports from the Saale district and Bohemia say that the crops of barley are making satisfactory progress, a large quantity is in view, but quality still depends upon the weather till harvest. Owing to the critical state of affairs in Russia feeding barley met some attention at 60/61 Ko South Russian near at hand, and July-August was sold at 17s 3d to 17s 6d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate maize, on account of its fine condition, is in favour, and selling at 21s 3d to 21s 6d; mixed American on the spot is held at 21s; July-August at 20s 6d to 20s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Co

Statement of the quantities of Foreign a Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 7, 1906:—

Wheat	3,062,200	cwts.
Wheat-flour	284,900	,,
Barley	263,400	,,
Oats	467,190	,,
Maize	1,349,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	2,365,300	1,541,200	1,669,661	1,399,298
Wheat-flour	119,500	147,700	394,170	423,829
Barley ...	155,700	330,400	823,876	246,196
Oats ...	752,400	336,400	527,888	275,240
Maize ...	961,300	1,010,600	1,886,836	939,427

Weekly Arrivals into London.

June 27 to July 4, inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	1,360	58,000	59,360
Barley	700	300	1,000
Malt	19,176	—	19,176
Oats	250	46,000	46,250
Rye	50	1,000	1,050
Beans	50	1,319	1,369
Peas	107	2,100	2,207
Maize	—	50,640	50,640
Tares	14	515	529
Dari	—	291	291
Haricots	—	8,000	8,000
Buckwheat	—	2,400	2,400
Cottonseed	—	3,200	3,200
Hempseed	—	250	250
Rapeseed	—	700	700
Linseed	—	37,000	37,000
Flour ...sacks	17,256	24,495	41,751
Middlings	—	240	240
Oatmeal	—	1,500	1,500
Beanmeal	—	460	460

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905.			1906.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	30 5	24 9	16 5	28 6	24 9	18 5
Feb.	30 7	25 1	16 9	28 10	25 4	18 11
Mar.	30 10	25 1	16 11	28 5	24 8	18 11
April	30 9	24 8	17 3	29 1	24 2	19 1
May	30 10	24 8	18 5	30 2	24 0	20 0
June	31 8	24 4	19 2	30 4	23 4	20 2
July	32 0	22 8	18 4	—	—	--
Aug.	29 6	22 10	16 10	—	—	—
Sept.	26 10	23 9	16 0	—	—	—
Oct.	27 1	24 11	16 6	—	—	—
Nov.	28 3	24 8	17 6	—	—	—
Dec.	28 5	24 6	18 0	--	—	

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 3, 1906.

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	261	6 ...	409	17	10 ...	1	11	4
Barley ...	101	7 ...	119	13	10 ...	1	3	6
Oats	Nil.							

Imperial Weekly Averages

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1905.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
July 8	7,864	31	0	375	22	11	2,532	19	7
,, 15	4,884	32	1	34	23	10	1,962	19	6
,, 22	6,558	32	3	52	23	7	2,431	19	7
,, 29	7,691	32	2	24	23	11	3,065	18	11
Aug. 5	5,062	32	3	371	22	0	4,341	19	3
,, 12	8,184	31	11	548	22	5	8,974	18	4
,, 19	32 715	30	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	11
,, 26	88,636	28	5	6,461	23	6	20,855	16	4
Sept. 2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	21,090	15	9
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,316	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	31,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,601	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending June 30, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	8,921	30	10	111	24	8	1,491	22	10
1903...	19,772	28	1	893	19	11	3,657	18	3
1904...	12,895	26	6	648	19	8	5,454	17	1
1905...	7,854	32	1	375	22	11	2,532	19	6
1906...	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	2

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9
Feb. ...	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0
March	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6
April ...	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6
May ...	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3
June ...	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 6	21 6
July ...		25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6
August		25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0
Sept. ...		24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3
Oct. ...		25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9
Nov. ...		25 0	26 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 3
Dec. ...		25 0	26 0	24 9	23 3	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Highest of Year ...	32	0	25	1	18	5
Lowest of Year ...	26	10	22	8	16	0
Gradient	5	2	2	5	2	5
Mean of Year	29	9	24	4	17	4

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, July 9.

The extreme scarcity of British produce caused all samples of home-grown grain to-day to command full prices without difficulty, though the market otherwise was rather against the holder. Foreign wheat was 6d lower for Manitoba, and the turn in the same direction for all other descriptions. Singularly little business done, millers apparently being rather overstocked with imported wheat. Maize was firm for flat corn, but 3d cheaper for round and yellow. Sales were fairly good considering the season. Foreign barley was neglected and Russian sorts were 3d. down. The demand for imported oats was at a rather low ebb, and with large offering prices were reduced 3d. per qr. Beans were scarce and fully as dear as on the 2nd inst. Peas were the turn in buyers' favour.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

July 9.		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	31	— 34
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	28	— 29
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	28	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 27
,,	(per 400 lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 30
OATS, Finest Scots	,,	23	— 24
Black Winter	,,	21	— 22
Grey Winter	,,	22	— 23
Storm Kings	,,	23	— 24
Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
White Gartons	,,	21	— 22
Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
Ordinary	(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
Light	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	44	— 45
Tick	,,	39	— 41
Winter (Old)	,,	37	— 38
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
Spring	,,	36	— 37
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
Unpicked ditto	,,	48	— 52
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple (Old)	,,	36	— 38
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
(Spring)	,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9	— 33	American	22	— 23
,, ,, 2	31/9	— 32	Argentine	21/9	— 22
,, ,, 3	30/9	— 31	Bulgarian	23	— 24
American Red			Roumanian	23	— 24
Winter	none		Russian	24	— 25
,, H'rd	31	— 32	Rangoon	21	— 21/6
Argentine	31	— 32	North African	24	— 25
Australian	32	— 33	BEANS (480 lb.):		
New Zealand	31	— 32	Smyrna	34	— 36
Californian	33	— 34	Konigsberg	33	— 35
Blue Stem	33	— 34	New Zealand	35	— 36
Walla Walla	32	— 33	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Saxonka	33	— 34	Italian	64	— 72
Azima	32	— 33	Burmese	32	— 42
Ghirka	31	— 32	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	31	— 32	LENTILS (cental):		
,, Red	30/6	—31	Split Egyptian	10	— 11
Persian	30	—30/6	Whole Indian	7	— 8
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	Konigsberg	44	— 46
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	Indian White	35	— 36
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Indian Green	29	— 31
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Tasman'n M'ple	40	— 42
Russian (400 lb)	19	— 19/6	NewZeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Am'can (400 lb)	18/9	— 19	Victoria Dun.	33	— 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22	White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Smyrna	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	— 10
Russian	24	— 25	Siamese	8	— 9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23	— 25	Smyrna	27	— 28
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	20	— 21	Indian	26	— 27
Am'can (320 lb)	17	—17/6	Persian	22	— 24
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	16	16/3	French	26	— 27
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	16	16/6	Russian	25	— 26

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED VERY DULL INDEED, THE SULTRY WEATHER BEING UTTERLY AGAINST DEMAND.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, July 9.

There was to-day a disposition to take rather less money for country makes, and American descriptions were pressed on sale at the lowest prices of the 2nd inst. London makes were not cheaper, but the sales proved disappointing. Hungarian flour, despite the June decline of 1s., was decidedly inclined to go down, and the the same may be said both of French and of Australian descriptions. Argentine flour was 1s. lower on the week, and at this decline met with more demand. Curiously little of it is forthcoming this season, and the quality is good. Manitoba flour at 24s for first rate samples was naturally the subject of some attention. Owing to the small production of mielers' offals in July the market for them is a trifle firmer on the week.

London Flour.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0	net.
Town Whites	,,	26/6	,,
,, Households	,,	23/6	,,
No. 2	,,	21/6	,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/6	,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/6	,,
Paste Flour	,,	20/6	,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	— 22/3
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21/6	— 22
Stone made	,,	21	— 21/3

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	24	— 24/6
,, Second Patents	,,	23	— 23/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 21/6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 20/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	— 24/6
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 21/6
Cascadia	,,	25	— 26
Manitoba Patent	,,	23/9	— 24
Manitoba Ordinary	,,	22/9	— 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	30	— 30 6
,, 1	,,	29	— 29/6
,, 2	,,	28	— 28/6
,, 3	,,	27	— 27/6
French, Corbeil	,,	23/6	— 24
,, Renaux	,,	22/9	— 23
,, P.S.D.	,,	21/9	— 22
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Argentine	,,	24	— 26

Meal, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	19	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	20	— 21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—We cannot report any improvement in the growing crop. The blight still continues, and only those gardens that are persistently washed are at all holding their own. The market is exceedingly firm, and stocks of all descriptions are in a very small compass. The imports of hops for the month of June 1906, were 10,271 cwt. For the corresponding month last year, 1,531 cwt. The imports of hops from January 1 to June 30, 1906, were 98,796 cwt. For the corresponding period last year, 32,286 cwt. The exports of hops for the month of June, 1906, were 1,186 cwt. For the corresponding month last year, 1,849 cwt. The exports of hops from England from January 1 to June 30, 1906, were 6,931 cwt. For the corresponding period last year, 10,607 cwt.—W. H. and H. Le May.

THE BALTIC.

The cargo sales of the first seven days of July were not numerous, but the great trade centred at the club in St. Mary Axe is never wholly stagnant. Of wheat cargoes sales have included Rosario at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb., Bahia Blanca at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb., Australian at 31s. 3d. per 480 lb., No. 3 Manitoba at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb., and Red Kurrachee at 29s. 3d. per 492 lb. Values seem pretty level for the more ordinary kinds of wheat.

The maize trade has been slack, and cargoes on Saturday were 3d. lower from the commencement of the week. Sales included Turkish at 21s. 9d. per 480 lb., Novorossisk at 21s. 9d. per 480 lb., La Plata at a guinea per 480 lb., and American at 22s. per 480 lb.

Other cargo sales of the week have included Smyrna beans at 31s. per 480 lb., Kustendje barley at 19s. per 400 lb., and Roumanian oats at 14s. 9d. per 304 lb. Cargo arrivals off ports of call last week included 1 wheat ship from Argentina and 2 from Australia. Of course these arrivals do not include the directly-consigned grain, but only the cargoes on sale.

State of Trade. 1 P.M.

Cottonseed and linseed cargoes are held more firmly from Saturday, not so those of cereals. The cargo market is weak for futures, and in the case of barley, oats, and maize for near dates also. Wheat near at hand is steady.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosario, 29s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; White Kurrachee, 29s 9d per 492 lb, August shipment; Blue Stem, 32s 6d per 500 lb, on passage; Walla Walla, 31s per 500 lb arrived; Red Walla, 30s 3d per 500 lb, arrived.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s 9d per 480 lb, July shipment; Argentine, 20s 6d per 480 lb, August shipment; American, 22s 3d, arrived.

Barley.—Russian, 18s 3d per 400 lb, arrived; Russian, 18s per 400 lb, on passage; Russian, 17s 3d per 400 lb, October shipment; Persian, 16s 3d, per 400 lb, September shipment.

Oats.—Petersburg, 15s 3d per 304 lb, arrived; Roumanian, 14s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment; American, 16s 6d per 320 lb, prompt shipment; Vologda, 15s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Beans.—Smyrna, 30s per 480 lb, September shipment.

Peas.—Indian White, 32s 3d per 504 lb, August shipment; Canadian, 6s 9d per 100 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 41s 3d per 410 lb, on passage; Argentine, 39s 9d per 416 lb, on passage; Duluth, 40s per 424 lb, on passage.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 44s 6d per 416 lb, prompt shipment.

Poppyseed.—Indian, 43s 6d per 377 lb, prompt shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 10s per 2,240 lb, arrived.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The market for flour is dull. Some business is passing in new crop American winter wheat flour. Grain.—American corn is 3d per boll lower owing to arrivals. Plate maize plentiful at 4½d per boll less than recent prices. Oats very dull, especially for foreign, which are much pressed for sale. Grinding beans are again 1½d to 3d dearer for shipment. Oatmeal quiet. Oilcake unchanged. Barley steady. Millstuffs.—Millers are behind with orders for thirds. Bran, however, is a slow sale.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade continues slow, and buyers are still indisposed to purchase, except for immediate requirements; no further change to report in prices.

Flour quiet trade on spot at about last week's prices. Forward offers are more reasonable and are beginning to attract buyers.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

Milling Offal.—The continued warm and dry weather, is making offal very firm.—John Bawcomb and Co.

TERM MARKET.

The market in futures lost strength on Saturday, and to-day is decidedly weak both for wheat and maize. A little is doing in futures for oats, and holders are less depressed from Saturday:—

Wheat	July delivery,	6s 8d	per cental.	
,,	Sept.	,,	6s 7d	,,
,,	Nov.	,,	6s 8d	,,
Maize	July	,,	4s 8d	,,
,,	Sept.	,,	4s 7d	,,
,,	Nov.	,,	4s 7d	,,

The price of barley for October delivery is 17s 6d per 400 lb, South Russian.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Various new seeds are now due on the market, but there is practically no movement beyond the usual demand for mustard and rape. Prices unchanged but firm.—John Picard and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,344 bales, and from foreign ports 12,435 bales. There was a firm market for bacon all round last week, and Irish and Danish were quoted some 1s to 3s dearer, prices ranging: Irish, 60s to 69s up to 74s; Danish, 60s to 69s up to 74s; Canadian, 60s to 63s up to 67s. Butter: The butter market was steady.—French, 92s to 106s; Danish, 110s to 112s; Russian, 76s to 98s; Dutch, 102s to 104s; Irish, 92s to 105s; Canadian, 102s to 106s; Australian, 80s to 102s; New Zealand, 76s to 107s. Lard: Lard was a steady market. Irish, 54s to 62s; American, 44s 3d to 46s 6d; Danish, 50s to 58s.

EGGS.

Friday.—Altrincham: 10. Ashburton: 9d to 10d per doz. Barnstaple: 14. Chester: 11 and 12. Crewe: 11. Dartmouth: 10d to 1s per doz. Derby: 12 and 13. Helmsley: 14. Knutsford: 10 and 11 Leyburn: 14. Lincoln: 13. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 10 and 11. Nantwich: 13 and 14. Northwich: 11. Otley: 12. Redruth: 9½d per doz. Runcorn: 11 and 12. St. Austell: 14. Stamford: 12 to 14. Stockport: 10 and 11. Tavistock: 11 to 13. Totnes: 11d to 1s per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 13 and 14. Berwick: 10d to 11d per doz. Bridgnorth: 12 and 13. Carlisle: 12 and 13. Doncaster: 12. Grantham: 13 and 14. Howden: 13 to 15. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Lancaster: 9 to 12. Malton: 12 and 13. Pontefract: 12 and 13. Retford: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 11 to 12. Shrewsbury: 12 and 13. Skipton: 12 and 13. Stokesley: 12 and 13. Whitby: 12 and 13. Worcester: 12. York: 10 to 12.

BUTTER.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton: 11d to 1s. Barnstaple: 11d to 1s. Chester: 1s 1d. Crewe: 1s 1d. Dartmouth, 11d to 1s 1d. Derby: 1s to 1s 1d. Helmsley: 9d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 11d to 1s. Lincoln: 11d to 1s. Lostwithiel: 10d. Macclesfield: 1s. Nantwich: 1s. Northwich: 1s 1d. Otley: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 9½d. Runcorn: 1s 2d. St. Austell: 11d. Stamford: 11d to 1s 1d. Stockport, 1s to 1s 1d. Tavistock, 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes, 1s to 1s 1d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9d to 10d; Berwick: 6d to 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 10d to 11d. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Grantham: 1s to 1s 1d. Howden: 9d to 11d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Malton: 9d to 11d. Pontefract: 11d to 1s. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Richmond (Yorks): 10d to 11d. Shrewsbury: 1s. Skipton: 10d to 1s. Stokesley: 10d to 11d. Whitby: 9d to 10d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 10d to 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Liberal arrivals; sellers firm, which checks business. Dunlops met an improved demand at firm prices. Dunlops, 54s to 58s, Cheddars, 57s to 60s; fine grass lots fetched 1s to 2s per cwt. more. Canadians still regarded as too dear.

Newport, Wednesday. — About 10 tons pitched, and a good trade. Quotations: Caerphillies, 40s to 46s per cwt; fancy dairies, 47s to 48s; truckles, 56s to 63s; Derbys, 63s to 64s; Cheddars, 58s to 63s.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s 0d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9½d to 10d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 11d to 1s; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 10d to 10½d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d. Crosbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 1s to 1s 1d.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—The reports to hand to-day do not show any improvement in the state of the hops, and with few exceptions they look worse than ever. The amount of business doing is limited, but prices rather tend upwards as stocks are getting reduced, and buyers find some difficulty in meeting their requirements. A few yearlings only have been weighed this week.—Charles Faram and Co.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 9, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, July 10, 1905.
Beasts	580	580	860
Sheep and Lambs	8,080	8,080	6,900
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	4 8	5 10	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 163; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 407; Devon, 10; Ireland, —.

We note to-day a decrease of 30 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. There were again no arrivals from either Scotland or Ireland, the majority of the supply as usual at this season of the year arriving from the Midland Counties. For both prime and second quality fat beasts trade ruled slow but steady in regard to value, all sales being governed by last week's prices. A few Runts were offered for sale, and cleared early in the day at good money, whilst Lincolns met with a dull trade, heavy weights being very unsaleable. No store cattle were placed on the market to-day. Fat butchering cows and bulls, notwithstanding there being in shorter numbers, were slow of sale; nevertheless late rates were maintained.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, July 10, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		4 8 ex	4 10
Devons	—		—	
Herefords	4 4 to	4 6	4 6 to	4 8
Norfolks	4 2 to	4 4	4 4 to	4 6
Runts	4 0 to	4 4	4 4 to	4 6
Lincolns	3 10 to	4 0	3 10 to	4 0
Irish	—		4 0 to	4 3
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 4 to	3 6	3 6 to	3 8

There was an increase of 620 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a fairly steady nature, salesmen experiencing no difficulty in maintaining late currencies. The Irish trade, on the other hand, was a poor one, whilst Scotch were in average supply, and sold steadily, rates favouring the seller, but not sufficiently so to quote any change in the prices. With regard to lambs, these were in excess of the demand, consequently a decline of 2d per 8 lb in value had to be accepted to force sales. The supply included 250 Scotch, 460 Irish, and 1,730 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, July 10, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 8 to	5 10	5 8 ex	5 10
9 st. Downs	5 6 to	5 8	5 4 to	5 6
10 st Halfbreds	5 2 to	5 4	5 2 to	5 4
10 st Yorkshires	—		4 6 to	4 8
12 st Lincolns	—		5 2 to	5 4
10 st Irish	5 0 to	5 2	5 2 to	5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to	4 2	4 2 to	4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to	4 0	3 10 to	4 0
5 st Down Lambs	6 10 to	7 0	6 4 to	6 6
6 st Halfbred ditto	5 8 to	5 10	6 0 to	6 2

So few calves on offer that the trade is neither worth noting or quoting. No pigs on offer.

St. Ives (Hunts.), Monday.—Beasts, 344; sheep and lambs, 1,951; pigs, 288. Fat and store cattle and sheep met a fair demand, and fat store pigs a good trade, whilst milch cows were in short supply, and met a fair trade. Prices:—Milch cows, £14 to £22; beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 9s 11d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork, 7s to 7s 3d.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 831. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 597 head compared with Monday last, and consisted of 711 from the United States and 120 from Canada. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a firm and steady nature at late currencies. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s 9d to 3s 11d, ex. 4s; seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; Canadians, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Besides the above, 160 more States cattle were withheld for Wednesday. On Saturday, 2,043 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and, with a slow but firm trade, were quoted at from 3s 9d to 3s 11d, ex. 4s per 8 lb. (offal given in). Besides the above, 500 more were withheld.

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle. Demand slow, and late rates barely maintained. Large increase of sheep and lambs; demand slow early morning but improved as day advanced. Buyers, however, were not able to trade on much easier terms than last week. Prices: Beef, 6½d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6½d; lamb, 9½d to 8¾d. At market: 651 cattle and 11,553 sheep.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The market for oilseeds is now quiet but holders are fairly confident.

Linseed	per 416 lb s. s	Cottonseed	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	46 to 48	Egyptian	136 to 138
American	41 to 42	Indian	106 to 108
Calcutta	41 to 42	Sunflowerseed.	per cwt.
Bombay	42 to 44	English, Best	16 to 17
Russian	40 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Argentine	40 to 41	,, Black.	13 to 14
Rapeseed.	per 416 lb.	Sesame.	per cwt.
Best English	61 to 63	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	46 to 47	Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
,, Cawnpore	44 to 45	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	42 to 43	Canaryseed.	per 464 lb.
Brown Calcutta	40 to 41	English	50 to 52
Ferozepore	44 to 46	Spanish	82 to 86
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	48 to 49
Indian	44 to 46	Argentine	47 to 48

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample supplies of fruit and vegetables at market, the demand being fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 9d to 4s 6d; apricots, 8d to 10d per box; ditto, 1s 9d to 2s per case; black currants, 5s to 6s; red ditto, 6s to 7s 6d per half-sieve; strawberries (Kent), 2s to 4s per peck; ditto (Southampton), 9d to 1s 3d per basket; raspberries 6s to 9s per dozen punnets; peaches, 2s to 15s; nectarines, 2s to 12s 6d; green figs, 1s 6d to 6s per dozen; gooseberries, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cherries, 3s 6d to 7s 6d; tomatoes, 4s to 6s; green peas, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel; ditto, 3s to 5s 6d per bag; horseradish, 9s to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; green onions, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; vegetable marrows, 3s to 5s; endive, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen; cucumbers, 5s to 7s per flat; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; cabbage, 3s to 4s per tally; turnips, 2s to 3s; carrots, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; radishes, 4d to 6d per dozen bunches; broad beans, 1s 6d to 2s; beetroot, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; asparagus, 6d to 2s per bundle; potatoes (old), 55s to 85s per ton; ditto (St. Malo, new), 4s 9d per cwt.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good arrivals met a fair sale. New Cherbourgs, 4s 6d; St. Malo, 5s to 5s 6d; Jersey, 5s to 5s 6d per cwt; Dutch, 2s per molley.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Average supplies of potatoes at the public retail markets, and a steady trade at 5d to 6d per stone for old potatoes, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per stone for new home grown, and 1s to 1s 2d for foreign new.

Goole, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little business doing in old potatoes. Jersey potatoes, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; ditto, English, 8s to 9s per cwt, or 1d per lb.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Small supply of old potatoes, which sold, retail, at 7d per stone; new ditto, 1d to 1½d per lb.

Manchester, Saturday. — Yorkshire warps, 8s to 9s; Cheshire, new, rounds, 8s to 9s 6d; kidneys, 9s to 10s 6d per load (18 stone); Jersey, 6s; Norfolk Hebrons, 7s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday. — An average business was done in potatoes at 6s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Heavy arrivals this morning met a somewhat quiet demand. Old potatoes, 2s to 2s 6d per cwt. New: Jersey, 5s to 5s 6d; Cherbourgs, 4s 9d to 5s; English whites, 5s 6d; reds, 5s per cwt.

York, Saturday.—Practically no business in the wholesale market. Old potatoes, of which there was a fair supply, made 3s per tub; new Kelfield potatoes, 6s 6d per hamper; retail, 6d to 8d; Jerseys, 4½d per ¼ stone.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The trade for home-bred cattle at Islington, of which the supply was chiefly drawn from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties, was of a slow nature for both prime and second quality, late currencies governing all transactions. We note an entire absence of any consignments from either Scotland or Ireland this week. On Thursday, trade was, as usual, confined to fat bulls and rough cattle. Fat butchering cows and bulls were little sought after by either town or country buyers; nevertheless, sellers were not willing to accept any decline in value.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a considerably larger supply during the week; notwithstanding there being no Canadian consignments, trade was of a firm and steady nature throughout the week with a slight upward tendency in value on Saturday. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,821, as against 4,018 during the preceding week, consisting of 620 British (decrease 230) and 4,201 foreign—increase, 1,033. The following were the top rates obtained 8 per lb. (sinking the offal): 90 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 11d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per 8 lb. sinking the offal.

In the sheep market at Islington on Monday, trade opened and continued throughout the day of a firm and steady nature, for both wethers and ewes, rates being well upheld; Scotch descriptions also shared in the general brightening up of trade, an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. being both asked and obtained for these; Irish, on the other hand, met with little inquiry, and were difficult to vend. With regard to the lamb trade, anything small and choice found ready buyers and cleared early in the day at good values, heavier descriptions, however, met with very little inquiry.

On Thursday the sheep trade was of a slow nature, but small grass-fed lambs again sold readily; other descriptions were in excess of the demand. At Deptford 149 Canadian sheep were consigned, but were not placed on the market, consequently no quotation or trade for these can be recorded. The total number on offer at both markets was 9,979, as against 10,840 during the previous week, consisting of 9,830 British (decrease 1,010) and 149 foreign. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal): 8 stone Scotch, 5s 10d. to 6s. 2d; 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone half breds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 19 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 11 stone halfbred ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone grass-fed lambs, 7s. to 7s. 2d.; 6 stone half bred ditto, 6s. to 6s. 2d. per 8 lbs (offal given in). Calves numbered seventy head, and on Thursday met with a firm trade at an advance of 2d per 8 lb. in value.

Saturday, July 7, 1906.

Trade in the West.

Supplies of store stock, especially of the plainer descriptions, continue to come very plentifully to hand, and, as the demand is still largely confined to what is really of a serviceable character, the markets are somewhat glutted with what may be described as the more ordinary runs, for which it is difficult to find buyers. The bettermost grades of grazing cattle—anything showing even fair condition—meet a very fair trade at, as a general rule, from £24 to £28 per pair, it being only in exceptional cases that this figure is exceeded, but that is done occasionally. The more ordinary runs of stores are very difficult of disposal, prices for this class ranging from about £20 down to as low as £14 or £15 for bullocks that cannot by any means be classed as young, consisting largely of old cows, for which no other purpose can be found but to turn out preparatory to conversion into beef, such as it may be. There is a corresponding dullness in young stock, both yearlings and stirks, which are anything but saleable, despite the fact of there being now some prospect of the keep problem being, at least, temporarily solved. Milch beasts are likewise suffering, except in the case of the very best heifers or really good cows, in a similar degree from the prevailing inactivity, and while a few milchers of exceptional character realise from £17 up to £22, plenty of decent animals, both heifers and cows, are selling from £15 to £16 each, whilst anything decidedly plain can be bought in any quantity at any price between £9 and £14; and but a very small proportion find buyers at all.

The great summer sheep fairs have already commenced, and will very soon become general. So far the trade has favoured flockmasters but very little, and though in some cases they have been able to hold their own, they have only managed this with difficulty with the very best class of sheep, the tendency of the more ordinary runs being to lower values to the extent of from 1s. to 2s compared with last year's rates, which is not encouraging in view of the shortage of sheep in the country and the many really necessitous buyers there are, but who, however, are only prepared, it seems to us, to give a certain price, and this they seem to think should be but from about 48s. up to 54s. or so for the best class of ewes, and from 43s. to 46s. or so for seconds. On these terms they seem willing enough to do business; but when asked to go beyond this range sales at once "hang fire." Lambs, too, are selling fairly well at from about 28s. to 38s. for keeping purposes, but trade is certainly not as brisk as could be desired, especially in view of the greatly improved keep prospect that there now undoubtedly is. Store pigs are keeping up exceedingly well, no doubt the result of the satisfactory price fat pigs are now making.

Considering that a good many grass fed beasts are now coming out, the beef trade has not opened very auspiciously for graziers, though a few good Devons as well as Shorthorns are realising 4s. 8d. per stone, this being for the very best steers and heifers (or from £18 to £23 10s.) secondary grades, which are slower and lower in price, selling at 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., and the coarser qualities 4s. to 4s. 2d., with anything but a good inquiry. Calves rule steady at 4s. 10d to 5s. 4d. per stone. Mutton is decidedly lower except for very choice and well-finished tegs, which command 6s. to 6s. 4d., and seconds 5s. 6d. to 5s. 10d.; fat ewes very dull at 4s. to 4s. 2d. Well-finished lambs maintain their value, matured lots making 38s. to 46s. each (or 7s. to 7s. 4d. for the very ripest); seconds, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; and other qualities as low as 6s. Pigs, though keeping fairly steady, are not as dear as they were, very little in the way of the nearest porkers exceeding 10s. per score, and baconers 9s. to 9s. 6d. Heavier pigs are less saleable than of late at 7s. to 8s. for coarse weights.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been larger, and trade better to the extent of 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Fat cows have been fewer, and they also have met a better market. Fat sheep have been shown in increased numbers, and they have met an improved trade to the extent of 2s. per head. A larger show of lambs also participated in the rise. Heavy ewes, however, on account of the warm weather, made less money. A large show of calves were easily sold at higher prices. Pigs in small numbers, and they were considerably dearer. Store cattle have been shown in rather smaller numbers than last week, and for the good conditioned bullocks and best class of stirks a clearance was easily effected at quite last week's prices, a number of the smaller stirks being left unsold. Milch cows have met an exceedingly quiet market at prices much lower than last week. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt, 41s. 8d.; current, 36s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.; mutton, 8½d. to 10½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

The Dublin market of last Thursday was well supplied with cattle, there being 1,986 on offer, or an increase of 322 on the week. The attendance of buyers was also good, and the larger supply of cattle did not affect prices, which were well maintained and slightly dearer in cases. Nice qualities of beef, but backward in condition, were bought up freely to finish off. The market opened strong for choice cattle, but secondary and coarse cattle were rather harder to move, with values tending in favour of buyers, but anything like a fall was averted by the large attendance of cross-Channel buyers. A good clearance was effected. The live weight price for choice beef ranged from 32s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt., and the dead weight prices were:—Prime ox and heifer beef, from 55s. to 61s. 6d.; extra choice lots, good second-class, 50s. to 54s., and inferior from 44s. per cwt. upwards.

The number of sheep and lambs in market was only 8,824, or 460 less than the previous day. The demand was strong, and prices ruled in favour of sellers for prime sheep and lambs; coarse sheep neglected. For best home trade sheep the market was an excellent one, and wether mutton sold very freely at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; good ewes, 6½d. to 7½d., and inferior from 5½d. up. Shippers did an active business, and there was a firm trade for export hoggets—the heavy class making from 45s. to 56s. each, and small to medium from 36s. to 44s. Lambs were a strong trade; good fat medium-sized lambs selling from 30s. to 34s. each, and larger, heavier sorts up to 46s. and 42s.; small, light lambs could be had at from 18s. upwards. Everything useful was sold up.

Veal of prime quality made from 6½d. to 8d., but inferior calves slow at from 4½d. to 6d. per lb.

The supply of dairy cows was large, but chiefly of a medium or inferior class, choice springers and newly-calved cows being scarce. Really choice cows were high, making from £18 to £23 each; ordinary cows sold at from £9 10s. upwards. Store cattle continue to sell well, as occasional showers keep the pastures in fine form, and there is abundance of grass everywhere. At the country fairs in the south of Ireland, business for store cattle is brisk. At Clonmel on Thursday buying was very active at higher prices. Good yearlings sold at from £8 to £8 15s.; two-year-olds, £10 10s. to £12 10s, and three-year-olds, £13 to £14 10s. Beef sold at from 52s. to 54s. per cwt. for best, and 40s. to 46s. for rough lots.

Mutton fetched from 7d. to 7½d. per lb. At Thurles, on the same day, some yearlings sold as high as £9 each, and three-year-olds (prime quality), £14 to £15 10s.

Short supply of pigs at Dub'in market, and prices advanced, as buyers were in big attendance. Prime bacon pigs paid 55s. to 56s. per cwt., and all other grades higher in proportion.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade continues slow, with a lower tendency in values:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 7d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 5d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; ditto, seconds, 2s 8d to 3s; ditto, forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s 8d; ditto, ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto, ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 4s to 4s 10d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts, which was exceedingly short, consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls. Trade was practically at a standstill, though no lower quotations can be recorded. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. A decrease of 100 in the number penned in sheep market. Trade for both wethers and ewes ruled firm, with an upward tendency in value, an advance of fully 2d per 8 lb being made in some cases. Choice small lambs found ready buyers at a slight advance in value; heavier descriptions, however, were little wanted. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d; 9 st ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 st ditto, 5s 4d; 10 st half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10 st ewes, 4s 2d; 5-st fat grass lambs, 7s 2d; 6 st half-bred ditto, 6s. Calves met a firm trade, an early clearance being made. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; lambs, 5s 8d to 7s 2d. Total supply: Beasts, 10; sheep and lambs, 2,370; calves, 60; milch cows, 5.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold rather better, at 4s 4d to 4s 8d for best beasts. Mutton a dull trade, half-bred wethers making up to 5s, and small Kents up to 5s 4d; inferior animals rather cheaper. Veal neglected. Best calves did not exceed 5s a stone. Pork dearer, and quoted up to 4s 2d per stone. Pigs very dear, some making over a pound a head.

Berwick, Saturday.—Cattle numbered 550, 120 less than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, quality of stock good, and trade bad. Calves, £5 5s to £6 10s; heifers, £7 10s to £10; stirks, £8 to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £12 to £14; three-year-olds, £13 to £14 15s; Shorthorn bulls, £10 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb, mutton, 6d to 8½d. per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 7s to 7s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—At this market there was little enquiry for beef, which was in small supply, and less than average. Business was done at late rates. Mutton and lamb were in large quantities, and trade was quiet at last week's quotations, except for lamb, which declined to 9d per lb. Few pigs were on offer, and with limited enquiry, the price of baconers fell to 9s 6d per score.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d. per score extra for delivery by road. Six sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs., no deduction for fat, 9s. 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lbs., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. & T. Harris & Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Very little inquiry for store stock and only a small supply. Cows

and calves made from £14 to £20. The offering of Irish yearlings attracted little attention.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 500 Irish cattle were forwarded, and buyers attended in large numbers. Trade ruled brisk. Small heifers £7 10s to £10 10s; better sorts, £12 to £14; best descriptions, to £15 10s each; nice wintering heifers, £8 10s to £12 80s.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were not large, but far in excess of the demand, and the market was one of the quietest for some weeks. Prices did not materially differ from the last fair. Milch cows made £16 to £21; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; stirks, £6 to £9; heifers, £9 to £14.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Lambs, which were shown in good "bloom," met a slow but steady selling trade, and, with the exception of a few lots, all eventually changed hands, prices generally being about the same as those realised at the corresponding sale last year. Fat cattle experienced a slow but firm demand, dairy cattle and calving beasts met a sharp trade at fully £1 to 30s more money. There was not much inquiry for store cattle, and a good many lots remained unsold. Stock at the market: Cattle, 379; sheep, 5,775; pigs, 367; calves, 139; horses, 22; mare foal, 1; bulls, 8; total, 6,691.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a good trade, beef selling at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score; and lamb, 7s per stone.

Derby, Tuesday.—Good attendance, and a fair trade with little alteration in prices. Beasts, 6½d to 6¾d; calves, 7d to 8d; sheep, 7d to 8d; lambs, 10d to 11d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good average supply of cattle, chiefly stores, but trade was exceedingly dull, many farmers not having got rid of their fat stock. Late prices ruled. Milch beasts £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £13 10s; stirks, £9 to £11 each. Better supply of sheep and little doing. Hoggs, 40s to 48s; black-faced ewes, 40s to 45s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—At the cattle market to-day there was only a moderate delivery of stock at either at Messrs. Duke's sale or at that of Messrs. Symonds and Thompson. Most of the stock was of a very plain character, but prices of milch beasts ruled a little firmer, and anything showing condition in the grazing line likewise met a very fair sale. Heifers and calves made from £14 10s to £18, and cows with calves from £8 10s to £12. The range for graziers was from £16 to £23 per pair. Fat bullocks, from scarcity, ruled a little firmer, heifers ranging from £17 to £21 each (or 11s to 11s 6d per score); fat cows, £12 to £15 (or 10s to 10s 6d). Mutton a very short delivery, prices being well maintained. Down ewes sold from 38s to 43s 6d each (or 6½d to 7¼d per lb). Lamb trade steady at from 28s to 34s, prices showing a decline at late rates.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 1,986, increase 322; sheep 8,824, decrease 460; calves 39, decrease 23. Notwithstanding increased numbers there seemed to be a better demand for cattle, at slightly improved prices. Secondary and inferior animals met with rather a dragging trade at about late rates. Sheep and lambs in fair request at last week's prices. Cattle—live weight (best), 31s to 34s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 30s per cwt. Mutton—dead weight, 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Very small supplies were forward. The only quotation for sheep was 28s for half-bred hoggs. Conditioned cattle sold readily; two-year-old bullocks, £11 11s to £15 15s; stirks, £10 10s; Shorthorned cows, £26; Irish, £21s.

Exeter, Friday.—Not a large supply of fat cattle; quiet trade, late prices being barely maintained. Choice cattle, 11s to 11s 6d; second class, 11s; cows, 9s 6d to 10s; all best sold out. Small supply of sheep; very quiet trade. Small hoggs, 8½d to 9d; large, 8d; ready sale for ewes; rams, 5d. Lambs, in wool, 10d to 11d; shorn, 10d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The market was moderately stocked and prices were steady. The warmer weather caused buyers to curtail purchases:—Top Scotch cattle, 63s to 64s; secondary, 57s to 60s; best Irish scarce at 56s to 58s; secondary, 54s per cwt; best home sheep, 10d to 10½d; secondary, 9¾d to 9¾d; top lambs up to 11½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—A very short supply of all kinds of stock, with a short attendance of customers, but satisfactory sales resulted.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Owing to the hay harvest being in progress, the attendance in the cattle-market was small. There was a large supply of beef; trade was slow, and there was no alteration in prices. Best heifer and bullock beef made 6d to 6½d, cow beef 4½d to 5d. Calves were a moderate supply, trade on veal being about 7d. Sheep were a short supply, and trade was firm. Wether mutton made 8d. Lambs were scarce, and realised 9d, a trifle dearer than last week. Few pigs on offer, porkers being cheaper and not making more than 5d, heavy-weights making a little less. Stores were a trifle easier. The store cattle trade was poor.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good supply of fat cattle which came to hand in nice condition; trade was brisk and prices showed an improvement of about 6d per stone on the low rates ruling last week. Grazing cattle were in average supply, there was rather more demand owing to the recent rains, values remaining much the same. Shorthorn steers, eighteen months, in good condition, £9 15s to £8 12s 6d; sixteen to twelve months, £7 10s to £5 5s. Several cows and heifers were on offer, more buyers were present, and higher prices were obtained for those fresh calved or near. The best making from £21 5s to £17; fat lambs sold freely up to 45s. Fat sheep were dull and prices weak, good shearlings going at from 57s to 50s, fat ewes up to 51s. At the special sale a large number of lambs were penned and buyers were in strong force, biddings were brisk and a good clearance was effected at very satisfactory prices, Suffolk ewe lambs from registered flocks, 42s to 36s; wethers, 36s to 28s; halfbreds, 31s 6d to 26s; young first cross lambs, 28s 6d to 27s 6d; Southdowns, 29s 6d to 25s. Fat swine were short, and a slight improvement in values was experienced. Numbers at sales and market, 460 cattle, 3,252 sheep, 590 swine.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full consignments of home-bred stock. Trade ruled sluggish, and prices declined 10s to 20s per head. Choice milch cows, £19 to £20; secondary, £15 to £17; heifers, £9 to £12; home-bred bullocks, £11 to £17 10s; Irish bullocks, £10 to £15; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13; young stock, £5 to £8; calves, 15s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a limited supply of beasts, and business ruled dull. Yearlings, £8 to £10; strong beasts, £11 to £13; milch cows, £16 to £20.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts for time of year; trade very slow, 6s 9d to 7s per stone. Few stores, £6 to £12 each. Fat sheep, 8s 9d to 9s per stone. Stores, 40s to 47s, fat lambs, 30s to 40s, stores, 25s to 35s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef, first class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Mutton: First class Cheviots and Scotch, 8d, and others 7¾d; second class, 6¾d to 7¼d; third class, 5¾d to 6¼d. Veal, first class, 6¼d; second class, 5¼d to 5¾d; third class, 4¼d to 4¾d. Lamb, first class, 8¼d; second class, 7¼d to 8d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—A slow, firm trade. Prime heifers, 8s to 8s 6d; second-class, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; steers, 8s to 8s 3d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; pigs, 6s to 7s per stone; fleece sheep, 5d to 9½d; lamb, 9d to 11d; veal, 6d to 8½d. At market:—Cattle, 1,565; sheep and lambs, 5,231; calves, 108; pigs, 375.

Newport Wednesday.—A short supply, a good attendance of buyers, and a very good trade all round. Quotations: Best English beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 4¾d to 5¼d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The principal part of the fat beasts here to-day were submitted by auction, the numbers in the open market being very small. Trade was very firm, prices averaging from 7s to 7s 6d per 14 lb. There was scarcely any store cattle on offer, and the supply was composed chiefly of Irish stock, very poor, and quotations could scarcely be made. There was a small show of store sheep, lambs being in big proportion. Trade was steady at fully late rates. Lambs made 25s to 37s per head; breeding ewes, 45s to 60s. Fat sheep were in small supply and met with a ready sale at 8s 6d to 9s 6d per stone. Fat and store pigs were offered in limited numbers and a sharp trade was experienced, fat averaging 7s a stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was not a large trade. In-calf heifers, £27; best cows, £18; yearlings, £8 to £9; and two-year-olds, £13. Sucking calves sold at 45s.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a brisker demand for beef, and a slightly better trade. Mutton remained unaltered. Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5¾d; hoggs sheep, 9d to 9½d; lambs, 10d; ewes, 7d to 8d; calves, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Milch beasts of good quality sold very well at £16 to £20 per head, but they were hard to meet with, and young stock was disposed of rather more easily at about previous rates.

Romford, Wednesday.—Large supply of fat beasts, trade a little better. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in average supply, trade about the same, at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade rather better. Best small sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; large, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lambs in large supply, trade about the same, at 6s 4d to 6s 6d per stone. Very few store beasts on offer, owing to the dry weather. Pig trade rather better. Neat porkers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 4s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—More beasts than last week, and fairly good business. Good milch cows, £20 to £21; smaller lots, £16 to £18.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small supply of cattle, especially stores, which met a fair demand. Usual supply of calves, sheep, and pigs. Prices slightly easier. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 397, sheep and lambs 1,890, calves 109, pigs 363.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 140 cattle, 110 sheep, and 185 pigs. An average show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 8s to 8s 6d per stone, prices being firm, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s 6d to 7s. Young sheep made 9d per lb; lambs, 10d and 11d; and ewes, 6d and 7d per lb. The pig trade was quiet, and prices showed a reduction of 3d per stone all round.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a very large attendance of buyers from all parts, which no doubt accounted for a greatly improved all round trade, Messrs. Bond and Burrows having an absolute clearance of everything. Best beef was in demand, and realised fully 4s 6d per stone, cows making up to 4s. Mutton and lamb selling better than for some years past. Bacon and pork at late rates. This firm's sale comprised 162 fat beasts, 210 fat sheep, 80 fat and weaning calves, and 101 fat store pigs. Fat oxen made from £15 15s to £21; fat heifers, £14 10s to £20 15s; fat wethers, 50s to 60s; fat ewes, 36s to 47s 6d; fat lambs, 28s to 44s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 12s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 50s; bull calves, 10s to 40s; bacon hogs, £3 to £4 10s; porkers, 28s to 50s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance was good, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 58s to 60s; barreners add store bullocks, 40s to 55s per cwt; cows and calves, £9 to £15 each; rearing calves, 15s to 45s; wethers, 8d to 8½d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 9d; large pigs, smaller, and suckers, 14s to 33s each. Number in cattle market:—Bullocks, 393; calves, 75; sheep, 344; pigs, 186; horses, 5; and 1 dog.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Short supply, with good demand. Quotations:—Beef 5d to 7d, mutton 8½d to 9d, lamb, 9d to 10d, calves 7d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s to 10s 6d, porkers, 10s 6d to 11s, sows, 8s to 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of beasts and sheep, with a sharp trade for mutton. Best beef to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 9d; best Southdown and crossbreds, 7d to 8½d; ewes, 5½d to 6½d; lamb, 7½d; calves, 8½d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Cows and calves, £16 15s to £20 5s; secondary, £14 5s to £15 15s; heifers and calves, £16 to £19 5s; barreners, £10 to £16 15s; yearling heifers, £6 10s to £8 5s; steers, £10 to £12 10s.; slip pigs, 18s to 33s.; stores, 37s 6d to 57s 6d; Down ewes, 42s 6d to 49s; Down wethers, 47s to 52s; Down wether lambs, 27s 6d to 33s; horn ewes, 44s to 50s; horn wethers, 48s to 53s; horn wether lambs, 30s to 35; horn chilver lambs, 28s to 32s 6d.

York, Thursday.—A much lighter show of English and Irish store cattle, the season for which is nearly over. There was a very poor attendance. Last fortnight's rates were barely maintained. What little demand exists is chiefly for the best strong, fresh cattle, which sell from £13 10s to £15 10s. For poor two-year-old cattle there is no demand. A smaller show of calving and milch cows than last fortnight, and the improved prices of the last fortnight were not quite maintained, there being a drop of about 10s per head on cows all round. A fairly good inquiry for the best animals, which make £18 18s to £21. Secondary newly calved cows made from about £14 to £16 per head. An average show of sheep. A few lots made 50s each, others 38s to 2 guineas. A very slow trade, chiefly as a result of the high prices.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 1,049 head being penned. All the animals were from Montreal, and were delivered in good shape and condition. There was a large attendance of buyers, but business at the opening was somewhat quiet, and remained listless throughout the day, the large supply on hand causing buyers to operate cautiously with a view to securing reductions. In this they were successful, as following upon last week's break, prices for the best class of bullocks dropped from 2s to 3s per cwt. dead-weight, with secondary, middling, and inferior descriptions changing hands at prices somewhat in proportion. Of late, bulls have been some

what scarce in this market, and values, especially for prime choice qualities, were about late rates. First-class bullocks of handy sizes and weights sold at about 54s per cwt. dead weight, secondary sorts down to 52s per cwt, and bulls from 44s to 46s per cwt, according to quality and condition.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—In spite of a small consumptive demand, values continue to advance for prompt delivery, while in forward positions home manufacturers have practically retired from the market. Russian remain by far the best value at last week's quotations. East India seed pures offer at about late rates. American are held at prohibitive prices, while London-made attract rather more attention, and to-day's nearest value is 5s per ton more money. Cotton Cakes.—With the prospect of short supplies of Egyptian for some time to come, prices have a hardening tendency, and holders now ask £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d; while English are firmly held at £4 18s 9d to £5 and Bombays at £4 5s. Decorticated: A limited quantity of American may still be bought at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s, and meal at £7 10s. Rape Cakes.—Scarce and dear. East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize GermMeal.—A parcel of white American on the quay is procurable at last week's prices, but English makes command rather more money. Maize gluten meal is in good request at £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—Only a moderate business is passing with sellers at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s. for parcels of Rangoon in warehouse, and £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d, ex ship terms for arrival. Locust beans are fully as dear at £5 15s for whole, and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Nitrate of soda is unchanged at £10 17s 6d per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
Linseed Cakes.		
Russian, in mats	7 6 3 to	7 7 6
,, in bags	7 8 9 to	7 10 0
Calcutta ....to arrive	7 8 9 to	7 10 0
American....ex quay	7 3 9 to	7 5 0
English ....ex mill	7 15 0 to	7 17 6
Cotton Cakes.		
Egyptian..... ex warehouse	4 16 3 to	4 17 6
English	4 18 9 to	5 0 0
Bombay	4 5 0	
Cottonseed Cakes and Meal.		
Decorticated	7 12 6 to	7 15 0
,, Meal		7 10 0
Rape Cakes.		
East India	5 0 0	
Ravison	4 15 0	
Maize Germ Meal.		
White American.....ex quay	5 13 9 to	5 15 0
English ....ex mill	5 7 6	5 10 0
Maize Gluten Feed ...ex mill		5 15 0
Rice Meal.		
Rangoon ....ex quay	4 13 9 to	4 15 0
,, ...ex ship	4 11 3 to	4 12 6
Locust Beans.		
Whole		5 15 0
Kibbled		6 0 0
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda, ex quay		10 17 6

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Trade is quiet all round, and the following are the quotations:—

	£ s d	£ s d
Nitrate of Soda	11 5 0	—
East India Bone Meal	5 7 6	
Kainit	2 1 3	2 2 6
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Linseed Cake American	7 7 6	7 10 0
,, ,, English	8 5 0	8 15 0
Cottonseed Cake, decorticated	8 0 0	8 2 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8 5 0	8 7 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4 17 6	5 5 0
Fattening Cake	6 12 6	—
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6 5 0	—
Crushed Cottonseed	7 10 0	7 12 6
Maize Germ Meal	5 12 6	5 15 0
Corn Oil Cake	6 0 0	6 2 6
Rice Meal	4 15 0	4 17 6
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	—
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	4 6	—
Treacle, feeding, prime	4 7½	4 9
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.	
,, ,, guaranteed		
Basic Slag, prime quality	nominal.	
,, ,, ,, ,,		
,, ,, finest ,,		

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market continues without any particular change, notwithstanding that farmers are busy in the hay fields, and prices are slightly firmer at about 13s 6d ale, 10s 6d porter, 25s distillers, 32s 6d pressed white distillery meal. Dried grains are without change at—ale, 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, and distillers, 110s per ton on rail London; ale 90s, and mixed, 82s 6d per ton on rail at Burton. Oat feed, to arrive, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail, London.—Hamlyn and Co.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

Melton Ross, Barnetby Junction, LINCOLNSHIRE.

IMPORTANT SALE

OF

PEDIGREE SHORTHORN CATTLE

— AND —

SOUTHDOWN SHEEP,

The Property of the late Mr. JONAS WEBB,

On FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 13, 1906.

Messrs. JOHN THORNTON & CO.

will SELL BY AUCTION, at Melton Ross, about a mile and a quarter from Barnetby Junction, the late Mr. Jonas Webb's old-established choice herd of Bates

SHORTHORNS,

which comprises many fine specimens of the famous Duchess, Grand Duchess, Waterloo, Oxford and Thorndale Rose tribes, as well as several good animals of the Laurestina family. First-class bulls have been used, and the herd kept pure to the old Bates and prize Linton blood. Laureate 81433 by Mr. C. R. Lynn's Stroxton Prince from the champion cow Laurestina Maid, and his sons Melton Duke of Leicester 3rd 86605, Melton Grand Duke 2nd 89289, Melton Baronet 2nd 89285, and Melton Knightley 89290, are now in service, the three latter being included in the sale.

The herd has been bred with special regard to its milking properties. It contains a capital lot of good yearling heifers and calves; several of the cows have calves at foot. Prizes have been won at the Royal, the Smithfield Club, the Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, and other County Shows, as well as at the International Show at Paris.

SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

The flock of Southdown Sheep, comprising about 200 Ewes and Yearling Ewes, will also be sold; they are bred from the old flocks at Babraham, and Streetly Hall rams from Mr. Adeane's celebrated prize flock have lately been used.

SALE COMMENCES AT ONE O'CLOCK.

Catalogues may be had of Mr. Herbert M. Webb, Melton Ross, Barnetby, Lincoln; or John Thornton & Co., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

THE CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The 73rd ANNUAL SHOW will be held at Redcar on AUGUST 21, 1906. Over £400 Prize Money.

Schedules from Thos Turner, Sec., Lazenby Eston, R.S.O., Yorks.

BOURNEMOUTH HORSE SHOW. AUGUST 21 and 22, 1906.

£530 IN PRIZES.

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 21, 1906.

Schedules and Entry Forms from Secretary.

Municipal Offices, Bournemouth.

PRELIMINARY.

THE 21st ANNUAL SALE and LETTING of Mr. LAMBERT'S pure-bred HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS will take place at CAMBRIDGE, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1906.

Messrs. Chalk, Auctioneers, 11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge and Linton.

TUBE MILL.—Wanted 17 ft. by 4 ft 3 in. or larger. Particulars to No. 102, Mark Lane Express Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London.

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"A.B.C." TIME TABLE.—Those who find the use of the ordinary Railway Time Table difficult and complex, will welcome the new "A.B.C." Guide, which has been issued by the Great Northern Railway Company. In this Time Table are alphabetically arranged the train services from London to the numerous towns in the Midlands, Yorkshire, the North of England and Scotland, served by the Great Northern Railway. The book also contains the London Suburban Services, and is embellished by a good map. Copies may be obtained at any Great Northern Office, or from the Chief Passenger Agent at King's Cross. (Price 1d.)

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—July 9, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

during the past week

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The promise of the growing wheat is rather good in certain districts, particularly in parts of Middlesex and Essex and of Suffolk. As we proceed north, however, the aspect does not improve, and the three great wheat counties of Norfolk, Lincoln, and York are not looking to reap a full average crop.

Barley made a poor start in the spring, but in some counties, noticeably in the north and west of England, the progress made since the end of May has been remarkable. Wales expects the best barley crop for some years, and the promise in Scotland is at least a full average.

Oats should be a good yield in Ireland and Scotland, and there are English counties where a full yield may yet be attained. But the season has not been in favour of this cereal in East Anglia or in the home counties, and it is only in the west and north-west that a satisfactory out-turn is anticipated.

Beans and peas show considerable improvement, and may be full average crops in the Fenland and Lincoln, in the Western Midlands, and again in N.W. Yorkshire, Lancashire, and the North. They are all likely to be good yields in Essex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire. Potatoes on their present promise are not hopeful in the great Midland district from Leicester to Gloucester.

The American wheat crop is officially put at 2 per cent. above that of last year, whereas it was thought that the returns would come out about that extent below 1905. The seasons do not apparently differ very materially. The States divide about as follows in their crop prospects:—

Over Average.	Average.	Under Average
Pennsylvania.	Texas.	Michigan.
Indiana.	Ohio.	Kansas.
California.	Illinois.	
Iowa.	Missouri	
Dakota.	Nebraska.	
Washington.	Oklahoma.	
	Minnesota.	

It will be seen that returns are to hand from fifteen States only out of forty-four. But those included in the above list are all of very high rank as wheat producing regions.

Barley is reckoned 1 per cent. inferior to 1905. There is evidently no important difference between the seasons

Oats are reckoned 8 per cent. inferior to 1905. The crop is clearly not up to the level of a year ago, despite isolated good yields in the states of New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Dakota.

Maize is only starting on its crop career. It appears to promise very well in Iowa, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia, but to be disappointing in Louisiana, Minnesota, and Texas.

The sales of British wheat at the statute market since harvest have been large, and the price, though somewhat lowered by the abundant offers, has not been so depressed as some had expected to see it.

This season 2,865,000 qr. at 28s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,594,000 ,, 30s. 7d. ,,

The sales of British barley since September 1 have been:—

This season 3,199,000 qr. at 24s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, 3,132,000 ,, 24s. 9d. ,,

The supplies and prices in this instance will be seen closely to correspond. In the case of oats, small deliveries have given good prices:—

This season... 904,000 qr. at 18s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,123,000 ,, 17s. 0d. ,,

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat.... 715,000 qr.: a colossal supply.
Flour..... 112,900 sacks: a moderate importation.
Barley ... 67,000 qr.: less than usual.
Oats ..... 172,000 qr.: more than usual.
Maize..... 315,000 qr.: a very heavy importation.

The best prices for wheat last week were made in Sussex. The range was:—

Chichester	31s. 11d. per qr.
Doncaster	28s. 7d. ,,
Gradient.....	3s. 4d. per qr.

Barley had a somewhat wider range.

Mark Lane.....	23s. 7d. per qr.
Norwich	19s. 1d. ,,
Gradient	4s. 6d. per qr.

It will be seen that nothing but feeding barley was on offer at any market.

Oats were fairly good in price all over the country.

Reading	20s. 11d. per qr.
Nottingham	19s. 6d. ,,
Gradient... ..	1s. 5d. per qr.

The summer period is being borne by the trade in oilseeds with more fortitude than had been looked for. Linseed, after a weak June, was evidently hardening as a market from the 1st to the 6th inst.; from the 7th to the 14th it has picked up in value about 1s. per qr. Cottonseed has not risen in price, neither has rapeseed, but both these staples are more saleable than they were in June, and at the 30th June's full prices. Linseed oil at £20 5s. per ton is as dear as it was at midsummer; cottonseed oil, crude, is firm at £20 per ton.

There is a rally in the market for beet sugar, for which 8s. 6d. per cwt. is now asked and 8s. 5d. paid. If the Government duties were properly adjusted the production of this concentrated and valuable feeding stuff on British farms might be greatly increased.

Feeding rice continues to sell at a steady 7s. 3d. per cwt. The price of recent years has varied between 6s. 9d. and 7s. 9d. per cwt., and the existing quotation is a fair average value. The use of rice for feed is undoubted, but it requires to be grown with discretion. It goes well in a ration which includes maize.

The supply of wheat on passage, though still heavy, shows a substantial decline on the week. Californian, 350,000 qr.; American, 215,000 qr.; Russian, 370,000 qr.; Indian, 700,000 qr.; Argentine, 650,000 qr.; Australasian, 800,000 qr.; various, 50,000 qr. Total, 3,135,000 qr. Last week, 3,220,000 qr.

The supply of flour on passage has fallen from 322,000 to 302,000 sacks mainly as a result of reduced shipments from the United States.

The supplies of barley on passage are below the average:—Russian, 1,250,000 qr.; American, 80,000; Asiatic, 40,000; total, 245,000 qr; a week ago, 285,000 qr.

Of maize 1,025,000 qr. are on passage. This is a large total, but the Argentine item is the sole cause of its appearing so heavy. Neither round or flat corn is likely to be in more than very moderate offer in August.

Other supplies on passage include 266,000 qr. of oats, 147,000 qr. of linseed, 27,000 qr. of rapeseed, and 29,000 tons of cottonseed.

American shipments last week were small. The chief items were: Wheat, 65,000 qr.; barley, 4,000 qr.; oats, 3,000 qr.; linseed, 16,000 qr.; maize, 75,000 qr.; and flour, 89,500 sacks.

Argentina sent off 145,000 qr. of wheat, 400,000 qr. of maize, and 45,000 qr. of linseed. The maize shipments are, of course, exceedingly large.

Russia shipped last week 200,000 qr. of wheat, 150,000 qr. of barley, 152,000 qr. of oats, and 5,000 qr. of maize, quantities supplemented by Roumania, Bulgaria, and Turkey, to the extent of 140,000 qr. of wheat and 50,000 qr. of maize.

India shipped 154,000 qr., and New Zealand 21,000 qr. of wheat, and there was in addition an exportation of 15,000 qr. of barley from Persia. No shipments were reported last week from Egypt, Asia Minor, or Cyprus.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With a continuance of shortness in supplies trade remains very firm with prices again slightly dearer. All classes of stuffs are very short, and with demand all round good, no difficulty is found in effecting clearances. A fair quantity of this season's clover and mixtures have come along, and for new stuff have made a fair price, about 75s. per ton being realised. So far there has been but little new hay sent along, which rather leads one to suppose that as there is a great shortness in this season's yield of this particular crop, senders are holding back in anticipation of higher prices. Best old hays are now the article in most request, and holders have been able to obtain an advance of 2s 6d per ton; ordinary and fair quality hays also find a better sale. Clover and mixtures are very firm, and full values are easily obtainable. The trade all round this week is decidedly strong, and supplies at all rails have dropped down to a very low ebb, salesmen also have had to make considerable inroads into their stocks, and unless more stuff is available during the coming week, there is every chance of prices going again dearer. The demand for straw is much better, and prices are 1s to 2s load higher. The trade for foreign is stronger this week, and we find a good demand for all qualities at hardening prices. Prices ruling are about as follows: English Best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 67s 6d to 75s per ton; inferior hay, 53s to 65s per ton. Best clovers, 90s to 92s per ton; inferior to good, 75s to 85s per ton. Best mixtures, 87s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 72s 6d to 82s 6d per ton; seconds mixture, 60s to 65s per ton; wheat straw, 28s per load; oat straw, 28s per load; barley straw, 29s per load; bale wheat straw, 41s 6d per ton, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixture, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; large balo wheat straw, 51s per ton; small bale wheat straw, 41s 6d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.—Walter H. Prentis.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes were depressed on the 10th, 11th, and 12th, but showed a slight recovery of tone on the 13th and 14th. Sales have included:—Rosario at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb., Bahia Blanca at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb., White Walla at 31s. per 500 lb., Blue Stem at 32s. 3d. per 500 lb., Roumanian at 28s. 9d. per 492 lb., Victorian at 31s. 3d. per 480 lb., and No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 30s. 3d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are firm for everything except La Plata, and even this type, despite 850,000 qr. on passage, can scarcely be called depressed. Transactions have included Argentine at 20s. 6d., Novorossisk at 21s. 9d., Galatz at 22s., Turkish at 21s. 9d., Bulgarian at 21s. 6d., and American at 22s., all per 480 lb. The New York price as cabled seems to make future shipments of American maize exceedingly difficult.

Barley cargoes are unchanged. Two for prompt shipment from Kustendje have been placed at 19s. per 400 lb., and free offers of New Russian for October shipment come at 18s. per 400 lb. There would be a good trade done if speculative sellers of the latter would accept 17s. 3d., which is the London bid; but the 9d. per qr. difference is worth a fight, and there is consequently a pause in the trade.

Other cargo sales have comprised American oats at 16s. 3d. per 320 lb., Smyrna beans at 30s. 9d. per 480 lb., and Indian white peas at 32s. 6d. per 504 lb.

New York prices for prompt shipment are cabled at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb. for red winter wheat, 30s. 9d. for No. 1 Northern spring wheat, and 22s. 6d. for flat or mixed maize.

The London Corn Trade Association have made up standard samples of (1) choice white Kurrachee wheat; (2) soft red Kurrachee wheat; (3) choice white Delhi wheat, and (4) Indian white peas. Samples may be seen at the offices of the Association in St. Mary Axe, and are, of course, available for all uses and reference under the Association's contracts.

WET AND DRIED GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market continues without any particular change, notwithstanding that farmers are busy in the hay fields, and prices are firmer at about 13s 6d ale, 10s 6d porter, 25s distillers, 32s 6d [illegible] distillery meal. Dried grains are [illegible] at—ale, 92s 6d, mixed 86s [illegible] 110s per ton on rail London, [illegible] 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent [illegible] to arrive, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 95s [illegible] Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground [illegible] husks, 60s; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail, London.—Hamlyn and Co.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English firm, quiet, unchanged prices. Foreign held at Monday's rates, but in very poor request. South Russians, ex ship, quoted at 29s 6d to 33s; La Plata, landed, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s 9d; No. 2 at 32s 3d; No. 3 at 32s, all ex ship to arrive. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize slow for La Plata; steady, quiet, American; La Plata, ex ship, quoted at 20s 9d; landed at 21s 3d; mixed American, landed, at 22s 9d to 23s 3d. Barley dull, unchanged, late rates. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship to arrive, quoted at 18s 6d, landed at 19s. Oats: American steady, quiet, on small supplies in view; other sorts dull at late prices.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat: English firm, unchanged prices. Foreign sellers maintain late prices, but demand limited. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 29s 6d to 33s, landed at 30s to 33s. Plate at 30s 6d to 31s 6d. Choice white Karachi at 30s 6d, red Karachi at 30s. No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s 9d, ex ship to arrive. Flour steadily held, but inactive. Maize steady, quiet, at about late rates. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 9d to 23s 3d. La Plata, ex ship, 20s 9d: landed 21s 3d. Barley firm, but quiet. Odessi-Nico., ex ship, quoted at 18s 6d; landed at 19s. Oats quiet at late rates.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Scarcely any English corn on offer; prices were checked by the indifference of millers. Wheat quoted at 32s to 34s; white oats, 21s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 23s; English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; foreign grinding barley, 21s to 23s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; round maize, 25s to 26s; flat maize, 26s to 27s; peas, 33s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small attendance, and practically no grain samples on offer. Wheat, 29s to 30s; oats, 22s to 23s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat is now in such extremely small supply that the few samples offered are cleared off by the inland millers at prices relatively higher than their value delivered at large centres. Prices are therefore rather nominal at about 32s per 504 lb. Feeding corns were not in large demand, but prices upon the whole were well maintained, excepting maize, which was 3d per qr lower for round at 22s per qr; flat was steady at 24s per qr. Linseed and cotton-cakes, also fine milling stuffs, were firmer; but bran was in very quiet demand at about £4 10s to £4 12s 6d per ton.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans 31s 6d to 32s 6d per qr; oats, 19s to 26s per qr; peas, 30s to 35s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Trade was very quiet, buyers purchasing very sparingly and for immediate needs only. Quotations: River Plate wheat, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr (436 lb) at Sharpness; Russian wheats, 30s to 32s per qr, also at Sharpness; scarcely any English wheat on offer. Plate maize was quoted at 21s per 480 lb at Sharpness; flat ditto, 22s 6d at Bristol. Grinding barley 18s 9d per 400 lb at Sharpness. English oats were more inquired for, and made from 22s 6d to 23s per 312 lb delivered. Beans no change.

Bristol, Thursday.—No English wheat offering; foreign firmer, with an occasional slight advance in some varieties; maize unaltered; barley 3d dearer; oats unchanged; flour firm, but trading difficult owing to smaller consumptive demand.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was very little corn, and, if anything, wheat was the turn easier, lastweek's prices being scarcely maintained. Reports speak favourably of harvest prospects. Wheat is said to be pretty uniformly good; barley has very much improved since the rain, though still light on the chalk land; beans vary in districts.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Supplies limited; slow trade. Red wheat up to 34s per qr; English oats, whites, 20s to 23s; black, 19s to 21s; feeding barley, 25s to 27s per qr. The corn prospects are satisfactory, except for oats.

Chester, Saturday. — There was a little better attendance. Trade continues quiet, and there is an easing off in the price of maize. Wheat and oats are firm at last week's rates. Quotations: New white and red wheat, 4s 7d to 4s 10d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; old beans, 6s 3d to 6s 6d, and new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per 80 lb; old oats, 3s 3d to 3s 6d, and new, 2s 8d to 3s per 46 lb; old Indian corn, 12s 6d to 12s 9d, and new, 12s to 12s 6d per 204 lb; ditto River Plate, 12s to 12s 6d.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A small attendance, very little on offer, and practically no business doing. Wheat, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto, 33s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 19s to 19s 3d; oats, English, 19s to 23s; maize, 21s 6d to 22s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—A few samples of wheat offering at last week's prices. Very little other grain offering. Poor attendance.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Only a moderate attendance; still few samples of English-grown corn offered. Prices ruled almost same as last week—viz.: Wheat, 11s to 11s 9d per 186 lb; barley, 28s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, 24s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; beans, 12s 6d to 13s; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was no change to note in the value of any kind of grain. Wheat, new white, 31s to 32s; red, 31s to 32s; beans, old, 34s to 35s; oats, old, 24s to 25s; new, 22s to 24s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was no change in prices. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 20s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—English wheat trade practically at a standstill, no samples being on offer. The attendance was very small, and the foreign trade was inactive, though late prices were firm. In other things supplies were meagre and trade dull, and last week's prices were repeated.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Very quiet as well as sparsely attended market, and but very little doing in any kind of grain Home-grown wheat supplies have evidently come almost to an end, or very near so, there being but very little if any now offering; and as to prices, we must quote them as about the same. Barley about maintains late values, but was certainly no dearer. Oats about hold their own from scarcity, from 18s 6d to 22s being about a general run. Not much doing in maize, but flat was, if anything, rather firmer. Beans and peas bring full prices, as the supplies of home grown are nearly exhausted.

Dublin, Friday.—Foreign wheat very firm, but trade moderate at 18s 3d to 18s 6d; Australian, 18s 10d to 19s. Maize quiet and unaltered. American, 22s 3d; Plate, 21s 9d. Flour firm. Oats firm; black, 12s to 12s 9d; whites, 12s 6d to 13s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade dull. English wheat scarce and unchanged; foreign rather weaker. Barley and maize 3d to 6d dearer. Oats firm. Flour unaltered. English wheat, 3s to 4s; super fine flour, 25s to 27s; fine, 22s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been quiet, with a limited business doing, and prices of breadstuffs have been rather the turn in favour of buyers. Maize, being in more plentiful supply, has been rather easier in price. Barley remains steady, and foreign oats, owing to free arrivals, have been the turn in buyers' favour. Home oats, owing to scarcity, are firmly held. Other articles remain unaltered. There was the usual attendance to-day at our Corn Exchange. Wheat and flour quiet, and unaltered on the week. Maize steady—mixed, 13s per 280 lb; round, 12s 6d to 12s 9d. Oats and barley unchanged. Beans firm. Pease unaltered. Oatmeal dull.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday. — No English wheat on offer. There was a better trade in foreign at fully 3d advance. Plate maize unchanged to 3d dearer; flat and Bessarabian unchanged. Barley 3d dearer. Oats scarce.—WAIT, JAMES & CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—A poor attendance, with a limited supply of grain. Prices as last week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A very small market, with absolutely nothing doing. Values remain unaltered. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 62 lb.; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb.; Oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 8d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: An exceedingly small supply, and little or no trade. The nominal value of good reds is about 32s per 504 lb, delivered at Ipswich, and they are probably worth nearly as much at country stations. Oats scarce and firm at 21s 6d to 23s 6d per qr. Beans steady, 33s to 34s per qr. Maize, round, 3d per qr lower at 21s 6d; flat steady at 23s per qr. Linseed cakes firmer at £8 5s to £8 10s, and cottons, £5 5s to £5 10s per ton. Middlings were firm, but bran was quiet at £4 10s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday. — Fine weather and weak American advices keep the trade on the easy side, reduced shipments and doubtful crop accounts from South Eastern Europe, however, induce holders of wheat to remain firm, so that practically there is no change in prices on the week, business ruling quiet. Maize slow at late rates. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Small quantities of English wheat, which changed hands at yesterday's full prices. Foreign wheats were plentiful, and with advices of further arrivals shortly rates favoured buyers. Foreign malting barley was in fair supply, but not much doing owing to the high prices quoted. There was no change in feeding barley. Beans, peas, oats, and flour were in fair demand at late prices for finest descriptions.

Leicester, Saturday.—Buyers and dealers were fairly represented, but there were very short supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a dragging sale at 31s to 33s per 36 stones for reds, and 32s to 34s for whites; grinding barley slow, at unaltered rates; beans firm: fine, 23s to 25s per 36 stones.

Lincoln, Friday. — An exceptionally quiet market, trade being almost at a standstill. English wheats are practically exhausted; foreign were in good supply, and firm at unaltered rates. Feeding stuffs slightly dearer, but maize unchanged.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a moderate attendance, but wheat meets a general improvement in demand, with a fair trade passing at ½d to 1d advance from last market day's rates. Flour—A quiet retail trade without change in values of either foreign or home-made brands. Maize—Mixed is quiet at ½d to ½d decline owing to fresh arrivals. Plate steady, with a fair demand at unchanged currencies. European grades are ½d lower with only a small inquiry. Barley—Malting steady, with a moderate business. Feeding steady, with more demand. Beans rather more inquiry, and firmly held at late rates. Peas very slow and occasionally rather easier. Oats firmly held at the quotations, but moving quietly. Oatmeal in slow request; no change in values. Oilcake a very quiet trade at the quotations. Indian meal in improved demand at recent prices. — SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Attendance at the market to day fairly good. The display of wheat samples not abundant, as stocks are running low as usual on the approach of harvest, sales were effected at about the same cost as last week. Barley is inclined to rather easier terms, and maize firm and inclined to a slight rise. Oats hardly as good value as recently. Beans or peas not in much request and move off slowly with no change in quotations. Not any alteration in tares, hemp, brank, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat unchanged; foreign was easier and occasionally ½d. lower. Flour slow. Indian corn fully 1d lower on the week. Oats steady and unchanged. Barley scarce at late rates. Beans and peas command full rates. Bran, &c., firm.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet market owing to the hay-making season. Wheat and beans a firmer feeling. Wheat, white and red, made 31s to 32s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, white, 21s 6d to 23s; black, 21s to 22s; old beans, none; new ditto, 34s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A quiet demand for wheats at our to-day's market, last week's price, however, was maintained. American maize ruled firm and slightly dearer. Plate, however, sold at last Saturday's quotations. Scotch oats dearer. Foreign unchanged. A fair demand for beans, and holders were firm at 6d advance on last week's prices. Peas remain unchanged.—J. POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was very little business done in wheat. Other kinds of corn unchanged. Flour, fines, 24s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Extremely poor attendance. Grain was in very small show, and practically no business was transacted; prices remained unaltered. Wheat, 31s to 32s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 21s to 22s 6d; new black oats, 19s to 20s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was hardly any wheat on offer at our market to-day, at former quotations. Fine weather prevails. Wheat, red, 32s to 32s 6d per qr, weight 63 lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending June 30, 1906:—Wheat, 918 qr, 30s 4½d. —J. A. MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—A limited attendance, farmers being busy with the hay. Only a very small supply of English grain, and no alteration in prices. Foreign market wheat met with rather more inquiry at about late rates. Maize had but a slow trade at last week's prices. Barley was 3d dearer, while oats were quiet.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Not a sample of English wheat offering; foreign held for slight advance. Grinding barley steady; oats and beans in small supply and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—The market was very poorly attended, and the demand generally ruled dull Wheats were very inactive, and values moved slightly in favour of buyers.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We had mostly fine but by no means forcing weather during the past week. Two or three samples of wheat at

market made about last week's prices. Scarcely anything doing in spring corn, values nominally unchanged.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Market very slack. Wheat unchanged; maize ditoo; oats rather finer; Barley 1½d dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—A rather better feeling has been apparent during the week, holders of wheat remaining firm. There was only a moderate attendance at to-day's market, and prices were nominally unaltered. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 14s 3d; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; oatmeal, per load of 240 lb, 26s to 26s 6d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—There was an improved attendance. With trade more brisk wheat realised from 32s to 35s; oats, 18s to 25s; barley was scarce and dear, fetching 28s to 32s; old beans, 36s to 40s. Nothing doing in peas. Hay advanced 5s per ton all round.

Retford, Saturday.—Very little wheat, and trade dull. Prices about as usual, white making 30s 6d to 31s, and red 30s to 30s 6d per qr. English beans sold well, and were 6d dearer on the week, being worth 33s to 33s 6d per 38 stones. No change in the value of maize; round made 24s, and flat 25s per 34 stone. Oats were again a small show, and a good trade, white selling at 23s to 24s, and black 21s to 22s per 24 stones.

Ripon, Thursday.—Small show of samples and little business passing. Prices:—Wheat, 29s 6d to 30s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto, malting, 27s to 29s; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; maize, round, 23s to 24s; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With the consumption very small the demand was of a retail character, and little business was transacted. The supply of English grain is very small, but with little inquiry prices were practically unchanged from those of last week Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; ditto, red, 31s 6d to 32s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 21s to 21s 6d; ditto, white, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 32s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, 36s 6d to 36s 9d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 24s to 21s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto Plate, new, 22s 3d to 22s 9d; ditto flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 225 lb; old oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Small attendance. Trade very quiet. Wheat, 31s to 32s; oats, 21s to 22s per qr. No inquiry for other grain.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no English wheat showing. The foreign wheat trade keeps quiet, and prices slightly easier. Oats firm, and maize a little easier.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers being engaged with their hay, there is little grain offering, and no change to note in the value of wheat, barloy, or oats. Arrivals:—Coastwise wheat, 2,305 qr; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Warwick, Saturday.—Scanty attendance. As far as prices go there is no change to be recorded, but practically no business is passing, farmers seemingly having disposed now of their produce.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little business doing on the corn exchange to-day. Late rates maintained. Red wheat, 32s per 504 lb; oats, 21s to 23s per 336 lb. Crops promising. Weather very favourable.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Small attendance and very little business passing. Quotations were same as last week:—New wheat, 14s per 216 lb; flat corn, 23s; English beans, old, 15s 6d, new, 15s; oats, old 18s, new, 15s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Wheat, white, 30s to 31s; ditto red, 29s to 30s; barley, malting, 28s; ditto grinding, 25s; oats, white, 22s to 24s; ditto black, 20s to 21s; flat maize, 24s to 25s; ditto round, 25s to 26s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—English wheat scarce, and made from 3d to 6d per quarter more money. Foreign in buyers' favour. Grinding barley selling more freely at last week's prices. Flat maize firm. English wheat, white, 29s to 32s 6d per qr; secondary, 26s to 28s; red wheat, 26s to 30s; foreign wheat, 32s to 34s; grinding barley, foreign, 18s 4½d; English, best, 25s to 27s 6d; secondary, 22s to 24s; oats, English, white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; black, 21s to 22; Irish white 21s 6d; black, 18s 9d; maize, round, 21s; flat, 22s to 23s; rye, 24s to 26s; beans, winter, 34s to 36s; spring, 35s to 37s; tares, winter, 55s to 63s; spring, 62s to 70s. Flur, quiet trade on the basis of 23s 6d for fines. Milling offals in good request firm rates.

York, Saturday.—There was only a small ttendance on account of farmers busy haymaking. Wheat sold at about 30s per qr. Oats, beans, peas, and maize were unchangod.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: There are very satisfactory prospects about our new crop, and it is generally expected a full average crop will be reached, whilst the quality principally depends upon the weather at harvest time; so far it has been as favourable as could be wished. In Austria and Hungary prospects remain good, and in the latter country the barley is nearly ripe, so that cutting will commence next week; unfortunately the weather has turned unsettled, which, of course, will do harm. FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg Saturday.—With the exception of a rainy day, we had fine sunny weather. Cutting of rye has commenced: it promises to turn out a fine crop. Other coreals are also making satisfactory progress towards maturity. The crops are strong in the stem, and were able to withstand the heavy rains. Market quiet for all descriptions of grain without material alterations in values. Wheat not much inquired after. Fine Holstein and Mecklenburg has been sold at 30s 9d to 31s per 504 lb, f.o b., and is still offering at this price; but there is not much left. Russian, Danubian and River Plate is held at 27s 9d to 30s. New red winter No. 2 July-August from Baltimore at 27s to 28s; No. 1 Durum wheat Duluth inspection September-October, 28s 6d per 480 lb c i f Hamburg. Russian rye in good supply, 9 10/15 Odessa, Nicolajeff is selling at 22s 6d, August shipment new crop is offering at 22s 3d, 9 15/20 afloat at 23s per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Reports about the growing crop of barley in this country continue satisfactory; in Hungary there is not a heavy crop, but the plants are strong, and the ears well filled; cutting in the western districts will commence next week, and in the eastern districts a week later. Old stocks are quite exhausted. Feeding barley in fair demand, 60/61 Kg South Russian is selling at 17s 3d to 17s 6d per 400 lb c i.f. Hamburg. Maize firm. River Plate and Danubian July-August is selling at 20s 6d; American mixed at 21s to 21s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 14, 1906:—

Wheat	2 ,243,000	cwts.
Wheat-flour	193,900	,,
Barley	335,600	,,
Oats	555,590	,,
Maize	664,500	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	2,410,100	1,761,900	2,046,227	1,393,688
Wheat-flour	141,300	171,600	312,035	436,211
Barley ...	94,500	530,200	490,032	79,568
Oats ...	529,500	176,000	774,044	284,799
Maize ...	616,350	736,703	1,450,064	1,071,560

Weekly Arrivals into London.

July 4 to 11, inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	2,000	142,000	144,000
Barley	400	17,000	17,400
Malt	19,627	—	19,672
Oats	200	93,000	93,200
Beans	159	120	279
Peas	88	1,363	1,451
Maize	—	32,136	32,136
Tares	50	1,300	1,350
Millet	—	30	30
Dholl	—	1,350	1,350
Rye	40	2,561	2,601
Canaryseed	—	100	100
Rapeseed	—	2,015	2,015
Linseed	—	30,000	30,000
Flour ... sacks	19,726	64,053	83,776
Barleymeal	—	5,060	5,060
Maizemeal	—	3,000	3,000

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 10, 1906.

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	28	0 ...	44	12	6 ...	1	11	10
Barley ...	62	2 ...	73	6	1 ..	1	3	7
Oats	Nil.							

Imperial Weekly Averages

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1905.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
July 15	4,884	32	1	34	23	10	1,962	19	6
,, 22	6,558	32	3	52	23	7	2,434	19	7
,, 29	7,691	32	2	24	23	11	3,065	18	11
Aug. 5	5,062	32	3	371	22	0	4,344	19	3
,, 12	8,184	31	11	548	22	5	8,974	18	4
,, 19	32 715	30	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	11
,, 26	88,636	28	5	6,461	23	6	20,855	16	4
Sept. 2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	24,000	15	9
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28 346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	21	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending June 30, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d	Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	14,775	..30	11	66	..23	8	2,122	..22	10
1903...	17,132	..28	3	330	..20	5	5,370	..18	7
1904...	14,169	..26	10	665	..18	9	6,320	.17	6
1905...	4,884	..32	3	34	..23	10	1,962	..19	7
1906...	8,242	..30	5	101	..23	8	1,360	..20	4

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.		1900	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ..	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...			25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August			25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...			24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...			25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year	32	0	25	1	18	5
Lowest of Year	26	10	22	8	16	0
Gradient	5	2	2	5	2	5
Mean of Year	29	9	24	4	17	4

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, Ju'y 16.

The market to-day was poorly attended, but the tone of business was not worse from last week. English wheat was scarce and firm. Foreign wheat was held with more confidence than might have been looked for considering the liberality of recent imports. Maize was decidedly firm for flat corn, but yellow and round sorts maintained previous prices with some difficulty. Barley was a firmer trade from Friday. English was extremely scarce, Russian was not abundant on spot, and Roumania has sent us very little of late. But for the usual summer weakness of demand, the price of barley would have been definitely dearer. Oats were firmer for English, American, and New Zealand, but rather weak for Russian. Indian peas were occasionally obtainable at a slight decline. Beans were firm for all sorts.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

July 16.		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	35
Red	,,	31	34
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	28	29
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	28	30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	26	27
,,	(per 400 lb.)	23	24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	36
Brown	,,	27	29
Black	,,	28	30
OATS, Finest Scots	,,	23	24
Black Winter	,,	21	22
Grey Winter	,,	22	23
Storm Kings	,,	23	24
Black Tartary	,,	22	23
White Gartons	,,	21	22
Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20	21
Ordinary	(per 312 lb.)	19	20
Light	(per 304 lb.)	17	18
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	24	26
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	42	46
Tick	,,	39	41
Winter (Old)	,,	37	38
,, (New)	,,	35	36
Spring	,,	36	37
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64	72
Unpicked ditto	,,	48	52
Dun	,,	33	34
Maple (Old)	,,	none	
,, (New)	,,	35	36
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	56	64
(Spring)	,,	64	72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9	33	American	22/9	23
,, ,, 2	31/9	32	Argentine	22	22/6
,, 3	30/9	31	Bulgarian	22	22/3
American Red			Roumanian	22/3	22/6
Winter	31	32	Russian	22/6	23
,, H'rd ,,	30/9	31	Rangoon	21	21/6
Argentine	31	32	North African	23	24
Australian	32	33	BEANS (480 lb.):		
New Zealand	31	32	Smyrna	34	36
Californian	33	34	Konigsberg	33	35
Blue Stem	33	34	New Zealand	35	36
Walla Walla	32	33	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Saxonka	33	34	Italian	64	72
Azima	32	33	Burmese	32	42
Ghirka	31	32	Chilian	56	64
Indian White	31	32	LENTILS (cental):		
,, Red	30,6	31	Split Egyptian	10	11
Persian	30	30/6	Whole Indian	7	8
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	30	Konigsberg	44	46
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	32	Indian White	35	36
,, (400 lb)	24	26	Indian Green	29	31
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	30	Tasman'n M'ple	42	46
Russian (400 lb)	19	19/6	New Zeal'd Maple	39	40
Am'can (400 lb)	18/9	19	Victoria Dun.	33	34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	21	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Torrified (336 lb)	21	22	White	42	44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	24
Californian	33	36	Sorghum	20	22
Smyrna	33	36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	36	Indian	14	16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	10
Russian	24	25	Siamese	8	9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23	25	Smyrna	27	28
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	20	21	Indian	26	27
Am'can (320 lb)	17	17/6	Persian	22	24
Libau (320 lb.)	19	20	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	16	16/3	French	26	27
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	16	16/6	Russian	25	26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, July 16.

There was a trifle more demand from bakers, and prices were well supported both for London and country makes. The supplies are, however, somewhat in excess of an usual summer demand. American sorts lacked support, 24s 9d was about the best price paid. Hungarian did not go higher than 29s 6d, and for once undersells London top price. The offers of America to ship freely in August of new flour from winter wheat at 22s per sack naturally exert a powerful influence, and if the do not accentuate spot depression, the appear to limit hopes of recovery in the near future. Millers' offals to-day were decidedly firm, and with many mills not working between now and new crop deliveries there is some chance of middlings, bran and pollards going dearer soon. Meal in general never sells rapidly in July, but observers of this market feel justified in affirming that more is being consumed than in past years. Prices are well maintained for all the chief types.

London Flour.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0	net.
Town Whites	,,	26/6	,,
,, Households	,,	23/6	,,
No. 2	,,	21/6	,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/6	,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/6	,,
Paste Flour	,,	20/6	,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	25
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	23
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21	22
Stone made	,,	21	21/6

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	24	24/6
,, Second Patents	,,	23	23/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	21/6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	20/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	24/6
,, Bakers'	,,	21	21/6
Cascadia	,,	25	25/6
Manitoba Patent	,,	24	24/3
Manitoba Ordinary	,,	23	23/3
Hungarian, 0	,,	30	30/6
,, 1	,,	29	29/6
,, 2	,,	28	28/6
,, 3	,,	27	27/6
French, Corbeil	,,	23	23/6
,, Renaux	,,	22	22/6
,, P.S.D.	,,	21	21/9
Australian	,,	23	24
Argentine	,,	24	26

Meal, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	12
Pollard	,,	9	10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	28
,, Seconds	,,	25	26
Barley Meal	,,	18	19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24	25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	34
Groats	,,	33	34
Oat Flour	,,	34	35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	19	20
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	16
,, Cones	,,	20	21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	19
Rye Meal	,,	17	18
Pea Meal	,,	22	23
Bean Meal	,,	22	23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18	19
Rice Meal	,,	13	14
Rice Flour	,,	19	20
Rice Cones	,,	17	18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED FIRMER THAN THE FINE WEATHER HAD LED HOLDERS TO EXPECT. THERE IS CERTAINLY NO DEPRESSION IN ANY BRANCH OF TRADE, THOUGH, OF COURSE, THERE IS A DEGREE OF SUMMER SLACKNESS IN INQUIRY.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Spring wheat flours unchanged, but winters for July shipment are offered at 9d per sack less on the week. Grain.—American corn is dull owing to liberal supplies of round corn, which is offered at 3d per boll lower. Scotch oats unchanged, but Manitobas, which are plentiful, are 3d to 6d lower. Feeding beans firm. Grinding beans held for 3d advance for July-August shipment. Barley steady. Poor demand for feeding-stuffs generally. Mill stuffs.—The difficulty in getting delivery of Thirds is most unusual at this season, and there is no difficulty in making higher prices. Bran remains unchanged and dull.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Offals.—Demand for bran fairly good; prices unchanged. Flour.—Quotations nominally the same; business, however, continues dull, and for most qualities very little doing.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Wheat arrivals are large. Trade firm at full prices. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize and barley 3d. per qr. dearer. Oats steady, unchanged.—Coventry and Sheppard.

Miling Offal.—All offals are firm, with a good demand.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet but firm, at last week's full prices.—T. S. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

THE BALTIC 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The market for cargoes is not without animation for new crop shipments. Prices are steady; certainly not more depressed from Saturday.

Business Done.

Wheat.—No. 2 Red Winter, 30s per 480 lb, August shipment (new crop); No. 2 Hard Kansas, 28s 9d per 480 lb, August shipment (new crop); No. 2 Manitoba, 29s 6d, per 480 lb, August shipment (old crop); No. 2 Hard Winter, 29s 6d, per 480 lb, August shipment (new crop); No. 2, Hard Winter, 29s 3d per 480 lb, September shipment (new crop); Roumanian Best, 6s 3d per 100 lb, prompt shipment; Roumanian secondary, 6s per 100 lb, prompt shipment; Kurrachee White (old), 5s 11d per 100 lb, prompt shipment; Kurrachee White (new), 6s per 100 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 5s 3d per 100 lb, prompt shipment; Caucasian, 4s 8d per 100 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 20s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Californian, 25s 3d per 448 lb, September shipment (new crop); Californian, 25s per 448 lb, October shipment (new crop).

Oats.—Roumanian, 14s 9d per 304 lb, October shipmen (new crop); Vologda, 15s 3d per 304 lb, August shipment (old crop).

Beans.—Syrian, 31s per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Peas.—White Calcutta, 32s 6d per 504 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 41s 6d per 410 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 40s 6d per 416 lb, on passage; Duluth, 40s per 424 lb, August shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 45s 3d per 416 lb, July shipment; 45s per 416 lb, August shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 8s 9d per 2,240 lb, July shipment.

Locust Beans.—Portuguese, £4 17s 6d per 2,240 lb, July shipment.

TERM MARKET.

There is little purchasing for future delivery, but prices to-day may be quoted as follows:—

Wheat	.....July delivery,	6s	8d	per cental.
,,	.....Sept. ,,	6s	7d	,,
,,	.....Nov. ,,	6s	8d	,,
Maize	.....July ,,	4s	8d	,,
,,	.....Sept. ,,	4s	7d	,,
,,	.....Nov. ,,	4s	8d	,,

It will be seen that these prices in the cases both of wheat and maize may be said to amount to a prophecy that a period of some depression in September or October will be followed by recovery before the end of the year.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supply, but only a moderate demand. Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 4s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; goslings, 5s to 6s; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 3d to 3s 3d; quails, 6d to 1s 3d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 7d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Market quiet beyond the usual demand for mustard and rape. Prices unchanged. The new trifolium, both English and foreign, is now appearing; there seems a bountiful crop of both, but growers' ideas are so far above buyers', consequently no business passing.—John Picard and Co.

EGGS.

Thursday.—Axminster: 8d to 9d per dozen Birmingham: 10 to 12. Brigg: 14 and 15. Devizes: 14 to 16. Driffield: 15 and 16. Evesham: 11½d to 18½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 14. Northtawton: 16. Penistone: 12 and 13. Penzance: 8d to 10d per dozen. Ripon: 13. Wetherby: 12 and 13.

Friday.—Altrincham: 10. Ashburton: 10d to 11d per doz. Barnstaple: 12 to 14. Chester: 10 to 12. Camelford: 16. Crewe: 11 and 12 Dartmouth: 11d to 1s 1d per doz. Derby: 12 and 13. Helmsley: 14. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 14 and 15. Lincoln: 12 to 14. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 10 and 11. Nantwich: 13. Northwich: 11. Otley: 11 to 13. Redruth: 9d per doz. Runcorn: 11. Stockport: 11. Tavistock: 11 to 13. Totnes: 11d to 1s per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 12 and 13. Berwick: 11d to 1s per doz. Bridgnorth: 12 and 13. Carlisle: 11 and 12. Doncaster: 12. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 13 to 15. Lancaster: 9 to 12. Malton: 12 to 14. Retford: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 11 and 12. Shrewsbury: 12 and 13. Skipton: 13 and 14. Stokesley: 12 and 13. Whitby: 12 and 13. Worcester: 12. York: 12.

BUTTER.

Thursday.—Axminster: 11d to 1s 1d. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Brigg: 1s to 1s 1d. Devizes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 9d to 10d. Evesham: 1s to 1s 2½d. Kidderminster: 1s to 1s 1d. Northtawton: 11d. Penistone: 1s 1d. Penzance: 8d to 10d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Wetherby: 10d to 1s 1d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s. Chester: 1s 1d. Camelford: 10d. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dartmouth, 1s to 1s 2d. Derby: 1s to 1s 1d. Helmsley: 9d. Knutsford: 1s 2d. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 2d. Lincoln: 11d to 1s 1d. Lostwithiel: 10d. Macclesfield: 1s to 1s 1d. Nantwich: 1s. Northwich: 1s 1d. Otley: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 9½d. Runcorn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockport, 1s 1d. Tavistock, 1s to 1s 3d. Totnes, 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10d to 1s; Berwick: 8d to 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 11d to 1s. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Grantham: 11d to 1s 1d. Howden: 10d to 1s. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Malton 1s. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Richmond (Yorks): 10d to 11d. Shrewsbury: 10d to 1s. Skipton: 10d to 1s. Stokesley: 10d 11d. Whitby: 11d to 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 10d to 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supply again liberal, with a sustained demand for Dunlops, which commanded 1s per cwt more for good grass lots. Smaller inquiry for Cheddars. Dunlops, 54s to 59s per cwt; Cheddars, 56s to 60s. Only a limited trade in Canadians.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 22 tons of cheese pitched, and all were cleared, there being a large attendance of buyers. Best dairies realised up to 54s 9d per cwt; second dairies, 52s to 53s; and other dairies, 50s to 51s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 48s. Cheddars made 63s to 67s; truckles, 60s to 61s 6d; doubles, 53s to 57s.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, and a good trade. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 48s to 58s per cwt; fancy dairies, 55s to 56s; truckles, 56s to 63s; Derbys, 64s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A steady trade was transacted, good supplies of fruit and greenstuffs changing hands at the undermentioned prices. Quotations for English produce: cherries, 3s 6d to 12s 6d per half-sieve; grapes, 9d to 4s; peaches, 2s to 12s per dozen; strawberries, 2s 6d to 5s 6d per peck; ditto 5s to 7s per dozen punnets; melons, 9d to 2s 3d; figs, 1s 6d to 5s 6d per dozen; raspberries, 3s to 5s per dozen punnets; ditto, 1s to 2s per gallon; red currants, 4s to 5s 6d; black ditto, 5s to 6s; gooseberries, 2s to 4s per half-sieve; pineapples, 2s to 4s 6d each; tomatoes, 4s to 6s; lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; cabbage, 2s 6d to 3s per tally; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 7s per flat; horseradish, 9s to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; green artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; endive, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen; broad beans, 1s to 1s 3d; beetroot, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; green peas, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel; ditto, 3s to 5s 6d per bag; onions (green), 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; sage, 1s to 1s 3d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; carrots, 1s to 2s; radishes, 6d to 8d; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 7d per dozen bunches; vegetable marrows, 3s to 3s 6d per dozen; cauliflowers, 7s to 8s 6d per tally; potatoes (old), 60s to 85s per ton; ditto (new), 4s 9d to 5s 6d per cwt.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 16, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, July 17, 1905.
Beasts	810	810	980
Sheep and Lambs	7,130	7,130	7,870
Calves	20	20	40
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 8
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	5 6	6 0	7 2
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 183; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 612; Devon, 15; Ireland, —.

We note to-day a decrease of 230 in the number of beasts offered for sale here, compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply, as usual at this season of the year, consisting of grass-fed Herefords and Runts from the Midland Counties. Trade taken as a whole was of a firm and steady nature, anything choice selling readily; heavy descriptions, however, were a drag on the market. A small supply of Highland Scots were placed on the market and found buyers late in the day. The trade for fat butchering cows was slightly firmer, but fat bulls were very little sought after. A clearance is considered very doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, July 17, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		—	
Devons	—		—	
Herefords	4 6	to 4 8	4 4	to 4 6
Norfolks	4 2	to 4 4	4 2	to 4 4
Runts	4 0	to 4 4	4 0	to 4 4
Lincolns	3 10	to 4 0	3 10	to 4 0
Irish	—		4 0	to 4 3
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 4	to 3 6	3 6	to 3 8

There was an increase of 950 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened briskly, but fell off as the day advanced. Nevertheless, up to the time of our report leaving, prices remained the same. There was a good inqury for Scotch descriptions, these ruling firm, both in regard to tone and value; Irish were difficult to vend, even at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. With a fair average supply of lambs and a ready inquiry, trade ruled firm and steady, 2d. per 8 lbs. more money being easily obtained. The supply included 300 Scotch, 550 Irish, and 1,353 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, July 17, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
8 st Scotch	5 10	to 6 0	5 8	to 5 10
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 8	to 5 10	5 6	to 5 8
9 st. Downs	5 6	to 5 8	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Halfbreds	5 2	to 5 4	5 2	to 5 4
9 st Yorkshires	—	4	4 4	6
12st Lincoln Halfbreds	4 10	to 5 0	4 4	to 4 6
10 st Irish	4 10	to 5 0	5 0	to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0	to 4 2	5 2	to 5 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10	to 4 0	5 2	to 5 4
5 st Fat Grass Lambs	7 0	to 7 2	6 2	to 6 4
6 st Irish ditto	5 10	to 6 0	5 10	to 6 0

The calf trade was a slow one, the best on offer making from 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in). No pigs on offer.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supply. Average demand. Beef: Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d. English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; American, 3s 1d to 3s 4d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb: English, 5s 8d to 6s; New Zealand, 3s to 3s 6d. Veal, 3s to 4s 4d; pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

St. Ives (Hunts.), Monday.—Beasts, 281; sheep and lambs, 2,033; pigs, 328. Fat and store cattle and sheep, fair demand; fat and store pigs in good demand. Milch cows short: fair trade from £14 to £22. Beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 9s 11d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork, 7s to 7s 3d.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 720. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 111 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade was of a firm and steady nature at an advance of 1d per 8 lb in value. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday, 1,444 beasts from the United States and 299 from Canada were offered for sale, and met with a firm and steady trade. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s 11d to 4s 1d; seconds 3s 9d to 3s 10d; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—More cattle in market. Demand fair, and last week's prices fully maintained. Fewer sheep and lambs; trade good for finished handy classes at hardening rates. Strong sorts also easier to sell, though prices were not quotably different. Beef, 6½d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6½d; lamb, 9½d to 8¾d per lb. At market: 703 cattle and 10,399 sheep.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The market for linseed is rather dearer on the week. Other sorts of oilseeds are not altered in price.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Dutch	47 to 49	Egyptian	136 to 138
American	42 to 43	Indian	106 to 108
Calcutta	42 to 43	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	43 to 45		
Russian	41 to 43	English, Best	16 to 17
Argentino	41 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Duluth	43 to 45	,, Black.	13 to 14
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		SESAME.	per cwt.
Best English	61 to 63	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	46 to 47	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
,, Cawnpore	44 to 45	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	42 to 43	CANARYSEED. per 464 lb.	
Ferozepore	44 to 46	English	50 to 52
		Spanish	82 to 86
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		Turkish	48 to 49
Indian	44 to 46	Argentine	47 to 48

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—As usual in July there is more demand for Linseed cake, and crushers have cleared. Offer some quantity during the past week to dealers for storing. Decorticated cotton cake and meal, with small supplies, continues firm. Cotton cake is also in better demand and rather dearer. The low price for dried grains induces buyers to make contracts for forward deliveries.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	£7	15	0 to 7	17 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		—		
American Western Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	2	6 to 7	5 0
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive)	ex quay	7	5	0	
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	7	6 to 7	15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7	15	0 to 7	17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal	ex quay		—		
London-made ,, Cake (best	ex mill	4	17	6 to 5	0 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	16	3 to 4	18 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4	17	6	
Dutch Linsced (in bags), per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2	5	0	2 8 0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb	ex warehouse	2	4	0	—
La Plata Linseed (in bags) per 416 lb. (screened)	ex warehouse	2	2	6	2 10 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2	5	0	—

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good arrivals evidenced a slow sale. St. Malo and Jersey, 4s per cwt.; English, new, 70s to 90s per ton; Dutch, 2s 4d to 3s per basket.

Manchester, Saturday. — Yorkshire warps, 8s to 9s; Cheshire, new, rounds, 6s to 7s; kidneys, 6s 6d to 8s per load; Scotch, 7s to 8s per load; Jersey, 5s 6d to 6s; Norfolk Hebrons, 6s 6d to 7s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Later arrivals were in better request. St. Malo, 4s to 4s 6d; Cherbourg, 3s to 3s 6d; Jersey, 3s 6d to 4s; English whites, 3s 6d to 4s; reds, 3s 6d per cwt; Dutch, 3s per bag.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade was confined entirely to Monday, and with a slight decrease in the number on offer, consisted principally of consignments from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties, with a few Devons there being no arrivals from either Scotland or Ireland. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow nature, but steady in regard to value, all sales being governed by the previous week's currencies; a few Runts were offered for sale, and sold early in the day at good money; whilst heavy Lincolns were very unsaleable, even at a decline in value. No store cattle were placed on the market. On Thursday, as usual, trade was confined to fat bulls and rough cattle, and was of a very sluggish nature; nevertheless, late rates governed all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, markets were held, as usual, on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, the majority of the beasts arriving from the United States. Trade commenced of a firm and steady nature, and though of a slow nature on Wednesday maintained Monday's prices, becoming firmer on Saturday at an advance in value. The total number of beasts on offer was 3,586, as against 4,321 during the preceding week, consisting of 600 British (decrease 20) and 2,986 foreign (decrease 1,215), these latter comprising 2,567 from the United States and 419 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade, which was confined to the Islington market, for both wethers and ewes was of a fairly steady nature, salesmen experiencing no difficulty in maintaining late values, the same remark is also applicable to Scotch descriptions, but not so with the Irish sheep, these were somewhat difficult to vend. On Thursday trade was of a dull and dragging nature for all descriptions of wethers: ewes, however, were firm. The lamb trade on Monday was a disappointing one, sales having to be forced even at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value, but on the second market day of the week it became firmer. At Deptford no sheep were shown. The total number penned was 10,450 as against 9,979 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in):—7½ to 8 st. Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 st. ditto, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 st. half-breds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 st. Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 st. Down Ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 11 st. half-bred ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 st. fat Down Lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 st. half-bred ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Calves were in good supply and met with a firm and steady trade, the best making from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8 lb.

No pigs on offer.

Trade in the West.

The markets continue to be glutted with stores of a decidedly plain description, for which there is a quiet sale; graziers, with the dry spell of hot weather we are having, being very chary about making purchases of this class of stock, though there is no such hesitation about the bettermost things, which, from being none too plentiful, are quickly caught up at, on the whole, satisfactory prices.

Very few milch beasts just now make over £20 or £21, and it takes a real good one to do that, a more average range for the most serviceable milchers at present on the market being from £16 up to about £19. Below this figure there are any number offering at the different centres, but they are mostly distinctly "plain," and can be had from £15 down to as low as £8 or £9 for those on the point of being turned out.

Young stock, unless of distinct promise, have recovered but little in price, and though occasionally a few yearlings, as well as stirks, that are fancied bring fairly satisfactory prices (from £6 up to £10 or £11), the major portion meet a very poor inquiry indeed at disappointing values.

There is nothing very special in any of the grazing cattle we have come across of late, but where animals show both quality and condition there is little difficulty in finding buyers at prices ranging from about £24 up to £28 per pair (which is just now an outside quotation), and the more ordinary runs from £18 to £22, though should the drought continue, there will certainly be a further decline in present values, and owners of this class of stock are preparing themselves for such a contingency.

Store sheep are finding a very satisfactory market, and those who consider themselves competent to express an opinion on the subject do not hesitate for a moment to say that they consider flockmasters who have sold at the ruling prices have done the right thing, as the keep problem is not a question to be ignored where a large herd of sheep is concerned. And they consider the course all the wiser seeing what a good return they are getting for their wool, even if the sheep have not produced the outside farthing that had been expected. But when ewes make from 46s. to 53s. apiece, and lambs 34s. to 40s., things are not so very bad after all. Calves for rearage are also keeping steady, and there is, so far, but a very trifling decline in store pigs.

The beef trade is keeping fairly firm for all the ripest grass-fed beasts now coming, whether steers or heifers, which are making quite 11s. 6d. per score for the market weights, though we know the more ordinary runs are by no means so saleable, despite the fact that they can be bought from 1s. to 2s. per score under what the primest grades bring; cows only making 9s. to 10s., and coarser bullocks of heavy weights 8s. to 8s. 6d. Veal is scarcely so buoyant as it was; and only the very ripest calves bring 8d. per lb., and plenty of the more ordinary ones not more than 7d. to 7½d.

Nice-quality tegs keep up very well in price, 7½d. to 8d. (shorn); but ewes, except very young sheep and nicely done, are a much slower trade at not more than 7d. to 7¼d., older sheep selling at 6½d. Down lambs and half-breds are making late currencies—10d. to 10½d; but anything lacking finish meets a dragging trade at not more than 9d.

Porkers keep steady at 10s. per score; but the coarser weights are against sellers, from 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per score being the range for hogs, and coarser weights, 7s. 6d. to 8s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been about an average. Trade has been rather quieter, and prices have fallen about 15s. per head. Sheep have been shown in fair numbers. These have also met a quicter trade at nearly 2s. per head down. There was a very large supply of lambs, for which a decidedly worse market was got at prices about 3s. a head less than the exorbitant prices of last week. Fat calves made rather less money, while pigs were just about the same. There were rather more store sheep shown, mostly of a very indifferent class. Anything good got easily and well sold, but part of the secondary sheep were left over. For the time of year there was a large supply of store cattle. The best descriptions got well sold out, but a portion of the secondary two-year-olds and smaller stirks were left over, prices in this department being slightly lower. Milch cows met rather a worse trade at a shade less money. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 8d.; current, 35s. 6d. to 37s.; mutton, to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a better attendance of buyers at last Thursday's Dublin market, but the supply of stock was also increased, the cattle numbering 2,243, or 257 more than the previous market day, and the sheep 10,942 or 2,118 more. The increase in buyers did not seem to do much good, as business generally was slower. The cattle market opened with a fairly good inquiry for choice sorts at prices about on a par with last week, but subsequently business eased down, and the prices of the early hours could not be maintained. Things got worse as the day wore on, and towards the close of the market, cattle could only be disposed of at concessions a good deal under the figures of the morning, the fall being about 10s. per head. More business was done in the shipping way than on the previous market day. Some exceedingly fine cattle were offered for sale, but the best did not make the top price of last market, though the average returns do not show much change. The live weight price for best bullocks and heifers ranged from 32s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. per cwt. The approximate dead weight prices were:—Prime ox and heifer beef, 55s. to 60s. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 50s. to 54s.; and inferior from 44s. to 47s. 6d.

The trade in mutton was of a very cautious character from start to finish. London buyers found the prices too near in touch with those at home to speculate largely, and local butchers were able to buy on easier terms. Good fat lambs met with a steady trade, but other sorts had a slow and tedious sale at lower prices. Wether mutton made from 7d. to 7¾ per lb.; ewe ditto 6d. to 7d., and inferior sheep from 5½d. upwards. Heavy hoggets made from 45s. to 56s. each; and small to medium ditto from 33s to 34s. Small lambs sold at from 18s. to 24s., and fat lambs from 26s. to 40s. each. A good number of pens of coarse sheep remained unsold at the close of the market.

Veal of prime quality sold at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb., and very prime made up to 8½d per lb., while other sorts were very irregular at from 4½d per lb. upwards.

A fair supply of dairy cows on offer, with slow demand, dairymen requiring considerably less cows to supply their customers on account of the vast improvement in pasture lands of late. A few choice freshly-calved cows met with a fair inquiry at late rates—£17 to £20 each; medium and coarse cows hard to sell at £16 down to £9. Stores in good request at much improved prices, and likely to continue at high rates while the grass is so good as it is.

The supply of pigs was moderate, with a good attendance of buyers, but trade was cautious and prices hardly up to last week's. Choice light-weight pigs made up to 55s. and 56s., and heavier sorts from 52s. to 54s. per cwt. Coarse pigs from 38s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—The supply of beasts consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, middling quality predominating, for which trade ruled sluggish, with a downward tendency in value, though barely sufficient to quote. Few prime quality cattle offered met no inquiry, and were unquotable. Top prices paid per 8 lb.: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. An increase of 410 in the number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and half-breds. Trade for wether sheep ruled dull, at a reduction in some cases of fully 2d per 8 lb. Ewes, however, met a fairly good inquiry, last Monday's quotations being well maintained. A good demand for lambs, except heavy descriptions, salesmen both asking and obtaining a slight advance on late values. Best pens made, per 8 lb, as follows: 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 8d; 9 st ditto, 5s 6d; 10 st ditto, 5s 4d; 10 st half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10 st ewes, 4s 2d; 5 st fat grass lambs, 7s; 6 st half-bred ditto, 6s. Calves in larger numbers, and met a firmer trade. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; lambs, 4s 8d to 7s. Total supply: Beasts, 20; sheep and lambs, 2,810; calves, 70; milch cows, 5.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade decidedly better; beef and mutton firmer:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 3d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; ditto, seconds, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ditto, tegs, 5s 10d to 6s; ditto, ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; choice small, 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; foreign sheep, 4s to 5s; English lamb, 5s 4d to 6s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade dull all round. Best beef made up to 4s 6d per stone; choice Down mutton up to 6s; and best Kent wethers 5s to 5s 4d; barren sheep, 3s 6d to 4s; pork made 4s to 4s 4d; and six-weeks old pigs fetched high prices, going up to 14s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Son's sale yard there was a good attendance to meet a supply of 42 fat beasts, 95 calves, 147 pigs, 509 fat sheep and lambs, and 71 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Devon steers made from £17 to £22 10s; cows, £15 to £16 10s; Shorthorn steers, £16 10s to £19 15s; cows, to £16 10s; Polled steers, £17 10s to £20 10s; fat calves, 60s to £5; smaller ditto, 22s to 55s; fat porkers, 28s 6d to 41s; stores, to 27s 6d; dairy cattle, £11 5s to £20 10s; eighteen-months-old Down wethers and ewes made from 52s to 59s 6d; half-bred ditto, 48s 6d to 50s; cross-bred Scotch, 36s; old Down ewes, 34s to 40s; Exmoor ewes, 26s to 27s; Cheviot ewes, 31s; ditto tegs, 40s; six-months-old Down lambs, 40s to 50s 6d; 2nd class and small, 30s to 36s; cross-bred Scotch lambs, 28s to 32s 6d. The consignments of fat beasts included some very good Devon steers, Shorthorn steers and heifers, and Polled steers, for which there was a dull trade without much change from last week's prices. The best quality fat wethers and young ewes and fat lambs met a good inquiry at last week's figures, second class lambs were lower, and a very dull trade for old fat ewes, and sales could only be made at a considerable reduction in price.

OIL and GAS ENGINES
are growing more than ever in demand, and would be still further "boomed" if regularly advertised in the "Mark Lane Express."

There was a larger supply of milch cows on offer, with an improvement in prices, the best class cows being in demand. Store cattle trade continues very slow. Fat calves met a clearance at late rates. Fat porkers were in short numbers, and sold at last week's prices; store pigs continue a good trade, with satisfactory returns. Ruling values:—Best beasts, 6½d to 7d; second class do., 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d per lb; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; second class do., 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7d; choice fat sucking lambs, 10d to 10½d per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb; fat porkers, 9s to 10s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a falling off in the number of beasts, the total, 341, being over 200 short of that of the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, quality of stock fair, and trade dull. Calves, £5 10s to £6 10s; heifers, £7 10s to £9 10s; stirks, £7 10s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £13; three-year-olds, £12 10s to £14 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £11.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade good for pigs; fair trade for beasts and sheep. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Horefords, 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d. per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 5d to 10s 6d per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was average business in beef, which was in fair supply at late rates. Mutton was plentiful, as was lamb, but inquiry was not brisk, and only moderate trade was done, without any alteration of prices. Pigs were not numerous, and with limited demand quotations for porkers fell to 10s 6d per score.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d. per score extra for delivery by road. Six sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs., no deduction for fat, 10s. per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 10s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lbs., not over 2¾ in., 9s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—C. & T. HARRIS & Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There were a few lots of sheep sold to-day, but the supply was extremely limited, and the attendance small.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was a good show of useful cattle, between 500 and 600 being forward. A number of buyers put in an appearance, and a fair trade was done at £7 10s to £12 10s for wintering heifers, and up to £16 10s for heifers for feeding off.

Chester, Thursday.—The supplies were small, but in excess of the demand. Farmers were thinly represented, and most of the trade was done by dealers. Prices were practically unchanged. Milch cows were quoted at £14 to £21; calvers, £15 to £19; barren cattle, £10 to £17; stirks, £6 to £9; and heifers, £9 to £14.

Colchester, Saturday.—Fat bullocks not quite so good as last week. A few ripe cattle sold fairly well. A good entry of fat sheep and lambs, which sold freely. Good sheep and lambs wanted. Pork trade dull. Heifers down calving sold fairly well. Trade for store cattle slightly better. Beasts made £19 to £12 10s; sheep, 57s to 53 6d; fat lambs, 44s to 38s; hogs, 50s to 40s; store cattle, £8 15s to £5 11s; fat calves, £4 to £2 10s.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fair attendance. Sheep and lambs dearer than last week, there being a general scarcity of better class animals. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; calves, 8d; sheep, 7½d to 9d; lambs, 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Smaller supply of cattle than usual, but a small attendance, and trade dull. Milch beasts, £17 10s to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £14; stirks, £7 to £9 each. Barely an average show of sheep, which made late rates. Shearlings, 40s to 48s each. A small supply of lambs, which ranged from 31s to 32s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Moderately good supplies of stock, both fat and store, came to hand at Messrs. Duke and Son's, and also at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's sale to-day, but there was only a limited offer of sheep, anything useful in the store line fully maintaining late values, but secondary grades continued a dragging trade at low rates. Milch beasts, as a general range, made from £16 to £19 or £20, seconds finding a restricted demand at prices ranging from £15 down to £11 or £12, many of these being of a low class. Barreners at all "proofy" met a steady sale at from £20 to £25 or £26 as a general run, and very plain lots from £16 to £19, for which there was but a small sale. Fat bullocks, of which some useful animals were included, met a steady to fairly firm demand from £16 5s to £21 each (or 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score), others selling from £14 to £18 for cows (or 9s to 10s). Mutton inactive, except for choice wethers, these making up to 8d per lb, though a more general quotation may be given as from 6½d to 7½d. Lamb found buyers at from 9d to 10d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 2,243, increase 257; sheep 10,942, increase 2,118; calves 46, increase 7. With a further increase in number of cattle, buyers secured their wants on slightly better terms, and except for very choice heifers a reduction had to be made in order to effect a clearance. The demand for sheep and lambs was well sustained for all suitable lots, though a reduction had to be made on last week's prices, as buyers were most cautious seeing the larger supply to hand. Cattle—live weight (best), 31s to 33s per cwt; exceptional, 34s per cwt.; secondary sorts, 27s to 30s per cwt. Mutton—deadweight, 6d to 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There were larger supplies of store sheep and cattle, but trade was slow. Quotations:—Horned bullocks to £13 10s., polled bullocks to £15 10s; stirks, £9 10s; best Shorthorns, to £26; and Ayrshire cows to £19 10s; greyfaced sheep, 38s; Cheviots, 32s; blackfaced sheep, 21s; and half-bred hoggs, 33s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—255 beast; good demand for best quality. Steers and maiden heifers up to 11s 6d; cows, 10s to 10s 6d; 1,025 sheep; quieter trade; mall hoggs, 8½d to 9d; large, 8d; ewes, 6d; lambs, in wool, 10d to 11d; shorn, 9d to 9½d; all all best cleared. There were several keeping sheep on offer, but no demand. Fifty-one calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—In view of Glasgow holidays business was slower and prices less firm. Large arrivals of Canadian and States cattle were against the home trade. Top Scotch cattle, 62s to 64s; secondary, 58s to 60s; top Irish, States, and Canadian, which embraced many choice animals, fetched 52s to 53s per cwt. Sheep steady at 10d to 10½; best lambs, 10½d to 11d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Store cattle were not so much in evidence as last week, and only sold slowly. Fat beasts went fairly well, best bullock and heifer making from 6d to 6½d per lb, cow beef 4½d, and bull beef 4d. The calf trade was good. Veal made 7d per lb. A good supply of sheep sold briskly, fat wethers realising 8d to 8½d per lb, fat ewes 6½d. Fat lambs were in good demand at 8d. to 9d per lb. The pig trade was firm, porkers at 5d per lb, and store pigs were dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Restricted consignments of home-bred bullocks, and trade was sluggish, and prices in favour of buyers. Milch cows, £14 to £17; shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £14; Irish cattle, £12 to £15 10s; Welsh stock, £8 to £11; young stock, £5 to £7; calves, 15s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Cattle were in plentiful supply, and business was moderate. Yearlings, £8 to £10; milch cows, £16 to £20; lambs, 33s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Smalll show of store beasts, and scarcely any trade, at £6 to £13 each. Fat beasts in smaller supply, prices ranging from 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Average supply of sheep, trade very slow, stores making 40s to 46s each. Fat sheep, 8s 9d to 9s per stone. Store lambs, 25s to 33s, fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: firsts, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal, firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 5¾d; thirds, 4½d to 4¾d. Lamb: firsts, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Heavier supply and prices favouring buyers. Prime heifers, 8s to 8s 3d; second-class, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; steers, 7s 9d to 8s; coarse and inferior, 6s 3d and 6s 9d; pigs, 6s to 7s 3d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; lambs, 9d to 10d; veal, 6d to 8½d. At market:—Cattle, 1,838; sheep and lambs, 7,135; calves, 85; pigs, 390.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat beasts were again offered in limited supply, and met with a quiet trade at 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. The show of store cattle was exceedingly small, and was composed of stock of entirely secondary descriptions. Very little business was doing, and not sufficient to justify quotations. There was a good supply of store sheep and lambs, and trade was quiet at about late rates. Lambs made from 25s to 38s per head, and breeding ewes 44s to 60s. Fat sheep were offered in limited supply, and met with a dull sale at 8s 6d to 9s 6d per stone. Both fat and store pigs were in fair average supply, and a brisk trade resulted in a clearance. Values for fat pigs were barely maintained, prices averaging 6s 9d per stone; small stores ranged from 14s to 24s; big ditto, 30s to 50s; and sows, 50s to 70s a head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Smaller supply of stock. Best in-calf cows made £18 to £22 each; in-calf heifers, £15 to £16 10s; and inferior quality, £12 to £15; two-year-old barren heifers and steers to £12 10s. Calves met with a slower trade, selling at 25s to 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good supplies of beef and mutton were forward, mutton being in good demand, and beef rather slow, although the best beasts made slightly more money. Cows and bulls, 5d to 6d; heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 7d to 8d; tups, 6½d; fat calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb. Calves were in good demand.

Retford, Saturday.—About an average lot of milch beasts, both as to number and quality. Values practically the same as before, at £14 to to £18 per head. Very few grazing stock in the market, but there was little or no demand, steers and heifers making £6 to £12, and calves 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Large supply of fat beasts, principally of a middling description. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in large supply, trade very bad at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade slow. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade about the same at 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lambs in shorter supply, trade a little better at 6s 6d to 7s per stone. A few store beasts on offer met a very slow demand. Small supply of pigs, trade about the same.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A moderate show of milch beasts, which met with a better demand than last week, good milch cows making £20 to £21 10s, and secondary qualities, £17 to £18 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Very small supplies, owing to farmers being busy with the hay harvest. Little demand for store cattle, but usual trade for fat stock. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s per score. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 269, sheep and lambs 1,381, calves 71, pigs 185.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were offered 181 cattle, 149 sheep, and 123 pigs. About the usual supply of best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 8s to 8s 3d per stone, whilst roughier kinds made 6s to 7s. Lambs sold at 10d to 11d per lb; ewes, 7d; tups, 6d; and young sheep 8½ to 9d. The pig trade was steady in consequence of smaller supplies, whilst prices were about the same.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital all-round supply of stock, the quality of the beef being better than late markets, and included several very choice Hereford beasts, which made from £21 to £23 15s. There was again an excellent demand, and a clearing trade throughout, although there is practically no demand for cows. Sheep were a particularly choice lot, and met a ready trade. Lambs scarce and dear, every lot being disposed of. Pork and veal sold readily. Messrs. Bond and Burrows sale comprised 74 fat beasts, 299 fat sheep, 60 fat and weaning calves, and 86 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £23 15s; fat heifers, £15 to £20; fat wethers, 48s to 58s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 54s 6d; fat lambs, 28s to 40s; fat calves, £3 to £4 19s; weaning cow calves, 28s to 50s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; porkers, 28s to 42s; bacon hogs, £3 15s to £4 10s; store pigs, 12s to 24s

Truro, Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £14 each; rearing calves, 20s to 44s; wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 8½d to 9d; pigs, 15s to 32s; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 9d to 1s; veal, 6d to 8d; pork 6d to 9d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 5d to 5½d. Number in cattle market:—Bullocks, 332; calves, 65; sheep, 366; pigs, 93; horses, 3. Business fairly brisk. Attendance very fair.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Short supply, with steady demand. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 7d per lb; best mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; calves, 7d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score; sows, 8s to 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of beef, with a poor trade. Best beef, 6s 9d to 7s; secondary, 6s to 6s 9d per stone; best Southdown wethers and crossbreds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 8d; veal, 8½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of United States and Canadian cattle and sheep were on offer at the usual weekly sales, 1,120 head of cattle being penned. All the animals, with the exception of twelve, were from Montreal, and were landed in good shape and condition. There was a large attendance of buyers, but business during the greater part of the day was slow, the heavy supplies inducing buyers to hold off for reductions, which were obtained in the case of bullocks to the extent of from 1s to 2s per cwt, and bulls from 2s to 4s per cwt as compared with recent sales. Bullocks were numerous, and at all the stances nice ranges of light, medium, and heavy weights were shown. For bullocks of the better classes of useful weights and sizes a steady selling trade was experienced, prices ranging from 52s to 53s per cwt. dead weight, while rough and heavy qualities were slow to cash from 49s to 51s

per cwt, according to size and condition. Bulls were more plentiful than usual, and were consequently cheaper, good prime sorts making from 42s to 43s per cwt, dead weight, and the rough and coarse qualities from 40s to 41s per cwt. At the sale of Canadian sheep, the most of which were of a nice, useful description, a quiet trade was experienced, but prices all round averaged 7d per lb, sinking the offal, and a clearance was effected.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Cottonseed.—The market improved again, and prices rapidly advanced to £6 11s 3d spot and afloat, with business done up to £6 12s 6d for July, and same price paid August, whilst fair sales made of new crop Nov.-Jan., and £6 3s 9d to £6 5s. To-day, however, there is more disposition to sell, July being again obtainable at £6 11s 3d, but August does not offer under £6 12s 6d, Nov-Jan. £6 3s 9d. Bombay sold at £5 1s 3d afloat, £5 4s 6d being now nearest July-Aug. in the absence of any business, and Dec.-Jan. sold at £5 and £5 1s 3d, which latter remains the value. Linseed opened firm, but heavy shipments and cheap American offers have again brought prices down about 1s per qr. River Plate: Spot 39s, Afloat 39s 3d, July-Aug., 39s 9d. Duluth: July-Aug. and Aug.-Sept. sold at 39s 6d. Calcutta: July-Aug., 41s 6d nearest. Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed (Hull made): A very firm market spot, and rather more inquiry forward. Foreign remain firm, scarce, and dear. Cotton.—Best firm at a reduction of 2s 6d per ton spot and August, but strong forward Bombay are 2s 6d per ton cheaper spot, but very firm, unchanged, forward.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND Co.

London, Thursday.—Linseed has declined about 6d per qr during the week, but at the decline there seems to be more consumptive inquiry. Importers of Plate and Calcutta are still very reserved, but America continues to offer freely. London—spot, 41s 3d; afloat, 41s 3d; July August, 41s 3d; August-September, 41s 3d. Rapeseed rather firmer; still very little offered. July-August shipment, yellow Guzerat, 49s; yellow Cawnpore, 47s 6d; brown Cawnpore, 44s 6d; Ferozepore, 44s 6d; brown Calcutta, May-June, 42s 6d. Cottonseed has been quiet, but at the close the tendency is rather downwards. London—July has been sold at £6 12s 6d; sellers now, £6 11s 3d; August offers at £6 12s 6d; November-January quoted £6 5s. Hull—spot and passage, £6 10s; July, £6 11s 3d; November-January buyers, £6 2s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LTD.

Liverpool, Friday.—There is practically no trade in fertilisers or feeding-stuffs. The following are the quotations:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda	11	5	0	—		
East India Bone Meal	5	7	6			
Kainit	2	1	3	2	2	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0	—		
Linseed Cake American	7	7	6	7	10	0
,, ,, English	8	5	0	8	15	0
,, ,, Foreign round	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, decorticated	8	0	0	8	2	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	12	6	—		
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	5	0	—		
Crushed Cottonseed	7	10	0	7	12	6
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6	5	15	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	0	0	6	2	6
Rice Meal	4	15	0	4	17	6
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0	—		
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6	—		
Treacle, feeding, prime		4	9	5	0	
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.					
,, ,, guaranteed						
Basic Slag, prime quality	nominal.					
,, ,, ,, ,,						
,, ,, finest ,,						

—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday.—The fourth series of London sales of Colonial wool commenced to-day, with catalogues comprising 7,775 bales out of an available total of 112,000 bales. There was a large attendance from all quarters, but the tone was rather hesitating. Compared with the close of last series merino wool sells at from par to 5 per cent. decline. Greasy crossbred shows no change, but scoured crossbreds and slipes sell at from 5 to 7½ per cent. below May. Among Capes there was no change for combing wools, but short and inferior greasies and snow whites showed some irregularity. The list was closed on the 2nd inst, when the fresh arrivals amounted to 176,265 bales (135,816 bales Australasian and 40,449 bales Cape). Deducting what has been forwarded direct, but adding the wools held over from last series, the total available amounts to 112,000 bales. As at present arranged the sales will last until the 21st inst.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE & Co.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9½d to 10d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 10½d; greasy, average, 11d to 1s; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 10d to 10½d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9½d. Crosbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 1s to 1s 1d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade not brisk. Kent fleeces 13½d; lamb wool, 9d; half-breds 14d; and Downs, 14½d to 15d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—In home grown wools tendency is against the buyer. Fine Down wools up to 16d; for Lincoln hoggs 15d quoted—a distinct rise. North hoggs 16d, and Yorkshire ½d less. Merinos steady. Yarns firm, with satisfactory business.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £4 5s per ton; clover, £4 10s per ton; straw, 2s 9d per cwt.

Bristol, Saturday.—Old clover hay, 85s to 90s; old meadow hay, 75s to 80s; wheaten straw, 50s to 55s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s per ton; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d per ton; second, 65s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 55s per ton; peat moss, 35s to 40s per ton.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 6¾d to 7d; clover, old, 7¼d to 7¾d; ditto, new, 5¼d to 6d; straw (oat), 4¼d to 4¾d per stone.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supply, which met with a slow sale. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 65s to 75s; prime ditto, 80s to 95s; inferior to good clover, 65s to 75s; prime ditto, 85s to 100s; wheat straw, 50s to 55s per ton.

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—July 16, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Winter oats are being cut in the forward districts of the home counties, and some rye has been reaped in Essex. The wheat harvest will not begin in earnest before August 1 this year even in the south-east, but it is not so late as seemed likely a month ago. It will probably be mid-harvest about mid-August for wheat and oats, and oven barley should with fine weather be secured before September arrives. The promise of the three crops is much better from a month ago, and the showers of the past week have done much good.

The "Agricultural Buff Book" (Cd 3,061), issued on the 21st, contains a memorable preface of seventy pages from the pen of Major Craigie. This introduction is practically a history of crop returns and cultivated areas since 1871, and is a masterly document, summarising the tendencies as well as chronicling the chief events of a period during which our cereal interests sank to their lowest state of depression—from 1879 to 1896—and have for the last nine years been manifesting a slight and hesitant, but still, on the whole, sustained improvement.

There are, of course, losses to arable to record. In thirty-five years the cultivated land in Great Britain has increased from a total of 31,120,000 acres to one of 32,280,000 acres, a clear win to agriculture of 1,160,000 acres, or perhaps a million sterling annually to our national wealth. On the other hand, arable has fallen from 18 210,000 acres to 15,090,000 acres, thereby increasing our dependence on the foreigner, and decreasing our reserves of healthy countrymen to speak with all too possible enemies in the gate. If the increased expenditure on the Navy could be set against the gain to consumers by cheaper corn is very doubtful if the thirty-five years have not witnessed an economic loss.

A most curious point which Major Craigie makes and is, as far as I can recall, the first to make, is that the decline in arable shows the strangest diversities. It amounts in a group of counties (synchronised on page xii. of the prefaee) to 30 per cent., and in another group to 10 per cent. Now it is clear that if the latter figure was that of areas exposed to the full competitive and import difficulties of the former area 10 per cent. only of losses is arable need be regarded as inevitable; in other words, substantial areas might yet be regained.

The Russian wheat crop is put by fairly good judges at 10 per cent. less than last year, the heavy rains of this month, following on a very dry and hot June, having represented exceedingly trying conditions to the crops. Some very heavy yields of spring wheat on landowner's well-farmed estates will be the probable result if the weather from now till harvest is hot and fine. But such estates are a very small proportion of the total area under wheat in Russia. Assuming a 10 per cent. depreciation from 1905, crops will be as follows:—

1906	.....	71,100,000 qr. (estimate).
1905	.....	79,000,000 qr. (return).
1904	.....	82,820,000 qr. (return).
1903	.....	76,479,000 qr. (return).
1902	.....	75,685,000 qr. (return).
1901	.....	53,268,000 qr. (return).

The 1905 wheat crop will be found at the end of the cereal year to have allowed of a full 19,000,000 qr. being exported. At this rate home wants will stand at 60,000,000, and the crop of 1906 will receive an exportable surplus of 11,100,000 qr. The Russian barley crop is said to be fully an average this season.

Prices at New York with the new wheat crop coming into liberal offer are watched with interest. The latest values cabled are as follows:—

New winter wheat delivered			..... 29s. 6d.	per qr.
,,	,,	,,	within a week 29s. 3d.	,,
,,	,,	,,	Aug delivery 29s. 3d.	,,
,,	,,	,,	autumn ,, 29s. 6d.	,,
,,	,,	,,	winter ,, 30s.	,,

There is no very strong expectation of price change between now and December, in fact speculators are said to be "giving wheat a rest," there not appearing to be those gradients or margins which afford scope for the energies of the adventurous. Mark Lane will certainly hear with no regret that New York contemplates a few months of quiet healthy trade. Spring wheat of the old crop is held for 31s. at New York. The supply is naturally within a narrow compass. The new crop will not be in anything like free supply before mid-September. Maize in America is firm; 22s. is the latest average cabled.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets have dropped to a summer level, but are still substantially larger than at this time last year. Since harvest, sales have been as follows:—

This season.....	...	2,873,000 qr. at 28s. 8d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...		1,590,000 ,, 30s. 8d.	,,

The sales of British barley for the two seasons agree rather closely. Prices have now been low for two successive years:—

This season.....	...	3,199,000 qr. at 24s. 4d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...		3,132,000 ,, 24s. 9d.	,,

The sales of British oats have been small, and the price has risen in consequence of buyers' limited choice.

This season ...		905,000 qr. at 18s. 5d.	per qr
Last ,, ...		1,125,000 ,, 17s. 6d.	,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 524,000 qr.: a large supply.
Flour, 76,900 sks.: a small supply.
Barley, 94,000 qr.: a moderate arrival.
Oats, 205,000 qr.: heavy arrivals.
Maize, 156,000 qr.: less than usual.

Sales since harvest of imported breadstuffs have been as follows:—

Wheat	...	...	... 19,041,000 qr.
Flour	...	...	... 4,205,000 ,,
Total	...	...	23,246,000 qr.

Of maize the sales have been 9,398,000 qr.

The supply of wheat on passage has now fallen below 3,000,000 qr., a change which is welcomed by all holders of grain actually in granary. Actual quantities on 21st were as follows:—

California, 275,000 qr.; American, 200,000 qr.; Indian, 780,000 qr.; Russian, 300,000; Australasian, 725,000 qr.; Argentine, 625,000 qr.; variety, 70,000; total, 2,975,000 qr. A week ago, 3,135,000 qr.

The quantity of barley on passage has seldom of recent years been so small as it is at the present moment:—

Russian, 90,000 qr.; American, 55,000 qr.; Asiatic, 25,000 qr.; total, 170,000 qr.

Of oats, 236,000 qr. are on passage; of linseed, 142,000 qr.; of rapeseed, 32,000 qr.; and of cottonseed, 31,000 tons.

Despite the large exports from La Plata, the total supply of maize on passage does not rise above a million qr. It is now 910,000 qr., including 810,000 qr. of Argentine. America and Russia are very small shippers; and though Roumania is doing rather more than usual, that country is not large enough to play a leading part in the maize trade.

American shipments last week included 112,000 qr. of wheat, 4,000 qr. of barley, 3,000 qr. of oats, 76,000 qr. of maize, and 71,000 sacks of flour; while Argentina sent off 100,000 qr. of wheat, 378,000 qr. of maize, and 20,000 qr. of oilseeds.

Turning to the Old World we find Russia easily at the front with shipments of 230,000 qr. of wheat, 100,000 qr. of barley, 151,000 qr. of oats, and 3,000 qr. of maize. Roumania shipped 45,000 qr. of wheat, 10,000 qr. of barley, and 40,000 qr. of maize. India exported wheat rather more freely than had been anticipated, 164,000 qr. being shipped. The Australasian wheat shipments amounted to 14,000 qr.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With a continuance of shortness in supplies trade rules very firm with prices again dearer, the demand all round is good, and salesmen find great difficulty in keeping customers supplied. A good quantity of the supplies now consist of new stuffs, and it is noticeable that most of it is of very good quality and in splendid condition, and for which a very fair price is obtainable. Best old hays and clovers are the qualities in most request, and find eager buyers at more money. There is also a good and sustained demand for ordinary stuffs, which make full values. Best mixtures are also the turn better, with a good business passing. Straw is a steady trade, with prices ruling very firm. With the shortage in English stuffs there is a big business doing in foreign imports, and we hear of large quantities of Canadian mixtures coming along, the demand for which is very brisk. Dutch hays are also more in request, and with good crops in Holland there looks like being large importations during this season.

Sellers of English hay should keep the fact well before them that with dearer prices for home-grown stuffs the foreigner will flood our London market, and thus prevent any very high prices of English. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 70s to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 50s to 65s per ton. Best clovers 92s 6d per ton; inferior to good, 77s 6d to 87s 6d per ton. Best mixtures, 87s 6d to 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; seconds mixture, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 28s per load; oat straw, 28s per load; barley straw, 29s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign:—Canadian mixture, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s to 67s 6d per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 77s 6d to 80s per ton; large bale wheat straw, 51s per ton; small bale wheat straw, 41s 0d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.—WALTER H. PRENTIS.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes all the week were the subject of a quiet and steady trade. Sales included:—Manitoba at 30s. 3d. per 480 lb. for best No. 2. Hard Winter at 28s. 9d. per 480 lb., Odessa-Churka at 30s. 6d. per 492 lb., New South Wales at 31s. 6d. per 480 lb., White Kurrachee at 29s. 9d. per 492 lb., Red Kurrachee at 29s. 6d. per 492 lb., and Argentine at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are a steady trade and sale. Recent business has included Argentine at 20s. 6d., Galatz at 21s. 9d., and American at 21s. 6d., all per 480 lb.

Barley is not in request for any very near dates, but a good business of a speculative character is being done in Russian new crop for autumn shipment. The price asked by the Russian firms at Odessa, Taganrog, and Nicolaieff is 18s. 3d. to 18s. 6d., the price offered by buyers here 17s. 9d. to 18s. per 400 lb. It is reported that several cargoes for September, October, and November shipments have been "put through" at a compromise price of 18s. 1½d. Evidently profits prospective and actualare being cut very fine in this trade.

Other cargo sales of the week include Vologda oats at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb., Roumanian oats at 14s. 9d. per 304 lb., Calcutta white peas at 32s. 6d. per 504 lb., Smyrna beans at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb., Turkish Canaryseed at 48s. per 464 lb., and Persian dari at 21s. 6d. per 480 lb.

The speculative trade in linseed, according to *Beerbohm's List*, began the week firm on a small shipment, but closed rather easier. Prices given by the shipping organ are Calcutta 41s. 9d. per 410 lb., Duluth 40s. 9d. per 424 lb.; Argentine, 40s. per 416 lb., and Riga, 39s. per 416 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association c.f. and i. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian wheat contracts, are as follows, viz.:—

Choice white Kurrachee wheat	... ..	30s. 0d.
Soft red Kurrachee wheat	.. ....	29s. 6d.

These prices, which were fixed on Friday, will remain in force until further notice.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call since last review have been two, as will be seen by the following table:—

Cargo.	Total.	Chili, Aust., & N.Z.	Total last Week.	Total since Jan. 1, 1906.	Total same time 1905.
Wheat	2	2	2	166	241
Maize	—			3	5
Barley	—			3	21
Beans	—		—	—	1
Linseed	—		1	20	35
Valonea	—		—	3	1
Sundries	—		—	2	3
Total	2	2	3	197	307

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Unsatisfactory crop prospects have caused prices to advance, and market is firm. The yield is expected to be less than that of 1904.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: Both English and foreign steadily held at late rates, but the hot forcing weather checks all demand, and prices are nominally unchanged from Monday last. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steady, inactive. Mixed American, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 22s 4½d, landed at 22s 9d to 23s 3d; La Plata, ex ship, quoted at 21s to 21s 3d, landed at 21s 6d. Barley firm but quiet; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 18s 6d, landed at 19s. Oats steady, quiet. Russian quoted at 15s 6d to 16s; American, 17s. to 17s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat: English firm, but quiet, on small supplies. Foreign steadily held, but inactive. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 29s 6d to 33s, landed at 30s to 33s. Persian landed at 31s 3d to 32s 6d. Red Karachi, ex ship, at 30s; choice white Karachi, ex ship, at 30s 3d. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 32s 9d; landed at 33s 6d. Australian, landed, at 32s 9d; ex ship at 32s. Flour quiet, unchanged. Hungarian quoted at 29s; Minnesota Patents at 25s; Bakers at 20s. Maize dull, unchanged. Mixed American, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 22s 4½d; landed, 22s 9d to 23s 3d. River Plate, ex ship, at 21s to 21s 3d; landed at 21s 6d. Barley firm, but quiet. Odessi-Nicolaieff, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 18s 6d; landed at 19s. Oats steadier, but quiet. Rigas quoted at 15s 6d to 16s; Americans, 17s to 17s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Very little English corn was on offer, and the attendance of buyers being limited trade was almost at a standstill; values, however, were nominally maintained, wheat being quoted at 32s to 34s; peas, 33s to 34s; English feeding barley, 21s to 23s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 31s to 36s; white oats, 21s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 23s; flat maize, 26s to 27s; round maize, 25s to 26s; foreign barley, 21s to 23s.

Banbury, Thursday. — Wheat, red, 31s to 31s 6d per qr; barley, 27s to 30s per qr; beans 31s to 32s per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was hardly any change on this market. Wheat, 29s to 30s; oats, 22s to 23s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a firmer tone about the business at the market, and an improved demand for foreign wheat, which made occasionally 3d per qr more money. Scarcely any English wheat offering. Grinding barley has advanced 6d per qr since last market day, the price being 19s 3d per 400 lb at Sharpness. Both Plate and flat maize remain at last week's prices. English oats and beans no change.

Brighton, Thursday.—There was a small attendance owing to the show at Preston Park, and very little business was doing. Prices as last week. Quotations:—Old white wheat, 33s to 34s; old red ditto, 33s to 34s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats (English), 19s to 22s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat nominally unchanged at about 32s per 504 lb. Very small supply. Oats firm at 22s 6d to 23s 6d per qr; foreign, 22s 6d to 23s per qr. Maize unchanged; round at 22s 6d, flat at 24s per qr. Feeding stuffs a small trade, but generally firm.

Bristol, Thursday.—Still no English wheat on offer. Foreign unchanged, holders being very firm; maize unaltered; barley 9d to 1s dearer; oats unchanged; flour steady.—Grace Brothers.

Cambridge, Saturday. — Thin attendance; very few samples of wheat offering, and prices 31s to 32s per 504 lb. Beans, 31s to 32s per 38 stone.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Beans are in better demand, and some exceptionally fine ticks have been sold at 38s; Mazagans, 32s per qr. Winter oats have been cut, but are not yet on offer. Best wheats are still making 34s. Oats firm.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Only one lot of oats shown in our market to-day. Slow sale at 22s per 336 lb, owing to inferior quality.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—There are no material changes to be noted in prices. A slight improvement in trade was noticeable, American mixed maize being the turn dearer. Farmers are still busy in the hayfield, and the attendance was poor. Quotations: White and red wheat, 4s 7d to 4s 10d per 75 lb; new grinding barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d, and new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per 80 lb; old oats, 3s 3d to 3s 6d, and new, 2s 8d to 3s per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 12s 6d to 12s 9d, and new, 12s to 12s 6d per 204 lb; ditto River Plate, new, 12s to 12s 6d.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair attendance. Very little on offer, and only small business done. Wheat, 33s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 19s to 19s 3d; English oats, 19s to 23s; maize, 21s 6d to 22s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Slow market, unchanged prices for old wheat, new wheat offered at 29s when threshed. Feeding stuffs unaltered.—Joseph Wiles and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—There was but a quiet trade and short supply. Wheat was firm; oats scarce. Beans but a slow trade at previous quotations. Prices: Wheat, 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, 24s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was no change in prices at to-day's maket. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Derby, Friday.—There was a very small supply of wheat, which sold quietly at late rates. Spring corn sold slowly, without any alteration in price. Quotations: Wheat, white, 32s to 34s; red, 31s to 32s; old beans, 34s to 35s; oats, old, 24s to 25s; new, 22s to 24s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—A small supply of English wheat, which was a shade dearer. Prices ranged from 11s 6d to 12s per load of 3 bushels. Foreign wheat was firm to an advance of 3d per qr. on the week, with an improved demand. Oats were firm. New oats have been cut in several districts about Doncaster, but no definite reports yet to hand. Maize about the same as last week, and other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Only a small market to-day either as regards attendance or supply. Business generally ruled inactive, very little passing. Home-grown wheats are quite cleared out, and prices remain practically unchanged for both English and foreign from what was quoted at previous market. Barley maintains its value and oats keep steady, with occasionally a trifle more being paid for very special samples. Maize generally about the same, though one sort from scarcity realising rather more money. Beans and peas scarce and dear. The crops are making good progress in this district, but sun is wanted badly.

Dublin, Friday.—Flour in quiet demand, but prices firm. Wheat quiet, and supply nominal. Values for oats firmly maintained. Oatmeal firm. Quotations:—Wheat, 19s to 20s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; oats, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow. English wheat firm, unchanged; foreign steady. Barley, 3d to 6d advance. maize and oats, no change. Flour firm. English wheat, 4s to 4s 6d; superfine flour, 25s to 27s; fines, 22s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet at late rates. Maize and corn, 1½d per boll cheaper since last Wednesday. Barley moves slowly at unchanged prices. Oats quiet for both home and foreign, with a slow trade passing. Beans and pease quietly firm. Bran and thirds remain unaltered. Oatmeal firm, with a slow sale.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market quiet all round, and prices unaltered. American maize, 12s 10½d per 280 lb; round, 12s 3d to 12s 6d. Barley, peas, and beans quiet. Oats steady for both home and foreign. The first red winter flour expected next month.

Gloucester, Saturday. — No English wheat on offer. Foreign unchanged except Russians, which quote 3d to 6d dearer. Maize unchanged. Barley a little firmer. English oats scarce, unchanged; foreign, 3d to 6d lower.

Grantham, Saturday.—The supply of last season's corn is about exhausted in the district, scarcely any business being done. One sample of new oats was exhibited, and this was in good condition, but not offered for sale.

Hereford, Wednesday. — A small market. There was no English wheat on the market, and prices were nominally unchanged. Foreign wheats quietly steady. Oats remained firm. Nothing doing in beans or peas. Maize unchanged. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 62 lb.; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb.; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Wheat nominally unchanged; hardly sufficient samples offered to test the market. Reds worth about 32s per qr. Oats: English very scarce and firm at 22s 6d to 24s per qr., fine Libau, 23s 6d, fair, 21s 6d to 21s 9d per 336 lb. Beans and peas a small but firm trade. Maize unchanged; round, 21s 6d, flat 23s to 23s 6d per qr. Maize germ, £5 15s per ton. Oilcakes firm and unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday. — The trade has gained strength owing to reduced shipments and unfavourable weather for the harvest in Southern Russia. Millers, however, still complain of the unsatisfactory state of the flour trade, and business in wheat remains, therefore, restricted, any advance being obtained with difficulty. Indians are held for 6d over last week and Russians more difficult to buy. Maize a shade better. Beans and oats steady.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Small supplies of English wheat, which made fully Tuesday's prices; all kinds of foreign were a turn dearer owing to arrivals falling short of expectations. No change in malting or feeding barley. Beans, peas, oats, and maize firmly held. There was a better demand for the cheaper kinds of flour, which average from 23s to 25s per sack of 20 stone.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a dragging sale, and prices were supported with difficulty. Red wheats, 31s to 33s; white wheats, 32s to 34s per 36 stones; grinding barley slow; beans firm: fine oats, 23s to 25s per 26 stones.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a moderate attendance, and wheat is very steady, with a fair inquiry at slightly better prices for Manitoba and Plates; Australian in quiet demand at unchanged prices. Flour—A moderate trade for both home-made and foreign brands, without quotable change in prices. Maize—Mixed is firm at ½d to ¾d advance, with a moderate business doing at the higher prices. European steadier and the turn dearer, but quiet. Plate in smaller supply, and held firm at ½d advance. Barley—Malting steady but quiet. Feeding firmer for American and Odessa, with a fair demand. Beans firm at late rates, but demand restricted. Peas steady, with a quiet demand at the quotations. Oats in moderate demand at about recent rates. Oatmeal steady but very inactive. Oilcake a very quiet trade at late prices. Indian Meal is a better sale owing to smaller quantities of green feed available; prices maintained.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was only a thin attendance at market, and no English wheat on offer. Foreign wheats were 6d per qr dearer on the week. Feeding stuffs firm.

Maidstone, Thursday. — We had a quiet market to-day, not an unusual occurrence in hot weather. The trade in wheat barely so strong as last week, so that any attempt to exceed the cost did not succeed. Barley is a slow business, and prices inclined to recede. Oats are fairly steady, but to push sales sellers had to give way. Flat maize realises former quotations, but round can be purchased for less than recently. An exception to drooping tendency is that of beans, stocks of which being used up, buyers must either pay an advance or not obtain them. Very little trade in peas; the new crop expected early this year. There is no alteration to chronicle in tares, rye, hemp, brank, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—Very little English wheat on spot, and prices nominal, and foreign occasionally ¼d dearer for certain sorts. Flour in rather more inquiry, but little business passed. Indian corn: Plate about ½d lower on the week; primo old mixed American unchanged. Foreign barley about ¼d lower, and English unchanged. Beans and peas very steady. Bran, &c., firm.

Newark, Wednesday. — Market thinly attended; trade inactive; wheat and beans firmer. White and red wheat, 31s to 32s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 22s to 23s; black oats, 21s to 22s; new bens, 35s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A firm tone prevailed at our to-day's market for wheats of all descriptions, holders making fully last week's prices. Foreign oats remain steady at late rates, Scotch firm and dearer. American maize firm and in sellers' favour, Plate steady values remain unchanged. Beans and peas remain unchanged. —J. Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was no change in wheat, maize, and oats. Barley 6d higher on the week. Other corn unchanged. Flour, fines, 24s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance. There was scarcely a sample of corn on offer, and business was almost at a standstill. The old corn supply is practically exhausted. Wheat, 31s to 32s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 21s to 22s 6d; new black oats, 19s to 20s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—English wheat about cleared. Foreign held for slight advance. Grinding barley steady trade; full prices. Oats and beans but few offering, and values well maintained.—R. Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather during the last week has been very favourable for the growing crops. We have had a very small market, and what little corn changed hands was at late rates.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday. — There was a fair attendance on our market to-day, when wheat

was firm, maize and oats 3d dearer, barley scarce, 6d to 9d dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—A limited attendance, with small trade. Prices: Wheat, 32s to 34s; barley for grinding, 25s to 28s; oats, 21s to 23s 6d; beans, 34s to 36s; peas, 30s to 32s.

Retford, Saturday.—An unusually quiet market, the attendance being thin, and the supply of all kinds of grain small, without any variation from the prices current last Saturday.

Ripon, Thursday.—On account of the Festival very little business was done. Prices:—Wheat, 29s 6d to 30s; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto, malting, 27s to 29s.; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; round maize, 23s to 24s; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a rather better inquiry, but prices showed little change from last week. Wheats scarcer, and 6d per quarter more money. Maize and oats showed more firmness, with, in some cases, a slight advance in price. Beans and peas in very small supply, and 6d to 9d per quarter more than a week ago. Millers' feeding stuffs without change. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s 6d to 33s; ditto, red, 32s 6d to 33s per 504 lb; oats, black, 21s to 21s 6d; ditto, white, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 32s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto Plate, new, 22s 3d to 22s 9d; ditto flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 225 lb; old oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 14s to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—No local wheat showing. Foreign wheat 3d and 6d dearer upon the week, which rather checked business. Oats steady, maize quiet.

Stamford, Friday.—Trade almost at a standstill. Wheat at 30s 6dto 31s 6d; oats, 21s to 22s; beans, 33s 6d. No oats expected in the course of a week.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering. Wheat made full prices, owing to scarcity. Spring corn unaltered. Arrivals:—Coastwise wheat, 2,138 qr; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very little grain of any kind on offer. Feeding stuffs are a shade dearer, but other samples are practically unaltered in value.

Winchester, Saturday. — English wheat scarce and held firm at last week's prices. Foreign unaltered. Barley 9d dearer. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour a fair consumptive trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small attendance at market. Scarcely any English grain offering. Prices unchanged from last Saturday. Weather continues favourable.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — A small attendance, the farmers being engaged in the hayfields. Quotations practically unaltered.

Worksop, Wednesday.—White wheat, 30s to 31s 6d; red wheat, 29s to 30s; barley, 25s to 28s; white oats, 22s to 23s; black oats, 21s to 22s; flat maize, 25s; round maize, 24s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Hardly a sample of grain on offer, and the extreme scarcity makes needy buyers pay more money. Fine white wheat quoted 31s to 32s, and red and mixed 30s to 31s per qr of 36 stone. Feeding barley 24s to 26s per qr of 32 stone. Oats firm, white Tartary realising 19s to 20s, black 20s to 21s, and White Garton 21s to 22s per qr of 24 stone. Rye 24s to 25s, and beans 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown wheat sold at last week's advance. Foreign and strong grinding barley sold at 1s per quarter more money. Maize in buyers' favour. Oats a fair trade. English wheat of best quality, white, 29s to 32s 6d; secondary, 26s 6d to 28s; red, 26s to 30s; foreign wheat, 32s to 34s; grinding barley, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; English, best, 25s to 27s 6d; secondary, 22s to 24s; oats, English, white, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; black, 21s to 22s; Irish, white, 21s 6d; black, 18s 9d; maize, round, 21s; flat, 22s to 23s; tares, winter, 54s to 62s; spring, 62s to 67s 6d; rye, 24s to 26s; beans, winter, 34s to 35s 6d; spring, 34s 6d to 36s. Flour quiet; fine from 23s 6d to 24s per sack. Millers' offals, good demand at late rates.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: Prospects of our crop remain satisfactory, and a full average is generally expected, whilst the quality entirely depends upon the further course of weather. So far, the rain has done no harm, but fine weather is now urgently needed, as the barleys are soon ripe. In Hungary cutting has already commenced, and will be general next week. The weather has been disappointing, and most of the barleys housed so far will be of a rather yellow colour.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg Saturday. — Weather boisterous and rainy. Dry weather is now desirable for the rye crop. Wheat and barley still look promising, while oats, on heavy soil, have been badly lodged. Potatoes have a healthy appearance. A heavy crop of hay was secured in fine condition. There is a fair trade doing in all descriptions of grain without material alterations in values. Fine Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is getting scarce, and 30s 6d to 31s per 504 lb, f.o b. is being paid. Russian, Danubian and River Plate is offering at 28s to 30s. Red winter No. 2 from Baltimore at 28s guaranteed free from garlic at 29s per 480 lb c.i f. Hamburg. 9 10/15 South Russian rye on the spot is selling at 22s 6d to 22s 9d; 9 15/20 new crop August shipment is offering at 23s, 9 10/15 Kg Sept.-Oct. at 22s 3d per 480 lb, c i.f. Hamburg. The barley crops in the Saale, in Moravia, and in Bohemia are making satisfactory progress towards naturity. From Hungary we expect to get soon the first samples of new barley. Feeding barley at hand in good demand, while autumn shipments were rather easier. 60/61 Ko South Russian July old style is selling at 17s 9d, Sept.-Oct. offering at 17s 3d per 400 lb c i.f. Hamburg. Maize on the spot in scanty supply. Mixed American is selling afloat at 21s. River Plate July-August at 20s 3d to 20s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 21, 1906:—

Wheat	1,851,900	cwts.
Wheat-flour	219,400	,,
Barley	29,500	,,
Oats	271,490	,,
Maize	717,900	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	2,658,600	1,509,600	2,160,992	2,165,550
Wheat-flour	158,900	191,000	300,998	317,289
Barley ...	76,100	281,900	394,495	100,418
Oats ...	459,800	311,700	727,555	332,553
Maize ...	612,700	729,500	1,108,365	993,145

Weekly Arrivals into London.

July 11 to 18, inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	857	104,485	105,342
Barley	1,200	5,600	6,800
Malt	23,177	—	23,177
Oats	390	82,000	82,390
Rye	15	2,380	2,395
Beans	157	300	457
Peas	60	4,634	4,694
Tares	100	—	100
Maize	—	42,174	42,174
Dholl	—	400	400
Dari	—	936	936
Linseed	—	2,700	2,700
Rapeseed	—	3,334	3,334
Sunflowerseed	—	21	21
Flour ... sacks	19,052	23,332	42,384
Ricemeal ... ,,	—	30,000	30,000
Rye flour ... ,,	—	500	500
Oatmeal ... ,,	—	3,500	3,500

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 17, 1906.

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Av. Price per qr £ s. d.
Wheat ...	517	7 ...	808 14 6 ...	1 11 3
Barley ...	11	1 ...	13 0 0 ...	1 3 4
Oats	Nil.			

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 1... (per sack)	30 0	...(per sack)	27 0
,, 13... ,,	29 0	... ,,	26 0
October 11... ,,	28 0	... ,,	25 0
November 3... ,,	30 0	... ,,	27 0
,, 29... ,,	29 9	... ,,	26 9
December 11... ,,	30 0	... ,,	27 0
January 31... ,,	29 9	... ,,	26 9
February 21... ,,	29 6	... ,,	26 6
March 16 ... ,,	29 0	... ,,	26 0
March 23 ... ,,	28 3	... ,,	25 3
May 18 ... ,,	28 0	... ,,	25 0
June 20 ... ,,	27 9	... ,,	24 9

(No change since last date given.)

Imperial Weekly Averages

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
July 22	6,558	32	3	52	23	7	2,434	19	7
,, 29	7,691	32	2	24	23	11	3,065	18	11
Aug. 5	5,062	32	3	371	22	0	4,344	19	3
,, 12	8,184	31	11	548	22	5	8,974	18	4
,, 19	32,715	30	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	11
,, 26	88,636	28	5	6,461	23	6	29,855	16	4
Sept. 2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	21,000	15	9
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,570	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,041	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	3	150	23	2	911	20	5

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending July 21, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	11,627	31	5	44	25	0	1,219	22	8
1903	17,224	28	7	558	20	10	6,383	18	5
1904	15,648	27	7	581	18	10	6,711	17	6
1905	6,558	32	2	52	23	7	2,434	18	11
1906	8,010	30	3	150	23	2	911	20	5

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900 s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ...	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...			25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August			25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...			24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...			25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.	25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2		

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	32	0	25	1	18	5
Lowest of Year	26	10	22	8	16	0
Gradient	5	2	2	5	2	5
Mean of Year	29	9	24	4	17	4

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 23.

The was so small a choice of English grain samples to-day that full prices without either or delay. The demand for English beans, peas, and tares was in excess of the supply, and prices favoured sellers with a rapid clearance of anything on spot offer. Foreign produce was a far less satisfactory market. Indian and Agrentine wheat did not go into use very readily even where 6d. decline was allowed, while at old prices Australian, Californian, and Walla sorts were very much out of favour. The firmest sort of foreign wheat was red American. Maize was quiet, but prices were supported. Barley was a slow trade, Russian sorts rather favouring buyers. Oats were 3d. cheaper for Russian and Argentine, but firm for American and New Zealand. Foreign beans and peas were scarcely on offer.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

July 23.		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	31	— 34
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	28	— 29
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 27
,,	(per 400 lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 30
OATS, Finest Scots	,,	23	— 24
Black Winter	,,	none	
Grey Winter	,,	none	
Storm Kings	,,	23	— 24
Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
White Gartons	,,	21	— 22
Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
Ordinary	(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
Light	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	42	— 46
Tick	,,	39	— 41
Winter (Old)	,,	37	— 38
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
Spring	,,	36	— 37
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
Unpicked ditto	,,	48	— 52
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple (Old)	,,	none	
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
(Spring)	,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9	—33	American	22/9	—23
,, ,, 2	31/9	—32	Argentine	22	—22/6
,, ,, 3	30/9	—31	Bulgarian	22	—22/3
American Red			Roumanian	22/3	22/6
Winter	31	— 32	Russian	22/6	-23
,, H'rd ,,	30/9	—31	Rangoon	21	—21/6
Argentine	31	— 32	North African	22/6	-23
Australian	32	—32/6	BEANS (480 lb.):		
New Zealand	31	—31/6	Smyrna	34	— 36
Californian	33	— 34	Konigsberg	33	— 35
Blue Stem	33	— 34	New Zealand	35	— 36
Walla Walla	32	— 33	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Saxonka	33	— 34	Italian	64	— 72
Azima	32	— 33	Burmese	32	— 42
Ghirka	31	— 32	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	30/9	—31	LENTILS (cental):		
,, Red	30	—30/3	Split Egyptian	10	— 11
Persian	29/9	—30	Whole Indian	7	— 8
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	Konigsberg	44	— 46
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	Indian White	35	— 36
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Indian Green	29	— 31
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Russian (400 lb)	19	—19/6	NewZeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Am'can (400 lb)	18/9	—19	Victoria Dun.	33	— 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22	White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Smyrna	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	— 10
Russian	24	— 25	Siamese	8	— 9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23	—25	Smyrna	27	— 28
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	20	—21	Indian	26	— 27
Am'can (320 lb)	17	—17/6	Persian	22	— 24
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	15/6	—16	French	26	— 27
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	15/6	—16	Russian	25	— 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, JULY 23.

The market to-day was very quiet, and London makes of flour declined 3d. per sack to cash buyers. The purchasers on credit and delivery terms were not able to obtain any concession. Country flour was a good supply considering the very late period of the cereal year. But the inquiry is also good, and value is not lower from a week ago. There are a good many country mills shutting down from Monday next until new crop deliveries, so that the by-products of the mill are very well held to-day, and may easily go dearer between now and September 1. American flour was in comparatively little favour on spot, but there were buyers of new American from the new winter wheat crop at 22s. c.f.i. for August shipment. A dull market was all that could be recorded for Hungarian, French, or Australian flour; prices were nominally as before.

London Flour.		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0	net.
Town Whites	,,	26/3	,,
,, Households	,,	23/3	,,
No. 2	,,	21/3	,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/3	,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/3	,,
Paste Flour	,,	20/3	,,

Country Flour.		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	— 23
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	21	—21/6

Foreign Flour.		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	24	—24/6
,, Second Patents	,,	23	—23/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	—21/6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	—20/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	—24/6
,, Bakers'	,,	21	—21/6
Cascadia	,,	25	—25/6
Manitoba Patent	,,	24	—24/3
Manitoba Ordinary	,,	23	—23/3
Hungarian, 0	,,	30	—30/6
,, 1	,,	29	—29/6
,, 2	,,	28	—28/6
,, 3	,,	27	—27/6
French, Corbeil	,,	23	—23/6
,, Renaux	,,	22	—22/6
,, P.S.D.	,,	21	—21/9
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Argentine	,,	24	— 26

Meal, &c.		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 55
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	19	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	20	— 21
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET, THOUGH DULL, CLOSED RATHER MORE FIRMLY THAN ONE MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED FROM THE FINE WEATHER AND SLACK INQUIRY.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—The usual demand passing in rape and mustard. Prices high but firm. Holders of the new crop trifolium, both English and foreign, having considerably reduced prices, business is now passing.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

THE BALTIC 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Barley and maize cargoes are not quite so easy to place as on Saturday, but wheat and oat futures are a little livelier. Oilseed cargoes are firmly held, especially those of Egyptian cottonseed for early shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s per 480 lb, on passage; White Kurrachee, 29s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 31s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; Bahia Blanca, 29s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Blue Stem, 32s per 500 lb, on passage.

Maize. — Argentine, 20s 4½d per 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 20s 6d per 480 lb, Aug. shipment; Roumania, 21s 3d per 480 lb, Aug. shipment; Caucasian, 21s 9d per 480 lb, Aug. shipment.

Barley.—Kustenje, 19s 3d per 400 lb, Aug. shipment; Odessa, 18s 9d per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Roumanian, 14s 9d per 304 lb, October shipment; Archangel, 15s 3d per 304 lb, on passage; Libau, 15s 6d per 304 lb, arrived; Argentine, 15s per 304 lb, on passage.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 41s 9d per 410 lb, arrived; Bombay, 44s 3d. per 416 lb, August shipment; Duluth, 40s 9d per 424 lb, prompt shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 46s 0d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Brown Cawnpore, 46s per 416 lb, August shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 13s 9d per 2,240 lb, prompt shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Demand continues moderate: not much doing; prices remain unchanged.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues in steady demand with rather more firmness in prices.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—The American markets continue easy, with lower prices for winter wheat flours for shipment. Grain.—Round and flat corn in quiet demand. Supplies of round are liberal. The outlet for Scotch oats is small owing to the fine quality and low price of Manitoba oats. Beans unchanged. Owing to wet weather in Russia new-crop barley is dearer. Oilcake quiet. Canadian oatmeal firm. Mill stuffs.—The mills having been shut down on account of the fair holidays, it is impossible to get delivery of thirds promptly. Bran, however, remains quiet.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Milling Offals.—The continued warm and dry weather and short supply are making offal firmer.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Wheat trade is firm at prices of last Monday. Flour a dull trade, prices unchanged. Maize and barley a great trade at late prices. Oats firm and favouring sellers.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Flour has met a very quiet trade to-day at about last week's prices.—T. S MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

TERM MARKET.

The demand for futures has been slow. Prices at to-day's call were:—

Wheat	July delivery,	6s 7d	per cental.
,,	Sept. ,,	6s 7d	,,
,,	Nov. ,,	6s 8d	,,
Maize	July ,,	4s 7d	,,
,,	Sept. ,,	4s 6d	,,
,,	Nov. ,,	4s 7d	,,

American cables come rather lower both for wheat and for maize.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Prices show a slight fall on the week in American and Argentine linseed, in the Indian poppyseed and cottonseed and in Turkish Canaryseed, but Egyptian cottonseed is scarcer and dearer, and there is a firm market for rapeseed despite the liberal supply on passage.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
Dutch	47	to 49
American	42	to 43
Calcutta	42	to 43
Bombay	43	to 45
Russian	41	to 43
Argentine	40	to 41
Duluth	42	to 43
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		
Best English	61	to 63
Yellow Guzerat	46	to 47
,, Cawnpore	44	to 45
Brown ,,	42	to 43
Ferozepore	44	to 46
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		
Indian	44	to 45

COTTONSEED. per ton.	s.	s.
Egyptian	137	to 139
Indian	103	to 105
SUNFLOWERSEED. per cwt.		
English, Best	16	to 17
Russian, White	14	to 15
,, Black	13	to 14
SESAME. per cwt.		
Indian	14	to 15
HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.		
Russian	49	to 50
CANARYSEED. per 464 lb.		
English	50	to 52
Spanish	82	to 86
Turkish	47	to 48
Argentine	47	to 48

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—The only poatoes on the market are Dutch and Ayrshire, for which there is a good demand. Dutch, £3 to £4 per ton; Ayrshire 70s to 80s per ton. Local supplies are expected on Market in about a fortnight.

Borough. Saturday.—Supply and demand good. English Puritans, 4s; Duke of York, 4s.; Beauty of Hebron, 3s 6d to 4s. per cwt.; Dutch, 2s 9d to 3s per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There were average supplies of potatoes at both retail markets, and a steady demand was at 7d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Plenty of potatoes, and a good demand, prices being a little cheaper and from 3s 6d to 4s per cwt.

Lancaster, Saturday.—There was a large supply of new potatoes, which sold at 9s to 10s per load; retail, 7d to 1s per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply of new potatoes. Prices declined £1 per ton on the week, making £4 per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Saturday. — Yorkshire warps, 8s to 9s; Cheshire, new, rounds, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; kidneys, 6s to 7s 6d; Bedford, 5s 6d to 6s per per load; Jerseys, 5s 6d; Norfolk Hebrons, 6s 6d to 7s per cwt.

Retford, Saturday.—The potato market well supplied. Best new lots made 8s to 9s per load.

Stockton, Wednesday. — Jersey potatoes, 5s 2d; Lincolnshires, 5s 3d per cwt; old potatoes, £2 10s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Good supplies were quietly entertained. English Puritans, 3s 6d to 4s.; Duke of Yorks, 3s to 4s; Early Rose, 3s to 3s 6d; Beauty of Hebrons, 3s to 3s 6d; Dutch, 3s per cwt.

Worksop, Wednesday.—New potatoes, 9d to 10d; old potatoes (scarce), 4s to 5s per load of 18 stones: gooseberrics, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; red currants, 2s; cherries, 5s to 6s per stone; strawberries, 4d per lb.

Whitby, Saturday.—Old potatoes, 6d; new home grown potatoes, 1s 4d per stone.

York, Saturday.—Lincolnshire and Cheshire potatoes are coming in, in good condition. Home-county sorts are rather small. Prices are about 3s per hamper 6 stones. Old potatoes are altogether at a discount.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market shows a stronger tendency, at about 1s per ton more money:—14s 6d ale, 11s 6d porter, 25s distillers, 32s 6d pressed white distillery, meal per ton, Other articles without change as follows:—Dried ale, 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, and distillery, 110s per ton on rail London; ale 90s, and mixed, 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, to arrive, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail, London.—HAMLYN AND CO.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is again advanced. The plant is still infested with vermin, even those grounds that have been persistently washed are not clean. The burr is now coming out, so it seems certain that the crop will be produced on the short bine of to-day, consequently it must be a small one.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

Worcester, Saturday.—To-day's reports from the plantations are not satisfactory. Even the best yards that have been repeatedly washed are attacked by blight. Where no washing has been done the state is deplorable, and few hops will be grown. There has been rather more inquiry this week, but no growers' hops have been weighed. Merchants' stocks are very small, and the requirements of buyers are met with difficulty.—CHARLES FARAM & CO.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,344 bales, and from foreign ports 12,256 bales. There was a firm market for bacon during last week: Irish, 62s to 69s up to 74s; Danish, 60s to 66s up to 74s; Canadian, 62s to 65s up to 6s. Butter: The butter market was firm—French, 94s to 106s; Danish, 113s to 116s; Russian, 84s to 100s; Dutch, 104s to 106s; Irish, 92s to 107s; Canadian, 96s to 106s; Australian, 82s to 106s; New Zealand, 80s to 108s; American, 82s to 98s. Lard: Lard was a slow market. Irish, 54s to 62s; American, 45s to 46s 6d; Danish, 48s to 54s, up to 58s.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 23, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, July 24, 1905.
Beasts	890	890	1,100
Sheep and Lambs	7,730	7,730	7,970
Calves	10	10	30
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 8
Sheep	4 10	5 4	6 0
Lambs	5 4	6 0	7 0
Calves	3 8	4 10	5 8
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 119; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 741; Devon, 30; Ireland, nil.

We note to-day an increase of 80 head in the number of beasts offered for sale here, compared with Monday last. The supply of Devons was rather larger than of late; these cleared early in the day, and commanded our top quotations. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a very slow nature, sellers in some cases having to accept a decline of 2d per 8 lb in value to effect sales. No Scotch or Irish cattle were consigned to-day. Fat butchering cows and bulls shared in the general depression, the former barely making late currencies. A clearance will not be made in this part of the market to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, July 24, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		—	
Devons	4 6 to 4	8	4 6 to 4	8
Herefords	4 4 to 4	6	4 6 to 4	8
Norfolks	4 2 to 4	4	4 4 to 4	6
Runts	4 0 to 4	4	4 0 to 4	6
Lincolns	3 8 to 3	10	—	
Irish	—		4 0 to 4	3
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 4 to 3	6	3 4 to 3	6

There was an increase of 600 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade throughout the day was of an extremely slow nature for both wethers and ewes, sellers of the former in some cases having to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. Scotch sheep, on the other hand, met with a fairly good inquiry, late rates governing all transactions. Irish were difficult to vend, the tendency in regard to value ruling in favour of the buyer, though barely sufficient to warrant our quoting any lower rates. Small choice grass lambs sold readily at good money, whilst Irish descriptions were more difficult to vend. The supply included 200 Scotch, 690 Irish, and 1,634 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, July 24, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
8 st Scotch	5 8 to 6	0	5 5 to 5	10
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 6 to 5	8	5 6 to 5	8
9 st. Downs	5 4 to 5	6	5 4 to 5	6
10 st Halfbreds	5 0 to 5	2	5 2 to 5	4
10 st Yorkshires	—		4 4 to 4	6
12st Lincoln Halfbreds	4 10 to 5	0	—	
10 st Irish	4 10 to 5	0	5 0 to 5	2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	4 0 to 4	2
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to 4	0	6 0 to 6	2
5 st Grass Lambs	7 0 to 7	2	6 4 to 6	6
6 st Halfbred ditto	5 10 to 6	0	6 0 to 6	2

There was a small supply of calves, trade for which ruled slow but firm, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 8 lb (offal given in.).

London (Central), Monday.—Good supply. Fair demand. Beef: Scotch, 4s 6d to 4s 8d. English, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; American, 3s 5d to 3s 9d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. English lamb, 5s 2d to 5s 8d; New Zealand, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Veal, 3s to 4s 4d; pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—No market held here to-day on account of the non-arrival of boats. On Saturday, 1,880 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and met with a firm and steady trade at an advance of 1d per 8lb in value. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle and a good demand at fully late rates. Increased supply of sheep and lambs, trade for which was not quotably different in values from last week for finished sorts; strong and rough classes in buyers' favour. Prices: Beef, 6½d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6½d; lamb, 9½d to 8½d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: The continued drought has made the market firmer with more demand: Decorticated cotton cake and meal still very scarce on the spot, so that both command high prices. Ordinary cotton cake also rather dearer. The low price of dried pale ale grains is attracting the attention of buyers.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	£7 15 0 to 8 0 0	
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	—	
American Western Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 5 0 to 7 7 6	
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive)	ex quay	7 5 0	
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 5 0 to 7 15 0	
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7 15 0 to 7 17 6	
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal	ex quay	—	
London-made ,, Cake (best	ex mill	5 0 0 to 5 2 6	
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 17 6 to 5 0 0	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 10 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb	ex warehouse	4 5 0 5 0 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb	ex warehouse	4 3 0 4 4 0	
La Plata Linseed (in bags) per 416 lb. (screened)	ex warehouse	4 3 0 5 0 0	
American Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb	ex warehouse	4 4 0 4 5 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d.	per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d.	per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d.	per 312 lb.

Agricultural Imports.

An account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 14, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

		1905.	1906.
Oxen, cows, &c.	Number	11,928	9,714
Sheep and lambs	,,	1,568	379
Swine	,,	—	—
Horses	,,	1,064	233
Beef	Cwt.	109,972	115,312
Mutton	,,	64,207	135,293
Pork	,,	3,197	4,299
Bacon	,,	120,720	104,770
Beef	,,	2,469	3,340
Hams	,,	37,313	40,093
Pork	,,	5,867	5,031
Meat, salted or fresh	,,	13,767	12,940
Meat, preserved	,,	10,722	5,457
Butter	,,	86,730	93,637
Margarine	,,	20,380	19,546
Cheese	,,	64,014	92,581
Milk, fresh	,,	—	—
Milk, cream	,,	129	130
Milk, condensed	,,	16,715	15,778
Milk, preserved	,,	27	12
Eggs	Great Hundreds	168,885	386,868
Poultry	Value £	2,280	2,715
Lard	Cwt.	38,183	42,184
Wheat	,,	2,410,100	2,243,000
Wheat Meal and Flour	,,	141,300	193,900
Barley	,,	94,500	335,600
Oats	,,	529,500	555,700
Peas	,,	34,270	51,360
Beans	,,	4,380	11,370
Maize or Indian Corn	,,	616,350	664,500
Apples	,,	19,380	12,134
Hay	Tons.	2,560	4,446
Straw	,,	1,446	1,009
Moss Litter	,,	1,632	1,532
Hops	Cwt.	215	894
Locust Beans	,,	7,403	—
Onions	Bush.	86,388	89,941
Potatoes	Cwt.	153,647	217,261

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

With an increase in the number of beasts offered for sale on Monday at Islington trade opened on that day of a firm and steady nature, anything really choice selling readily at good money; heavy-weighted beasts, on the other hand, were extremely unsaleable, even at a decline in value; the majority of the supply consisted of grass-fed Hereford and Runts, chiefly consigned from the Midland Counties. There was also a few Highland Scots, which were placed on the market; these found buyers, but not until late in the day. Fat butchering cows met with a slightly firmer trade and meet with slightly more inquiry; on the other hand, fat bulls were very little sought after. On Thursday trade, as usual, was confined to fat cows and rough cattle.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a fair supply throughout the week with a firm and steady trade, sellers both asking and obtaining 2d. per 8 lb. more money. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 4,403, as against 3,586 during the preceding week, consisting of 860 British (increase 260) and 3,543 foreign (increase 557), comprising 3,390 from the United States and 153 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade, which was practically confined to the Islington Market, opened briskly, but became slower as the day advanced, although prices remained about the same; Scotch descriptions sold readily at good money, whilst Irish, on the other hand, were difficult to vend, notwithstanding sellers being willing to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. On Thursday trade was an extremely slow one for both wethers and ewes, nevertheless late currencies governed all transactions. There was a ready inquiry for lambs on Monday, sellers asking 2d. per 8 lb. more money. On Thursday trade became a little slower, but nevertheless anything choice sold well. The total number penned was 10,150, as against 10,450 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 12 stone Lincoln Halfbreds, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10 stone Irish, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 11 stone Half-bred ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone Fat Grass Lambs, 7s. to 7s. 2d.; 6 stone Irish ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.

Calves were in rather larger supply on both market days; trade was of a slow nature, with a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value on the second market day of the week, the best on offer were quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8 lb (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

There is still no great activity in the market for stores of any class but the very best, which are quickly caught up at about late rates; but the plainer descriptions still remain a drug on the market. Prices are not so good as they were, being from 20s to 30s a head even for the best, it being a very rare occurrence to find a milcher realising as much as £21 during the past week, a more average range for the best class of heifers being from £16 to £19 or £20, and for cows from £14 to £18, more ordinary runs being procurable in any quantity at from £14 down to as low as £10 or £11, and these are most difficult to cash, those in want of dairy beasts having no eye for anything that is lacking in the essentials for making up the most serviceable animals and such as will pay their way when drafted into the dairy. Low prices are evidently no temptation to buyers. What they prefer is something of promise and which can be easily turned to account. This they do not consider to be the case with stores that can be had at such low values as from £14 to £20 a pair. Stirks are likewise still slow of sale, and, in the great majority of cases, yearling heifers even more so. The sheep trade continues fairly firm, and sales on the whole are pretty good; but there is very trifling fluctuation in prices—in fact so trifling as scarcely to justify quoting—for, while ewes in some cases fetch a trifle more than last year, in others lambs hardly sell so well, and *vice versa*.

Generally speaking, the fat stock markets continue very dull and inanimate, and in the majority of cases prices rather favour buyers, though as a rule only to a very trifling extent. The consignments of fat beasts now coming out, consisting as they do principally of grass-fed animals, are, as a rule, of a very excellent stamp, many of the steers and heifers being really choice; but prices continue slow at slightly reduced rates, 4s. 10d per stone being now the outside figure for the best Devons, whilst a more general range for really well-finished bullocks is from 4s. to 4s. 8d. Good quality mutton—medium weights in tegs, young ewes, and nice ripe lambs—finds a ready sale at about late values; but both secondary grades of mutton and secondary lambs are against sellers. The choicest breeds of sheep are making 6s. to 6s. 4d. per stone; but anything coarse or weighty are less saleable at from 5s. to 5s. 8d., whilst ewes cannot be quoted higher than 4s. to 4s. 4d. Really choice lamb makes 6s. 10s to 7s. 2d., with a quick sale at the price; but the more ordinary grades only make 6s. 2d. to 6s. 8d. Calves keep up in price from scarcity of good qualities, which are quite as dear as of late; but anything plainer is rather cheaper to buy. The best porkers are still making 10s. and occasionally 10s. 3d.; but heavy baconers are much slower at 9s. to 9s. 6d. a class.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a large attendance of buyers—many of them from cross channel—at Thursday's Dublin Market, and business opened briskly, but afterwards slackened off, and finished weaker than last day. The increase of nearly 300 head of cattle proved rather too much for the buyers to keep up prices to the highest, but, all round, sellers could not complain. The number of beasts penned was 2,526, an increase of 283 on the previous market, and nearly 300 more than the corresponding week of 1905. Several shippers got off good drafts of cattle early in the day. Prime bullocks were more in favour, and well-finished heifers sold very satisfactorily in the early part of the day, bringing previous currencies. Plainer descriptions of beasts met with rather a cautious trade, and fat cows were a trifle more difficult to turn into cash. Live-weight prices for choice Hereford and Aberdeen-Angus crosses ranged from 32s. 6d. to 34s., and Shorthorns from 30s. 6d. to 32s. per cwt., and the approximate dead-weight prices were:—Choice ox and heifer beef 55s. to 60s. for very fancy, good second-class 50s. to 54s., and other descriptions from 44s. per cwt. upwards.

There was a good inquiry for choice sheep for Dublin butchers and North of Ireland men, and for the right sort former prices were maintained, but it was more difficult to get off heavy and coarse sheep; 9,940 were offered for sale, which was a decrease of over 1,000 on the previous Thursday's number, and this decrease barely saved the situation and averted a sharp slump in prices. Shipping hoggets met with a poor sale at about 2s. per head less money, but lambs were a very good trade, and a large decrease in supplies facilitated a clearance at satisfactory prices. Best wether mutton made from 7d. to 8d. per lb; ewe ditto, 6½d. to 7d; and inferior sheep from 5½d. per lb. upwards. Best fat lambs sold from 35s. up to as much as 44s. each; other sorts from 20s. to 28s. Hoggets averaged from 45s. to 55s. each.

There was a slow inquiry for veal. Best sold at from 7d. to 8d., but coarse calves were let go at from 4½d. per lb. Dairy cows made a fair show; choice springers and freshly-calved cows making from £17 to £22 each, medium cows from £13 to £16, and small and inferior from £9 to £12. A small supply of pigs on offer, and with lots of buyers an active business was at once done for suitable pigs at firmer, if not actually dearer rates. Coarse pigs did not meet with a good sale, and there was a late wind up for such descriptions. Choice light weight pigs brought from 55s. to 57s. 6d.; heavy pigs, 52s. to 54s.; and inferior from from 40s. per cwt. Store pigs in very active demand.

Store cattle was still selling at high rates, with good demand. Mr. Gavin Low held a large sale of about 1,000 head at his yard on Thursday. Scotch buyers were in large attendance, and several Englishmen were also present. The former were the principal buyers of the Polled animals, and the Shorthorns fell mostly to English buyers, and there was a very keen competition for good strong bullock and heifers The live-weight prices for forward beasts in thriving condition range from 29s. 6d. to 34s. per cwt. Horned cattle of two-and-a-half years made from £10 to £13 15s.; three-year-olds, £12 to £13 15s Polled cattle, two-and-a-half to three-year-old made from £11 to £14 5s., and some good Hereford cross made as high as £16. Horned yearlings sold at from £6 15s, to £7 15s.; Aberdeen-Angus and Herefords from £6 10s. to £13—which latter seems an extravagant price to give for cattle of this age, and keep them with the hope of profit. The top live-weight price was given for a consignment of very choice Herefords, which made 31s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and market clearing, trade being firm for beef. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; extreme, 4s 9d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ditto, ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; foreign sheep, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington. Thursday. — To-day's supply of beasts consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which ruled slightly firmer, with an upward tendency in value. Small consignments of fat beasts. Norfolks were also offered, but met with no demand, and were unquotable. Top prices paid: Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. An increase of 212 in the number penned in sheep market. Sheep trade owing to the early morning being wet, ruled slow and dragging; nevertheless, no quotable decline in value can be be noted, choice small sheep being scarce and dear, and much sought after. Lamb trade very slow, prices tending in favour of buyers, though not quotably so. Best pens made, per 8 lb, as follows: 8 stone Down sheep, 5s 10d; 9 st ditto, 5s 6d; 10 st ditto, 5s 4d; 10 st half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10 st ewes, 4s 2d; 12 st Lincoln half-breds, 5s; 5 st fat grass lambs, 7s to 7s 2d; 6 st half-bred ditto, 5s 10d to 6s. Calf trade very slow, and prices 2d per 8 lb lower. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; calves, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; lambs, 5s 4d to 7s 2d. Total supply: Beasts, 59; sheep and lambs, 3,022; calves, 80.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade very dull and much left unsold; best beef did not exceed 4s 4d per stone, and many of good quality went for less. Mutton about 2d per stone cheaper, best Downs not exceeding 5s 10d. A quiet trade for veal and lamb at late rates. Pork, owing to small supply, realised full values, roasters making up to about 4s 4d per stone.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Son's sale yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 53 fat beasts, 59 calves, 432 fat sheep and lambs, 83 pigs, and 44 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime quality two-year-old Devon steers sold readily at from £17 15s to £21 10s; Shorthorn steers, from £17 to £21 10s; heifers, £12 to £18; and bulls to £13; fat calves, 60s to £5 5s; smaller ditto, 25s to 57s 6d; fat porkers, 28s to 55s; stores, to 22s 6d; dairy cattle, £9 10s to £20; eighteen-months-old Down wethers and ewes made from 54s to 60s; smaller, 48s to 52s; Down and Leicester cross-bred ditto, 50s to 52s; old Down ewes, 35s to 42s; Southdown ditto, 40s; fifteen-months-old Black Face wethers, 40s; six-months-old Down lambs, 38s to 49s; three-months-old suckling lambs, 38s to 42s; cross-bred Scotch, 27s. A clearance was nearly made at late rates of the supply of fat beasts. The hot weather had an adverse effect on the trade for over-fed heavy sheep. For all other classes of sheep prices were well maintained. Choice sucking lambs made extreme prices. Good quality lambs and sheep of moderate weight had the best of the trade. Dairy cows of the best class found buyers at late prices; secondary sorts met a dull trade. Store cattle met no inquiry. Fat calves a fair trade at late rates. Fat porkers, with a short supply, realised more money; store pigs were a slow trade throughout, and late prices could not be made. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6½d to 7d; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d per lb; best sheep, 8½d to 9d; second class ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7d; choice sucking lambs, 10d to 11d per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb; fat porkers, 9s to 10s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—This market wore a holiday appearance, only 142 beast beings penned. Only bullocks and Shorthorn bulls were sold, the former realising to £12 10s, and the latter £13. Cows realised £18 to £22.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, and pigs. Fair supply of sheep and lambs. Trade slow. Quotations: Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; a few Herefords, 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d. per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; pigs, bacon 10s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 6d per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—To-day's supply of fat cattle was unusually small, and with limited in-

quiry trade was quiet at late rates. Sheep and lambs were numerous, but not in much request, and average business was done at current quotations. Pigs were again scarce, and prices rose, porkers to 10s 9d per score, and baconers to 10s per score.

Calne, Friday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, Six sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 10s. per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in. 10s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lbs., not over 2¾ in., 9s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS & Co., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair commencement has been made with the lamb trade; half-bred lambs are making from 20s 6d to 32s 6d; Kent lambs average about 25s; draft ewes, 27s to 36s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies were smaller, and chiefly good cattle. A rather slower market was experienced. Wintering heifers made £8 10s to £10s 10s, and the better descriptions, £11 10s to £16; bullocks to £10 10s.

Chester, Wednesday.—Fat cattle experienced a fair demand at late prices. Freshly-calved and autumn-calving cows and heifers met a ready sale at advanced prices. Store cattle trade was dull, except for a few lots of forward condition cattle and well-bred heifers. Quotations:—Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West Country ditto, 5s to 6s 2d; pork, 3s 8d to 4s. Stock at the market: Cattle, 374; sheep, 3,784; pigs, 631; calves, 198; horses, 24; bulls, 9.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were on an average, but buyers were again scarce and the demand slow. Sheep were in larger supply, but the inquiry was indifferent. Prices generally were irregular, but on the whole were unchanged. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barren £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; and sheep, 18s to 22s each.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a good supply of stock. Beef 4s 4d to 4s 6d, mutton 5s 6d to 6s, pork 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Small supplies of cattle and sheep, and few buyers present, trade being merely nominal. Young stock, £8 to £11; heifers, £11 to £14; bullocks, £12 to £17; milch beasts, £17 to £22; sheep, 40s to 46s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Moderately good offers, for the time of the year, came to hand at to-day's market, at which sales were held by Messrs. Duke and Son, and also by Messrs. Symonds and Sampson. Milch beasts found a steady selling trade at from £15 to £19 10s each for best heifers and calves; secondary milchers, £11 to £14; in-calvers, £11 to £11 10s each. Barreners made up to £28 per pair for the fresher condition bullocks, ranging down to £22; plainer from £16 to £20; yearlings £10 to £12 10 per pair. Fat beasts: £15 to £18 for heifers; bulls, £11 to £16 (or for the best 10s 6d to 11s, and for secondary grades 9s to 10s). Mutton trade slow, the plainer grades selling as low as 4ls 6d, and better qualities up to 56s. Lamb trade quiet, season being almost at an end, from 28s to 34s apiece.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There was a very small show both of cattle and sheep, owing to the Highland show at Peebles, and a poor attendance of buyers, practically no business being done. Bullocks, £13 7s 6d; half-bred sheep, 38s to 42s; Shorthorn cows to £23; crosses to £22; Ayrshires to £17.

Exeter, Friday.—Large attendance, fair trade. Maiden heifers and steers, 11s 6d to 11s 8d; cows, 10s 6d to 11s; small hoggs, 8½d to 9d; large ditto 8d; ewes, 6d; fat lambs, 10d to 11d in wool, 9d to 10d shorn; breeding ewes, 45s; calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Trade was slow, but prices steady to firm. Quality an average. Scotch beef, 62s to 64s; secondary, 57s to 60s; Irish, 56s to 58s; Canadian, 2s to 3s dearer at 55s to 56s per cwt. Sheep were in good supply and met a better demand at 9¾d to 10d; and lambs, 10½d to 10½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Short supply (50) cows and calves, which sold well; very small supply store cattle, all cleared.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Store trade was firm. The sale of fat stock was fairly brisk, but bullock and heifer beef made 6½d per lb, cow beef, 4½d to 5d. lb., and bull beef 4d. per lb. The calf trade was brisker, veal making 7d to 7½d per lb. A large supply of sheep sold well; wether mutton made 8d to 8½d per lb, while ewe mutton fetched 7d per lb. Lambs sold briskly at 9d to 10d per lb. Pigs were scarce. Bacons made 5d to 5½d per lb. Stores were firm and dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Large consignments of home-bred bullocks. Buyers were moderately represented and trade ruled sluggish at 10s to 20s per head decline. Choice milchcows, £19 to £21; good lots, £16 to £18; secondary, £14 to £15; Shorthorn cattle, £12 to £15; choice Irish bullocks, £18 to £19; good lots, £13 to £15; Welsh Runts, £10 to £15; young stock, £5 to £7; calves, 15s to 34s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Limited supply of beasts, and a fair business. Yearlings, £8 to £10; milch cows, £16 to £20; drape ewes, 38s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Very few store cattle, trade very slow, £6 to £12. Fat beasts average show for time of year, making 6s 9d to 7s 6d per stone. Small supply of store sheep, prices 40s to 46s each. Fat sheep, average show, firm trade, 8s and 9s up to 9s 6d for small choice sheep. Store lambs, 26s to 35s, fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: first class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Mutton: first class, 7¾d; second class, 6¾d to 7¼d; third class, 5¾d to 6¼d. Veal, first class, 6¼d; second class, 5¼d to 5¾d; third class, 4¼d to 4¾d. Lamb: first class, 8d; second class, 7d to 7½d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There was a lighter show of cattle. Prime heifers, 8s to 8s 6d; second-class, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; prime steers, 7s 9d to 8s; coarse and inferior, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; pigs, 6s to 7s 3d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; veal, 6½d to 8½d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 1,717; sheep and lambs, 7,803; calves, 88; pigs, 313.

Newport Wednesday.—A larger supply, a good attendance of buyers, and a good trade all round. Quotations: Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6d; cows, 4¾ to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; lambs, 9d; calves, 6½d to 8d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Quite a holiday tone prevailed at the market. Fat beasts were again offered in limited supply, and prices remained about the same as last week—7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. There was a very small show of store cattle, practically the only supply on offer being a few lots left over from last week. Very little business was doing, and not sufficient to justify quotations. There was a full average supply of sheep and lambs, and trade was steady at about late rates. Lambs made from 25s to 38s per head, and breeding ewes 45s to 60s. There was a quiet trade in fat sheep, prices ranging from 8s 6d to 9s 6d per stone of 14 lb. Brisk demand for both fat and store pigs, and all the lots were sold, a full show being on offer. Prices for fat pigs averaged 6s 9d per stone; small stores ranged from 14s to 24s per head; big pigs, 28s to 45s; and sows, 60s to 80s.

Nottingham, Saturday. The smallest supply of cattle and sheep during the season, and a poor attendance of farmers. Trade nominal, and prices unchanged. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £13 10s; young stores, £6 to £9 each. Sheep made from 38s to 43s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a large supply of cattle, sheep, and calves, but demand was not equivalent to the show. Beef was bad to sell, and prices were in favour of buyers. Fat calves were in excellent request. Quotations:—Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5¾d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; lambs, 8¾d to 9½d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; tups, 5½d to 6d; fat calves, 5½d to 6d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Milch cows of first-class quality were scarce and dearer, being worth £18 to £20, and secondary sorts £14 to £17 per head. There was also an improved tone in the demand for healthy young stock, two-year-old steers and heifers realising £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade unchanged: Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in average supply. Trade slow at 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Sheep in good supply; trade unchanged: Best small 5s 10d to 6s; large, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lambs in average supply; trade about the same, at 6s 6d to 6s 8d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pig trade slow; Neat pokers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A fairly good show of milch cows, and a slightly more brisk trade than last week. The best beasts made £21 to £22 10s; smaller beasts, £17 10s to £20.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small market, but a good attendance of butchers and dealers. Good business for fat cattle, and strong demand for sheep and lambs, prices being in advance of last week. Brisk trade for milking cows, and pigs also sold well. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb; porker pigs, 10s to 10s 9d per score; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score. Milking cows up to £23. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 397, sheep and lambs 1,475, calves 88, pigs 222.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Number in market: Cattle, 167; sheep and lambs, 118; pigs, 187. There was a small show of best cattle, and trade was slow at 8s to 8s 3d per lb. Rougher kinds made 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Sheep met a fair trade. Lambs were quoted at 10d to 11d per lb., young sheep 8½d to 9d, and ewes 6d to 7d per lb. Pigs were also in fair demand at 5s 9d to 6s per stone for large, and 6s 6d to 7s per stone for small animals.

Thame, Tuesday.—Large attendance of buyers including many from long distances. There was a good average supply of very ripe beef and mutton but a scarcity of fat pigs and cattle. Trade ruled remarkably brisk throughout, with an advance upon previous prices, everything finding ready purchasers. Messrs. Bond and Burrows sale comprised 74 fat beasts, 296 fat sheep, 60 fat and weaning calves, and 55 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21 7s 6d; fat heifers, £14 10s to £20 15s; fat wethers, 48s to 56s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 52s; fat lambs, 30s to 42s; fat calves, £3 to £4; weaning cow calves, 30s to 51s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; fat hogs, £3 to £4 5s; porkers, 30s to 50s; store pigs, 15s to 28s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, and business fairly good. Fat bullocks, 58s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £16 each; rearing calves, 15s to 60s; wethers, 8d to 8½d per lb; ewes, 5½d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 15s to 32s; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 5d to 5½d. Number in cattle market:—Bullocks, 334; calves, 82; sheep, 300; pigs, 156; horses, 4.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of cattle, which made about 3d per stone more than last week. Good supply of mutton, which met a good trade. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary quality, 6s 3d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wether and crossbreds, 8d to 8½d; prime hoggs, to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 8d to 9½d; veal, 8d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Quite a holiday market. Farmers being busy with the hay, there were very few buyers present. A good few Irish beasts for the time of the year, but fewer English and no demand. Nice bullocks sold up to £14 10s. A small show of calving and milch cows, and for the best of these, which made up to £21 each, there was a fairly good trade, though late sheep rates were barely maintained on the day. The smallest show of this year, and a slow trade. Best shearlings made up to 50s., others 44s to 48s. About 200 West country lambs on offer, which made 27s. to 28s 6d a head.

Yeovil, Friday.—Cows and calves, £16 10s to £20 10s for best; secondary, from £14 to £15 15s; heifers and calves made £16 10s to £19 10s; barreners, £9 10s to £16 10s; steers, £9 15s to £13 5s.; yearling heifers, £7 to £8 15s; Down ewes, 42s to 48s 6d; Down wethers, 46s to 51s; Down wether lambs, 27s to 32s 6d; horn ewes, 43s to 50s; horn wethers, 47s 6d to 52s 6d; horn chilver lambs, 27s 6d to 32s 6d; slip pigs, 17s 6d to 32s 6d; stores, 35s to 60s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—There is the usual summer inactivity in the trade for fertilisers and feeding-stuffs, yet values of the latter remain without change:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda	11	5	0		—	
East India Bone Meal	5	7	6		—	
Kainit	2	1	3	2	2	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Linseed Cake, American	7	7	6	7	10	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	15	0
,, ,, Foreign, round	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated	8	2	6	8	3	9
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	12	6		—	
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	5	0		—	
Crushed Cottonseed	7	10	0	7	12	6
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6	5	15	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	0	0	6	2	6
Rice Meal	4	15	0	4	17	6
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6		—	
Treacle, feeding, prime		4	9	5	0	
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.					
,, ,, guaranteed						
Basic Slag, prime quality	nominal.					
,, ,, ,, ,,						
,, ,, finest ,,						

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The demand continues of the usual summer description, but with small arrivals values remain firm at the late advance. Russian are the best value at the moment and can still be had £7 7s 6d £7 8s 9d

in mats and £7 10s to £7 12s 6d in bags. East India seed pures still quoted at £7 7s 6d to £7 10s. American are unchanged at £7 2s 6d to £7 5s. London-made aro in more request at £7 15s to £7 17s6d per ton ex mill. Cotton Cakes.—Stocks in warehouse are practically exhausted and supplies continue to come to hand very sparingly, with the result that needy buyers are compelled to pay full values of £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d. English are not very freely offered and manufacturers are firm in their demands of £4 18s 9d to £5. Decorticated.—Only a small quantity of American is to be had, for which holders ask £7 11s 3d ex dock, with meal at £7 10s. Rape Cakes. — Unchanged. East India, £5s; Ravison, £4 15s. Maize Germ Meal.—White American on the quay is still obtainable at £5 13s 9d; while some forward business for July-August shipment has been done at £5 10s c.f. and i. terms. English is still quoted at £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton ex mills. Rice Meal.—Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse find little inquiry at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s., although the demand still continues on a moderate scale for autumn shipments at £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d, ex ship terms. Locust beans firm and unchanged at £5 15s, with Kibbled at £6. Nitrate of soda quiet and unaltered at £10 17s 6d per ton ex docks.

	Per ton.					
LINSEED CAKES.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
London made ..... ex mill	7	15	0 to	7	17	6
Russian, in mats	7	7	6 to	7	8	9
,, in bags	7	10	0 to	7	12	6
Calcutta .....to arrive	7	7	6 to	7	10	0
American	7	2	6 to	7	5	0
COTTONSEED CAKES.						
Egyptian	4	16	3 to	4	17	6
English	4	18	9 to	5	0	0
Bombay	4	5	0			
COTTONSEED CAKES.						
Decorticated ..... ex dock		—		7	11	3
,, Cottonseed Meal		—		7	10	0
RAPE CAKES.						
Calcutta	5	0	0			
Ravison	4	15	0			
MAIZE.						
English Germ Meal	5	7	6	5	10	0
American ..... ex quay	5	13	9			
,, July-Aug.....c.i.f.				5	10	0
RICE MEAL.						
Rangoon.....ex warehouse	4	13	9 to	5	15	0
,, ... autumn	4	11	3 to	4	12	6
MANURES.						
Nitrate of soda, spot.....				10	17	6
LOCUST BEANS.						
Whole				5	15	0
Kibbled				6	0	0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—In view of lower prices at Colonial wool sales, many staplers will not exceed 13d for Kent wool, while others bid 13½d only for best lots. Growers, however, hold out against reduction, and ask 14d, and 10d per pound for lamb wool; consequently not much trade done. Downs and half-bred fleeces unaltered.

London, Friday.—The concluding auctions of the present series of London Colonial wool sales were held this evening, catalogues, comprising 10,440 bales. Sales closed with fairly brisk competition at current rates. Short and faulty scoureds, as well as poor and heavy grease, were difficult of sale, and ruled 10 per cent. below last auction currency. Fine greasy cross-bred realised fully late rates, and were occasionally dearer; whilst medium to good realised last sales' average prices. Low and heavy sorts, however, declined 5 per cent., and scoured and coarse slipe descriptions 10 per cent. South African wools were generally fully 7½ per cent. cheaper than in May.

London, Saturday.—English - per pk. of 240 lb. —Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 2s to 2s 2d; scoured, good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9½d to 10d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 1s; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 10d to 10½d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 7d; greasy, average, 8d to 9d. Crosbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 1s to 1s 1d.

BUTTER.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d Devizes: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Driffield: 10d. Kidderminster: 1s. Northtawton: 1s Penistone: 1s 2d. Penzance: 10d to 11d Plymouth, 1s to 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 1d. Wellington (Salop): 11d to 1s. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s to 1s 1d. Chester: 1s 1d. Camelford: 10d to 11d. Crewe: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s to 1s 2d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Helmsley: 10 to 11d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 2d Lincoln: 1s to 1s 1d. Lostwithiel: 10d. Macclesfield: 1s to 1s 1d. Nantwich: 1s. Northwich: 1s. Otley: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 9½d. Runcorn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. St. Austell: 11d. Stamford: 1s. 3d. Stockport: 1s 1d. Tavistock: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes, 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10d to 1s; Berwick: 10d to 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d Carlisle: 11d to 1s. Doncaster: 1s 2d. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Howden: 10d to 1s. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 1½d. Malton 1s to 1s 1d. Pontefract, 1s 1d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d Richmond (Yorks): 10d to 11d. Shrewsbury: 11d to 1s. Skipton: 11d to 1s 1d. Stokesley: 11d to 1s. Whitby: 11d to 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

Thursday. — Axminster: 10d per dozen. Birmingham: 10 to 12. Brigg: 13 and 14. Devizes: 14 to 16. Driffield: 15 and 16. Evesham: 1s 0½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 12. Northtawton: 14. Penistone: 12 and 13. Penzance: 10d to 11d per dozen. Plymouth: 12 and 14. Ripon: 13. Scarborough: 11d, Wellington (Salop): 12 and 13. Wetherby: 12 and 13

Friday. — Altrincham: 10 and 11d. Ashburton: 10d and 11d per doz. Barnstaple: 12 to 14. Chester: 11 and 12. Camelford: 16. Crewe: 11. Derby: 11 and 12 Helmsley: 13 and 14. Knutsford: 10 to 12. Leyburn: 13 and 14. Lincoln: 14. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 11 and 12. Nantwich: 12 and 13. Northwich: 11 and 12. Otley: 12 and 13. Redruth: 10 per doz. Runcorn: 11. St. Austell: 16. Stamford: 12. Stockport: 10 and 11. Tavistock: 11 to 13. Totnes: 11d to 1s per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 12 and 13. Berwick: 14 to 1s 2d per doz. Bridgnorth: 12 and 13. Carlisle: 10 and 11. Doncaster: 12. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 13 to 15. Lancaster: 8 to 11. Malton: 12 and 13. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 11. Shrewsbury: 12 and 14. Skipton: 12 and 13. Stokesley: 12 and 13. Whitby: 12. York: 12 to 14.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Prices a shade dearer, demand good. Top Cheddars 62s; secondaries, 60s; Dunlops, best, 60s; secondary, 58s per cwt.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 22 tons of cheese pitched, and with a large attendance all were cleared, Best dairies realised up to 63s per cwt; secondary dairies, 57s 6d. to 59s; and other dairies, 55s 6d to 57s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 55s. Cheddars made 62s to 64s 6d; truckles, 60s to 64s; doubles, 52s to 55s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was about 8 tons pitched, and a good trade. Quotations:—Caerphillies 48s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 57s to 60s; truckles, 60s to 63s; Derbys, 64s to 65s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Varied supplies of fruit and greenstuffs on offer, the demand being brisk. Prices for English produce:—Peaches, 2s to 8s per dozen; melons, 9d to 2s; black currants, 6s to 7s 6d; red ditto, 5s to 6s 6d per half-sieve; green figs, 1s to 3s 6d; nectarines, 2s to 8s per dozen; raspberries, 3s to 5s per dozen punnets; ditto, 1s to 1s 6d per gallon; strawberries, 5s to 9s per dozen punnets; apricots, 9d to 1s per box; tomatoes, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; endive, 1s to 1s 3d; vegetable marrows, 9d to 2 per dozen; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; cabbages, 2s to 3s 6d per tally; green peas, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel; ditto, 2s 6d to 4s 6d per bag; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; carrots, 1s to 2s; turnips, 1s to 2s 6d; green onions, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; cauliflowers, 7s to 9s per tally; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per flat; horseradish, 9s to 14s per dozen bundles; mushrooms, 6s to 10s 6d per 12 lb; beetroots, 2s; broad beans, 1s to 1s 6d per bushel.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations: Hay, £4 5s per ton; clover, £4 10s per ton; straw, 2s 9d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—Old clover hay, 85s to 90s; old meadow hay, 75s to 80s; wheaten straw, 50s to 55s per ton.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A very slow trade without quotable change in values Quotations: Hay in stack, 55s to 60s per ton; straw in bulk, 35s to 40s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Meadow hay, (½d; clover, 7d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday. — Haymaking is general in the district, and so far the weather has been favourable. The supply of old hay and straw is diminishing, and quotations in the warehouses are firm, as follows:—Meadow hay, 7d; clover hay, 7½d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 8d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle (retail).

Lincoln, Friday.—Old hay and seeds, £4; new hay and seeds, from 55s; old straw, 40s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Clover, old, 7½d to 7½d; ditto, new, 5½d to 6d; oat straw, 4½d per stone.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Small supply at market, which met with a good demand. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; wheat straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Business was quiet at late prices. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; prime meadow hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; seconds, £3 15s to £4; straw, £3 10s to £3 12s 6d; green fodder, 18s to 20 per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies, but quiet demand. Prices: Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 4s; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; goslings, 5s to 6s; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 6d to 3s; quails, 6d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 7d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per dozen.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

HACKNEY STUD BOOK VOL. XXIV.

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OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—July 23, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 302, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The rainfall of the past week has been raised by short electrical downpours to a full inch in Kent, Essex, and the south-east of England, but it has not exceeded a third of an inch in some of the Midland shires. In the North there has been a succession of welcome showers. The sun has not been extraordinarily hot as a rule, though in the Thames Valley 124 deg. *in vacuo* has been twice recorded. Winds have veered daily, but for the chief portion of the week there was sufficient north in the current to refresh the animal world both human and quadruped. The harvest has begun in earnest with the general cutting of winter oats, add some winter barley has also been cut, especially in the Wye and Severn valleys, where a very early variety has latterly won favour with growers because, being dead ripe by July 20 or 21 in an ordinary season, it leaves the ground clear for a catch crop to be put in early in August. The wheat harvest will begin in another week's time, and 31 bushels is now a general expectation against 33 bushels last year and 30 in an ordinary season, or to speak with official accuracy 29·91 bushels.

Latest official averages of yield of wheat per acre are as follows:—

United Kingdom, 29·91 bushels; United States, 13·07 bushels; Argentina, 10·65 bushels; Australia, 7·88 bushels; Austria-Hungary, 17·44 bushels; Canada, 19·00 bushels; France, 19·22 bushels; Italy, 12·75 bushels; Russia, 9·68 bushels; Spain, 12·98 bushels.

These figures are interesting, and are apparently in accordance with trade experiences. On the other hand we cannot readily accept the Belgian Minister of Agriculture's estimate of an average wheat yield of 34·46 bushels, neither is it likely that the somewhat poor soil of Germany produces 28·24 bushels to the acre. An estimate which is probably 2 to 3 bushels *under* the mark is that for Uruguay, which is officially credited with only 8·39 bushels to the acre.

The price of English wheat last week showed the following range:—

Reading ...	...	32s. 0d. per qr.
Lincoln ...	...	27s. 7d. ,,
Gradient...	...	4s. 5d. ,,

The price of English barley is extremely level, the cause being an utter exhaustion of fine quality samples:—

Mark Lane...	...	23s. 4d. per qr.
Peterborough	...	22s. 3d. ,,
Gradient...	...	1s. 1d. ,,

The price of English oats is generally good just now:—

Reading ...	...	21s. 5d. per qr.
Doncaster...	...	19s. 10d. ,,
Gradient	...	1s. 7d. ,,

Lincoln quoted a level sovereign, and Doncaster was the only leading market under that price.

No official averages are struck for English beans, peas, or rye, but 33s for common spring beans, 33s also for common dun peas, and 26s for old rye may be mentioned as values ruling all over England, whereon samples of these three crops are to be met with at all. The supply is practically limited to six or seven counties in the east and south-east. In Lincolnshire some English rapeseed is on offer at 62s. per qr, but we have not seen any English linseed for some time.

The sales of English wheat since harvest have for forty-seven completed weeks of the cereal year been much above the average. We may with some confidence look forward, therefore, to complete returns in September next, showing that the cereal year 1905-6 was one of quite exceptional supply.

This season.....	2,881,000 qr.	at 28s. 8d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...	1,605,000 ,,	30s. 8d.	,,

The sales of English barley have been a little above those of the preceding season, but since July came in scarcely any business has passed.

This season	3,199,000 qr.	at 24s. 4d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...	3,132,000 ,,	24s. 9d.	,,

The sales of English oats have been small. Evidently farmers have wanted more of their produce than usual for actual use on the farm and in the neighbourhood without sending to market.

This season	906,000 qr.	at 18s. 6d.	per qr.
Last ,, ...	1,128,000 ,,	17s. 1d.	,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 433,000 qr.: a good supply.

Flour, 87,650 sks.: a small arrival.

Barley, 8,260 qr.: the smallest imports of this cereal in any complete week since the new century.

Oats, 100,000 qr.: a moderate supply.

Maize, 168,000 qr.: less than usual.

The imports of cereals since harvest have been 19,473,000 qr. of wheat, 5,418,960 qr. of barley, 5,173,000 qr. of oats, and 9,566,000 qr. of Indian corn.

For two or three days after the suppression of the Russian Parliament there was a disposition to hold back Russian grain. Prices were 6d to 1s dearer, and the tone of trade very firm. But the Russian people, who rise in formidable revolt on very obscure pretexts, have taken this *coup d'état* very placidly, and the markets closed on Saturday with the natural revulsion from previous ideas. Prices tended to decline, and were especially weak for future delivery. There were free offers to ship Russian new barley in the autumn at 18s 3d, Russian new oats at 15s, and Roumanian offers for corresponding dates also came at very low prices. The market for Argentine maize became coincidently cheaper, owing to colossal shipments, so that with wheat, barley, oats, and maize all weakened in position between the 23rd and the 28th; the situation from grain holders' point of view is changed somewhat markedly for the worse. There are, however, some salient exceptions. English produce is as dear as ever through scarcity; bran, middlings and pollard are held for 2s. 6d. per ton advance. There is also a rise of 1s. per qr. in linseed, and a recovery of 3d. per cwt. in beet sugar, signs that the currents which have been making against value in other directions are not the only influences which have to be considered.

The supplies of wheat on passage on 28th inst. were not very much above the average of 2½ millions.

Californian, 300,000 qr.; American, 155,000 qr.; Russian, 210,000 qr.; Indian, 800,000 qr.; Argentine, 500,000 qr.; Australasian, 600,000 qr.; Various, 30,000 qr.; total, 2,595,000 qr.

The supply of flour on passage has fallen to 200,000 sacks, or two-fifths of an average.

The supply of maize on passage is large:—Argentine, 920,000 qr.; American, 70,000 qr.; Russian, 70,000 qr.; total, 1,060,000 qr.

On the other hand, 180,000 qr. of barley on passage is a very small total. The supplies of oil-seeds on passage are:—Linseed, 142,000 qr.; rape-seed, 29,000 qr.; and cottonseed, 24,000 tons.

The shipments of America last week were moderate. The largest item was 98,000 qr. of maize, then came 94,000 qr. of wheat, and then 74,000 sacks of flour. Exports of barley and oats were insignificant.

Argentina, on the other hand, surprised the trade by a materially increased exportation of all leading articles. The maize shipments were 465,000 qr., those of wheat 212,000, and of linseed 21,000 qr.

Russia shipped last week 195,000 qr. of wheat, 123,000 qr. of barley, 267,000 qr. of oats, and 7,000 qr. of maize; these are, with the exception of maize, decidedly heavy exports for a week when old crops are practically played out in an average season. Roumania supplemented Russian exports with 9,000 qr. of wheat, 6,000 qr. of barley, 5,000 qr. of oats, and 32,000 qr. of maize.

India shipped 150,000 qr. of wheat (all from Kurrachee), and 29,000 qr. of Linseed. Australia shipped 7,000 qr. of wheat and 5,000 sacks of flour. There were no grain shipments last week from Persia or Egypt.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—There is a continued shortage of supplies, and with a good demand trade keeps very firm, with prices again the turn dearer. Stocks of old appear to have got down to a very low level, and deliveries have been of a very sparse character, in consequence the larger supplies of new crop coming along have found a better trade at more money, the condition and quality of which being so good, it looks as if before long values of both new and old will be very much on the same level. At present the market value of new is about 10s to 13s ton below old. The demand for straw keeps steady with no change in prices to report. There is a big business passing in foreign hay, and there have been large importations during the last few days. Canadian mixture is a firm trade at more money. Dutch hay is also much inquired for. We hear of large arrivals of Algerian hay, and during the last week over 1,000 tons have come forward for which a fair price has been obtainable. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English old crop best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 60s to 67s 6d per ton. Best clovers 92s 6d to 95s per ton. Good 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; seconds mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 28s per load; oat straw, 28s per load; barley straw, 29s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 80s per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s to 67s 6d per ton; Algerian hay, 65s to 67s 6d per ton. French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 80s per ton; large bale wheat straw, 51s per ton; small bale wheats, 41s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

The cargo trade has lost tone since the 24th. Wheat cargo sales show about 3d. decline. They include Kurrachee White at 29s. 9d. per 492 lb., Kurrachee Red at 29s. 3d. per 492 lb., New South Wales at 30s. 3d. per 480 lb., Fine Victorian at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb., No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 30s. 9d. per 480 lb., Red Walla at 31s. per 500 lb., Rosario at 29s 9d. per 480 lb., Blue Stem at 32s. per 500 lb., and White Walla Walla (arrived) at 31s. 6d. per 500 lb.

Maize cargoes decidedly favour buyers. Sales—all per 480 lb.—include American at 21s. 9d. and 22s., Roumanian at 20s. 9d. and 21s., and Argentine at 20s. 6d. and 20s. 9d. The higher price was in every case that made earlier in the week. Some offers to ship from Caucasian ports at 21s. 9d., and from Bulgaria at 21s., are reported, but we do not hear that there are buyers at the prices indicated.

Other cargo sales include Kustendje barley at 19s. 6d. per 416 lb., White Sea oats at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb., Argentine linseed at 41s. per 416 lb., and Bombay cottonseed at £5 8s. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 22 wheat (1 Adelaide, 1 Bahia Blanca, 1 Buenos Aires, 1 Geelong, 3 Melbourne, 1 Port Germein, 3 Port Pirie, 1 Rosario, 2 Seattle, 2 Sydney, 2 Tacoma, 4 Wallaroo); 1 linseed (Rosario)—total 23.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 6 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 1 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 2 Dublin, 1 London).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 188 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 1 barley, 3 maize, 1 locust beans and 22 linseed: total, 217.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 239 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 38 linseed: total, 314.

The London Corn Trade Association c.f. and i. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian wheat contracts, are as follows, viz.:—Via Canal. Crop 1905. Choice white Kurrachee, 30s. 6d.; soft red Kurrachee, 29s. 6d. per 492 lb. These prices will rule until further notice.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market shows a stronger tendency, at about 1s per ton more money:—15s to 16s ale, and 12s to 13s porter, 25s distillers, and 32s 6d pressed white distillery meal per ton. Other articles without change as follows:—Dried Grains: Ale, 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, and distillers 110s per ton on rail London; ale 90s, and mixed 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, to arrive, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton, free on rail, London.—HAMLYN AND CO.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English firm, but quiet, on short supplies. Foreign sellers maintain late rates, but demand very slow; South Russian landed quoted at 30s 3d, 33s 3d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship at 32s 6d. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 10½d, landed at 22s 6d; La Plata, ex ship, at 21s, landed at 21s 6d. Barley firm, inactive. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 3d, 18s 6d; landed at 19s 3d. Oats rather firmer, but quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat: English steady, quiet, at late rates. Foreign sellers ask late currencies, but demand very poor. South Russians, ex ship, quoted at 29s 9d to 33s 3d, landed at 30s 3d to 33s 3d. Persian landed at 31s to 32s 6d. Choice white Karachi, 30s; reds at 29s 9d. No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s 6d, No. 2 32s, No. 3 at 31s 9d, all ex ship, to arrive. Flour quiet, unchanged prices. Hungarian quoted at 29s; Minnesota patents at 24s 6d; bakers' at 20s. Maize dull. Only a limited business passing, at about late rates. Mixed American quoted at 21s 10½d, ex ship, and 22s 6d ex quay; River Plate, ex ship, at 21s; landed at 21s 6d. Barley steady, but quiet. Odessi-Nicolaieff, ex ship; quoted at 18s 3d; landed at 19s. 3d; American at 18s 6d. Oats quiet, unchanged.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was again a small attendance, and not much corn was offered. A few samples of English wheat were held for 34s. English oats were scarce, and very dear, white making 22s to 24s; and black, 20s to 23s. Other quotations: English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; foreign grinding barley, 21s to 23s; Mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; peas, 33s to 34s; round maize, 24s to 25s; flat maize, 25s to 26s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday. — Wheat, red, 31s to 31s 6d per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans, 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small attendance at this Market. Foreign wheats were firm at last week's full prices, and met with more inquiry. No English wheat offering. River Plate maize was 3d lower, at 20s 9d per 480 lb Sharpness; flat maize was unchanged at 22s 6d per qr Bristol; grinding barley was firm, at 19s 3d per 400 lb at Sharpness; English oats, 22s to 22s 6d per 312 lb; beans, 13s 3d to 13s 6d per 196 lb delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—There was a slow trade at last week's prices and a small attendance. No buyers of old crop wheat; waiting for the new, which, with this fine weather, should be on sale next week. One large farmer starts cutting to-day. Quotations:—Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; English oats, 19s to 22s; peas, 32s to 33s; beans, 33s to 35s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat, still none on offer. Foreign wheat firmly held for late rates. Plate maize 3d lower on spot owing to heavy arrivals; other positions unchanged. Flat maize unchanged. Barley very firm at 6d advance. Oats unaltered. Flour, consumption slow, unchanged in values.—Grace Brothers.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Oats in brisk demand at 19s to 23s per qr. The few remaining lots of choice wheat moved off slowly at 34s. Beans firmly held at recent values.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Quick sale at full prices, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was practically no corn on offer, and, with a small attendance, trade was almost at a standstill. One sample of new white wheat was offered at 22s. The price of peas was 34s per qr., and flour from 25s to 27s per sack.

Coichester, Saturday.—Small attendance, farmers busy harvesting, no corn offering, prices unchanged.—Joseph Wiles and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Not a large attendance. Wheat shown sparingly and firm at last week's quotations. Old spring corn unchanged. Beans were very scarce, and a shade dearer. A sample of new oats shown. Quotations: Wheat, 12s to 12s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was very little business and prices remain unaltered. White wheat made 32s to 34s; red, 31s to 32s; old beans, 34s to 35s; new, 22s to 24s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was no change in prices. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Farmers being now busy in the harvest field, there was by no means a large attendance, and there was also a limited offer of samples, stocks of most things being evidently largely, if not wholly exhausted, wheat being more scarce than we ever remember seeing it before. Prices of English wheat remain practically unchanged, and foreign was very quiet at about late rates. Barley with a little more demand brought enhanced values, from 3d to 6d per qr more. Maize made late rates, with a rather firmer feeling for one or two varieties, which are somewhat scarce. Beans and peas brought late rates. Flour quiet at recent values.

Dublin, Friday. — There was a moderate attendance. Market quiet but firm. Flour in fair demand. Oatmeal firm. Bran and pollard in small supply. Quotations:—Wheat, 19s to 20s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s: grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; oats, 11s to 14s; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d

Glasgow, Friday.—Flour slow for spot parcels, but sellers accept 6d per sack less for forward positions. Wheat steady; home millers slow, with no inclination for business, as they cannot compete with American rates. American maize scarce on spot at 13s per 280 lb; round steady at 12s 7½d to 12s 9d. Other articles quietly steady and in retail request.

Grantham, Saturday.—Harvest operations having commenced in the district, there was only a small attendance of farmers, and practically no business was done.

Hereford, Wednesday.—No English grain offering, and quotations in wheat nominally unchanged. In oats there was a moderate amount of business passing, while maize went slowly at last week's prices. The barley trade held up, a few offers being received for moderate quantities. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 62 lb.; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb.; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Wheat: Only a few samples on offer; prices nominal, at 32s to 32s 6d per qr. Oats were firm at 22s to 23s 6d per qr. A nice sample of new winter oats was on the market, and ultimately sold at 19s per qr on the line. Maize unchanged, round 21s 6d to 22s, and flat 23s per qr. Other feeding corns in quiet demand at unaltered prices.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat was still in short supply, and prices were the turn higher. There was also less foreign on offer, and as a result values were up 3d per qr. Feeding and malting barleys maintained fully late quotations. Beans, peas, oats, and maize were without change. Flour was in better demand, with a rising tendency for ordinary descriptions.

Lincoln, Friday. — Small attendance, but prices were inclined to be a trifle higher. Oats were in small supply, and experienced a fair demand at late rates. Maize was 3d per qr dearer on the week. Beans unchanged.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a small attendance, but wheat meets a fair inquiry, which has resulted in a moderate business at last market day's currencies. Flour—A very quiet trade and occasionally rather easier to buy for foreign, but no change is made in English-made brands. Maize—Mixed is quiet and occasionally ¼d lower to sell. Plate is firm at full prices, with a moderate trade. European sorts quiet with a small trade. Barley—Malting quiet, unchanged. Feeding firm, with more doing at ¼d to ½d advance. Beans firmly held, but demand restricted. Peas slow at late rates, but steady. Oats steady with a moderate demand. Oatmeal a difficult sale, but no change is made in quotations. Oilcake a slow business at about recent currencies. Indian meal is more firmly held, but moves very quiety at the quotations.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The bad crop and political news from Russia and the small shipments and shrinking quantity afloat, have apparently less effect on the trade than the glowing harvest reports from America, and good prospects in France, Germany, and this country. Markets have shown a sagging tendency, millers showing no inclination to increase stocks, and with a limited consumptive demand to-day, last week's rates are barely maintained. Maize and other feeding stuffs the turn lower.—Dunns and Co.

Leicester, Saturday. — Average attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a dragging trade at rather weaker prices. Red wheats, 31s to 32s 6d; white wheats, 32s to 33s 6ds per 36 stones; grinding barley quiet; beans firm: fine oats, 23s to 25s per 26 stones.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat scarce and dearer, and foreign unchanged. Little doing in flour. Indian corn about ½d dearer on the week. Oats slow and unchanged. Foreign feeding barley unchanged, and English nominal. English beans 6d per qr dearer. Peas firm. Bran about 3d dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Trade inactive; prices little change. New oats shown, 21s offered; wheat, white and red, 32s to 33s 6d; barley, malting none, grinding 22s to 24s; oats, white, 22s to 23s 6d, black 21s to 22s; beans, old none, new 34s 6d to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A quiet demand prevailed at our to-day's market for wheats of all descriptions. Prices, however, remained firm at last week's quotations. Maize, both American and Plate, was firm and dearer for spot parcels, steady to arrive. A fair demand for beans at fully late rates; peas slow at late quotations. Foreign oats remain steady at fully last week's quotations; fine qualities Scotch were firm and in sellers' favour; common qualities, however were neglected.—J. Pollard and Co.

Northampton, Satu day.—Very poor attendance. No new corn on offer. Wheat, 31s to 32s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 21s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—The few samples of English wheat made full prices, foreign 3d higher. Grinding barley firm. Oats and beans in small supply and made full rates.—Rob Hubble.

Otley, Friday.—Wheat, English, 33s to 34s, barley, 28s to 30s; oats, 24s to 25s; Indian corn, 24s to 25s per qr.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A week of fine weather has brought the crops on rapidly, and several pieces of winter oats are cut in this district. There has been very little corn of any kind showing to-day; the small business done was at about late rates.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Owing to the Kingsbridge Fair, there was a very small attendance to-day. Wheat, unchanged. Barley, 3d to 6d dearer. Maize firmer. Oats, 3d dearer.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a small attendance, with very little trade doing at the following prices:—Wheat, 30s to 34s; oats, 18s 6d to 24s; grinding barley at late rates.

Retford, Saturday.—A quiet market, the show of grain being small and the attendance thin. Some samples of new oats from the Ramshill district were shown for the first time. Transactions in wheat were few, and prices a shade lower, the top figure being 30s 6d. Small lots of grain for feeding purposes changed hands at the rates of the previous week, maize making 24s 6d to 25s; English beans, 34s 6d; white oats, 23s to 24s; black ditto, 22s to 23s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—No English wheat on offer. Prices:—Wheat, 29s 6d to 30s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; barley, malting, 27s to 29s.; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; maize, round, 23s to 24s; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With a rather better demand, there is still little change to report in the trade from last week. Wheat makes 6d per qr. more on the week. Beans and oats remain at full late prices. Foreign oats and maize qnoted unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto, red, 33s to 33s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 21s to 21s 6d; ditto, white, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 32s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto Plate, new, 22s 3d to 22s 9d; ditto flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 225 lb; old oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Fair attendance, many farmers being busy with the harvest. Wheats, 31s to 31s 6d; beans, to 33s. Maize and feeding stuffs unaltered.

Stockton, Wednesday.—No local wheat showing. Owing to brilliant weather for the coming crops foreign wheat very quiet, and the tendency regarding prices rather easier. Oats and maize quiet.

Sunderland, Saturday. — Small supply of gaain. Wheat steady at last week's prices. Barley and oats quiet. Arrivals:—Coastwise wheat, 605 qr; foreign wheat, 5,683.—E. and F. Richardson.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very quiet market, and practically no business passing. Prices for grain and feeding stuffs unaltered.

Winchester, Saturday.—Supply of English wheat almost exhausted. Foreign very firm. Barley 3d advance on the week. Maize and oats ualtered. Flour a fair demand and fully late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. No samples of English grain offering. Harvest expected to commence next week.—James Fletcher.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We have fine weather now, and it is to be hoped that our crops will be housed in fine condition. A few samples of new barleys shown so far are highly promising, and also Bohemia will probably secure a fine crop. On the other hand, Hungary is not so favoured, and the samples shown of the usual mercantile barleys are defective in colour, however the Chevaliers have been housed later, and these undoubtedly will turn out inferior.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather dry and sunny, favouring harvest work. Market quiet for wheat and rye, but there is a fair demand for feeding stuffs, the consumption of which, owing to the increase of live stock in this country, is constantly improving. Fine red Holstein wheat is getting scarce, and is held at 30s 6d to 31s, 61 lb new Holstein and Saale wheat, Aug.-Sept. delivery, is selling at 28s 9d to 29s 6d per 504 lb, f.o.b., duly deducted. American red winter No. 2, afloat, is offering at 28s 9d; hard winter No. 2, Aug.-Sept, at 29s.; Australian, on the spot, at 31s per 480 lb. Rye quiet, but offers from Russia are not lower, 9 10/15 Nicolaieff afloat is held at 22s 6d, 9/20 loading at 23 per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. The first samples of new barley received from Bohemia show a stout grain of light colour, but wanting mellowness. There are good crops in Austria, Hungary and Germany, but quality will vary according to the state of the weather when secured. Feeding barley in fair demand; 60/61 Ko South Russian afloat is selling at 17s 9d, Aug., Sept.-Oct. at 17s 3d to 17s 6d per 408 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize quiet, American mixed is held at 21s 3d to 21s 6d; River Plate July-August at 20s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 28, 1906:—

Wheat	1,927,300	cwts.
Wheat-flour	245,300	,,
Barley	193,800	,,
Oats	513,300	,,
Maize	905,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat	2,864,600	1,808,900	2,290,477	1,835,193
Wheat-flour	141,500	257,600	435,516	324,674
Barley	217,700	586,700	230,807	40,879
Oats	554,100	252,300	430,754	271,350
Maize	650,700	1,140,900	1,645,229	1,033,778

Weekly Arrivals into London.

July 18 to 25, inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	900	94,000	94,900
Barley	950	70	1,020
Malt	18,857	—	18,857
Oats	135	100.000	100,135
Beans	109	113	222
Peas	51	1,763	1,814
Maize	—	1,305	1,305
Dari	—	10,000	10,000
Rye	—	525	525
Dholl	—	501	501
Buckwheat	—	386	386
Millet	—	7,000	7,000
Rapeseed	—	4,000	4,000
Linseed	—	21,000	21,000
Cottonseed	—	3,093	3,093
Flour ...sacks	18,983	48,919	67,902
Maizemeal ,,	—	2,000	2,000
Oatmeal ,,	—	3,000	3,000

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1...(per sack)	30 0	...(per sack) 27 0
,, 13... ,,	29 0	... ,, 26 0
October 11... ,,	28 0	... ,, 25 0
November 3... ,,	30 0	... ,, 27 0
,, 29... ,,	29 9	... ,, 26 9
December 11... ,,	30 0	... ,, 27 0
January 31... ,,	29 9	... ,, 26 9
February 21... ,,	29 6	... ,, 26 6
March 16... ,,	29 0	... ,, 26 0
March 23... ,,	28 3	... ,, 25 3
May 18... ,,	28 0	... ,, 25 0
June 20... ,,	27 9	... ,, 24 9

(No change since last date given.)

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

Imperial Weekly Averages

1905.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 29	7,691	32	2	24	23	11	3,065	18	11
Aug. 5	5,062	32	3	371	22	0	4,344	19	3
,, 12	8,184	31	11	548	22	5	8,974	18	4
,, 19	32,715	30	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	11
,, 26	88,636	28	5	6,461	23	6	20,855	16	4
Sept. 2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	21,090	15	9
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	200,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	23	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	21,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 24, 1906.

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Av. Price per qr £ s. d.
Wheat ..	123	1 ...	195 2 9	... 1 11 8
Barley ...	Nil.			
Oats	Nil.			

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending July 28, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	...12,113	...31	8	186	...25	0	1,586	...22	10
1903	...18,028	...28	11	493	...21	0	6,050	...18	6
1904	...21,778	...28	0	509	...19	9	8,046	. 17	10
1905	... 7,691	...32	3	24	...23	11	3,065	...19	3
1906	... 8,015	...30	5	95	...22	4	1,146	...20	2

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	...31 9 per qr.	...28 8 per qr.	...18 7 per qr.
1891	...37 1 ,,	...28 2 ,,	...20 0 ,,
1892	...30 4 ,,	...26 2 ,,	...19 11 ,,
1893	...26 4 ,,	...25 6 ,,	...18 9 ,,
1894	...22 10 ,,	...24 6 ,,	...17 1 ,,
1895	...23 1 ,,	...21 11 ,,	...14 6 ,,
1896	...26 2 ,,	...22 11 ,,	...14 9 ,,
1897	...30 2 ,,	...23 6 ,,	...16 11 ,,
1898	...34 0 ,,	...27 2 ,,	...18 5 ,,
1899	...25 8 ,,	...25 7 ,,	...17 0 ,,
1900	...26 11 ,,	...25 9 ,,	...17 9 ,,
1901	...26 9 ,,	...25 3 ,,	...18 5 ,,
1902	...28 0 ,,	...25 8 ,,	...20 2 ,,
1903	...26 9 ,,	...22 11 ,,	...17 2 ,,
1904	...28 4 ,,	...22 4 ,,	...16 4 ,,
1905	...29 9 ,,	...24 4 ,,	...17 4 ,,

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. New hay, £3 per ton; old hay, £4 5s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s per ton; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 55s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The hay trade was slow, no business having transpired. The straw trade exceedingly dull. Last week's figures maintained. Hay (in stack), 55s to 60s per ton; straw (in bulk), 35s to 40s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6½d; clover, 7d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—New hay, 55s to 60s; old ditto (very scarce) 70s to 80s; seeds unchanged; straw, 40s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4½d to 5½d; clover, new, 5d to 6½d; straw, oat, 3½d to 4½d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday. Moderate supply, and a quiet market, with prices inclined in sellers' favour. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; choice meadow hay, £4 10s to £5; straw, £3 5s to £3 10s per ton.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a good attendance of buyers, and a brisk trade. Quotations:—Cherphillies, 46s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 57s to 59s; Derbys, 65s to 66s.

BUTTER.

Thursday—Axminster: 10d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Driffield: 11d to 1s. Evesham: 10d to 1s 3½d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Northtawton: 11d. Penzance: 8½d to 11d. Ripon. 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11d to 1s 1d; Berwick: 10d to 1s 1d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 11d to 1s. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d, Howden: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 2d. Malton 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Pontefract, 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d Richmond (Yorks): 11d to 1s. Shrewsbury 1s. to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s to 1s. 1d. Stokesley: 11d to 1s. Whitby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Worcester: 1s to 1s 2d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

Thursday. — Axminster: 9d to 10½d per dozen. Birmingham: 10 and 11. Brigg: 13 and 14. Devizes: 14 to 16. Driffield: 14 and 15. Evesham: 9½d to 10½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 10. Northtawton: 14. Penzance: 10d to 1s per dozen. Ripon: 12. Scarborough: 10. Wellington (Salop): 12 and 13. Wetherby: 12 and 13.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 and 13. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d per doz. Bridgnorth: 12 to 13. Carlisle: 11 to 12. Doncaster: 12 or 13. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 12 to 14. Lancaster: 8 to 11. Pontefract, 12 or 13. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 10. Shrewsbury: 12 to 13. Skipton: 11 or 12. Stokesley: 12 or 13. Whitby: 11 and 12. Worcester: 12. York: 12.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 6½d.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Little business owing to divergent views as to values. Growers hold out for 14d for Kent fleeces, but staplers offers are ½d lower. For lamb wool 10d per lb is asked.

Halifax, Saturday. — Business quiet, but values well maintained. In home grown wools current quotation for Yorkshire and North hoggs is 15½d, and Lincolns 14½d. Half-bred hoggs and Irish descriptions barely firm. Pick Irish about 15d, and pick wethers 14½d. Spinners well employed.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 30.

The market to-day was but a shadow of a really busy monday in the autumn. There will not be many leading operators on the exchange between now and August 13, but after the Bank Holiday a certain number of millers are likely to look in on the 10th to see if any new wheat is up. To-day 34s 6d was paid for rough chaff, 35s for fine white fluffs.

The show of English wheat was very small, but there are perhaps 1,000 qr. in all at the railway depots. Maize wheat was 6d. lower in some instances, but no regular change in prices could be quoted. Indian was perhaps the weakest, American the firmest sort, with Argentine and Manitoba fairly steady.

Maize was the turn lower for Argentine, and foreign oats were obtainable at 3d to 6d reduction wherever the weight fell below 312 lb. Foreign Barley was dull, but not weak. Values for Beans and Peas were higher than ever, but Dari, with liberal imports, was a little cheaper to buy.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

	July 30.	s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	31	— 34
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	28	— 29
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	26	— 27
,,	(per 400 lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 30
OATS, Finest Scots	,,	23	— 24
Black Winter	,,	none	
Storm Kings	,,	23	— 24
Black Pioneers	,,	22	— 23
Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
White Gartons	,,	21	— 22
Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
Ordinary	(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
Light	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	42	— 46
Tick	,,	39	— 41
Winter (Old)	,,	37	— 38
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
Spring	,,	36	— 37
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
Unpicked ditto	,,	48	— 52
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple (Old)	,,	none	
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
(Spring)	,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9	— 33	American	22/9	—23
,, ,, 2	none		Argentine	21/9	—22
,, ,, 3	none		Bulgarian	22	—22/3
American Red			Roumanian	22/3	22/6
New	32	—32/9	Russian	22/6	- 23
Old	31/6	—32	Rangoon	21	—21/6
Argentine	31	— 32	North African	22/6	- 23
Australian	32	—32/6	BEANS (480 lb.):		
New Zealand	31	—31/6	Smyrna	34	— 36
Californian	33	— 34	Konigsberg	33	— 35
Blue Stem	33	— 34	New Zealand	35	— 36
Walla Walla	32	— 33	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Saxonka	33	— 34	Italian	64	— 72
Azima	32	— 33	Burmese	32	— 42
Ghirka	31	—31/6	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	30/9	—31	LENTILS (cental):		
,, Red	30	—30/3	Split Egyptian	10	— 11
Persian	29/9	—30	Whole Indian	7	— 8
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	Konigsberg	44	— 46
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	Indian White	35	— 36
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Indian Green	29	— 31
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Russian (400 lb)	19	— 19/6	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Am'can (400 lb)	19	—19/3	Victoria Dun.	33	— 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22	White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Smyrna	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	— 10
Russian	24	— 25	Siamese	8	— 9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23	—25	Smyrna	27	— 28
Konigsb'g (320 lb	25	—21	Indian	26	— 27
Am'can (320 lb)	17	—17/6	Persian	22	— 24
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	16	—16/3	French	26	— 27
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	15/6	—16	Russian	25	— 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, JULY 30.

There was much difficulty experienced to-day in placing country and London makes, but holders did not abate the terms asked, which, since the 23rd inst. have been exceedingly moderate.

American Spring Patents were 3d. to 6d. lower on the week, a concession which led to a slight increase of business. Manitoba Patents made 24s. 6d. for finest, 24s. for ordinary, 20s. for good bakers' grade, and 19s. for common. These are all low prices on the quality of the respective types. Hungarian flour receded 6d. for the finer makes.

Australian, Argentine, Belgian, and French sales of flour unregistered as on the 23rd, but there was scarcely sufficient business doing to test quotations. Bran, middlings, and pollard were 2s. 6d. per ton decrease on the whole, but maize flour declined 6d. per sack.

London Flour.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0	net.
Town Whites	,,	26/3	,,
,, Households	,,	23/3	,,
No. 2	,,	21/3	,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/3	,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/3	,,
Paste Flour	,,	20/3	,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	— 23
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	21	—21/6

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	24	—24/3
,, Second Patents	,,	23	—23/3
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	—21/3
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	—24/3
,, Bakers'	,,	21	—21/3
Cascadia	,,	25	—25/3
Manitoba Patent	,,	24	—24/3
Manitoba Ordinary	,,	23	—23/3
Hungarian, 0	,,	29/9	—30
,, 1	,,	29	—29/6
,, 2	,,	28	—28/6
,, 3	,,	27	—27/6
French, Corbeil	,,	23	—23/6
,, Renaux	,,	22	—22/6
,, P.S.D.	,,	21	—21/9
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Argentine	,,	24	— 26

Meal, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12/6	—13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13/6	—14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11/6	—12
Pollard	,,	9/6	—10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15/6	—16
Fine Middlings	,,	14/6	—15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13/6	—14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16/6	—17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 55
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	19	— 20
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED CHEAPER FOR OATS, 6d DEARER FOR BARLEY, AND UNCHANGED FOR WHEAT AND MAIZE.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—The demand for rape and mustard is increasing. Prices unchanged. New rape is now appearing on the market. Business passing in trifolium singularly limited for the time of the year.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The American markets continue easy, with lower prices for winter wheat flours for shipment. Grain.—Round and flat corn are 1½d per boll dearer. Foreign oats are steadier at the decline. Beans, after easing, are again dearer for shipment. Pease, owing to the high price, are in very little demand. Barley is firm. Oilcake steady. Oatmeal quiet. Mill Stuffs.—Thirds are as scarce as ever, and bran is also more in demand now.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade continues dull, and prices at the moment somewhat irregular.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—No change to report in bran; demand, however, not quite so active.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Wheat arrival are large, and the trade is quiet; prices are unchanged. Flour slow at late prices. Maize steady. Barley on spot scarce and 6d dearer. Oats large arrivals, and common qualities 3d per qr lower.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Flour.—A quiet trade at about last week's prices. —T. S MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling Offals.—All offal very scarce and firm and great difficulty is experienced in getting delivery, and an advance of 2s 6d to 5s per ton is well maintained all round.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There is an improved inquiry for oilseeds despite the weather being so fine. Value for linseed is 1s up on the week.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb s. s	COTTONSEED.	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 50	Egyptian	137 to 139
American	43 to 44	Indian	103 to 105
Calcutta	43 to 44	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	44 to 46	English, Best	16 to 17
Russian	42 to 44	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Argentine	41 to 42	,, Black.	13 to 14
Duluth	43 to 44	SESAME.	per cwt.
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.	Indian	14 to 15
Best English	61 to 63	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.
Yellow Guzerat	46 to 47	Russian	49 to 50
,, Cawnpore	44 to 45	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.
Brown ,,	42 to 43	English	50 to 52
Ferozepore	44 to 46	Spanish	82 to 86
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	47 to 48
Indian	44 to 45	Argentine	47 to 48

TERM MARKET.

The market for futures is dull, with American wheat at 6s. 7d. per cental for August to November delivery, and American maize at 4s. 7d. per cental, also for these dates. The one new feature is the offer of Argentine maize for September delivery at 4s. 5d. per cental.

THE BALTIC 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is a general disposition to take rather less money for cargoes near at hand as the offers for autumn shipment are numerous, and at very moderate prices.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Santa Fé, 29s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Bahia Blanca, 30s 6d per 504 lb, on passage; Bahia Blanca, 30s per 504 lb September shipment; Roumanian, 29s 6d per 492 lb, September shipment (new crop); Roumanian, 29s 3d per 492 lb, October shipment (new crop); No. 2 Red Winter, 29s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment (new crop); 29s per 480 lb, August shipment (new crop); Hard Winter, 28s 9d per 480 lb, August shipment (new crop); best Manitoba, 30s 6d per 480 lb, August shipment; best Manitoba, 30s 9d per 480 lb, September shipment; red Kurrachee, 27s 3d per 492 lb, September shipment; Australian, 31s per 480 lb, on passage.

Maize.—Galatz, 21s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Argentine, 20s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Roumania, 21s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Poti, 21s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Poti, 19s 9d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Odessa, 19s 6d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Odessa, 18s 3d per 400 lb, Oct. shipment (new crop); Californian, 25s per 400 lb, Oct shipment (new crop).

Oats.—Vologda, 15s 6d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Archangel, 15s 3d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Petersburg, 14s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; White Libau, 14s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 42s 3d per 410 lb, on passage; Duluth, 40s 9d per 424 lb, October shipment; Petersburg, 40s 6d per 416 lb., prompt shipment.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fruit in good supply and steady demand. Greenstuffs also sold readily, ample supplies being on offer. Quotations:—Apples (English), 2s 6d to 5s per half-sieve; ditto (Australasian), 10s to 12s 6d; ditto (French), 4s 6d to 6s; ditto (Lisbon), 7s to 9s per case; pears (French) 3s to 5s 6d per pod; peaches, (English), 2s to 9s per dozen; ditto (French), 2s 6d to 4s per crate; tomatoes (English), 3s to 3s 6d; ditto (Channel Islands), 2s 6d to 3s per 12 lb; ditto (Valencia), 7s to 9s per case; black currants, 6s 6d to 8s 6d; red ditto, 3s to 4s 6d per half-sieve; white ditto, 3s 6d to 4s 8d per 12 lb; raspberries, 3s 6d to 5s per dozen punnets; green figs, 1s to 3s 6d; nectarines, 2s to 8s per dozen; gooseberries, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; cherries, 3s 6d to 12s per half sieve; melons (English), 9d to 2s; ditto (French Rock), 2s to 3s 6d each; ditto (Valencia), 9d to 10s per case; plums (French), 3s to 5s 6d per half sieve; greengages, 9d to 1s 3d per box; ditto, 4s 6d to 6s per half sieve; green walnuts, 5s to 6s per bushel; scarlet runners, 3s 6d to 4s per half sieve; broad beans, 9d to 1s; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; green onions, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; ditto (Ports), 7s to 8s per case; green peas, 2s to 3s per bushel; ditto, 4s to 5s 6d per bag; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; sage, 9d to 1s; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; carrots, 1s to 2s; turnips, 1s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; vegetable marrows, 9d to 1s; endive, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per tally; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 6s per flat; mushrooms, 6s to 12s 6d per 12 lb; horseradish, 9s to 13s per dozen bundles; potatoes, 60s to 90s per ton.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday. — Good deliveries evidenced quiet support. English Puritans, 60s to 70s; Duke of York, 60s; Beauty of Hebron, 60s to 65s per ton; Dutch, 2s per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There were fair supplies of potatoes in the public retail markets, and a steady demand at 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Plenty of potatoes offered and a good trade. Prices from 3s 3d to 3s 9d per 8 stones.

Goole, Wednesday.—A large attendance of farmers, but no potatoes on offer. Buyers are sending to Lancashire and Cheshire for their potatoes, on account of the small amount here. Selbys make 6s 9d per load.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Good supply of potatoes, which met a ready sale at 8s to 9s per load, and 9d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Good home-grown potatoes, 1s 4d; imported, 8d to 10d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday. — Yorkshire warps, 8s to 9s; Cheshire, new, rounds, 4s to 5s; kidneys, 5s to 6s per load; Bedford, 5s to 5s 6d; Norfolk Hebrons, 5s 6d to 6s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A fair quantity met a slow sale. English Puritans, 60s to 70s; Duke of Yorks, 60s to 65s; Early Rose, 55s to 65; Beauty of Hebrons, 60s; Blacklands, 60s per ton; Dutch, 2s 9d per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshire potatoes £4 10s to £5.

Whitby, Saturday.—New potatoes (home grown), 1s per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—New potatoes, 8s to 9s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Yorkshire grown new potatoes, which are a light crop, make 50s to 55s per ton, the prices being kept down by the abundant supplies from Lancashire, South Lincolnshire, and Scotland, where there has been more rain. In the retail market the prices are 2s 6d to 2s 9d per hamper of 6 stones.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply; trade good. Surrey fowls, 3s to 4s; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; quails, 1s 4d to 2s; feathered pigeons, 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 3d; wild rabbits, 7d to 8d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 3d to 3s; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 9d; goslings, 4s to 5s 6d; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per dozen.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Well managed plantations on best lands look fairly well, but where washing has not been efficient the hot suns are turning the plant black. The bine is now in blossom, and it is clear that the yield must be under half an average. Market firmer.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our reports to-day are far from satisfactory, and many say the well-cleaned hops look worse, and others can do nothing. Under these influences holders have advanced their prices, but still keep in advance of the ideas buyers, so that little business can be done.—CHARLES FARAM & CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 30, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, July 31, 1905.
Beasts	1,090	1,090	1,010
Sheep and Lambs	7,790	7,790	8,080
Calves	20	20	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	5 4	6 0	7 4
Calves	4 8	5 4	5 10
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 100; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 955; Devon, 25; Ireland, 10.

We note to-day an increase of 200 head in the number of beasts on offer to-day, compared with Monday last; as, usual, the majority of the supply was drawn from the Midland Counties. A small consignment of black-polled Dublins found ready buyers at good values. Both prime and second quality English cattle ruled dull and dragging, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one, though not quotably so, this depression of the trade here is partly accounted for by the bad trade which has been experienced in the Dead Meat Market the last few days. Fat butchering cows and bulls shared in the general depression, and met with little country demand. A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, July 31, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		—	
Devons	4 4 to 4	6	4 4 to 4	6
Herefords	4 4 to 4	6	4 6 ex 4	8
Black Polled Norfolks	4 2 to 4	4	—	
Runts	4 0 ex 4	4	4 0 to 4	6
Lincolns	3 8 to 3	10	3 10 to 4	0
Black Polled Dublin Irish	4 4 to 4	6	3 10 to 4	2
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 4 to 3	6	3 2 to 3	4

In the sheep market there was an increase of sixty in the number of sheep and lambs penned, compared with Monday last. Trade was of an extremely slow nature for wethers, rates favouring the buyers in some cases to the extent of 2d per 8 lb; ewes on the other hand were quoted 2d higher. The supply from Scotland was smaller the season for which is now on the wane, these shared in the general downward tendency in regard to value, as also did Irish. The lamb trade was firm and steady, 2d. per 8 lb. more money being both easily asked and obtained. The supply included 200 Scotch, 600 Irish, and 1,411 from the Eastern Counties. There is very little prospect of a clearance being made to-day.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, July 31, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 6	to 5 8	5 4	to 5 6
9 st. Downs	5 4	to 5 6	—	
10 st Halfbreds	5 2	to 5 4	5 0	to 5 2
10 st Yorkshires	—		4 6	to 4 8
12st Lincoln Halfbreds	4 10	to 5 0	—	
10 st Irish	4 10	to 5 0	5 2	to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 2	to 4 4	3 10	to 4 0
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0	to 4 2	3 8	to 3 10
5 st Down Lambs	7 2	to 7 4	6 2	to 6 4
6 st Halfbred ditto	6 0	to 6 2	5 10	to 6 0

There was a fair supply of calves, with a slow, but steady trade, the best on offer were quoted at from 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in.).

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 656. To-day's supply consisted entirely of beasts from the United States. Trade was of a firm and steady nature: late currencies governing all transactions. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 2,131 beasts from the United States and 455 from Canada were offered for sale and met with a firm trade. The best on offer were quoted at from 3s 11d to 4s 2d for the former, and from 3s 10d to 4s for the latter; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Besides the above, 800 States were withheld: 127 Canadian sheep were offered for sale, and were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8 lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—For linseed cake the market tends to higher prices, and demand is good for the smaller lines. Decorticated and ordinary cotton cake are very firm. Dried ale grains can be had at a reasonable price.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 16 to 8 2 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	—
American Western Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 7 to 7 10 6
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive)	ex quay	7 10 0
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 7 to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	8 0 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal	ex quay	—
London-made ,, Cake (best	ex mill	5 0 to 5 2 6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 17 6 to 5 0 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 10 0
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2 8 0 2 10 0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb	ex warehouse	2 4 0
La Plata Linseed (in bags) per 416 lb. (screened)	ex warehouse	2 4 0 2 10 0
American Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2 4 0

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,092 bales, and from foreign ports 12,037 bales. There was a quiet market for bacon last week, but it closed steadier, with prices ranging: Irish, 62s to 69s up to 74s; Danish, 60s to 66s up to 74s; Canadian, 61s to 63s up to 67s. Butter: Butter was a steady market. French, 92s to 104s; Danish, 114s to 116s; Russian, 81s to 102s; Dutch, 104s to 106s; Irish, 92s to 108s; Canadian Finest, 104s to 108s; Australian, 82s to 106s; New Zealand, 80s to 108s; American, 88s to 98s. Lard: The lard market was quiet. Irish, 54s to 62s; Danish, 48s to 58s, American, 44s 9d to 46s 3d.

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906. s. d.	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900 s. d.
Jan.	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 0	21 9
Feb.	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0
March	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6
April	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6
May	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3
June	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6
July		25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6
August		25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0
Sept.		24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3
Oct		25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9
Nov.		25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3
Dec.		25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.	30 5	24 9	16 5	28 6	24 9	18 5
Feb	30 7	25 1	16 9	28 10	25 4	18 11
Mar.	30 10	25 1	16 11	28 5	24 8	18 11
April	30 9	24 8	17 3	29 1	24 2	19 1
May	30 10	24 8	18 5	30 2	24 0	20 0
June	31 8	24 4	19 2	30 4	23 4	20 2
July	32 0	22 8	18 4	—	—	—
Aug.	29 6	22 10	16 10	—	—	—
Sept.	26 10	23 9	16 0	—	—	—
Oct.	27 1	24 11	16 6	—	—	—
Nov.	28 3	24 8	17 6	—	—	—
Dec.	28 5	24 6	18 0	—	—	—

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Notwithstanding there being a fair average attendance of buyers at the Islington Cattle Market on Monday, trade opened and continued throughout the day of a very slow and disappointing character, sellers, in some cases, having to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value to effect sales. The supply included a rather larger consignment of Devons; these commanded our top quotation, and cleared early in the day. No Scotch or Irish cattle were offered for sale, there being no arrivals from either of these countries. Fat butchering cows and bulls shared in the generally slow trade which was experienced on Monday, but became a trifle firmer on Thursday, although not quotably so. As is more often than not the case, trade for fat beasts was confined to Monday.

At the Foreign Cattle Market Deptford, there was no market held owing to the non-arrival of steamers, but on Wednesday and Saturday a firm trade was experienced at an advance in value on the previous day, and a slight decline on the latter. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,124, as against 4,403 during the preceding week, consisting of 950 British (increase 90) and 3,174 foreign (decrease 369) these latter comprising 2,419 from the United States, and 755 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 2d; 90 stone fat cows, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

The sheep trade was almost entirely confined to the Islington Market, and opened on Monday of an extremely slow nature, with a downward tendency in value. Scotch descriptions, on the other hand, were fairly well sought after at late values, whilst Irish sheep were extremely difficult to vend. Trade remained about the same throughout the week with the exception of ewes, these being quoted 2d. dearer on Thursday. Small choice grass lambs met with a ready sale on both days, on Thursday sellers being able to ask and obtain a rise of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. Irish descriptions were more difficult to vend. The total number penned at both markets was 10,507, as against 10,150 during the previous week. A small consignment of Canadian sheep were consigned this week, and were quoted at 4s. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s to 5s. 2d.; 12 stone Lincoln half-breds, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10 stone Irish, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 11 stone half-bred ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 7s. to 7s. 2d.; 6 stone half-breds, 5s. 10d. to 6s.

Calves numbered 100, and ruled firm throughout the week, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

The want of grass keep in most districts, despite the rain we have had, still tends to keep the price of most stores, except the very best, at a disappointingly low price. Good useful milchers, both heifers and cows, are once again selling freely from £17 up to £21, which may be taken as fairly representing the value of anything really serviceable wanted for the dairy; those of a secondary description making £14 to £16 10s., and anything really plain from £13 downwards to as low as £10 or £11, mostly for old cows of little further use for dairying purposes.

Barreners, which are doing very well, as is usually the case in dry seasons, meet a very fair sale for the best at from £24 up to £30 and over for good bullocks in at all forward condition, this being the only class of stock on which graziers are at all very keen, the more ordinary runs being much neglected, though this would be quickly altered once keep becomes at all plentiful again, which is not at all improbable many think, and even rough things would then soon become once more remunerative. In-calvers are selling a little better than they were, a good many having changed hands within the last few days at from £11 up to £14 each, whilst there is a trifle more inquiry for yearlings at from £4 17s. 6d. up to £7 5s. each.

Store sheep are generally reported to be keeping very healthy, and also to be doing well, and, although prices have in some cases scarcely come up to buyers' expectations, trade is on the whole considered by most flockmasters, especially in view of the enhanced price wool is bringing, to be not altogether unsatisfactory. Both ewes and lambs are bringing a very fair return, and, though there is not very marked difference in present prices compared with those of last year, the outlook as to the root crop is much more reassuring than last season, and, as a rule, all anxiety on this score is now allayed. Since Stockbridge, sheep, as a rule, have been selling a trifle better, and, though the improvement is not very marked, yet it is distinctly in the right direction, and there are good hopes for its still further continuance.

In the fat stock markets there still continue to be good deliveries, but more particularly of beasts (including many grass-fed animals of the best class) than of sheep Devons and Shorthorns continue to largely monopolise the attention of leading purveyors, who readily catch up all the neater weights at from 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per stone, this being an outside quotation at present; whilst secondary grades make 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., and anything rough or coarse, 4s. to 4s. 2d. A general range for best bullocks may be given as from £18 up to £22 or £23, this being for heifers and steers; smaller weights range from £15 to £17 10s.; choice wether sheep of medium weights rather favour sellers again, in some cases to the extent of 2d per stone, the best occasionally realising 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d., though a more average range is from 5s. 8d. to 6s; whilst ewes of the best class rule steady at from 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; rougher grades selling as low as 4s. and even under for very old sheep; small lambs of nice finish are scarce and dear at 7s. 4d. to 7s. 8d., and occasionally rather more, second selling at 7s. to 7s. 2d., whilst those of ordinary finish, of which the great bulk consists, meet a dragging sale at 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d. The veal trade keeps steady for small calves at outside figures; but coarse, heavy weights are affected by the weather and sell at less money. Neat handling porkers are also bringing full rates—9s. 6d. to 10s. 3d. per score—but baconers are a quieter sale at 8s 9d. to 9s. 3d., and coarser weights a very poor trade still at 7s. to 8s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been under an average. A good demand has been experienced, and the prices of the previous week were easily maintained. Fat cows made decidedly more money. Fat sheep in smaller numbers, and these have met a good inquiry at prices as nearly as possible without change. Ewes, if not too heavy, maintained late rates. Lambs in much shorter supply, and they have made quite previous prices. Fat calves met a moderate trade, while pigs continue to sell well. There was a small supply of store cattle. Anything of a good class got easily and well sold. Rather more store sheep on offer. These met a quiet trade at prices just the turn lower. There was a small show of milch cows, and they met a slow trade. Quotations: Top price of cattle per live cwt., 41s. 6d.; current, 37s. to 40s.; mutton to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

Last Thursday's Dublin market had increased supplies of both cattle and sheep, and though the attendance of buyers was large, business in both departments was slower with reduced prices to the tune of 10s. per head for cattle, and 2s. to 3s. per head for sheep.

The number of cattle offered for sale was 2,723, or 197 more than the previous market. In the morning a very fair business was done, but it dulled off as the day advanced, and towards the close a reduction of 10s. per head had in most cases to be made to facilitate business. The live weight prices for Shorthorns would range from 30s. 6d. to 32s. per cwt., and for choice Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses from 33s. to 34s. 6d.

For the coarser sorts of bullocks and heifers there was a fairly good finish, but for cow beef trade was slow and prices cheap and irregular. The approximate deadweight prices were:—Prime ox and heifer beef from 55s. to 58s., and for very choice up to 60s. per cwt; good second quality beef from 50s. to 54s.; and inferior from 44s. to 47s. 6d. per cwt Shippers were very cautious in their purchasing, which was strange, considering that the beef market in England has been encouraging of late.

In the sheep department trade was uncertain and generally worse than for the last few markets. The number of sheep offered for sale was 10,317, an increase of 377 on the previous market. Some small lots of prime sheep made up to last day's rates, and best shipping hoggets sold well, some extra fancy ones of the Duke of Leinster's making up to the fine price of 66s. each. For ordinary shipping hoggets suitable to the Liverpool and Manchester markets trade was slow, owing to the very large arrivals of foreign mutton—it being said that considerably over 80,000 cwt. of chilled mutton had been received, as against 68,000 cwt. for the corresponding week of 1905. Choice wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 8d. per lb; ewes, ditto, 6½d. to 7½d.; and coarse sheep from 5½d. per lb. upwards. Hoggets sold at from 36s. to 56s. each, according to size and quality. For lambs, trade was slower at from 2s. to 3s. per head less money, and a clearance could not be effected, as exporters were very cautious. Prime veal in good demand at fair prices, but the supply was in excess of requirements, and of the eighty calves sent in not half found purchasers. The best sold at 7½d. to 9d. per lb.; other sorts from 5½d. per lb.

A small market of dairy cattle, with prices much the same, and only really tip-top cows inquired for at firmer rates—prime cows selling at from £17 to £20; other sorts from £9 upwards. Prices for store cattle still run very high, and at large sales held by L. Cuffe and Sons, and R. and J. Wilkinson, fine prices were realised. At the country fairs the farmers are well pleased at the figures they are selling their stores at, though buyers are grumbling a bit, and wondering they are going to make out of them.

The Pig Market in Dublin on Thursday was a small one, and all suitable hogs sold up early at slightly stiffer rates. Both English and local buyers in good attendance, but were not able to fill their commissions on account of the short supply. For coarse pigs business was dull, and a clearance difficult to effect. Store pigs in great demand. Choice light weight pigs made from 54s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt., coarse from 45s. to 50s., and inferior from 38s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies; trade slow; beef lower. English beef, 3s 8d to 4s; Scotch sides, 4s to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 8d to 3s; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; foreign sheep, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 6d; English pork, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Moderate arrivals experienced a slow sale at recent prices. Heavy bulls quoted 2s 8d to 3s 2d. Sheep, in fair supply, evidenced a quiet demand, but prices showed no alteration; 7½ st to 8 st Down wethers, 5s 8d; 9 st ditto, 5s 6d; 10 st ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10 st half-breds, 5s 2d; 10 st Down ewes, 4s 2d; 11 st half-breds, 4s. Lamb trade quiet at recent quotations; 5 st Downs, 7s; 6 st Dorset half-breds, 5s 10d to 6s. Calves experienced a slow inquiry, best selling at 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 8 lb, offal given in. No pigs received. Total supplies:—60 beasts, 2,650 sheep and lambs, 90 calves.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was again slow for beef and mutton, but last week's reduced rates were not lowered. Best bullocks made up to 4s 4d; Down and half-bred wethers up to 5s 10d; Kent wethers up to 5s 2d; and lamb up to 7s 4d. Pork not quite so brisk; best making just over 4s a stone.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a very small show of cattle, 107 beasts being penned, against 142 the previous week. The market was of a holiday character, practically no farmers being present, and no sales were effected.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Short supply of beasts, but an improved demand. Sheep and lambs offered in good numbers, and a steady inquiry. Best Herefords, 7d; Shorthorns, 6¼d to 6¾d; bulls and cows, 4d to 5½d; wether sheep, 8d to 8¾d; ewes and rams, 5½d to 6½d; lambs, 9d per lb.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef in short supply, and trade slow; best, 56s to 58s; other sorts, 54s per cwt. Sheep and lambs made a moderate show; Down wethers, 8d; prime light wethers, 7¾d; heavy ditto, 7½d; ewes, 6d; lamb, 9d per lb.

Calne, Friday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, Six sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 10s. per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 10s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lbs., not over 2¾ in., 9s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—Charles and Thomas Harris & Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices scarcely so high; rough working lambs, 11s 6d to 20s per head; best, 21s to 28s; useful good-toothed ewes, 32s to 40s; cows and calves, £12 to £17.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply on the Sands showed a considerable falling off as compared with recent weeks, between 300 and 400 being penned.

Buyers were scarce, and the demand for beasts was quiet. Wintering heifers £7 10s to £10s 10s, heifers for fogging purposes, £12 10s to £15 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Farmers brought in fair supplies of stock, but owing to the protracted drought the demand was slack, and a quiet trade resulted for cattle at unchanged rates. Sheep 18s to 35s, milch cows £17 to £22, calvers, £15 to £19, barren cattle £10 to £12, heifers £9 to £14, and stirks £6 to £10.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very light supply both of cattle and sheep; not many pens required owing to the continued drought, and there was a poor attendance. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16 10s; heifers and drapes, £11 to £13 10s; young stores, £7 to £9 each. sheep trade continues quiet, and late prices ruled; ewes, 42s to 46; shearlings, 44s to 50s; lambs, 30s to 32s 6d each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was, for the time of the year, a very good delivery of those kinds of fat and stock at Messrs. Ensor's depository sale to day, the shortest offer being of fat sheep. A good enquiry for all the better class descriptions of milch beasts at an advance of 30s to 40s a head, but grazing cattle and other stores met a very quiet trade owing to the scarcity of grass keep, though the late rain have greatly benefited the pastures. The best class dairy beasts sold from £16 to £20 each, and others from £13 15s to £15 15s. The best barrener sold up to £26 per pair, ranging down to £14 for old cows. A few store bulls made £10 to £12. Fat bullocks sold steadily from 10s 6d to 11s per score for the best (or up to £19 each); seconds £16 to £19 (or 10s); fat bulls, to £13 to £16 (or 9s). Mutton trade fairly steady, there being no great fluctuation in values.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in Market—Beasts 2,723, increase 197; Sheep 10,317, increase 377; Calves 81, increase 10. There was a good attendance of buyers but a weaker tendency was shown in the demand for cattle, and prices were on the average lower all round. A good clearance however was effected. Sheep and lambs were rather a dragging trade, and to effect sales a slight reduction had to be made even for best qualities, while rough and inferior things were hard to place to advantage. Cattle: live weight (best) 30s to 32s per cwt. Exceptional for choice crosses up to 34s per cwt. Mutton: dead weight, 6d to 7¾d per lb. Extreme 8d per lb.—GANLY, SONS & Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Trade quiet. Half-bred gimmers brought to 49s; half-bred wethers, to 44s 6d; greyfaced sheep, to 42s 6d; Cheviot Dinmonts, to 32s; lambs, to 33s; polled coloured cattle, to £13 5s; black, to £12; stirks, to £8; Shorthorns, to £25; Ayrshires, to £18 15s.

Exeter, Saturday.—Steers and maiden heifers up to 11s 6d; cows, 10s 6d to 11s; best quality sold out. Large supply of sheep, mostly breeding ewes. Small hoggs, good demand, 8d to 9d; large, 8d; ewes, 6d. The trade for breeding ewes was slow, 42s to 45s; lambs, in wool, 11d; shorn, 10d; best cleared; calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Supplies were an average and the tone firm as a result of the high prices paid early in the week for States and Canadians, which brought 60s to 62s, the highest this year; secondary, 56s to 58s; best Scotch 63s to 64s; seecondary, 60s to 62s per cwt. Irish still scarce and dear. Best home sheep made 10d to 10½., and lambs, 10½d to 10¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Fair supply of cows and calves, with good trade, the best selling up to £22. Store cattle very short supply, few changing hands.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Beef: A fairly large supply, with a good demand at last week's prices; best bullock and heifer at about 6½d to 7d per lb, cow beef, 5d to 5½d per lb. Sheep, a moderate supply went off well; fat wethers at 8d to 8½d per lb, ewes 6d to 7d per lb. A larger supply of lambs, both fat and store, than for weeks past, fat ones realising 9d to 9½d per lb., and stores also being in good demand. A large number of butchers' calves cleared off at about 7d per lb., store calves also in good demand. Porks, a small supply, sold fairly at 5d to 5½d per lb.; small stores were cheaper, large stores dear. Store cattle a slack trade.

Leicester, Saturday. —Average consignments of home-bred stock. Trade ruled sluggish at fully 20s per head decline. Milch cows of good quality made £18 to £20; secondary, £14 to £16 10s; Shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £14; Irish cattle, £12 to £15; Welsh stock, £8 to £12; young stock, £5 to £7; calves, 15s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—At this store stock market there was a small consignment of beasts, and the demand was moderate. Yearlings, £8 to £10; milch cows, £10 to £16. For sheep a fair trade was experienced. Lambs to 33s, wethers to 35s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, 6s 9d to 7s 6d per stone; very few stores, scarcely any trade, £6 to £12 each. Average show of fat sheep made late rates, 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone. Few stores, 40s to 46s; fat lambs, 25s to 40s; store lambs, 25s to 35s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: first class, 5¾d; secondo, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¼d. Mutton: Cheviots, Scotch, 7¾d; others, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Lamb: firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 7d to 7½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday. —Heavier supply and prices drooping. Primo heifers, 7s 9d to 8s 3d; second-class, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; steers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; coarse and inferior, 6s 6d; pigs, 6s to 9s per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; lambs, 8¾d to 9¾d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 1,509; sheep and lambs, 7,394; calves, 138; pigs, 296.

Newport Wednesday.—A larger supply, and a marked improvement in trade all round. Quotations: Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6d; cows, 4¾ to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; lambs, 9d; calves, 6½d to 8d; porket pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Fair show, with the prices for nearly all stock well up to average. In-calf cows fetched from about £18 10s. to £22, and in-calf heifers, £14 to £16. Plenty of calves were shown, and prices ranged from 36s to 47s., a moderate demand being experienced. Very few pigs were on sale, and hardly any sheep or lambs were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of beasts, and the attendance was larger than for some weeks past. Trade ruled slow. Heifers made 6d to 6½d; cows, 5d to 5¾d; lambs, 9½d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; tups, 5½d to 6d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; fat calves, 5d to 6d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—All kinds of stock were low in value, and sales were made slowly at considerable reductions. It was said there was likely to be a shortage of keep in the near future.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, and trade for best animals a little better. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very large supply. Trade very bad at 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade about the same: Best small 5s 8d to 6s; larger, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in large supply; trade slower, at 6s 4d to 6s 6d per stone. Very few store beasts on offer; slow demand. Small supply of pigs; trade unchanged.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—About an average supply of milch cows, which met with a fair demand at £19 to £21 10s; secondary lots, £16 to £18 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small supply of store cattle, but usual supplies of fat cattle, sheep, pigs, and calves. Very fair trade, especially in sheep and lambs. Prices slightly less than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 7½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 6d. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 423, sheep and lambs 1,865, calves 70, pigs 323.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a very large entry of stock in this market, the quality of the beef being exceptionally good, and with buyers attending from London, Oxford, Wycombe, Aylesbury, Grandborough, Risborough, Abingdon, Wallingford, Newbury, Missenden, Bicester, Henley, Maidenhead, Reading, and surrounding villages. There was a clearing trade throughout, the improved prices of late markets being fully maintained. Practically every beast was disposed of, choice heifers realising up to 4s 8d per stone. Mutton and lamb still continue to sell satisfactorily with no noticeable change on late rates. Pork and bacon finding ready purchasers, but veal slightly lower. Messrs. Bond and Burrows sale comprised 109 fat beasts, 343 fat sheep, 70 fat and weaning calves, and 83 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £23 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £22; fat wethers, 45s to 58s; fat ewes, 40 to 54s; fat lambs, 30s to 40s; fat calves, £3 to £4 15s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 70s; bull calves, 10s to 50s; porkers, 26s to 42s; small store pigs, 10s to 21s; strong stores, 26s to 36s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 58s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 45s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5½d; lambs, 32s 6d to 42s 6d each; large and small pigs and suckers, 14s to 31s. Number in market:—Bullocks, 420; calves, 65; sheep, 336; pigs, 107; horses, 4.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round; slow trade. Quotations: Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Short supply of beef, with trade fair, and a large supply of mutton, the latter selling at ½d per lb less than last week. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 3d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wether and crossbreds, 7d to 8d; owes, 5½d to 6½d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 8d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Prices all round are firm, but practically there is no business to report.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda	11	2	6	11	5	0
Bone Ash	3	7	6			
Kainit	2	1	3	2	2	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		--	
Linseed Cake, American	7	7	6	7	12	6
,, ,, English, princ.	8	5	0	8	15	0
,, ,, Foreign, round	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated	8	2	6		—	
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	12	6		—	
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	5	0		—	
Crushed Cottonseed	7	10	0	7	12	6
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6	5	15	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	0	0	6	2	6
Rice Meal	4	15	0	4	17	6
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6		—	
Treacle, feeding, prime		4	9	4	10½	
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.					
,, ,, guaranteed						
Basic Slag, prime quality	nominal.					
,, ,, ,, ,,						
,, ,, finest ,,						

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Hull, Tuesday.—Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed are 2s 6d per ton dearer, both English and foreign. Cotton.—Quiet, but very firm in all positions.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—There is a decidedly better tone in the market and values are rather dearer for all descriptions, with little offering from the other side, and buyers here inclined to purchase their future requirements, although the demand for spot continues quiet. Russian may still be had at about late rates. East India seed pures are held for rather more money. American are scarce and dear. London made meet a fair trade and are unchanged. Cotton Cakes.—Supplies come to hand very sparingly and stocks in warehouse being practically exhausted buyers are compelled to pay full prices, while a fair trade has been done for November-April shipments. English sell quictly and makers demand full values. Decorticated are only sparingly offered and are very firmly held at £7 11s 3d to £7 12s 6d, with meal at £7 11s 3d. Rape Cakes.—Unaltered. East India, £5s; Ravison, £4 15s. Maize Germ Meal.—Parcels of White American in warehouse are to be had at last week's prices, while shippers ask more money in forward positions. English is again dearer. Rice Meal.—There is very little demand for landed parcels, which are still quoted at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s. per ton ex quay, but there is more inquiry for autumn shipments, and business has again been done at £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d usual ex ship terms. Locust beans scarce and firm at £5 15s, with Kibbled at £6. Nitrate of soda a slow sale and unchanged at £10 17s 6d per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in mats	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
,, in bags	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Calcutta to arrive	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
American	7 5 0	to 7 7 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 16 3	to 4 17 6
Egyptian, Nov.-April	4 15 0	to 4 16 3
English	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
Bombay	4 5 0	
Decorticated ex dock	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 11 3	
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	5 0 0	
Ravison	4 15 0	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	5 12 6
American ex quay	5 13 9	
,, July-Aug. c.i.f.	5 11 3	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ex warehouse	4 13 9	to 5 15 0
,, autumn	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, spot		10 17 6
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole		5 15 0
Kibbled		6 0 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

HOLT, NORFOLK.—TO LET, from Michaelmas next, the HALL FARM, within one mile of the railway station, lying in a ring fence, containing 412 acres, of which about 30 acres are Pasture; Farmhouse, 3 ranges of excellent Farm Buildings, Water-power Mill. Also a FARM of 570 acres, within two miles of railway station. A capital Sheep and Barley Farm.—For rent and further particulars apply Messrs. IRELAND, Guestwick, E. Dereham.

SOUTH MORETON, BERKS.—Near to Cholsey and Didcot Stations, G.W.R., and the market town of Wallingford. TO BE LET, with entry at Michaelmas next, an excellent CORN and STOCK FARM of 420 Acres (about 90 acres Pasture), with commodious Country Residence, well-arranged Farm Premises and Cottages.—For particulars and orders to view apply to FRANKLIN and GALE, Estate Agents, Market Place, Wallingford.

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TO BE SOLD,
With possession in August,
AN Excellent 50-Quarter Malting, with good Malt and Barley Stores, and extra Barley Kiln, with Herman's patent wire floor, Maltster's House, three good Cottages, Outbuildings, large Garden and Paddock, 1½ miles from Station, and conveniently near to a good Corn Market.
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FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

CAPITAL DAIRY FARM of 154 acres adjoining an important market town in Suffolk, and close to the station, to be SOLD, Freehold with good House, containing six bed and three reception rooms; pretty gardens and tennis lawn; ample farm buildings for a large herd of cows, and four cottages, all in good repair. The milk sales alone average upwards of 200 gallons per week direct to consumers in the town.—Inspected and recommended by Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, and Co., 80, Cheapside, E.C.

By order of Administrator of John Bath, deed.—Covent Garden.—Toll Free.
VALUABLE LEASE of No. 32, Wellington St., facing the new flower market. TO BE SOLD, with or without Goodwill and Effects.—Full particulars of HENRY CHAPMAN & Co., Auctioneers and Surveyors, 2, Southampton Street, Strand.

WORTHING AND WEST SUSSEX HORSE SHOW and JUMPING and DRIVING COMPETITION on WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15, 1906.
Entries close August 1.
Schedules and Entry Forms on application to WALTER PAINE, Sec., Sumner House, Montague St., Worthing.

FOR SALE.—One of Strawson's Potato Sprayers, for horse power, taking seven rows at a time; in good working order. Price £12, on rail at Wallingford.—Apply A. D. WELLS, Sinodun, Wallingford.

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IMPORTANT.—Everybody having old HENS for DISPOSAL should communicate with GEEN & Co., Smithfield Market, London, the largest poultry buyers in England.

U.P.C. Prize Laying Strain White Wyandotte Cockerels. 10s. 6d.—SMITHWOOD POULTRY FARM, Cranleigh, Surrey.

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DAIRY.—Assistant Manager, Experienced, to measure and do round, etc.—Apply, stating wages, and references to G. K. SCOTT, 22, Oldfield Road, Bath.

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THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, the Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd. Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

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TUBE MILL WANTED.—About 17 ft. by 4 ft. Must be in fair condition.—Apply "A. C. S.," care of "Mark Lane Express" Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

LADDERS, with wood sides and galvanized, steel tube rounds; 22 rounds or under, 6d. per round, carriage paid for cash.—JONES, Patentee, Sedgley.

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THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY'S AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY PROGRAMME caters for those bent on an odd day's pleasure, as well as for those bound for their annual vacation. The places served cover every description of holiday resort. On Friday, August 3, and every Friday during August and September, excursions for 7 or 17 days are being run to Edinburgh, Glasgow, and all parts of Scotland. On Friday and Saturday, August 3 and 4, there are express excursions for varying periods to Cromer, Sheringham, and stations on the Norfolk Coast; Lincoln, Grimsby, and Lincolnshire stations; Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield and Yorkshire stations; Nottingham, throughout the Midlands to Lancashire; to the Isle of Man, and along the whole of the East Coast of England. On Saturday mid-night, August 4, there is a special late excursion to the Provinces. For the occasional tripper a very full and comprehensive scheme for short date excursions has been drafted. Full particulars can be obtained on application at any of the Company's offices or stations, or from the Chief Passenger Agent at King's Cross Station, London, N.

Mr. Cary Coles 1st Prize (10 Guineas) Pen of Ewe Lambs at Salisbury Sheep Fair, July 16, 1906.

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CARY COLES, MANOR HOUSE, WINTERBOURNE STOKE, SALISBURY.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—July 30, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362 Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The splendid weather of July has done great things for the crops, and the change in the aspect of the fields since May is a transformation scene beyond that which the most sanguine could have ventured to believe possible. The wheat crop had tillered well, was regular if backward, and covered the ground well; but the barley and oats on June 1 looked as unpromising as we ever remember seeing them. The change from that appearance to the look of these spring crops on August 1 will be a fortunate memory for all farmers for many years to come, as they will feel that a most discouraging outlook at the end of May is capable of a truly wonderful amelioration as the result of two successive good months. Our record of weather thus far this year is as follows:—

Month. 1906.	Rainfall. Inches.	Sunshine. Hours.	Warmth. Degrees.
January ...	3·70	30	46·0
February ...	3·75	80	45·0
March ...	1·08	85	47·0
April ...	·70	201	48·0
May ...	1·71	121	49·0
June ...	3·06	225	57·5
July ...	1·01	261	62·5

The sunshine record is a magnificent one.

The first wheat fields which we saw this year invaded by the self-binding harvester were near the pleasant little Middlesex capital of Uxbridge, and the day was the appropriate Lammas, or August 1. Several farmers, as we hear, had commenced wheat harvest in Hertfordshire on the Monday, July 30, and in Thanet wheat cutting was in full progress on the 2nd inst. on three or four adjacent farms. Thus the ingathering of the great white crops is fully started. The promise is of full average wheat and barley yields, and if oats are short in Eastern and Southern England, some large returns from the South and North will do a good deal to redress the balance. These remarks, of course, referred to the grain alone, for the straw crops of 1906 will be under an average in almost every instance. Only in fens and on land which would ordinarily be used as water meadows will straw bulk heavily or largely, and such lands are naturally not, as a rule, employed for growing white crops at all.

The foreign crop news is not indicative of large yields in Russia, but Austria-Hungary has rather over an average crop, and France probably has a clear 40,000,000 qr. of wheat, together with a fairly good crop of rye, and nearly an average of barley. The French oat crop, however, is deficient. In Spain a fairly good wheat yield has been recorded, and the great dearth of last year has happily become a memory only. Italy has a fair crop, especially in the Lombardy plain.

An interesting Government return just issued shows that the chief wheat markets for amount of business done are as follows for the thirty-five English counties; thirty-five only, because Middlesex, Westmorland, Cheshire, Derby, and Rutland have only one statute market apiece, and therefore there is no competition. In Sussex Chelmsford, of course, is the first wheat market, and the record goes on as follows:—Hertfordshire, Hitchen; Bedfordshire, Bedford; Hunts, St. Ives; Cambridgeshire, Cambridge; Suffolk, Ipswich; Norfolk, Norwich; Lincolnshire, Lincoln; Yorkshire, Hull; Nottinghamshire, Nottingham; Leicestershire, Leicester; Northamptonshire, Peterborough; Warwickshire, Birmingham; Oxfordshire, Banbury; Bucks, Aylesbury; Berks, Reading; Surrey, Guildford; Kent, Canterbury; Sussex, Chichester; Hampshire, Basingstoke, Dorset, Dorchester; Devonshire, Exeter; Cornwall, Truro; Somerset, Bristol; Wiltshire, Salisbury; Gloucestershire, Gloucester; Monmouth, Chepstow; Herefordshire, Hereford; Worcestershire, Worcester; Shropshire, Shrewsbury; Staffordshire, Wolverhampton; Durham, Stockton; Northumberland, Newcastle; Cumberland, Cockermouth; Lancashire, Manchester. There are, of course, few wheat markets of any consequence in Wales, those which attain a fair size being Welshpool, Cardiff, and Wrexham. In Scotland, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Perth, Aberdeen, and Haddington are, perhaps, the leading markets for wheat, but no returns of quantities sold are available.

The average prices made for Colonial and Indian wheat are thus officially returned for the last two years:—

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.
Canada ...	31 8 per qr.	30 10 per qr.
India ...	29 8 ,,	28 7 ,,
Australia ...	32 4 ,,	31 4 ,,
New Zealand	30 1 ,,	29 7 ,,

The New Zealand prices are somewhat lower than we had expected to find them.

The imperial averages for July in England show a rise of 2d. in oats and a fall of 3d. in barley, while wheat has remained stationary. The average price of town household flour has fallen 3d. per sack on the month.

Some price comparisons for August 1 are as follows:—

American winter wheat, 1905, 32s. 6d. per qr.; 1905, 34s. 6d. per qr.

Good English potatoes, 1906, 60s. per ton; 1905, 60s. per ton.

Beet sugar, 1906, 8s. 7d. per cwt.; 1905, 10s. 5d. per cwt.

Rangoon rice, 1906, 7s. 6d. per cwt.; 1905, 6s. 9d. per cwt.

Calcutta linseed, 1906, 42s. 3d. per qr.; 1905, 40s. per qr.

Argentine linseed, 1906, 41s. per qr.; 1905, 39s. per qr.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets for the forty-eight completed weeks of the cereal year have been larger than usual, the price as a consequence having been a little depressed.

This season 2,889,000 qr. at 28s. 9d. per qr.
Last season 1,613,000 qr. at 30s. 9d. per qr.

The sales of British barley at the statute markets have been about an average; the price has been 9d. below the mean.

This season 3,199,000 qr. at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last season 3,132,000 qr. at 24s. 9d. per qr.

The sales of British oats have been smaller than usual; where firm, prices have benefited.

This season ..... 907,000 qr. at 18s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 3,131,000 ,, 17s. 1d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 450,000 qr.: a large supply.
Flour, 97,300 sks.: a very moderate supply.
Barley, 54,000 qr.: half an average.
Oats, 190,000 qr.: a large arrival.
Maize, 212,000 qr.: above the average.

London estimated sales of produce (grain) for the past seven months of 1906 are as follows:—

	Wheat. qr.	Barley. qr.	Oats. qr.	Maize. qr.	Flour. sks.
Jan.	201,000	54,000	121,000	124,000	350,000
Feb.	276,000	90,000	273,000	257,000	389,000
March	199,000	74,000	224,000	152,000	278,000
April	371,000	60,000	362,000	135,000	291,000
May	229,000	55,000	228,000	95,000	205,000
June	458,000	31,000	469,000	208,000	303,000
July	439,000	29,000	409,000	110,000	211,000

The business done in July has, with the one exception of the practically suspended trade in barley, been much more extensive than the market circulars, with their reiteration of extreme dulness, would lead one to suppose. But the readers of this journal will have become aware that what such circulars call dulness means, in nine cases out of ten, the absence of speculative purchases or of any transactions outside the ordinary. A thoroughly sound, healthy, non-speculative business for actual consumption is quite compatible with a long series of dull circulars. In our own reports of the exchanges we endeavour to signalise when a sound, non-speculative trade is passing.

Supplies on passage to the United Kingdom on August 1 thus compare with the like date a year ago:—

	1906.	1905.
Wheat, qrs.	2,320,000	2,370,000
Flour, sks.	170,000	90,000
Barley, qrs.	170,000	175,000
Oats, qrs.	246,000	350,000
Maize, qrs.	1,060,000	1,140,000
Linseed, qrs	143,000	239,000
Rapeseed, qrs	26,000	15,000
Cottonseed, tons..	23,000	25,000
Rice, tons	20,000	30,000

The wheat includes 670,000 qr. of Indian and 575,000 qr. of Australasian, the flour 105,000 sacks of American, the barley 90,000 qr. of Russian, the oats 240,000 qr. of Russian, the maize 900,000 qr. of Argentine, the linseed 83,000 qr. of Argentine, the rapeseed 24,000 qr. of Indian, the cottonseed 22,000 tons of Egyptian, and the rice 18,000 tons of Burmese.

The shipments from America for July were as follows:—Wheat, 378,000 qr.; barley, 22,000 qr.; oats, 36,000 qr.; maize, 320,000 qr.; and flour, 356,000 sacks. In the last six days of July the shipments were:—Wheat, 154,000 qr.; oats, 17,000 qr.; maize, 65,000 qr.; and flour, 55,000 sacks.

The Argentine shipments of maize since the new crop became available for exportation have been quite exceptionally heavy, as will be seen from the following figures for the three past months:—

Qrs.	Wheat.	Oats.	Maize.	Linseed.
May, 1906	1,359,000	32,000	1,186,000	258,000
June ,,	1,090,000	47,000	1,796,000	147,000
July ,,	532,000	15,000	1,493,000	140,000

Russia during July was a heavy shipper of oats and a fair shipper of wheat. Of barley much less than usual was shipped. The following are the figures:—Wheat, 1,526,000 qr.; barley, 448,000 qr.; oats, 1,050,000 qr.; and maize, 22,000 qr. Roumania added 254,000 qr. of wheat, 16,000 qr. of barley, 15,000 qr. of oats, and 192,000 qr. of maize.

Other July shipments were 587,000 qr. of wheat and 138,000 qr. of linseed from India, 64,000 qr. of wheat from Australia, and 12,000 qr. of wheat from European Turkey.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Thursday.—The trade the last few days shows signs of falling off, owing a good bit to larger supplies of new crops and the near approach of the holidays. Salesmen and dealers are holding out for last week's currencies, but it is impossible to maintain full values, and to effect sales lower money would have to be accepted. Although prices have steadily advanced during the last few months, and supplies have been coming along very short, it is not a big business that has been passing, and any falling off in the demand is sure to cause a reaction. Certainly with the poor crop in the south this season prices cannot go back to their old low level, but as the consumption in London appears to be falling off, any larger bulk of supplies on our market is sure to have more of an adverse effect than would have been possible a few years ago. There is a large quantity of foreign hay coming along, and less money has been accepted. Canadian Mixture and Algerian hay being 2s. 6d. per ton down. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English old crop best meadow hay, 80s. to 82s. 6d. per ton; good meadow hay, 72s. 6d. to 77s. 6d. per ton; inferior, 60s. to 67s. 6d. per ton. Best clovers, 92s. 6d. per ton. Good clovers, 83s. to 90s. per ton; inferior clover, 70s. to 80s. per ton. Best mixtures, 87s. 6d. to 90s. per ton; good mixtures, 75s. to 85s. per ton; seconds mixtures, 60s. to 70s. per ton; wheat straw, 27s. per load; oat straw, 28s. per load; barley straw, 23s. per load, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 77s. 6d. per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s. per ton; Algerian hay, 62s. 6d. to 65s. per ton. French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 75s. to 80s. per ton; large bale wheat straw, 51s. per ton; small bale wheat and straw, 48s. per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Thursday.—A moderate amount of business was effected for the fairly good supplies brought forward. Quotations:—Yorkshire fowls, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 9d.; Boston, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; Sussex, 2s. 9d. to 3s. 3d.; Surrey, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; Essex, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.; Welsh, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.; Irish, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d.; goslings, 5s. to 6s.; country ducks, 2s. to 2s. 3d.; Aylesbury, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d. to 1s.; feathered ditto, 7d. to 9d.; quail, 9d. to 11d.; tame rabbits, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; wild ditto, 4d. to 6d. each; Australian, 6s. to 8s. per dozen.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed are firm at the recent advance. Cotton. The market is 2s. 6d. per ton dearer on the week for both less and Bombay, with a firm tone.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane.—The attendance was meagre, and with brilliant weather a quiet tone prevailed throughout. Quotations for English varieties are nominal, while foreign grades attract but little attention and last quotations: No. 1 Northern Manitoba offers at 32s 3d, and No. 2 at 32s., while 33s 3d is asked for hard Duluth and hard Manitoba; for La Plata 31s to 31s 3d is asked; for Australian 32s is required, and 30s for choice white Karachi. Maize dull, and prices show but little alteration; for mixed American landed 22s 6d is asked, and 21s 9d for ex ship; La Plata ex quay is obtainable at 21s, and ex ship at 20s 6d, while 21s 6d to 21s 9d is wanted for Odessa, and 21s to 21s 3d for Danubian. Flour continues quiet, and values have an easier tendency; for Iron Dukes 20s 9d is wanted. Barley firmly held, but actual business is slow; for Odessa-Nicolaieff 19s 6d to 19s 9d is asked, and 18s to 18s 6d for Persian. Oats meet a poor inquiry at unchanged prices; 38lb Russian offer at 15s 3d to 17s 6d, and American at 17s; for La Plata 15s 9d is asked, and 15s to 15s 3d for Turkish. Imports: Wheat 55,970 qr, flour 24,560 sks, oats 45,290 qr, maize 29,800 qr.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A very slow market, with a poor demand for feeding corns, &c. There was hardly sufficient wheat offering to test the market. A sample or two changed hands at 32s to 32s 6d per quarter. Millers generally are holding off until the new crop comes upon the market, which will probably be in about a fortnight's time. Oats, maize, and other feeding corns unchanged on the week. Linseed cakes a small but firm trade at £8 5s to £8 10s per ton. Bran inclined to be dearer, especially for forward delivery.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—A good attendance but trade slow, although last week's prices held. Wheat, 33s to 34s; peas 33s; English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; Magazon beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; English oats, white, 22s to 24s; black, 20s to 23s.

Banbury, Thursday. — Wheat, red, 31s to 31s 6d per qr; barley, 26s to 30s per qr; beans, 32s to 34s per qr; oats, 20s to 25s per qr; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The was a small attendance at the market, and only a very limited trade passing, buyers being scarce. Foreign wheats were about unchanged on the week and met with a poor inquiry. Plate maize was 3d dearer at 21s per 480 lb at Sharpness. Flat maize was unchanged at 22s 6d Bristol. Grinding barley was unaltered at 19s 3d per 400 lb Sharpness. English oats and beans a slow sale at late values.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday.—Wheat was hardly offered, and nominally unchanged at about 32s per 504 lb. The cutting of the new crop has commenced in a few early districts, but we shall probably not see much at market until Wednesday fortnight.

Devizes, Thursday.—The first new corn appeared at this market to-day, winter oats of good quality being offered. The quality of all descriptions of corn will be exceptionally good. There was no change in prices. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Driffield, Thursday.—The wheat trade is about over until after the harvest, and therefore very little doing. Wheat, 29s 6d to 30s; oats, 21s to 22s per qr. Several fields of early oats have been cut in the neighbourhood.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been dull, and prices of wheat are rather the turn in buyers' favour, but there has been little or no business passing to test values. Flour has been the turn lower. Maize has also been the turn in buyers' favour. Barley is firm in price, and foreign oats are about 3d per boll lower. Other articles remain nominally unaltered. There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange. Wheat steady and unchanged. Flour easier, and in buyers' favour. Barley 1½d per boll dearer. Indian corn 1½d dearer on the week, but Maize unchanged. Oats, beans, and peas without quotable change on the week. Oatmeal steady, but little business passing.—Gibson and Clark.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Only one or two samples of old wheat were on offer, finding buyers at fully late rates. New oats were discussed for early delivery, although no actual samples were shown, but a parcel of new barley was sold. Maize was quoted nomiually at last week's prices. Beans remained a very firm market. The barley was the first lot of new grain handled in this district. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 62 lb.; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb.; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather has continued fine and hot, a heavy thunderstorm this morning bringing welcome rain. Trade has been slow and inactive during the week, though prices have been fairly maintained. Offers from Russia are limited, and limits prove beyond the views of buyers, other descriptions of wheat being preferred; but demand is far from general, the general desire being to await events. Maize from 3d at advance. Other feeding stuffs unchanged.—Dunn and Co.

Maidstone, Aug. 2.—Wheat cutting has begun in the valley of the Medway. No old wheat at market. Old oats made 24s per 336 lb.—(Special M.L.E.)

Maidstone, Thursday.—Brilliant summer weather, intense heat produces disinclination for business, with anticipation of early harvest. Wheat trade, therefore, very slow indeed, not enough transacted to furnish a compendium of prices. Barley is slightly dearer, as the foreign arrivals lately have been remarkably small. Oats are not in much request, and can be obtained at less cost than recently. Beans are scarce, and buyers can only get what they require by paying more money than in last month. Maize is slightly weaker, except for choice lots. There is no alteration to register in the value of bran, hemp, tares, sago, or other food material.

Manchester, Thursday.—Little or no English wheat on spot. Foreign shows no change, but rather easier, with the exception of fine sorts. Flour quiet. Indian corn ½d to ½d lower. Oats ½d to 1d per bushel lower. Barley: American feeding ½d higher, English scarce. English peas in short supply. Beans do not show any quotable change. Bran, etc., steady, unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Better attendance, but trade inactive. A few samples of new wheat offering. Quotations: White and red wheat, 31s 6d to 33s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 22s 6d to 24s; new oats, 18s 6d to 20s; beans, 35s to 36 6d per qr.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Demand for wheat limited, and late rates not supported. Maize firm: American flat, 23s. Oats steady; Scotch 21s 6d to 23s. Norfolk beans, 36s. A slow trade for flour; millers' fines 23s, superfines 24s, extra 26s, and patents 28s.

Plymouth, Thursday. — The attendance on market to-day was very good. Wheat, unchanged. Maize unchanged. Oats scarce, 3d advanced. Barley on spot scarce, 6d advanced.

Ripon, Thursday.—Market firm all round. English wheat scarce and making more money. A good attendance. Prices:—Wheat, 30s to 31s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; barley, malting, 27s to 29s.; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; maize, round, 23s to 24s; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With very little English grain offering and harvest near at hand, there was only a limited trade at the Exchange to-day, and prices were about unchanged. Maize, oats, and peas firm at late rates. Beans scarcer, and in some cases 6d per qr dearer. Grinding barley quoted at 6d advance. Millers' offals in improved demand at last week's prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto, red, 33s to 33s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 21s to 21s 6d; ditto, white, 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 33s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto Plate, new, 22s 3d to 22s 9d; ditto flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb; bran, 85s; fine sharps, 120s; broad bran, 105s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no local wheat showing. The fine weather keeps the foreign wheat market quiet, and though prices are nominally the same as last week, to do business 3d to 6d less money had to be taken. Oats and maize quiet.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and but little business was transacted. Quotations: New wheat, 14s per 216 lb; flat corn, 25s; English beans, 15s 6d; oats, 16s.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Small attendance, and very little wheat on offer, but sufficient to meet all requirements. An odd sample of new black winter oats made 18s 6d per qr; white wheat, 31s 6d; red wheat, 30s 6d; barley, 25s to 28s; old white oats, 22s to 23s; old black oats, 21s to 22s; new black ditto, 18s 6d; flat maize, 25s; round maize, 24s per qr.

HOPS.

Farnham, Friday.—Last night's washing rains will have greatly benefited the hop gardens. Wheat harvest will begin generally on Tuesday next.—M. L. E. *Telegram.*

THE BALTIC.

The market for wheat cargoes has not undergone any material change since last Monday, and the holiday adjournment was welcomed by those who wish for a little time in which to study the situation. There is a small quantity of No. 1 Manitoba afloat, for which 31s. 6d. is asked and 31s. 3d. offered. This will arrive in the course of August. There is a fair quantity of No. 2 available for August shipment at a level 30s., but 29s. 9d. was the best offer from buyers. Australian is held for 30s. 6d., and there are three arrived cargoes on sale at this price. Bahia Blanca for August shipment is offered at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb. Russian cargoes are offered for prompt shipment at 32s. finest Azima, 31s. Odessa-Churka, 30s. Hard Taganrog, and 29s. common, all per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes are in buyers' favour. Sales since Monday include—Poti at 20s. 10½d. per 480 lb., Argentine at 20s. 1½d., Galatz at 21s. 6d., Roumanian at 21s., and Novorosusk at 21s. 9d. per qr. No American has been sold of late, as prices are above buyers' notions by 1s. per qr.

Barley cargoes have reached 3d. for futures, 18s. 6d. to 18s. 9d. being accepted for September shipment from Russia and Roumania of the old crop. New crop barley, October and November shipment, is quoted 18s. per 400 lb.

Linseed cargoes are quiet. Calcutta on Thursday made 42s. 3d. per 410 lb., and Argentine made 41s. 3d. per 416 lb. Rapeseed cargoes are firm with 46s. 9d. per 416 lb. made for brown Cawnpore.

Cottonseed is well maintained in value for old crop. The new Egyptian crop is speculatively offered for December shipment at £6 16s. 3d. per ton, and the new Indian is offered for January shipment at £5 3s. per ton.

The London Corn Trade Association authorities have just made up standards of the April shipments which follow:—Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fé, f.a.q., 58·80 lb., 59·55 lb., 60·45 lb., 61·35 lb. 62·25 lb.; at time of discharge. Barletta &/or Russo wheat at Buenos Aires, 63·15 lb.; at time of discharge. Barletta wheat at Buenos Aires, 62·55 lb, 63·65 lb.; at time of discharge. Barletta &/or Russo wheat at Bahia Blanca, 61·55 lb., 62·70 lb., 63·65 lb.; at time of discharge. Russo wheat at Bahia Blanca, 63·45 lb.; at time of discharge. Hongrois wheat, 60·75 lb., 62·25 lb.; at time of discharge. Northern Plate wheat, 61·65 lb.; at time of discharge. Yellow La Plata maize. La Plata oats. These standard samples can be inspected at the association premises, No. 26, St. Mary Axe (next door to the Baltic).

WOOL.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—The fourth series of periodical auctions for this year began on the 23rd ult., East India wool being catalogued on that and the five following days, and sundry descriptions yesterday and to-day. The new arrivals of East India reached the large total of 36,100 bales, and importers had 1,330 bales left out of the 2,277 bales withdrawn in May. With a few secondhand parcels, 37,995 bales were catalogued and 23,800 bales changed hands, leaving merchants with 14,195 bales. The home trade secured 15,000 bales, France 4,300 bales, and America 4,500 bales. The selection could scarcely be called good, although there was a fair choice of the better growths of whites, yellows being exceptionally scarce, while coarse whites were plentiful, and medium and lower qualities of both whites and colours were generally in very wasty condition. There was a fair attendance of home and foreign buyers, but the large quantity available, and frequency of stiff limits of price put on by shippers tended to restrict competition. Compared with May currency, we quote the decline on good whites at 7½ to 10 per cent., good yellows 5 to 10 per cent, piecy yellows and fine greys, &c., 10 to 15 per cent., middling and coarse whites, as well as greys were quite 10 per cent., dirty parcels even 15 to 20 per cent. cheaper; and native skin and goat hair receded proportionately.—Ronald and Rodger.

Glasgow and Leith, Wednesday.—In the Scotch wool trade the month of July was characterised by much activity owing to the summer sales and markets, where large quantities of wool changed hands at full prices. At both Loudon and Liverpool prices opened on a lower level, but the undertone was very steady, and the opening rates were fully maintained throughout the sales. Buyers are holding out for full rates for tops and yarns, as they realise the strong position the raw material occupies. The supply of carpet wools especially is small all over the world, and stocks are well held. Whitefaced wools are easier in sympathy with London, but buyers are now operating more freely, and the month closes with a firm tone.—J. and W. Greig.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Owing to our having to go to press earlier on account of the August Bank Holiday, our review this week must necessarily be somewhat curtailed. With an increase in the number of beasts on offer at the Cattle Market, Islington, trade opened and continued throught the day of a dull and dragging nature, rates favouring the buyer, though not sufficiently so to warrant our quoting any decline. As usual of late, the majority of the supply consisted of grass-fed cattle from the Midland Counties; a small consignment of black-polled Dublins found a ready sale at good value. The bad trade which has been experienced lately at the Dead Meat Market is in some ways accountable for the sluggishness here. On Thursday no fat beasts were offered for sale. Fat butchering cows and bulls on both days met with a slow trade, at a downward tendency in value.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, up to the time of our going to press, only one market had been held, namely, Monday, no sales whatever being made on Wednesday, trade on the first day of the week was firm and steady at late currencies. The total number penned up to and including Thursday was 1,766, consisting of 1,110 British (increase 160), and 656 from the United States. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d to 4s. 6d; 90 stone Hereford, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d; 90 Black Polled Norfolks, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. ex. 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 80 to 90 stone Black Polled Dublins, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s 4d. to 3s. 6d.

In the sheep market trade was confined to the Islington market, and on both market days ruled slow for wethers, whilst ewes ruled firm and steady at good money. Scotch sheep were in smaller numbers, and shared in the decline in value, as also did Irish. The lamb trade was firm and steady on both market days, late currencies being well maintained. The total number penned at Islington was 10,340, as against 10,150 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 40. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 12 stone Lincoln half-breds, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10 stone Irish, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone half-bred ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone Down lambs, 7s. 2d. to 7s. 4d.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 6s. to 6s. 2d.

Calves numbered 90, and on Monday met with a slow but steady trade, but on Thursday were dull and dragging at a considerable decline; the best were quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8 lb. on the first day of the week, and from 5s. to 5s. 4d. on the second.

No pigs on offer.

Trade in the West.

The rain which has fallen since our last report, although not altogether general, has been sufficient to benefit in some measure not only the pastures, but equally so the growing crops, though more is still wanted before it will have any very appreciable effect on grass keep prospects or on prices of keeping stock, either cattle or sheep. That is just the position at present. Cattle of some kinds are selling a little better than they were, but this improvement is confined almost exclusively to the very best class of dairy beasts, which are undoubtedly worth from £1 to £2 apiece more than they were a fortnight or three weeks since, and arises more from a want of milk in many districts than to anything else. Grazing cattle, on the other hand, are still seriously affected by the shortage of keep, and, though the prospect now is certainly better than it has been, it is the difficulty of providing for present needs that is handicapping the grazing industry just for a time and keeping business at a standstill. From £22 up to £28 per pair may be given as the present range for the very best class of barreners, the only ones for which practically there is anything like an inquiry, whilst plainer ones are offering at any price from £20 down to £14 or £15.

With respect to dairy stock, the past week has developed a greatly increased demand, with, as we have already indicated, a considerable upward turn in prices, good heifers or cows now making from £17 up to £21 and over, the highest figure we have heard touching in the district being £23 5s. for a rare cow; but there are only very few of them to be found. In calves, too, where presenting anything like promise, are engaging considerably more attention at from £9 to £15, and yearlings are also selling a little better at from £4 up to £7 10s. each.

Trade in Ireland.

Holiday interruptions on the other side of the Channel had a bad effect on the attendance of buyers at Thursday's Dublin market, and the requirements of those present, owing to the sultry weather, were of limited dimensions both for home and export. In the cattle section, too, there was an increase of nearly 200 head, and the number—2,917—was large for this season of the year, and trade proved slow and disappointing. Buying opened with a cautious inquiry, with prices at least 10s. under those of the previous market, while towards the close of the market the fall must be written down to from 15s. to 20s. under last day per head, and coarse cattle might be said to be almost unsaleable. The dullness in the beef trade is attributable in a great degree to the heavy arrivals of beef and live cattle at the English ports during the past week, over 190,000 cwt. of frozen beef having been landed, and 13,263 cattle. This quantity of beef is a record one, and must, of course, greatly affect trade. The new rule as to Army and Navy beef also had a very bad effect, as foreign dead beef can now be bought at between 2d. and 3d. per lb., and the prospect for rough cattle look very gloomy for the remainder of the season. Home buyers purchased very timidly, evidently waiting to see how exporters would trade.

Live weight prices were from 1s. to 1s. 6d. less than those of last day, the top price for Shorthorns being from 29s. to 31s. per cwt., and for Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses from 32s. to 33s. per cwt. Cow beef sold very irregularly, but a good many were purchased for contrast purposes. Dead weight prices, prime ox and heifer beef, 56s. to 60s. per cwt.; good second quality beef, from 47s. to 53s.; and inferior from 42s. per cwt. upwards.

Sheep were in much smaller supply, there being a decrease of 1,665 head, the number offered for sale being 8,662. Trade was very bad at a reduction per head of from 2s. to 3s. with a slow, dragging sale. As in the beef department, the large importations of foreign sheep and mutton in English ports during the week quite upset dealings here. Chilled mutton to the extent of 137,000 cwt. having been landed in English ports. Sheep suitable to the home trade suffered proportionately to shipping grades. Lambs also met with a disappointing sale, all except first-class being about 2s. per head lower. Lambs worth from 36s. to 40s. continued to hold their own pretty well.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been larger. For the best quality trade nearly equal to the previous week has been obtained; but the secondary descriptions, which comprised a large proportion of the cattle on offer, made decidedly less money at about an average fall of 15s. per head. Sheep have been shown in full numbers. A fairly steady trade has been got at prices just in favour of the buyer. Lambs, if of good quality, selling well. A very large show of calves made less money. Pigs in short supply and very dear. There was a small supply of store sheep, and these met a quiet trade without change in value. There was a larger and better show of store cattle. Anything of a good class got fairly well sold, but a few of the inferior descriptions were left over. A small show of milch cows met a slightly better trade. Quotations: Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 9d.; current, 36s. to 37s. 6d.; mutton, 7½d. to 9½d per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, Leith.

LONDON.

Central Market, Thursday.—Fair supplies delivered again met a slow demand. Beef arrivals included 40 tons Scotch, 590 Liverpool sides, 1,900 American refrigerated hindquarters, and 900 forequarters; also 900 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; American (Deptford killed), 3s 5d to 3s 7d; Liverpool sides, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; River Plate hindquarters, 2s to 2s 3d; forequarters, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 10d to 3s; forequarters, 1s 9d to 1s 11d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; New Zealand, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; River Plate, 2s 4d to 2s 3d. Lamb: English, 5s 8d; New Zealand, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 2s 8d to 4s. Pork: English, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast consignments were of small extent, and met a quiet sale at previous quotations. Heavy bulls 2s 8d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. A fairly good number of sheep offered experienced a slow demand, prices, however, ruling steady; 7½ to 8 stone Down wethers, 5s 8d; 9 stone, 5s 6d; 10 stone, 5s 4d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 2d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 2d; 11 stone half-breds, 4s. Lamb trade quiet, unchanged; 5 stone Downs, 7s; 6 stone Dorset half-breds, 5s 10d to 6s. Calves in fair request, best selling at 5s 8d per 8 lb, offal given in. No pigs offered. Total arrivals: 20 beasts, 2,550 sheep and lambs, 70 calves.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade good for beef and mutton, at last week's prices. Lamb and veal cheaper by 4d to 8d per stone. Best beef, 10s 6d to 11s; cows, 9s to 10s. Mutton out of wool: Small half-breeds, 5s to 5s 2d; large, 4s 6d; barrens, 3s 6d to 4s. Lamb, 6s 4d to 6s 8d. Veal, 4s 8d to 5s. Pork: Roasters, 10s to 10s 6d a score; larger hogs, the same. Pork supply was short.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs. Small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 6d per score; sows, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market was of a holiday character, with less than average business doing. Fat cattle were plentiful, and trade quiet at late rates. Sheep and lambs also were numerous, and changed hands slowly at recent values. Pigs were again scarce, and small business was done at current quotations.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were up to the average in numbers, but sound stock was scarce. More buyers attended than for weeks past. The demand both for store and dairy cattle showed great improvement. Quotations:—Milch cows, £18 to £22; calvers, £16 to £20; barrens, £9 to £13; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £9; bullocks, £7 to £13.

Dublin, Thursday.—Demand for cattle was of a slow and dragging nature, and prices must be written lower from 10s to 20s per head, at which reduction the market did not clear. With a large reduction in numbers of sheep and lambs prices were in favour of buyers, and to effect sales a slight reduction had to be made even on best qualities, and a clearance could not be effected. Cattle: live weight (best) 29s to 31s 6d per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton: dead weight, 6d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS & Co.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A fairly large supply of beef, and trade being firmer, best quality bullock and heifer made 6½d and 7d per lb; cow beef, 4½d to 5d per lb. Sheep were a moderate supply; fat wethers at 8d to 8½d per lb; fat ewes, 6d to 6½ per lb. Lambs, a large supply, were hardly so dear as wethers, making 8d to 9d per lb. There was a demand for good store lambs. A large number of calves were on offer, and had a quick clear at 7d per lb. The supply of pigs was better than last week, and the pork trade a trifle better, prices ranging from 5½d to 6d for best quality. The trade for store pigs was firmer. There were few store cattle and trade was at a standstill.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Slow trade, and only a very poor attendance of dealers. Good milch beasts most in demand, and made £19 to £21 10s; secondary lots, £14 to £15 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 6½d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s score. Cows with calves up to £22 10s. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 384, sheep and lambs 1,818, calves 113, pigs 322. Very small supplies, but a good trade. Cows with calves met a ready trade.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very fair all round market. A moderate supply of beef, best qualities making from 6s 9d to 7s 3d; secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone. Better supply of sheep than last week. Southdown wether and crossbreds making from 8d to 8½; ewes and other sorts, 6d to 7d; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb.

York, Thursday.—A fair show of shearling sheep for the time of year, and the best twice-crossed made up to 54s; others, 46s to 50s; best Mashams, up to 50s; others up to 48s each. About 500 twice-crossed lambs on offer, which made from 26s to 32s each, most being sold. Prices in the sheep trade were slightly easier, owing to the continued dry weather. The drought affected the store cattle trade more seriously, and dealers accurately gauged the requirements for English, for whilst about only one lot was shown; there were absolutely no buyers. Irish cattle were also in small offer, and there was practically no trade. Moderate show of calving and milch cows. Newly calven cows met with a fair trade up to £21 each, secondary sorts from £16 to £18 10s.

LATEST MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Friday, 1.30 p.m.

Some rubbed out new wheat was handed round as a curiosity, and showed a fine, plump, and level sample. Prices for the new crop are suggested at 30s. for red and 31s. for white, but no sales of any bulk are likely for a fortnight. Old English wheat made 34s. 6d. for rough chaff, 32s. 6d. for common Essex red. The price of chicken wheat could not be given. Those who must have wheat for their poultry will evidently between now and harvest have to pay for millers' wheat. Foreign wheat made 32s. 6d. for fine Azima, 30s. for White Kurrachee, and 29s. 6d. for Red Kurrachee. Maize declined 6d. for Argentine, which was obtainable at a guinea for common samples, and 21s. 9d. for special lots. Barley was neglected as a rule, but some new Syrian made 22s. per qr.

Oats were held for old prices, but there were no buyers, and the tone was against sellers.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

August 3.		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	31	— 34
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	none	
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	none	
,,	(per 400 lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 30
OATS, Finest Scots	,,	23	— 24
Black Winter	,,	none	
Storm Kings	,,	23	— 24
Black Pioneers	,,	22	— 23
Black Tartary	,,	22	— 23
White Gartons	,,	21	— 22
Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
Ordinary	(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
Light	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, Essex	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	42	— 46
Tick	,,	39	— 41
Winter (Old)	,,	37	— 38
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
Spring	,,	36	— 37
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
Unpicked ditto	,,	48	— 52
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple (Old)	,,	none	
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
(Spring)	,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9	— 33	American	22/9	—23
,, ,, 2	none		Argentine	21/9	—21
,, 3	none		Bulgarian	22	—22/3
American Red			Roumanian	22/3	22/6
New	32	—32/9	Russian	22/6	- 23
Old	31/6	—32	Rangoon	21	—21/6
Argentine	31	— 32	North African	22/6	- 23
Australian	32	—32/6	BEANS (480 lb.):		
New Zealand	31	—31/6	Smyrna	34	— 36
Californian	33	— 34	Konigsberg	33	— 35
Blue Stem	33	— 34	New Zealand	35	— 36
Walla Walla	32	— 33	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Saxonka	33	— 34	Italian	64	— 72
Azima	32	— 33	Burmese	32	— 42
Ghirka	31	—31/6	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	30/9	—31	LENTILS (central):		
,, Red	30	—30/3	Split Egyptian	10	— 11
Persian	29/9	— 30	Whole Indian	7	— 8
BARLEY:			PEAS (504 lb.):		
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	Konigsberg	44	— 46
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	Indian White	35	— 36
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Indian Green	29	— 31
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Russian (400 lb)	19	—19/6	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Am'can (400 lb)	19	—19/3	Victoria Dun.	33	— 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22	White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Smyrna	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	— 10
Russian	24	— 25	Siamese	8	— 9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23	—25	Smyrna	27	— 28
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	none		Indian	26	— 27
Am'can (320 lb)	17	—17/6	Persian	22	— 24
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	16	—16/3	French	26	— 27
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	15/6	—16	Russian	25	— 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Friday, 3 p.m.

The event of the day was the fall in the top-price from 30s. to 29s. After several months' stability this concession was noteworthy. The fall in fine Hungarian in July, however, had prepared the way for it. Town Whites and Town Households were not quotably lower, but the sales were very small. Country flour made 24s. for best patents, 22s. for ordinary roller whites. Where more money than this was demanded, trade could not be done. American Winter wheat flour was offered at 23s. per sack c.f.i. prompt shipment. Belgian flour made 26s. for best grade. Australian touched but did not exceed 23s 9d. per sack. Granardia flour was offered for delivery in September at 25s. 3d. per sack.

Sago flour met with a small but steady demand at 9s. per cwt. for cash. Oat flour made 17s. to 18s. per cwt. for Midlothian, 12s. 6d. to 13s. for Deeside, and 15s. 6d. to 16s. for Grampian. Canadian groats made 11s. 6d. to 12s. per cwt., and "Rolled Oats" as they are called, the same price. Rye flour realised 20s. 6d. per sack for the best grade, and rye meal 19s. per sack for ordinary. Farina costs 11s per cwt. This is fine potato flour and has many legitimate uses.

London Flour.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	26/3 ,,
,, Households	,,	23/3 ,,
No. 2	,,	21/3 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/3 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/3 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	20/3 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	— 23
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	21	—21/6

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	24	—24/3
,, Second Patents	,,	23	—23/3
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	—21/3
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	—24/3
,, Bakers'	,,	21	—21/3
Cascadia	,,	25	—25/3
Manitoba Patent	,,	24	—24/3
Manitoba Ordinary	,,	23	—23/3
Hungarian, 0	,,	29/9	—30
,, 1	,,	29	—29/6
,, 2	,,	28	—28/6
,, 3	,,	27	—27/6
French, Corbeil	,,	23	—23/6
,, Renaux	,,	22	—22/6
,, P.S.D.	,,	21	—21/9
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Argentine	,,	24	— 26

Meal, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12/6	—13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13/6	—14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11/6	—12
Pollard	,,	9/6	—10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15/6	—16
Fine Middlings	,,	14/6	—15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13/6	—14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16/6	—17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	19	— 20
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THERE WERE NO FURTHER CHANGES, BUT AN EXTREMELY LETHARGIC TRADE ALL ROUND WAS REPORTED.

TO HOP GROWERS.

If you have not received our Illustrated Pamphlet on

"HOP DRYING BY SCIENTIFIC METHODS,"

Please write us for a free copy.
WE are STILL to the FRONT.

JONES & ATTWOOD,
Heating Specialists,
STOURBRIDGE.

HOPS.

The Crop Prospects.

England.—After careful examination of numerous reports that have reached me from the hop-growing counties, I am compelled to conclude that little if any improvement has been accomplished in the general condition of the plantations. The scorching heat is rapidly developing the burr, but the necessity of rain is painfully evident, and without it no real progress can be made. Indeed, it is now very questionable whether any change for the better is possible, and most observers have accepted the inevitable, looking forward only to less than an average harvest.

The average yield per acre, as given by the Board of Agriculture for the past sixteen years, including the three heavy years of 1894, 1899, and 1901, and the exceptional crop of last year, comes out at 8·68 cwt. Accepting this figure for our present guidance, we may perhaps reckon upon an average of 6½ to 7 cwt. for this season, and on this basis may expect a crop of 320,000 to 340,000 cwt. I cannot think we can possibly exceed the latter figure, and am rather inclined to quote the former as being the nearest to the mark.

I have not space for all the details in my possession, but regret to note that the blight is still in full evidence in many gardens, and that the costly washing has in the majority of cases failed in cleansing the plants. I am not surprised to hear that in the Faversham and Setting districts some very good pieces of bine are to be seen, knowing that energy and skill are there always exercised. Again from Sittingbourne I hear good news, and the general outlook round about Canterbury seems to be fairly good for the year. Some advancement is to be met with at Paddock Wood, although there are some striking contrasts between the healthy appearances at Beltring and some of the neighbouring grounds. There is also promise of fair results in the Tonbridge and Wateringbury districts, but here there is also much variation.

In the Farleighs and the Medway Valley a goodly number of acres present a fair prospect, but their excellence is sadly discounted by other pieces that will yield but few hops. Surrey growers report that where washing has been persevered in there is some hope of a small crop, but many gardens will be absolutely destitute. The Sussex crop must be small, according to the opinion of those best able to judge of the present condition of most of the plantations, and when we travel to the Midlands we hear most discouraging estimates.

Both in Worcester and Hereford the outlook is almost as bad as it can be. Opinions differ as to which county is in the worst condition, but it appears to be settled that the average of the two will not go beyond 3 to 4 cwts. per acre. Even the best and most attentive growers are surprised and disappointed, and are anxiously looking for high prices to remunerate them.

Germany.—Hitherto the reports from Hallertau and Spalt have been sufficiently favourable to warrant the expectation of a good average crop, but the continuance of hot, dry weather has changed the prospect, and growers are now very dubious as to the final results. In other districts the variations of temperature have encouraged vermin, and the plants are on the whole not looking so well as formerly. From Tettnang I hear that while the crop cannot exceed half that of last year, the quality will be very variable, not above one-third promising to be choice. In the other districts I am advised that the yield will not exceed one-sixth of last year. From Alsace there are similar complaints, not above one-third of a good crop being anticipated, and the quality will be only medium.

Bohemia.—The prospects have changed for the worse, and it is now confidently assumed that the harvest will not exceed one-third of that of last year.

France.—The continuance of bright sunshine, with a few showers, have rather raised the hopes

of the planters in Burgundy. The plants are generally healthy, and are rapidly coming into flower. There are some very promising grounds, but others are rather poor. On the whole a fair crop is expected, and of good quality. In the northern districts the conditions are very similar to those in Belgium.

BELGIUM.—Very little improvement has been effected, although the weather is fairly favourable to progress and development. Rain is wanted to assist the flowering, which is making its appearance, but it is now almost too late for any enlargement of the crop, that must be disappointing to planters.

AMERICA.—Recent reports confirm the previous estimates of a record crop in all the hop-growing States. The only exception I have met with is a statement that about Cobleskill (New York) there is vermin in some yards, and that on the whole the indications do not point to a yield quite equal to last year. The *Waterville Times* says that the yards are looking bright and clean and free from vermin, and as the weather has been very favourable, a good crop of excellent quality is practically assured. The Pacific Coast reports are uniformly promising, but there are those who say that exaggeration is part of the nature of Oregon planters, and that we may be prepared for some modification of the present brilliant outlook as the season advances.

The Royal Lancashire Show at Lancaster.

After a lapse of eighteen years, Lancaster was last week once again the scene of the show of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society; and what a wonderful change has taken place between the two visits! The society has progressed with extraordinary rapidity, and whereas in 1888 the entries at Lancaster were a trifle over 1,500, last week they reached the magnificent total of 3,369, not including dogs, which is above the average entry of the past five years, although not so numerous as some recent shows. Including dogs, the total was 4,458 as against 4,803 at Liverpool a year ago, 4,072 at Southport in 1904, 3,859 at Manchester in 1903, and 3,093 at Liverpool in 1889. Compared with the phenomenal figures at Liverpool, cattle and light horses showed a decrease, but were just above the five years' average. Sheep, which nowadays form a valuable asset on a farm, constituted a record for some years, and Shire horses and pigs, numerically, compared favourably with Liverpool. As is well known, Lancaster has an agricultural show every year of its own, but in view of the county society coming there the local exhibition was merged in the present exhibition, whilst the Lancaster Society has contributed some £1,400 as a first subscription towards the county expenses, and it is intended to raise a total of £2,000, so that the Lancaster Agricultural Society has had a good deal to do with the success of the exhibition, the principal sections of which are dealt with below.

Horses.

The display of Hunters was without doubt one of the best ever seen at a Royal Lancashire show, especially as regards the quality. Stallions, which made a fine show, were headed by Sir Walter Gilbey's Merry Matchmaker, Mr. J. A. Mullens's Glenrossall coming second, and Mr. H. L. Storey's Underbred third. There was a wonderful class of brood mares, but Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Glasspore had little trouble in securing first prize, while later she was awarded the Manchester Challenge cup for the best Hunter brood mare or filly. Next to her in this class was Rosalinda, belonging to Mr. A. J. Brown, the veteran Yorkshire breeder and exhibitor. The prizes for foals, which were also of good calibre, went to Mr. Wm. Brown, of Lancaster, Sir H. F. de Trafford, and Mr. Wilkinson. The heavy-weight carriers formed a beautiful ring picture, embracing three famous animals in Mr. J. H. Stokes's Madrid and Patrician, and Mr. W. A. Simpson-Hinchliffe's Sligo, which received the second prize. Mr. J. H. Stokes's well-known prize winner, Whiskey, appeared fresh with his Darlington honours, and he again met Mr. A. J. Brown's Riby, which he once beat for first place, and later secured, as last year, the champion prize, offered by the Manchester (1903) Local Committee, for the best Hunter mare or gelding of four years and upwards. The judging of the three years-olds was, so far as Mr. E. Hodgson's (Bridlington) Sportsman and Mr. Wilkinson's Destruction went, a confirmation of the Peterborough verdict. Two-year-olds, like the preceding class, mustered well, and the trio of premiums for yearlings got to as many counties—Notts, Derbyshire, and Lancashire. The medals of the Hunters' Improvement Society induced a smart competition. The gold award fell to Mr. H. Tennant's mare Birch Rod, from Fairfield, Buxton, and the others to Mr. Stokes's Black Pearl and Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's His Grace.

Hackneys made a somewhat small display but quality was good, some Royal winners being forward, and they succeeded in maintaining their positions. Among the aged stallions shown were Administrator and Dainty Duke, and in the two-year-old class Mr. Arthur Hill's Copmanthorpe Performer maintained his unbeaten record, also securing the Ainscough Gold Challenge Cup for the best Hackney stallion. Administrator, who won this handsome 50 guinea trophy last year, was now reserve, after a sharp tussle. Of two yearling stallions catalogued, only one was favoured—Mr. W. Mathieson's (Horsforth) Executor, but this promising son of Administrator has such rare quality and good action that he was at once handed the red card.

Brood mares were topped by the celebrated Rosadora and Mitre, with a Lancashire dam third. Rosadora repeated her performance of last year by again winning the Royd's challenge cup for the best Hackney mare or filly in the show. The progeny of the Lancashire dam just mentioned was the pick of the foals. Three-year-old fillies were made all the more attractive by the presence of Mr. F. W. Buttle's Boquhan Sunrise, which was not only beautiful, but a fine mover. She, too, has a clean certificate. Angram Queen, the property of Mrs. E. Fletcher, of York, was a nice, short-legged yearling filly, with the best of action, and merited the first prize given her by the judges.

In the riding and driving class Mrs. Hartley Batt, of Hyde Park, London, was, as usual, to the fore, winning premier honours for harness pair of geldings or mares, with Hopwood Spark and Hopwood Horace, a pair of beautiful animals. In the harness pony, mare or gelding class, Tissington Kit Kat, belonging to Mr. Howard Frank, of Wimbledon Common, succeeded in maintaining its practically unbroken record; Mr. W. S. Cunard's Queen Go Bang being placed second. The leaping competitions were, as usual, a centre of attraction.

The Shire horses were fewer in number than might have been expected in the open classes, but the local section was well filled. Although there was a certain meagreness in some classes, some representative horses were shown by Lord Rothschild, Lord Egerton, and others. There were only a few yearling fillies, and these were hardly regarded as distinguished for quality, though there was little fault to find with Earl Egerton's Tatton Abbess, who was put at the head. In the two-year-old class an old-standing contest was waged by the two fillies at the top of the class—namely, Mr. R. Whitehead's Peak Polly and Earl Egerton's Tatton May Queen, which were placed in the order named. The three-year-old filly class was very small. Only three competitors appeared in the ring, and the best was Lord Rothschild's, which beat both Lord Egerton's and Mr. Gold's exhibits. The first-prize winner was a new aspirant for show-yard honours—namely, Lord Rothschild's Belle Cole, a handsome short-legged, thick filly, which moves as true as a die. It was her action which practically won her the Greenall Challenge Cup. The judges differed over her and Mr. Robert Whitehead's Peak Dolly, and Mr. Peter Blundell was called in to settle the difference. The referee favoured Belle Cole, the reserve ticket going to Peak Dolly. Among the foals, however, Lord Egerton was deservedly first, followed by Mr. Victor Cavendish with another animal of conspicuously good points. The mares were a fairly good class. The younger exhibits in the Shire stallions were larger in number than hitherto. In the two-year-old class there was not a large number of exhibits, but quality was very good indeed, and the class provided the male champion, Lord Egerton's Tatton Dray King, who was given the Earl of Derby's 50 guinea Challenge Cup.

Cattle.

The cattle section was again one of the most attractive features of the show. All the leading prize winners in the country were entered, and competition was exceedingly keen, the judges occasionally finding considerable difficulty in deciding the placing of the animals. Mr. Frank Miller, of Birkenhead, with his high-priced yearling champion bull Bapton Viceroy, again beat all comers, winning the championship prize, the Derby challenge cup for the best bull in the show, whilst the same exhibitor's three-year-old bull Linksfield Champion was reserve for the championship. Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Rolleston Hall, with his two-year-old heifer Rolleston Spice, secured the Derby challenge cup for the best cow or heifer in the show, his three-year-old heifer Proud Duchess being given the reserve ticket. For the best cow or heifer in the show bred by the exhibitor in the County Palatine, the winner was Mr. Thomas Atkinson, Bury, with Jenny 19th, a prettily modelled roan heifer of a good Shorthorn type. The whole of the Shorthorns were a very even class, and in quality generally were superior to last year. Two year-old bulls were led by Mr. George Harrison's smart, improving Royal Ensign, which was third at the Royal, and he was accompanied in the prize-list by Mr. Miller's Broadhooks Champion, and Mr. John Handley's Pearl King 2nd. Cows in milk or in calf were few in number, but good in quality. The leader was Lord Calthorpe's Sweetheart, a champion winner in the South. She is a very sweet animal, with a capital udder, but less wear about her than Mr. Harrison's Ursula Raghan, the second prize taker. The Gainford Hall representative was the reserve at the Royal, and first and first and champion at the Highland, and first at the Northumberland shows.

Shorthorn dairy cows were disappointing, for there were only about half-a-dozen animals in the two open classes. Jerseys were better represented, the old cow class being especially good. The Blythwood Challenge Bowl for the best cow or heifer in milk bred in Great Britain or Ireland, was won by Lady de Rothschild with Pearl 2nd, the trophy thus going to the same exhibitor for the third year in succession. The winner is a very useful type of cow and a noted milker. The pretty little Dexter cattle made a good show, the challenge cup for the best animal in the show going to Mr. Godfrey J. B. Chetwynd with his four-year-old Don Gentian, a winner at the Royal and all the other leading shows. In the class for Dexter cow or heifer, calved in or before 1903, there was a numerous entry, and the winner was Sprucefield Edna, belonging to the Countess of Sefton.

Sheep.

The entries in the sheep classes were over the average; quality showed improvement. In Shropshires Sir R. P. Cooper, Bart., Lichfield, was the chief prize-winner. He won the silver cup for the best pen of three shearling ewes, first prize in the class for rams, first for ewes, second for ram lambs, and second for ewe lambs. The Right Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P., was also a successful competitor in the section, he taking the first and third prizes for ram lambs, first for ewe lambs, and second for shearling rams. The silver cup for the best Oxford Down was taken by Miss Alice C. de Rothschild, with a really high-class pen of shearling ewes, and for the best exhibit amongst the Wensleydales, a strong section, Lord Henry Bentinck was an easy winner. In the class for the best Wensleydale ram lamb, however, his lordship was beaten by a local farmer, Mr. R. H. Milner, of Mowbrick, near Lancaster. The silver cup for the best Hardwick ram was secured by Mr. James Todd, of Rougholme, Cumberland; and for the best Lonk the silver cup was awarded to Mr. David Hague, Clitheroe.

Pigs, &c.

There was an exceedingly fine show of pigs, in fact, the section was admittedly a marked feature of the year's exhibition. Probably the best class was that for Large White boars, which included some of the finest animals in the kingdom. Sows were also strong, and there were among them Royal Show winners. The principal prize takers for Large and Middle Whites were Sir Gilbert Greenall and Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Sons, the first-named taking no fewer than five firsts, six seconds, and two third prizes; whilst Messrs. Spencer took two firsts, one second, and two thirds. There was keen competition in the young pig classes, especially of Middle Whites, and it was made evident that Lancashire farmers are giving more and more attention to this class of exhibit. In Berkshires, Mr. G. F. Inman, of Henley-on-Thames, was the chief winner, he taking three firsts, two seconds, and one third, as well as the British Berkshire Pig Society's special—this being secured with Highmoor Mikado. Mr. R. Ibbotson swept the board in the Tamworth section, winning all the first prizes, and, in addition, three seconds, two thirds, and the special award; whilst for large blacks, which were well represented, Mr. K. M. Clark and Mr. R. R. Rothwell shared.

After paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £23,715 0s. 8d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits of the London and County Banking Company for the half year ending June 30 amount to £294,047 8s. 7d. From this sum have been deducted £25,000 transferred to premises account, and £50,000 carried to reserve fund (raising it to £1,500,000), leaving £219,047 8s. 7d., which, with £78,317 14s. 3d. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £297,365 2s. 10d. The directors have declared a dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., which will require £200,000, leaving the sum of £97,365 2s. 10d. to be carried to the profit and loss new account. The dividend, £2 per share, free of income tax, will be payable at the head office, or at any of the branches, on or after Monday, August 13.

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

The charge for Advertisements (if set in small type) under classified heading in this section is one penny per word each insertion.

HORSES.

SHIRES.

BLAGDON SHIRE HORSE STUD. (Established 1879). Proprietor, CLEMENT KEEVIL, Billington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (late of Blagdon, Malden, Surrey). High-class animals for sale of all ages and both sexes: also massive sound Stallions to let for the season.

CROSS, J. L., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby. Shire Stallions, Mares, &c. Also Red Shorthorn Bulls from milking strains, and Oxford Down Sheep.—Apply F. CAMPBELL, Catthorpe, Rugby.

MUNTZ, Sir P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm.—Shire Stallions, Mares, Fillies, and Geldings of fashionable breeding, including prize-winners on sale. Inspection invited. Visitors met.—Address A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

HUNTERS.

ROBINSON, ERNEST W., Brookleigh, Esher. Irish-bred 1, 2, 3, and 4-year-olds, brood mares, made and unmade Hunters for sale.

HACKNEYS, &c.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham. Breeder of High-class Hackneys. Several have been successful in the showyard. Colts and Fillies by the leading Stallions of the day.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners, yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

CLYDESDALES.

CLYDESDALES.—The Seaham Stud Co. have Mares, Fillies, and Colts of the choicest breeding always on Sale.—Apply, R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour, County Durham.

PONIES.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, South Wales. Extensive Breeder and Exporter of best class of Welsh Mountain Ponies and Cobs.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

COWLEY Manor Shorthorn Herd, property of James Horlick, Esq. Bulls and Heifers of choicest breeding. Cruickshank and Bates blood, successful in dairy and showyard.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

DENNY, F. A. & E. H. M., Bore Place, Chiddingstone, Eden Bridge, Kent. A carefully selected herd of choice Shorthorns. Stud Bulls, Ascot Constellation 85184, by Silver Mint 79968; Primrose Pride 79605. Young Bulls for sale.—Apply, G. MACLEAN DAVIDSON, as above. Telegrams, Bore Place, Bough Beech Railway Station, Penshurst.

WORDSWORTH, Duffcarrig, Gorey, co. Wexford, Ireland. Pedigree Dairy Shorthorns (Cruickshank and Scotch strains). Successful in dairy and showyard. Young Bulls and in-calf Heifers of good colours for sale. Exportation orders executed.

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THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats. Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Endale, and Bage-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited.—Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

CAPTON HERD.—Noted for size, flesh, milk, quality, and symmetry combined; colour dark red, with robust constitutions. 100 for Sale. Exported to all parts of the world. Bulls and Heifers of this Herd always on Sale. A. BOWERMAN, Capton, Williton, Taunton.

SOUTH DEVONS.

ROWE, F. W., Trevego, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Breeder of pure-bred South Devon Cattle of best and purest strains of blood. Bulls, Cows and Heifers for inspection and sale.

CATTLE—*continued.*

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

SWAYLANDS ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD. The Property of Mr. George Drummond. Stock always on sale.—Stud Bull, Eboniser 21782, Winner of 3 Firsts and 2 Champions 1905.—Apply, W. E. ROGERS, Bowens, Penshurst, Kent.

For Sale.
PRIZE BRED POLLED ANGUS COWS, BULLS, and HEIFERS.
Finest Strains. Inspection Invited.
GEORGE HOYLES,
Skidby Manor, near Hull.

JERSEYS & GUERNSEYS.

TICHBORNE PARK GUERNSEYS, property of Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart. Bulls, Cows and Heifers of very best breeding for sale.—D. MICHIE, Tichborne Estate Office, Alresford, Hants.

THE MERTON GRANGE HERD of Pedigree Guernseys. The property of Frank Hargreaves, Esq. Largest prize-winning Herd in England. Buyers can be supplied with show animals of either sex or for dairy purposes. For full particulars, address W. J. EMPSON, Merton, Gamlingay. Telegrams and station: Gamlingay.

KERRIES.

CORY, CLIFFORD JOHN, M.P., Llantarnam Abbey, Monmouthshire. Pedigree Kerries. Champion ship and other prize-winners. Royal and other Shows. Llantarnam Station, G.W.R.

FOR SALE.—Choice Registered Kerry and Dexter in-calf Heifers, and Bulls. Eight to ten guineas each here.—RICHD. BARTER, St. Ann's Hill, Cork.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONG-WOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and 3 from stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

For Sale.
SKIDBY MANOR FLOCK,
Shearling Rams.
PURE LINCOLN LONG WOOL.
Fine Lustrous Wool. Even Fleeces. Strong Constitution. Suitable for Export.
Inspection Invited.
G. HOYLES, Skidby Manor, near Hull.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

COLES, Cary, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury. Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. Prize-winners Royal, leading English and foreign shows, Salisbury Fair, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1904 and 1906, 25 gns. challenge cup. Chicago 1901, all Champions and firsts for rams and ram lambs. St. Louis Exhibition, 1904, 10 sheep exhibited—all won class prizes, besides grand champions, reserve grand and champions. Annual ram sale August, 1905.—One lamb let for 205 gs., the record price; 78 averaged £20 16s. each. Selections always for sale.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.—FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Leading Flock in Prize Records, Champions at home and abroad. Since 1894, "The Salisbury Fair Challenge Cup" (the Blue Ribbon of Show Yard Contests). Won eight times; twice second, out of ten Competing. Prizes taken yearly at the Royal past 12 years; Champions in 1901-02-03-05. Breed Cup and Reserve Champion Shortwools, Smithfield 1904 and 1905. Champions at Birmingham over all Breeds, 1905. Highest average past 12 years at Bridford Fair, Aug. 12; for 100 Ram Lambs. Selections on Sale; apply to Owner.

SHEEP—*continued.*

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS *(cont.)*.

STEPHENS, H. C., Cholderton, Salisbury. Registered Hampshire Down Flock; purest and best blood; a leading flock in all prize competitions. True to type and character; hardy constitution, great size, and good wool. The Ewes are kept on the highlands of Salisbury Plain, and are thoroughly hardy. Whole flock individually numbered, and full pedigrees of Rams and Ewes recorded. Rams and Ram Lambs always on Sale.—Apply, JAS. G. KERR, Estate Office, Cholderton, Salisbury.

OXFORD DOWNS.

COWLEY MANOR FLOCK, property of James Horlick, Esq. Pedigree Oxford Downs of best and purest strains. Ewes and Rams for sale privately. Rams sold annually, Cirencester. Prize-winners Royal, Bath and West, and leading Shows.—Apply, W. HITCH, Estate Office, Cowley, near Cheltenham.

J. H. LARGE, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Breeder Registered Oxford Downs Winners many prizes, Tegs beating record for Block Test at Islington—74 70 per cent. dressed carcase. For sale this year, 130 Shearling Rams and Ram Lambs at Cirencester, Hereford, Wellington, Bristol, Kelso, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Cowbridge. Have given good satisfaction for many years.

WHITE, JOHN, Ham Court Farm, Rampton, R.S.O., Oxon.—Pedigree Oxford Down Sheep of best and purest strains for sale. Foreign and home buyers invited to inspect.

SHROPSHIRES.

NOCK, EDWARD, Harrington Hall, Shifnal, Salop, owner of the old Sutton Maddock Pedigree Shropshire flock, founded 1832. Winner of prizes at all the leading Shows, including 1st for five rams, Royal Show, 1904, three prizes Royal, 1905.

SUFFOLKS.

KEEBLE, THOMAS, Bentley Hall, Ipswich. Registered Flock No. 66, Suffolk Sheep, Winner of two District D Challenge Cups, Bristol Gold Cup, and Pretyman Challenge Cup. Rams for sale for registered flocks or crossing.

FOR SALE.—Reasonable prices. Fine Black faced SUFFOLK RAMS, from Lord Cranworth's Registered Prize Flock. Capital Cross for White-faced or Half-bred Ewes.—Apply C. F. STEBBING, Letton, Thetford, Norfolk.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

GALALAW (late MELLENDEAN).—Border Leicesters Through long and careful breeding have inherent the best qualities of the breed; style, symmetry, pure colours, and good wool. Sales in September at Edinburgh and Kelso Ram Sales, and by private treaty at any time.—Messrs. SMITH, Galalaw, Kelso, N.B.

PIGS.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield. Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

LARGE WHITES.
COLSTON & BORROWFIELD HERDS.

The Property of R. MILLINGTON KNOWLES, Colston Bassett Hall, Notts.

The herds contain **40** large, typical Sows, of the most fashionable strains, the best of Sires are purchased to keep up the present high standard of excellence.

Numerous Championships, Medals, Firsts and other prizes, won at the **Royal, Highland, Bath and West,** and other principal Shows. **Awarded Diploma at St. Louis, U S A International Exposition, 1904,** breeder of the **Champion** boar in all classes, and also **Grand Champion,** and breeder of boar 2nd prize winner in all classes.

The **BORROWFIELD HERD** has had a world-wide reputation for **40** years. Only home-bred pigs are sold from these herds, and no others are admitted on the premises. Large Whites only.—G. H. ELLIOT, Estate Office, Colston Bassett, Notts.

(Continued on next page).

Live Stock Record.

DIRECTORY OF BRITISH PEDIGREE STOCK OWNERS.

PIGS—*continued.*

LARGE WHITES—(*continued*).

HOSKING, EDWIN, Rosevidney, Ludgvan, Cornwall.—Breeder of pure pedigreo Large Yorkshire White Pigs; good type with size and quality. This herd has won all the first prizes except one offered for Large Whites at the Royal Cornwall Shows for the last four years; also numerous other prizes Young Boars and Sows for Sale at moderate prices, bred from winners at the Royal of England.

HUGHES, ALFRED, Packwood Grange, Knowle, near Birmingham. Select Herd of Pedigree, Large White Yorkshire Pigs, bred from prize-winners. Young Boars and Gilts for sale at moderate prices.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Two miles from Trowse station, G.E.R.

LARGE WHITE PIGS.—Boars and Gilts, eligible for Herd Book; also registered Oxford Down Sheep, descended from Prize-winners. At moderate prices.—J. PHIPPS SMITH, Salford Priors, Evesham.

NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, Stoke Farm Herd Large White Pigs, estab. over 20 years. Boars and Gelts at moderate prices. Inspection invited.—A. AVIS, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H., Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, Champion Cup and Medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows for sale —FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large and Middle White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts. (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped.—For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford. Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by pigs bred by myself: 2 champion prizes for the best pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book.

LARGE BLACKS.

CORNWOOD HERD of High-Class Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Breeder and winner of numerous Prizes and Cup; Royal, Bath and West, and County Shows. Boars and Sows always on sale.—JOHN H. GLOVER, Cornwood, Devon.

PEDIGREE LARGE BLACKS of Choicest Strains, young Boars and Sows For Sale; prices moderate.—H. J. CLARKE, Norbury House, Newport, Shropshire.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK. Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat.—FRANCIS N. HOBGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

BERKSHIRES.

CORY, CLIFFORD J., M.P., LLANTARNAM ABBEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Pedigree Boars and Gelts.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

TAMWORTHS.

THE Melton Constable celebrated Herd of Pedigree Tamworth Pigs. Prize winners at Norfolk, Suffolk, and other shows. Champion Cups Smithfield. Several recently exported for Continental and Colonial herds.—Apply R. OWEN GODDARD, Estate Office, Melton Constable, Norfolk.

SHEEP SALES AND FAIRS.

The Marham Hall Cotswolds.

The fifty-third annual letting of pedigree Cotswold rams, belonging to Messrs. T. Brown and Sons, took place at Marham Hall Farm, Downham Market, in perfect weather, and attracted a company of considerably over 200 of the best known West Norfolk farmers and flockmasters. Mr. H. Salter, of Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons, conducted the letting, submitting in all a total of 200 rams, 120 lamb rams, and 80 shearlings. As in previous years, the splendid condition of the sheep on offer excited general complimentary remarks, and satisfactory prices were realised, the ram lambs averaging £8 6s. 3d., as compared with last year's average of £7 15s., whilst shearlings sold at an average per head of £9 8s. 8d, last year's figure being £9 13s.

Alresford.

There was a large supply of sheep and lambs, as well as a great many finely-bred ram lambs at Alresford Fair, and there was a very large attendance of farmers, dealers, and others. The continued drought had considerable effect, without doubt, on the trade, and there was not that improvement which might have been confidently expected had a fall of rain occurred to improve the prospects of feed. As it was, the prices realised at Overton Fair were generally maintained, although the demand were hardly as brisk. This applies equally both to the auctions and to the open fair.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, of Salisbury, had the letting and selling of the annual draft of ram lambs from the Long Sutton House flock of Hampshire Downs, owned by Mr. J. A. K. Falconer. The catalogue comprised sixty lambs, four for letting and fifty-six for sale, and fifty-five of these were disposed of, at an average of £8 4s. 6d. a head, three letting lambs being hired at 17 guineas, 15 guineas, and 14 guineas respectively. The chief prices for the selling lambs were 19 guineas, 13½ guineas, 12½ guineas, 11½ guineas, two at 10½ guineas, and one 10 guineas, others fetching from 9½ guineas to 4½ guineas. On the whole an excellent sale was effected, at rather better prices than was the case last year.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence had also entrusted to them, for the first time, a draft of twenty-six ram lambs and one shearling ram from the registered Swanmore House flock of Hampshire Down sheep, owned by Mr. W. H. Myers. The rams were all by sires from the celebrated Chilmark Flock, and, for a first draft, attracted a good deal of notice. The whole twenty-seven lots were disposed of, at prices ranging from 5 to 9 guineas, and working out at an average of 6 guineas each.

Messrs. J. Harris & Son, of Winchester disposed of the annual draft of ram lambs from the flock of Mr. Donald Nicoll, of Burntwood, and succeeded in disposing of the whole of the thirty-six lots at good prices. The rams were knocked down at bids ranging from 3½ to 10½ guineas. Two lambs made the last-named figure, one 9 guineas, two 8 guineas, one 7½ guineas, four 6½ guineas, one 6 guineas, one 5½ guineas, five 5 guineas, three 4½ guineas, eleven 4 guineas, and four 3½ guineas. Messrs. Harris also disposed of over 10,000 ewes and lambs from various flocks at the following prices:—Ewes: Grazing, 27s. to 34s. 6d.; wethers, 35s. to 41s.; draft, 34s. to 55s. 6d.; mixed, 35s. 6d. to 46s.; two-tooth, 44s. to 55s.; four-tooth, 49s. 6d. to 55s. 6d.; six-tooth, 44s. to 51s.; fat ewes, 45s. Lambs: Wethers, 28s. to 51s. 6d.; ewes, 32s. 6d. to 40s.; mixed, 17s. 6d. to 39s.; and fat lambs to 49s. 6d.

Messrs. Hall, Pain, and Goldsmith, of Petersfield, conducted the annual sale of ram lambs from Mr. James Goldsmith's Blendworth flock of Hampshire Downs, and succeeded in effecting a complete clearance at prices ranging from 4 to 18 guineas. Two lambs made the top price, 18 guineas, another fetched 16 guineas, three 14 guineas, two 13 guineas, and three 12 guineas.

Alford.

At the Alford Lamb Fair on Tuesday there was an increase in the number of lambs penned, and a fairly good trade was experienced. Prizes offered by the Alford Bull Fair Committee were won as follows:—For occupiers of under eighty acres—Mr. W. J. Humphreys, Alford. For occupiers of between eighty and 150 acres—Mr. T. J. Parker, Markby. Open — Messrs. J. Ranby and Son, Bilsby. The lambs in the winning pen in the open class realised the top price of the fair, 41s. 6d. per head. Other prices and sales were:—Mr. Robinson, Bilsby, 36s. 6d. and 37s.; Mr. Kelk, Woodthorpe, 37s. and 36s. 6d.; Mr. Parker, Moorthorpe, 30s.; Mr. B. Simons, Willoughby, 32s. 6d.; Mr. Hildred Willoughby, 31s. 6d.; Mr. G. Shipley, Aby, 31s.; Mr. E. A. Young, Alford, 30s.; Mr. W. J. Humphreys, Alford, 34s.

Ipswich.

The annual two day sale of Suffolk sheep held at Ipswich by Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons took place in Gippeswyck Park last week. The first day (Wednesday) was, as usual, devoted to the disposal of ewes, of which there was a splendid entry both in number and quality. There was a brisk demand, and good prices realised, there being an improvement in this respect upon last year of 5s. or 8s. per head. Mr. John Cracknell, Wickham Market, sent a splendid lot of shearling ewes, Mr. S. R. Sherwood giving the top price of the day, viz., £6 for ten; another ten went to Mr. C. F. Marriner at 86s., and fifteen to Mr. Kenneth M. Clark at 78s., the forty-five averaging 90s. 10d. The highest priced pen last year was Mr. Herbert Smith's - 82s. 4d.

On Thursday about 300 rams from various and well-known flocks came under the hammer, and the upward tendency which characterised the disposal of the ewes was again apparent, as the following details of the sheep sales will show:—Mr. M. G. Hale consigned fifteen, the highest prices paid being for five ram lambs by Claydon Chevcley 2nd. One sold for £16, three at £14, and one at £13, the fifteen averaging £10 3s. 8d., as against £7 7s. for the same number last year. Mr. J. W. Eagle sent thirty-six ram lambs from his flock at Walton-on-Naze, a choice lamb by Walton Burton 3rd, making 29 guineas, one by Beaumont Lion 18 guineas, and others 16 (twice) and 17 guineas, the thirty-six averaging £10 11s. 9d., against £9 12s. 6d. for the same number last year. Mr. S. R. Sherwood had a consignment of twenty-seven ram lambs, four by Playford Model 3rd going at 25 guineas, 20 guineas, 24 guineas, and 15 guineas, and the same number by Playford Model 5th, 25 guineas, 20 guineas, and 15 guineas (twice). Magnet, a prize-winning lamb by Playford Model 4th, was secured by Mr. D. Price Powell, Radwinter, at 28 guineas, while another by Playford Model 5th fetched 21 guineas, and a grand lamb by Playford Sibton 34 guineas, to Messrs. Webb and Sons, Combs. The twenty-seven averaged £17 9s. 7d., against £12 4s. 8d. for twenty-three last year. Mr. D. Abbott Green's consignment of eighteen made the satisfactory average of £18 8s., against an average last year of £12 0s. 3d., the top price being 41 guineas, given by Mr. C. S. Wentworth-Reeve for a lamb by Grange Persimmon 9th, Mr. Lomas, Herringswell, gave 28 guineas for the ram lamb by Fingringhoe Grange 1st, Mr. Henry Dunn (for the Marquess of Bristol) gave 25 guineas for another by the same sire, while Mr. A. Smith purchased one at 26 guineas. Mr. Thomas Keeble sent eighteen ram lambs, one by Bentley Bugler, being purchased by Mr. Cattle for Mr. Walter Greene, at 25 guineas. Mr. H. Lilley, Claeton, secured another at 23 guineas, Colonel Groome, Stiffkey, one at 25 guineas, Sir E. Walter Greene one at 22 guineas, and Mr. Giles another at 23 guineas. Mr. J. R. Keeble, Brantham Hall, sent nine ram lambs, which averaged £10 8s. 10d, the same number last year averaging £10 4s. 2d.

Mr. Herbert E. Smith, Walton Grange, was, as usual, one of the largest consignors. A nice ram lamb by Grange Bismarck 6th—in the first prize pen at the Royal Show—was purchased by Mr. W. F. Paul, Kirton Lodge, at 36 guineas, and Mr. A. Charles, Leicestershire, gave 31 guineas for a lamb by Grange Earl 14th, also in the first prize pen at the Royal. Mr. Clement C. Smith, Trimley, paid 20 guineas for one by Grange Bismarck 8th, and 30 guineas for another by Grange Persimmon 10th; Mr. Walters a like sum for one by Grange Bismarck 6th; twenty-four making the good average of £16 6s. 9d., against an average of twenty last year of £16 18s. 1d. Mr. Thomas Goodchild, Great Yeldham Hall, sent nine, which averaged £11 18s. against an average for five last year of £5 19s 8d. One of Thursday's consignments, a ram lamb by Gunhoe, was purchased by Mr. Rowbottom for the Hon. A. E. Fellowes, at 18 guineas. Mr. Arthur H. Stanford, Beaumont Hall, had a nice lot of nine which averaged £15 15s. 8d., against £8 8s. for the same number last year; one lamb, by Dedham Premier 2nd, going on this occasion to Mr. Wentworth-Reeve at 25 guineas, and another to Mr. J. H. Dawson at 23 guineas. Mr. Clement C. Smith, Trimley, sent seven ram lambs, which averaged £12, against an average of £5 14s. 2d. for five last year.

Dryfield.

Several lots of gimmer shearlings of the Leicester type for breeding purposes were sold at Driffield Cattle Market on Wednesday. Messrs. F. Cook and Sons sold four pens from Mr. Featherstone, of Langtoft, which made 49s. to 50s., two pens from Mr. Harrison's flock at Broadedale

realised 51s. 6d., and 40 from Mr. F. Cook's Nab Farm, Fimber, made 48s. to 49s. 6d. each. Messrs. Horby and Wilberfoss sold consignments of gimmer shearlings from Mr. A. Botterill, Garton-on-the-Wolds, at 49s. to 59s. 6d, and a lot from Mr. T. Kay, of Garton, made up to 54s. each.

Tiverton.

The annual sale of Devon long-woolled rams, the property of well-known breeders in the Tiverton district, was held in the Tiverton show-field on Tuesday, and attracted a big company of buyers. Mr. R. Cook, of Chevithorne Barton, Tiverton, sold 22 rams at an average price of £16 16s. One fine animal was knocked down to Mr. Skinner, of Bishop's Lydeard, for 35 guineas, and another to Mr. E Chave, of Widhaye, Tiverton, for 36 guineas. Mr. Thorne, of Williton, was a purchaser at 27 guineas, Mr. Hawkins, of Honiton Clyst, 22 guineas, and Mr. Hartley, of Ottery St. Mary, at the same figure. Of Mr. J. G. Pedler's 18 rams the best price was 20 guineas, Mr. Beedell, of Newton St. Cyres, being the purchaser. Mr. R. Fowler sold 7 rams, top price, 8 guineas; Mr. R. Pearce disposed of 16, making from 5½ to 12½ guineas; Messrs H. and W. Sprague sold four at from 6½ to 11 guineas; and Mr. J. Rowell four at from 5½ to 8 guineas.

Weyhill.

About 9,000 sheep and lambs were penned at Weyhill Sheep Fair, which is a most popular one in the South, and, as usual, was largely attended. Most of the animals were sold by auctioneers. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, of Salisbury, held as usual a series of important ram sales, including consignments from the well-known Hampshire Down flocks belonging to Mr. H. C Stephens Marquis of Winchester, and Mr. F. A. Holman From Mr. Stephens's flock six lambs were let at an average of £26 15s., Lord Rothschild taking one at 55 guineas, Mr. Dibben one at 42 guineas, and Mr. T. F. Buxton another at 26 guineas. Of the selling lambs, Mr. Rand (for Sir G. Cooper) bought at 30 guineas and 26 guineas, Mr. Vernon at 21 guineas, Mr. Enseus (Germany) at 16 guineas, 15 guineas, and 13 guineas, others going at prices up to 13 guineas. The average of the forty-five let and sold worked out at £13 1s. per head.

Sixty-five ram lambs were let or sold for the Marquis of Winchester at an average of £8 4s, the best prices for letting being 34 guineas (Mr. Flower) and 16 guineas (Mr. Careyfoles), the others going at from 10 guineas downwards whilst the chief sales were one at 26 guineas, bought by Mr. T. Lavington, and another at 20 guineas, Mr. Goldsmith. Mr. F. A. Holman had a choice selection of ram lambs from his Dunley Manor flock, and for four lambs let got the fine average of £28 17s. 6d, Lord Rothschild hiring No 1 at 50 guineas, Mr. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearce) No. 2 at 12 guineas, Mr. Drake No. 3 at 38 guineas, and Mr. Bragg No. 4 at 10 guineas. Of the sale lambs Mr. C. Coles bought at 50 guineas, Mr. E. A. Edney at 20 guineas and 14 guineas, Mr. Goldsmith at 17 guineas, and others at prices up to 13 guineas, the average of forty-three let and sold being £11 2s.

Other auctioneers also held sales at which the general range of prices was as follows:—Rams, 30s. to 72s.; two-tooth ewes from 35s. to 55s.; fat ewes, 37s. 6d.; six-tooth ewes, 44s. 6d. to 47s.; wether lambs, 34s. 6d. to 40s.; mixed lambs, 23s. 6d. to 35s 6d.; chilver lambs, 33s. 6d, to 37s.; ewes (mixed ages), 34s; draft ewes. 28s. to 44s.; grazing ewes, 27s. to 37s. 6d.

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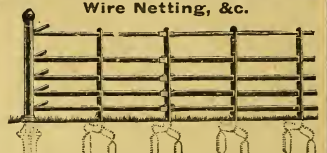

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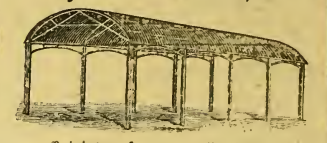

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FINEST QUALITY brand new Galvanised Corrugated Sheets from 12s. 6d. per cwt. Ditto, slightly defective, from 11s. 6d. per cwt.—DAVID & Co., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

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SEED POTATOES.—From healthy, selected crops. Scotch Yorkshire or Lincolnshire grown. Quotations for autumn or spring delivery.—For prices apply, W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

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SEEDS of GILLIES' CELEBRATED STOCKS, warranted First-class.—Early Large Yorks, Lates or Drumheads, Savoys, Curled Greens, Imperial Early M'Ewan, also selected Brussels Sprouts, 12s. per stone; £4 per cwt.; Lates or Drumheads, £37 10s. per half ton; £70 per ton. Prepayment or banker's reference from new customers. —GILLIES, Northfield, Prestonpans. Largest Cabbage plant grower in the world; largest market gardener in Scotland.

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ARNOLD'S GIANT PURPLE FLATPOLL.—The best in cultivation, have been grown 70 and 80 lbs. each; stands the severest winters without cracking, and provides an immense bulk of nutritious food in the late spring and early summer, when it is generally scarce with the farmer. Drill 60 lbs. per acre, sow 1 lb. to transplant. Per lb., 5s.—ERNEST C. ARNOLD, Seed Merchant, Plymouth.

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HIS GRACE The DUKE OF RICHMOND and GORDON, K.G., will OFFER for SALE on AUGUST 9 NEXT, at Messrs. STRIDE and SON'S SALE in CHICHESTER MARKET, the following lots, which form a first-class draft from this old-established prize-winning flock, viz.:—

15 GRAND SHEARLING RAMS,
10 RAM LAMBS,
100 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES,
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There will also be offered on the same date, at Messrs. HOBGEN'S SALE in CHICHESTER MARKET, 8 FIRST-CLASS SHEARLING RAMS.

The flock can be seen at any time by appointment with
W. S. MACWILLIAM,
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SOCIETIES.

NORTH LONSDALE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.
ULVERSTON.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1906.
Local Classes in all sections.
Open Classes for Hunters, Hackneys, and Leapers.
Entries close Thursday, August 9.
Schedules (state Section) from
W. C. KENDALL, Ulverston.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—August 6, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK.

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat harvest has been proceeding in southern England under very favourable conditions, and, except on the hot chalk lands, is a good yield. In East Anglia the beginning of wheat cutting is fixed, as a rule, for to-day (Monday) and in Yorkshire for a week hence. In the West of England harvest is decidedly late. The last reports to hand indicate very good promise in Hereford and all along the Welsh border. There are also some extremely encouraging reports from Yorkshire, Durham, Northumberland, and the Lothians. Barley has improved very noticeably during the past fortnight, and should give very good results in such important counties as Suffolk, Cambridge, Gloucester, Wilts, and Somerset. Oats need rain, but have been refreshed by passing thunderstorms in many districts. Beans are on the whole a good crop this year, especially in Cambridge, Huntingdon, Oxford, Dorset, and Lancashire. In Cheshire, however, they are oddly disappointing. But they always are a capricious crop. Potatoes promise a fair average yield, and so do roots, but of these crops it is as yet too early to speak with any confidence. Hops, of course, are the great disappointment of the year.

The American Bureau report of the 11th was issued too late in the week to influence its trade, but on the whole it is against sellers both of wheat and maize, and we must be prepared for American bearing the market for a while. That American influences will persist on the side of the buyer we do not anticipate, but the first rush of new wheat deliveries may force the hands of holders. As to maize, its improved aspect as a growing crop makes holders of old corn more ready to sell than they were in July, but the American is not the master of this trade as he used to be. Buenos Aires has a greater voice in determining value than New York, and so long as Argentina ships over a million quarters of maize monthly, the United States will find it difficult to get more than a halfpenny per lb. for Indian corn. This is bedrock value, and, naturally, the wealthy operators of the States resist. American oats are reckoned a small crop this year; 828 bushels where 908 bushels were grown last year. On the other hand, it is estimated that 710 bushels of the old crop are in hand, where, at this time last year, only 620 bushels were in reserve. Barley is now said to be over an average crop.

The total wheat crop of the United States now stands, according to the latest estimate, as follows:—

Winter wheat	493,434,000 bushels.
Spring wheat	278,830,000 bushels.
Total	772,264,000 bushels.

The crops of recent years have been as follows:—

1905.....	692,980,000 bushels.
1904.....	553,000,000 ,,
1903..... ...	637,800,000 ,,
1902.....	670,063,000 ,,
1901..... ..	748,460,000 ,,

Thus the surplus promised for export in 1906-7 is a good deal larger than had been anticipated.

The maize crop is thus estimated:—

1906 estimate ...	2,713,000,000 bushels.
1905 return	2,708,000,000 ,,
1904 ,, ...	2,467,000,000 ,,
1903 ,, ...	2,244,000,000 ,,
1902 ,, ...	2,523,000,000 ,,
1901 ,, ...	1,522,519,000 ,,

The promise of the growing potatoes in America is a little above the average, 890 bushels being expected, where 863 is the average on a specific area. The buckwheat crop is a short one this year in America.

Prices since the resumption of business on the 7th have not been favourable to holders of grain at the British markets. There has been 6d per qr. decline in foreign wheat almost everywhere, and 1s. fall has been sometimes admitted in Blue Stem, Walla Walla, White Kurrachee, and American Red Winter, the only sale of foreign wheats which are firmly held are fine Manitoba and Canadian high quality, Russian Winter, and the best Australian. The Argentine wheat on spot is offered at low prices, but this branch of the market is hardening a little for futures. The maize market is depressed, as we have seen by reason of the Argentine shipments. Russian barley is scarce on spot, but demand is small, and prices are not altered. New Tasmanian barley is offered at an attractively low price. For cheap Russian oats there is next to no inquiry, and prices are 3d. lower from the very reduced quotations ruling before the Bank Holiday. Canary seed is wonderfully cheap, and becomes almost worth consideration as pulse where small but extremely concentrated and nutritious grain is applicable. The flour markets are 6d. per sack lower on the week in the provinces which had not previously admitted the decline that took place in London just before the holidays.

The sales of British wheat this season have been good, and the price has been somewhat lowered by the presence of samples on sale.

This season .....2,899,000 qr. at 28s. 9d. per qr.
Last ,, ...1,618,000 ,, 30s. 9d. ,,

The sales of British barley have been a full average, but the price has been 9d. under the mean.

This season .....3,199,000 qr. at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ...3,133,000 ,, 24s. 8d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been remarkably small, and buyers having but few samples to choose from, have had to pay substantially higher prices.

This season .... 909,000 qr. at 18s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, ...1,135,000 ,, 17s. 1d. ,,

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:

Wheat, 595,000 qr.: a very large supply.
Flour, 112,800 sks.: a fair supply.
Barley, 76,000 qr.: less than usual.
Oats, 120,000 qr.: a good supply.
Maize, 237,000 qr.: large arrivals.

Imports of breadstuffs since harvest have been as follows:—

Wheat	20,517,000 qr.
Flour	4,453,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	24,970,000 qr.
Last season	26,500,000 qr.

The supplies of wheat on passage are now as follows:—Californian, 250,000 qr.; American, 270,000 qr.; Russian, 100,000 qr.; Indian, 870,000 qr.; Argentine, 390,000 qr.; Australasian, 440,000 qr.; various, 25,000 qr.; total, 2,345,000 qr.

The quantity of flour on passage has increased to 193,000 sacks, but is still much below the mean. Of barley only 180,000 qr. (of which 80,000 are Russian) are on passage, but 475,000 qr. of oats and 1,205,000 qr. of maize are much above average expectations. The maize is thus divided: Argentine, 1,020,000 qr.; American, 85,000 qr.; Russian, 100,000 qr.; total, 1,205,000 qr.

The Russian includes Roumanian and Bulgarian. The supplies of other staples on passage include 129,000 qr. of linseed, 22,000 qr. of rapeseed, 24,000 tons of cottonseed, 10,000 qr. of beans, 15,000 qr. of peas, and 20,000 tons of rice.

America last week sent off a somewhat larger supply of wheat, 200,000 qr. of the new winter wheat crop leaving for European ports, including the United Kingdom. Other American shipments were:—Barely, 10,000 qr.; oats, 5,000 qr.; maize, 85,000 qr.; and flour, 110,000 sacks.

Argentina continues to be the chief shipper of maize, last week's figures being: Wheat, 123,000 qr.; maize, 323,000 qr.; and linseed, 45,000 qr.

Russia seems to have a prodigious store of old oats, last week's shipments being 522,000 qr. Other shipments were 131,000 qr. of wheat, 220,000 qr. of barley, and 3,000 qr. of maize. Roumania added 66,000 qr. of wheat, 40,000 qr. of barley, and 100,000 qr. of maize.

The shipments of wheat from India were again nearly all from Kurrachee. The total was 205,000 qr.—viz., Kurrachee 201,000 qr., Bombay 4,000 qr., and Calcutta *nil*. Linseed shipments were 6,000 qr. only. Australian shipments dropped last week to 8,000 qr. of wheat. The only other shipment of importance last week was 30,000 qr. of barley from Asia Minor, being New Smyrna, Ouchak Phrygian, and Sea of Marmora grain.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—There were much larger supplies along at earlier part of week, and with a holiday feeling in evidence trade was of a very quiet description; during the last two days, however, a much better demand has sprung up, and the trading finishes up very steady at last week's full prices. Deliveries of old crop are getting down to a very low level, and old hay is a very firm trade; old clovers and mixtures also find a ready sale at top prices. The value of new stuff is gradually creeping up to that of old, and present differences in prices of best hays are about 5s. to 7s. 6d. per ton, and on best clovers and mixtures 10s. per ton. In fact, some users are already preferring new to old; although this season's crop in the south is a poor one as regards quantity, it has been mostly saved in splendid condition, and of first-class quality.

The straw trade has been very bad this week; excessive supplies have come along, and prices have had to be reduced 1s. to 2s. per load in order to effect sales. In the foreign market there has hardly been so much doing; large deliveries have come along, but mostly against old purchases. Canadian mixture is a slow trade with prices slightly easier, while other qualities are quiet at about last week's currencies.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English old crop best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 60s to 67s 6d per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior clover, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 87s 6d to 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; seconds mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 26s per load; oat straw, 26s per load; barley straw, 27s per load, all ex rail London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 77s per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s per ton; Algerian hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton. French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 75s to 80s per ton; large bale wheat straw, 54s 6d per ton; small bale wheat and straw, 41s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes have been receeding a little in value since the 7th, and on the 11th averaged 6d. lower from the 2nd. The prices accepted included Azima best, 31s. 6d. per 492 lb.; Odessa Ghurka, 30s. per 492 lb.; Hard Taganrog, 28s. 6d. per 492 lb.; Victorian, 30s. 9d. per 480 lb.; Rosario, 29s. 3d. per 480 lb.; Red Winter, 28s. 3d. per 480 lb.; Hard Winter, 28s. per 480 lb.; Roumanian, 28s. 9d. per 492 lb.; and Bulgarian, 28s. 3d. per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes have declined 3d. since the beginning of August. On Saturday 20s. per 480 lb. was accepted for Argentine and 21s. 3d. for Odessa.

Barley cargoes have been neglected as a rule, but a cargo of Californian for October shipment was sold on Friday for 25s. 9d. per 448 lb. and one of Russian, also for October shipment, for 18s. per 400 lb.

Other cargo sales have included Smyrna beans at 30s 6d. per 480 lb., Vologda oats at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb, white Calcutta peas at 33s. per 504 lb., and Calcutta linseed at 41s. 9d. per 400 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association c. f. i. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts are as follows, viz.:—*via* Canal.

Crop 1906.—Choice white Karachi 29s., soft red Karachi, 28s. 6d. These prices will remain in force until fresh quotations are officially issued.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 1 wheat (Tacoma).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 14 wheat (3 Birkenhead, 3 Cardiff, 1 Dublin, 1 Dunkirk, 1 Hull, 2 Limerick, 1 Plymouth, 1 Swansea, and 1 Waterford).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 200 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 1 barley, 3 maize, 1 locust beans, and 23 linseed; total, 230.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 253 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 43 linseed; total, 333.

VETERINARY PREPARATIONS, and Small Articles of a Portable Character, sell readily when brought regularly before the readers of the "Mark Lane Express."

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—English wheat firm, quiet. Reds quoted at 30s 6d, 33s 6d; whites, 31s, 34s. Foreign steady, about unchanged prices. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 29s 9d to 30s 3d, landed at 30s 6d, 33s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 6d, No. 2 at 31s, No. 3 at 30s 6d; choice white Karachi at 29s; soft red Karachi as 28s 6d, all ex ship, to arrive. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize quiet, unchanged. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 9d, landed at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 6d, 20s 9d; landed at 21s 3d. Barley firm, but quiet; supplies small. Odessi-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 9d; landed at 19s. 3d. American landed at 19s 3d. Oats dull, with an easier tendency. Russians quoted at 15s 3d to 15s 9d; American at 16s 6d to 17s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat, English, steady, quiet. Foreign in poor request at 3d decline. South Russians quoted at 29s 6d to 33s, ex ship, 30s 3d to 33s, ex store; Persians at 31s to 32s 6d; Plata at 31s to 32s, landed; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 6d; No. 2 at 31s; No. 3 at 30s 6d, all ex ship to arrive. Flour dull and unchanged. Minnesota patents were quoted at 24s 6d; bakers at 19s 6d to 20s; Iron Dukes, ex ship, at 19s 6d; landed, at 20s. Maize dull, easier tendency; mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 6d to 20s 9d; landed, at 21s 3d. Barley, firm but quiet; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 9d to 19s; landed, at 19s 6d. Oats slow and lower to sell; Russians quoted at 15s 3d to 15s 9d; Americans at 17s to 17s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Attendance small; little trade done. New black winter oats were on offer and quoted at 20s to 21s, while 31s was asked for new sample of grey peas; wheat, 32s to 34s; English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; foreign grinding barley, 21s to 23s; Magazan beans, 32s to 34s; English white oats, 22s to 24s; black, 20s to 23s.

Banbury, Thursday. — Wheat, white (old) 30s. to 32s. per qr; red (old), 31s to 32s per qr; barley (old), 28s to 30s per qr; beans (old), 33s to 34s per qr; oats (old), 21s to 26s per qr; peas, 30s to 32s per qr; peas (old), 30s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—The corn market was similar to that of last week, with no samples of grain on offer.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was only a small attendance at this market, and business was very quiet. Foreign wheats were about 3d per qr lower, with a slow demand. River Plate maize was 3d per qr down, and flat 9d. Grinding barley was offered at 19s per 400 lb at Sharpness, being 3d easier on the week. There were several samples of new black winter oats, which made from 18s to 18s 6d per 312 lb delivered; one sample of new white oats, for which 20s per qr was asked. For old white oats 22s to 22s 6d was required. Beans 13s 3d to 13s 6d per 196 lb.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade and very small attendance. A very samples of new corn were shown. New white wheat, 30s. to 31s.; old white ditto, 33s. to 34s.; old red ditto, 33s. to 34s.; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; old oats, English 19s to 22s; new black winter oats, 19s to 20s; beans, 32s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a small attendance on our market to-day. English wheat, no samples offering yet. Foreign wheat unchanged. Maize and oats unaltered. Barley, the turn lower. Flour firm, but doing little. — GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday.—Wheat: Old corn was hardly offered, and nominally unchanged. One or two samples of new were on the market, and some business was done at 30s 6d to 31s per qr, but there is hardly sufficient business doing at present to quote values. The quality of the new crop is undoubtedly very fine. As to the yield, we can hardly speak with authority at present. For feeding corns the market was dull, with new oats offered lower. Maize was the turn lower at 22s 3d per qr delivered for round Argentine.

Canterbury, Saturday. — New corn more plentiful, but prices have not yet settled down. Black winter oats of seed quality, and scaling 44 lb, sold at 20s, and white oats of 42 lb at 19s. New grey peas were offered at from 30s to 31s, but buyers were difficult to find at the latter price. Some 64 lb new wheats were held for 31s 6d, but others changed hands at 31s.

Chester, Saturday.—There was an absence of samples of English grain, the values of which remain unaltered. The dry weather has increased the demand for feeding stuffs, and late rates are fully maintained. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75 lb; barley, grinding, old, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; beans, new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; old, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 12s to 12s 6d; old, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 12s to 12s 6d per 240 lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, old crop exhausted. New grain of all kinds offered. Wheat, 29s to 30s; oats, 17s to 18s; peas, 29s; rye, 24s.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A small attendance. Very few lots of wheat were on offer, and prices were nominally unchanged. New oats were shown of very good condition and quality. Beans firm at late rates. Quotations: Wheat, 12s to 12s 9d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb; beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d.

Derby, Friday.—Very little corn on offer, and prices continued firm at late rates. Quotations: White wheat, 32s to 34s; red, 31s to 32s; old beans, 34s to 35s; oats, 22s to 24s.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a fair attendance. No Irish wheat or barley. Oats slow; new samples increasing, but no material business. Flour in quiet demand. Oatmeal firm. Quotations:—Oats, 12s 3d to 13s 9d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d

Doncaster, Saturday.—Scarcely any English wheat showing, and not much demand. Prices from 11s 6d to 12s per load. Foreign wheat quiet at last week's rates A few samples of new wheat from Cambridgeshire were shown, but the carriage rates made business prohibitive. Some new oats were shown in excellent condition, prices being from 17s 6d to 18s per qr. Old oats were a shade dearer, but maize and beans made previous rates.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Only a very small attendance at to-day's corn market and an equally limited offer of corn, wheat as well as most other articles being almost, if not quite, exhausted. The little foreign wheat on the market met a quiet sale at 3d to 6d per qr less. Grinding barley brings late values. Prices of feeding stuffs remain nominal, with scarcely any demand. The harvest is now general all over Dorset, and great progress is being made with the stacking of the corn, which, so far, has been got together in excellent condition, whilst the crops are turning out far better than had even been anticipated. A few new samples of new winter barley, oats and rye were shown to-day.

Glasgow, Friday.—The market to-day is very quiet for everything, and no change has to be noted. Millers are holding off from buying wheat, while importers who have bought American flour are finding that bakers will not operate, as they hope to secure their requirements on easier terms. Mixed American maize is quoted at 13s 3d and Plate ditto at 12s 4½d per 280 lb. Feeding stuffs dull.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat firm, and flour, if anything, in buyers' favour. Indian corn 3d dearer on the week, while maize is 1½d easier. Beans and pease unchanged. Other articles of the trade quiet at nominally unchanged prices.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday. — No English wheat on offer. Foreign wheat unchanged to 3d cheaper; River Plates, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; Russians, 30s 6d to 32s. River Plate maize unchanged, at 20s 9d to 21s; flat maize unchanged, at 22s; Bessarabian unchanged, at 21s 6d per qr.

Grantham, Saturday.—The attendance was small, farmers being busy with the harvest, and practically no new corn was offered. The frequent showers during the present week have hindered the progress of harvest operations, but, given fine weather, the bulk of the corn should be in sheaves during the coming week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, farmers being mostly engaged in harvesting operations. Some new samples of winter-grown oats were shown in excellent condition, and these changed hands. Wheats and barleys remained unchanged. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 62 lb.; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb.; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Old wheat was nominally unchanged, at about 32s per qr. From samples shown, the new crop looks like being very fine in quality. A few samples changed hands in really fine condition, threshed out straight from the field, and sold at about 31s per 504 lb delivered at Ipswich. Oats unchanged on the week; some new tares were sold at 25s to 26s per coomb, and a sample of new rye at 11s 9d per coomb on the line. Maize unchanged; round at 21s 6d per qr. Other feeding corns unaltered. Linseed cakes and milling stuffs all very firm on the week.

Leeds, Friday.—To supply the wants of local buyers whose stocks had run short owing to the closing of the Corn Exchange on Tuesday several leading offices were reopened, and fair orders were placed for both English and foreign wheats. Prices of beans, peas, oats, and flour were at late values.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small attendance, and trade very quiet. No new samples of English wheat were shown, though harvest operations are in full swing in the district. Foreign wheats unaltered. Feeding stuffs dearer on the week.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat—There has been a moderate attendance of millers at the market. Wheat, however, is quiet with prices generally ½d lower for all descriptions. Flour is quiet with only a small business passing in local and foreign milled at unchanged prices. Maize—Mixed is steady with a moderate trade at about last Tuesday's rates. Plate ready for delivery scarce, and a full ½d dearer with a fair demand. European sorts quiet, unchanged. Barley—Malting is scarce and in sellers' favour. Feeding firm at ½d advance. Beans are very firm at full prices, with a small trade passing. Peas steady and the turn dearer. Oats are quiet and the turn lower with more offering. Oatmeal quiet, unchanged. Oil-cake is firmer owing to a better demand, but quotations are unaltered.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Trade quiet to-day, as the hot weather produces indisposition to operate in corn. Some new wheat, but price hardly fixed yet, about 30s. to 32s.; but millers do not peck much yet. Barley is rather dearer, as foreign supplies are small and millers offal scarce; it is required for meal. The cost of oats about 3d per qr less than last week. No change in beans or peas, nor any alteration in brank, hemp, rye, serge, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—One or two lots of English new wheat were quoted at 30s on rails. Foreign easier, and in buyers' favour. Flour quiet and unchanged. Indian corn ¼d to ½d per cental dearer. Oats steady. New English peas in moderate supply, but the demand only small. Beans firm, and upward tendency. Bran, thirds, and other articles about 6d per load dearer.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday. — A very quiet demand prevailed at our to-day's market for wheats; prices in the favour of buyers. Maize steady at late rates. Peas and beans remain firm at last Saturday's quotations, demand, however, is not active. Fine quality of Scotch oats are held for fully last week's quotations; common sorts, however, are difficult to dispose of, even at a slight reduction; foreign steady at late rates. No barley offering.—J. POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat unchanged on the week. Barley and maize unaltered. Flour, fine, 23s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday. — Small attendance and slow trade. No new corn on offer. Wheat, 31s to 32s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 21s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—The only sample of new English wheat offering was not in condition. Old about cleared. Foreign held for slight advance. Grinding barley steady at full rates. Old oats and beans but few offering and values well supported. The few samples of new oats were of fair quality and good condition. Prices irregular.—ROB. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Weather has been chiefly fine this week, and harvest work is in full progress. An odd sample or two of new wheat, showing quality good, and which made from 28s to 29s per qr. A few new winter oats offering, for which there was a slow sale at a little less money, —THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston, Saturday.—Prices remain nominally unchanged in the absence of supplies of farmers' wheat and other grain. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 14s 3d; ditto red, 13s 6d to 14s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—Attendance rather below the average, with business again somewhat disappointing. A small quantity of new wheat realised from 32s to 33s, whilst old was a trifle easier than last week. Grinding barley sold at 26s to 28s 6d, and the best price for new oats was 18s, and old 22s 6d.

Retford, Saturday. — There was only one sample of new wheat, rain having hindered thrashing operations. It was of good quality, and made 30s. Old wheat was scarce, and sold at 30s to 31s. A few lots of new winter oats changed hand at 17s to 18s; old ditto, to 24s per 24 stones; round maize, 24s to 25s per 34 stones. English beans dearer. Wheat is turning out well, and barley on good land is promising.

Ripon, Thursday.—Owing to the Yorkshire Show there was a poor attendance and scarcely any business passing. Prices:—Wheat, 30s to 31s; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 29s;

oats, 21s to 22s 6d; maize, round, 23s to 24s; ditto flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Stamford, Friday.—Attendance restricted, many agriculturists being busy with the harvest. Trade was a little quicter. Samples of new wheat were offered for the first time, but were not of really good quality, and prices were fully 2s per qr less than at the opening of last season. Most of the samples bore traces of the recent rain. Best wheat commanded only 29s per qr, and farmers were unwilling to part at that figure. New winter oats were lower at 16s to 17s per qr. Peas scarce and dear.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no local wheat showing. Foreign wheat quiet and unchanged. Oats and maize also without alteration.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering. Wheat quiet and unchanged. Barley and oats steady. Arrivals nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little wheat shown, but there were a few samples of new oats on the market. White wheat made from 31s to 32s; red ditto, 30s to 31s; barley, 23s to 28s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 19s to 21s; old black oats, 22s to 23s; new ditto, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; maize, 24s to 25s 6d; beans, 35s to 36s per qr; flour, 1s 1½d to 1s 4d per stone; fine sharps, £5 5s to £6 per ton; barley meal, £6 to £6 5s per ton; bran, £5 5s to £6 5s per ton.

Winchester, Saturday.—Old English wheat practically exhausted. Foreign quiet. Barley and oats unaltered. Spot maize 3d cheaper. Flour steady at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little doing at market to-day. Prices unchanged. No new grain yet ready for market, weather being showery.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a holiday attendance, and little business was transacted at practically last week's quotations.

York. Saturday.—Very little grain on offer, farmers being as busily engaged in harvesting as inclement weather will permit. Prices nominally unchanged. Fine white wheat, 31s to 32s; red and mixed, 30s to 31s per qr of 36 stone. Feeding barley, 24s to 26s per qr of 32 stone. Oats, white Tartary 19s to 20s; ditto, black, 20s to 21s. White Garton 21s to 22s per qr of 24 stone. Rye 24s; beans 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather is rather unsettled here, and cool; this will hinder to secure the balance of our crop in perfect condition, and the colour of those barleys still in the fields will suffer, but the quantity cannot be large. Offers of Bohemians are increasing, and this deseription is sure to take the lead this season. It is of nice pale colour, and prices moderate, whilst all Hungarians are more or less yellow, and relatively dear.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The present rainy weather is endangering the outstanding crops. Rye is mostly secured, but much wheat, barley, and oats is still on the fields. A good amount of business has been done in new German wheat, and the demand continues, but owing to the rainy weather sellers have withdrawn from the market. For 61-62 lb Upland Aug.-Sept. delivery 28s 3d per 504 lb was paid, duty deducted; River Plate, afloat, is offering at 28s 9d to 30s; American hard winter, No. 2, at 28s 9d to 30s; American hard winter, No. 2, at 28s 6d; Western red winter, No. 2, afloat, at 27s 9d per 480 lb, c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye firm in value, 91½°; Nicolaieff on the spot is held at 22s 9d, 9 15/20 afloat at 22s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Fine new German rye 23s to 23s 6d per 480 lb, f.o.b. Cutting of barley has commenced in this country and is likely to turn out a good result as regards quantity, while quality will vary considerably. Offers from Bohemia are increasing; samples showing good colour, and mostly a well-filled grain. Prices range from 29s up to 35s for the choice quality, August - September shipment per barge from Bohemia. Hungarian barley shows rather dark colour, and fine lots will be very scarce this season. Slovakian is offering at 30s 6d to 35s 6d. per 448 lb f o.b. In Austria and Hungary a bonus was proposed on exported barley, but it is not likely to be carried through. Feeding barley in demand and dearer; 60/61 Kg South Russian on the spot is selling at 18s 3d to 18s 6d, prompt shipment, 17s 6d to 17s 9d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize quiet. Mixed American, 21s 6d to 22s; River Plate, 20s 3d to 20s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 11, 1906:—

Wheat	2,304,100 cwts.
Wheat-flour	209,800 ,,
Barley	170,400 ,,
Oats	300,890 ,,
Maize	1,183,600 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat	2,186,000	1,584,230	1,861,610	1,547,281
Wheat-flour	141,800	316,000	337,349	317,466
Barley	152,600	614,500	348,273	240,482
Oats	408,600	326,800	407,166	145,170
Maize	828,800	821,700	806,318	1,022,626

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Aug. 1 to 8 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	500	18,070	18,570
Barley	—	2,000	2,000
Malt	15,000	270	15,270
Oats	100	10,210	10,310
Rye	100	200	300
Beans	50	100	150
Peas	100	9 300	9,400
Maize	—	14,540	14,540
Buckwheat	—	487	487
Lentils	—	3,000	3,000
Haricots	—	208	208
Dholl	—	1,640	1,640
Hempseed	—	280	280
Linseed	—	26,000	26,000
Cottonseed ... tons	—	4,000	4,000
Flour ... sacks	12,000	19,000	31,000
Middlings ,,	—	9,200	9,290
Ryemeal ,,	—	200	200
Ricemeal ,,	—	10,000	10,000

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.	
September 1..	(per sack) 30	0	...(per sack) 27	0
,, 13..	,, 29	0	... ,, 26	0
October 11...	,, 28	0	... ,, 25	0
November 3...	,, 30	0	... ,, 27	0
,, 29...	,, 29	9	... ,, 26	9
December 11...	,, 30	0	... ,, 27	0
January 31...	,, 29	9	... ,, 26	9
February 21...	,, 29	6	... ,, 26	6
March 16...	,, 29	0	... ,, 26	0
March 23...	,, 28	3	... ,, 25	3
May 18...	,, 28	0	... ,, 25	0
June 20...	,, 27	9	... ,, 24	9

(No change since last date given.)

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.		1900	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ...	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August			25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...			24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...			25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905.				1906.			
	Wheat	Barley	Oats		Wheat	Barley	Oats	
Jan.	30	5	24	9	16	5	28	6
Feb.	30	7	25	1	16	9	28	10
Mar.	30	10	25	1	16	11	28	5
April	30	9	24	8	17	3	29	1
May	30	10	24	8	18	5	30	2
June	31	8	24	4	19	2	30	4
July	32	0	22	8	18	4	30	4
Aug.	29	6	22	10	16	10	—	—
Sept.	26	10	23	9	16	0	—	—
Oct.	27	1	24	11	16	6	—	—
Nov.	28	3	24	8	17	6	—	—
Dec.	28	5	24	6	18	0	—	—

Imperial Weekly Averages

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1905.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 12	8,184	31	11	548	22	5	8,974	18	4
,, 19	32 715	30	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	11
,, 26	88,636	28	5	6,461	23	6	20,855	16	4
Sept. 2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	24,090	15	9
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	79,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,602	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	23	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 7, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	165	5	269	5	0	1	12	6
Barley	Nil.							
Oats	215	3	200	12	6	18	8	

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending August 4, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	8,928	31	7	256	24	9	1,029	22	2
1903	18,097	29	11	242	20	3	4,892	18	10
1904	16,784	28	4	468	19	9	8,117	17	7
1905	8,184	30	5	548	22	5	8,974	16	11
1906	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,
1905	29 9 ,,	24 4 ,,	17 4 ,,

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday.

The market to-day was weak for foreign wheat, all sorts being cheaper on the fortnight, and the fall being about 9d. in the leading descriptions.

A few rubbed out samples of new English were shown, and 31s. per 504 lb. was the price asked. Quality was good and condition excellent. Barley was neglected for all sorts at barely previous prices.

A few samples of new winter oats made 18s 6d to 20s per qr. Foreign oats receded 3d per qr, and were difficult to place even then. Maize was rather in buyers' favour for yellow and round, but not for flat corn. Beans and peas were extremely scarce, but Dari was in fair offer at the prices of later July. There were a few samples of new rye on sale at 26s, with buyers at 24s 6d per qr.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

August 13.		s.	s.
WHEAT,	White.....(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
	Red..... ,,	31	— 34
	Chicken .....(per 448 lb.)	none	
BARLEY,	Malting.....(per 448 lb.)	none	
	Brewing ..... ,,	none	
	Feeding..... (per 416 lb.)	none	
	,, ...(per 400 lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, Pale	.....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
	Black ..... ,,	28	— 30
OATS, Finest Scots	.....	none	
	Black Winter ..... ,,	none	
	Storm Kings ..... ,,	none	
	Black Pioneers ..... ,,	22	— 23
	Black Tartary..... ,,	22	— 23
	White Gartons..... ,,	21	— 22
	Sound Secondary.....(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
	Ordinary .....(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
	Light .....(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, Essex (Old Crop)	..... (per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
,, New ,,	..... ,,	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	.....(per 504 lb.)	42	— 46
	Tick ..... ,,	39	— 41
	Winter (Old) ..... ,,	37	— 38
	,, (New) ..... ,,	35	— 36
	Spring ..... ,,	36	— 37
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	...(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
	Unpicked ditto ..... ,,	48	— 52
	Dun ..... ,,	33	— 34
	Maple (Old) ..... ,,	none	
	,, (New)..... ,,	35	— 36
TARES (Winter)	.....(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
	(Spring) ..... ,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32 – 32/6	
,, ,, 2	none	
,, ,, 3	none	
American Red	31—32/6	
Argentine ...	31 — 32	
Australian ...	32—32/6	
New Zealand	31—31/6	
Californian ...	32/6 – 33	
Blue Stem ...	32/6 – 33	
Walla Walla	31/9—32	
Saxonka	33 — 34	
Azima	32 — 33	
Ghirka	31—31/6	
Indian White	30—30/6	
,, Red	29/9—30	
Persian.....	29—29/6	
BARLEY:		
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29 — 30	
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	
Russian(400 lb)	19/6— 20	
Am'can (400 lb)	19 —19/3	
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	
Torrified(336 lb)	21 — 22	
MALT (336 lb.):		
Californian ...	33 — 36	
Smyrna	33 — 36	
Ouchak	33 — 36	
RYE (480 lb.):		
Russian	24 — 25	
OATS:		
N'wZeal'd(384 lb)	23 – 25	
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	none	
Am'can (320 lb)	17—17/6	
Libau (320 lb.)	19 — 20	
,, (304 lb.)	15/6—16	
Arg'nt'e(304 lb)	15/6—16	

MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
American	22 9—23	
Argentine	20/9—21	
Bulgarian	21/9—22	
Roumanian ...	22—22/3	
Russian	22/3 22/6	
Rangoon	21—21/6	
North African	22/6 – 23	
BEANS (480 lb.):		
Smyrna	34 — 36	
Konigsberg ...	33 — 35	
New Zealand...	35 — 36	
HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Italian	64 — 72	
Burmese	32 — 42	
Chilian	56 — 64	
LENTILS (cental):		
Split Egyptian	10 — 11	
Whole Indian...	7 — 8	
PEAS (504 lb.):		
Konigsberg ...	44 — 46	
Indian White	35 — 36	
Indian Green	29 — 31	
Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46	
NewZeal'd Maple	39— 40	
Victoria Dun..	33 — 34	
MILLET (416 lb.):		
White	42 — 44	
Yellow	22 — 24	
Sorghum	20 — 22	
RICE (cwt.):		
Indian	14 — 16	
Burmese	9 — 10	
Siamese	8 — 9	
DARI (480 lb.):		
Smyrna	27 — 28	
Indian	26 — 27	
Persian	22 — 24	
BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.):		
French	26 — 27	
Russian	25 — 26	

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday.

The market for London makes was quiet at the concessions of the 3rd inst. The prices which London millers are now accepting are so very moderate that no further modification seems called for, at all events so long as the wheat average is 30s or over.

Country flour was neglected pending makes from new wheat being available. Prices may be given as a fortnight ago in some instances, but most sorts were reduced 6d. on the 3rd, and prices of the last market before the holiday are those still ruling.

American flour declined 3d for good bakers' grades, and Iron Duke was quoted 20s 9d per sack.

There were no changes in Australian or Argentine flour.

French flour was almost completely neglected.

A good business for the time of year continues to pass in bran, pollard, and middlings.

London Flour.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0	nct.
Town Whites ..... ,,	26/3	,,
,, Households ..... ,,	23/3	,,
No. 2..... ,,	21/3	,,
Whole Meal No. 1... ..... ,,	24/3	,,
,, No. 2..... ,,	22/3	,,
Paste Flour..... ,,	20/3	,,

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Best Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites ..... ,,	22	— 23
Ord'y Roller ,, ... ,,	21	— 22
Stone made ..... ,,	21 – 21/6	

Foreign Flour.

	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	24—24/3	
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	23—23/3	
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	21—21/3	
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	20—20/3	
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	24—24/3	
,, Bakers'..... ,,	21—21/3	
Cascadia ..... ,,	25—25/3	
Manitoba Patent ..... ,,	24—24/3	
Manitoba Ordinary ..... ,,	23—23/3	
Hungarian, 0 ..... ,,	29 9—30	
,, 1 ..... ,,	29—29/6	
,, 2 ..... ,,	28—28/6	
,, 3 ..... ,,	27—27/6	
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	23—23/6	
,, Renaux ..... ,,	22—22/6	
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	21—21/9	
Australian ..... ,,	23 — 24	
Argentine ..... ,,	24 — 26	

Meal, &c.

	s.	s.
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	12/6—13	
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	13/6—14	
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	11/6—12	
Pollard ..... ,,	9/6—10	
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	15/6—16	
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	14/6—15	
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	13/6—14	
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	16/6—17	
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	27 — 28	
,, Seconds ..... ,,	25 — 26	
Barley Meal..... ,,	18 — 19	
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	24 — 25	
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	32 — 34	
Groats ..... ,,	33 — 34	
Oat Flour..... ,,	34 — 35	
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	17 — 19	
American Red Dog Flour ..... ,,	14 — 15	
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	18 — 19	
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	15 — 16	
,, Cones ..... ,,	19 — 20	
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	15 — 16	
Rye Flour (Libau) ..... ,,	20 — 21	
,, (Konigsberg) ..... ,,	18 — 19	
Rye Meal..... ,,	17 — 18	
Pea Meal ..... ,,	22 — 23	
Bean Meal ..... ,,	22 — 23	
Locust Bean Meal..... ,,	18 — 19	
Rice Meal ..... ,,	13 — 14	
Rice Flour ..... ,,	19 — 20	
Rice Cones ..... ,,	17 — 18	

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HOT AND CLOSE WEATHER, CLOSED IN FAVOUR OF BUYERS FOR ALL THE LEADING CEREALS.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—A fair demand being experienced in trifolium, both early and late. Samples fine. Prices reasonable. New winter winter tares are now appearing, but prices seem high, which also may be said of the new rape now on offer.—John Picard and Co.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The trade continues in a languid condition, and buyers will only purchase for present requirements, holding off in expectation of American brands coming lower.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues in steady demand; prices firm, and in favour of sellers.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Arrivals of flour are heavy. American mills have still further reduced their prices. Grain.—Round corn 1½d per boll easier. American continues scarce, and is held for 13s 3d per 280 lb. Oats dull. The low prices for Manitobas are the feature. Beans unchanged. Pease very litttle asked for. Oilcake 2s 6d per ton dearer. Mill stuffs—Bran is 2s 6d higher. Thirds very scarce.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Milling offals are scarce and difficult to get anything like prompt delivery, and buyers have to pay full prices.—John Bawcombe and Co.

We have moderate arrivals of wheat and flour—demand is slow, and prices are 3d. to 6d. lower for wheat. Flour is unchanged. Barley on spot scarce, prices unchanged. Maize 3d. lower for plate. Oats moderate arrivals, common quality.—Coventry and Sheppard.

THE BALTIC 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The eargo trade is still decidedly weak for wheat barley, and maize, but the very low prices ruling are beginning to cause an increased enquiry for oats. The oilseed cargo trade is quiet, but by no means depressed.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Roumanian, 28s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; White Kurachee, 29s per 492 lb, on passage; New South Wales, 30s 3d per 480 lb, on passage.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s per 480 lb, arrived; Argentine, 20s 3d per 480 lb, September shipment; Argentine, 20s 9d per 480 lb, November shipment; Roumania, 20s 6d per 480 lb, October shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 18s 6d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Kherson, 10s per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Archangel, 15s per 304 lb, on passage; Vologda, 15s 3d per 304 lb, Sept. shipment; White Libau, 14s per 304 lb, Nov. shipment; Petersburg, 14s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 41s 9d per 410 lb, prompt shipment; Bombay, 43s 3d per 416 lb, September shipment; Argentine, 40s 9d per 416 lb, Septembe shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 per 2,240 lb arrived; Egyptian, £6 18s 9d per 2,240 lb, on passage; Egyptian, £6 13s 9d per 2,240 lb October shipment. Bombay, £5 3s 9d per 2,240 lb January shipment.

TERM MARKET.

The American Bureau report has a bearish effect on fixtures for wheat. Maize fixtures are firm for remote dates, but fairly steady for early autumn.

American Red.

Wheat	.....Sept. delivery,	6s 4d per cental.	
,,	.....Oct. ,,	No sales.	
,,	.....Nov. ,,	No sales.	
,,	..... Dec. ,,	6s 4d per cental.	

	American	Argentine	
Maize	4s 7d	4s 3d	Sept. delivery.
,,	4s 7d	4s 3d	Oct. ,,
,,	4s 8d	4s 4d	Nov. ,,
,,	4s 8d	4s 5d	Dec. ,,

Speculators in new Russian barley offered to take 17s 9d for November delivery this (Monday) morning, which is 3d decline from last week's forward terms.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. — Ample and varied supplies on offer, and business fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes 8d to 3s 6d; peaches, 2s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen; pears, 2s 6d to 4s per half-sieve; apples, 2s 6d to 7s 6d per bushel; green figs, 1s to 4s; nectarines, 2s 6d to 12s per dozen; melons, 9d to 2s; red currants, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; per half sieve; white ditto, 3s to 4s per 12 lb; raspberries, 3s 6d to 5s per dozen punnets; apricots, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; green gages, 9d to 1s 6d per box; ditto, 3s 6d to 8s per half-sieve; plums, 3s 6d to 5s 6d; tomatoes, 2s to 3s; artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; French beans, 2s to 3s; scarlet runners, 1s 3d to 2s; broad beans, 9d; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s 9d per bushel; horseradish, 9s to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; marrows, 1s 6d to 2s per tally; green peas, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per bushel; ditto, 3s 6d to 5s per bag; onions (green), 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12 lb; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per dozen; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per flat; celery, 10s to 12s per dozen rolls; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; sage, 1s to 1s 3d; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s to 2s; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 55s to 75s per ton.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has shown a strong tendency and a much better demand at about:—Alo, 17s; porter, 14s; distillers, 27s 6d; dressed white distillery meal, 32s 6d per ton. Other articles without any particular change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, distillers 112s 6d per ton on rail London; also ale 90s, and mixed 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 72s 6d; Rangoon ricemeal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail or dock London, seller's option.—HAMLYN AND CO.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Staplers are at present offering 13d to 13½d for Kent fleeces, and 9d per lb for lamb wool.

Halifax, Saturday.—Holidays have begun in Halifax, and business is much restricted; but there is confidence, and prices are generally sustained. Firm rates are quoted for home-grown wools, prices here being still somewhat below country rates.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Prices: Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 3s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; goslings, 4s 6d to 6s 6d; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; quails, 9d to 1s 3d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild ditto, 7d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per dozen.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies were on a small scale, and experienced fair support. English Puritans, 65s to 70s; Silts, 65s to 70s; Duke of Yorks, 65s to 70s; Early Rose, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s; Beauty of Hebron, 65s to 70s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Good supply of potatoes at both the public retail markets, and a brisk demand was experienced at 5d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Good supply of potatoes, and a fair demand. Prices ranged from 3s 3s 6d per 8 stones.

Lancaster, Saturday.—There was a good supply of potatoes in the open market, and a fair wholesale trade. Prices: 6s to 7s per load; retail, 5½d to 7d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—A few old potatoes on offer met a slow trade. Good new potatoes made 9d to 1s per stone.

Manchester, Saturday. — Cheshire, new, rounds, 4s to 5s 6d; kidneys, 4s 6d to 6s per load.

Preston, Saturday.—A smaller business was done at 6s 6d per load; new potatoes, 5s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Large supply of home-grown potatoes at 8s to 9s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Short supplies were offered, and met an improved demand. Quotations: English Puritans, 65s to 70s; Duke of Yorks, 70s to 75s; Early Rose, 55s to 60s; Beauty of Hebrons, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshire potatoes £4 to £4 5s per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply, which made from 7s 6d to 8s per load of 18 stones; kidney beans, 1s 2d to 1s 6d per stone.

York, Saturday.—Owing to the commencement of harvesting operations, the arrivals from Lancashire and South Lincolnshire are not so heavy, and in the wholesale market prices are a little firmer, with a steady trade at 47s to 47s 6d per ton retail, and about 2s 3d per hamper of 6 stones.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Aug 13, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Aug. 14, 1905.
Beasts	1,000	1,000	999
Sheep and Lambs	6,450	6,450	7,390
Calves	20	20	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 6
Sheep	3 10	4 8	5 10
Lambs	5 4	6 0	7 2
Calves	3 8	4 6	5 10
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 68; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 890; Devon, 20; Ireland, 22.

We note to-day an increase of 280 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a slow but steady nature, late currencies governing all transactions. The Irish arrivals consisted entirely of Waterford cattle, and met with very little demand. There was an average supply of fat butchering cows and bulls, these met with a steady inquiry from both town and country buyers, sellers in consequence were able to maintain late currencies. A clearance is expected to be made in this part of the market, though not until late in the day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Aug. 14, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		4 6 ex	4 8
Devons	—		—	
Herefords	4 4 ex	4 6	4 0 ex	4 6
Norfolks	—		—	
Runts	4 0 to	4 2	—	
Lincolns	3 8 to	3 10	3 10 to	4 0
Irish	3 8 to	3 10	4 0 to	4 2
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 4 to	3 6	3 4 to	3 6

There was an increase of 530 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a firm and steady nature for both wethers and ewes, sellers experiencing no difficulty in obtaining an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value in most cases. Scotch descriptions were more difficult to vend, even at a decline. Irish were also slow of sale, but cannot be quoted any lower. There was a ready inquiry for small choice grass lambs, late currencies being well maintained; heavy descriptions met with very little inquiry. The supply included 200 Scotch, 980 Irish, and 863 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Aug. 14, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 8 to	5 10	5 8 to	5 10
9 st. Downs	5 6 to	5 8	5 6 to	5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to	5 6	5 2 to	5 4
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 0 to	5 2	5 0 to	5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to	4 2	4 2 to	4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10 to	4 0	4 0 to	4 2
5 st Grass Lambs	7 0 to	7 2	6 4 to	6 6
6 st Halfbred ditto	5 10 to	6 0	5 10 to	6 0

Calves ruled firm and steady both in regard to tone and value, sellers both asking and obtaining an advance of from 2d to 4d per 8 lb. in value; the best on offer were quoted at from 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 8 lb (sinking in offal).

No pigs on the market.

London Central.—Fair supplies, improved demand. Beef, Scotch, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; American, 3s 3d to 3s 7d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. English wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Lamb, English, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Pork, 3s 4d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 889. To-day's supply consisted of 563 beasts from the United States and 326 from Canada. Trade was of a slow nature at a decline in value. Prices of the former were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; Canadians, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; seconds, 3s 3d to 3s 5d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,882 beasts from the United States and 303 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade was of a firm and steady nature, the best of the former being quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 11d, Canadian, 3s 8d to 3s 11d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply, cattle demand fair, but prices lower, top quotations being very exceptional. Sheep and lamb supply also larger, fair selling trade, but prices not quotably different for either. Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton 9d to 6d; lamb 9½d to 8½d. At market 1,071 cattle, and 10,010 sheep and lambs.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Prices are unchanged for linseed. The demand for rapeseed and cottonseed is hardening a little. Canaryseed is again lower and is now cheaper than it has been for ten years.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb s. s	COTTONSEED.	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 50	Egyptian	137 to 139
American	43 to 44	Indian	103 to 105
Calcutta	43 to 44	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	44 to 46		
Russian	42 to 44	English, Best	16 to 17
Argentine	41 to 42	Russian, White	14 to 15
Duluth	43 to 44	,, Black	13 to 14
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.	SESAME.	per cwt.
Best English	61 to 63	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	46 to 47	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.
,, Cawnpore	44 to 45	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	42 to 43	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.
Ferozepore	44 to 46	English	50 to 52
		Spanish	80 to 84
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	44 to 46
Indian	44 to 45	Argentine	42 to 43

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The bramblings are now getting into hop, but the crop will be a very poor one. The plantations are suffering from drought, and are less satisfactory than a week ago. Values firmer, but not much business doing.

Worcester, Saturday. — Reports from the plantations speak of a cessation of attacks of blight. This is important, as the plants are developing into burr and hop, and it would not now be safe to wash. Trade has been at a standstill this week owing to the holidays, but holders are very firm in their demands.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Borough, Monday.—Although there is not much doing on the market, prices continue to advance. The crop prospects on the whole do not improve, and every day now that passes makes it more clear that the outcome cannot exceed that of 1904. The Continent is estimated to produce not more than half of last year's crop. The American markets are an anomaly, for although their crops are reported good, their markets are rising rapidly, and prices are now double what they were in June. The imports of hops for the month of July, 1906, were 14,240 cwt; for the corresponding month last year, 522 cwt. The imports of hops from January 1 to July 31, 1906, were 113,045 cwt; for the corresponding period last year, 32,808 cwt. The exports of hops for the month of July, 1906, were 785 cwt; for the corresponding month last year, 1,200 cwt. The exports of hops from England from January 1 to July 31, 1906, were 7,716 cwt; for the corresponding period last year, 11,807 cwt.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations: New hay, £3 5s to £3 7s 6d per ton; straw, 2s 9d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s per ton; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; chopped straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Prices for old fodder remain the same as last week. No call yet for the new crop. Hay in stack, 55s to 60s; straw in bulk, 35s to 40s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A holiday feeling prevails in the trade passing in the warehouses. Quotations: Old meadow hay, 7d; clover hay, 7½d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 10s to £5 per ton; new land hay, £5 10s to £6 5s; this year's growth, £5; wheat straw, £1 10s to £1 16s per load; oat straw, £1 10s to £1 15s. There were 27 carts of hay and 13 carts of straw at market.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—To-day's market was of a holiday nature. A nominal business done, and little alteration in prices. Choice seeds, £5 to £5 5s; prime meadow hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £3 10s to £3 15s.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The chief market day of the week falling on a Bank Holiday, trade at the Islington Market, which was the only one held, there being a blank at Deptford, was of a dull and dragging nature, rates, even for the best, having to be lowered 2d. per 8 lb. to effect sales. The majority of the supply, as usual at this season of the year, consisted of grass-fed cattle from the Midland counties; a small consignment of cattle were offered for sale, but were very little sought after. Owing to the scarcity of both town and country buyers present, sales of fat butchering cows and bulls were difficult to effect; nevertheless, late currencies governed all transactions on both market-days.

At Deptford, markets were held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Trade throughout the week was of a fairly firm and steady nature, the majority arriving from the United States. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,418, as against 3,818 during the preceding week, consisting of 760 British and 3,658 foreign, these latter comprising 2,705 from the United States and 953 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone Devons, 4s. 4d, ex 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90-stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s, 4s. 2d. ex; 90-stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 3s. 11d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

With regard to sheep, trade was confined to the Islington market, and on Monday was of an extremely slow nature for all grades of both wethers and ewes, sellers experiencing difficulty in maintaining late rates. On Thursday, there was a little more life in the trade, but not sufficient to alter Monday's prices. Lambs met with very little demand on Monday, notwithstanding salesmen being willing to accept 2d. per 8 lb. less money, however a brisker trade was experienced on Thursday. The total number penned was 8,610 as against 10,340 during the preceding week, showing a decrease of 1,730. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d. ex; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 7s. to 7s. 2d.

Calves numbered 30 head.

Trade in the West.

With the markets glutted with inferior stock, for which there is but a very restricted demand, the prevailing dulness has become much more acute since our last report, and this has been accentuated somewhat by the holiday interregnum. Only the very best grades of cattle maintain their value, a very serious drop having been experienced in all the more ordinary runs, both of dairy beasts and grazing cattle, which is all the more disappointing when the improved prospects for autumn keep are taken into account; to say nothing of the more encouraging outlook for the harvest (up till the present) than could have been expected a month back.

There has also been some reaction in the sheep trade, and, though this has only been to a trifling extent, it was hardly what had been expected now that the keep problem has been at least temporarily solved. But the chief factor seems to be a shortness of money, and, the harvest being later than usual, farmers in the corn-growing districts are, as yet, without the "ready" with which to devote to stock buying. Another thing telling against sheep again is the low price of mutton as a result of the flooding of the markets with foreign imports. For the few really good milch beasts to be met with here and there high prices, ranging from £17 up to £21, are easily obtained, and ordinary grades from £15 to £16 10s.; but for anything decidedly plain business is comparatively at a standstill, dealers quite ignoring animals of this class.

The fat stock markets are likewise very quiet, except for the very choicest grades, either of beef, mutton, lamb, veal, or pork, purveyors of any repute absolutely passing over stock of a rough description without the least inclination to buy. Some very good Devon and Shorthorn steers are to be met with at most markets, and for these there is a steady demand at last week's rates, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. per score (or from £16 to £23 each); fat cows selling at 9s. to 10s. (or £14 to £15 10s. each). Old cows or heavy fat bulls very dragging trade at 7s 6d to 8s. 6d per score. Fat wethers of medium weight and choice sucking lambs meet a ready sale, the former at 8¼. to 8½d. per lb. (or from 48s. to 62s. each), and lambs from 34s. to 40s. for the best, and 28s. to 32s. for others (or 10d. to 10½d. per lb.); other lambs, 27s. to 33s. (or 9d. to 9½d.), coarse fat sheep a depressed business at 6d. to 7d. per lb. Calves a quieter sale, the hot weather affecting the price of the heavier weights, which may now be quoted from 7d. to 7½d., and for neater weights 8d. to 8½d. Choice porkers are the only thing in the pig line which make their price, these still selling up to 10s. per score; medium weights in baconers to 9s.; but for anything coming within the category of "coarse" there is scarcely any demand, the prevailing low currencies of 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. failing to attract but very few buyers, which is hardly to be wondered at with the temperature at the point to which it has reached.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been under an average. For the best descriptions an active trade has been experienced at quite last week's prices, but no advance can be quoted for secondary cattle. Sheep have been shown in small numbers, and they have met a dear market at a shade higher prices. Ewes scarcer and also dearer. Fat lambs met a good trade at satisfactory prices. A very large show of calves made decidedly less money. Pigs still selling well. Store sheep met an active demand and prices continue very high. As is usual at this time of year store cattle are shown in moderate numbers. A quiet demand was experienced, and a portion of those on offer were left unsold. There was a small supply of milch cows, and they met a trade similar to that of last week. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s.; current, 36s. to 38s 6d.; mutton, 7½d. to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a large decrease in the supply of both cattle and sheep at last Thursday's Dublin market, and this probably had the effect of preventing a further fall in prices as cross Channel buyers were poorly represented, a few of the usual men being conspicuous by their absence. The weaker tone in the English markets made business open very slowly here, but smaller supplies saved the situation, and as the day wore on there was a slight reaction, and, in some cases, for choice beasts a little more money could be obtained than the previous market. Nicer qualities of bullocks and heifers were able to make a firmer repetition of previous terms, but for coarse cattle things were worse than last day. Cow beef was very slow and tedious to sell. There were 2,802 offered for sale, being a reduction of 115 on the week.

The live weight price for fancy beasts from 30s. to 35s. per cwt., but good useful butchering bullocks could be bought for about 29s. per cwt. Dead weight prices:—Best bullock and heifer beef, from 54s. to (for very choice) 60s. per cwt.; good second class beef, 47s. to 53s., and inferior from 42s. upwards. The English buyers present restricted their purchases to the choice qualities of beef, on account of the continued landing of foreign beef (chiefly from the Argentine Republic) at British ports, and is selling at a very low price.

The large decrease (nearly 1,000 head) in the number of sheep penned had the effect of causing a slight revival in trade. There was good demand for hoggets of best quality, for export, at steadier rates, but generally the trade was slow and depressed, particularly for ewe and coarse mutton. Lambs were in demand, especially large fat, but small, thin lambs were a drag and not wanted. Best wether mutton was worth from 7d. to 7½d.; ewes, 6½d. to 6¾d.; and coarse sheep, from 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets sold at from 45s. to 55s. each, and light to medium ditto from 36s. to 44s. Large fat lambs brought up to 35s. to 40s., and other sorts sold at from 18s. upwards, according to size and quality. Good fat lambs met with a ready sale, but lean and inferior lots were hard to turn into money. Prime fed veal was easily placed at the top rates of last market, but the majority of the calves on offer were of a coarse, unsuitable class, and were hard to sell. Choice veal was worth from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; inferior ditto, from 4½d. to 6d. Dairy cows were in small supply, but quite sufficient for the demand, which was very slack. The few really choice cows were soon cleared off at steady rates. Store cattle, despite the rather gloomy outlook for beef, continue to sell well. Mr. Gavin Low held a big sale of over 1,000 head of stores on Thursday in his paddocks adjoining the market. Many of the cattle were in very good condition, and sold well; the demand for forward beasts was steady, and prices even. For the best polled cattle between 2½ and 3 years from £12 12s. up to £14 12s. 6d. was given. Some Herefords made up to £15 each. For yearlings business was rather tame, the live-weight prices ranging from 23s. to 30s. (for Herefords). All the Aberdeens and most of the good cattle went to England, the remainder of the stock going to home feeders. The uncertain state of the fat cattle market seems to begin to affect the store cattle trade.

There was a moderate supply of pigs, and buyers turned up in good force, men being present to represent nearly all the Irish bacon curing houses, and some had to leave without securing sufficient for their requirements.

Store pigs not in the same demand as last week. Choice light weight pigs made from 55s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt. Lean and coarse pigs not in demand.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies; trade fair for fresh meat. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 4s to 4s 6d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; exceptional, 5s; English pork, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts, compared with Thursday last, showed an increase of twenty head, consisting entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was of a dull and dragging nature, a difficulty being experienced in obtaining last Monday's quotations. Top price: Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s 2d. An increase of 140 in sheep market. Trade, taken as a whole, for all descriptions of both wethers and ewes was of a fairly steady nature, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one, though not quotably so. Lambs were in average numbers, and met a firm enquiry at slightly advanced rates: Best pens made per 8lb as follows: 8-stone Downs, 5s 8d; 9-stone, 5s 6d; 10-stone, 5s 4d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 7s 2d; 6-stone half-bred, 5s 10d to 6s (offal given in). Calves were in very short number, and met a slow trade. Quotations per 8lb: Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; calves, 3s 6d to 5s 6d; lambs, 5s 6d to 7s 2d. Total arrivals:—Beasts, 40; sheep and lambs, 2,690; calves, 20.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Fair inquiry for beef and mutton; trade for lamb, veal, and pork dearer; small pigs going up to 6d to 1s a score. Best beef, 10s to 11s; mutton, small half-bred Downs, 5s 6d to 5s 10d; small Kent wethers, 5s to 5s 2d; lamb, 6s 6d to 7s; veal, 4s 8d to 5s; pork, roasters, 10s 6d to 11s; big hogs, 10s 6d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was the usual numerous attendance of buyers, both from the local and distant markets, to meet a supply of 32 fat beasts, 47 calves, 536 fat sheep and lambs, 78 pigs, and 81 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Devon steers made up to £22 5s, cows £16 10s, Shorthorn steers £19, heifers £15 10s, and cows £15 15s. West Highland steers up to £18, fat calves 60s to £5 10s, smaller ditto 20s to 45s, fat porkers 29s to 47s 6d, stores to 20s, dairy cows £9 to £18 15s, nineteen months old Down wethers and ewes made from 54s to 59s, smaller ditto 48s to 52s, seven months old Down lambs 42s to 48s 6d, ditto rams up to 56s, cross-bred lambs 32s to 36s 6d, old Down ewes 34s to 42s, Southdown ewes 41s, Cheviot ewes 33s 6d, three months old sucking lambs 28s to 36s. The extreme heat influenced the trade for fat cattle. The biddings were slow and prices lower for all except the fancy lots of choice quality and moderate weight. A good show of fat sheep and fat lambs attracted the attention of a number of buyers, and late rates were maintained in most instances. As usual, the choice small sheep and lambs had the best of the trade. Dairy cows of the best description met a ready sale at satisfactory prices; secondary sorts were not wanted, and where sold realised less money. Store cattle, owing to the extreme dry weather, met an exceedingly dull trade, the several lots on offer changing hands at low prices. Fat calves, with a short

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supply made more more money. Fat porkers firm trade at late rates. Store pigs sold well, a clearance being made. Ruling values: Best beasts 6½d to 7d, 2nd ditto 5½d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4¾d to 5d per lb; best sheep 8½d to 9d, 2nd class 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7d, choice sucking lambs 10d to 10½d per lb; fat calves 7d to 8d per lb, fat porkers 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a small show of cattle. Only 69 beasts were penned, as against 96 the provious week. Tho attendance of farmers and buyers was small. Cows made £17 10s to £22, and heifers with first calf £15 10s to £19.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep and pigs. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat cattle were offered in about usual number, but with a limited demand trade was quiet, with advances to 58s for best qualities and 55s for secondary. Sheep and lambs were fairly numerous, but business slow, and values were unaltered. Pigs were again scarce, and baconers declined to 9s 6d per score.

Calne, Friday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in. 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lbs., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—Charles and Thomas Harris & Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Lambs to-day were making from 17s 6d to 22s 6d, and good breeding ewes from 35s to 50s; old ewes, 20s to 32s. A moderately brisk demand.

Carlisle, Saturday. — The supply of Irish cattle was small, only about 300 being penned. Buyers were not numerous, and trade was rather dragging. Good-sized animals for fogging purposes made £13 to £15 10s, and wintering cattle £7 10s to £12 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—A good selection of dairy stock, and fair demand. Slow inquiry for store cattle, owing to burnt-up pastures. A large number of sheep, mostly Irish wethers, and trade was quiet. Quotations for cattle and sheep were generally unchanged.

Derby, Tuesday.—There was no change of importance in quotations, last week's rates generally ruling. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 7d to 8½d; calves, 8½d; lambs, 9d.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small supply and attendance at this market to-day. New winter oats, winter barley, and rye were offered; winter oats realising 16s to 19s; winter barley, 21s to 25s; and rye, 23s to 26s per qr. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 23s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26sto 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very poor supply of cattle, especially milch beasts, and few buyers, trade being dull. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £13 10s; young stores, £7 to £9 each. Good show of sheep and lambs, particularly the latter; drape ewes, 22s to 32s; lambs, 28s to 35s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Messrs. Ensor and Sons had extensive offers of most kinds of stock, including many useful stores, at their repository sale to-day, which attracted a large attendance. Milchs, of anything like a good class, commanded at very ready sale at from £17 15s to £21 15s, this being a considerable rise in values, seconds making £14 10s to £16 10s. The barrener trade also showed greater buoyancy, especially for fresh condition bullocks, which ranged from £20 to £28 per pair; barren heifers making £16 10s to £20; yearling bulls, £8 10s to £11 each. Fat beef in supply, and best grades met a ready demand at 10s 6d to 11s per score (or for heifers and steers from £15 5s to £20 10s); fat cows £12 15s to £15 10s (or 10s); fat bulls, £14 to £16 5s. Mutton met a steady sale at above late values:—Wethers, 45s to 51s 6d (or 8d to 8½d per lb); ewes, 44s to 46s 6d (or 6½ to d7½). Supplies are very short after the holidays; a ready clearance was effected throughout.

Dublin, Thursday.—Better demand for cattle, very choice suitable qualities placed to slightly better advantage; other sorts, though not quotably dearer, were easier sold. The large reduction in sheep and lambs had a steadying effect on trade; but, except for cross-bred shipping hoggets, prices showed no improvement, and a clearance of rough and inferior lots could not be made. Cattle.—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton.—Dead weight, 6d to 7½d and 7½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Supplies of store cattle and sheep were small, and trade was slow. Polled bullocks, £10 to £15; horned bullocks, to £15; Shorthorn cows, to £25; cross cows, to £20; half-bred lambs, to 30s 6d; half-bred gimmers, 48s to 52s; half-bred Dinmonts, 40s per head.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a fair show of cattle and sheep. Prices steady. Best Scotch cattle, 63s, currents, 60; best Irish, 56s to 58s per cwt. Sheep and lambs firm; best hoggs, 9d; wedders, 8d; lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb. Dead meat steady; best Scotch beef, 6d; Statos, 5½d; Canadians, 5½d; cows, 4¾d; hoggs, 8d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a large supply of beef, but in consequence of the exceedingly hot weather trade was slower. Best heifer and bullock beef made from 6½d to 6¾d, cow beef from 5d to 5½d. Calves were a short supply, and veal dearer, making all 8d. Fair supply of sheep and lambs, the latter making up to 9d, and in a few instances passing hands at 40s apiece. Wether mutton made 9d, and ewe mutton 7d. There was a good demand for porks at 6d; stores also sold rapidly at good figures. Cattle trade was dull, and supply poor.

Leicester, Saturday.—Small supplies of home-bred stock, and trade ruled quiet. Choice milch cows, £20 to £23; good lots, £17 to £18 10s; inferior, £14 to £16; bullocks, £9 to £11 10s; calves, 15s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Beasts were a small consignment, and the demand was fair. Young beasts, £8 to £10; milch cows, £17 to £21; strong beasts, £13. Lambs 32s to 36s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Supplies were about as last week, trade slow. Fat beasts, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; stores unchanged. Fat sheep, 8s 9d to 9s per stone; stores, 40s to 46s. Fat lambs, 25s to 40s; stores, 25s to 35s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton; firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5¾d to 6½d. Veal: firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Lamb: firsts, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There was a slow, heavy trade, prices favouring buyers. Prime heifers, 7s 9d to 8s; second-class and steers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d; pigs, 6s to 7s 6d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; lamb, 9d to 10d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 1,801; sheep and lambs, 6,559; calves, 99; pigs, 398.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply of cattle, and very short supply of sheep and lambs. A fair number of calves. Trade good. Quotations: Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6½d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d to 8d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d; porket pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of fat beasts was wholly confined to the sales, and there was little improvement in the demand, prices hardening slightly at 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. Store cattle were represented by a very small number, chiefly of a second-rate description, and the amount of business transacted was insufficient to justify quotations. The supply of store sheep was composed of a good show of breeding ewes and limited number of lambs; trade was slow, but values were firm; ewes made from 55s to 65s per head, and lambs from 28s to 38s. Fat sheep were offered in small supply, and trade ruled much upon the same lines as of late, prices for best qualities averaging from 9s 3d to 9s 9d per stone. There was a small show of both fat and store pigs, and a ready demand saw a clearance at full late rates; fat pigs averaged 7s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—A smaller supply of stock. In-calf cows made £18 to £21, and in-calf heifers, £15 to £17. A better show of calves, which met with a slower trade, making 25s to 45s. No sheep or lambs.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was only a holiday attendance at to-day's market, and little business was done. The supplies of beef and cattle were up to the average. Trade in calves was slow. Quotations:—Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6½d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d; lambs, 8½d to 9d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 7d to 8d; tup, 6d; calves, 5½d to 6d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—A fair show of stock, and quotations very low. Good milch cows, £16 to £18; inferior, to £14. Steers and heifers were a drug, and barely maintained late rates.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts: trade a little better. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in short supply; trade very slow at 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone. Sheep in fair supply; trade fair. Best small sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; large, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade unchanged at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Short supply of lambs; trade slow at 6s to 7s per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pigs scarce; trade very slow at late rates.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Very little doing in cattle. Only a few milch beasts shown, which met with a slow sale at £18 to £21; secondary qualities, £16 to £17 10s. No sheep.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Small supplies, but good attendance of buyers, and prices a shade better than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 6½d per lb; porket pigs, 9s to 10s per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s score. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 428, sheep and lambs 1,764, calves 77, pigs 245.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Numbers on offer, 118 cattle, 9 sheep, and 237 pigs. A smaller show of the best cattle, which met with a short trade at 7s 6d to 8s per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Young sheep made 8½d per lb, lambs 10d, ewes 7d, and tups 6d. The pork trade was quiet, last week's prices ruling.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a capital supply of stock for a holiday market, and the usual company of buyers who regularly attend this market were present. Best beef still maintains late rates, a clearance being effected. There was slightly more demand for fat cows, which realised a trifle more money; but the trade for these is far from satisfactory. Sheep were in good demand, both ewes and wethers making more money. Lambs scarce and dear. Small supply of pork, for which there was a great demand at higher prices. Messrs. Bond and Burrows sale comprised 97 fat beasts, 159 fat sheep, 64 fat and weaning calves, and 35 fat pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21 5s; fat heifers, £14 to £19 7s 6d; fat wethers, 44s to 55s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 57s; fat lambs, 30s to 50s; fat porkers, 32s to 44s; bacon hogs, £4 to £4 10s; fat calves, £3 to £4 5s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 55s; bull calves, 10s to 48s.

Truro, Wednesday. — Business fairly brisk. Attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £15 each; rearing calves, 14s to 45s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 14s 9d to 40s 6d each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; ditto, cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Fewer animals penned, and quiet demand. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb.; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb.; calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s to 10s 6d; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s; sows, 8s to 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair supply of all kinds of stock, except sheep, which were scarce. Beef was only a moderate trade, best qualities making from 6s 6d to 7s, and secondary qualities 6s to 6s 3d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-bred mutton made from 8d to 8½d; ewes and other sorts, 6d to 7d per lb; lamb, for which there was an exceptionally brisk trade, made from 9d to 9½d, and veal 8d to 8½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Moderate supplies of Canadian and United States cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales to-day, 517 head being penned. All the cattle were from Baltimore and Montreal, and were delivered in good condition. There was a fair attendance of buyers, but trade was quieter than at the three previous sales, and a further drop in the price of first-class bullocks was noted, the reduction amounting to about 2s per cwt dead weight, while bulls, which continue scarce were not only cashed at recent rates but in some instances advances were obtained for extra choice qualities. First-class bullocks of useful weights and sizes were sold at 56s per cwt dead weight, while inferior qualities were cashed down to 54s per cwt. Bulls of heavy class sold at about 48s per cwt dead weight, prime choice beasts making 50s per cwt, and a superior lot up to 52s per cwt.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—Five extra sales of American and Canadian cattle were held at the Foreign Animals Wharf, 729 head being penned, all being from Montreal. There was a fair attendance of buyers, but business was the turn quieter from the previous day's transactions, and though

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quotations are only slightly altered, a larger number of animals changed hands at the lower scale of quotations. Well-finished bullocks of handy sizes and weights and of good useful qualities sold about 54s per cwt dead weight, a few of extra choice make touching 55s per cwt, and secondary, middling, and inferior descriptions were cashed down to 51s and 52s per cwt. A few extra choice prime bulls were sold at about 50s per cwt dead weight, while course and heavy animals sold from 46s up to 48s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. — Linseed has been steady throughout the week. River Plate: Spot, 41s; July-August, 40s 6d. Duluth: August-September and September-October sold at 40s 6d to 42s. Calcutta: July-August held for 42s. Petersburg sold at 40s 7½d to 40s 9d August-September. Cottonseed.—During the past week there has only been a small business passing at £6 16s 3d spot, £6 15s passage, which are to-day's values, and latter paid August. New crop, September, £6 16s 3d, business done October at £6 10s, and £6 6s 3d still required November-January. Bombay, near at hand, done at £5 2s 6d to £5 3s. Sellers ask £5 7s August-September, and a sale October-November reported at £5 6s 3d. A few lots December-January and January-February changed hands at about £5 2s. Oils.—The market is steady. Linseed 19s spot, 19s 1½d August, 19s 4½d September-December. Cottonseed Oil: 20s 3d spot, 20s 3d August, 18s 3d November-April.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Oil cakes —Linseed cakes strong. London made £7 18s 9d to £8. Cotton cakes firmer. London-made £4 8s 9d to £5.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LTD.

Liverpool, Friday.—With genial weather the harvesting of corn crops has begun, and will soon be general throughout the country. In the meantime trade as usual in feeding stuffs is inactive though values are firm.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda	11	2	6	11	5	0
Bone Meal	5	5	0		—	
Kainit	2	2	6	2	3	9
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Linseed Cake, American	7	10	0	7	12	6
,, ,, English, prime	8	0	0	8	7	6
,, ,, Foreign, round	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated	8	3	9	8	6	3
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	12	6		—	
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	5	0		—	
Crushed Cottonseed	7	12	6		—	
Maize Germ Meal	5	15	0		—	
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	6	5	0
Rice Meal	4	15	0	4	17	6
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6		—	
Treacle, feeding, prime		4	9	4	10½	
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime guaranteed Brand	nominal.					
Basic Slag, prime quality ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, finest ,,	nominal.					

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—With a decided improvement in the consumptive demand, coupled with the fact that stocks are almost unprecedently small, prices continue to harden, especially as regards foreign descriptions, which for some time past have ruled by far the best value on the market. Russians are becoming scarce on spot, and are 2s 6d more money than last week, which is also the case with London made, whilst all other descriptions are 1s 3d more money. Cotton Cakes.—Only a limited quantity of Egyptians now remain in warehouse, and to-day's value is £4 17s 6d, ex quay. English and Bombay are unchanged since last week. Decorticated do not offer on spot, but a parcel of meal may be bought at £7 10s to £7 12s 6d. Rape Cakes.—Quiet. East India, £5; Ravison, £4 15s. Maize Germ Meal.—Landed lots of White American still offer at £5 15s with English make selling at £5 10s to £5 12s 6d. Maize Gluten Feed is in good request at £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse are quoted at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s, but there are sellers of steamer lots afloat at £4 10s to £4 11s 3d ex ship terms. Locust beans are unchanged at £5 15s for whole and £6 for Kibbled. Nitrate of soda is the turn dearer at £10 17s 6d for present delivery and £11 2s 6d for spring.

	Per ton. £	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
LINSEED CAKES.							
London made ....ex mill	7	17	6	to	8	0	0
Russian, in mats	7	11	3	to	7	12	6
,, in bags	7	13	9	to	7	15	0
Calcutta ....to arrive	7	12	6	to	7	15	0
American	7	7	6	to	7	10	0
COTTONSEED CAKES.							
Egyptian	4	17	6		—		
Egyptian, ...Sept.-Oct.	4	18	9	to	5	0	0
English	4	18	9	to	5	0	0
Bombay	4	5	0				
Decorticated		—					
,, Cottonseed Meal	7	11	3				
RAPE CAKES.							
Calcutta	5	0	0				
Ravison	4	15	0				
MAIZE.							
English Germ Meal	5	10	0		5	12	6
American	5	15	0				
,, Aug.....c.i.f.	5	11	3				
RICE MEAL.							
Rangoon .....ex warehouse	4	13	9	to	5	15	0
,, ... autumn	4	11	3	to	4	12	6
MANURES.							
Nitrate of soda, spot	10	17	6				
LOCUST BEANS.							
Whole	5	15	0				
Kibbled	6	0	0				

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

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Season 1906-7.

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EGGS.

Friday.—Altrincham: 10. Ashburton: 11d to 1s per doz. Barnstaple: 10. Chester: 10. Camelford: 14. Crewe: 9 and 10. Dartmouth, 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 11 and 12. Helmsley: 11 to 13. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 12. Lincoln: 13 and 14. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 10. Nantwich: 10. Northwich: 11. Otley: 10 and 11. Redruth: 10½d per doz. Runcorn: 9 and 10. St. Austell: 14. Stamford: 12 to 14. Stockport: 9 and 10. Tavistock: 13 and 14. Totnes; 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 and 12. Berwick: 10. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 11 to 12. Doncaster: 12 and 13. Grantham: 13. Howden: 12 to 14. Lancaster: 8 to 11. Malton: 12. Pontefract, 12 and 13. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 10 and 11, Shrewsbury: 12 to 14. Skipton: 11 and 12. Stokesley: 12 and 13. Whitby: 10 and 11. Worcester: 10. York: 12 to 14.

BUTTER.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Barnstaple: 1s 6d. Chester: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Camelford: 11d to 1s. Crewe: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Helmsley: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 11d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 10½d. Runcorn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 3d. Stamford: 11d to 1s. Stockport: 1s 2d. Tavistock: 1s 3d to 1s 6d. Totnes, 1s 6d to 1s 7d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11d to 1s Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 11d to 1s. Doncaster: 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 3d. Howden: 1s to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 11½d to 1s 2d. Malton 1s 3d. Pontefract, 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 4d Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s to 1s. 1d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s. 2d. Whitby: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese moderate in Glasgow. Market floors are now well covered, and demand has fallen off, as grocers and provision dealers have in fair working stocks. The consequence is that holders are willing to meet buyers to the extent of a shilling or two. Cheddars quoted from 58s to 64s per cwt, and Dunlops from 56s to 62s. Trade look for prices coming back.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 23 tons of cheese pitched, and with a large attendance all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 58s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 53s to 56s 6d; and other dairies, 47s to 52s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 42s. Cheddars made 63s to 65s; truckles, 60s 6d to 62s

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The unsettled weather of the last five or six days has caused a certain delay in harvesting, but the rains have done more good than harm on the whole, and we can speak more hopefully of the meadows and the aftermath than we could a week ago. The new wheat is making an appearance on our southern markets, and is of a fully satisfactory character, in most instances weight, quality, and shape all being good. The summer heat this year has been very uniform and general without excess. Thus it results that there are scarcely any shrivelled or parched grains and very few misshapen ones. Farmers will be most ill-advised if they press their new wheat unduly on sale. A 30s. level should be the lowest entertained. We hear that the new wheat in France is above the average in milling quality, and is threshing out well in yield to the acre.

Reserves of old wheat in England are thus estimated :—

Aug. 18, 1906	269,000 qr.
Aug. 19, 1905	315,000 qr.
Aug. 20, 1904	296,000 qr.

The stocks of foreign wheat, including flour, thus compare :—

Aug. 18, 1906	2,620,000 qr.
Aug. 19, 1905	2,420,000 qr.
Aug. 20, 1904	2,170,000 qr.

It will be seen that the transition from one cereal to another will evidently be effected without any pressure of want being felt in the wheat trade. The stocks of barley, however, are extremely low, and there is an equal exhaustion of both English and foreign grain of the 1905 crop. Oats are now a rarity as far as 1905 specimens of English are concerned, but foreign are unusually abundant, and being pressed on sale are 3d. to 6d. cheaper on the week.

Returns are now to hand of bread-stuffs shipments from the United States for the shipping year completed July 31 last They prove somewhat larger than had been anticipated :—

1905-6	14,075,000 qrs.
1904-5	4,405,000 ,,
1903-4	13,625,000 ,,

The shipments of South America for the same period were very heavy, and show how since three years ago the trade of the River Plate and of Bahia Blanca (which is on the South Atlantic) has increased. The following figures include Uruguay and Chile :—

1905-6	11,457,000 qrs.
1904-5	11,616,000 ,,
1903-4	8,510,000 ,,

The shipments from India, on the other hand, have fallen off, and lead one to imagine that the Government estimates of the last two crops may have been in excess of the truth. There seems little reason to suppose that India is hoarding grain :—

1905-6	3,190,000 qrs.
1904-5	9,040,000 ,,
1903-4	7,175,000 ,,

Russia has been an extraordinarily active seller of wheat. The following figures are given for the sale of uniformity for the shipping year ended July 31, 1906, but a full third of the total has been sent by rail and cart across the frontiers. The German indebtedness to Russia has been especially great :—

1905-6	19,600,000 qrs.
1904-5	23,760,000 ,,
1903-4	17,650,000 ,,

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom 2,332,000 qrs. of wheat, of which 275,000 qrs. are Californian, 280,000 American, 90,000 Russian, 852,000 Indian, 380,000 Argentine, 435,000 Australasian, and 20,000 various. A week ago 2,345,000 qrs. were on passage.

The supply of flour on passage has increased to 268,000 sacks, but is still much below the average.

Of barley 277,000 qr. are afloat, including an increased supply of Asiatic.

Of oats 475,000 qr. are on passage, which is much above the average.

Maize expectations are as follows :—

American	85,000 qr.
Argentine	1,020,000 ,,
Russian	100,000 ,,
Total	1,205,000 ,,

Other expectations include 120,000 qr. of linseed and 23,000 qr. of rapeseed.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets have been as follows for the fifty completed weeks of the cereal year :—

This season ..... 2,906,000 qr., at 28s. 10d. per qr.
Last season ..... 1,626,000 qr., at 30s. 9d. ,,
Large sales : lower prices.

The sales of British barley show little difference between the two years :—

This season ..... 3,199,500 qr., at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last season ..... 3,133,000 qr., at 24s. 7d. ,,

The sales, &c., of British oats show a rise in price resulting from very restricted surpluses to be spared for use off the farm :—

This season..... 944,000 qr. at 18s. 6d per qr.
Last season..... 1,144,000 ,, at 17s. 2d. ,,

The imports last week of the United Kingdom were as follows :—

Wheat, 538,000 qr. : a large supply.
Flour, 83,000 sks. : a small supply.
Barley, 47,700 qr. : a small supply.
Oats, 111,000 qr. : bare average arrivals.
Maize, 277,000 qr. : heavy imports

The imports for the fifty completed weeks of the cereal year have been :—

Wheat, 21,055,000 qr. : moderate arrivals.
Flour, 5,527,600 sks : moderate arrivals.
Barley, 5,597,000 qr. : fair supplies.
Oats, 5,592,000 qr. : fair supplies.
Maize, 10,290,000 qr. : good arrivals.

The maize total, however, is not at all extraordinary, and it is only since June that it has become at all remarkable. Nothing under 12,000,000 qr. for the year is a plethora of this much-used feeding stuff. If less than 10,000,000 are to hand, inquiry becomes a little excited and prices rise. Average needs are anything between ten and twelve millions, and vary with the supply of cheap oats, Russian barley and East Indian small pulse. The barley, oat, and maize supplies for the cereal year look as if they would be found early in September next to have corresponded pretty closely with the mean of the past ten years.

Messrs. Scotten and Snydacker, of Chicago, write :—"We have garnered a big crop of winter wheat of most excellent quality, and there is little question the North American continent will make a new production record. In regard to our own North-west crop, it must be remembered there is a very large increase in the Durum area, which mainly comes off the Fife area, that a grade we have very little use for in this country from a consuming standpoint, and hence must look abroad for a market for the bulk of that crop. So it is more than likely the North-west will not produce as much spring Fife wheat as she does ordinarily, though her late crop, barring accident, will be a large one. A Canadian official estimates that country will have 100,000,000 bushels for export, barring future accidents."

Subsequent advices by cable confirm the facts reported in the above letter. The well-known agency of Bradstreets published their annual estimate of the American wheat surplus last week. It works out at about 28,500,000 qr. of 480 lb. American exports have appreciated in the past, but have never quite attained the total of 30,000,000 qr. American shipments last week were 181,000 qr. of wheat, 11,000 qr. of barley, 46,000 qr. of oats, 114,000 qr. of maize, and 97,000 sks. of flour.

Argentina last week shipped 126,000 qr. of wheat, 323,000 qr. of maize, and 45,000 qr. of linseed. The maize shipments are, of course, the feature of South American exports at present. The disastrous earthquake of the 17th did not extend to the eastern seaboard of South America, whence alone grain is now being shipped.

Russia shipped 140,000 qr. of wheat, 139,000 qr. of barley, 500,000 qr. of oats, and 37,000 qr. of maize, which are liberal exports for the time of year. Roumania added 90,000 qr. of wheat, 12,000 qr. of barley, and 83,000 qr. of maize.

India shipped 96,000 qr. of wheat and 14,000 qr. of linseed. Australasian shipments were limited to 4,000 qr. of wheat.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Supplies have been coming along better this week, but not yet in large quantities. However, with a slow sale it has been more than sufficient to meet all requirements. There is no change in prices to report, but it has only been with the greatest of difficulty that values have been maintained Prime old stuffs are still the most in demand, and as the supplies of this quality are very short they fully maintain their value. There is a large quantity of ordinary stuff along which finds a very quiet sale. The deliveries of new crop are getting heavier, and with quality of same being generally very good, they find a ready sale at prices slightly below that of old.

Straw has been coming along in very large quantities, and with a poor demand prices are again lower. The foreign trade has been rather quiet this week ; there have been large shipments of Canadian mixture, which finds a quieter trade, and slightly less money has been accepted ; other qualities are unchanged at last week's currencies.

Prices ruling are about as follows :—English old crop best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton ; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton ; inferior, 60s to 67s 6d per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s 6d to 90s per ton ; inferior clover, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 87s 6d to 90s per ton ; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton ; seconds mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton ; wheat straw, 25s per load ; oat straw, 25s per load ; barley straw, 27s per load ; Foreign : Canadian mixtures, 76s per ton ; good Dutch hay, 65s per ton ; Algerian hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton. French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 73s per ton ; large bale wheat straw, 52s 6d per ton ; small bale wheat and straw, 41s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

London Corn Trade Association prices for Indian wheat cargoes are 29s per 492 lb. for White Kurrachee, and 28s. 6d. for Red Kurrachee. No Bombay or Calcutta cargoes are quoted by the association, a rare occurrence in August Wheat cargo sales from the 14th to 18th inclusive were difficult to effect, and prices tended in buyers' favour. There is, however, never anything like absolute stagnation in this great business and we are able to report the following transactions :—Victorian sold for 31s. per 480 lb. ; New South Wales for 30s 3d per 480 lb. ; No. 1 Northern Manitoba for 29s. 9d. per 480 lb. ; No. 2 Hard Winter for 28s. 3d. per 480 lb. ; No. 3 Red Winter for 27s. 9d. per 480 lb ; Roumanian for 28s. 3d. per 492 lb. ; and Bahia Blanca for 29s. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes were weak from the 14th to 17th, and at the close of the week 3d. less money was accepted, business passing at 20s 6d. per 480 lb. for La Plata, 20s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Roumanian, and 20s. 9d. for Odessa, also per 480 lb. No American was sold.

Barley cargoes have been weak, and despite the small supply on passage. A cargo now loading at Nicolaieff has fetched 18s. 6d. per 400 lb., and another of the same weight loading at Kustendje has been sold for 18s. per qr. Both are to sail as soon as loaded.

Other cargo sales of the week included Vologda oats at 15s. 3d. per 304 lb., Kurrachee Gram at 27s. per 504 lb., Portuguese Carobs at 98s. per ton, and Egyptian Cottonseed at £7 per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 4 wheat (1 Geelong; 1 Melbourne, 1 Portland (O.), and 1 Sydney. 1 Barley (Penco). Total 5.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 3 wheat 1 Hull, 1 Limerick, and 1 London).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 204 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 2 barley, 3 maize, 1 locust beans, and 23 linseed ; total, 235.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 256 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 43 linseed ; total, 336.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield. Saturday.—Good supply, but a poor demand. Goslings, 5s to 6s ; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 6d ; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d ; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d ; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d ; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s ; quails, 1s to 1s 4d ; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d ; Bordeaux pigeons, 1s to 1s 2d ; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s ; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s ; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d ; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d ; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each ; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per dozen ; young grouse, 5s to 6s ; old, 3s 6d to 4s per brace.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat, English dull, with an easier tendency. Foreign held at late rates, but demand very quiet. South Russian, ex ship, quoted 29s 9d to 33s, landed at 30s 6d, to 33s 6d; Plate at 31s to 32s; Persian, 30s to 30s 6d—all ex quay; choice white Karachi ex ship, at 29s 3d. Flour quiet, unchanged. Hungarian quoted at 29s, Minnesota patent at 24s 6d, bakers at 19s 6d. Maize dull, unchanged. Mixed American, landed quoted at 22s. 6d, River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 6d to 20s 9d, landed at 21s to 21s 3d. Barley firm, quiet. Odessi-Nico, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 18s 6d; landed at 19s. 6d. Oats slow, unchanged

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat dull, unchanged. New whites quoted at 30s 6d to 32s 6d; reds at 30s to 32s. Foreign held at about late rates, but in poor request. Hard winter, ex ship, quoted at 30s; No. 2 red winter at 29s 9d; choice white Karachi at 29s 3d; red Karachi at 28s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 6d. Flour quiet, unchanged. Minnesota patents quoted at 24s 6d; bakers at 19s 6d. Maize steady, quiet, at about late prices. River Plate, ex ship, quoted at 20s 6d to 20s 9d; landed at 21s to 21s 3d. Barley firmly held, but inactive. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 6d; landed, at 19s 6d. Oats rather firmer, but quiet. Russians quoted at 15s 3d to 15s 9d; Americans at 16s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The harvest is in full swing, and farmers being very busy the attendance was smaller than usual. A few samples of new wheat were on offer, at 29s to 31s per quarter, the latter in the case of 65 lb per bushel. New black winter oats were quoted at 19s to 21s, and new white oats at the same figure. New grey peas made 29s to 31s. The new corn was of good quality and condition. Old corn and foreign stuff unchanged on the week.

Banbury, Thursday. — Wheat, white (old), 29s. to 31s per qr; red (old), 29s to 31s per qr; barley (old), 28s per qr; beans (old), 32s to 34s per qr; oats, 16s to 20s per qr; oats (old), 21s to to 25s per qr; peas, 30s to 32s per qr; (old), 30s to per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—No change whatever in the corn market from last week, with no samples of grain offering.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair attendance. English wheats scarce, and making from 31s to 32s per qr. A few samples of new English wheat on offer at from 28s to 30s per qr. Quiet trade for foreign wheats, at an occasional 3d decline. Plates, 30s 6d to 31s, Sharpness; Russians, 30s 3d to 30s 9d, Sharpness; flat maize, 21s 9d, Sharpness; Plate maize, 20s 6d, Bristol; grinding barley 18s 9d, Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and small attendance. New wheat in better supply; quality very fine. Prices 28s to 30s per qr. Grinding barley, 22s to 24s; old oats, English 20s to 23s; new spring oats, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 33s to 35s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There is scarcely any English wheat on offer yet. Foreign, 3d lower. Maize, 3d lower. Barley, 3d to 6d decline. Oats unchanged. Flour, slow to sell, values unchanged. —GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday. — The market was thinly attended, people being in the midst of harvest, in glorious weather. There was very little new corn on the market. A few samples of fine new wheat changed hands at 28s to 29s per qr. Maize unchanged at 22s 6d to 22s 9d for Danubian, and 22s 3d for Plate. No change in other feeding corns, but all feeding stuffs were firm at last week's prices.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a small supple of new wheat, which made from 27s to 28s 6d per 504 lb. A few samples of barley sold readily, at from 27s to 30s per 32 stone. Oats unchanged.

Canterbury, Saturday.—New wheats were 1s cheaper to-day, 64 lb lots only making 30s. Oats were also lower, black winter making up to 19s 6d and good average quality whites to 19s. The new barleys showed good quality. Grey peas, 29s to 30s per qr. New tares, up to 5s 9d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at late prices; 22s to 23s per 336 lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday. — In consequence of the broken weather, there was an absence of new samples. Old wheat and oats are now very scarce, and values fully maintained. American Indian corn is not coming forward rapidly, and stocks are rapidly declining. New River plate is more plentiful. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75 lb; grinding barley, old, 3s. 6d. to 4s per 64 lb.; beans, new, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; old, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per 80 lb.; oats, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 12s to 12s 6d; old, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 2d to 12s 3d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance, quiet business. New white wheat, 28s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 30s; old white ditto, 33s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 20s 6d; oats, English, 18s to 22s; new black and grey winter oats, 19s to 19s 6d; peas, 34s; maize, 21s to 22s 6d; flour, 25s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Fair attendance. Wheat made 28s to 29s per 504 lb; oats, 16s 6d to 17s 6d per 336 lb.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A moderate attendance. Not much wheat on offer. Trade in oats slack. Quotations generally were: Wheat, 12s to 12s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Scarcely any wheat offering, and it sold at irregular prices. Wheat, white, 32s to 34s; red, 31s to 32s; new red, 30s to 31s; beans, old, 34s to 36s; oats, old, 24s to 25s; new, 18s to 19s.

Devizes, Thursday.—New wheat, 15s to 17s; secondary, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 23s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 19s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Market very thinly attended. Small supply of old English wheat, and trade slow. Prices from 11s to 11s 9d per load. A sample of new wheat was shown of moderate quality, and sold for 28s per qr, or 29s delivered. Very little doing in foreign wheat, which was unchanged. Maize firm. Old oats advanced 3d per qr.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Consequent on farmers being busily engaged in the harvest field there was but a very limited attendance to-day, and a correspondingly small amount of business transacted. Supplies were on an equally limited scale, last year's grain being conspicuous by its absence, most of the granaries as well as corn stacks having been completely depleted of their stocks—in fact we seldom ever remember a year in which farmers had so thoroughly cleared their corn as this year. A few samples of the new season's grain were shown, and the bulk handled very well. Some farmers asked 28s per qr for the new corn, and some 30s; but these were mere "feelers," and but little business was done, values just yet being too uncertain. Old corn was generally rather easier all round.

Dublin, Friday.—No Irish wheat and barley. Oats in slow demand. Flour quiet and oatmeal firm. Bran scarce and values good. Pollard very scarce and dear. Oats, 11s 6d to 14s; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The weather during the past week has been wet, with considerable rainfall and heavy clouds, and little or no sunshine. There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat quiet, but steady, at late rates. Flour quiet, with no change in values since last week. Maize unaltered on the week. Corn firmer, and fully 3d to 4½d per boll dearer owing to scarcity. Barley scarce, and held for 1½d per boll advance. Oats unchanged for home, but easier for foreign. Beans and pease nominally unchanged. Bran and thirds firmer. Oatmeal steady, but quiet.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market dull for wheat and flour, and prices unaltered. Mixed American maize scarce and in retail request at 13s 6d; round, 12s 4½d to 12s 6d per 280 lb. Oats steadier, A few parcels of new English oats quoted at fancy rates. No new Scotch oats yet marketed. Barley the turn dearer, due to scarcity. Oatmeal dull. Peas and beans quiet.

Gloucester, Saturday. — No English wheat on offer. Foreign firm but quiet at last week's prices. Plate maize 3d lower; flat and Bessarabian unchanged. Barley 3d lower. Little doing in oats, which are 6d lower.

Grantham, Saturday.—Poor attendance, and with the exception of an old sample or two of wheat and a single sample of black oats, there was no new corn on the market. For wheat, 28s 6d per qr was paid, whilst 16s 6d to 17s was quoted for oats.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade on Exchange was exceedingly slow and attendance small. A few samples of old wheat changed hands at previous prices, and one or two new were shown, which were held for prices over buyers' ideas; this also applied to several samples of new barleys. New oats are coming out, and are being offered more plentifully at moderate prices. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 60 lb; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb.; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Old wheat was hardly offered, and prices were purely nominal. A fair supply of new wheat, most of which was in fine, dry condition, and of exceptionally fine quality. Prices ranged from 28s 6d to 30s per quarter. Old oats firm and unchanged; new winters were sold at 17s 6d to 18s 6d per quarter. Old beans steady at 32s to 33s per quarter. New peas, one or two parcels changed hands, at 30s to 31s per quarter. Maize unchanged for round at 21s 6d per quarter.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Heavy showers since last Wednesday have interfered with harvest work and delayed the supply of new wheat. There has been rather more looking after wheat, good old Russians and shipped parcels of new meeting some inquiry. On the whole, however, there has been little animation in the trade, and late prices have been maintained with difficulty. New English wheat tend in buyers favour. Feeding stuffs a slow trade at about last week's prices.—DUNNS and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Old English wheats fully maintained recent quotations; new samples were scarce at from 28s to 30s per quarter. All kinds of foreign wheat were firmly held, best qualities being the turn dearer. Foreign malting barley was rather higher, and feeding also in sellers' favour. Beans, peas, oats, and maize were without change. Flour was in improved demand, seconds and thirds making more money.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with a limited supply of home-grown wheats. Trade sluggish, buyers waiting for larger supplies of new samples. Red wheats, 31s to 33s; white wheats, 32s to 34s; new wheats, 31s to 32s per 36 stones. Barley quiet; old beans firm; old oats, 23s to 35s; new oats, 18s to 20s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate attendance, and little business passing. One or two samples of new English wheat came to hand, and sold at varying prices according to condition. Feeding stuffs firm at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—Market moderately attended. Wheat in moderate demand for American, which are mostly ½d lower, but Indian in good request at ¼d more money. Flour: rather more inquiry for American, but quiet trade for home-made brands; prices unchanged. Maize: a moderate trade passing at about ½d advance for mixed American; Plate quiet, a shade easier; other qualities about unaltered. Barley firm, with moderate demand and light offerings. Beans steady at late rates, except for Syrian, which, being liberally offered, are considerably lower. Peas quiet at about recent rates. Oats quiet, at frequently lower prices for foreign; old English firm at full rates, new not offering. Oatmeal dull at late rates, but steady. Oilcake a quiet trade, without quotable change in values.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—More new English wheat was on offer at 31s to 32s. 6d delivered at Manchester. Flour slow. Indian corn unchanged and easier. Oats in buyers' favour. Barley: Foreign rather dearer. Beans and peas steady. Bran 6d per load dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet market, but fair inquiries. Wheat, old 31s 6d to 33s, new 29s to 30s; barley, malting none, grinding 22s to 24s; white oats, old 23s, new 19s; black oats, 17s to 18s 6d; beans, old 36s to 37s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A quiet demand for wheat at our to-day's market; prices, however, remain unchanged. Maize steady, and slightly in the favour of sellers. Oats firm and slightly dearer; foreign, however, was steady at late rates for spot parcels, cheaper to arrive. Peas and beans unchanged in values, with a fair demand. Barley remains unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat unchanged on the week. Barley and maize unaltered. Flour, fines, 23s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance, but fair business. A few samples of new wheat were on offer, the best samples of which made 28s, while new oats made from 16s to 18s. Prices: New wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, 26s to 32s; white oats, 16s to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s to 18s; peas, 27s to 30s; flour, 25s to 29s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—A few samples of new wheat offering, quality and condition various, prices irregular, 28s to 30s, 504 lb. Grinding barley steady, sale at unaltered prices. Oats, few samples of new quality and condition good, 17s 6d to 18s 6d per 336 lb. Old oats and beans but few offering, prices in sellers favour.—ROB. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Showery weather this week has hindered harvest work and stopped threshing, so there has been but little new corn showing to day. Trade for it only slow. Wheat making about 28s. Oats, 17s to 17s 6d.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston, Saturday. — There was a fair at-

tendance, but samples of new grain are not yet brought forward, and further delay is probable, with a deteriorating effect upon quality and condition, if the wet weather of the past few days continues. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 14s; ditto red, 13s 3d to 13s 9d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—A slightly improved attendance, with trade somewhat better. Wheat made from 27s to 32s, and grinding barley 25s to 28s; new oats 16s to 18s 6d, and old 19s to 23s; beans, 34s to 38s; peas, 30s to 33s; rye, 22s to 24s 6d; tares, 5s 6d to 6s per bushel. Flour sold at late rates.

Retford, Saturday.—Attendance small, owing to the harvest. Trade generally very quiet and prices low. New wheat, of which there was but little on offer, sold at 30s, and old up to 31s per qr. Small lots of maize changed hands freely at 24s 6d to 25s 6d per 34 stone, delivered here. New oats, 17s to 18s; best old oats, to 24s per 24 stone. The yield this harvest is said to be equal to expectations, especially wheat.

Ripon, Thursday.—Poor attendance, scarcely any business being done. Prices:—Wheat, 30s to 31s; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 29s; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; maize, round, 23s to 24s; ditto flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Quiet demand, new corn, with the exception of an odd sample or two, not being offered. Old wheat was quoted 6d per qr less. A few new oats were on offer, black winters making about 19s per qr delivered. Grinding barley scarce, and 6d per qr dearer. Quotations:—White wheat 32s 6d to 33s, red 32s 6d to 33s per 504 lb; black oats 19s to 19s 6d, white 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; grinding peas 32s to 32s 6d, blue 55s to 70s per 504 lb; English beans 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; grinding barley 24s 6d to 25s, malting 28s to 32s per 448 lb; small Indian corn 24s to 24s 6d, new Plate 22s 3d to 22s 9d, flat 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 225 lb; old oats, 14s to 15s per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Farmers were busy in the harvest field, and supplies were limited. Many of the samples of wheat offered were not of good quality and bore traces of the recent rains, and did not bring in more than 28s. to 29s.; new oats, 16s. to 17s.; old oats, 20s. to 22s.; winter barley, 22s. to 23s.; old beans, 32s. to 35s.; peas, 45s. to 55s. per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no local wheat showing. Foreign wheat quiet and unchanged. Oats and maize also without alteration.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers have but little grain to offer, and there is little change in prices of wheat, barley or oats. Arrivals continue. Oats 253 qr.; foreign, nil. — E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 33s 6d to 34s; new red ditto, 33s to 33s 6d; old white ditto, 34s to 35s; old red ditto, 33s 6d to 34s; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s. to 25s; oats, English, 18s 6d to 23s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 42s. to 50s; maize, 22s to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—The market here is still very quiet. No new grain showing, the bad weather during the last week having prevented threshing. Values unaltered on the week.

Winchester, Saturday.—New English wheat not offered freely at present. Foreign firm. Barley, oats, and maize unaltered. Flour rather dull, and barely late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A few samples of new grain offering at market to-day. New wheat of good quality sold at 28s per 504 lb. New oats, 17s per 336 lb. Showery weather retard harvest operations.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and a dull tone characterised the market. Little business was transacted, and quotations were unaltered.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very poor attendance, with scarcely any grain showing, farmers being busy with the harvest. Old white wheat, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; red ditto, 30s to 31s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old white oats, 23s to 24s 6d; new ditto, 18s to 20s; old black oats, 22s to 23s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; maize, 24s to 25s per qr; old beans, 36s to 37s per 38 stones.

Yeovil, Friday.—English wheat was nominally quoted 30s to 33s for best, and 26s 6d to 29s for secondary; foreign, 32s 6d to 34s. Grinding barley, foreign, 19s 3d to 19s 9d; English barley, 26s 6d to 32s; secondary, 20s 6d to 24s; English white oats, 21s 6d to 24s; black, 22s to 24s 3d; Irish white, 21s 6d; black, 19s 3d; maize, 21s to 23s; rye, 22s 6d to 25s; beans, 32s to 35s; winter tares, 54s to 62s 6d; spring ditto, 62s to 68s. Little more inquiry for flour. Milling offals and meals a good market.

York, Saturday.—A holiday market, and small attendance of farmers. Wheat was scarce; fine white, 30s to 31s; red and mixed, 29s to 30s per qr of 36 stone. Malting barley, 25s to 26s per qr of 32 stone. Oats firm; white Tartary, 19s to 20s; black, 20s to 21s; White Garton, 21s to 22s per qr of 24 stone. Rye 24s, beans 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather is a little unsettled, and market firm; prices are tending rather upwards, as maltsters and brewers are rather anxious to commence the season, but supplies are small so far, and available stocks command full prices, especially Bohemian. Chevaliers are in good and general demand, but also Hungarians are bought freely; prices fully maintained, and offers so far are small.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 18, 1906:—

Wheat	2,137,000 cwts.
Wheat-flour	231,600 ,,
Barley	352,400 ,,
Oats	368,200 ,,
Maize	822,500 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	1,985,900	1,878,800	1,977,386	2,170,775
Wheat-flour	213,800	157,100	255,429	365,853
Barley ...	269,600	257,800	404,894	508,172
Oats ...	173,100	239,900	215,465	152,795
Maize ...	974,300	876,700	960,388	962,097

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Aug. 8 to 15 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	351	108,000	108,351
Barley	290	100	390
Malt	15,917	1,000	16,917
Oats	300	19,764	20,064
Beans	161	18	197
Peas	27	1,843	1,870
Maize	—	77,000	77,000
Haricots	—	52	52
Rye	100	2,000	2,100
Linseed	—	12,000	12,000
Rapeseed	—	122	122
Sunflowerseed	—	66	66
Flour ...sacks	13,197	31,710	44,900
Middlings ,,	—	10,000	10,000
Ryeflour ,,	—	250	250
Riceflour ,,	—	7,200	7,200

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 1...(per sack)	30 0	...(per sack)	27 0
,, 13... ,,	29 0	... ,,	26 0
October 11... ,,	28 0	... ,,	25 0
November 3... ,,	30 0	... ,,	27 0
,, 29... ,,	29 9	... ,,	26 9
December 11... ,,	30 0	... ,,	27 0
January 31... ,,	29 9	... ,,	26 9
February 21... ,,	29 6	... ,,	26 6
March 16 ... ,,	29 0	... ,,	26 0
March 23 ... ,,	28 3	... ,,	25 3
May 18 ... ,,	28 0	... ,,	25 0
June 20 ... ,,	27 9	... ,,	24 9

(No change since last date given.)

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 14, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Av. Price per qr £ s. d.
Wheat ...	929	1 ...	1,310 15 0 ...	1 8 3
Barley ...	509	4 ...	695 2 6 ...	1 7 3
Oats	1,522	1 ...	1,327 6 6 ...	17 5

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending August 18, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1902...	7,565...	31 5	463...	22 10	1,958...	21 11
1903...	17,541...	29 9	813...	20 4	9,287...	18 6
1904...	19,200...	28 8	1,646...	22 5	19,032...	16 7
1905...	32,715...	28 5	1,758...	23 4	13,656...	16 4
1906...	8,583...	29 0	1,283...	24 2	11,887...	17 0

Imperial Weekly Averages

		WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.										
,,	19	32 715	30	5	1,758	23	4	13,656	16	11
,,	26	88,636	28	5	6,461	23	6	20,855	16	4
Sept.	2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	24,090	15	9
,,	9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,,	16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,,	23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,,	30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct.	7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,,	14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,,	21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,,	28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov.	4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,,	11	78,276	27	10	209 509	24	10	28 346	17	1
,,	18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,,	25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec.	2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,,	9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,,	16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,,	23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,,	30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.										
Jan.	6	30,066	28	4	13,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,,	13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,,	20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,,	27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb.	3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,,	10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,,	17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,,	24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar.	3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,,	10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,,	17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,,	24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,,	31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April	7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,,	14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,,	21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,,	28	42,438	29	6	3 192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May	5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,,	12	47 299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,,	19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,,	26	40,949	30	4	1 087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June	2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,,	9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,,	16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,,	23	19,235	30	5	206	22	10	2,087	20	2
,,	30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July	7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,,	14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,,	21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,,	28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug.	4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,,	11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	1
,,	18	8,583	29	0	1,283	24	2	11,887	17	0

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL.	OFFICIAL PRICES. s.	d.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.		
September 1 .....(per sack)	31	0
,, 11 ..... ,,	30	0
November 3 .... ,,	31	0
,, 10 ..... ,,	30	0
August 3 .... ,,	29	0

(No change since last date given.)

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890...	31 9 per qr.	.. 28 8 per qr.	.. 18 7 per qr.
1891...	37 1 ,,	.. 28 2 ,,	...20 0 ,,
1892...	30 4 ,,	.. 26 2 ,,	...19 11 ,,
1893...	26 4 ,,	. 25 6 ,,	...18 9 ,,
1894...	22 10 ,,	. 24 6 ,,	...17 1 ,,
1895...	23 1 ,,	. 21 11 ,,	...14 6 ,,
1896...	26 2 ,,	. 22 11 ,,	...14 9 ,,
1897...	30 2 ,,	. 23 6 ,,	...16 11 ,,
1898...	34 0 ,,	. 27 2 ,,	...18 5 ,,
1899...	25 8 ,,	. 25 7 ,,	...17 0 ,,
1900...	26 11 ,,	...25 9 ,,	...17 9 ,,
1901...	26 9 ,,	. 25 3 ,,	...18 5 ,,
1902...	28 0 ,,	.. 25 8 ,,	...20 2 ,,
1903...	26 9 ,,	. 22 11 ,,	...17 2 ,,
1904...	28 4 ,,	. 22 4 ,,	...16 4 ,,
1905...	29 9 ,,	. 24 4 ,,	...17 4 ,,

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
Highest of Year	32 0	25 1	18 5
Lowest of Year	26 10	22 8	16 0
Gradient	5 2	2 5	2 5
Mean of Year	29 9	24 4	17 4

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday.

There was a moderate show of new wheat at the Exchange to-day, and 29s was accepted for some nice new red 504 lb natural, as well as selling weight. Foreign was 6d lower on the week for nearly all descriptions, and American new crop was offered for prompt shipment so cheaply that the maintenance even of present reduced values was not easy.

Maize was fully as dear for flat corn but round and yellow sorts were inclined to go cheaper. A few samples of new English barley were shown, and 33s was paid for a good sample, 448 lb. to the quarter. Foreign was 3d lower for all 400 lb. sorts.

New English oats were in fair supply of winter type, 19s. per 336 lb. was about the price. The demand for forgign oats was meagre, and prices gave way a full 3d. per qr. Beans and peas remained scarce and dear. Linseed cakes were firm, and cottonseed cakes were inclined to go dearer.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

August 20.		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 35
Red	,,	31	— 34
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	none	
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	none	
,,	(per 400 lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 30
OATS, Finest Scots	,,	none	
Black Winter	,,	none	
Storm Kings	,,	none	
Black Pioneers	,,	none	
Black Tartary	,,	none	
White Gartons	,,	21	— 22
Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
Ordinary	(per 312 lb.)	19	— 20
Light	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
,, New ,,	,,	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	42	— 44
Tick	,,	39	— 41
Winter (Old)	,,	37	— 38
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
Spring	,,	36	— 37
Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
Unpicked ditto	,,	48	— 52
Dun	,,	33	— 34
Maple (Old)	,,	none	
,, (New)	,,	35	— 36
TARES (Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
(Spring)	,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33	American	22	— 23
,, ,, 2	31	— 32	Argentine	20	— 21
American Red	31	— 32	Bulgarian	21	— 22
Argentine	30	— 31	Roumanian	21	— 22
Australian	31	— 32	Russian	21	— 22
New Zealand	30	— 31	Rangoon	21	— 22
Californian	32	— 33	North African	22	— 23
Blue Stem	32	— 33	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	31	— 32	Smyrna	34	— 36
Saxonka	33	— 34	Konigsberg	33	— 35
Azima	32	— 33	New Zealand	35	— 36
Ghirka	30	— 31	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Indian White	30	— 31	Italian	64	— 72
,, Red	29	— 30	Burmese	32	— 42
Persian	28	— 29	Chilian	56	— 64
			LENTILS (cental):		
BARLEY:			Split Egyptian	10	— 11
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	Whole Indian	7	— 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	PEAS (504 lb.):		
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Konigsberg	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian White	35	— 36
Russian (400 lb)	19	— 20	Indian Green	29	— 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18	— 19	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Tunisian (400 lb)	23	— 24	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	Victoria Dun.	33	— 34
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22	MILLET (416 lb.):		
			White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Smyrna	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	— 10
Russian	24	— 25	Siamese	8	— 9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23	— 25	Smyrna	27	— 28
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	none		Indian	26	— 27
Am'can (320 lb)	16	— 17	Persian	22	— 24
Libau (320 lb.)	18	— 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	15	— 16	French	26	— 27
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	15	— 16	Russian	25	— 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday.

The market to-day was very slow for London makes, and 23s. was accepted for household grade cash, ex mill.

Country roller whites had a fair sale at 22s. 6d. or thereabouts, but patents on the one hand, and stone flour on the other, were for the most part neglected.

American flour is now offering in very fair variety, a considerable change from the very limited choice of this time last year. Prices seldom exceed 24s., even for fine makes, and there is plenty of sound American to be had for 22s. 6d. per sack. "Iron Duke" and similar first bakers' marks are held for 20s 9d. cash. Hungarian flour was inclined to favour buyers. Australian and Argentine sorts were dull, but unchanged in price. Middlings, bran, and pollard were firm at full values.

Oat flour made £17 per ton for Midlothian, £12 for Aberdeen. Canadian oatmeal was priced at £11 for coarse, £11 for medium, and £9 15s. for fine. What are called "rolled oats," but in reality belong to the meal market, were offered at 11s. to 11s. 6d. per cwt. Rye meal at 19s. per sack was in fair request. Farina, or fine potato flour, a very useful article, was quoted £11 per ton for the very best with sound ordinary at £10 per ton.

London Flour.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	26/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	23/0 ,,
No. 2	,,	21/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/0 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/0 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	20/0 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	— 23
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	20	— 21

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Cascadia	,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23	— 24
Manitoba Ordinary	,,	22	— 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	29	— 30
,, 1	,,	28	— 29
,, 2	,,	27	— 28
,, 3	,,	26	— 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22	— 23
,, Renaux	,,	21	— 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20	— 21
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Argentine	,,	24	— 26

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 55
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour 'Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	19	— 20
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED IN BUYERS FAVOUR, BUT AT THE PRICES RULING THERE WAS A DISTINCT IMPROVEMENT IN THE ALL-ROUND INQUIRY.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat, maize, and oat cargoes all favoured buyers, and the tone of the market was very flat. Linseed cargoes, however, advanced 3d per qr. Some new Californian barley for winter shipment has been speculatively placed, and a small cargo of Chilian has been ordered.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosario, 29s per 480 lb, on passage; Odessa Ghuka, 30s per 492 lb, on passage; best Azima, 31s 6d per 492 lb, on passage; Hard Taganrog, 28s per 492 lb, on passage; Red Walla, 30s 9d per 500 lb, on passage; White Walla, 31s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; Blue Stem, 31s 9d per 500 lb, on passage; Hard Winter, 28s per 480 lb, on passage; Red Winter, 27s per 480 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Tunisian, 23s per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Smyrna, 23s 6d per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Californian, 26s 6d per 448 lb, January shipment (new crop); Chilian, 29s 6d per 448 lb, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 17s 9d per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Petersburg, 14s 6d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Konigsberg, 17s per 320 lb.

Maize.—Novo Rossisk, 21s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Roumanian, 20s 6d per 480 lb, Dec. shipment; Argentine, 20s 3d per 480 lb, on passage.

Beans.—Smyrna, 30s 3d per 480 lb, on passage.

Linseed.—Duluth, 41s per 424 lb September shipment; Calcutta, 42s per 410 lb, September shipment; Petersburg, 39s 9d per 416 lb, September shipment; Riga, 39s per 416 lb, September shipment.

Rapeseed.—Yellow Gugerat, 50s 9d per 416 lb, September shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 6s per ton, December shipment, new crop.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Buyers are still reluctant to purchase in the expectation of lower prices. The trade consequently remains extremely dull, and the tendency of the market continues in buyers favour.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—No further change to report in bran. For the season, demand is fairly good and prices firm.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast.

Flour.—Sellers are inclined to meet buyers still further in the matter of price, but the amount of business passing continues small. Grain.—Round corn is unchanged. American very scarce. Arrivals of foreign oats have been very heavy, but the demand has been good, and prices are, if anything, steadier. Beans to arrive rather dearer again. Pease dull. Oilcake in sellers' favour. Mill stuffs—Bran and Thirds unchanged.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Milling Offals.—The recent high prices are well maintained; everything very scarce, the demand exceeding the supply.—John Bawcomb and Co.

We have liberal supplies of wheat, but small of flour. Demand is steady, prices are unchanged. Barley 3d per qr. lower. Maize and oats unchanged.—Coventry and Sheppard.

Flour.—There has been a fair trade transacted to-day at last week's prices. American millers do not press sales, and full prices are demanded.—T. S. Medill & Sons, Limited.

TERM MARKET.

The market for futures has been against the seller of wheat and yellow maize, but flat maize has been fairly firm. Latest calls are as follows:—

Red Wheat	Sept.	delivery,	6s 3d	per cental.
,,	Nov.	,,	6s 4d	,,
,,	Jan.	,,	6s 5d	,,
Flat maize	Sept.	,,	4s 6d	,,
,,	Nov.	,,	4s 7d	,,
,,	Jan.	,,	4s 7d	,,
Yellow maize	Sept.	,,	4s 4d	,,
,,	Nov.	,,	4s 4d	,,
,,	Jan.	,,	4s 5d	,,

Some yellow maize was sold to-day for guaranteed delivery before Aug. 31 at 4s. 3½d per cental, the lowerst price thus far this season

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,454 bales, and from foreign ports 12,104 bales. There was a better bacon market during last week, but at the improved prices the market closed quiet. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 64s to 69s up to 76s; Danish, 60s to 69s up to 74s; Canadian, 62s to 65s up to 69s. Butter.—The butter market was firm. French, 104s to 112s; Danish, 118s to 120s; Russian, 88s to 102s; Dutch, 110s to 112s; Irish, 96s to 112s; Canadian, 106s to 110s; Australian, 88s to 110s; New Zealand, 108s to 112s; American, 84s to 100s. Lard: Lard was a steady market. Irish, 54s to 62s; American, 44s 6d to 46s 3d; Danish, 50s to 58s.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade slow. New hay made £3 to £3 5s per ton; clover, £2 15s to £3 15s per ton.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 65s to 70s per ton; old clover hay, 80s to 85s; old meadow hay, 77s 6d to 80s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed 50s to 60s; chop straw, 60s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Business in hay and straw was about the same as last week. New hay was not asked for. Hay in stack, 55s to 60s per ton; straw in bulk, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 7d; clover, 7½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The demand in the warehouses continues quiet, and prices of old hay and straw are unchanged. Quotations: Old meadow hay, 7d; clover hay, 7½d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best new hay and seeds made 60s to 65s; secondary quality, 50s to 55s.; old hay and seeds, 75s to 80s; straw, 35 per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4½d to 4¾d; clover, new, 4¾d to 5¾d; straw, oat, 3¾d to 4½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 15s to £5 5s per ton; this year's growth, £4 4s to £4 5s; new land hay, £5 15s to £6 5s; this year's growth, £4 17s 6d to £5; wheat straw, £1 10s to £1 15s per load; oat straw, £1 10s to £1 14s. There were 26 carts of hay and 13 carts of straw at market.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Fair supply at market, which met a good demand for best old. Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s.; inferior to good clover, 75s to 83s; prime ditto, 95s to 105s.; wheat straw, 55s to 60s; new hay, 60s to 70s; new seeds, 70s to 80s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Supplies very small, and trade showed little improvement. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; choice hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £2 15s to £3 5s.

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. ...	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9
Feb. ...	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0
March	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6
April ...	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6
May ...	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3
June ...	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6
July ...	23 6	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6
August		25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0
Sept. ...		24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3
Oct. ...		25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9
Nov. ...		25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3
Dec. ...		25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2

Monthly Averages.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1905.			1906.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.....	30 5	24 9	16 5	28 6	24 9	18 5
Feb	30 7	25 1	16 9	28 10	25 4	18 4
Mar. ...	30 10	25 1	16 11	28 5	24 8	18 11
April ...	30 9	24 8	17 3	29 1	24 2	19 1
May ...	30 10	24 8	18 5	30 2	24 0	20 0
June ...	31 8	24 4	19 2	30 4	23 4	20 2
July ...	32 0	22 8	18 4	30 4	23 1	20 4
Aug. ..	29 6	22 10	16 10	—	—	—
Sept. ...	26 10	23 9	16 0	—	—	—
Oct.....	27 1	24 11	16 6	—	—	—
Nov. ...	28 3	24 8	17 6	—	—	—
Dec. ...	28 5	24 6	18 0	—	—	—

Cereal Years Prices.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.
Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Aug. 20, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Aug. 21, 1905.
Beasts	1,060	1,060	1,070
Sheep and Lambs ...	5,860	5,860	7,170
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	35

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	5 8	6 4	7 4
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 61; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 984; Devon, 15; Ireland, nil.

To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of sixty head, the majority, as usual at this season of the year, arriving from the Midland Counties, Scotland and Ireland not even being represented. Trade for both prime and second quality fat beasts ruled slow; nevertheless, all sales were governed by last Monday's currencies. There was less inquiry from both town and country buyers for fat butchering cows and bulls, consequently the tendency in regard to value was a downward one, though barely sufficient to quote. There is little prospect of a clearance being effected in this part of the market to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Aug. 21, 1905.
	s d s d	s d s d
Scotch	— ...	—
Devons.....	4 4 to 4 6 ...	4 6 to 4 8
Herefords	4 4 ex 4 6 ...	—
Norfolks	— ...	—
Runts	4 0 to 4 2 ...	4 0 to 4 6
Lincolns	3 8 to 3 10 ...	3 10 to 4 0
Irish	— ...	4 0 to 4 5
Canadian.....	— ...	—
Fat Cows	3 4 ex 3 6 ...	3 4 ex 3 6

In the sheep market there was a decrease of 590 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last, this being attributed to the falling off in point of number in the Scotch consignments. Trade for both wethers and ewes was firm and steady, anything choice and of small weight making an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value; Scotch sheep shared also in the general brightening up of trade, and were also quoted 2d. higher, whilst Irish, on the other hand, met with less inquiry, but fully maintained late rates. There was a ready demand for lambs, and these being in average supply, met with a better trade at fully late rates. A clearance is confidently expected to be made in this part of the market. The supply included 100 Scotch, 1,140 Irish, and 502 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Aug. 21, 1905.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0 ...	5 6 to 5 8
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5 10 ...	5 4 to 5 6
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5 6 ...	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Yorkshires	— ...	—
12st Lincolns	— ...	—
10 st Irish	5 0 to 5 2 ...	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 2 to 4 4 ...	3 10 to 4 0
11 st Halfbred ditto.....	4 0 to 4 2 ...	3 8 to 3 10
5 st Down Lambs	7 2 to 7 4 ...	6 0 to 6 2
6 st Halfbred ditto	6 2 to 6 4 ...	5 8 to 5 10

Calf trade nominal.

No pigs on offer.

London Central.—Supplies good, better inquiry. Beef, Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; American, 3s 3d to 3s 6d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. English wethers, 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 8d. Lamb, English, 5s to 5s 8d. Scotch, 6s; New Zealand, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork, 3s. 8d to 4s 4d per 8 lbs.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 610. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 279 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade was of a fairly steady nature, a slight advance in value being noticeable for the best. Besides the above 290 more were withheld for Wednesday. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 1d; exceptional, 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per 8 lb sinking the offal. On Saturday 2,319 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and with a slow trade were quoted at from 3s 11d to 4s 1d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—The market for linseed cake continues firm, but, as usual during harvest, farmers are not sending orders. Decorticated and ordinary cottoncake unaltered. Linseed: Market strong and advancing.

English Linseed Cake..	ex mill	8 0 0 to 8 5 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay	—
American Western Linseed Cake ...	ex quay	7 10 0
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive)	ex quay	—
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 12 6 to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	8 0 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal	ex quay	—
London-made ,, Cake (best	ex mill...	5 2 6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 18 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 12 6
American Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb	ex warehouse	2 5 0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb	ex warehouse	2 4 6
La Plata Linseed (in bags) per 416 lb. (screened)	ex warehouse	2 3 0 2 10 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb	ex warehouse	None.

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is quiet, but prices continue to advance. The crop is now nearing maturity, and can be safely estimated not to exceed 280,000 cwt; whilst many experts maintain that 250,000 cwt is the utmost. The consumption is at least 700,000 cwt; the stock in brewers' hands and the possible imports will be subject to a serious strain to make good this deficiency.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Good business passing in trifolium, both early and late. Samples fine. Prices reasonable. New winter tares also new rape are coming out more freely. Samples show fine qualities, but stiff prices are asked so far.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade very slow, flockmasters holding for an advance. Present quotations:—Kent fleeces, 13d to 13½d; half-breds, 13d; Downs, 14d to 15d; lamb wool, 9d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—The market for wool is very quiet, business being chiefly of a hand-to-mouth character. Home-grown wools are selling at rates which are below those current in the country, but the belief here is that the highest prices this season will not be reached again, and so the disposition of staplers is to let country stocks alone.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1½d.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

With a slight increase in the supply of both prime and second quality beasts at Islington, trade for all descriptions was slow but steady, late rates governing all transactions. The Irish arrivals consisted entirely of Waterford cattle, but met with very little inquiry. As usual the majority of the supply was drawn from the Midland Counties. Fat butchering cows and bulls on Monday met with more inquiry from both town and country buyers, late currencies being well maintained, but on Thursday ruled very slow; nevertheless no lower rates can be quoted.

At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, there was a rather larger supply, the majority, as usual, arriving from the United States. Trade throughout the week ruled slow and dragging, with a downward tendency in value. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,508, as against 4,418 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,040 British (increase 280) and 4,468 foreign (increase 810), comprising 4,142 from the United States and 326 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d, ex. 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

With regard to sheep, trade, as usual, was confined to the Islington market, and ruled of a firmer and steadier nature for both wethers and ewes, sellers both asking and obtaining an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. Scotch descriptions were not so readily sought after, consequently were difficult to vend, notwithstanding sellers being willing to accept a decline in value. On Thursday a further advance of 2d. per 8 lb. for English sheep was made, with a firm trade. Small choice grass lambs met with a good inquiry on both market days, on Thursday salesmen asking an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. The total number penned was 8,700, as against 8,610 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8 lbs. as follows, sinking the offal: —7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9 stone Downs, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Downs, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Irish, 5s to 5s 2d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11 stone Half-bred ditto, 3s 10d to 4s; 5 stone Grass-fed lambs, 7s to 7s 2d; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 5s 10d to 6s.

Calves numbered 80 head and ruled firm and steady both in regard to tone and value, an advance of from 2d to 4d per 8 lb. in value being quoted.

Trade in the West.

Supplies of stores still continue to come very freely to hand, especially of the more ordinary grades, for which there is distinctly but very little of any call, the dry weather making speculators very cautious. Dairy cattle of a good stamp have, however, been in considerably more demand since the holidays at slightly enhanced rates, deep-milking heifers having again within the last few days touched £22, though a more average quotation is from £17 to £21, which is readily commanded by another at all suitable for town or other milk-walks, where a good supply of milk is of greater consideration than an extra pound or two in acquiring the best milchers on the market. Secondary descriptions are but little wanted at prices ranging from £16 down to as low as £11 or £12 for old cows, which have further dropped in value, whilst the better-class milchers are undoubtedly dearer. Grazing cattle also continue to meet a slow sale at declining values for bullocks out of condition; but good, fresh, young barreners meet a quick trade at full values—£24 to £30—the latter figure being only reached for nice young heifers or steers that want but little attention in the matter of finishing off.

The supply of good quality fat beasts has been scarcely as large as usual during the last few days, and possibly this may be due to graziers holding their stocks back owing to the hot weather. Bullocks of choice quality and nice weights have, as a consequence, found a quicker sale, especially small Devons and nice Shorthorns, as well occasionally as a few runts, and prices for this class of beef have been against the buyer, the best weights bringing 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per stone, the more ordinary grades 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., and coarse weights from 4s. to 4s. 2d, with a very slow trade at the quotation. Fat calves, owing to diminished offerings, have met a little stronger sale at outside values for the neatest weights—4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. Choice grades of small wether mutton have met a quick trade at from 46s. to 52s. each (or 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d. per stone); beavier sheep, 54s. to 59s. (5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d.); fat ewes, 38s. to 48s. (or 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.). Best sucking lambs, 32s. to 40s. each (or 6s. 8d. to 7s. per stone); mutton lambs, 40s. to 50s. (or 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d.). Fat porkers or neat baconers are the only things in fat pigs that claim anything like attention, these making from 9s. up to 10s. 6d. per score. Heavier weights very indifferent sale owing to the warm weather.

Trade in Ireland.

Last Thursday's Dublin market was a better one for both cattle and sheep than the previous one. The number of cattle and sheep on offer was about the same, but buyers—both cross-Channel and home—were more numerous, and seemingly more anxious to purchase, as the weather was cooler and more suitable for killing. Cattle numbered 2,807, or five more than the preceding market, and sheep 7,728, an increase of 28 on the week. Still, in both departments, especially sheep, the supply was much smaller than in the corresponding week of 1905. English buyers were well represented, and finding the supplies limited, bought in a much more spirited manner than at late markets. Business began early in the morning and was well kept up, a good clearance being effected of all beasts but those of very poor quality. The live-weight prices ruling were from 29s. to 32s. per cwt. for best; coarse qualities from 24s. to 26s. Some fancy Hereford and Aberdeen-Angus crosses made up to 33s. per cwt. The approximate dead-weight prices were:—Prime ox and heifer beef from 54s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt.; good secondary beef, 47s. to 53s., and inferior from 42s. to 46s. per cwt. Cow beef was rather a slow trade, some being sold at very cheap rates, and a few of the rougher sort did not find purchasers. All round, however, sellers had little reason to complain.

In the sheep market the demand for good sheep was decidedly firmer than last day. Home trade mutton was without much change. Heavy wethers cautiously dealt with in view of warmer weather, but those of smaller size moved fairly well, but the general inclination was to fill requirements from the lighter sort of ewes. The buying for hoggets suitable for the London market was brisk with prices favouring sellers. A strong business, too, was done in fat lambs—one very choice lot bringing the record price for this year, 47s. 6d. each, being bought to send to the Isle of Man. Coarse sheep did not clear well, owing to the large quantity of foreign mutton arriving weekly at British ports. Last week it totalled 79,884 cwt., as against 64,000 for corresponding week of last year. Best wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 7¾d.; ewe, 6d. to 7½d.; and coarse sheep from 5½d upwards. Large heavy hoggets made from 45s. to 55s each; small to medium ditto, 36s. to 44s. Small lambs sold from 18s. to 24s., and medium to large from 26s to 40s. Veal was a slow trade; choice veal not worth more than from 7d. to 7½d., inferior selling from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

Trade in store cattle getting slacker, and prices at country fair generally lower. Messrs. Cuffe and Sons and Messrs. R. and J. Wilkinson held sales in Dublin on Thursday, which were well attended, but rates were hardly so high as they have ruled for the last month or so. There was a fair attendance of shipping buyers at the pig market, but home traders were not up to the usual strength. The offering of pigs was moderate, but trade was quiet and prices difficult to maintain, and quotations generally showing a loss of 2s. to 3s. on the week. Choice light-weight pigs made from 52s. to 54s. per cwt. Good store pigs in brisk demand.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow for beef, but firm for mutton and lamb: English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto, fore-quarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, lambs, 5s 8d to 6s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 4s to 4s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was dull and dragging, prices ruling in favour of buyers, though not quotably so. Absolutely no demand for prime quality cattle. Top value: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. The sheep trade was decidedly firmer for both wethers and ewes, an advance of fully 2d per 8 lb being made on all transactions. Lambs met a good inquiry, anything small and choice finding ready purchasers at an advance of 2d per 8 lb. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½-stone to 8-stone Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 7s 4d; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s 2d. Rather larger number of calves, which met a limited demand, a reduction of fully 2d per 8 lb having to be made to effect sales. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 8d to 6s; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 8d; lambs, 5s 6d to 7s 4d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef and mutton sold slowly, without alteration in price, beasts making up to 4s 4d; Down sheep, 5s 10d; and Kents, 5s 2d. Veal dearer, at 5s to 5s 4d. Lamb cheaper, nothing over 6s 8d. Pork was unchanged, roasters making 4s 2d to 4s 4d.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, quality of stock fair, and trade dull. Stirks, £7 10s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £12 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep and pigs. Trade fair for lambs and pigs; trade slow for beasts. Beef, 5d to 6½d (Herefords 6¾d) per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s to 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a very short supply of beef at the market, and trade was slow. Prices for best qualities dropped 1s., touching 56s per cwt, and ranging up to 58s. Sheep in moderate numbers, business quiet; Down wethers ½d higher per lb, 8½d. There were few pigs.

Calne, Wednesday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 10s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 10s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 9s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—Charles and Thomas Harris & Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The dry weather tends to check business. Ewe lambs ranged from 19s to 23s 6d, and wether lambs up to 25s; ewe sheep were selling at from 22s to 43s per head. Cows and calves, £17 10s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 300 Irish cattle were exposed for sale, the bulk being wintering heifers. Buyers were well represented, but trade moved slowly. Small heifers, £6 10s to £10 10s; better sorts, for feeding, £13 to £15 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Fair supplies. Trade was confined to the best cattle, and for these buyers declined to pay any advance. Milch cows made £17 to £22, calvers £15 to £19, barrens £10 to £12, heifers £9 to £14, and stirks £8 to £10. A good supply of sheep, but few were sold.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Trade for fat cattle ruled firm, at fully late rates. Fresh calved and calving cows and heifers were in brisk demand at higher prices. Store cattle met with little inquiry, and several lots remained unsold. Quotations:—Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s to 4s 6d; pork, 3s 8d to 4s.

Colchester, Friday.—There was a very short supply, the little there was offering selling as follows:—Beef (grass), 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; mutton 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone; lamb, 7s per stone; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fair attendance, and a good sale for all first quality beasts and sheep, the latter being very dear. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 8d to 9d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of cattle and good supply of sheep. Only poor attendance and fair trade at late rates. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £16; stirks, £9 to £11; and young stores, £7 to £9 each. Sheep made 45s to 50s; ewes, 32s to 38s; lambs, 30s to 33s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Supplies came very freely to hand at to-day's cattle market, both at Messrs. Duke and Sons and also at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's, and buyers were well represented. There were some specially choice fat bullocks stalled, amongst which were some rare steers and heifers, which commanded a fairly brisk sale at from £15 15s to £21 15s (or 11s to 11s 6d per score); fat cows, £10 to £14 5s (with a slower sale at 10s per score). The milch beasts was again pretty active, especially for good heifers and also for useful cows, these making £16 10s to £21 (for heifers) and £9 10s to £13 for cows; in calvers also a fair sale at £7 10s to £10 each. The mutton trade was fairly good for the choicer grades, but slow for anything plain. Down wethers sold readily at 45s 6d to 54s (or 8d to 8½d per lb); fat ewes, 38s 6d to 45s 6d (or 7d to 7½d); and lambs from 34s 6d to 42s (or 10d per lb for choicest grades and 9d to 9½d for others).

Dublin, Thursday.—Choice well-finished cattle in fair request at last week's prices, other

sorts easier sold and a fair clearance effected. We had more life in the sheep and lamb department, best suitable lots for home and export slightly favouring sellers, middling and inferior qualities easier placed at last week's rates. Cattle.—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s per cwt. Fancy heifers touching 32s per cwt. Secondary sorts, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton.—Dead weight, 6d to 7¾d per lb. Lambs, 18s to 40s.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—For store sheep there was a fair selling trade. Half-bred gimmers made from 46s to 52s; Cheviot Dinmonts up to 41s; half-bred lambs to 33s; Cheviot shearlings to 43s; and half-bred sheep to 43s. Store cattle were a small show, with a fair demand; two-year-old bullocks up to £14; and stirks to £8. A small show of cows, with a good trade; Shorthorns up to £25; and Ayrshires to £19 10s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Shortest market at this period of the year for a long time. Demand fair and values steady to firm. Quotations:—Top Scotch cattle, 64s per cwt.; Irish, 58s; top hoggs, 9½d to 10d per lb.; top wedders, 8d to 9d; lambs, 9d to 10d. Dead meat, however, slow owing to hot weather. Best Scotch beef, 6½d; States, 5½d; Canadians, 5d; Irish, 4¾d; hoggs, 8d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A dull trade prevailed in beef, the supply being overdone. Best bullock and heifer beef made 6d per lb., and cow beef 4½d to 5d. Calves were a good supply, and trade ruled firm, veal making 7d. A moderate business took place in sheep, of which there was a fair supply. Best wether mutton realised 8d, and ewe mutton 6d. Fat lambs fetched about 9d per lb, and a good supply of store lambs also sold well. The pig trade was firm, the supply not being over large. Porks made 5d to 6d. Store pigs few and very dear. Store cattle, a small supply, met with a dull trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small consignment of beasts, and trade was slow. Young beasts, £8 to £10; milch cows, £17 to £21; strong beasts, to £13; lambs, 30s to 37s each.

Leicester, Saturday.—Restricted supplies of home-bred bullocks. Trade ruled sluggish and prices were fully 10s per head lower. Milch cows did not sell so freely, choice lots making £19 to £21; good lots, £16 to £17 10s; secondary, £14 to £15; Shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £13 10s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £11; young stock, £5 to £6; calves, 15s to 38s per head.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Scarcely any store beasts, and no quotation possible. Fat beasts not quite so numerous, and trade a little firmer at 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Average supply of sheep for the time of year, stores making 40s to 46s each. Fat sheep 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone. Stores lambs, 25s to 35s; fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5¾d to 6½d. Veal: firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Lamb: firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Prices drooping. Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second-class 7s to 7s 6d.; steers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d. Pig trade firm at 6s 3d to 7s 9d. Sheep favouring buyers at 5d to 8¾d; lambs, 8¾d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8¼d. At market:—Cattle, 1,811; sheep and lambs, 9,219; calves, 120; pigs, 369.

Newport, Wednesday.—A larger supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. A fair number of calves. Prices were well maintained. Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6½d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of fat beasts, and trade ruled about the same as last week, at 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. There were very few store cattle on offer, and were principally Irish; the demand was poor, but there was no variation in values; prices ranged from £6 to £17 per head. Store sheep made but a small market, and consisted principally of breeding ewes; trade was very quiet at about late rates. Lambs made from 32s to 40s per head, and breeding ewes 48s to 60s. Fat sheep were offered in limited supply, and met with a steady demand at 8s 6d to 9s per stone. There was a small show of both fat and store pigs, and trade was a trifle sharper. Fat pigs averaged 7s per stone. A clearance was effected.

Nottingham, Saturday.—A fair supply of stock, but trade slow. Best milking cows made £18 18s to £21, and younger animals £15 10s to £17 each. Calves realised 30s to 50s. No sheep or lambs were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a smaller supply in consequence of the holidays, and trade was rather slow, values being barely maintained. Quotations:—Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6½d, with some exceptionally choice beasts at 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5d to 6d; hogg sheep, 8½d; lambs, 9d; calves, 6¾ per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—There was no improvement in the store stock trade. Quotations were very low for both milch cows and young cattle, the former making £14 to £16, and the latter £4 to £10; calves, 36s to 40s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts; trade very slow. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce; trade a trifle better at 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade about the same. Choice small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. A short supply of lambs; trade a little better at 6s 2d to 6s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Fair supply of pigs; trade rather better at late rates.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show of cattle. Milch cows in fair demand, and made £18 to £20 10s; smaller cattle, £13 10s to £15 10s.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 140 cattle, 167 sheep, and 143 pigs. Rather a smaller show of the best cattle, which met with a better and firmer trade at 7s 6d to 8s per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d. Lambs fetched 10d per lb; young sheep, 9d; ewes, 7d; and tups 6d per lb. Pigs were not quite so numerous, and prices were inclined upwards, porkers making 7s 6d per stone, mediums 7s, and sows 6s 6d.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies, and good trade all round. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb; porket pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 8s 6d to 9s 6d score. Cows with calves up to £23 15s.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was an exceedingly large all-round entry of stock at this market on Tuesday last, and with a full attendance of buyers from London, Reading, Newbury, Wallington, Henley, Maidenhead, Aylesbury, Oxford, Wycombe, Missenden, Beaconsfield, and surrounding villages. Trade ruled brisk throughout. There was a grand show of cattle, best quality was in keen demand, and there was decidedly more trade for fat cows, an all-round rise of 2d per stone being quotable. Messrs. Bond and Burrows had a wonderful fine lot of sheep, and were supported by a very large number of buyers. Trade was keen throughout, and every lot with the exception of two ewes were disposed of. This firm's sale comprises 100 fat beasts, 489 fat and store sheep, 94 at and weaning calves, and 98 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £15 15s to £20 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £20 10s; fat wethers, 48s to 66s; fat ewes, 42s to 60s 6d; fat lambs, 34s to 44s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 50s; bull calves 10s to 45s; bacon hogs, £3 to £5; porkers, 26s to 35s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk. Attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 56s to 58s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s each; cows and calves, £9 to £15; rearing calves, 15s to 40s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 13s to 33s; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; ditto, cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A larger number of animals penned, and fair demand. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb.; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb.; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s per score; sows, 8s to 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show, with beef 3d per stone cheaper. Best beef, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; secondary, 6s to 6s 6d per stone; best Southdown wether and cross-bred, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; veal, 8d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Milking animals continue in good demand. Cows with calves sold at £17 5s to £21 5s; secondary, £13 15s to £16 10s; heifers and calves, £15 10s to £19 5s; in-calf cows, £14 10s to £17 15s; in-calf heifers, £13 5s to £17 5s; barreners, £10 to £15 15s; steers, £10 5s to £14 5s; yearling heifers, £7 10s to £8 15s; horn wethers, 47s 6d to 52s 6d; horn ewes, 43s to 58s; horn wether lambs, 31s to 34s; horn Chilver lambs, 28s to 32s; Down wethers, 46s to 50s; Down ewes, 40s to 46s 6d; slip pigs, 17s 6d to 26s; stores, 40s to 45s.

York, Thursday.—There was a large number of lambs on offer, which met with a slow trade. Best choice crossed lambs made up to 34s, others 27s to 32s. A few North country lambs made 34s to 38s. Best choice crossed sheep made up to 52s, and others 44s to 50s, and Mashams from 40s to 46s. There was rather a large show of Irish store cattle, but only a few were sold at late rates. Small show of calving and milch cows. Calvers made 19 guineas to 20 guineas each.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 1,362 head being penned. All were from Montreal, and were delivered in good condition. There was a large attendance of buyers, but trade was at times slow, and prices, owing to the large supplies, were generally lower for all classes of bullocks, but bulls, being scarce, made about late rates. Bullocks of first-class quality made up to 54s per cwt dead weight, while secondary, middling, and inferior animals were disposed of from 50s to 52s per cwt. Prime choice bulls were cashed at about 50s per cwt dead weight, and rough and coarse qualities down to 46s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—The following are current prices:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda	11	7	6	11	10	0
East India Bone Meal	5	5	0			
Kainit	2	2	6	2	3	9
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Linseed Cake, American	7	10	0	7	12	6
,, ,, English, prime	8	0	0	8	7	6
,, ,, Foreign, round, soft and oily	7	15	0	7	17	6
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated, scarce	8	3	9	8	6	3
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	12	6		—	
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	5	0		—	
Crushed Cottonseed	7	12	6		—	
Maize Germ Meal	5	15	0		—	
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	6	5	0
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	15	0	4	17	6
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6		—	
Treacle, feeding, prime		4	9	4	10½	
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime ,, ,, guaranteed	nominal.					
Basic Slag, prime quality ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, finest ,,	nominal.					

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—There is quite an average consumptive demand, but practically no speculative inquiry, and with only a moderate quantity of Foreign available both for spot and for shipment the market is well supported. All descriptions remain steady at last week's prices. Cotton cakes—With decreasing stocks of Egyptian and the probability of no further supplies for at least a month, holders have again raised their limits and prices are 2s 6d advance on last week, which also applies to English and Bombays. Decorticated do not offer, but American meal in the warehouse is 1s 3d more money. Rape cakes—Firm but unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—White American just arrived is procurable at last week's price, whilst English makes are 1s 3d less money. Maize Gluten Feed unchanged at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon make £4 13s 9d to £4 15s, but there are sellers of steamer parcels afloat at £4 10s to £4 11s 3d ex ship terms. Locust beans are without alteration at £5 15s for whole and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Dried Brewers' Ale Grains are exceptional value at £4 10s to £4 15s per ton as to quality.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ... ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Russian, in mats	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
Calcutta ... to arrive	7 15 0	
American	7 10 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
English	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	5 0 0	
Ravison	4 15 0	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ... ex warehouse	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
,, ... autumn	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, spot		10 17 6
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole		5 15 0
Kibbled		6 0 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

ADVERTISEMENTS received after Friday cannot appear under Classified Heading, so are inserted on the last pages of the late MARKET SUPPLEMENT.

EGGS.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 9 and 10. Brigg: 12 to 14. Devizes: 14 to 16. Driffield: 13 and 14. Evesham: 1s to 1s 0½d per doz. Kidderminster: 10. Northtawton: 12. Penistone: 12. Penzance: 10d to 1s 1d per doz. Plymouth: 1s to 1s 2d per doz. Ripon: 10 and 11. Scarborough: 9. Wetherby: 11 and 12.

Friday.—Altrincham: 9 and 10. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2s per doz. Barnstaple: 9 and 10. Chester: 10. Camelford: 14. Crewe: 10. Dartmouth, 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 11. Helmsley: 12. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 12. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 10. Nantwich: 11 and 12. Northwich: 10 and 11. Otley: 10 and 11. Redruth: 11d per doz. Runcorn: 9 and 10. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 9d to 11. Stockport: 9 to 10. Tavistock: 11 to 13. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 to 12. Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 11 and 12. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 12 to 14. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Lancaster: 7 to 10. Malton: 11 and 12. Pontefract 13. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 9, Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Skipton: 11 and 12. Stokesley: 11 and 12. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 10. York: 10.

BUTTER.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Driffield: 1s to 1s. 1d. Evesham: 1s 1½d. Kidderminster: 1s. 1d. Northtawton: 1s 3d. Penistone, 1s 1d. Penzance: 11d to 1s 1d. Plymouth: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Ripon: 2s per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d. to 1s. 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 5d to 1s 7d. Barnstaple: 1s 8d. Chester: 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Helmsley: 1s 2d Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 3d to 1s 4d Lincoln: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Lostwithiel: 1s. Macclesfield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s to 1s 1d. Runcorn: 1s 3d St. Austell: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stamford: 1s to 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 4d to 1s 7d. Totnes, 1s 5d to 1s 6d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11½d to 1s 1d. Berwick: 10d to 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 1d. Doncaster: 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 3d. to 1s 4d. Howden: 1s to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Pontefract, 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Skipton: 1s 0½d to 1s. 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s. 2d. Whitby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate arrival of cheese, and fair trade. Cheddars 60s to 64s., and Dunlops 56s to 62s per cwt. Canadians claiming a moderate amount of attention are inclined to be firmer.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 24 tons of cheese pitched, and with a large attendance all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 57s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 54s to 55s 6d; and other dairies, 46s to 52s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 42s. Cheddars made 62s to 65s; truckles, 60s to 61s 6d; doubles, 58s.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a brisk demand, and a fairly good attendance of buyers. Quotations: Caerphillies, 44s to 52s per cwt; fancy dairies, 53s to 55s; truckles, 65s to 63; Derbys, 65s to 66s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A steady demand prevailed for a good supply of fruit and greenstuffs. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 2s 6d to 8s per bushel; pears, 2s to 4s per half-sieve; grapes, 8d to 2s; red currants, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per half-sieve; raspberries, 3s 6d to 9s per dozen punnets; green figs, 1s to 4s; nectarines, 2s to 10s 6d per dozen; peaches, 2s to 12s per dozen; tomatoes, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per 12 lb; plums, 2s to 6s 6d per half-sieve; greengages, 8d to 1s 3d per box; ditto, 2s to 3s 6d per half-sieve; scarlet runners, 1s to 1s 6d; French beans, 1s 6d to 2s; beetroots, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per bushel; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; vegetable marrows, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s per tally; green peas, 2s to 3s per bushel; ditto, 4s to 6s per bag; sage, 9d to 1s; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; mint, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; artichokes, 1s to 2s per dozen; mushrooms, 6s to 12s per 12 lb; cucumbers, 3s 6d to 6s per flat; potatoes, 55s to 75s per ton.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has shown a strong tendency and a much better demand at about:—17s ale, 14s porter, 27s 6d distillers, and 32s 6d pressed white distillery meal, per ton. Other articles without any particular change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, distillers 112s 6d per ton on rail London; also ale 90s, and mixed 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail or docks London, seller's option.—HAMLYN AND Co.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Rain has fallen at places, but there is no considerable improvement in the prospects of the hop crop. The yield will vary greatly in different gardens, from 15 cwt. downward, the average being below that of 1904. The market is very firm, and good hops are realising considerably higher prices.

Worcester, Saturday. — Reports from the plantations are rather more favourable, and refreshed by the rain the plants are coming nicely into burr and the earlies into hop. Trade continues to be of a retail character for actual requirements, the firmness of holders checking buying on any big scale.—CHARLES FARAM AND Co.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—This market is uncommonly well supplied, especially with Ayrshires. Ayrshires, 48s; East Lothian, 58s per ton. Considerable quantities of growing potatoes (chiefly British Queen and Up-to-Date), have been sold on the Borderland at from 1s to 1s 3d per score yards, which is a slight increase on last year's prices.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies available experienced quiet attention. Quotations:—English Puritans, 65s to 70s; Silts, 65s to 70s; Duke of York, 65s to 70s; Early Rose, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s; Beauty of Hebrons, 65s to 70s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supplies of potatoes at both the public retail markets, and a steady at 5d to 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Plenty of potatoes on offer, and fair trade. Prices, 3s 3d to 3s 9d per 8 stones. Retail, 20 lb for 1s.

Goole, Wednesday. — Moderate attendance. Potatoes remain cheap at 5s 7½d per load. The heavy rains of late have affected the crop to some extent.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply of potatoes, which met a ready sale at 5s to 6s per load; retail, 5d to 6d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday. — Cheshire, new, rounds, 5s to 6s 6d; kidneys, 5s to 6s per load.

Preston, Saturday.—New potatoes made 5s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday. — Home-grown potatoes were plentiful and in good condition, and made 8s to 9s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Heavy supplies were submitted, for which a very slow demand existed. Quotations:—English Puritans, 3s 3d; Early Rose, 3s; Duke of Yorks, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Beauty of Hebrons, 2s 9d to 3s per hamper.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshire potatoes, £4 5s; Scotch potatoes, £3 per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Large supply of potatoes, which made 7s to 7s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—An average supply of new potatoes, which met a fair demand, late rates being maintained. Wholesale, 45s to 47s 6d per ton; retail, 2s 3d per hamper of 6 stones.

PUMPING MACHINERY is always required amongst the class of readers who regularly take the "Mark Lane Express"—the larger farmers and estate owners.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
THIRD ANNUAL SHOW
will be held in the Bath Grounds, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1906.
Prize-money and cups amounting in value to over £305 awarded to Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Cheese, Butter, and Roots.
Open Classes for Hunters, Shire Mares and Foals, Jumping, Driving, and Poultry.
Public Luncheon on the ground at a charge of 2s. 6d. each.
Admission: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 1s.; 4 to close, 6d.; Grand Stand Seats, 2s. and 1s.
Entries close for the Agricultural portion August 22, for the Poultry portion August 31 (no Poultry entries will be accepted after this date).
By kind permission of Colonel A. C. Cantrell-Hubbestry and the Officers of the Regiment, the Band of The Robin Hood Rifles (under the direction of Bandmaster Pounder) will play selections of music during the day and for Dancing in the evening.
Grand Display of Fireworks by W. and J. Wilder, Birmingham.
Special Railway Fares see Railway Company's Bills.
Full particulars from W. H. GERMAN, Secretary, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

FARM MANAGER seeks RE-ENGAGEMENT (Michaelmas) to manage one or more farms; life experience as such; good references.—C. CROW, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent.

"FODDER CROPS."
Their Growth, Cultivation and Use.
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Post Free 1/2½.
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By Post 1s. 3d.
RATIONAL PIG-KEEPING TO ENSURE PROFIT
(REVISED EDITION)
BY
W. J. MALDEN.
LONDON:
WM. A. MAY, *Farm, Field & Fire* side Office,
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1906.

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For FARMERS . . .
,, DAIRYMEN . .
,, CONSUMERS .
Price TWO SHILLINGS,
By Post, 2/3.
LONDON:
Published by W. A. MAY,
"Mark Lane Express" Office,
3, WELLINGTON STREET,
Strand, W.C.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—August 20, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The Board of Agriculture crop estimates are somewhat more optimistic than the markets expected, but the figures for wheat and barley secure a fairly general acceptance. It is the estimate for oats which is challenged; a suggestion of 5 per cent. improvement on last year is not borne out by a survey of either the eastern or southern counties, while the idea of a 2 per cent. over the average yield for the entire kingdom can only be entertained on the hypothesis that the north and west are reaping very heavy crops of oats indeed. Certainly we hear of some very fine yields; but, on the other hand, there has been an excessive rainfall in Western Scotland, and the securing of the oats is now hindered by stormy weather.

The French wheat crop is threshing out very well, and it is not now anticipated that France will need to import more than 1,500,000 qr. of foreign wheat. This is only half the average, and points to the home crop being 1,500,000 qr. above the mean. The wheat import needs of Spain will be 2,000,000 qr. less than in 1905, but Italy may need to import somewhat heavily.

The reports of bumper wheat crops in Roumania and Bulgaria must be received with some reserve. The returns from these regions of small peasant farmers cannot be ranked statistically high, and there are at the present moment powerful commercial influences interested in bearing the wheat market. Some new Russian Azima wheat has reached England in postal samples, and the quality is decidedly inferior to that of last year.

The American reports from the 18th to the 25th indicate extraordinary heat in the chief harvest districts, and there have been many sad cases of death from sunstroke on the great plains of the North-West. The wheat in some cases will, it is thought, be parched and shrivelled, but where the water supply is adequate the natural strong habit of the wheat plant should give some fine crops under the stimulus. Manitoba cables are less satisfactory from a week ago.

The price of wheat during the past week has declined 1s to 2s per qr. for new English, 6d to 1s for Indian, Russian, and Californian, and 3d to 6d for Argentine, American, Australian, and New Zealand. In Manitoba old prices rule. The eagerness to sell new English wheat should be restrained.

The price of flour has fallen 6d per sack at nearly all markets, and the Board of Trade reports a fall of a farthing in the quartern loaf in London. Bakers, as a matter of fact, seldom make so small a change either one way or the other, but they have reduced the price of bread by a farthing on the half-quartern loaf in some of the poorer suburbs, and the Government strikes an average on returns from, we believe, thirty-nine "bakers' districts." In East Anglia bread is now very cheap, 4½d per quartern loaf being the usual price.

Spring corn is little changed on the week, but here and there a decline of 6d has been allowed on feeding barley. Cheap Russian oats are a drug in the market, but maize, though in free offer, is not depressed, the retail use of it being constant and large.

An interesting forecast of the surpluses of the great wheat-producing regions appears in Beerbohm's Shipping List for the 24th inst. The following are the figures:—Russia, 15,000,000 qr.; America, 25,000,000 qr.; South-East Europe, 12,500,000 qr.; Argentina, 12,500,000 qr.; India, 5,000,000 qr.; Australasia, 4,000,000 qr.; various, 1,500,000; total, 75,500,000 qr. America here includes Canada. The Indian total is much less than the official estimate would lead us to expect, but this estimate has failed this year to obtain the general confidence of the trade. The total for South-East Europe appears to us very problematical.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States is thus cabled:—

Aug. 25, 1906	5,785,000 qr.
Aug. 26, 1905	2,983,000 ,,
Aug. 27, 1904	2,460,000 ,,

This very great increase is undoubtedly more or less of a danger signal to the British markets. American new wheat is coming forward with a freedom not paralleled of the last two years.

Stocks of imported wheat and flour in the granaries of the United Kingdom are thus estimated:—

Aug. 25, 1906	2,610,000 qr.
Aug. 26, 1905	2,450,000 ,,
Aug. 27, 1904	2,115,000 ,,

These figures do not tend to relieve the situation. At the same time, nobody can fairly say that a month's reserves are excessive; 2,610,000 qr. do not exceed a month's clearwants. The real question is who should bear the burden of keeping wheat stocks, and many think that it is in reality a national concern.

Sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were very small for the season, but total sales since Sept. 1 are still a good total when compared with the previous cereal year:—

This season 2,914,000 qr. at 28s. 10d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,659,000 ,, 30s. 8d. ,,

The sales of British barley for the two seasons approximate very closely, and prices are also very similar:—

This season 3,201,000 qr. at 24s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, 3,135,000 ,, 24s. 7d. ,,

The sales of British oats last week showed an increase, but it is evident that the total for the season will be much below the average:—

This season ..... 925,000 qr. at 18s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,158,000 qr. at 17s. 1d. ,,

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 499,000 qr.: a large supply.
Flour, 93,500 sacks: a moderate supply.
Barley, 99,000 qr.: a moderate supply.
Oats, 136,000 qr.: liberal arrivals.
Maize, 192,000 qr.: fairly good imports.

Sales of breadstuffs since harvest have been as follows:—

Wheat	21,553,000 qr.
Flour	4,600,000 ,,
Total	26,153,000 ,,

Supplies of wheat on passage show a slight decline on the week:—

Californian, 270,000 qr.; American, 260,000 qr.; Russian, 100,000 qr.; Roumanian, 70,000 qr.; Indian, 790,000 qr.; Argentine, 330,000 qr.; Australasian, 410,000 qr.; various, 40,000 qr.; total, 2,270,000 qr.; a week ago, 2,332,000 qr.

The quantity of flour on passage has fallen from 208,000 sacks to 148,000 sacks.

The large shipments of barley from Russia have raised the total on passage from 277,000 qr. to 375,000 qr. Of maize the following quantities are on passage:—

Flat corn, 75,000 qr.; yellow corn, 1,030,000 qr.; round corn, 90,000 qr.; total, 1,195,000 qr.

The enormous preponderance of one sort requires no further illustration than the figures themselves.

American shipments last week were fair of wheat but small of all other staples. Wheat, 240,000 qr.; barley, 28,000 qr.; oats, 9,000 qr.; maize, 40,000 qr.; and flour, 50,000 sacks.

Argentine shipments were heavy of maize, but otherwise moderate. Wheat, 140,000 qr.; maize, 329,000 qr.; and linseed, 21,000 qr.

Russian shipments of barley and oats were very heavy, but wheat and maize were not exported very freely. Wheat, 136,000 qr.; barley, 480,000 qr.; oats, 522,000 qr.; and maize, 25,000 qr. Roumania supplemented these shipments with 205,000 qr. of wheat, 146,000 qr. of barley, and 81,000 qr. of maize.

India was a modest shipper, total exports being 73,000 qr. of wheat, 30,000 qr. of linseed, and 16,000 qr. of rapeseed.

THE BALTIC.

The wheat cargo trade is weak for American futures, but firmer for Indian. With respect to Russian and Argentine, there are daily fluctuations. Sales have included Red Walla at 30s. 6d. per 500 lb.; No. 2 Red Winter 27s. 3d. per 480 lb.; Bahia Blanca at 28s. 9d. per 480 lb.; White Kurrachee at 29s. 6d. per 492 lb.; Victorian at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb.; Azima (Russian Winter) 29s. 6d. per 492 lb.; No. 1 Northern Manitoba 30s. 3d. per 480 lb.; and American Hard Winter new crop prompt shipment 28s. per 480 lb.

Other cargo sales comprise Argentine maize at 20s. per 480 lb.; Odessa maize at 21s. 3d. per 480 lb.; Vologda oats at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb.; Jamba Rapeseed at 38s. per 416 lb; Egyptian cottonseed at £6 17s. 6d. per ton; and locust beans (Portuguese) at £4 18s. 9d. per ton.

The secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards have been made up, viz.:—

	At time of discharge.
Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fé, f.a.q.	
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	58·85 lb.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	59·55 ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	60·45 ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	61·45 ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	62·15 ,,
Bahia Blanca/Barletta and/or Russo	...60 95 ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	61·65 ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	62·55 ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	63·15 ,,
Barletta wheat from Buenos Aires	.....62·05 ,,
Hongrois wheat	60 95 ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	62·55 ,,
Yellow and red La Plata maize. (All May shipments).	

The Association has also adopted the following standards, viz.:—La Plata bran and pollard, May shipments. Canterbury Chamber of Commerce, Crop 1906: Wheat: Hunters, Pearl, Tuscan. Oats: Dun, Danish, Sparrowbill, Canadian, Garton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 7 wheat (1 Geelong, 1 Port Broughton, 1 Portland (O.), 2 Port Wakefield, 1 Sydney, 1 Tacoma). 1 Barley (Valparaiso). Total 8.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 1 wheat (Antwerp).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 211 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 3 maize, 1 locust beans, and 23 linseed; total, 243.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 267 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 8 barley 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed; total, 350.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—There is not a great deal of business passing this week, the warm weather seeming to keep the consumption low. The supplies of English are not overlarge (but with the big importations of foreign, which meet it in keen competition) more than sufficient for all requirements. With the corn harvest in the South well under weigh, and a consequent stoppage of supplies from France, things ought to be much better than they are, and the demand will have to wake up considerably in the near future or else we shall have to look for a relapse in values. Salesmen are finding business very difficult, as the prices asking in the country are much higher than their London parity, and it is well nigh impossible to do trading on a profitable basis. New hay is the only quality which seems to find a good demand, the value of this being now nearly on a level with that of old crop. There have been excessive supplies of straw, and with market in a slumpy condition for this class of stuff prices are again down. There have been large arrivals of foreign, and Canadian mixture is a bad trade at lower money; other qualities are also a shade easier. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English old crop best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 60s to 67s 6d per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 87s 6d to 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; seconds mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 24s per load; oat straw, 25s per load; barley straw, 23s per load, all ex rail, London Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 74s per ton; good Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 75s per ton; large balo wheat straw, 51s per ton; small bale wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fairly good demand for a moderate supply. Prices: Goslings, 4s to 5s 6d; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 3s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; quails, 1s to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 2s to 2s 6d; leverets, 1s to 1s 6d; Scottish hares, 1s to 1s 3d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; live hens, 1s 6d

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat, English steady, quiet, about late rates. Foreign held for Monday's prices, but inactive. South Russian, ex ship, quoted 29s to 33s, landed at 30s 6d to 33s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 3d; No. 2 at 30s 6d; No. 3 at 30s. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steady, but inactive. Mixed American, landed quoted at 22s. 6d, River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 6d to 20s 9d, landed at 21s to 21s 3d. Barley quiet. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 3d; landed at 19s to 19s 3d. Oats dull, unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, quiet, at about late rates. Foreign: Americans held for 3d advance, through small supplies; other sorts firm, inactive. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 29s, 33s, landed at 30s 6d, 33s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba 31s 6d, No. 2 30s 9d, No. 3 at 30s 6d, choice white Karachi at 29s 3d; soft red Karachi at 28s 6d. Flour steady, unchanged. Maize steadily held, but quiet; mixed American landed quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 6d, 20s 9d; landed 21s, 21s 3d. Barley slow; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 3d, landed at 19s, 19s 3d. Oats rather steadier but inactive; Russians quoted at 15s 3d, 15s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Buyers were neither numerous nor eager, and the best samples of 65 lb new white wheat did not reach 31s; oats also were 6d cheaper. Quotations:—New white wheat, 29s to 30s 6d; red, 28s to 30s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; black winter oats, 19s to 20s; grey peas, 29s to 30s; English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; foreign ditto, 21s to 23s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; flat maize, 25s to 26s; round, 23s to 24s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s to 27s 6d per qr; barley (old), 25s to 28s per qr; beans (old), 33s to 33s 6d per qr; oats, 17s to 18s per qr; oats (old), 23s to 24s per qr; peas (old), 30s to 36s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, with practically no home grown grain of any description on offer.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was only a small attendance, a slow, dragging trade resulting. Sellers of foreign wheats were willing to accept rather lower prices, but buyers held off. Plate maize was 3d to 6d lower on the week, flat being the turn dearer. Grinding barley was unchanged in value at 18s 9d per 400 lb at Sharpness. New English wheats were more freely offered, and made from 28s to 29s per qr (496 lb). New oats, both black and white, were offered at 18s per 312 lb, 22s being asked for old ones. Old beans, 13s 9d per 196 lb delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—A small attendance, and a slow trade at last week's prices. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; new oats, English, 16s to 18s; new winter oats, 19s to 20s; peas, 29s to 30s; old beans, 33s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday. — Several lots of new English wheat offering on our market to-day, condition being variable, and prices ranging from 27s to 28s. Foreign wheat the turn lower. Maize and barley lower. Oats unaltered. Flour slow, bakers being reluctant to buy beyond immediate requirements.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday.—Very indifferent attendance. Wheat quiet trade; fair supply in variable condition, and experienced a slight reaction on last week's prices, and were quoted at from 27s to 28s per quarter on rail for the better quality. Peas 28s per quarter. Tares 6s per bushel. The demand for offals still much exceed the supply, and millers find it difficult to satisfy the demand of their customers. Cakes firm, but quiet.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a large attendance and increased supplies. Wheat made 27s to 27s 6d per 504 lb. Barley was in rather better supply, and the turn cheaper, prices ranging from 25s to 31s. Small supply of oats and prices unchanged.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices have about found their level, but trade is not brisk; 64 lb wheats range from 29s 6d to 30s; useful lots of barley are making from 28s to 31s; 44 lb oats are quoted at 19s 6d; and best old oats up to 23s; new grey peas, 29s to 30s per qr.

Chester, Saturday. — No samples of new English grain offering; old samples maintained full prices. Indian (feeding) a turn dearer, while River Plate has been obtainable at slightly easier rates. Quotations: Wheat, white 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75 lb; grinding barley, old, 3s. 6d. to 4s per 64 lb.; beans, old, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per 80 lb.; oats, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; old, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 6d to 12s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A small attendance, and business quiet. New white wheat, 28s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 30s; old white ditto, 33s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 20s 6d; oats, English, 18s to 22s; new black and grey winter oats, 19s to 19s 6d; peas, 34s; maize, 21s to 22s 6d; flour, 25s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, and good supply of new grain at prices as below:—White wheat, English, 28s to 30s; red ditto, English, 27s to 28s; malting barley, English, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, foreign, 20s; oats, English, 17s to 18s.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A fair attendance. Wheat in moderate supply, and trade pretty good at about 1s per qr decline in wheat. New corn generally in excellent condition. Trade in spring corn quiet. Quotations: Wheat, old, 11s 6d to 12s; new, 10s to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 19s to 21s per 352 lb; beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Very small supply of wheat, both old and new, and it sold at irregular prices. Spring corn unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, old white, 32s to 34s; old red, 31s to 32s; new red, 30s to 31s; old beans 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 18s to 19s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a very small supply of corn, farmers being busy with the harvest. Wheat was lower in value, 14s per sack of 12 score 12 lb being about the present price of corn of good quality. Oats are also a shade easier. Other corn unaltered in value. The corn generally was never harvested in better condition, and the quality all round will be excellent. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 14s 6d; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 21s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 16s to 19s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—A fairly good show of English wheat, and condition good. Prices range from 10s to 11s per load. Moderate show of new oats, which made 17s to 18s per qr for blacks, and 17s to 18s 6d per qr for whites; old oats, 3d to 6d per qr dearer on the week. Foreign wheat very firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—At to-day's market attention was largely centred in the new season's samples, of which some very decent quality wheat as well as barley was shown. But buyers as yet displayed but little eagerness to embark in purchases, most factors preferring to let prices get a little more established before speculating. A general run for wheat was looked upon, as fairly decent samples was from 26s to 28s per qr., which scarcely appeared satisfactory to holders, who thought there was room for improvement in this respect. Some of the samples were not sufficiently matured to elicit a quotation. Barley was very well spoken of as far as it had yet come forward with a good promise for malting descriptions. Foreign wheat was scarcely so dear, but with more demand for feeding stuffs owing to the shortness of grass prices displayed a little more buoyancy. The harvest in Dorset will be completed this week.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a fair attendance. No Irish wheat and barley offered. Oats slow, and prices easier. Flour quiet at low rates. Oatmeal quiet. Bran in fair request and firm. Pollard scarce and dear. Oats, 11s 6d to 13s 9d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow. Old English wheat was unchanged, and new made 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Barley and maize were 3d to 6d cheaper. Oats unchanged. Flour steady. Old English wheat, 4s; new, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fine 22s to 25s.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market quietly steady for all articles. Flat maize still scarce at 12s 9d per 280 lb.; round, 12s 1½d to 12s 4½d. No new home grain yet reached the market.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat steady in tone, but nominally unchanged. Flour in slow demand, and in buyers' favour. Maize quiet, and fully 3d per boll cheaper. Corn still scarce, and 3d to 4½d per boll advance asked. Barley steady, with a quiet sale passing. Oats—unchanged for home; foreign firmer, with a better inquiry. Beans and peas unchanged. Bran and thirds show no change. Oatmeal quiet, but firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Moderate supply. New reds made 3s 6d, and whites 2d more. Foreign wheat a fair trade with prices unchanged. Round maize 3d lower, flat unchanged. Grinding barley steady. Oats better trade at 18s to 20s.

Grantham, Saturday.—Wheat was in good supply, and changed hands at 27s to 28s per qr. A few samples of rubbed-out barley, showing very good quality, were offered, but prices are not yet settled. Several lots of blue peas, which met with a good inquiry, and up to 63s per qr was paid. Oats ranged from 16s to 17s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance. A downward tendency prevailed in wheats and oats. Barley not yet offering. Maize as last week. Several inquiries for vetches, but none on offer. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 4s per 56 lb.; oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; beans, 4s to 4s 3d per 65½ lb; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A very fair supply of wheat threshed out from the field, and a considerable business done at 28s 6d to 29s 3d per 504 lb delivered at Ipswich. Samples of "rubbed out" barley, some of them nice and mellow, but others rather "steely," were shown, but prices are purely nominal at present. Some new oats were sold at 17s to 18s per quarter, and tares at 6s to 7s per bushel. Maize was unchanged at 21s 3d for Plate, and 21s 6d for Danubian.

Leeds, Friday. — Old English and foreign wheat was quiet at Tuesday's prices. Samples of new English wheats were in better supply, and, the quality being above last year's average, fair prices were obtained. Best descriptions made 30s per qr, and inferior kinds 28s to 29s. New oats were also more plentiful, prices averaging from 17s to 18s. There was no change in beans, peas, barley, maize, or flour.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather, although not settled, has been more favourable the last few days for harvest work, which is now in full swing. Markets have shown little animation. Millers are still buying from hand to mouth, but prices of wheat have kept fairly steady for all approved qualities, Indians being the turn dearer. Very little new English wheat showing; prices vary according to quality and condition. Maize, beans, and oats quiet at late prices.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with more new home-grown wheats offering. Samples came to hand in good condition. Trade steady. Old wheats, 31s to 34s; new wheats; grinding barley, 24s to 25s; short oats, 22s to 24s; long oats, 18s to 20s; old oats 23s to 25s per 26 stones.

Liverpool, Friday.—Market fairly well attended. Wheat very steady; white sorts about unchanged, but Springs and choice Kurrachee being scarce, are held at ¾d to 1d advance on last market day's rates. Flour: A quiet trade without actual change in prices of either home-made or foreign brands. Maize in good demand all round. Plate is held at late rates, but mixed American, being scarce, is fully 1½d per cental dearer than last Tuesday. European quiet, unchanged. Barley in fair consumptive demand at late rates. Beans quiet, with a moderate demand at unchanged prices. Peas quiet but steady, with only an occasional change in values. Oats quiet, occasionally the turn easier. Oatmeal steadily held at recent quotations, but demand slow. Oilcake: A moderate business passing without change in values. Indian meal in active request at last Tuesday's rates. Offals in good demand at better prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Not quite such intense heat on the early days of this week, but quite warm enough to conduce to indifference to trade. The supply of new wheat not large, and 28s to 31s or 32s per qr the range of cost. New peas are on offer at about 29s, and but few oats except winters at about 18s to 20s per 320 lb. Barley is not on show enough to register values. In other grain, &c., no change.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat, ½d lower; and foreign the turn easier. Flour occasionally 6d per sack lower, and quiet. In Indian corn mixed American was 1d dearer, and Plate ½d lower. Oats unchanged, and steady. Barley: Foreign rather dearer. English beans in sellers' favour, and foreign lower. Peas slightly easier. Bran and other articles scarce at full rates.

Newark, Wednesday.—Only a small attendance; more showing in new wheats at little easier prices. Quotations: Old wheat, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; new wheat, 28s to 29s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; old white oats, 24s; new ditto, 18s; new black oats, 18s to 17s 6d; old beans, 36s to 37s; new beans, 30s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A quiet demand for wheats at our to-day's market; prices remain steady at late rates, a few parcels of new were shown, the condition, however, was only moderate. Prices for maize remain steady, Plate slightly in buyers' favour, demand not active. Old oats remain steady, new slightly easier. Beans and peas are scarce, consequently merchants who have a few on spot hold them for high prices. Barley quiet, not much on offer.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat unchanged on the week. Barley and maize unaltered. Flour fines, 23s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance,

and a good show of new wheat and new barley. Oats in poor supply. New wheat, 27s to 27s 6d; barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 16s to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s to 18s; peas, 27s to 30s; flour, 25s to 29s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a good supply of the new wheat crop; some samples were out of condition, prices were about 1s per qr. lower. No new barleys showing. Fair quantity of new oats in good condition. Old held for full rates. Beans firm.—Rob Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A moderate supply of wheat came to market to-day, and sold at 6d to 1s per qr less than last week. A few barleys showing, but not much demand at present. Oats steady in value, not many offering.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Market to-day very slack. Wheat, maize, quiet, unchanged. Spot barley steady, owing to scarcity. Old oats firmer.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday. — Values of wheat are generally improved, and a much better trade has passed during the week. There was a poor attendance, and no new grain came forward, in consequence of the bad weather. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 14s; ditto red, 13s 3d to 13s 9d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance was about an average, but trade was again on the quiet side. A few parcels of this year's harvest were on offer. Prices:—Wheat, 29s to 32s; grinding barley sold at last week's rates, and a small quantity of malting realised 35s; new oats, 16s to 18s; old, 19s to 22s; beans, 34s to 36s; peas, 29s to 32s; rye, 22s to 24s; tares, 5s 6d to 5s 9d.

Retford, Saturday.—The wheat trade was languid at 6d to 1s less money on the week, new selling at 27s to 28s. Old English beans were scarce, and worth 1s per stone, new ditto 31s per qr. Round Plate maize 23s 6d. There were very few samples of new oats, which changed hands slowly at 17s to 18s; ditto old, 24s per 24 stones.

Ripon, Thursday.—Poor attendance, scarcely any business being done. No corn showing. Prices:—Wheat, 30s to 31s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; barley, malting, 27s to 29s; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; maize, round, 23s to 24s; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The attendance was very poor. Little business was transacted, and prices were unaltered. Grinding barley scarce, and 6d per qr dearer. Quotations:—White wheat 32s 6d to 33s, red ditto 32s 6d to 33s per 504 lb; black oats 19s to 19s 6d, white ditto 22s 6d to 23s per 336 lb; grinding peas 32s to 32s 6d, blue ditto 55s to 70s per 504 lb; English beans 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; grinding barley 24s 6d to 25s, malting ditto 28s to 32s per 448 lb; small Indian corn 24s to 24s 6d, new Plate ditto 22s 3d to 22s 9d, flat ditto 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 225 lb; new oats, 11s to 11s 3d per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday. — Small attendance and trade very slow. Wheat still in poor condition, but after the present week's fine weather, better quality is anticipated. A few samples of new wheat were shown, prices varying from 27s to 27s 6d; new oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 30s to 31s 6d; peas, 45s. to 58s per qr. No new barley was shown.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no local wheat showing. Foreign wheat, limited demand, and prices rather easier upon the week New oats were offering at lower prices. Old oats very firm. Maize also lower on the week.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers are too busy with harvest work to attend markets, and there was very little business passing to-day. Prices remain nominally unaltered. Arrivals nil—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 27s to 28s; old white ditto, 30s to 31s; old red ditto, 29s to 29s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s. to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 23s; rye, 23s 6d to 24s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 48s. to 56s; maize, 22s to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of new English grain on offer. Wheat makes 10s per bag; new oats 18s to 20s nine scores. Feeding stuffs about the same.

Winchester, Saturday.—A few samples of new English wheat on offer, and about 6d cheaper than last week. Foreign very firm. Barley, oats, and maize remain unchanged. Flour a fair trade at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of new grain at market. Good dry samples of red wheat make 27s 6d to 28s per 504 lb. Oats vary in quality. Prices 16s to 17s per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and little business was passing. Quotations were unaltered.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, farmers being busy with the harvest. Old white wheat, 30s 6d to 31s; new ditto, 28s to 29s; red ditto, 30s to 31s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; old white oats, 23s to 25s; ditto, new, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 18s 6d; maize, 23s 6d to 25s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—English wheat easier, making from 27s to 28s 6d per qr. Foreign without change at from 31s 6d to 33s 6d per qr. Oats favoured buyers; old black, 22s to 24s; new, 16s 6d to 19s 6d; old white 21s 9d to 23s 6d; new, 16s to 19s. Grinding barley, new, 3d cheaper, at 18s 6d to 19s; old, 3d up on last week's prices. Plate maize 3d down, at 20s 3d; flat without change at 21s 6d; rye, 22s to 24s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 55s to 62s per qr for winter, 62s to 70s for spring. Flour continues a quiet trade at from 24s to 26s per sack for fine and 27s to 30s for extra fine. Mill offals in quiet consumptive demand at remunerative rates.

York, Saturday.—The unsettled weather prevents new grain coming to the market. Prices are unchanged. White wheat, 30s to 31; red and mixed, 29s to 30s per qr of 36 stones; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per qr of 32 stones; new oats, 17s to 18s; old oats, 21s to 22s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 21s per 36 stones; old beans, 32s per 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Trade is rather brisk here, especially for Bohemian Chevalier. There has been a good and general demand; prices must be quoted higher, as also freight per craft are dearer in consequence of shallow water in our rivers; fine mellow parcels find most attention, but are evidently very scarce, whilst paler lots are offered in larger quantities. Hungarians are also firm and prices fully maintained; fair quantities are sold to Great Britain, but home brewers and maltsters have also bought pretty freely.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather changeable; frequent showers are interfering with the carrying of wheat and oats. Fine 61-62 lb Holstein and Upland wheat is selling at 28s to 28s 6d per 504 lb, f.o.b. Offers are scarce as yet. American red winter No. 2 is held at 27s 3d to 27s 6d; hard winter, No. 2, at 28s to 28s 3d; No. 1 Macaroni, Nov.-Dec., 28s 9d to 29s; Pud. 10-5 Azima afloat, 28s 3d to 28s 6d per 480 lb., c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye firmer. 9⅛ Odessa-Nicolaieff afloat is offering at 22s 6d; Pud 10-5 afloat is held at 24s per 480 lb, c.i.f. Some parcels arrived in bad condition. 73 Ko good Holtein Rye is selling at 23s per 480 lb f.o.b. Good stout Bohemian barley is taken by our brewers at 30s to 31s; fine Chevalier is held at 32s 6d to 36s 6d; Slovakian and Moravian at 30s to 36s; stout Danish at 28s to 29s per 448 lb. It appears that the crop in many parts of Germany does not come up to expectations, and there is but little fine quality in Moravia and Hungaria. Feeding barley in good request and slightly dearer; 60/61 Kg South Russian on the spot is selling at 18s to 18s 3d, floating parcels at 17s 3d to 17s 6d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize quiet. River Plate on the spot 20s, Danubian March-April 19s 6d, American mixed maize afloat is still held at 21s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. — John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 25, 1906:—

Wheat	1,793,900	cwts.
Wheat-flour	108,100	,,
Barley	236,800	,,
Oats	241,600	,,
Maize	1,460,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat	2,239,700	2,408,400	1,937,300	1,599,467
Wheat-flour	147,300	201,900	365,085	460,588
Barley	278,600	477,600	363,400	453,829
Oats	321,500	289,000	221,900	154,564
Maize	1,475,200	863,900	794,700	744,477

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 21, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,620	0	2,270	4	4	...	1	8	0
Barley	700	0	1,019	2	6	...	1	9	1
Oats	1,150	2	1,009	1	10	...		17	6

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Aug. 15 to 22 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	973	93,000	94,973
Barley	1,100	20,000	21,100
Malt	24,000	—	24,000
Oats	3,100	90,500	93,600
Beans	475	—	475
Peas	81	289	370
Maize	—	17,084	17,084
Tares	10	87	97
Hempseed	—	150	150
Linseed	—	31,000	31,000
Rapeseed	—	6,200	6,200
Sunflowerseed	—	334	334
Buckwheat	—	3,900	3,900
Flour ...sacks	16,415	28,722	45,137
Maizemeal	—	1,500	1,500
Ryemeal	—	125	125
Middlings ,,	—	2,960	2,960

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1...(per sack)	30	0	...(per sack)	27	0
,, 13... ,,	29	0	... ,,	26	0
October 11... ,,	28	0	... ,,	25	0
November 3... ,,	30	0	... ,,	27	0
,, 29... ,,	29	9	... ,,	26	9
December 11... ,,	30	0	... ,,	27	0
January 31... ,,	29	9	... ,,	26	9
February 21... ,,	29	6	... ,,	26	6
March 16... ,,	29	0	... ,,	26	0
March 23... ,,	28	3	... ,,	25	3
May 18... ,,	28	0	... ,,	25	0
June 20... ,,	27	9	... ,,	24	9
August 24... ,,	26	9	... ,,	23	9

(No change since last date given.)

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending August 25, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	8,167	31	7	497	26	2	5,463	21	0
1903	13,143	30	0	529	22	3	8,572	18	7
1904	31,432	29	5	4,701	23	2	26,042	16	5
1905	88,696	27	1	6,461	23	6	20,855	15	9
1906	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat			Barley			Oats			1906. Wheat			Barley			Oats		
Jan.	30	5	24	9	16	5	28	6	24	9	18	5						
Feb.	30	7	25	1	16	9	28	10	25	4	18	11						
Mar.	30	10	25	1	16	11	28	5	24	8	18	11						
April	30	9	24	8	17	3	29	1	24	2	19	1						
May	30	10	24	8	18	5	30	2	24	0	20	0						
June	31	8	24	4	19	2	30	4	23	4	20	2						
July	32	0	22	8	18	4	30	4	23	1	20	4						
Aug.	29	6	22	10	16	10	—		—		—							
Sept.	26	10	23	9	16	0	—		—		—							
Oct.	27	1	24	11	16	6	—		—		—							
Nov.	28	3	24	8	17	6	—		—		—							
Dec.	28	5	24	6	18	0	—		—		—							

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	0
,, 10	,,	30	0
August 3	,,	29	0

(No change since last date given.)

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year	32	0	25	1	18	5
Lowest of Year	26	10	22	8	16	0
Gradient	5	2	2	5	2	5
Mean of Year	29	9	24	4	17	4

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The demand for new English wheat to-day was good, and there was no real occasion for farmers to take as low a price as they did. The pices which we quote will be seen to represent a decided fall on the week. Foreign wheat was a little cheaper on the week, but was held with more firmness than English. Demand was not good for all the for all the foreign sorts, but did not strike us as below the standard of an August market. New American is expected to be a higher average quality this season than last, while with respect to Russian the expectation is reversed. The market for maize to-day was steady; the retail sale is a full average. Barley was a small show of new samples. One or two bright malting lots from East Anglia were held for 34s., but the usual offers were of high quality brewing barley, at about 29s. Foreign barley was 6d. lower from the 20th, and did not sell very well, even at this concession. Oats made 18s. to 19s. for good samples of new English, whether winter or spring, oats. The fall in foreign oats was about 3d. on the week. Beans and peas were very scarce, and this led to a large sale of dari at the prices which we quote. Cottonseed cake was in fairly good request, and supply being small, 1s. 3d. per ton more money had to be paid.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

August 27.		s.	s.
WHEAT,	White (Old).....(per 504 lb.)	32	— 34
	,, (New) ... ,,	30	— 31
	Red ... (Old) ... ,,	30	— 32
	,, ... (New) ... ,,	28	— 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...(per 448 lb.)	32	— 36
	,, (New)... ,,	29	— 33
	Brewing (Old)... ,,	29	— 31
	,, (New)... ,,	27	— 28
	Feeding (Old) ...(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
	,, (New)... ,,	21	— 22
MALT, Pale	.....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
	Black ..... ,,	28	— 30
OATS,	Finest Scots (Old) ... ,,	none	
	Black Winter ,, ... ,,	none	
	Storm Kings ,, ... ,,	none	
	Black Pioneers ,, ... ,,	none	
	Black Tartary ,, ... ,,	none	
	White Gartons ,, ... ,,	21	— 22
	Sound Secondary ,,...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
	Winter (New).....(per 336 lb.)	18	— 19
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop) ..... (per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
	,, New ,, ... ,,	23	— 24
BEANS,	Pigeon .....(per 504 lb.)	42	— 44
	Tick ..... ,,	39	— 41
	Winter (Old) ..... ,,	37	— 38
	,, (New) ..... ,,	35	— 36
	Spring ..... ,,	36	— 37
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	23	— 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
	Unpicked ditto ..... ,,	48	— 52
	Maple (Old) ..... ,,	34	— 35
	,, (New)..... ,,	32	— 33
	Dun (Old) ..... ,,	33	— 34
	,, (New)..... ,,	30	— 31
TARES	(Winter)... .....(per 532 lb.)	56	— 64
	(Spring) ..... ,,	64	— 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	31/6	—32	American	22	—22/6
,, ,, 2	30/9	—31	Argentine	20/9	—21
American Red	30/9	—31	Bulgarian	21	— 22
Argentine ...	30	— 31	Roumanian ...	21	— 22
Australian ...	31	— 32	Russian	21	— 22
New Zealand	30	— 31	Rangoon	21	— 22
Californian ...	32	— 33	North African	22	— 23
Blue Stem ...	32	— 33	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	31	— 32	Smyrna	34	— 36
Saxonka	33	— 34	Konigsberg ...	33	— 35
Azima	31	— 32	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Ghirka	30	— 31	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Indian White	29	— 30	Italian	64	— 72
,, Red	28/6	—29	Burmese	32	— 42
Persian.....	28	—28 6	Chilian	56	— 64
			LENTILS (cental):		
BARLEY:			Split Egyptian	10	— 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29	— 30	Whole Indian...	7	— 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	PEAS (504 lb.):		
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian White	35	— 36
Russian(400 lb)	19	—19/3	Indian Green	29	— 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18	— 19	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24	— 25	NewZeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	Victoria Dun..	33	— 34
Torrified(336 lb)	21	— 22	MILLET (416 lb.):		
			White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian ...	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The credit and delivery prices of London flour have been reduced by 1s. on the sack, a change which is leading to increased purchases by bakers. Those buyers who pay cash and get the flour from the mill in their own carts have for a fortnight been obtaining flour at a great reduction, and, consequently, there was only 3d. further decline in this branch of the business to-day.

The London makes of flour are now so cheap that American competition is defied, the only question being—Can even the greatest mills continue to make a profit without reducing quality? This question will, we believe, be resolved in the affirmative, but by the most up-to-date mills only. It is a very bad time for the smaller miller in the London district.

Country millers are sending up rather small supplies just now, 22s. is the price which they are getting for roller whites as a rule. It is barely remunerative. All imported flour to-day was worse to sell from the 20th inst., but there were few actual changes to be quoted. Bran, pollard, and middlings were steady, but not quite so strong a trade as a week ago.

London Flour.

Top Price..... .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0	net.
Town Whites ..... ,,	25/9	,,
,, Households ..... ,,	22/9	,,
No. 2..... ,,	20/9	,,
Whole Meal No. 1... ..... ,,	23/9	,,
,, No. 2..... ,,	21/9	,,
Paste Flour..... ..... ,,	19/9	,,

Country Flour.

	s.	s.
Best Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	—24/6
Fine Roller Whites ..... ,,	22	—22/6
Ord'y Roller ,, ... ,,	21	—21/6
Stone made ..... ,,	20	—20/6

Foreign Flour.

	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23	— 24
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'..... ,,	20	— 21
Cascadia ..... ,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patent ..... ,,	23	— 24
Manitoba Ordinary ..... ,,	22	— 23
Hungarian, 0 ..... ,,	29	—29/6
,, 1 ..... ,,	28	—28/6
,, 2 ..... ,,	27	—27/6
,, 3 ..... ,,	26	—26/6
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	22	— 23
,, Renaux..... ,,	21	— 22
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	20	— 21
Australian ..... ,,	23	— 24
Argentine ..... ,,	24	— 25

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice ... ,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	11	— 12
Pollard ..... ,,	9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal..... ,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds ..... ,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal..... ,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	32	— 34
Groats ..... ,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour..... ,,	33	— 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour ,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour ..... ,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour" ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
,, Cones ..... ,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau) ..... ,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg) ..... ,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal..... ,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal ..... ,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal ..... ,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal... ..... ,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal ..... ,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour ..... ,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones ..... ,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER FIRMER THAN IT OPENED, THE SUPPLIES OF NEW CROPS BEING HELD MORE CONFIDENTLY.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

While whole cargoes of wheat to-day are depressed there is a decided freshening of the demand for parcels—*i.e.*, for part cargoes for 100 to 1,000 tons. Barley cargoes are firmer from Saturday. Oats and maize no worse, so that on the whole the market is more hopeful than it was on the 25th.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Rosario, 28s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Barletta, 28s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; White Walla, 31s per 500 lb, on passage; Red Walla, 30s per 500 lb, on passage; blue Stem, 30s 9d per 500 lb, on passage; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s per 480 lb, September shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 30s per 480 lb, September shipment; Red Winter, 27s per 480 lb, September shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s 3d, September shipment; Roumanian, 21s 6d, September shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 18s per 400 lb, September shipment; Kustendje, 19s per 400 lb, September shipment; Odessa, 18s per 400 lb, September shipment; Californian, 26s 6d per 448 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—White Libau, 14s 3d per 304 lb, September shipment; White Libau, 14s per 304 lb, October shipment; Petersburg, 14s 6d per 304 lb, arrived.

Beans.—Smyrna, 30s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Peas.—White Calcutta, 32s 6d per 504 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 42s 6d per 410 lb, prompt shipment

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, 7s per cwt, prompt shipment.

TERM MARKET.

There is no recovery in the market for futures, which remain under bearish control. To-day's prices are as follows:—

Wheat, red winter	Sept.	delivery,	4s 3d	per cental.
,, ...	Nov.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	4s 4d	,,
Maize, American	Sept.	,,	4s 8d	,,
,, ...	Nov.	,,	4s 8d	,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	4s 3d	,,
Maize, Argentine	Sept.	,,	4s 4d	,,
,, ...	Nov.	,,	4s 4d	,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	4s 4d	,,

The fall in American maize is due to large speculative offers of new crop for shipment by steamer between December 15 and January 15.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Arrivals in this port last week of new season's winter flour from America offered at low prices has increased the depression in the market. Buyers consequently are more confirmed in their expectation of further reductions, and in their determination to purchase only for immediate requirements.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—The demand for brand continues fairly good, prices generally about the same.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There has been more doing this week at the low prices now ruling for winter wheat flours for shipment. American millers' prices are advanced 6d per sack. Grain.—American corn still very scarce. Round easy owing to liberal arrivals. Supplies of Manitoba oats continue large, but the demand is excellent. Beans rather dearer on spot. Pease dull. Oilcake 2s 6d per ton higher. Mill stuffs—Bran and Thirds very scarce.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Milling Offal.—Offals still very scarce and firm. Same prices as last report.—JOHN BAWCOMBE AND Co.

Flour meets a fair enquiry at unchanged prices both on spot and for shipment.—T. S. MEDILL & SONS, LIMITED.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are moderate There is a steady trade, and prices are 6d to 1s per qr higher. Flour sells slowly at late rates. There is no change in values of maize, barley, and oats.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has shown a strong tendency and a much better demand at about 17s 6d ale, 14s 6d porter, 27s 6d distillers, and 32s 6d pressed white distillery meal per ton. Other articles without any particular change as follows:—Dried grains are in stronger demand, with a much firmer tendency: Ale 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, distillers 112s 6d per ton on rail London; also ale 90s, and mixed 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail or docks London, sellers' option.—HAMLYN AND Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. New hay made £3 5s to £3 7s 6d per ton, and old hay £4 5s per ton.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 65s to 70s per ton; old clover hay, 80s to 85s; old meadow hay, 77s 6d to 80s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best, 85s to 90s per ton; hay, best, 75s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; straw, wheat, 65s to 70s; pressed 50s to 60s; chop, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Quotations:—Hay in stack, 55s to 60s per ton; straw in bulk, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 7d; clover, 7½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday. The supply of old hay is gradually diminishing, and a fair trade continues to be done at the following quotations:—Old meadow hay, 7d to 7½d; old clover hay, 7½d to 8d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Little business doing. Hay, £3 to £3 10s for the best qualities per ton on the ground. Seeds about the same price.

Manchester, Friday.—Clover, old, 5d; new, 5½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 4½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 15s to £5 5s per ton; this year's growth, £4 5s to £4 10s; new land hay, £5 15s to £6 5s; this year's growth from £5 per ton. Wheat straw from £1 12s to £1 15s per load; oat straw from £1 10s to £1 14s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small supply at market, which met a good demand for best qualities. Prices:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s.; inferior to good clover, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s.; wheat straw, 50s to 60s; new hay, 95s to 100s; new seeds, 95s to 105s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a slight improvement in trade, but supplies were limited. Choice old seeds, £5 to £5 5s; choice hay, £4 10s to £4 15s; straw, £2 15s to £3 5s.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Market well supplied with potatoes, especially with Ayrshires. Ayrshires, 48s; East Lothian, 58s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—All kinds were very little entertained, a moderate quantity being submitted. Quotations:—English Puritans, 60s to 65s; Duke of York, 60s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; and Beauty of Hebrons, 60s to 70s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Average supplies of potatoes at both the public retail markets, and a steady demand was experienced at 5d to 6d per stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—The potato trade was slow. Only a few lots have changed hands to day at about 50s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply of potatoes, and a fair trade at 5s 6d to 6s per load.

Manchester, Saturday.—Cheshire, rounds, 5s to 6s 6d; kidneys, 5s 6d to 7s per 18 st. Lincoln, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt; Bedford Hebrons, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—New potatoes realised 5s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—The potato market was well supplied. The best home-grown made 7s to 8s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—The demand proved of a slow character for the good supplies on offer. Quotations:—Duke of Yorks, 65s to 70s; English Puritans, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshire potatoes, £4; Scotch potatoes, £3 10s per ton.

York, Saturday.—An average supply of potatoes, which sell at slightly less money on the week at 43s to 45s per ton; hampers, to 2s 3d.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample supplies of fruit and greenstuffs on offer, and business fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 2s to 8s per bushel; pears, 2s to 5s 6d per half-sieve; greengages, 8d to 1s 3d per box; ditto, 2s to 4s 6d per half-sieve; plums, 2s to 6s 6d per half-sieve; melons, 1s to 1s 9d each; grapes, 6d to 2s 6d; raspberries, 8s to 10s per dozen punnets; limes, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per box; green figs, 1s to 4s; peaches, 2s to 12s; nectarines, 2s 6d to 10s per dozen; tomatoes, 2s to 2s 6d; green artichokes, 1s to 2s; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per dozen; green peas, 3s to 4s; scarlet runners, 1s to 1s 6d; beetroots, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per bushel; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; cabbages, 2s to 3s; marrows, 1s 6d to 2s per tally; mushrooms, 6s to 12s per 12 lb; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; sage, 9d to 1s; mint, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; cucumbers, 4s to 5s 6d per flat; horseradish, 9s to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; otatoes, 55s to 80s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Aug. 27, 1906. British.	Total.	Aug. 28, 1905.	Monday,
Beasts	1,020	1,020	.....	1,270
Sheep and Lambs ...	6,880	6,880		5,980
Calves	20	20		10
Pigs	—	—		—
Milch Cows	30	30		40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 6	6 0
Lambs	5 6	6 4	7 2
Calves	3 8	4 10	5 8
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 70; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 925; Devon, 25; Ireland, nil.

We note to day a slight decrease of forty head. The supply, as usual at this season of the year, consisted principally of grass-fed Herefords and Runts from the Midland counties. A few choice Devons were also offered for sale, and were disposed of early in the day to good advantage. Trade for both prime and second quality fat beasts was of a dull and heavy nature, rates ruling in favour of the buyer in some cases to the extent of fully 2d per 8 lb. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in shorter numbers, but met a limited inquiry from both town and country buyers, late rates difficult to maintain. A clearance will not be made in this part of the market.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s	d	s	d	Monday, Aug. 28, 1905. s	d	s	d
Scotch			—		...		—	
Devons.....	4	6	—		...	4	4 to 4	6
Herefords	4	4 ex 4	6		...	4	4 to 4	6
Norfolks			—		...		—	
Runts	4	0 to 4	2		...	4	0 to 4	6
Lincolns	3	8 to 3	10		...	3	8 to 3	10
Irish			—		...	4	0 to 4	6
Canadian.....			—		...		—	
Fat Cows	3	4 to 3	6		...	3	6 —	

There was an increase of 1,020 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For small neat handy weight sheep, trade ruled firm, last week's quotations governing all sales. On the other hand, heavier descriptions were slow of sale, even at a reduction in value, to the extent of 2d per 8 lb. Scotch and Irish also shared in the general depression, the former being quoted 2d per 8 lb less than on Monday last. Lambs were in very full supply, small weights in excess of the demand even at a decline in value to the extent of 2d per 8 lb, heavier quality sold fairly well as small mutton making 2d more money. The supply included 250 Scotch, 1,250 Irish, and 850 from Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. A clearance is not expected.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Aug. 28, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6 0	...5	8 to 5	10
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10 ...5	6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 5 to 5	6 ...5	4 to 5	6
8 st Scotch	5 8 to 6	0 ...5	8 to 5	10
12st Lincolns	—		...	
10 st Irish	5 0 to 5	2 ...5	0 to 5	2
10 st Down Ewes	4 4 to 4	6 ...4	2 to 4	4
11 st Halfbred ditto.....	4 2 to 4	4 ...4	0 to 4	4
5 st Down Lambs	7 0 to 7	2 ...6	0 to 6	2
6 st Halfbred ditto	6 2 to 6	4 ...5	10 to 6	0

Calf trade very slow, best on offer to dress from 166 to 177 lb, and were quoted at from 5s 6d to 5s. 8d. per 8 lb (sinking the offal).

London Central.—Good supplies, slow demand. Beef, Scotch, 4s to 4s 4d; English, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; American ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 5d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lamb, English, 5s to 5s 4d. New Zealand, 3s 1d to 3s 4d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 4d. Pork, 3s 4d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts.), Monday.—Beasts 195, sheep and lambs 2,003, pigs 260. Fat and store cattle and sheep middling trade; fat and store pigs, good demand; milch cows, short supply and a fair trade. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 9s to 10s; pork, 7s to 7s 6d; milch cows, £14 to £21.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 385. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 225 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade ruled fairly steady, last Monday's quotations governing sales. The best on offer were quoted at from 3s 10s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lb offal (given in). On Saturday 1,450 beasts from the United States and 350 from Canada were offered for sale, trade was of a very slow nature. No quotable decline in value can, however, be noted. The best on offer were quoted at from 3s 11d to 4s 2d for States beasts; and from 3s 8d to 3s 11d for Canadian (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday. Few more cattle in market to-day. Demand fair, but prices unchanged. Large decrease in supply of sheep and lambs; trade for finished sorts of both though slow was not quotably different from Monday last. Middling sorts lower and difficult to cash. Beef, 6¼d to 4¼d; mutton 8¼d to 6d; lamb, 9½d to 8½. At market 1,051 cattle, and 8,238 sheep.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market remains quiet. The beautiful weather is forcing the crop to maturity. Picking commenced last week in Mid Kent, and will be general before this week is out. The hops picked last week show exceptional quality, being well grown and full of lupulin; there is now no doubt tha what few hops are grown this season will be the finest we have produced for many years, the great number of days of bright sunshine we have had this summer has put an extraordinary amount of condition into the hop cones. W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

New English Hops.—The first sample of new English hops arrived in the Borough last Saturday morning, consigned to Messrs. W. H. & H. Le May, hop factors. The quality is exceedingly choice, but the quantity grown per acre is less than half of last year. They were grown by Mr. W. K. Savage, of Yalding.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Where there were hops remaining on the vine, the plantations have made satisfactory progress since the disappearance of the vermin. The fruit has made good development during the week, and picking will become fairly general on September 3. The tone of the market is firm at the enhanced prices.

Worcester, Saturday. The hops on the best grounds are going on satisfactorily, and will, no doubt, turn out as well as could be expected. Of course, the large proportion of blighted hop yards can do nothing more, and the picking will be small. Some growers at market to-day ask very extreme prices, but buyers are not willing to give over late prices, and only a few sales of growers' hops have resulted; 151 pockets have been weighed this week. Picking is expected to begin in a fortnight if the weather is favourable. CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 1,954 bales, and from foreign ports 12,107. After the reduction in prices on Tuesday, the market has become steadier. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 64s to 71s; Danish, 64s to 70s; Canadian, 60s to 66s. Butter.—The butter market was firm. French, 104s to 117s; Danish, 122s to 123s; Russian, 88s to 102s; Dutch, 112s to 114s; Irish, 98s to 115s; Canadian, 90s to 112s; Australian, 88s to 112s; New Zealand, finest, 112s to 114s; American, 86s to 100s. Lard: Lard was a steady market. Irish, 54s to 62s; American, 44s 3d to 46s; Danish, 50s to 58s.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday. There is a fair business doing for the time of year, and prices are decidedly dearer for rapeseed. Duluth linseed is cheaper. Canaryseed is cheaper. Cottonseed tends to go dearer.

LINSEED	per 416 lb s. s.	COTTONSEED.	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 50	Egyptian ...	138 to 140
American	43 to 44	Indian	105 to 107
Calcutta	43 to 44	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	44 to 46		
Russian	42 to 44	English, Best .	16 to 17
Argentine	41 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Duluth	41 to 42	,, Black .	13 to 14
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.	SESAME.	per cwt.
Best English ..	62 to 64	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	50 to 52	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Russian ...	49 to 50
Brown ,,	44 to 45	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.
Ferozepore	45 to 46	English	48 to 50
		Spanish ...	78 to 80
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	Turkish ...	42 to 44
Indian	44 to 45	Argentine	41 to 42

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week, with a rather larger supply, mostly consisting of consignments from the Midland and Home Counties, trade on the chief market day of the week was again of a very quiet nature, the tendency in regard to value being in favour of the buyer, but as the day advanced rates ruled somewhat firmer, a practical clearance being made. On Thursday but few sales were recorded, and what business was transacted was governed by Monday's quotations. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in moderate supply, and met with a steady demand at the previous week's prices. Absolutely no demand for middling quality cattle.

At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, there was, compared with last week, a decrease of 2,058 in the number of beasts on offer, this being chiefly attributable to no market being held on Wednesday. Trade, taken as a whole, for both Monday and Saturday was of a very slow nature, prices, however, remained firm. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,520, as against 5,508 during the previous week, consisting of 1,110 British (increase 70) and 2,410 imported, 2,060 from the United States, and 350 Canadians. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d, ex. 4s. 6d ; 95 stone runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d ; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10s. ; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 6d ; 90 stone States, 3s. 11d. to 4s. 2d. ; 95 stone Canadian, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 11d. ; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. ; 100 stone fat bulls, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 2d.

The sheep trade, which was confined entirely to the Islington market, was of a firm and steady nature throughout the week, an advance of fully 2d. per 8 lb. being made in most cases, anything small and choice finding ready purchasers. Scotch sheep also shared in the better tone of the trade, being quoted 2d. more than on the previous Monday. On the other hand, Irish descriptions were very slow of sale, though no quotable decline in value can be recorded. Lambs were in average supply on both days, and met a decidedly better inquiry, late currencies governing all transactions. The total number penned was 8,200, as against 8,700 during the previous week, this showing a decrease of 440. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—8-stone Downs, 6s. ; 8-stone Scotch, 6s. ; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d ; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 2d. ; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 6d. ; 10-stone Half-breds, 5s. 6d. ; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d., ex 4s. 6d. ; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 7s. 4d.

Calf trade firmer. The best on offer to dress from 166 to 177 lb., and were quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8 lb. (offal given in). A clearance was made.

Trade in the West.

Attention just at present being generally centred on the harvest, the stock markets are in the interval somewhat neglected, and only a very limited business is passing. With the exception of anything really serviceable in stores, either milchers or barreners, scarce anything claims any attention, buyers evincing great disinclination to entertain any offers respecting the plainer descriptions of stock, no matter how tempting these may be. The best milch beasts, either cows or heifers—those fresh-calved or just coming into profit—meet a good consumptive demand at prices showing a distinct improvement on late values, animals of this class changing hands freely from £16 10s. up to £22 apiece; but the more ordinary runs continue to meet a very slow sale at widely-ranging values, extending downwards from about £15 10s. each to £10 or £11, plenty of aged milchers being on the market at this low value without even attracting a solitary buyer. In-calvers are again finding more attention on the part of buyers at prices ranging from £8 to £13 for cows, and £14 to £17 for heifers. Grazing cattle are neglected for all but the very best grades of fresh-condition bullocks; for these buyers are giving £23 up to £30.

There is little appreciable alteration to note in the price of store sheep compared with recent quotations, which are keeping practically at a standstill. But this is hardly the case with lambs, which are meeting a much better sale at distinctly improved rates, these ranging from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. a head more than they have been making, and in special cases as much as 3s., buyers being now impressed with the idea that keep will be, beyond a question of possibility, much more plentiful than could at one time have been expected to be the case, mangolds continuing to thrive particularly well, and the later-sown turnips receiving considerable stimulus from the recent rainfall. Good class Down ewes are making up to 60s. apiece (top figure); wether lambs to 51s. 6d. ; and chilvers to 45s. Store pigs are also selling much better than of late, many being now wanted for "stubbling."

The markets are now well stocked with prime fat beasts of the best type, these including nicely-finished Devon and Shorthorn steers and heifers, with a sprinkling of good quality runts, all of which, as far as we can judge, are well turned out of hand. For these there is very considerable competition at prices ranging from £16 up to £23 for maiden heifers (or from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per stone); medium qualities selling at 4s. to 4s. 1d., and anything distinctly plain at 3s. 10d., values of the rougher or coarser grades having in some cases shown a decline of 2d. per stone. Fat calves, with a little cooler weather, coupled with only moderate supplies, have once more assumed rather a hardening tendency, whilst medium qualities sell at late currencies. All the choicer qualities of mutton, light-weight wethers especially, are also meeting a firmer trade, the best wethers selling from 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d., and heavier weights 5s. 2d. to 5s. 6d. ; ewes, 4s. to 4s. 4d. The lamb trade is a trifle firmer for well-finished sucklers, which are again bringing 6s. 10d. to 7s. 2d. per stone, and others 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d., but with a quieter sale for coarser weights and those of a distinctly secondary character. Fat pigs, too, are generally dearer, neat weight porkers realising 10s. 6d. per score down to 9s. 9d., and baconers 9s. to 9s. 6d. The heavier weights have recovered but little from the recent drop, and we hardly expect to see this to any quotable extent until the weather has permanently settled down to something a little cooler than what has been experienced of late.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a large attendance of shippers and home dealers at last Thursday's Dublin market, and the supply of stock was very large, there being 3,550 cattle (843 more than the previous market) and 11,014 sheep, or an increase of 3,200 on the week. A fairly good trade was done, the larger supplies enabling buyers to gain some slight advantage; but there was really no alteration worth noting in the matter of prices, though some considered that cattle rates were 5s. per head cheaper. Live weight prices for best cattle from 30s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt. ; medium bullocks and heifers the rates ranged from 27s. to 28s., but coarse sorts lower and irregular. An increased export trade was done at to-day's rates. Dead weight figures were:—Best ox and heifer beef from 54s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt. ; good second-class beef, 47s. to 53s. ; and inferior from 42s. to 45s. 6d. There was a good clearance effected.

In the sheep department the supply was almost unprecedented for this period of the year, chiefly attributable to the new regulation of the London Board of Agriculture requiring all sheep to be dipped before shipping. This new order comes into force on September 1, and many were anxious to get rid of any sheep they had fit for sale. Business opened rather slowly, particularly for heavy fat sheep. Good heavyweight hoggets, however, sold well at from 54s. to 60s. each, medium weight hoggets from 40s. to 50s. Ewes and coarse sheep were altogether in excess of demand, at weaker rates, and a clearance was not effected. Lambs of good quality met with a good sale; but the heaviest lambs and inferior ditto were slow. Prime wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 7¾d. ; ewe, 6½d. to 7½d. ; and inferior mutton from 5½d. upwards. Small lambs from 18s. to 24s., and large fat ditto from 36s. to 40s. each. The offering of lambs was smaller, the season being now nearly over. Veal was offered in large quantity, but the inquiry was quiet at previous currencies:—Choice, 7d. to 7½d. per lb. ; inferior calves, from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

Store cattle appeared to have reached the high-tide mark, and are now on the ebb; as at all country fairs they are selling badly, and at the sales held in Dublin the prices are not so good as they were a short time ago, nor are buyers as eager to purchase as a short time ago. It is pretty evident that the days of the ridiculously high rates for store cattle are past. The pig market in Dublin was thinly supplied last Thursday, but the attendance of shippers and home buyers was large, consequently business was better, and the drop of the previous Thursday's market was fully recovered. Best light-weight pigs, 54s. to 56s. per cwt. ; coarse pigs, from 38s. per cwt. upwards. Amongst the sheep offered for sale were over 1,800 Scotch ewes sent in for sale by Messrs. Cuffe and Sons, and some other lots of store sheep, which made the ovine total the big one it was.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade slow, though prices are firm for small fresh meat: English beef, 3s 2d to 3s 6d ; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s ; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d ; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 5d ; extreme, 3s 7d ; refrigerated hindqrs., best, 3s 6d to 3s 8d ; ditto, seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 4d ; ditto, fore-quarters, 1s 8d to 2s ; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d ; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d ; ditto, lambs, 5s 4d to 5s 8d ; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d ; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d ; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d ; foreign sheep, 3s 4d to 4s ; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d ; veal, 3s to 4s 4d ; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s ; Dutch ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted principally of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was very quiet, late currencies being with difficulty maintained. No demand for prime quality cattle. Top value: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d ; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. An increase of 150 in the number penned in sheep market, supply including 50 Scotch. The sheep trade, taken as a whole, was firm, last Monday's quotations governing all transactions; choice small sheep in good request. Lambs met a firm trade, with an upward tendency in value. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½-stone to 8-stone Down sheep, 6s. ; 8-stone Scotch, 6s ; 9-stone Downs, 5s 10d ; 10-stone ditto, 5s 6d ; 10-stone ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d ; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 7s 4d ; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 6d. Calf trade firmer at an advance of 2d per 8 lb. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d ; sheep, 4s 8d to 6s ; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 10d ; lambs, 5s 6d to 7s 4d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Small attendance ; slow trade. Best beef made 4s 2d to 4s 4d ; Down mutton, 5s 6d to 5s 10d ; Kent ditto, 5s to 5s 2d ; lamb, 6s 4d to 6s 8d ; veal, 5s to 5s 6d ; roasting hogs, up to 4s 4d ; large hogs, 4s 2d.

Berwick, Saturday.—Numbers: 120 beasts, three less than previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade quiet. Heifers, £8 10s; stirks, £8; two-year-olds, £10 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep and pigs. Good trade for pigs; trade slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb ; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb ; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb ; veal, 6d to 7d per lb ; bacon pigs, 10s 6d per score ; cutting pigs, 10s 6d per score ; sows, 8s 4d to 8s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef in moderate supply and trade slow ; best qualities 56s per cwt (reaching 58s in only exceptional cases), secondary 54s. Sheep and lambs in limited numbers ; business dull ; prices unchanged. Pigs in short supply ; porkers 1½d higher, to 11s per score. Very few store cattle on offer and scarcely any inquiry.

Calne, Wednesday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 10s per score ; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 10s per score ; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s 6d per score ; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 9s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—Charles and Thomas Harris & Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Sheep less numerous and a better trade. Ewe lambs 22s 6d to 32s ; wether lambs up to 26s ; useful ewe tegs, 36s to 45s ; breeding ewes up to 38s per head.

Chester, Thursday.—Trade was quiet, and the supply in excess of the demand. Milch cows £17 to £22 ; calvers, £16 to £20 ; barrens, £9 to £13 ; heifers, £8 to £14 ; stirks, £6 to £9. Fewer sheep were on offer, but business was not brisk at the higher prices asked.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was again a short supply, and the trade for pork was slow. Beef, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone ; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s ; lamb, 6s to 6s 8d ; pork, 9s per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fairly busy market. All choice beasts and sheep sold at last week's rates. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d ; sheep, 7d to 8½d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—An improved supply of cattle and the number of sheep penned much larger than last week. Dairy cattle, £17 to £21 ; stores, £5 to £11 ; calves, 30s to 40s ; lambs, 32s to 44s ; and ewes, 45s to 55s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good supplies both of fat and store things came to hand at Messrs. Ensor and Son's repository sale to-day, most of the offer consisting of animals of a good class. Buyers were likewise well represented. Milch beast excited keen competition, all the more useful grades of both heifers and calves, as well as cows and calves meeting a quick sale at from £16 10s to £20 each, and more ordinary runs from £13 10 to £15 15s ; stirk heifers, £6 10s to £7. In barreners the general range was from £20 to £26 for the best grades. The beef trade kept fairly steady at 11s to 11s 6d for the best, and 10s to 10s 6d for cows of good finish (or from £16 10s to £19 10s for heifers, and £13 10s to £18 for fat cows and bulls). Little doing in mutton at unaltered rates, 40s to 44s for horn ewes (or 7d to 7½d) ; lambs, 33s to 36s (or 9½d to 10d per lb for best, and 9d for poor qualities).

Dublin, Thursday. — The large increase in numbers caused a weaker tendency all round in the trade for cattle. A few of the choicer lots with difficulty brought last week's rates, but for other descriptions concessions had to be made to buyers in order to effect sales. Sheep in excess of requirements, the very choicest barley making late rates, other sorts lower, and a clearance could not be effected. Lambs unaltered in value. Cattle—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s 6d per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton —Dead weight, 6d to 7½d and 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. —There was a small show and little inquiry for cattle. Sheep met a fair trade. Best classes of cows were very dear. Two-year-old bullocks to £15 10s., half-bred lambs, 27s to 33s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 30s to 38s; half-bred sheep 34s to 44s; Cheviot lambs, 22s to 24s; Shorthorn cows, £23 to £26s 10s; Ayrshires, £19 to £21; crosses, £18 to £22.

Exeter, Friday.—Usual supply of beasts; quality was not so good as of late. Maiden heifers and steers, 11s 6d; cows, 10s 6d to 11s. Large supply of sheep, and strong demand for best lamb hoggs at 9d, larger size 8½d. Very few fat ewes on offer at 6½d, and there was a slow demand for the very large number of breeding ewes in the market. Prices generally ranged from 38s to 42s, but in some cases 45s was made.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Top Scotch cattle, 63s; secondary, 60s; best Irish, 46s to 58s; top States slow and easier at 52s to 53s; secondary, 48s to 50s per cwt. Sheep and lambs in small show for the season and prices firm; best sheep, 9½d to 9¾d; secondary, 8½d to 9d; lambs, 9½d to fully 10d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade was fairly firm, with a moderate supply of fat cattle, best bullock and heifer beef making up to 6¾d, fat cows 4½ to 5d per lb. A small supply of veal, for which trade ruled moderately firm at 6½d per lb. Fat sheep, which were not of large supply, met with a ready sale, wethers and yearlings at 8d to 8½d per lb, fat ewes 6½d to 7d. Fat lambs a larger supply, were easier at 8d. Store lambs found an easy disposal at good figures. Pigs were a small supply, porks about 5½d per lb. Store pigs scarce and dear. A poor show of store cattle, and trade almost at a standstill.

Leicester, Saturday.—Limited supplies of home-bred stock, and with bare pastures trade ruled sluggish at irregular prices. Choice milch cows, £20 to £21; good lots, £17 to £18 10s; secondary, £14 to £16; bullocks, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £10; calves, 18s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small attendance, and only a moderate supply of dairy cows, which sold rather slowly at £20. A fair number of lambs, and a brisk trade was effected at 32s to 40s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Scarcely any store beasts, and no quotation possible. Fat beasts an average show, and trade firmer at 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Average supply of fat sheep, and trade firm at 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone. Stores, 40s to 46s each; store lambs, 25s to 35s; fat lambs, 25s to 35s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Mutton: firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Lamb: firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There was a lighter supply, and a shade firmer trade. Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 8s; second-class animals, 7s to 7s 6d.; steers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d.; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s 9d. per stone; sheep favoured sellers at 5d to 9d; lambs, 8¾d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — A large supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs. A fair number of calves. Trade brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6¼d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; calves, 7d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of fat beasts was entirely confined to sales, and trade ruled much about the same as of late, at 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. There were rather more store cattle on offer, and were nearly all Irish stock; trade was very quiet, and values remained the same as during the past two or three week; prices ranged from £5 to £18 per head. There was a small show of store sheep, composed mostly of breeding ewes, the demand for which was poor; ewes made from 50s to 65s per head, and lambs 28s to 38s. Fat sheep were again offered in limited numbers, and there was a little better feeling. In the trade for best qualities prices averaged from 9s 6d to 10s per stone. Large supply of both fat and store pigs, and trade was very firm for all descriptions. Fat pigs averaged fully 7s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers, and a much improved trade. In-calf cows fetched up to £23, and in-calf heifers £16 to £23 each. A few calves which were shown realised the same money as last week. No sheep, lambs, or pigs were on offer.

Preston, Wednesday.—The market was well attended, and there was a large supply of sheep, while the show of cattle and calves was above the average. Trade for beef was slow and dragging, but there was a decided improvement in the veal and lamb business. Cows and bulls made 5d to 5½d; heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6½d; choicest heifers, 6½d; ewes, 6½d to 8d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; hoggs, 8¾d to 9d; and calves, 5½d to 7½d.

Retford, Saturday.—Average show of store stock, but there was little improvement in prices, and the business transacted was on a limited scale at the quotations of the previous Saturday.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts in short supply; trade better. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in short supply; trade a trifle better at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade about the same. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large sheep, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Short supply of lambs; trade about the same, at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Small supply of pigs; trade slow. Neat porkers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show. Milch beasts in demand. Those available realised £18 to £21; inferior, to £13 10s. No sheep on offer.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Small supplies. Good attendance and prices. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score; sows, 8s to 9s per score. Milking cows up to £19.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average showing the best quality cattle, and as customers were few trade was slow at 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Rougher kinds made 6s 6d to 7s. Lambs sold at 10d per lb; young sheep, 8½d; ewes 7d and tups 6d to 7d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital entry of stock, and it is surprising, considering the dry weather, what a lot of good cattle come to market. Beef was not such a brisk trade as the previous week, although no reduction in value can be quoted. Sheep and lambs continue to sell well, a clearance being effected. Very sharp trade for bacon, pork, and veal. Weaning calves in more demand. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 109 fat beasts, 352 fat sheep, 66 fat and store pigs, and 60 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £15 10s to £21 12s 6d; fat heifers, £14 14s to £18 15s; fat ewes, 40s to 50s 6d; fat wethers, 45s to 58s; fat lambs, 31s to 41s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 6s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 58s; bull calves, 10s to 50s; bacon hogs, £3 15s to £7 15s; porkers, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 15s to 36s 6d.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance and business fair. Fat bullocks, 50s to 58s per cwt.; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, £9 to £16 each; rearing calves, 16s to 32s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 15s to 29s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork, carcases, 5d to 5½d

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.— Fair supply, slow trade all round, except lambs, for which a good sale. Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8d per lb.; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb.; veal, 5½d to 6½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Small supply of stock. Best beef made up to 6s 9d; secondary qualities, 6s to 6s 3d per stone. There was a brisk demand for sheep. Best Southdown wethers and cross-bred, to 8½d; coarser sorts 6d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the usual weekly sales of Canadian cattle held to day, 1,504 head were penned, all being from Montreal. There was a large attendance of buyers but trade was somewhat slow, owing to buyers, taking advantage of the larger supplies forward, holding off for reductions on last week's rates, and prices generally were the turn easier for most classes on the day's transactions. Bullocks of useful weights and sizes of good quality were cashed up to 53s per cwt dead weight, while secondary, middling, and inferior classes sold down to 50s per cwt, bulls of prime choice make at 50s per cwt, and heavy beasts at from 46s to 48s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. — Oil-seed Cakes. — Linseed Cakes: Hull made 2s 6d per ton dearer with steady market. Foreign are also firmer. Cotton Cakes: Very firm, unaltered in all positions except September-October, which are 2s 6d per ton dearer.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are inactive and without change in value. For feeding stuffs a moderate inquiry is experienced for the period of the year, and the market is firm. About 850 bags East Indian linseed cake have changed hands at £7 7s 6d, ex quay; 725 bags Peruvian cottoncake (all faults), on private terms; and some 140 tons American decorticated cottonseed meal at £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d per ton, according to quality, ex quay; other values as annexed:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda	11	5	0	—		
East India Bone Meal	5	2	6	5	5	0
Kainit	2	1	3	2	2	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0	—		
Linseed Cake, American	7	10	0	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
,, ,, Foreign, round, soft and oily	7	17	6	—		
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated	8	2	6	8	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	12	6	—		
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	5	0	—		
Crushed Cottonseed	7	12	6	—		
Maize Germ Meal	5	15	0	—		
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	6	5	0
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	15	0	4	17	6
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0	—		
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6	—		
Treacle, feeding, prime (American)		4	9	4	10½	
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.					
,, ,, guaranteed						
Basic Slag, prime quality	nominal.					
,, ,, ,, ,,						
,, ,, finest ,,						

—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The trade rules quiet, but of an average description for the time of year, and in spite of the fact that foreign makes are somewhat more freely offered, values are firmly held up. Russian move off steadily at a slight rise in price. East India seed pures make last week's prices. American are quoted unchanged. London made maintain their prices of £7 17s. 6d. to £8 per ton. Cotton Cakes.—Only a limited quantity is now available on spot, and needy buyers are compelled to pay full prices; while for Aug.-Sept. shipments there are sellers at rather less money. English continue in small production, and crushers are firm. Decorticated do not offer, but some American meal is procurable at £7 15s per ton. Rape cakes —Nominal; East India and Ravison unaltered. Maize Germ Meal.—Some recent arrivals of White American offer at a slight advance in value, while English are obtainable on more reasonable terms. Maize Gluten Meal meets a ready sale at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon find rather more inquiry at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s per ton, with steamer parcels afloat quoted at £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d ex ship terms. Locust beans are without change at £5 15s for whole and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains are attracting considerable attention, being relatively cheaply offered at £4 15s to £5 per ton. Nitrate of Soda is unaltered at £10 17s 6d for spot and £11 2s 6d per ton for spring delivery.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ... ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Russian, in mats	7 12 6	to 7 13 9
,, in bags	7 15 0	to 7 16 3
Calcutta ... to arrive	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
American	7 10 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
English	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 15 0	
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	5 0 0	
Ravison	4 15 0	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon ... ex warehouse	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
,, ... autumn	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, spot		10 17 6
,, ,, spring		11 2 6
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole		5 15 0
Kibbled		6 0 0
GRAINS.		
Dried Brewers Grains	4 15 0	to 5 0 0

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

EGGS.

Friday.—Altrincham: 10. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 2s per doz. Barnstaple: 10. Chester: 9 and 10. Camelford: 14. Crewe: 9d and 10. Dartmouth, 12. Derby: 11. Helmsley: 12 and 13. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 12. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 9d and 10 Nantwich: 11. Northwich: 10. Otley: 11 and 12. Redruth: 12. Runcorn: 10 and 11. St. Austell: 12. Stockport: 9 and 10. Tavistock: 10 and 11. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 and 12. Berwick: 1s 2d per doz. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 10 and 11. Doncaster: 11 and 12. Grantham: 11 to 13. Howden: 12 and 13. Ipswich: 11 to 13. Lancaster: 7 to 10. Malton: 11 and 12. Pontefract 11 and 12. Retford: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 11 and 12. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 11 and 12. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 10. York: 10 to 12.

BUTTER.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Chester: 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s 1d. Crewe: 1s 2d Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Helmsley: 1s to 1s 1d Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s 1d. Runcorn: 1s 3d St. Austell: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Totnes, 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11½d to 1s 2d Berwick: 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 3d. to 1s 4d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s. 2d. Whitby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Continued high price of Canadians favour home cheese, which were in fair supply. Both Cheddars and Dunlops met a moderate inquiry, the former ranging from 60s to 64s per cwt, and the latter from 58s to 63s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 24 tons of cheese pitched to-day, and with a large attendance of buyers all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 57s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 54s to 56s; and other dairies, 48s to 53s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 40s. Cheddars made 63s to 65s; truckles, 60s to 63s 6d; doubles, 58s to 60s.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a good attendance of buyers, and a brisk demand, Quotations:—Caerphillies, 41s to 54s per cwt; fancy dairies, 55s to 57s; truckles, 63s to 66s; Derbys, 66s.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d: greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1d.

Halifax, Saturday.—The disposition on the part of users of raw materials is to purchase only for immediate use. The position of home-grown wools here is rather weak, with no expectation of a return to the high level of prices. Pick hoggs are exceptionally steady, however, being in rather short supply.

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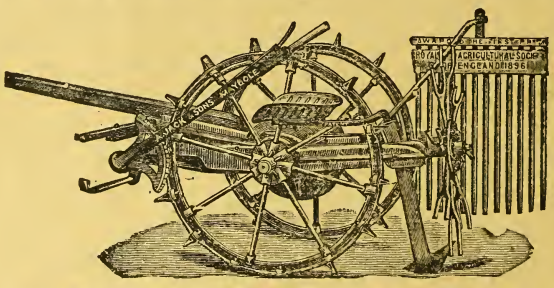

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The acreage returns make it clear that the total area under wheat for the United Kingdom is not more than 1,800,000 acres. We have already returns for 1,755,716 acres in Great Britain, but from Ireland, and the islands of Man, Guernsey, Jersey, and Alderney, no news is to hand, yet they grow so little wheat that a maximum of 1,800,000 acres may safely be assumed. We may reckon a crop of 31 bushels of more than average weight, 62 lb. to the bushel, we fancy. This will give us a wheat crop for the United Kingdom in 1906 of 3,459,600,000 lb., or about 7,207,500 qr. of 480 lb., which is the Board of Agriculture standard. It might be easiest to reckon crops by pounds, and point off, or omit, the millions, *i.e.*, six figures to the right. In that case the United Kingdom familiar figure would be 3,459. This seems to us the only way of obviating the recurring difficulty over the weight of the bushel. Every season, of course, this varies, and the variation affects the total of wheat available for milling very considerably.

The chief foreign harvests are thus reckoned by *Beerbohm's Shipping List*, which has again to be congratulated on its early and useful returns from a number of minor countries. To these we have not for the moment space to refer. The chief wheat crops are thus given :—

France	42,000,000 qr.
Austria-Hungary	31,000,000 qr.
Germany	18,000,000 qr.
Italy	20,000,000 qr.
Russia	68,000,000 qr.
Roumania	13,500,000 qr.
Spain	15,000,000 qr.

The sales of British produce at the statute markets for the cereal year ended August 31 last were equal to 41·3 per cent. of the total wheat grown, 51·1 per cent. of the barley, and 9·2 per cent. of the oats. The last-named crop is, of course, mostly used on the farm or sold to owners of horses residing near oat-growing farms. The latter do not, as a rule, go to market, but finding a farmer who can meet their needs, take supplies from him as wanted at the market price. A good deal of trade of this kind is done on the prices published in this journal ; we devote special attention to the quotations of leading kinds, and distinguish the weights. The Government average is rather the vague for most buyers. Where it is used it should be remembered that 312 lb. go to the Government quarter. The difference between the prices for 1905-6 and the decennial average is as follows :—

Wheat	1s. 6d. up.
Barley	0s. 1d. ,,
Oats	1s. 4d. ,,

Unfortunately, wheat and barley, though up on the ten years, are cheaper from 1904-5.

The London averages thus far this year have been as follows :—

1906.	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
Jan.	29 11	24 5	19 4
Feb.	29 11	24 6	19 4
March	29 3	23 3	19 4
April	29 8	23 1	20 0
May	30 10	23 3	20 10
June	31 2	23 7	20 11
July	31 6	23 6	—
Aug.	29 3	28 7	17 8

The fall of 2s. 3d. in wheat represents fairly accurately the difference between the selling value of old and new crops, and the same remark will apply to the 3s. 3d. fall in oats. Barley is a good deal dearer, but this is solely due to the arrival of some malting quality which was not offered at all in London in June or July.

The sales of British wheat last week at the statute markets were much smaller than for the last week of August, 1905, but the total for the cereal year is considerably greater for that ended on Friday last than for that ended on August 31, 1905. The difference is over 1,000,000 qr. in favour of the recenter season. Prices, however, have suffered in consequence, and 28s. 9d. is a poor average against a previous 30s. 7d. per qr.

The sales of British barley have been very level for the two seasons under notice. Prices have been very level likewise :—

1905-6 ...3,203,000 qr. at 24s. 3d. per qr.
1904-5 ...3,142,000 qr. at 24s. 5d. per qr.

Of oats, sales have been very small for the past cereal year. Prices have risen, for there are many buyers who insist on English oats, and they have paid for their preference :—

1905-6 ... 940,000 qrs at 18s 6d per qr.
1904-5 ... 1,179,010 qrs at 17s 1d per qr.

The inports of the U.K. last week were as follows :—

Wheat, 419 000 qrs. : a very fair supply.
Flour, 43,300 sks. : extremely small arrivals.
Barley, 67,000 qrs. : half a full supply.
Oats, 90,000 qrs. : under an average.
Maize, 341,000 qrs. : extremely heavy imports.

Recent imports of minor articles have been small of beans, peas, cottonseed, millet and haricots, but liberal of dari, linseed and buckwheat.

The quantity of wheat on passage is now a very small trifle above 2,000,000 qr.

Californian, 200,000 qr. ; American, 335,000 qr. ; Indian, 681,000 qr. ; Argentine, 340,000 qr. ; Australian, 300,000 qr. ; Russian, 140,000 qr. ; various, 30,000 ; total, 2,026,000 qr.

The quantity of flour has increased to 205,000 sacks, but is still much below the average.

Of maize the following quantities are on passage :—Argentine, 900,000 qr. ; Russian, 40,000 qr. ; Roumanian, 60,000 qr. ; American, 60,000 qr. ; total, 1,060,000 qr.

To find America equalled by Roumania in the maize trade is indeed startling, but of course the great maize crop, now rapidly ripening in the United States, will change the position of affairs very materially before 1906 is out.

The expectations of barley are as follows :—Russian, 210,000 qrs. ; Roumanian, 40,000 qr. ; Asiatic, 60,000 qr. ; American, 60,000 qr. : total, 370,000 qr.

There are also small quantities of barley on passage from Tunis, Tripoli, and Chilé.

Of oats 325,000 qr. are on passage : mainly from Russia.

Other supplies on passage on September 1 were 15,000 tons of rice, 140,000 qr. of linseed, 23,000 qr. of rapeseed, 10,000 qr. of poppyseed, 19,000 tons of cottonsseed, and 4,000 qr. of beans.

America last week sent off an increased supply of breadstuffs, but was only a very small shipper of spring corn. Actual quantities were :—Wheat 320,000 qr. ; barley, 3,000 qr. ; oats, 23,000 qr. ; maize, 70,000 qr., and flour, 133,000 sacks. Argentina shipped 140,000 qr. of wheat, 343,000 qr. of maize, 10,000 qr. of oats, and 61,000 qr. of linseed. The large shipments of maize will not be overlooked.

Russia has begun to ship new corn. Last week 265,000 qr. of wheat, 402,000 qr. of barley, 310,000 qr. of oats, and 6,000 qr. of maize were exported. The Roumanian shipments were 175,000 qr. of wheat, 125,000 qr. of barley, 10,000 qr. of oats, and 51,000 qr. of maize. India shipped 64,000 qr. of wheat and 16,000 qr. of linseed.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The trading this week has been of a very quiet description ; supplies are not over large, but the demand keeps of a limited nature, and there is no change in prices to report, but there seems to be a better feeling in evidence, and before long we hope to note a stronger tone in the market. The supplies of foreign which have been coming along very largely of late have somewhat fallen off, and a continuance of limited supplies from this source would be of inestimable value to London salesmen and dealers, who have felt the competition from foreign importations very keenly in making sales of home-grown stuff. Clovers and mixtures are a quiet trade, while hays keep fairly steady, and are more inquired after ; straw still comes along in very large supply and finds a very poor market.

We notice this week that the imports of Canadian mixture which have loomed largely in our London market of late, have considerably fallen off, and for spot and early arrivals importers are asking 1s to 2s per ton more money ; other qualities of foreign stuffs are also in short supply, and fairly steady at last week's values.

Prices ruling are about as follows :—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton ; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton ; inferior, 60s to 67s 6d per ton. Best clovers, 90s to 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton ; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 85s to 90s per ton ; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton ; seconds mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton ; wheat straw, 24s per load ; oat straw, 25s per load ; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London Foreign : Canadian mixtures, 75s per ton ; good Dutch hay, 62s 6d to 65s per ton ; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 75s per ton ; French large balo wheat straw, 51s per ton ; small bale French wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by bargo delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—The market was well supplied with all kind of fruit and greenstuffs, a fair amount of business being transacted. Quotations for English produce :—Apples, 2s to 7s 6d per bushel ; pears, 2s to 6s per half-sieve ; pineapples, 2s to 4s 6d each ; melons, 1s to 2s. ; grapes, 6d to 2s 6d ; greengages, 8d to 1s 3d per box ; ditto, 2s to 6s per half-sieve ; plums, 2s to 6s 6d per half-sieve ; peaches, 2s to 10s 6d per dozon ; nectarines, 2s 6d to 10s 6d ; green figs, 1s to 4s per dozen ; green peas, 3s to 5s per bushel ; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt ; mushrooms, 6s to 12s per 12 lb ; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 7s per flat ; beetroots, 1s to 1s 6d ; scarlet runners, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel ; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s ; vegetable marrows, 1s 6d to 2s ; beetroots, 1s to 1s 6d per tally ; mint, 1s to 1s 6d ; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s ; sage, 9d to 1s ; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d ; turnips, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches ; endive, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen ; horseradish, 9s 6d to 14s per bundle ; tomatoes, 2s to 2s 6d ; potatoes, 55s to 85s per ton.

THE BALTIC.

The cargo trade has felt the weather as we all have, and prices have been a bit lower for all the leading staples. On the whole, there has been perhaps rather less depression than might have been anticipated.

Wheat cargo sales include Australian at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb. (two large cargoes) on Wednesday, and on Friday two more large cargoes at 29s. 6d. per qr. Bahia Blanca has made 28s. 9d. per 480 lb. (two cargoes) ; Odessa Ghurka, 27s. 9d. per 492 lb. ; finest Manitoba, 30s. per 480 lb. ; and No. 2 Red Winter, 27s. per 480 lb. It is in Red Winter and Odessa Ghurka that the most marked reductions have occurred.

Maize has realised 20s. for Argentine per 480 lb., and 21s. 6d. for American, same weight. Barley has fetched 27s. per 448 lb. for Californian Brewing and 18s. per 400 lb. for Azoff. A cargo of white Libau oats made 14s. 3d. per 304 lb. on Tuesday, but 14s. was accepted for another cargo at the end of the week.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 15 wheat (2 Adelaide, 1 Bahia Blanca, 1 La Plata, 2 Melbourne, 1 Port Germain, 3 Portland (O.), 1 Port Wakefield, 2 Streakey Bay, 1 Sydney, and 1 Tacoma).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 10 wheat 2 Antwerp, 1 Birkenhead, 1 Bristol, 1 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 2 Dublin, 1 Limerick, and 1 Sunderland).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 226 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 3 maize, 1 locust beans, and 23 linseed ; total, 258.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 269 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed ; total, 352.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A slightly improved demand met with a fair supply. Goslings, 5s to 6s ; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 9d ; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 3d to 2s 9d ; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 9d ; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d ; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d ; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to 2s ; quails, 1s to 1s 2d ; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d ; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s ; English hares, 2s 6d ; leverets, 1s 6d ; Scottish hares, 1s to 1s 3d ; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 4d ; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d ; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s 3d each, young grouse, 3s 6d to 5s ; old, 2s to 2s 3d per brace.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. —Oilseed Cakes. —Linseed : Firm, unchanged. Cotton : Firm at 2s 6d per ton advance for both Bombay and Egyptian.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat, English steady, quiet, unchanged prices. Foreign firmly held for American, other sorts quiet at late rates, but not active. South Russian quoted 29s to 33s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s; No. 2 at 31s 6d; and No. 3 at 31s, all ex ship, to arrive. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steadily held, but inactive. Mixed American, landed quoted at 22s. 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 3d to 20s 4½d; landed, 20s 9d to 21s. Barley firm, quiet. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 3d; landed, 19s 3d. Oats slow, unchanged. Russians quoted at 15s 3d to 15s 9d; No. 2 white clipped American at 17s 9d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, at about late rates. Foreign dull, and 3d. easier since Monday last, with only a limited business passing. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 29s, 33s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 9d, Hard Winters at 29s 9d, Red Winters 29s 6d—all ex ship to arrive. Flour quiet, unchanged; sellers ask late rates, but buyers are few and far between. Maize quiet, with an easier tendency. Mixed American landed quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 1½d, 20s 3d; landed at 20s 9d. Barley dull, and rather easier; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s, 18s 3d, landed at 19s. Oats steady, quiet; common sorts quoted at 15s 3d, 15s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—A good number of samples of new English wheat on the market; buyers reduced their offers, and sales took place at 27s 6d to 29s 6d; while 64 lb samples made 27s to 29s. Barley in fair condition made 28s to 30s, and oats at 17s to 20s were 1s cheaper. Maize and Kent corn were unchanged, but tares were much cheaper, selling at 5s to 5s 3d per bushel. Flour from 24s per sack for scaling to 29s for whites.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s 6d per qr; barley, 24s to 28s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 33s 6d per qr; beans (old), 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old), 22s to 24s per qr; peas, 30s to 33s per qr; peas (old), 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, prices unchanged from last week. Practically no home grown grain on offer.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Rather a small attendance; trade quiet. Foreign wheats met with a very feeble demand at the following quotations:—River Plate, 30s 6d to 30s 9d, Russian, 30s 6d to 32s, fine white Kurrachee 29s 9d per 496 lb all at Sharpness. English wheats more plentiful and make generally about 28s per 496 lb delivered. New English oats, 17s per 312 lb. Beans, 12s per 196 lb delivered. Both Plate and flat maize were unaltered in value. Grinding barley 6d dearer.

Brighton, Thursday. — Small attendance. Wheat in good supply, fine condition, and trade very firm. Grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats (English), 16s to 18s; peas, 28s to 30s. Slow trade at last week's prices.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday.—A moderate supply of wheat on offer in good condition; trade firm at last week's prices of 26s to 27s 6d on rail. One or two fine rubbed out samples of barley showing, but trade has hardly commenced at present. Linseed cakes, small enquiry at late rates. Milling offals a short supply and good enquiry. Peas 28s, beans 29s per quarter.

Cambridge, Saturday.—With another week of hot weather, some farmers have done harvest, and a few more days will see it finished in this district. There was more wheat showing here on Saturday, and it was dry and of good quality. Red wheat made 26s 6d to 28s, and white up to 29s per 504 lb. A good supply of barley, which sold readily at unaltered prices, ranging from 26s to 32s. Small supply of oats, and prices about 17s per 24 stone. A few samples of new beans made 29s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a good offering of new corn to-day, and considerable trade resulted; 65 lb wheats were selling at from 30s to 31s delivered, and 64 lb up to 29s 6d on rail. Not much inquiry for barley, but a few sales at from 30s to 32. White oats scaling 42 lb were making 19s, and 38 lb blacks went at 16s 6d. Grey peas, 30s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—Both wheat and oats are more plentiful than for some years past, and opening prices ruled low. Prime American corn is firmly held for outside prices. River Plate plentiful and about 6d per sack cheaper. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 1d per 75 lb; beans, new, 5s to 5s 3d; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; old, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance and small quantity on offer, farmers not caring to thresh owing to the prices. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; grinding ditto, 19s to 19s 9d; oats, English, 16s 6d to 23s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 21s to 22s; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Fair supply of grain, but slow trade. Wheat 6d per qr less money. Oats unchanged. Wheat, 27s to 28s per qr; barley, 26s to 32s per qr.—Joseph Wiles and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—Attendance not large, and wheats not at all freely offered. Prices steady at late rates. The new samples of spring corn were somewhat scarce. Beans in fine condition were shown. Quotations: Wheat, old, 11s 6d to 12s per 186 lb; new, 10s 6d to 16s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 418 lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; new, 19s to 21s per 352 lb; beans, new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Very small supply of wheat, both old and new, and sold at irregular prices. Spring corn dull at declining rates. Quotations: Wheat, white old, 31s to 32s; red old, 30s to 31s; red new, 28s to 29s; old beans 34s to 35s; oats, old, 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Very small supply of wheat. Its general condition was disappointing and the quality poor. Prices ruled lower, the general run being at from 13s 6d to 14s 6d. A few very fine parcels, weighing from 65 lb to 66 lb per bushel, have made as high as 31s. White oats, per 40 lb to the bushel, realised from 15s 6d to 17s 6d, while black oats fetched about 6d more. Quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 15s 6d to 17s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Not so large a show of new grain as anticipated. Fairly good demand for English wheat at 10s to 11s per load. Foreign wheat dull. Barley of good quality and condition made 27s to 29s, white oats 17s 6d per qr.

Dorchester, Saturday.—In consequence of so many farmers being still engaged in finishing harvesting operations, which all are evincing a commendably anxious desire to do whilst the present almost too brilliant weather lasts, there was no great attendance at the corn market to-day. Old corn seems to have been completely driven off the market (if there is any left), and the market is now made up of new supplies, some of the wheat samples quite relieving the fact of the present crop being of an indifferent character; it is just the reverse—a good useful sample, for which the demand ruled very slow indeed at from 25s to 27s, only exceptional parcels selling for more money. Barley is in no great demand yet, although a few fair samples were shown, but mostly of a legal description; grinding met a firm sale. Feeding stuffs held for enhanced rates consequent on the drought.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a fair attendance. Flour in moderate demand. A few samples of Irish wheat shown, but no business done. Oats increasing in supply and getting cheaper. Oatmeal quiet and tone firm. Pollard and bran scarce and stiffly held. Quotations:—Oats, 12s 3d to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Attendance moderate; trade slow. English wheat unchanged, at 3s 3d to 3s 6d; foreign a shade easier, and barley up 3d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat quiet, but steady. Flour in buyers' favour with a better demand. Maize meets with a better enquiry at late rates. Corn still scarce, and held for last week's prices. Barley in good demand at firmer prices. Beans and pease quiet, but unchanged in value. Oats—quiet and unchanged for home; foreign in better request and firmer in tone. Bran and thirds scarce and the turn dearer. Oatmeal quiet—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat dull, millers not buying freely, as they anticipate getting their requirements on easier terms; values in buyers' favour. Flour still pressed for sale; millers quote town made at 23s 6d; Minneapolis patents (new crop) not offering freely yet. Mixed American maize scarce and in retail demand at 13s 9d per 240 lb.; round dull at 12s 1½d to 12s 6d. Feeding stuffs steady.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Moderate supply at 1d the bushel lower. Foreign quiet, prices generally unchanged. Flat maize unchanged; Bessarabian 3d lower. Barley 6d lower. Oats down 1s.

Grantham, Saturday.—A large quantity of this season's grain was offered, and a moderate trade was done. Fair supply of wheat and barley, 26s 6d to 27s 6d being paid for the former, and 26s to 33s per qr. for the latter; oats commanded 16s to 17s 6d; blue peas, 54s to 58s; beans, 30s to 32s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, owing to harvest. Ample supplies of new English grain on offer, while new wheats were generally in good condition, bids ranging from 3s 4d to 3s 6d, but growers appeared somewhat indisposed to sell at the prices offered. New barleys were dealt in; approximately good bright barley was valued at 26s to 28s, while new oats of excellent quality were freely offered at from 16s to 18s per qr. Vetches were in demand at 5s to 6s per bushel, according to quality and position. Wheat, old, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 62 lb; new, 3s 4d to 3s 7d; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56 lb.; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A moderate supply of new wheat, trade being steady without alteration in price. Reds, 28s to 28s 6d; whites, to 30s per 504 lb. Oats unaltered. Maize steady. Beans and peas firm. Little or no barley on offer at late rates.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather, has been changeable, and some corn housed in defective condition; on the whole, however, farmers have not had much cause for complaint. With increased supplies of English wheat, prices for such have given way. Foreign, however, except inferior new Russians, has kept very firm, although trade is not active, and prices show no change on the week. Maize a shade easier. Oats slow. Beans scarce.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With larger arrivals of new English wheats, the yield of which is reported above a full average, there is no further hardening of prices, top quotations being 29s, and from 27s to 28s for inferior descriptions. Old English and foreign at late rates; best flour the turn dearer; maize in buyers' favour. No change in beans, peas, oats, or barley.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with ample supplies of new home-grown wheats, which came to hand in fine condition. Trade steady at 1s per qr declinc, prices ranging from 27s to 30s per 36 stone. New barley in fair request at 26s to 30s per 32 stone; new oats, in good condition, 17s to 20s; old oats, 24s to 26s per 26 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—A good attendance. New wheat met with a ready sale at 6d per qr less than last week, making 26s 6d on rail, and 1s more delivered. Odd samples of barley, but no inquiries. Fair supply of oats at last week's rates, making up to 17s 6d on rail. New beans up to about 31s. Foreign wheat without change.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a moderate attendance, and wheat is quiet, values being mostly ½d below last Tuesday. Flour: A very quiet trade without actual change in prices. Maize: Mixed is very firm, with a fair inquiry for the small quantities available, values being ¾d to 1d higher. Plate quiet, with a moderate trade at ½d declinc. European grades quiet and favour buyers. Barley: Malting nearly exhausted. Feeding stocks exhausted. Beans in slow request at about late rates. Peas quiet, with more offering at an occasional decline of 1d per cental. Oats in very fair demand for new English, which are realising better prices. Foreign sorts dull, unchanged. Oatmeal: A very slow sale without change in prices. Oilcake: A fair business for the time of year, at occasionally rather better rates. Indian meal meets an active demand at the quotations.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat, 6d lower; but foreign unchanged on the week. Indian corn ½d to 1d dearer; Plate about ½d lower. Flour in dragging demand. New English oats offering at 2s 4½d to 2s 6d per bushel. Feeding barley unchanged. Beans and peas unchanged. Offals very scarce, and the turn dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Trade slow, and wheat a little less money. Quotations: wheat, 28s to 29s per qr; barley, malting, 25s to 28s per qr; grinding 22s to 23s per qr; oats, white, 18s to 19s per qr; black, 16s 6d to 17s 6d per qr; beans, old, 36s to 37s per qr; new, 29s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday. — A quiet trade for wheats of all descriptions prevailed here to-day at unaltered quotations. Maize in slow demand, and prices favouring buyers. Old Scotch oats remain firm; English and foreign, however, favour buyers. Beans remain firm at late rates. Peas unaltered. No barleys on offer.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat unchanged on the week. Barley, 3d per qr. higher. Other grain unaltered. Flour fines, 23s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, and trade very slow. New wheat, 26s to 26s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 17s 6d; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; beans, 31s to 32s; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham. Saturday.—New wheat being in plentiful supply, millers supply their wants at 1s under last week's currency. Supply and demand for barley so very limited that further remarks not necessary. New oats in buyers' favour. New beans in good demand at rather less money.—Rob Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Supply of wheat to-day moderate, prices 6d lower than last Saturday. Barley still very irregular, no general demand at present. Oats offered sparingly, and made quite as much money.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Market to-day slack. Fair attendance. Wheat unchanged. Barley 3d dearer. Old oats scarce and 3d dearer. Maize unaltered.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday. — Purchases of wheat have been restricted during the week by the tropical weather, and prices have been slightly in favour of buyers. There was only a moderate attendance at to day's market, and no samples of new wheat or oats were offering. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 13s 9d to 14s; ditto red, 13s 3d to 13s 9d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; oatmeal, per load of 240 lb, 27s to 27s 6d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—A quiet tone prevailed, and business was on the small side. Quotations:—Wheat, old, 29s to 31s; new, 26s to 29s 6d; malting barley, 27s to 29s 6d; oats, old, 20s to 23s; new, 16s to 20s; beans, 32s to 37s peas, 28s to 31s.

Ripon, Thursday.—Owing to harvest operations, the market was almost deserted, and no samples were shown. Prices:—Wheat, 30s to 31s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; barley, malting, 27s to 29s; oats, 21s to 22s 6d; maize, round, 23s to 24s; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—New wheats and oats quoted at rather easier rates. Beans, peas, and barley unchanged. Maize slow at about late prices. Offals in good demand at full quotations of last week. Quotations:—Wheat, white new, 29s 6d to 30s; ditto red, new, 29s 6d to 30s per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s; ditto white, 19s 6d per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 32s 6d, ditto blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, 37s to 37s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; ditto malting, 28s to 32s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto Plate, new, 22s 3d to 22s 9d; ditto flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb

Stamford, Friday.—There was a large attendance, but trade was very slow. The market was largely supplied with samples of new wheat, and prices were lower. There was not much business done, for farmers were chary about parting at a reduction. The best wheat commands only 26s to 26s 6d per qr; oats, 16s 6d to 17s. No barley was shown. Peas made recent currencies; beans, 30s to 31s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Owing to fine weather for the crops, foreign wheat was exceedingly quiet at rather less money. Old local wheat was making about 30s to 31s per quarter on the line. Local new oats made 19s per quarter delivered; maize slightly easier.

Sunderland, Saturday.—No new wheat offering yet, and the little old remaining in farmers' hand sold at about late prices. The same may be said in regard to oats and barley. Arrivals coastwise, 300 qr oats; foreign, nil—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 27s to 28s; old white ditto, 30s to 31s; old red ditto, 29s to 29s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s. to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 23s; rye, 23s 6d to 24s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 48s. to 56s; maize, 22s to 24s.

Winchester, Saturday.—A better supply of English wheat and a tendency to be cheaper. Foreign firm. Barley, oats, and maize unchanged. Flour a fair consumptive demand at about late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of new corn in fine condition. Wheat sold at last week's rates. Oats 16s to 17s per 336 lb; barley, 25s to 28s per 448 lb.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — A small attendance, very little business passing, prices being practically unaltered on the week.

Worksop, Wednesday.—No old wheat on offer, and very little new. White wheat, 27s to 28s; red, 26s to 27s; secondary barley, 26s to 28s; grinding, 24s to 25s; white oats, new, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; old, 23s to 24s; new black, 16s to 17s; old black, 22s 6d to 23s; flat maize, 26s; round, 23s 6d to 24s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—New English wheat came freely on offer, but the quality was variable, and quotations fluctuated between 25s and 28s 6d Foreign wheat in fair inquiry by millers, and prices showed hardening tendency at from 31s 6d to 33s 6d. New malting barley made from 29s to 33s; new feeding, 21s to 22s; foreign grinding, 18s 3d. Oats firmly held, white selling at from 20s to 22s; secondary, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; Irish white, 21s to 22s; black, 18s 9d to 19s. Plate maize, 20s 3d; beans, winter, new. 35s to 36s; spring, 36s to 37s; rye, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 22s 6d to 24s; tares, winter, 55s to 62s 6d; spring, 62s 6d to 70s. Flour trade continues very slow, and such business as is passing is on the basis of 22s 6d for fines. Offals in good demand, and selling at more money.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report: There has been a general and lively demand during the week, and prices are fully maintained; our home brewers and maltsters have bought rather freely, whilst the demand from Great Britain has fallen off, as with brilliant weather it is expected the home crop will be housed in perfect condition, holders in Bohemia, Moravia, and Hungary have already sold large quantities at full limits, and are not open to accept lower bids for the present.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

Hamburg, Saturday. — Weather dry and sunny. Farmers being very busy in the fields, new grain is as yet offered sparingly. It appears that the crops of ryo and barley do not turn out equal to expectation, while wheat is giving satisfaction. Of oats there is a good quantity, but mostly rather poor quality. There is a good demand for wheat, 79 Ko River Plate selling at 28s 6d, 9-35 Ulka at 27s 3d to 27s 6d, hard winter No. 2 28s to 28s 3d, red winter No. 2 27s 6d per 480 lb. Fine dry new Holstein and Upland wheat is taken by millers and for exportation at 27s 9d to 28s 6d per 504 lb, f.o.b. Dry German rye is selling at 22s 9d to 23s 6d, per 480 lb. 9½ Odessa afloat is held at 22s 6d 9¾ at 23s per 480 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Good stout Bohemian barley is in demand at 29s to 30s 6d, and for England several parcels of choice mellow quality have been taken at 35s to 36s 3d per 448 lb f.o.b. Fine Bohemian is offering at 32s to 34s f.o.b.; Slovakian at 31s to 36s; stout Danish at 27s to 28s per 448 lb. 60/61 Ko South Russian barley being scarce on the spot, is held at 18s to 18s 6d, floating it is offering at 17s 9d, September-October at 17s 3d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate maize on the spot is offering at 19s 9d. Mixed maize is held at 21s 6d to 21s 9d per 480 c.i.f. Hamburg.— John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 1, 1906:—

Wheat	1,883,700	cwts.
Wheat-flour	250,000	,,
Barley	479,100	,,
Oats	337,090	,,
Maize	1,193,600	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	1,906,500	1,953,800	1,932,300	1,494,661
Wheat-flour	117,600	236,500	457,400	263,697
Barley ...	618,800	389,400	639,700	747,302
Oats ...	207,000	160,200	180,200	221,338
Maize ...	766,700	757,700	960,600	879,436

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 28, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	3,822	0 ...	5,373	15	3 ...	1	8	1
Barley ...	128	2 ...	150	13	0 ...	1	3	6
Oats	3,308	6 ...	2,816	0	10 ...	1	7	2

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Aug. 22 to 29 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	1,955	58,000	59,955
Barley	300	19,000	19,300
Malt	23,188	400	23,588
Oats	5,200	63,000	68,200
Rye	150	1,000	1,150
Beans	311	67	378
Peas	148	600	748
Lentils	—	5,098	
Dari	—	12,000	12,000
Linseed	—	16,000	16,000
Hempseed	—	450	450
Flaxseed	—	2,005	2,005
Rapeseed	—	300	300
Cottonseed	—	4,700	4,700
Canaryseed	—	50	50
Millet	—	1,265	1,265
Flour ... sacks	21,036	35,515	56,621
Maizemeal	—	1,500	1,500
Ricemeal	—	3,000	3,000

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Sept. 2	92,680	27	1	14,747	23	5	24,090	15	9
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,637	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
,, 26	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending September 1, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	11,639	29	9	907	24	6	10,934	19	10
1903	9,267	30	3	726	22	5	8,095	18	5
1904	32,921	30	2	12,370	25	3	31,507	16	3
1905	92,630	26	11	14,747	24	5	24,090	15	9
1906	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900 s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ..	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...			24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...			25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1906	£68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10

Other statistics will be found on page viii.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The price of English wheat was not fully maintained in the face of the brilliant weather, and 6d decline on both white and red sorts must be quoted. Maize declined a full shilling for Russian and American, and 6d for Argentine and Californian. There was no change in Manitoba or Indian descriptions. Trade was very inert, but holders were not at all despondent.

It is recognised that an old-fashioned summer may be followed by an old-fashioned winter, in fact, importers generally take longer views than growers. Maize, despite the falling off in retail enquiry, was not cheap to buy. Barley was very weak for light foreign sorts, and very low prices were sometimes accepted. Oats declined 3d. on the week for all (384 lb.) kinds, but heavier weights maintained the full values of August. Beans and peas remained scarce, and fully previous prices were made.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 3.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	32 — 34
	,, (New) ...	,,	29 — 31
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	30 — 32
	,, .. (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	32 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	29 — 33
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	27 — 28
	Feeding (Old)...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
	,, (New) ..	,,	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	28 — 30
OATS,	Finest Scots (Old) ...	,,	none
	Black Winter ,, ...	,,	none
	Storm Kings (New) ..	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	23 — 24
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 504 lb.)	42 — 44
	Tick	,,	39 — 41
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	35 — 36
	Spring	,,	36 — 37
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter)...	(per 532 lb.)	56 — 64
	(Spring)	,,	64 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	31—31/6	American	22—22/6
,, ,, 2	30—30/6	Argentine	20/9—21
American Red	29—29/6	Bulgarian	21 — 22
Argentine ...	29—29/6	Roumanian ...	21 — 22
Australian ...	31 — 32	Russian	21 — 22
New Zealand	30 — 31	Rangoon	21 — 22
Californian ...	31 — 32	North African	22 — 23
Blue Stem ...	31 — 32	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Walla Walla	30—30/6	Smyrna	34 — 36
Saxonka	32 — 33	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Azima	30 — 31	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Ghirka	29 — 30	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Indian White	29 — 30	Italian	64 — 72
,, Red	28/6—29	Burmese	32 — 42
Persian.....	28—28/6	Chilian	56 — 64
		LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29 — 30	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	PEAS (504 lb.):	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian(400 lb)	19—19/3	Indian Green	29 — 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18 — 19	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24 — 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39— 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Torrified(336 lb)	21 — 22	White	42 — 44
MALT (336 lb.):		Yellow	22 — 24
Californian ...	33 — 36	Sorghum	20 — 22
Smyrna	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Ouchak	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
RYE (480 lb.):		Burmese	9 — 10
Russian	24 — 25	Siamese	8 — 9
OATS:		DARI (480 lb.):	
N'wZeal'd(384 lb)	23 —25	Smyrna	25 — 26
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	19— 20	Indian	23 — 24
Am'can (320 lb)	16/9—17	Persian	21 — 22
Liban (320 lb.)	18 — 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)	
,, (304 lb.)	14/9—15	French	26 — 27
Arg'nt'e(304 lb)	14/9—15	Russian	25 — 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

The prices of town whites and town households were not appreciably lower on the week, but sales since the heat wave of later August became exceptional, as it did on Thursday, have been extremely small. Country flour must be quoted as at the close of August, but when new wheat has been ground the price is likely to come down. The subjoined terms are for old country flour, there not being as yet any bulk of new to be had.

The American makes are not lower from a week ago, but they become apparently increasingly difficult to sell. Australian flour was against the seller, and there were rumours that the Hungarian houses would shortly reduce their terms by 1s. This rumour was, of course, sufficient to make business at currencies exceedingly difficult. The trade in middlings, bran, and pollard was decidedly firm, and ricemeal favoured holders. On the other hand, cornflour is cheap.

London Flour.

Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/9 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	23/9 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/9 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/9 ,,

Country Flour.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24—24/6
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22—22/6
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21—21/6
Stone made	,,	20—20/6

Foreign Flour.

		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
Manitoba Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	29—29/6
,, 1	,,	28—28/6
,, 2	,,	27—27/6
,, 3	,,	26—26/6
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine	,,	24 — 25

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED QUIETLY AT THE REDUCTIONS ALREADY NOTED. THE BEST THAT COULD BE SAID WAS THAT THESE WERE NOT INCREASED.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Owing to the continued drought the demand for seeds of all kinds is very small. Prices for trifolium unchanged, but tares are cheaper, more offering, and quality excellent. —JOHN PICARD AND CO.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The cargo trade is worse from Saturday, as maize which was then steady has now joined the general retreat of values. The linseed trade is divided, Indian cargoes being a little dearer and La Plata a little cheaper from Saturday.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Rosario, 28s per 480 lb, prompt passage; Bahia Blanca, 29s per 480 lb, on passage; White Walla, 30s per 500 lb, October shipment; Red Walla, 30s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; South Australian, 31s per 480 lb, on passage; No. 1 Manitoba, 30s 3d. per 480 lb, on passage; No. 2 Hard Winter, 26s 9d, per 480 lb, on passage; Red Kurrachee, 29s 6d per 492 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Azoff, 18s per 400 lb, September shipment; Kustendjc, 19s per 416 lb, September shipment; Odessa, 17s 9d per 400 lb, October shipment; Californian, 26s 6d per 448 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—Archangel, 15s per 304 lb, on passage; Volojda, 15s 3d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; American, 20s per 480 lb, January shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 40s per 416 lb, September shipment; Calcutta, 42s per 410 lb, September shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 42s per 416 lb, April shipment; Jamba, 38s 3d per 416 lb, September shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 per 2,240 lb, arrived; Bombay, £5 8s 9d per 2,240 lb, prompt shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Cabled prices for shipment continuing higher; asking prices for flour are rather against buyers. Grain.—American corn is again pretty well cleared up on spot. Round maize is still pressed for sale at low prices. Foreign oats are the turn better, as prices for shipment are higher. In spite of large shipments due, grinding beans maintain their prices. New crop English beans are now offered for feeding purposes. Oilcake unchanged. Barley on spot 6d dearer. Mill Stuffs. —Bran and thirds continue scarce.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—The demand for bran coutinues fairly good, prices generally firmer, the production having somewhat declined. — GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—No improvement to report; trade very slow at late rates; tendency downward.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—A very quiet trade both on spot and to arrive at last Monday's prices—T. S. MEDILL & SONS, LIMITED.

Milling Offal.—The demand for milling offal is still in excess of the supply, and prices remain against buyers.—JOHN BAWCOMBE & CO.

TERM MARKET.

The hot weather has told upon the term as upon other markets, only American maize has kept up in price, and this only for near futures:—

Wheat, red winter	Sept.	delivery,	6s 2d	per cental.
,, ...	Nov.	,,	6s 2d	,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	6s 3d	,,
Maize, American	Sept.	,,	4s 8d	,,
,, ...	Nov.	,,	4s 8d	,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	4s 3d	,,
Yellow Argentine	Sept.	,,	4s 3d	,,
,, ...	Nov.	,,	4s 3d	,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	4s 4d	,,

A cargo of Russian oats for September delivery was sold this morning for 14s 1½ per 304 lb.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The hot weather has reduced this branch of business to extreme inertia, but prices are not quotably down on the week.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s	COTTONSEED.	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 50	Egyptian.....	138 to 140
American.....	43 to 44	Indian	105 to 107
Calcutta	43 to 44	SUNFLOWERSEED.	
Bombay	44 to 46		per cwt.
Russian	42 to 44	English, Best...	16 to 17
Argentine	41 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Duluth.....	41 to 42	,, Black .	13 to 14
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.	SESAME.	per cwt.
Best English ...	62 to 64	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	50 to 52	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	44 to 45	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.
Ferozepore	45 to 46	English	48 to 50
		Spanish	78 to 80
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	42 to 44
Indian	44 to 45	Argentine	41 to 42

BUTTER.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s 1d. Crewe: 1s 2d and 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Helmsley: 11d to 1s. Knutsford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 2d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Stamford, 1s to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Totnes, 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 4d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

Friday.—Altrincham: 11. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2s per doz. Barnstaple: 12 to 14. Chester: 9 and 10. Camelford: 14. Crewe: 9d and 10. Derby: 11. Helmsley: 13. Knutsford: 8 and 9. Leyburn: 13. Lincoln: 11 and 12. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 9. Nantwich: 11. Northwich: 10. Otley: 11 and 12. Redruth: 12. Runcorn: 9. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 10 to 12. Stockport: 8 and 9. Tavistock: 12. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 and 12. Berwick: 1s 2d per doz. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 10. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Grantham: 12. Howden: 12 and 13. Ipswich: 11 to 13. Malton 12. Pontefract 12. Retford: 1s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 11 and 12. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 11 and 12. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 10. York: 12.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,248 bales. There was a steady demand for bacon throughout last week, prices ranging:—Irish, 65s to 67s up to 71s; Danish, 60s to 67s up to 70s; Canadian, 61s to 63s up to 66s. Butter.—Butter was a firm market. French, 104s to 116s; Danish, 121s to 124s; Russian, 90s to 104s; Dutch, 112s to 114s; Irish, 98s to 116s; Canadian, 90s to 112s; Australian, 92s to 114s; New South Wales, 90s to 114s; Queensland, 98s to 112s. Lard: Lard was a steady market. Irish, 54s to 62s; Danish, 52s to 59s; American, 44s 9d to 46s 3d.

CHEESE.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 23 tons of cheese pitched, and with a good attendance all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 58s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 54s to 56s; and other dairies, 48s to 52s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 42s. Cheddars made 63s to 66s; truckles, 60s to 63s 6d; doubles, 58s to 61s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate arrivals, and inquiry restricted owing to prices having been advanced to the level of those obtainable in the country. Cheddars fetched 60s to 65s per cwt; Dunlops, 56s to 63s. All classes may be quoted 1s. per cwt. dearer. Canadian still dear.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a fair demand, and a good attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 46s to 54s per cwt; fancy dairies, 55s to 56s; truckles, 63s to 65s; Derbys, 66s.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Deliveries were of good extent, but a slow demand prevailed. Quotations:—English Puritans, 60s; Up-to-dates, 60s; Blacklands, 50s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Average supplies of potatoes at both public retail markets, and a steady trade was done at 4d to 6d per stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Small attendance of farmers, and very little business was done. Prices of potatoes range from 45s to 50s per ton.

Malton, Saturday.—Potatoes continue to come in good supplies. Wholesale, 45s per ton; retail, 100 to 1s per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire new rounds, 6s 6d to 8s; kidneys, 6s 6d to 8s per load; Lincoln, 4s 6d to 5s; Bedford Hebrons, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A slow demand prevailed for the plentiful supply on offer. Quotations:—English Puritans, 3s to 3s 3d; Up-to-dates, 3s to 3s 6d; Blacklands, 2s 6d per cwt.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Lincolnshire potatoes, £4; Scotch, £3 per ton.

York, Saturday.—The progress made with harvesting enables farmers to bring more potatoes to market, and with better supplies prices are, if anything, slightly easier, the top quotation being about 45s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 3, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Sept. 4, 1905.
Beasts	930	930	1,060
Sheep and Lambs	5,950	5,950	5,880
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 4
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	4 8	5 6	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £25.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 65; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 846; Devon, 10; Ireland, 9.

In the beast market to-day the supply, compared with the previous Monday, showed a decrease of ninety head, principally composed of midland counties cattle, including very small consignment of Dublins. Trade for both prime and second quality fat cattle was of a very sluggish nature, with a downward tendency in regard to value, though barely sufficient to enable us to quote it so. This is chiefly attributable to the very hot weather now prevailing and the overstocked state of the dead meat market. Irish met a very poor inquiry. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in shorter numbers, but met a limited demand from both town and country buyers; nevertheless, no quotable decline in value can be recorded. A clearance is not expected.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Sept. 4, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—	...	—	
Devons	—	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Herefords	4 2 to 4 4	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Norfolks	—	...	—	
Runts	4 0 to 4 2	...	4 0 to 4 4	
Lincolns	3 8 to 3 10	...	3 8 to 3 10	
Irish	4 2 to 4 3	...	3 10 to 4 2	
Canadian	—	...	—	
Fat Cows	3 4 to 3 6	...	3 4 to 3 6	

To-day's supply, compared with the corresponding day last week, showed a decrease of 930 in the number of sheep and lambs penned. Trade taken as a whole was of a very slow and heavy nature, both in regard to tone and value, rates ruling in favour of the buyers, though not quotably so. Both Scotch and Irish were also very slow of sale; last Monday's quotations, however, governed all transactions. Lambs in shorter numbers, but more than sufficient for the demand, a reduction of 2d to 4d per 8 lb having to be made to effect sales. A clearance in this part of the market will not be made, and it is feared that a further decline in value will ensue.

The supply included 200 Scotch, 940 Irish, and 800 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Sept. 4, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0...5	8 to 5	10
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10...5	6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6...5	4 to 5	6
10 st Yorkshires	—	...	—	
12st Lincolns	—	...	—	
10 st Irish	5 2 to 5	4...4	10 to 5	0
10 st Down Ewes	4 4 to 4	6...4	2 to 4	4
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 2 to 4	4...4	0 to 4	2
5 st Down Lambs	6 10 to 7	0...6	0 to 6	2
6 st Halfbred ditto	5 8 to 5	10...5	10 to 6	0

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

London Central.—Moderate supplies, inquiry slow to fair. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s to 3s 7d. ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 4s. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal, 3s 6d to 5s. Pork, 4s to 4s 8d.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,327. To-day's supply compared with the corresponding day last week showed a increase of 942 head, and consisted of 909 from the United States, and 418 from Canada. Trade was of a very slow nature, at a decline in most cases, to the exten of from 1d to 2d per 8 lb. The best on offer were quoted at from 3s 11d to 4s 1d for States beasts, and from 3s 9d to 3s 11d for Canadians (offal given in). On Saturday 980 beasts from the United States and 784 from Canada were offered for sale, trade taken as a whole was of a firm and steady nature both in regard to tone and value, last week's quotations governing all transactions. The best on offer were quoted as follows:—(Sinking the offal) States, 3s 11d to 4s 2d; Canadian, 3s 8d to 3s 11d.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is quiet. The few new hops that have arrived show exceptionally fine quality. All reports speak of the crop coming down lighter than was estimated by the most experienced men, some as much as 3 cwt. per acre. The continued heat is being felt severely in many gardens. W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Pending Bristol fair there will be little business done. Kent fleeces, 13d to 13½d; lamb wool, 9d per lb.

Glasgow and Leith.—The English holiday in August caused a quietness in Whitefaced wools, and prices were in buyers' favour during the greater part of the month. During the last week there has been considerably more doing, and the month closes with a hardening tendency all round. Blackfaced has been taken up in fair quantities by the home trade, and although the Americans are not buying so freely as at this time last year, a considerable weight of wool is being shipped at top prices. Prospects of further buying are encouraging, especially in view of the abundant harvest which is being secured in the United States.—J. AND W. GREIG.

Halifax, Saturday.—While there is firmness in the wool trade, users are apparently of opinion that the market will not further harden. Spinners have small supplies of English wool, but are operating for immediate requirements only; still prices are well sustained, with no signs of any giving way.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £14 to £14 10s; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Ghrs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1d.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Fair supply; trade quiet. New hay, £2 15s to £3 7s 6d per ton; straw, 2s 8d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 65s to 70s per ton; old clover hay, 80s to 85s; old meadow hay, 77s 6d to 80s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best, clover, 85s to 90s; hay, best, 75s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Fair supply of new hay on offer, 50s to 60s per ton being asked in stack. Old hay was scarce, and bids were firm at fully late rates. Straw was dull and depressed at about 35s per ton in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Old hay meets with an improving demand, and prices keep firm. Supplies of the new crop have not yet arrived. Quotations:—Old meadow hay, 7d to 7½d; old clover hay, 7½d to 8d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—The trade for old hay is quiet, and without alteration in price. New hay not yet on the market. Oat and wheat straw 35s. to 40s. per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4½d to 5½d; clover, new, 5½d to 6d; straw, wheat, 1½d; oat, 4d to 4½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 15s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, £4 2s 6d to £4 5s; new land hay, £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, £4 15s to £5. Wheat straw, £1 12s to £1 15s per load.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington cattle market on the chief day of the week there was a decrease in the number offered for sale. For both prime and second quality cattle trade opened very slowly, and though no marked decline in value can be noted concessions had to be made occasionally to effect sales. The supply, as usual, at this season of the year consisted principally of Herefords and Runts, including a few choice Devons, the latter, however, met a limited inquiry and were difficult to cash. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in shorter numbers, and also shared in the general depression, at about late values, there being few country buyers present. On Thursday the supply was smaller than during the previous week, and consisted entirely of fat shed cows and bulls, which were all disposed of at Monday's quotations.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade throughout the week was of a firm and steady nature, both in regard to tone and value, late currencies governing all sales. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,381, as against 3,520 during the previous week, consisting of 1,060 British (decrease 50) and 3,321 imported (increase 911), 2,192 being consigned from the United States and 1,129 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid for 8 lb (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone Devons, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 90 to 95-stone Herefords, 4s 4d to 4s 6d except; 95-stone Runts, 4s to 4s 2d; 100-stone Lincoln Shorthorns, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; 90-stone States, 4s to 4s 2d; 95-stone Canadians, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; 90-stone fat cows, 3s 6d; 100-stone fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d.

The sheep trade at Islington for all grades of both Downs and Halfbreds was of a very slow and dragging nature, this being chiefly due to the large increase in the supply and the great number of middling quality sheep on offer. Choice, neat, handy weights, however, sold fairly well. Irish were in larger supply, but nevertheless succeeded in maintaining late rates. Scotch descriptions shared in the downward tendency. Lambs were in very full supply, and met with a very limited inquiry, notwithstanding the fact that salesmen were willing to accept from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. less money. On Thursday trade was again very slow, late rates, however, governed all sales. The total number penned was 9,110, as against 8,260 during the previous week (increase, 850). Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.

Calves numbered 50, and met a slow but steady inquiry at from 5s. 8d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

With heavy supplies of stores still pouring in all the more important centres, especially of the distinctly plainer kinds, business has lost a good deal of its recent firmness except in the case of the very best classes, which are well holding their own in consequence of the few really good things to be met with, though this applies more to dairy beasts than to grazing cattle. Good serviceable heifers and young deep-milking cows are as much in request as ever, and buyers during the past week have found it by no means an easy task to get their requirements fully met, though they are really paying from £17 up to £22 apiece for heifers calculated to suit the particular purpose for which they are needed, and from £15 to £18 or £19 for cows. Stirks of good promise, too, are finding a readier sale at from £9 to £13 apiece, whilst in-calvers of early season make up to £16 or £17 each. Yearlings are likewise selling with a little more freedom than of late, though this is only for the very best. Grazing cattle continue to sell slowly except for young fresh-condition bullocks, which are really the only kind graziers can be tempted to look at, and for these, whilst neglecting all others, they are freely giving from £24 up to £29 per pair, which may be given as quite a maximum figure for anything coming within the category of grazing cattle. Store sheep are steadily improving in value, and, though there has been no marked advance, still ewes are bringing a better return than they were a fortnight or three weeks since by from 1s. to 2s. a head, and the improvement in the lamb trade is at the same time being steadily maintained, and something more, prices now being from 2s. to 3s. higher than they were, the result no doubt of the generally improved outlook as regards the root crop all over the country, affording as this does the promise of much more abundant keep than even the most sanguine a month or so back could have anticipated.

Fat stock sales just now are once more rather disappointing, especially in view of the splendid-quality grass-fed beasts now offering, everything but the very best having receded in value. With the exception of very choice Devons scarcely anything is worth the money it was: from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per stone may be given as a very extreme quotation, the latter figure being one very seldom reached, from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. being a more average and reliable figure for the best and neatest weights. Mutton, too, of a good type—either wethers of medium size or mutton-lamb—is in improved request, the best qualities now making 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d., and occasionally a trifle more; heavier, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 8d.; and ewes, 3s 10d to 4s. 2d., though this class of mutton hardly finds as much favour as the choicer grades. Choice sucking lamb which is in active request, makes 7s. 2d. to 7s. 4d., and occasionally 7s. 6d.; heavy qualities, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 8d.; and poorer descriptions, 5s. 10d. to 6s. The pig trade has quite recovered the recent decline, and all the neater weights in porkers and baconers command a quick sale at 9s 6d. to 10s. 6d. per score; heavier pigs also selling better than they did at 8s. to 9s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been a full average, and the general quality rather improved. For the best descriptions a steady trade has been got, and the prices of the previous week maintained. Secondary classes also made quite as much money. Fat cows in moderate supply and they met a similar trade. There has been a full average supply of sheep and lambs. Trade was quieter and prices all over on an average would be nearly 2s. per head under the high prices of the previous week. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs were also in good demand at quite as much money. Store sheep of a good class continue to sell well, although in some cases 1s. a head less money had to be accepted, but at the finish a good clearance was effected. There was a small supply of store cattle, for which there was a better demand. A nearly total clearance was effected at prices quite equal to recent markets. A large supply of milch cows met a better trade at a shade more money. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 10d.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton, 7½d. to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

With so many visitors to the city for the Horse Show, Thursday's Dublin market was of quite a holiday character, and a number of strangers—on business and on pleasure—were present. The number of cattle was slightly increased by 57 head, but sheep showed a big decrease of 2,784 on the week. The very close state of the weather made buyers rather cautious about making purchases, but the casual buyers present only looked for choice beef, so anything of that class sold fully up to former currencies, but in the commoner grades prices were decidedly against sellers. Mullingar fair, on Wednesday (the day before Dublin market), took away a good deal of business from Dublin, many buyers supplying their requirements there. Rough dairy beef showed a weaker tendency, and did not clear. The live-weight price for nice handy bullocks and heifers ran from 28s. 6d. to 31s., and for a few fancy lots up to 32s. per cwt. The approximate dead-weight prices ranged from 52s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt. for best ox and heifer beef up to 56s. and 57s. 6d. per cwt. for extra qualities; good second-class beef from 47s. 6d. to 52s., and inferior from 42s. to 46s.

In the mutton department, in spite of shorter supplies, business was of a disappointing character, especially for heavy-weight sheep, which are not in favour at present in the large markets. Light-weight sheep however, seemed in better request than for some time past, nice export hoggets selling freely at fair prices. Coarse sheep were neglected. The lamb trade, though now nearly over, was active, and one lot of very nice lambs sold at the fancy figure of 48s each. Prime wether mutton made from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb; prime ewe ditto, from 6½d. to 7d.; and inferior sheep, from 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Heavy hoggets sold from 46s. to 60s. each, and small to medium ditto, from 36s. to 44s. Small lambs made from 18s. to 24s., and large fat from 30s. to 40s. each. Prime veal sold at 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., coarse calves from 5d. to 6d. per lb.

Dairy cows were in limited supply, and with a dull inquiry not much was done, and a clearance was not effected. A few prime milch cows sold at from £18 to £20, others from £9 to £15. Store cattle was down at most of the country fairs. Mr. Gavin Low held a large sale of about 1,000 head. As usual during horse show week, prizes were given for the best lots sent in for sale. The first prizes were awarded to Mr. M. H. Franks for polled bullocks and heifers; the former, a lot of eight A.A. crosses, were sold for £16 10s. each, and the latter, a lot of eight two year-old A.A. heifers, sold for £13 each. The best price was got by Mr. W. Gray, of Moete, for eight Aberdeen-Angus-Hereford two-year-old crosses, which went at £17 15s. each. Most of the polled cattle were secured by Scotch buyers, but a great deal of stock went to England. Young cattle were neglected.

The supply of pigs in the Dublin market on Thursday was limited, but large enough for the business done, which was decidedly slower. It was found difficult to maintain the prices of the previous week. Stores slow, a late finish. Best light-weight pigs from 54s. to 56s. per cwt.; coarse pigs from 38s. to 46s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade slow, but a fair demand for fresh meat; pork dearer. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d; extreme, 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindqrs, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; ditto, fore-quarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, lambs, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; extreme, 5s; English pork, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—The supply of beasts consisted of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade ruled fairly steady, last Monday's quotations being well upheld, and clearance being made early in the day. Top value:—Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. A decrease of 170 in the number penned in sheep market. Trade ruled firm for both wethers and ewes, late currencies governing all sales. Lambs, on the other hand, were largely in excess of the demand, even at a reduction of 2d to 4d per 8 lb. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½ stone to 8-stone Down sheep, 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 10d; 10-stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 6s 10d to 7s; 6-stone half-breds ditto, 5s 10d to 6s. With a shorter supply calves ruled firmer at an advance of 2d to 4d per 8 lb. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 8d to 6s; calves, 3s 10d to 6s; lambs, 4s 8d to 7s Total supply: Beasts, 49; sheep and lambs, 2,230; calves, 30; milch cows, 5.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—With a large entry of beef and a sluggish demand, trade was very slow, but last week's rates of 4s 4d to 4s 6d for prime beasts was unaltered Mutton met a languid demand, Southdowns ranging up to 5s 10d, and Kents to 5s 2d. Veal dearer, up to 6s. Pork cheaper; roasters, 4s per stone.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade dull. Stirks, £8 10s to £9 10s; bullocks, £12 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep and pigs. Trade fair for pigs and slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; pigs, bacon, 10s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Market quiet and the amount of business done rather under the average. Beef was plentiful, but demand poor, and trade dull at late rates. Sheep and lambs were in short supply, and business was steady at about last week's quotations, heavy wethers realising slightly better prices—7d. Pigs were scarce and baconers fell to 9s 6d.

Calne, Wednesday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS & CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices a trifle lower, owing to the continued drought. Ewe tegs sold at from 42s to 47s; old ewes at from 23s to 26s; and two-lamb ewes up to 44s 6d. Of lambs there was a good offering, wethers ranging from 18s to 26s, and up to 30s for best quality; ewe lambs, 16s 6d to 26s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supplies, the bulk being good Irish heifers and a number of polled bullocks. The best cattle made £12 10s to £17; wintering heifers, £8 10s to £11 10s; small heifers, £6 10s to £8 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £10 10s; ditto better sorts, to £13 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—A large and excellent supply of stock, but owing to the harvest there was a small attendance of buyers and a quiet trade. Milch cows made £16 to £21; calves, £15 to £20; barrens, £9 to £13; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £7. Clun ewes sold well, also several lots of lambs and wethers, prices ranging from 18s to 42s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and in spite of the continued drought a steady demand prevailed for lambs and breeding ewes, and prices were very similar to those made at the last sale a fortnight ago ranging from 46s to 30s per head. Fat cattle experienced a slow but firm trade at about recent values, and fresh-calved cows and heifers sold remarkably well. Quotations:—Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; owes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s to 4s 6d; pork, 3s 8d to 4s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Grass beef, 4s to 4s 4d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; lamb, 6s to 6s 8d; pork, 9s 6d per score. There was a very fair supply and good trade. The store pens are not much used just now, owing to the want of feed or rain to make it, and the prayer for "rain in moderation" might now be amended without injury to the crops.

Derby, Tuesday.—A good supply, but coarser sorts were very numerous. Anything choice sold well. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d; lambs, 9d to 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—An exceptionally small supply of stock. Trade in store beasts was practically nil, but prices may be quoted up to £11 for heifers and £14 for bullocks. Dairy stock in good demand, making £18 to £23. Lambs made 42s, black-faced ewes, 36s to 38s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Market was more largely attended than usual in consequence of the special sales of sheep held here to-day. About the usual supplies came to hand at the ordinary market, the trade for which ruled quiet, except in the case of anything specially serviceable either in the fat or store line. Stores were badly affected by the continued drought, which has left the grass lands everywhere unusually bare, completely stagnating (or almost so) business in grazing cattle, which have dropped back considerably in price, the best only making £18 to £23 per pair and plainer things to as low as £14. Milch beasts not quite so much affected, heifers making £16 to £19 15s each and cows with calves £10 to £14. Bulls from £8 10s to £10. Fat beef scarcely so brisk as it was owing to the hot weather, fat heifers making £15 to £21 and steers £17 to £22 (or 10s to 11s per score). The mutton trade showed but little alteration for the little offering; ewes selling from 37s to 40s 6d, and lambs 28s to 34s 6d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Cattle were again sent forward in increased numbers, the greater proportion of which were of an untinished description. Choicer qualities with difficulty made last week's rates; secondary and inferior sorts hard to clear and prices very uneven. Nice suitable light and medium sheep in fair request at last week's prices; heavy sorts not so easily placed. Lambs unaltered. Cattle—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s 6d per cwt. Exceptional for Angus crosses up to 33s per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6d to 7½d and 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Full supplies and a good trade. Polled cattle to £13 13s; bulls, £7 7s to £9 9s; half-bred lambs, 30s to 34s; Cheviot sheep to 39s; greyfaced to 40s; best Shorthorn cows to £26; others, £20 to £24; Ayrshires, £16 to £20; Irish, to £25.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of best beasts; trade quiet. Sheep more numerous, made up to 8½d per lb, but many breeding ewes were left unsold. Best beef, 11s 6d per score.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies liberal, but prices generally firm. Lambs excessively dear, owing to large numbers being bought for store purposes. Cattle likewise firm. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; secondary, 58s to 60s; top Irish, 58s to 60s; best Canadian, 54s to 56s; secondary, 52s; ranchers, 48s to 50s per cwt.; best home sheep, 9½d to 9¾d; lambs, 10d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Owing to the dry weather there was practically no demand for store cattle, and very few were brought to market. The beef trade was fairly firm, and best bullocks and heifers made 6¾d per lb, in some instances 7d; fat cows 4½ to 5d. Sheep were a moderate supply; fat wethers made fully 8d per lb, some 8¾d; fat ewes 6½d to 7d. There were very few fat lambs, and they sold dear at 8d to 8½d per lb. There were several bunches of store lambs, which realised 28s to 34s, and several of stock ewes, one drove of forty particularly nice ones making 48s. Veal was a small supply at 7d. Pigs again formed a short supply, porks at 5½d per lb, and stores selling dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers. Trade ruled irregular, and while milch cows made 15s to 20s per head advance, bullocks and young stock were 10s per head lower on account of the drought. Choice milch cows, £21 to £23; good lots, £18 to £20; secondary, £16 to £17; bullocks, £10 to £12; calves, 10s to 25s per head. Sheep were well represented; breeding sheep, 38s 6d to 44s 6d; good lamb hoggs, 33s to 38s 6d; ditto secondary, 20s to 23s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of beasts, and business ruled brisk. Yearlings, £8 to £10; lambs, 32s to 40s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Larger supply of fat beasts at late rates, 6s 9d to 7s 6d; few stores met a slow trade at £6 to £11 each. Fat sheep rather larger show at late rates, 8s 9d to 9s 6d. Stores 40s to 45s; fat lambs, 25s to 40s; and stores, 30s to 35s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 5.1 to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Mutton: firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 7d to 7¼d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: firsts, 6½; seconds, 5.1 to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4½d. Lamb: firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Prices were in favour of sellers. Prime heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second-class, 7s to 7s 6d.; steers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s 9d per stone; sheep, 5d to 8½d; lambs, 8¾d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply, a brisk trade, and prices about the same as last week.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat beasts were offered in fair supply, and trade ruled slow at an average of 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. There were rather more store cattle than last week; trade still in a languid condition, buyers being careless, sales were difficult to effect; values remained about the same, prices ranging from £6 to £17 per head. There was a small show of sheep, principally composed of breeding ewes. Very few lambs were on offer; the demand was about the same as of late, and values were unaltered. Ewes made from 45s to 63s per head, and lambs from 32s to 40s. Fat sheep were shown in average numbers, and the demand ruled firm at 8s 6d to 10s per stone. Although not so large as last week, there was a good supply of fat and store pigs; for these there was plenty of inquiry, and a clearance was effected, fat pigs averaging fully 7s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—An average show of milch beasts, with a good trade for best qualities, making from £20 to £23. Small show of store beasts, with no demand. No sheep on offer and only a few pigs. Calves met with a dragging trade, realising 25s to 35s each.

Plymouth, Friday. Wholesale—Steer sides, 46s to 50s per cwt; cow sides, 42s to 46s 5d; mutton ewes, 4½d to 5½d per lb; wethers, 6½d to 6¾d; pork, 5½d to 5¾d; veal, 5½d to 6d; lamb, 8d to 8½d. Retail—Beef, 6d to 9d; mutton, 5½d to 7½d; veal 5d to 7½; lamb, 7d to 9½d; pork, 6d to 8d.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good supplies met with a slow trade. Calves were in excellent demand, and a brisk trade was negotiated. Quotations:—Heifers and bullocks, 5½d to 6d; ditto, exceptionally choice, 6½d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d; lambs, 8½d to 9d; hoggs, 8½ to 9d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; tups, 5½d to 6d; calves, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Fair quality milch cows were offered at £16 to £19. Owing to the scarcity of keep, stock for feeding purposes was practically unsaleable. Two-year-old steers and heifers, £7 to £11; yearlings, £4 10s to £6; and calves, 30s to 40s.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade unchanged. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in large supply; trade very slow at 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade rather better. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade unchanged at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs scarce; trade about the same at 6s 2d to 6s 4d per stone. Very slow demand for store beasts. Pig trade slow at late rate.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Very few beasts shown. Beasts, £18 to £21; secondary, £14 to £16 10s. No sheep.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small supply of store cattle with a slow demand. Quotations:—Beef 6d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score; sows, 8s to 9s per score. Cows with calves, £17 to £22 15s.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s 6d to 8s per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s 6d to 7s. Lambs sold at 10d per lb; young sheep, 9d; ewes, 7d; tups, 6d. The pig trade was steady, but the hot weather was against a brisk trade. Last week's prices were maintained.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again an exceedingly large ex ry of all description of stock, and with several more buyers present trade was steady throughout. Choice quality finished cattle were in demand, but half finished were dragging and practically unsaleable, although a clearance was effected. Fat sheep again sold steadily, although late rates were difficult to maintain. There was very little demand for lamb. Veal in request. Bacon and pork at late rates. Choice weaning calves found ready purchasers, but secondary sorts met with very little support. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 130 fat beasts, 375 fat sheep, 81 fat and weaning calves, and 138 fat and store pigs. Fat heifers made from £14 to £18 7s 6d; fat oxen, £16 to £19 7s 6d; fat wethers, 49s to 64s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 52s; fat lambs, 30s to 37s; fat calves, £3 to £5; weaning cow calves, 28s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 42s; bacon hogs, £3 to £5 5s; porkers, 28s to 55s; store pigs, 15s to 26s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk; attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £9 to £16; rearing calves, 15s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 17s to 33s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork, carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round. Slow trade for beasts; fair for sheep and lamb. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor show of beef; large show of mutton. Best beef, 7s; secondary, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone. Best Southdown and wether cross-bred shearlings, 9d; ewes, 6½d; lamb, 9½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Very large offer of sheep and lambs, chiefly lambs, fully 10,000 being penned. One or two specially good lots of home-bred lambs made 42s and 45s; best twice cross-bed lambs, to 37s; others, 32s to 35s. A few Masham lambs were on offer, and made up to 28s; Holderness lambs, 34s to 40s. Large supply of Irish store cattle, but very few English. Buyers were very few, and only lots were sold at about late rates. Smaller show of calving and milch cows, with an improvement on the bad trade of the last market, although the demand was by no means brisk. A few good animals made up to £21 each, but the general run was from £15 to £18.

Yeovil, Friday.—Heavy offer of both cattle and sheep. Best quality cows, with calves, £20 10s to £22 5s; secondary animals, £17 10s to £19 10s; heifers and calves, £18 5s to £22s 10s; barreners, £12 5s to £16 10s; yearlings, £7 10s to to £9 10s; steers, £13 10s to £15 10s; store lambs, 27s 6d to 32s 6d; store ewes, 34s to 39s; horn wethers, 38s to 45s; Down wethers, 37s 6d to 42s 6d.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Small supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer to-day, only 408 head being penned. Business, owing to the small supply, was sharper than of late, and prices for all classes of cattle were higher and firmer than has been the case during recent sales, advances of from 2s to 3s per cwt deadweight being paid for nearly all qualities of bullocks. Bulls were scarce, but values were about late rates for both prime and heavy sorts. First-class bullocks made up to 56s per cwt dea iweight, rough and ready qualities from 52s to 54s per cwt, and ranchers from 48s to 52s per cwt, according to quality and condition.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—Seven sales of Canadian cattle were held to-day, 525 head being penned. Buyers were present in large numbers, and business throughout was on somewhat similar lines to previous sales, although prices were, a shade easier. Bulls were very scarce, and prices ruled dear, 47s to 50s per cwt deadweight being paid. Bullocks were plentiful, and for those of useful qualities and handy sizes and weights a steady selling demand was experienced at top quotations, while secondary and middling classes were in fair request at varying rates. Inferior qualities were slow to cash at late values, but ranchers met a better trade.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is firmer on the spot. Some inquiry is experienced for phosphatic fertilisers for autumn and winter deliveries. Basic slag is obtainable on a basis of last year's values at the various producing centres, and fine powdery bone ash guaranteed 65 per cent. phosphates at £3 5s in Liverpool, whilst pure boiled bones 56 to 60 per cent phosphates and about 2 per cent ammonia are about £3 12s 6d and £3 17s 6d per ton respectively in Nottingham and Sheffield districts. Prices per unit of phosphates quite on a par with those of basic slag. Feeding stuffs are rather more inquired for, but as yet only in slight consumptive request.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda.....	11	7	6		–	
East India Bone Meal.....	5	2	6	5	5	0

Kainit	2	1	3	2	2	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0	—		
Linseed Cake, American	7	10	0	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	2	6	8	10	0
,, ,, Foreign, round, soft and oily	7	17	6	—		
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated	nominal.					
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	—		
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	15	0	—		
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	7	6	—		
Crushed Cottonseed	7	12	6	—		
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6	5	15	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	—		
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	17	6	—		
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0	—		
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	4	6	—			
Treacle, feeding, prime (American)	4	9	4	10½		
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.					
,, ,, guaranteed						
Basic Slag, prime quality*	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,, ,, ,,	1	18	6	2	0	0
,, ,, finest ,,	2	2	6	—		

* At the producing depots inland.

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—With the exception of a small consumptive demand, the trade is at a standstill, there being almost a total absence of any speculative inquiry; nevertheless, in consequence of a firmer tendency on the part of shippers, values are fully as dear. Russian move off quietly, and are slightly cheaper. East India seed pures command last week's full prices. American are unchanged. London made meet a steady trade, and are without alteration. Cotton Cakes.—Egyptian remain scarce on spot, and needy buyers are compelled to pay full prices; English, however, are in moderate request at about late rates. Decorticated still do not offer, but some American meal is available at £7 12s 6d to £7 17s per ton. Rape Cakes.—Nominal; East India and Ravison unaltered. Maize Germ Meal. — Some White American just arrived may be bought at a reduction of 1s 3d per ton on last week, with English offering unaltered. Maize Gluten Meal sells freely at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are quoted at £4 13s 6d to £4 15s, while for shipment a firmer tendency has set in and sellers now ask £4 15s ex ship terms. Locust beans are without change at £5 15s for whole and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Dried Grains continue relatively offered at £4 15s to £5 per ton.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
London made ....ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Russian, in mats	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
Calcutta ....to arrive	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
American	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
English	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
Rape Cakes.		
Calcutta	5 0 0	
Ravison	4 15 0	
Maize.		
English Germ Meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American	5 13 9	to 5 15 0
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market still remains very firm; there is a good demand at about 18s ale, 15s porter, 27s 6d distillers, and 32s 6d pressed white distillery meal per ton. Other articles without any particular change as follows:—Dried grains are in stronger demand, with a much firmer tendency: Ale 92s 6d, mixed 86s 3d, distillers 112s 6d per ton on rail London; also ale 90s, and mixed 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail or docks London, sellers' option. — Hamlyn and Co.

FACTORS' REPORTS.

Mincing Lane, September 3.

Rice prices for the cereal year have been as follows:—

	Per cwt. s. d.		Per cwt. s. d.
Sep., 1905	6 9	Mar., 1906	7 1
Oct., 1905	7 0	Apr., 1906	7 2
Nov., 1905	7 1½	May, 1906	7 3
Dec., 1905	7 1½	June, 1906	7 4
Jan., 1906	6 10½	July, 1906	7 4
Feb., 1906	7 0	Aug., 1906	7 6

The type is ordinary sound Rangoon.—(Special to M.L.E.).

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday. — Reports from the plantations are rather more favourable, especially where the hops have been well attended to, but the excessive heat is almost too much. Dull warm weather with some rain is wanted to keep the colour of the hops while they grow out. Otherwise we may have a lot of brown samples More trade has been doing at late prices. Picking will commence generally next week.—Charles Faram and Co.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The extreme heat and drought have caused a general commencement in the picking. Results thus far have been disappointing, the crop coming down considerably short of expectations.

RATS

EXTERMINATED BY DANYSZ VIRUS

Discovered and Prepared by Dr. Danysz, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris.

When affected by the Virus the Vermin leave their usual haunts and die in the open. The remedy is harmless to other animals and human beings and may be used everywhere with absolute safety.

Tubes 2/6 each; 3 Tubes 5/-.

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DANYSZ VIRUS Ltd., (Box 49)

52, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

SPECIAL TERMS FOR LARGE AREAS.

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 1...(per sack)	30 0	...(per sack)	27 0
,, 13... ,,	29 0	... ,,	26 0
October 11... ,,	28 0	... ,,	25 0
November 3... ,,	30 0	... ,,	27 0
,, 29... ,,	29 9	... ,,	26 9
December 11... ,,	30 0	... ,,	27 0
January 31... ,,	29 9	... ,,	26 9
February 21... ,,	29 6	... ,,	26 6
March 16... ,,	29 0	... ,,	26 0
March 23... ,,	28 3	... ,,	25 3
May 18... ,,	28 0	... ,,	25 0
June 20... ,,	27 9	... ,,	24 9
August 24... ,,	26 9	... ,,	23 9

(No change since last date given.)

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat		Barley		Oats		1906. Wheat		Barley		Oats	
Jan.	30	5	24	9	16	5	28	6	24	9	18	5
Feb.	30	7	25	1	16	9	28	10	25	4	18	11
Mar.	30	10	25	1	16	11	28	5	24	8	18	11
April	30	9	24	8	17	3	29	1	24	2	19	1
May	30	10	24	8	18	5	30	2	24	0	20	0
June	31	8	24	4	19	2	30	4	23	4	20	2
July	32	0	22	8	18	4	30	4	23	1	20	4
Aug.	29	6	22	10	16	10	29	6	23	7	17	9
Sept.	26	10	23	9	16	0	—		—		—	
Oct.	27	1	24	11	16	6	—		—		—	
Nov.	28	3	24	8	17	6	—		—		—	
Dec.	28	5	24	6	18	0	—		—			

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.
Jan.	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2
Feb.	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3
March	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3
April	31	6	30	9	29	0	31	0	27	3	24	6	26	9
May	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8
June	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6
July	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9
August	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4
Sept.	—		31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3
Oct.	—		31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0
Nov.	—		31	9	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4
Dec.	—		31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0
Yrly. Avrg.	—		30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

	s. d.
September 1 ....(per sack)	31 0
,, 11 .... ,,	30 0
November 3 .... ,,	31 0
,, 10 .... ,,	30 0
August 3 .... ,,	29 0

(No change since last date given.)

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

IMPORTANT SALE OF SUFFOLK SHEEP, FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 7, at 11 a.m.

ROBERT BOND & SONS, in conjunction with the Secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, will SELL by AUCTION near the Station, 1000 Superior SUFFOLK SHEARLING and Older EWES from Registered Flocks.

320 Grand SUFFOLK RAM LAMBS and SHEARLING RAMS from the most noted breeders.

Notice.—This is the last important Sale of the season, which includes a grand selection of RAMS, suitable for Pure Breeding or Crossing Purposes.

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1 insertion	8/-
6 insertions at	7/- each.
13 ,, ,, ...	6/- ,,
26 ,, ,, ...	5/- ,,
52 ,, ...	4/- ,,

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JEE'S

MILK BOOK.

By Post, 2/3.

London: Published by W. A. MAY, "MARK LANE EXPRESS" OFFICE 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Sept. 3, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 302, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The magnificent weather of the last ten days of August enabled the harvest to be completed in the leading districts in perfect condition. The sunshine record is not quite so high as one might have looked for, but there were many pleasant grey days earlier in the month. The following is our record for the completed eight months of 1906:—

	Rain, inches.	Sun, hours.	Warmth, degrees.
Jan.	3·70	30	46·0
Feb.	3·75	80	45·0
March	1·08	85	47·0
April	0·70	201	48·0
May	1·71	121	49·0
June	3·05	225	57·5
July	1·01	261	62·5
Aug.	0·99	222	65·0

The weather of August, 1905, was very different, three inches of rain falling and the pastures being much refreshed. On the other hand, barley was gravely injured and discoloured. There were only 150 hours of sunshine, and the temperature, 59 degrees, was 1 degree per diem (31 degrees on the whole month) below the average of the previous half-century.

The Hungarian Minister of Agriculture publishes the following estimates of the wheat crop in countries concerning whose crops he is regarded as an authority, and has proved in past years to have had exceptional information:—Austria-Hungary, 31,500,000 qr. (480 lb.); Russia, 69,000,000; Roumania, 14,250,000; Servia, 1,472,000; Italy, 20,700,000; Germany, 18,170,000; Switzerland, 640,000.

He also publishes the following rather wild guesses at the yield in regions whence he has in past years appeared to have obtained as authentic information:—Egypt, 2,576,000 qr. (480 lb.); Turkey, 9,200,000; U.S.A., 97,000,000.

We notice that he has discontinued this September giving any estimates of the wheat yield in Persia, Cyprus, and Cape Colony. The Persian figures were always works of pure imagination, but he could have had correct returns for Cyprus and Cape Colony by application to the English Secretary of State in London. He has, we observe, adopted in that comment the official report of the Viceroy on the Indian wheat crop; an annoying complaisance, as it is just this report which is questioned by the trade, and is held by many good judges to be 4,000,000 qr. to 6,000,000 qr. in excess of fact. Any foreign agricultural authority making an independent inquiry would, therefore, have had an attentive hearing. The Japanese return of a yield of 2,438,000 qr. is not official, and is much too small.

The wheat gradient last week was as follows:

Canterbury	29s. 0d. per qr.
Peterborough	25s. 7d. ,,
Range	3s. 5d. ,,

The barley gradient was decidedly steeper:—

Chelmsford	28s. 8d. per qr.
Salisbury	20s. 2d. ,,
Range	8s. 6d. ,,

Oats, on the other hand, were comparatively uniform in price:—

Bridlington	18s. 11d. per qr.
Peterborough	15s. 7d. ,,
Range	3s. 4d. ,,

The Peterborough market just now seems to be a focus of depression, but there are some very cheap Norfolk markets, 26s. 5d. for wheat and 16s. for oats, at Fakenham on Thursday, for instance.

Liverpool prices for American Red winter wheat show the following changes:—

To-day	6s. 2d. per cental.
A year ago	6s. 8d. ,,
Two years ago	7s 4d. ,,

The decline is very remarkable even, if we allow for the strong bear element now controlling the Liverpool market.

A curious contrast is afforded by the Paris wheat averages which, when worked out in English denominations, are:—

To-day	38s. 5d. per qr.
A year ago	39s. 1d. ,,
Two years ago	39s 7d. ,,

New York has declined 5s. 10d. per qr. in two years, Paris 1s. 2d. per qr. Protection seems to give France great stability in wheat prices. The French consumer pays more on the average than the English and American consumers. But he knows what he has to spend. England and America are the sport of a fluctuating market. What does that matter, the theorist will remark, so long as on the average the consumer is in pocket? But those who study human nature will not be so sure as is the orthodox economist.

The supply of wheat on passage shows some further diminution on the week, and this despite the increased shipping efforts of the United States. The markets should consider this. The largeness of supply from any one source should not depress the general trade in general, and inclusive figures are on the sellers' side. The wheat all goes into one use, whatever country ships it.

WHEAT ON PASSAGE.

From California, 170,000 qr.; America, 410,000 qr.; Russia, 80,000 qr.; India, 607,000 qr.; Argentina, 250,000 qr.; Australasia, 310,000, qr.; various, 45,000 qr.; total, 1,872,000 qr. A week ago, 2,026,000 qr.

The supply of flour on passage has increased to 235,000 sacks, but is still much under an average.

Of barley, owing to the increased shipments from Russia, there are now 490,000 qr. on the high seas. Of this total 295,000 qr. are Russian.

Of maize the quantity on passage is considerable:—Argentine, 920,000 qr.; American, 60,000 qr.; Russian, 30,000; Roumanian, 100,000; various, 40,000; total, 1,150,000 qr.

Other supplies on passage are:—300,000 qr. of oats (mainly Russian), 135,000 qr. of linseed (mainly Argentine), 18,000 qr. of rapeseed (chiefly Indian), and 19,000 tons of cottonseed, all from Egypt.

Sales of foreign breadstuffs for the past four cereal years are thus estimated by *Dornbusch*:—1905-6, 515,000 qr. weekly; 1904-5, 540,000 qr. weekly; 1903-4, 535,000 qr. weekly; 1902-3, 510,000 qr. weekly.

If we estimate the want, of the United Kingdom at 620,000 qr. weekly we get from these figures a clue to the real consumption of home-grown wheat, which will accordingly work out as follows:—1905-6, 105,000 qr. weekly; 1904-5, 80,000 qr. weekly; 1903-4, 85,000 qr. weekly; 1902-3, 110,000 qr. weekly.

It is unusual to make consumption the datum line, but it is no more inaccurate than the method of working from the estimated sales on the basis of 190 out of 500 markets. All the estimates are at best approximations.

The American shipments last week were large of wheat, and the new crop is apparently going to play a very material part in autumn trade. Other exports were conspicuously small. The actual figures were:—Wheat, 377,000 qr.; flour, 130,000 sks.; barley, 3,000 qr.; oats, 45,000 qr.; and maize, 36,000 qr.

Argentina continues to be the world's chief maize shipper. Last week's exports were 44,000 qr. of wheat; 297,000 qr. of maize; and 43,000 qr. of linseed.

The Russian wheat shipments show a falling off, but those of barley are exceedingly heavy. Totals:—Wheat, 150,000 qr.; barley, 490,000 qr.; oats, 181,000 qr; and maize, 7,000 qr.

Roumania last week shipped 140,000 qr. of wheat, 74,000 qr. of barley, 8,000 qr. of oats, and 47,000 qr. of maize; while 56,000 qr. of wheat were shipped by India and 32,000 qr. by Australia and New Zealand.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Supplies this week have been moderate, and with a large falling off of importations of foreign hay our market has evinced a steadier feeling. Prices show no change, but there is a great deal more business doing with a much better tone in the trade. The recent hot weather having made feed in the country very scarce, has doubtless made farmers very chary of parting with their hay except at prices which would show little or no profit to the London trade. It is, therefore, hoped that the demand here may go better and give our London salesmen and dealers an opportunity of doing business on a profitable basis, which has been well nigh impossible of late. Best hays are more inquired after than other qualities, and find a quick sale at full prices. Clovers and mixtures are steadier at late values. Straw, however, continues very dull. Excessive supplies keep coming along and find a very poor demand. The imports of foreign hays have dropped off considerably this week, and in consequence Canadian mixture is a good 2s. 6d. per ton better. Other qualities, also straw, show a hardening tendency.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 60s to 67s 6d per ton. Best clovers, 90s to 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 85s to 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; seconds mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 24s per load; oat straw, 25s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 77s 6d per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s per ton; French 1st. and 2nd cut clover, 75s per ton; French large bale wheat straw, 51s per ton; small bale French wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

The arrival of a steamer, the *America*, at Leith with a cargo of 120,000 bushels of wheat from Baltimore, is said to constitute a record. A few of these cargoes would, we should imagine, enable both Leith and Edinburgh to hold on until the new Scots wheat of 1906 is fit for the mill.

Value of wheat cargoes in London from the 4th to 8th inst. included Ulka at 29s. per 492 lb, South Australian at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb., red Walla at 29s. 2d. per 500 lb., Argentine at 27s. 9d. per 480 lb., and red Kurrachee at 29s. 3d. per 492 lb. It is exceedingly difficult to get any clear "lead" for these sales. Prices are lower, but not regularly so, and the Argentines, which show the sharpest reduction, is getting scarcer every week, so that recovery seems to be in sight.

Maize cargo sales have included Argentine at 19s. 9d. per 480 lb., Bessarabian at 20s. 6d., Odessa at 21s., and Galatz at 20s. 3d. per 480 lb.. No American cargoes are on offer. Other cargo sales of the week include Azoff barley at 18s. 1½d. per 400 lb., Vologda oats at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb., white Calcutta peas at 31s. 6d. per 504 lb.. and Smyrna beans at 30s. per 480 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 maize (Villa Constitucion), 1 linseed (Concepcion); total, 2.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 15 wheat (3 Antwerp, 2 Belfast, 2 Birkenhead, 2 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 1 Gloucester, 1 Hull, 1 Runcorn, 1 Sunderland), 1 Waterford), 1 barley (Ipswich), 1 linseed (Hamburg); total, 17.

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 226 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 4 maize, 1 locust beans, and 24 linseed; total, 260.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 272 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 9 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed; total, 356.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbred—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1d.

Halifax, Saturday.—The market keeps rather quiet, home grown wools being no exception, though a little more has been done of late in North wools for America. North hoggs fetch about 14d; some sellers quote a little more.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at about Monday's rates. Foreign in small request at unchanged prices. South Russian quoted at 28s to 32s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 6d; red winter at 28s; hard winter at 29s 6d; choice white Karachi at 29s 9d; soft red at 28s 6d, all ex ship to arrive. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 3d to 20s 4½d; landed, at 20s 6d to 21s. Barley slow, Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 17s 6d to 17s 9d; landed, at 18s 3d to 18s 6d. Oats steadier, not active.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, quiet. Foreign held at late rates, but in very poor demand. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 28s to 32s 6d, landed at 30s 6d to 33s 6d; No. 2 Red Winter at 28s, hard winter at 29s 6d, choice white Karachi at 29s 6d to 29s 9d, red Karachi at 28s 6d, No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 6d, all ex ship to arrive. Flour dull, unchanged. Hungarian quoted at 29s, Minnesota patents at 24s 6d, bakers' at 19s 6d. Maize steady for American. Plate dull and easier. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 19s 9d to 20s; landed at 20s 3d to 20s 9d. Barley firmer, and held for 3d advance. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 17s 10½d to 18s; landed at 18s. 6d to 18s 9d. Oats steady, quiet.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—No grain on offer. White oats worth about 21s per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very quiet, and wheat was again cheaper, sales taking place at 27s to 29s, but buyers were very few. Malting barley was sparingly offered, but the trade has not begun, and quotations are impossible. Winter oats cheaper, making 16s to 19s. Other quotations: English feeding barley, 26s to 28s; foreign grinding ditto, 21s to 23s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; flat maize, 25s to 26s; round maize, 23s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 20s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 26s 6d per qr; barley, 25s to 29s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 29s 6d per qr; beans (old), 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 16s to 17s per qr; oats (old), 20s to 22s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Larger attendance, with a considerable show of new grain. Prices are not yet fixed, but new barley sold from 23s to 26s 6d per qr, and new oats from 19s 6d to 20s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a much better attendance at this market, and business had a more healthy ring about it. There were more enquiries for foreign wheats, for which sellers required late rates. A good supply of new grain, prices being rather against sellers. Wheat made from 10s to 10s 3d per 186 lb; oats, 16s to 17s per 312 lb; and beans from 11s 9d to 12s per 196 lb delivered. Flat maize was 3d dearer, River Plate being unchanged; grinding barley (new crop) 18s per 400 lb, at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Very small attendance. Market very flat, and prices barely as good as last week.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday. — An average attendance of farmers at market, and new corn is very sparingly offered. Wheats dull, with no sign of present improvement, at 26s to 27s per qr on rail. Barleys: The trade is scarcely commenced at present, but good mediums were worth 28s per qr. Oats 17s to 18s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Home-grown oats do not sell quite so freely owing to the good Irish supply; black winters ranged from 16s 6d up to 20s, the latter for 44 lb samples; white oats, 18s to 18s 6d for 42 lb lots. The new wheats still come in capital condition. Best 66 lb make up to 31s; 64 lb lots ranged down to 28s per qr. Very little doing as yet in barley, at from 28s to 31s per qr.

Carlisle (Saturday).—Small supply of new oats shown in our market to-day. Slow sale at 18s to 19s per 336 lb., good condition. No old oats shown.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat and oats are being threshed freely, but buyers still hold aloof. Maize, both American mixed and River Plate, is weaker since last market day. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 1d per 75 lb; barley, grinding, 3s 8d to 4s per 64 lb; beans, new, 5s to 5s 3d; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; old, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Very little on offer, and not much business. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; grinding barley, 19s to 19s 9d; oats, English (new), 16s to 18s; oats, English (old), 21s to 22s; rye, 21s to 25s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 21s to 22s; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, fair supply at unchanged prices. Oats, good supply at last week's prices. Beans and peas, few samples offering at late rates.—Joseph Wiles and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday. — The attendance was small. There was not a large supply of wheat, but business was not so good as last week, the decline being from 6d to 9d per quarter. Oats in fair demand at about previous prices, and a quiet trade in beans and peas. Quotations: Old wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per 186 lb; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; old oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; new oats, 19s to 25s per 352 lb; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new beans, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A fair supply of wheat, which sold quietly at a reduction of 6d. upon last week's prices. Spring corn dull. Old white wheat, 31s to 32s; new, 29s to 30s; old red, 30s to 31s; new, 28s to 28s 6d; old beans 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 15s 6d to 17s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Market well attended. Moderate supply of English wheat, and prices slightly easier at 10s to 11s per load. Foreign was inactive, and had an easier tendency, though not quotably changed. Large supply of oats, and white oats made 17s to 18s per qr. Other things were quiet and unaltered.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a large attendance, and trade generally brisk. Samples of Irish wheat and barley increasing. Oats in good supply. Flour quiet. Oatmeal steady. Bran and pollard scarce. Quotations:—Oats, 10s 3d to 13s 9d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow, at unchanged prices, except that barley and maize were a trifle easier. English wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; superfine flour, 24s to 27s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour quiet at last week's prices. Maize, 12s per 280 lb, which is about 1½d to 3d per boll cheaper since Wednesday. Corn still scarce on spot, and price asked to-day is 14s per 280 lb, being 3d per boll dearer on the week. Barley, feeding, scarce on spot and in good demand at 15s per 320 lb. Oats—easier for Scotch, owing to good arrivals of new crop; foreign, quiet but firm. Beans and pease unchanged. Bran and thirds—Bran 2s 6d per ton dearer, but thirds unchanged. Oatmeal—new crop is now on the market, but meets with a slow sale.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market generally steady and tone dull. Flour somewhat pressed for sale, as winter patents are arriving freely in good quality. Wheat quiet; millers hold off till the weight of spring wheat from Manitoba and the States is on the market. Feeding barley 6d down owing to arrivals. Grinding beans 3d cheaper. Maize steady at 14s per 280 lb. for mixed American and 12s to 12s 6d for round.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in small supply and unchanged in value, foreign dull and generally without change. Plate and Bessarabian maize 3d cheaper, flat 3d. dearer. Barley firm, unchanged. Oats practically unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—Fair supply of wheat. Prices about as last week—namely, from 26s to 27s 6d per qr. Barley was also a fairly good representation, and numerous sales were effected at 26s to 33s per qr. Blue peas realised from 50s to 60s. Rather more beans on offer at 30s to 31s per qr., whilst a slow trade prevailed in oats at 16s to 18s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Considerable supplies of all kinds of English grain, millers and dealers generally bidding 3s 4d for English wheats, best qualities. Barley, no demand. Oats changed hands at 2s to 2s 3d per bushel. Beans moved slowly at between 3s 6d to 3s 9d. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, new, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56 lb; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s to 2s 4d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A fair sample of new wheat; trade slow at last week's rates. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites, to 28s 6d per 504 lb. There were several samples of new barley on offer, quality various, and prices not yet fixed. Oats firm. Maize quiet. Beans steady. Peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The tropical weather of the past week has enabled the greater part of the harvest being completed in perfect condition. Farmers can scarcely be satisfied with the present range of prices, and we are inclined to think will shortly curtail supplies, as is already the case in America. Shipments show a distinct falling off, but comparatively heavy port stocks and the apathy of buyers generally keep the trade in a quiet state, prices ruling about unchanged on the week, except for English and common Russians, which are 6d lower. Maize 3d lower. Beans and oats quiet.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—New English wheats continue to arrive freely, and as there is an abundant yield prices are easier, quotations ranging from 26s to 28s, and old English and foreign wheats the turn cheaper. New English malting barleys also more plentiful, at from 25s to 28s, the quality being excellent. Beans, peas, oats, maize, and flour firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with smaller supplies of new home-grown wheats, which came to hand in excellent condition. Trade steady at slightly lower rates. Red wheats made 26s to 28s, and white 27s to 29s per 36 stones. Malting barley depressed, at 25s to 30s per 32 stone; new oats, 17s to 19s, and old, 24s to 26s per 23 stones; flour, 22s, 25s, and 27s per 280 lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good attendance, and fair supply of grain in excellent condition. English wheat made late rates, quotations being 27s 6d per qr delivered to mill, and 26s 6d put on rail. Barley trade still quiet, and a few transactions recorded; prices varied from 25s to 30s per qr according to quality. Feeding stuffs firm at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a fair attendance, but only a moderate trade is passing in wheat, with values ¼d to ½d below last Tuesday. Flour: A quiet trade at about late rates for both foreign and home-made brands. Maize: Mixed is very steady, with a moderate trade at ½d decline. Plate receives more attention from buyers at ½d decline. European grades occasionally ½d lower. Barley: Malting and feeding scarce at full prices. Beans in slow request, but quotations are unaltered. Peas slow, the turn lower. Oats rather more liberal offering off the quay at lower prices for clipped American, but other sorts are unchanged, quiet. Oatmeal quiet, unaltered. Oilcake in slow demand at recent quotations. Indian meal continues to move in good quantities at the quotations.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Supply of new wheat at the market to-day plentiful, so that value is on the decrease, the cost of it 27s 6d to 29s per qr, and not a free sale at that rate. Barley is a good show, and some best descriptions were carried off at fairly good figures, but there is a considerable difference in quality, the inferior kinds not easy to quote. Oats realised about 17s 6d to 21s per qr (new English). Beans and peas no alteration, the new crop of the latter about 28s to 29s per qr. Maize is weaker, and winter tares a slack trade at about 5s per bushel. Other grain no change.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat firm, and foreign showed no quotable change. Flour slow. Indian corn occasionally ½d to ½d lower, except for Plate. Barley unchanged and steady. English oats rather more plentiful, and full rates were maintained. English peas in better demand, and foreign dull. Beans steady. Offals and other articles firm and scarce.

Newark, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, more business done; prices full value. Quotations: wheat, white, 27s to 28s, red, 26s to 27s per qr; barley, malting, 24s to 26s, grinding 22s to 24s per qr; oats, white, 17s to 18s, black, 16s to 17s per qr; beans, old, 26s to 37s, new, 30s to 32s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A very quiet demand for wheat at our to-day's market, and prices in favour of buyers. American mixed maize steady at last week's prices, Plate fully 6d lower on the week. Old oats made fully last week's prices, new 6d to 9d per quarter under last week's quotations. Barley for grinding purposes ruled firm, the demand, however, was only quiet; malting quality not yet in the market. Beans firm at late quotations.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat unchanged on the week. Other articles were also about the same price as last week.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat firm, with a quiet trade. Not anything doing in barley. Oats unaltered. Beans in buyers' favour.—Robert Hubble.

Northampton, Saturday.—Moderate attendance. Fair show of wheat on offer, making 26s to 26s 6d in the mills. A few samples of new barley on offer, but trade has hardly commenced, prices being irregular. New beans made 29s, and oats 17s to 17s 6d. New wheat, 26s to 26s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 17s 6d; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans 29s; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was a poor attendance at to-day's market, and business ruled very dull. Holders of new corn were offering freely, and values showed little alteration.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Supply of wheat quite moderate for the time of year, and trade steady at last week's prices. Barley in slow demand, the warm weather is against the trade. Oats fully as dear, but not a brisk demand.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Fair attendance at market to-day. Wheat unaltered. Maize quiet. Oats steady. Old oats turned dearer. Barley 3d dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—Rather better business in wheat, sellers making slight concessions. The attendance was only moderate, but some samples of new wheat and oats of fairly good quality were on offer. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—White wheat, 13s to 13s 3d; ditto red, 12s 9d to 13s per windle of 220 lb; oats, old, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d per bushel; oatmeal, 26s 6d to 27s per load of 240; beans, 16s to 16s 6d; bran, 10s 6d to 11s per windle of 240 lb.

Reading. Saturday.—There was an improved attendance with good supplies all round; the demand, however, was not large. A limited quantity of wheat sold at 26s to 29s; winter barley, 22s to 25s; malting, 26s to 32s; oats, 16s 6d to 19s; peas, 30s to 33s; beans, 32s to 37s; vetches, 4s 9d.

Retford, Saturday.—New wheat came to hand in excellent condition, and there was a fair show, but prices were down another 6d on the week, to an average of 27s. An improved supply of malting barley, but nothing done as yet, and values wholly unsettled. Grinding made 23s per qr. Flat maize, none on offer. Round realised 24s per 34 stones. New oats sold slowly at 16s to 17s, and old at 24s to 25s per 24 stones. New English beans, 29s to 30s; and old, 36s to 38s per 38 stone.

Ripon, Thursday.—The market shows a firm tone all round. A few samples of new wheat, most of which was sprouted. A good attendance. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; new, 26s to 28s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 24s; ditto, malting, 26s to 28s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; ditto, new, 17s to 18s; maize, round, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 12s to 12s 3d per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new oats, 11s to 12s; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 13s to 14s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A large attendance of farmers, who did not show much inclination to part until buyers feel disposed to offer greater inducement. Trade was slow, but last week's rates were upheld; wheats, 26s to 26s 6d; oats, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 25s to 29s; grinding barley, 21s 6d to 22s; beans, 30s to 31s; peas, 45s 6d to 55s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday. — New local English wheats were upon the market and were bought at 28s per qr, old wheats making 30s and 31s per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps very slow, and prices have an easier tendency, being about 3d less. Maize 3d to 6d down on the week. There were more new oats offering at lower prices. Old oats firm.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Only one or two samples of new grain on offer yet. Wheat rather lower to sell. Barley and oats quiet. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 620 qrs; oats, 399 qrs; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Warwick, Saturday.—Rather better attendance at Saturday's market, and business shows somewhat of an improvement. A small supply of new English wheat, which made from 9s 6d to 9s 9d per bag. Feeding stuffs rather dearer.

Winchester, Saturday.—A better supply of English wheat and rather easier. Foreign unaltered. Barley, oats, and maize unchanged. Flour a moderate demand at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of new grain here to-day. Wheat a slow trade at barely late rates. Oats 16s 6d to 17s 6d; barley, 24s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was again a small attendance, and but little business was transacted, chiefly at last week's prices.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A holiday market, with very few samples of grain on offer, and little variation in late rates. White wheat, 27s to 28s; red ditto, 26s to 27s; grinding barley, 24s to 28s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; old black oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 16s to 17s; maize, flat, 25s; maize, round, 23s to 24s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—A large quantity of new English wheat came on offer, but it varied considerably in quality, and there was consequently a wide margin in values. For best descriptions from 20s to 30s per qr was offered, indifferent and secondary selling at from 25s to 28s. Old English, of which a few lots come in the market, sold at 32s 6d per qr. Foreign wheat quiet at from 31s 6d to 33s 6d. Malting barley, new crop, made from 28s 6d to 32s 6d; new feeding, 20s 9d to 22s; foreign grinding, 18s to 19s. Oats favoured holders, white English making from 20s to 22s 3d; black, 19s to 19s 6d; Irish white, 21s 6d; black, 18s 9d. Maize, round, 20s to 20s 6d; flat, 22s to 23s. Beans, new spring, 35s 6d to 36s 9d; winter, 35s to 36s. Tares, spring, 63s to 69s 6d; winter, 55s 6d to 62s; rye, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 22s 6d to 24s. The demand for flour continues very quiet, sales taking place on the basis of 22s 6d for fines.

York, Saturday.—The new crop of wheat is not turning out as well as expected, many samples being slightly sprouted, and prices are a little lower than last week. Fine white makes, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; and red and mixed, 26s 6d to 27s 6d per qr of 36 stones. The few samples of malting barley on offer sell slowly at 25s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats quiet. White Tartary quoted 16s to 17s; black, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; white Gerton, 17s to 18s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, 20s to 21s; old beans, 31s to 32s per qr of 38 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Market remains firm, but the demand is not so brisk, as maltsters and brewers have covered their immediate requirements and can now look on a while, holders, however, are firm and stick to their limits. Bohemia certainly has made a fine crop, and large offers of prime quality are in the market. The reports from Hungary are also firm, and a lively trade has been done at gradually improving prices.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We had hot weather in the beginning of the week, but now it is cooler. The second cut of grass has given satisfaction. Market steady, with a fair amount of business doing. Foreign wheats, particularly spot parcels, are in demand, fine Azima and River Plate selling at 29s to 29s 6d, and stocks are much reduced. Floating River Plate is offering at 28s 3d, hard winter 2, 28s 3d, red winter 2, 27s 6d per 480 lb. For fine red Holstein and Upland wheats, 27s 6d to 28s 3d per 504 lb, f.o.b. is paid, and considerable quantities are exported. German rye firmer, there being a good export demand. Dry Mecklenburg and Holstein is selling at 22s 9d to 23s 6d per 480 lb. 9/16 Odessa-Nicolajeff, August-September, is held at 22s 6d, per 480 lb. c.i.f. Malting barley is offering more freely, while buyers are slow in following the advanced rates. Fine Bohemian was taken for England at 34s to 35s 3d, and our brewers paid for good stout quality 30s to 32s per 448 lb. There is a good selection of good to fine pale Bohemian at 33s 6d to 35s, while choice lots are scarce. Slovakian is offering at 31s to 35s; Danish at 26s to 28s per 448 lb. A good amount of business has been done in feeding barley, 60/61 kg South Russian near at hand fetching 17s 6d to 17s 9d, October shipment 17s 3d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Offers are scarce from Russia. Not much doing in maize, the high duty of 30s per ton impeding business. Mixed on the spot is held at 21s 9d to 22s; January-February shipment, 20s 3d; River Plate afloat, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; Danubian spring shipment, 18s 9d to 19s per 480 c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 8, 1906:—

Wheat	2,849,400	cwts.
Wheat-flour	241,900	,,
Barley	1,008,600	,,
Oats	255,700	,,
Maize	1,519,600	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat	2,217,500	1,488,000	1,883,700	2,007,748
Wheat-flour	290,500	202,900	285,700	390 418
Barley	449,200	596,500	1,233,500	468,232
Oats	428,000	118,600	380,500	328,719
Maize	1,251,600	669,500	1,504,600	697,637

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 4, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per qr £	s.	d.
Wheat	3,291	1	4,507	0	6	1	7	5
Barley	1,880	2	2,502	6	9	1	6	7
Oats	5,074	3	4,337	4	6	17	1	

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
,, 9	78,580	26	11	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	9
,, 16	83,182	27	1	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	26	11	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	8	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	8	147,570	24	9	31,196	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	8	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	6	24,655	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	247,307	24	11	28,809	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,802	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,316	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,268	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	31,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	147,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	23	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,485	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,206	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,386	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,763	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,869	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,605	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Aug. 29 to Sept. 5 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	3,448	55,793	59,241
Barley	600	39,000	39,600
Malt	14,600	—	14,600
Oats	6,110	96,641	102,751
Rye	300	—	300
Beans	324	1,687	2,011
Peas	275	2,088	2,363
Maize	—	55,696	55,696
Buckwheat	100	52	152
Millet	—	3,500	3,500
Linseed	—	3,000	3,000
Rapeseed	150	200	350
Cottonseed	—	12,000	12,000
Flour ... sacks	21,356	24,640	45,996
Riceflour ,,	—	1,500	1,500
Middlings ,,	—	11,000	11,000

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending September 8, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	20,225	27	11	3,095	27	1	17,461	19	2
1903	31,057	28	6	1,491	22	8	3,175	17	0
1904	46,116	30	0	22,400	24	10	31,396	16	1
1905	78,589	27	1	17,888	23	4	20,622	15	11
1906	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	per sack	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	0
,, 10	,,	30	0
August 3	,,	29	0

(No change since last date given.)

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

An excellent retail demand for feeding stuffs prevailed to-day, and the quantities placed were those of an October rather than September market. While feeding stuffs are thus inquired for at a mid-autumn rate of consumption bread-stuffs remain under purely summer influences and sales are not yet at all up to an autumn average.

The sorts of wheat which were stated to day to be a trifle steadier were English, Manitoba, Indian, and Australian, whilst there was, if anything, increased weakness for American, Californian, Walla, Russian, Roumanian, and Argentine. Maize was 3d. lower for Argentine—a natural consequence of the persistently heavy exports from La Plata. Barley was quiet, with a small supply of new English offering at 32s. to 33s. for malting quality.

For oats the market was firmer from last week, all sorts being in rather over average request for actual consumption. New English beans at 31s. and upwards rapidly changed hands, and peas were in request both for new English Dun at 31s., and for new Indian white at 32s. 6d. per qr. Small pulse, such as dari, millet and grain sold uniformly well, and rice was again about 1d. per cwt. in sellers' favour.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 10.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	32 — 34
	,, (New) ...	,,	29 — 31
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	30 — 32
	,, .. (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	32 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	31 — 35
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	28 — 29
	Feeding (Old) ..	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
	,, (New)...	,,	21 — 22
MALT, Pale	.....	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	28 — 30
OATS, Storm Kings (New)...		,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE, Essex (Old Crop)		(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	23 — 24
BEANS, Pigeon	.....	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat ...		(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES (Winter).....		(per 532 lb.)	56 — 64
	(Spring)	,,	64 — 72

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	31 — 32	American	22 — 23
,, ,, 2	30 — 31	Argentine	20 — 21
American Red	29 — 30	Bulgarian	21 — 22
Argentine ...	29 — 30	Roumanian ...	21 — 22
Australian ...	31 — 32	Russian	21 — 22
New Zealand	30 — 31	Rangoon	21 — 22
Californian ...	31 — 32	North African	22 — 23
Blue Stem ...	31 — 32	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Walla Walla	30 — 31	Smyrna	34 — 36
Saxonka	32 — 33	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Azima	30 — 31	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Ghirka	29 — 30	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Indian White	29 — 30	Italian	64 — 72
,, Red	28 — 29	Burmese	32 — 42
Persian.....	28 — 29	Chilian	56 — 64
Turkish	27 — 28	LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
Clifor'n (448 lb)	29 — 30	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	PEAS (504 lb.):	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian (400 lb)	19 — 19/3	Indian Green	29 — 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18 — 19	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24 — 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39 — 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Torrified (336 lb)	21 — 22	White	42 — 44
MALT (336 lb.):		Yellow	22 — 24
Californian ...	33 — 36	Sorghum	20 — 22
Smyrna	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Ouchak	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
RYE (480 lb.):		Burmese	9 — 10
Russian	24 — 25	Siamese	8 — 9

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

There was a very poor sale of flour to-day, and bakers complained that the hot weather had killed the demand for bread. There is undoubtedly much depression, and it is to be hoped that the bakers' annual gathering, now taking place at Islington, will work a much-needed improvement.

The price of everything at Mark Lane to-day was rather worse from the 3rd, but there was happily no need to quote any leading type as definitely lower than it was then. The fall in Hungarian flour for September shipment was marked, 28s 9d c f.i. being taken, and we believe that 28s 6d is accepted for October. Pollard, bran and middlings were all firm, and oatmeal, pending "new crop" arrivals, keeps up in price. Rice meal and barley meal favoured holders.

London Flour.

Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/9 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1...	,,	23/9 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/9 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/9 ,,

Country Flour.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24 — 24/6
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22 — 22/6
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21 — 21/6
Stone made	,,	20 — 20/6

Foreign Flour.

		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS WAS WEAK FOR ALL ARTICLES EXCEPT OATS, WHICH RALLIED DECIDEDLY FROM EARLIER IN THE MONTH.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The market for wheat cargoes is not changed, but maize is weaker. Barley firmer. Oats are steady, and cargoes of pulse are in request. Linseed and rapeseed cargoes are 6d per qr. cheaper from Saturday.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosario, 27s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Rosario, 27s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment (new crop); Barletta, 28s 9d per 480 lb, arrived; White Walla, 29s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Ulka, 28s per 492 lb prompt shipment; Azoff, 30s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; white Kurrachee, 29s 3d. per 492 lb, prompt shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 26s 9d per 480 lb, shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 19s 6d per 48 0lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 18s 3d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Californian Brewing, 26s per 448 lb, shipment.

Oats.—White Libau, 14s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Petersbur, 15s per 304 lb, arrived.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 41s 6d per 410 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 38s per 416 lb, February shipment (new crop).

Rapeseed.—Brown Calcutta, 45s 9d per 416 lb, on passage; Yellow Gugerat, 52s per 416 lb, on passage; Yellow Cawnpore, 44s per 416 lb, May shipment (new crop); Ferozepore, 41s 3d per 416 lb, May shipment (new crop).

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The trade continues in the same stagnant condition; demand quiet, and buyers still holding aloof in anticipation of lower prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—The output of bran having somewhat declined, prices are firmer, with an advance of 2s. 6d. per ton.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Prices are steady. Grain.—American corn finished on spot. Round maize is unchanged on the week. Manitoba oats in plentiful supply. Arrivals of new crop Smyrna beans make prices in buyers' favour. Oilcake firm. Barley on spot 6d lower, owing to arrivals. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Milling Offal.—The only fresh feature to report is the strong demand for bran and pollard, and both must be written 2s 6d per ton dearer.—John Bawcombe and Co.

We have liberal arrivals of wheat. The trade is quiet, and prices are 6d lower for Canadian and Kurrachee. Flour unchanged; maize 3d lower; barley steney; oats 3d dearer.—Coventry, Sheppard and Co.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Business is better and holders of oilseeds are looking forward to a good autumn.

Linseed.	per 416 lb. s. s.	Cottonseed.	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 50	Egyptian.....	138 to 140
American.....	44 to 45	Indian	105 to 107
Calcutta	43 to 44	Sunflowerseed.	
Bombay	44 to 46		per cwt.
Russian	43 to 45	English, Best...	16 to 17
Argentine	42 to 43	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Duluth	43 to 44	,, Black.	13 to 14
Rapeseed.	per 416 lb.	Sesame.	per cwt.
Best English ...	62 to 64	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	51 to 53	Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	44 to 45	Canaryseed.	per 464 lb.
Ferozepore	45 to 46	English	48 to 50
		Spanish	78 to 80
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	42 to 44
Indian	44 to 45	Argentine	41 to 42

TERM MARKET.

Prices are against sellers forward, but holders of Argentine wheat were more confident this morning:—

Red American wheat, Sep. delivery, 6s 1d percental.
,, ,, Nov. ,, 6s 2d ,,
,, ,, Jan. ,, 6s 3d ,,

Mixed American
Maize..... .... Sept. No sales.
,, ... Nov. ,, 4s 7d ,,
,, ... Jan. ,, 4s 2d ,,

Yellow Argentine .... Sept. ,, 4s 1d ,,
,, ... Nov. ,, 4s 2d ,,
,, ... Jan. ,, 4s 3d ,,

Manitoba new crop wheat for November shipment is offered at 28s, with buyers at 27s 9d per 480 lb.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market has opened this week with a fair demand for the new crop; buyers are pleased with the quality; the crop is reported from all districts to be lighter than that estimated before picking. The imports for the twelve months ending August 31 were 193,417 cwt; this accounts for the poor prices the English growers had to accept for their 1905 crop and the grubbing of 2,245 acres, and consequent displacement of labour from the land, and proves that low prices do not stop the dumping on this market of the surplus stock of the foreigner. The exports for the twelve months were 21,106 cwt.—W. H. and H. Le May.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,061 bales, and from foreign ports 11,951. The bacon market was quiet, however there was a steady demand throughout the week, prices ranging:—Irish, 61s to 67s up to 71s; Danish, 60s to 65s up to 70s; Canadian, 61s to 63s up to 66s. Butter.—The butter market was quiet. French, 100s to 114s; Danish, 122s to 124s; Russian, 92s to 106s; Dutch, 114s; Irish, 98s to 116s; Vitorian, 102s to 114s; New South Wales, 104s to 114s; Queensland, 102s to 112s; New Zealand Finest, 114s to 116s; American, 86s to 100s. Lard was a steady market. Irish, 54s to 62s; Danish, 53s to 59s; Americaan, 44s 3d to 46s 3d.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a goad big offering of cheese. Trade was quier. The principal inquiry was for Dunlops, which varied from 60s to 64s per cwt; Cheddars were priced at 65s., Canadians were firm at 62s c.i.f. Home parcels were reckoned better values.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 18 tons of cheese pitched, and with a good attendance all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 63s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 61s to 63s; and other dairies, 58s to 60s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 5ds. Cheddars made 64s to 68s; truckles, 63s 6d to 66s; doubles, 58s to 62s.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a good demand, and an average attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 52s to 60s per cwt; fancy dairies, 61s to 63s; truckles, 63s to 68s; Derbys, 66s.

BUTTER.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Evesham: 1s 1½d. Kidderminster: 1s. Northtawton: 1s. Penistone: 1s 2d. Penzance: 11d to 1s 1d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 4d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 2d. Derby: 1s 3d. Helmsley: 1s to 1s 1d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Northlwich: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Runcorn: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. St. Austell: 1s 4d. Stamford: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 1d Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Malton: 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 1d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 8 and 9. Brigg: 11 and 12 Devizes: 10 to 12. Driffield: 13 and 14. Evesham: 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d per doz. Kidderminster: 10. Northtawton: 12. Penistone: 11. Penzance: 10d to 1s 1d per doz. Plymouth: 12. Ripon: 11 and 12. Scarborough: 9. Wellington (Salop): 10 and 11. Wetherby: 10 and 11.

Friday.—Altrincham: 9. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz. Barnstaple: 11 to 13. Chester: 9 and 10. Camelford: 12 to 14. Crewe: 8 and 9. Derby: 10 and 11. Helmsley: 13. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 11 and 12. Lincoln: 12. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 9. Nantwich: 11. Northwich: 10. Otley: 10 and 11. Runcorn: 10. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 11 to 13. Stockport: 8 and 9. Tavistock: 10. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 to 13. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 10. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Grantham: 11 to 13. Lancaster: 9 and 10. Malton: 10 and 11. Pontefract 10. Retford: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 11 and 12. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Skipton: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 11 and 12. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 10. York: 10 to 12.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1906	£68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 10, 1906. British.	Total.	Sept. 11, 1905.	Monday,
Beasts	1010	1010		1,030
Sheep and Lambs	6,070	6,070		6,120
Calves	10	10		10
Pigs	—	—		—
Milch Cows	30	30		35

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 6	6 0
Lambs	5 6	6 0	6 10
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 51; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 944; Devon, 15; Ireland, nil.

We note to-day an increase of eighty head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, as usual the largest consignment came from the midland counties, the supply also included a few choice Devons, these clearing early in the day at our top quotation. For both prime and second quality fat cattle trade was of a slow but steady nature, sellers both asking and obtaining last Monday's rates, anything choice, however, making a slight advance, though not sufficient to quote. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average numbers, but met with a limited demand, consequently a downward tendency in value was inevitable. A clearance, however, is expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Sept. 11, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		...	—
Devons	4 4 to 4	6 ...	4 6 to 4	8
Herefords	4 4 to 4	6 ...	4 6 to 4	8
Norfolks	—		... —	
Runts	4 0 to 4	2 ...	4 4 ex 4	6
Lincolns	3 8 to 3	10 ...	3 10 to 4	0
Irish	—		... 3 10 to 4	2
Canadian	—		... —	
Fat Cows	3 4 to 3	6 ...	3 6 ex 3	8

There was an increase of 120 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a fairly steady nature for both wethers and ewes, with a slight upward tendency in value. Scotch and Irish descriptions also shared in the general brightening up of trade, the latter meeting with more inquiry and being in shorter supply, sellers wercable to both ask and obtain a slight advance in value. Lambs were difficult to vend, notwithstanding a decline of from 2d to 4d on late currencies. A clearance is considered doubtful.

The supply included 200 Scotch, 832 Irish, and 800 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Sept. 11, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
6st Scotch	5 10 to 6	0	...5 8 to 5	10
7½ st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	...5 10 to 6	0
9 st. Downs	5 8 to 5	10	...5 6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	...5 4 to 5	6
10 st Yorkshires	—		... —	
12st Lincolns	—		... —	
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5	6	...5 2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 4 to 4	6	...4 0 to 4	2
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 2 to 4	4	..3 10 to 4	0
5 st Grass Lambs	6 8 to 6	10	...6 0 to 6	2
6 st Halfbred ditto	5 8 to 5	10	...5 10 to 6	0

Calf trade not worth quoting. No pigs on the market.

London Central.—Moderate inquiry prevailed for fair supplies. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 9d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lamb, 5s to 5s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 5s. Pork, 3s 10d to 4s 8d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts.), Monday.—Beasts 256, sheep 1,818, pigs 429 Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 3d. Fat and store cattle fair, fat sheep good demand; stores fair; fat and store pigs good demand; milch cows good demand, short supply, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 846. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 481, and consisted of 300 from the United States, and 546 from Canada. Trade was of a slow nature, nevertheless late values were upheld. Besides the above 400 Canadians were withheld for Wednesday. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d for the former, and from 3s 9d to 3s 11d for the latter; seconds 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,232 beasts from the United States and 1,358 from Canada were offered for sale; trade was of a fairly steady nature, the best of the former being quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Besides the above numbers 2,000 States and Canadians were withheld from sale. A small consignment of Canadian sheep were offered for sale, and were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8 lb (offal given in); Canadians, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Trade is rather quiet, but the market maintains its firm tone. Cotton Cake—Business is slow, and the few Egyptian made left on the spot are fetching top prices. There is a brisk demand for dried grains.

English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0 0 to 8 2 6	
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ... ... ex quay	—	
American Western Linseed Cake ... ... ex quay	7 12 6	—
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ... ex quay	7 12 6	—
Russian Oil Cake ... ex quay	7 10 0 to 7 15 0	
Decorticated Cotton Cake ex quay	8 0 0	—
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal (to arrive) ... ex quay	—	
London-made ,, Cake (best ex mill...	5 0 0 to 5 2 6	
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0 to 5 2 6	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	4 15 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 8 0 2 10 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 3 0	
La Plata Linseed (in bags) per 416 lb. (screened) ex warehouse	2 4 0 2 10 0	
American Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0 2 5 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—The demand still drags on for trifolium both early and late. Prices unchanged. Winter tares now offering freely with beautiful quality. Rape scarce, price rising. Peas coming out slowly, and firmly held.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

Borough, Monday.—There is a steady demand for agricultural seeds for present sowing. The new crop of mustard seed which shows excellent quality and a big percentage of growth being now available, is preferred to yearling and old seed. Owing to the shortness of the new crop rapeseed has advanced. Trifolium is quiet. There is more inquiry for rye corn and winter tares, the latter seem now to have touched bottom. There is a small demand for clovers and ryegrasses for mending purposes.—W. H. & H. LE MAY.

Average Monthly Prices of London Town Households Flour.

	1906. s. d.	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900 s. d.
Jan.	25 0	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9
Feb.	24 9	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0
March	24 3	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6
April	24 6	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6
May	24 0	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3
June	23 9	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6
July	23 6	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6
August	23 0	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0
Sept.		24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3
Oct.		25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9
Nov.		25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3
Dec.		25 0	26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 6	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Trade opened and continued throughout the week of an exceedingly slow nature at the Islington Cattle Market, salesmen having to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in some cases on Monday to effect sales. The arrivals from Ireland on that day were extremely short, and only consisted of nine Dublins; these, notwithstanding the short number on offer, shared in the general depression. This is partly to be accounted for by the very hot weather which has been and is prevailing, and to the fact that so many retail butchers' wants are curtailed, owing to the holiday season. Fat butchering cows and bulls met a limited inquiry from both town and country buyers; nevertheless, no lower rates can be quoted.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade commenced slowly, but became slightly firmer as the week advanced, finishing 1d. per 8 lb. higher in value, with considerably larger arrivals than of late from Canada. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,256, as against 4,381 during the preceding week, consisting of 960 British (decrease 100) and 4,296 foreign—increase 975—these latter comprising 2,341 from the United States and 1,955 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Dublins, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 9d. to 3s 11d.; fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

In the sheep market on both days, there was a want of life in the trade for all grades of both wethers and ewes, late currencies being fairly maintained on Monday, but a decline in value was noticeable on the second market day of the week. Scotch sheep, although slow of sale, fully maintained the previous week's quotations, Irish were in full supply, but met with a more limited demand. Lambs on both days were difficult to vend notwithstanding sellers being willing to accept less money to effect sales. At Deptford we have to draw attention to a small consignment of Canadian sheep, these being quoted at fairly good money. The total number on offer at both markets was 8,266 as against 9,110 during the preceding week, consisting of 7,970 British (decrease 1,140), and 296 Canadian. Best pens made per 8 lbs. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Devons, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s 2d. to 5s 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s 6d.; 11 stone half-bred ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone Down lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8½ stone Canadian sheep, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.

Calves numbered 60, and met with very little inquiry notwithstanding a considerable declins in value, prices being quoted at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Once more a prolonged spell of dry weather has brought about a serious crisis in the store stock business, and though a good twenty-four hours' downfall would speedily have put matters right again, this is just what, up to Thursday, except a slight fall on Tuesday night, the country has been denied. Farmers as a body were quite reconciled to the absence of rain till the harvest was completed, and now that that has been, to all intents and purposes practically completed, every one is anxious for rain, especially as the position of the root-crop—at one time practically assured—is now being seriously imperilled.

This, naturally, is exercising a very prejudicial influence on sales of most kinds of stores, more particularly grazing cattle, which have already declined £2 to £3 a head, even on the most useful descriptions, whilst the more ordinary runs, despite the ruinously low prices at which they are offering, are so much neglected as to be practically unsaleable, plain bullocks in many cases only fetching £6 or £7 apiece, and decent quality animals not more than £8 to £9, whilst the best fresh condition only bring from £10 to £12, or occasionally £13, and this but very rarely. As milk is still a good deal wanted, little difficulty is experienced in selling this class of stock; but even for good heifers or cows there is also a decline in value, £19 to £20 being the top price just now, except for anything very special, when occasionally another £1 or 30s. is made; and we heard of one instance in which a rare heifer, with calf by its side, realised £23, which just now is quite a record. In-calf heifers are selling fairly well, but those most wanted are the early season animals, which are making £14 to £16 or £17; later dates sell much more slowly from £8 up to £11 or £12; and yearling heifers may now be quoted from £6 to £7 or £8. Prices of store sheep are being affected by the drought, and should this still become more acute a further decline may be assuredly reckoned upon, in spite of the shortage that exists and of the large number who want sheep, but in the face of the present keep difficulty, are in a dilemma what to do with them, as on many of the grass farms the pastures are burnt to a cinder, Grazing ewes have in some cases from this cause dropped as low as 31s. a-piece, and keeping lambs down to 22s., which will afford some indication of how badly this particular class of stock has been "hit," though of course we do not for a moment wish to convey the impression that better prices are not being made; we mention this simply to illustrate the badness of trade in particular cases. But at Blandford on Thursday the trade ruled firmer than some had anticipated, best ewes selling up to 51s. each, though a more general range was from 37s. to 43s., and for grazing ewes 31s. to 35s.; wether lambs in high condition selling up to 53s., and chilvers to 38s. 6d.

In fat stock the prices of beef have been difficult to maintain, but not so much so in the matter of animals of choice quality and weight, as those of a coarser character. Mutton, with a fairly good inquiry, shows a little more buoyancy, especially the choicer weights of wethers, which sell freely up to 8½d. (or up to 58s. a-piece).

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been rather smaller. All classes have met a good steady inquiry, and the prices of the previous week easily maintained, and in some cases higher prices were obtained. Fat cows a large show, and they made rather less money. The number of sheep on offer was much under an average, caused to a certain extent by the new Dipping Regulations coming into force, and a good many consignors not being prepared. Prices have ruled high throughout, and an advance of 1s. to 1s. 6d. has been obtained. Nice-weighted ewes dear. Fat lambs also participated in a like advance. A very large show of calves met a fairly satisfactory trade at prices just the turn lower than the previous week. A moderate supply of pigs, and they continue to sell at satisfactory prices. There was a smaller supply of store sheep. Anything of a good class got readily and well sold, but a few of the inferior descriptions were left over. There was a moderate supply of store cattle, but some good lots on offer. The best class got sold out at full prices, but no advance can be quoted for secondary descriptions. A very large and extremely fine lot of milch cows were offered, being the Dairymen's Show. An exceedingly good trade was experienced at prices from £1 to £2 a head higher than last week. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s.; current, 35s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; mutton, to 9¾d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

The attendance at last Thursday's Dublin market was not so good as the holiday crowd of Horse Show week, but still a good number of shippers and home traders were present. The supplies of both cattle and sheep were moderate, the former being 317 and the latter 578 less than the previous week. In the cattle department trade opened slowly, buyers holding out for a reduction in price, but owing to the smaller number on offer salesmasters could afford to be stiff, and would not give in to a reduction, and prices were maintained, and for choice cattle a little advance in price had to be given. Best bullocks and heifers were disposed of at an early hour at the full rates of the previous day's market, and late comers had some difficulty in filling their requirements, as good cattle were scarce. Home buyers bid with more spirit, and altogether the market was a very satisfactory one. Live weight prices ranged from 30s. for prime bullocks and heifers, up to 33s. per cwt. for very choice Herefords and Polled Angus; good second class beasts from 27s. to 28s.; and rough cattle from 24s. to 26s. per cwt. The dead weight prices would be:—Best ox and heifer from 52s. to 56s., and for extra choice up to 57s. 6d. per cwt.; second quality, 47s. to 52s.; and inferior sorts from 24s. up to 46s. per cwt. At these currencies a good clearance was effected.

Trade was active in the sheep department for anything at all suitable, and the shortage in the supplies made buyers more anxious to fill their wants. Rates were slightly dearer, especially for nice medium hoggets, which were largely purchased for the Lancashire markets. Lambs were in good demand, and choice quality made higher prices, but their lambs moved slowly. Prime wether mutton made from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb., and a few extra good ones sold up to 8d.; prime ewe mutton (which was scarce), from 6½d. to 7½d.; inferior sheep, from 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets sold at from 46s. to 60s. each, and small to medium hoggets from 36s. to 44s. each. Small lambs sold at from 18s. to 24s., and large fat from 30s. to 40s. each. Choice veal was in better demand, and sold at 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; coarse calves, from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

Store cattle at country fairs going much about the same. Some large sales of rams and ewes have taken place during the week. The thirty-eighth annual sale of pedigree sheep for the members of the Irish Ram Breeding Association was held on Thursday, and proved very satisfactory. The rams to bring the highest prices were Lady Margaret-Charteris's Sharps, some of which fetched the fine figures of from 15 to 18 guineas. The best price for shearling ewes was got by Mr. R. Reynell for his Lincolns, which brought 58s. and 60s. each. The average price for rams at the sale was about 7 guineas, and of the ewes about 50s. each.

Messrs. Cuffe and Sons also held a large autumn sale of sheep on Thursday. Galway and Roscommon ewes sold at about 4s. ahead over last year's prices. Cheviots did not go off quite so well, but still were passed off at 2s. 6d. better than last year. Black-faced ewes sold at prices varying from 20s. to 25s. each. Scotch lambs made quite a large show, and selling at from 12s. to 16s. per head. The pig market in Dublin on Thursday was moderately supplied, and though there was a good attendance of buyers, prices had to be lowered 2s. per cwt. before business could be done. Best light-weight pigs 49s. to 52s. per cwt. Coarse and inferior from 35s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade continues slow, though there is a fair demand for small fresh meat; English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindqrs, best, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; ditto, seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; ditto, forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s 2d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 6d; ditto, lambs, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; extreme, 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 4s to 4s 6d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; extreme, 5s; English pork, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was practically at a standstill. Top prices:—Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. A decrease of 210 in the number penned in sheep market. Trade for both wethers and ewes was firmer, last Monday's money governing all sales. Lambs also met a good inquiry at slightly advanced values. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½-stone to 8-stone Down sheep, 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 10d; 10-stone ditto 5s 6d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 6d; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 7s 2d; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s. Calf trade dull, at a decline of fully 4d to 6d per 8 lb. First consignment of pigs in the market this season; trade, however, was practically nil, prices consequently cannot be recorded. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 8d to 6s; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 4d; lambs, 4s 10d to 7s 2d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday. — With short supplies trade was fairly satisfactory, notwithstanding the heat. Beef barely reached 4s 4d for the best, but mutton sold rather better without increase in prices; Down wethers made up to 5s 10d, and Kents up to 5s 2d; veal made 5s 4d to 6s.; and pork about 4s. Store lambs—trade slow through drought.

Berwick, Saturday.—A larger show of cattle than for the part six weeks, 332 head being penned in good condition, against 101 the previous Saturday. Trade slow. Calves made £5 to £6 7s 6d; heifers, £7 10s to £9 5s; stirks, £7 10s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; polled bullocks, £11 to £13 7s 6d per head.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was in limited supply, and with little inquiry trade was quiet at late rates. Average number of sheep and lambs, but business dull and values unchanged. Pigs again scarce, and quotations unaltered. It being half-yearly fair day, large number of horses offered, and good prices realised for best qualities, especially cart horses.

Calne, Wednesday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows,

7s per score —CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND Co., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair inquiry continues. Some good lambs have been sold at from 27s 6d to 31s, and good wether tops from 36s to 40s; strong tegs, forward in condition, up to 44s; useful ewes, 32s to 42s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Good supply, chiefly wintering heifers. Buyers were numerous, and trade showed a considerable improvement, most of the animals changing hands. Small heifers made £6 10s to £8 10s; good wintering specimens, £12 10s to £14 10s; and polled bullocks, £10 10s to £13 10s each. There were no animals for short keep forward.

Chester, Thursday.—Excellent supplies of cattle and sheep, and a good attendance of buyers. A scarcity of grass depressed the store stock trade. Sheep were very high in value. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £21; calvers, £18 to £20; barrens, £9 to £13; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £7; and sheep 18s to 42s each.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a moderate supply of cattle, but a good supply of sheep and lambs. Trade very slow owing to the continued drought. Milch beasts dearer at £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; young young stock, £6 to £9 each; breeding ewes, 40s to 55s; and lambs, which were cheaper, from 30s to 40s each.

Dublin, Thursday —Fair demand for cattle. Choice qualities made last week's full rates; other sorts easier sold and an early clearance effected. Sharper trade for sheep of all classes. Lambs scarce and dear. Cattle—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s per cwt. Exceptional for Angus crosses up to 33s per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts, 26s 6d to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6d to 7½d per lb. Extreme, 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Shorthorn prize cows to £37; others, £26 15s to £30 15s: Ayrshires, £2 3 10s; polled bullocks, £13 15s to £14 15s; bulls, £14; stirks, £10. Sheep quiet, with smaller supplies; half-bred Dinmonts, 41s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 41s.; Cheviot ewes, 24s to 34s 6d; half-bred lambs, 34s.

Exeter, Friday.—Small market both for cattle and sheep, prices drooping except for finest sorts. Best sheep up to 8½d per lb; calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a moderate show and a fair trade passing at late rates. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s per cwt.; top hoggs, 10d; ditto heavy weights, 9d to 9½d; top wedders, 8½d; secondary, 8d to 8½d. Although dead meat was slow, prices kept firm; best Scotch beef, 5¾d to 6d; best States, 5½d to 5¾d; best Canadians, 5½d; hoggs, 7¾d to 8d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles & Co. report their sales this day as follows:—A special sale of rams, stock ewes, and store lambs was held this day. There was a fair demand for rams, Mr. Baring's Oxford Downs making up to 10½ guineas; Hampshire ram lambs made up to 7 guineas; ewes sold readily, and most of the lambs changed hands. Large supply of cows and calves, with trade hardly so good; small supply of store cattle, little demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The continued hot weather and shortness of keep fetched prices down all round, and there was practically no trade in store cattle. Fat cattle, with a large supply, sold fairly well, but not up to last week; best bullocks and heifers at 6d to 6½d, very few, if any, over; fat cows 4d, 4½d, 5d per lb. There was also a large supply of sheep, fat wethers making 8d; fat ewes 6d to 7d per lb. Fat lambs, not so many, 8d to 9d per lb. Store lambs had a firm trade, and stores sheep found ready customers. Veal sold a little better at 6d to 7d per lb. Porks, a short supply, went sharp at 6d—the only stock that made more money—and there were a few bacons. Store pigs also scarce.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance and full supplies of stock, but trade ruled very irregular. Large numbers of milch cows were forced on the market by the draught, but dealers were afraid to buy, the pastures not being so bare during the last thirty years. Choice milch cows made £21 to £23 10s; good useful lots, £17 to £19; and secondary, £15 to £16 each. Many lots were left unsold. Bullocks neglected; calves made 15s to 30s per head. Sheep sold freely, Shropshire; breeding ewes making 45s to 50s 6d; and long wool ewes, 42s to 58s per hean.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small show of milch cows selling slowly at £17 to £29 each. Sheep were an average supplp, and trade was fair. Lambs, 32s to 40s; gimmers, 50s to 65s.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts met a slow trade from 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Stores small supply, and scarcely any trade, from £6 to £11 each. Fat sheep average show, and very slow trade, from 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone. Stores, few shown, making from 40s to 46s each, fat lambs about 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Mutton: firsts, 8½d; seconds, 7½d to 7¾d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d. Veal: firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 5¾d; herds, 4½d to 4¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday. — There was a rather better supply, with a slow trade. Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; second-class, 7s to 7s 3d; steers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s 6d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply of cattle, sheep, lambs, and calves. Trade brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6½d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of fat beasts, and trade was much firmer, values hardening 3d to 6d per 14 lb; prices averaged from 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. The show of store cattle was the largest of the season, and, with one or two exceptions, was composed of Irish stock; trade was very slow throughout the day, due in great measure to the continued drought, and a clearance was not effected; values were about the same as at preceding market, prices ranging from £8 to £17 per head. There was a small market of sheep, consisting practically of breeding ewes. Lambs were represented by a few small lots; the demand was very poor, and values generally were of a downward tendency. Breeding ewes made from 45s to 65s per head, and lambs from 35s to 40s. Fat sheep were offered in limited numbers, and met with readier sales at 9s to 10s per stone. The supply of both fat and store pigs was not so large as last week, and a brisk demand resulted in a clearance. Fat pigs again averaged 7s per stone.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of sheep, and a much improved trade. The prices for beef fell a trifle below those of last week, except those of the best quality. The calf trade was slow. Hoggs made 8½d to 9½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; tups and ewes, 7d to 8d; veal calves, 5½d to 5¾d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d; and heifers and bullocks, 5¾d to 6½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—The trade in stock for feeding purposes was almost lifeless, and the business was at unremunerative prices. Milch cows showed but little change at £16 to £18 per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Small supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in average supply; trade very slow at 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone. Sheep in average supply; trade about the same. Best small sheep, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; large, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. A few lambs on offer; trade unchanged at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. No store beasts offered. Pig trade slow. Neat porkers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Very small supply of cattle, but good number of sheep. Good trade in store sheep and milking cows. Quotations:—Beef 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—A smaller show of the best cattle, which made 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone, trade being very slow. Rougher kinds made 6s to 7s per stone. Lambs realised 10d per lb, young sheep 8½d to 9d, ewes 7d to 7½d, and tups 6d. Small porker pigs sold at 7s per stone, and strong pigs 5s 6d to 6s 3d per stone.

Thame, Tuesday.—A very fair attendance of buyers to meet a large supply of all description of stock. Trade for best beef practically remained unchanged, secondary meeting with slight support. No change in prices for mutton. Bacon, pork, and veal, still in demand at late rates. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 107 fat beasts, 269 fat sheep, 91 fat and weaning calves, and 132 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £15 to £20 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £17 10s; fat wether sheep, 48s to 58s; fat ewes, 45s to 52s; fat lambs, 30s to 50s; fat calves, £3 to £5 9s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 55s; bull calves, 10s to 40s; fat hogs, £3 10s to £5 5s; porkers, 26s to 36s; small store pigs, 16s to 22s; large stores, 26s to 36s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 55s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £9 to £14 each; rearing calves, 15s to 30s; ewes, 35s to 44s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 15s to 70s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; do, cured, 7d to 9d; pork, carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply. Slow trade for beef; moderate demand for sheep and lamb. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 7d to 9¾d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—There was a small show of cattle, and a fair supply of sheep. Best beef made 7s to 7s 3d; secondary, 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone. Trade for mutton at the opening was very good, owing to the late arrival of many sheep, but towards the close prices ruled much easier. Best Southdown wether and cross-breds, 7½d to 8d; inferior sorts, 5½d to 6½d; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb.

York, Thursdy —This was the first of the extra autumn sheep fairs, and the supply was very disappointing, the offer of lambs and shearling sheep being very small, whilst no ewes were penned. Buyers were few, and trade was extremely slow, with the result that late rates were barely maintained. Twice-crossed lambs made 26s to 36s, and shearling sheep 40s to 48s each. There were no English store cattle, or calving and milch cows offered, and the few Irish store cattle met with little or no trade.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Spot holders of nitrate of soda have advanced prices 2s 6d per ton. Phosphatic fertilisers offer at unchanged values for autumn deliveries, but so far there is little demand. Late rates are maintained for feeding stuffs, and there is a slight improvement in the consumptive demand.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Nitrate of Soda	11	10	0	—		
East India Bone Meal	5	2	6	5	5	0
Kainit	2	0	0	2	2	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0	—		
Linseed Cake, American	7	10	0	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated	nominal.					
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Cottonseed, Egyptian, undecorticated	—			—		
Fattening Cake	6	15	0	—		
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	7	6	—		
Crushed Cottonseed	7	12	6	—		
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6	5	15	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	—		
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	17	6	—		
Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime	0	11	6	0	11	9
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0	—		
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6	—		
Treacle, feeding, prime (American)		4	9			
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.					
,, ,, guaranteed						
Basic Slag, prime quality*	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,, ,,	1	18	6	2	0	0
,, ,, finest ,,	2	2	6	—		

* At the producing depots inland.

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Hull, Tuesday. — Oilseed Cakes. —A steady market at firm prices, but as usual in harvest time orders are not plentiful.

London, Thursday.—Oil cakes —Linseed cakes firm. London made £8 to £8 2s 6d Cotton cakes firm. London made £5 2s 6d. — THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The continued drought causing almost a total absence of green foods is compelling farmers to turn their attention to artificial feeding stuffs, and while there is speculation the trade has assumed a particularly healthy aspect. Russian come to hand rather more freely and remain good value. East India seed pures offer unchanged. American are quoted at late rates. London made go quietly into consumption at last week's prices. Cotton Cakes.—Egyptian are scarce on spot, and with probable light shipments for at least a month, the market is well supported; while English being in small production, are firmly held. Decorticated still do not offer, but a limited quantity of meal in warehouse is available at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Rape Cakes. — Nominal; East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize Germ Meal. — Some recent arrivals of White American are obtainable at £5 15s to £5 16s 3d, with English makes selling at £5 8s 9d to £5 10s. Maize Gluten Feed is in good request at £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon command £4 13s 6d to £4 15s, but shippers have retired from the market as regards future positions. Locust beans are without alteration at £5 15s for whole and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Nitrate of soda is fully as dear at £10 17s 6d for Spot, and £11 2s 6d for spring delivery.

		Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ... ... ex mill	7 18	9 to 8	0 0
Russian, in mats	7 12	6 to 7	13 7
,, in bags	7 15	0 to 7	17 6
Calcutta ... to arrive	7 15	0 to 7	17 6
American	7 10	0 to 7	12 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
Egyptian	4 18	9 to 5	0 0
English	5 0	0 to 5	2 6
Bombay	4 10	0	

Decorticated...		—		
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to	7 15 0	
RAPE CAKES.				
Calcutta	5 0 0			
Ravison	4 15 0			
MAIZE.				
English Germ Meal	5 8 9	to	5 10 0	
American	5 15 0	to	5 16 3	
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0			
RICEMEAL.				
Rangoon	4 13 9	to	4 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.				
White	5 15 0			
Kibbled	6 0 0			
MANURES.				
Nitrate of Soda (on spot)	10 17 6			
Nitrate of Soda (Spring delivery)	11 2 6			

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday. —Fair supply; trade quiet. New hay made £3 to £3 7s 6dper ton; straw, 2s 4s to 2s 6d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 70s to 75s per ton; old clover hay, 80s to 85s; old meadow hay, 77s 6d to 80s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best, clover, 85s to 90s; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d per to; second, 65s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed 50s to 60s per ton; chop straw, 51s to 65 per ton; peat moss, 35s to 40s. per ton.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay very firm at recent prices. Straw rmains a drug on the market. New hay, 50s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Lancaster, Saturday. — Meadow hay, 7d; clover, 7½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Old hay was very scarce, and a fair trade was experienced at £4 to £4 5s per ton at stack; best new hay, £3 10s; secondary ditto, £3 5s per ton on rails.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 5d to 5½d; clover, old, 7½d; ditto new, 5½d to 6d; straw, wheat, 4½d; oat, 3½d to 3¾d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 10s to £5 5s per ton; this year's growth, £4 4s to £4 10s; new land hay, £5 5s to £6; this year's growth, £4 15s to £5. Wheat straw, £1 14s to £1 18s per load.

Nottingham, Wednesday. — Fair supply; good demand for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 65s to 75s; prime ditto, 80s to 90s.; inferior to good clover, 65s to 75s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s.; wheat straw, 45s to 50s; old hay, 90s to 100s; old seeds, 95s to 100s per ton.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Trade rather quiet, limited supply, and prices upwards. Fruit sold readily; fair amount offered. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 2s 6d; apples, 1s 9d to 7s 6d per bushel; pears, 1s 6d to 5s per half-sieve; peaches, 4s to 15s; nectarines, 3s 6d to 12s 6d; green figs, 1s to 3s 6d per dozen; melons, 9d to 2s each; damsons, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per half-sieve; greengages, 3s to 5s per half-sieve; plums, 2s to 5s 6d per half-sieve; tomatoes, 2s to 3s; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; turnips, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; ditto 2s to 3s per bag; carrots, 1s to 2s per dozen bunches; ditto, 2s to 2s 6d per bag; cabbages, 6s to 7s 6d per tally; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; cucumbers, 6s 6d to 8s 6d per flat; mushrooms, 7s 6d to 12s per 12 lb; horseradish, 9s 6d to 14s per dozen bundles; scarlet runners, 4s to 5s per bushel; parsley, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per dozen bunches; vegetable marrows, 6s to 8s per tally; sage, 1s per dozen bunches; endive, 2s 3d to 3s per dozen; cos lettuce, 1s 9d to 3s per dozen; potatoes, 55s to 80s per ton.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies met a slow sale. Quotations:—English Puritans, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—There were a few good samples of potatoes shown. Sands, 5s 6d; Warps, 6s to 6s 3d per load.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone.

Preston, Saturday.—The sharp rise of last week, due to reports of potato blight, was maintained, and new potatoes made 6s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Large supply of home-grown potatoes, best lots making 6s to 7s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A languid demand existed for the better assortment on offer. Quotations: English Puritans, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-dates, 60s to 70s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday. — Lincolnshires, £4; Scotch, £3 per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Potatoes, 6s to 6s 9d per load of 18 stones.

Whitby, Saturday.—New potatoes, 10d per stone.

York, Saturday.—A steady trade in potatoes at 40s to 45s per ton.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—Picking having commenced in this district, a few samples of new hops were shown at market to-day. Quality was very good generally, but very little business was actually transacted, as consumers are not ready for them. A fair quantity of yearling hops were on offer which sell freely at late rates. Twenty-four pockets new and fifty pockets 1905 hops have been weighed this week. Growers who have a fair crop report the pickers get over the ground very fast and hardly come up to the expected quantity.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The picking proceeds rapidly, and there will be but few hops remaining in the plantations by the end of the week. The samples to hand continue to show exceptional quality in the case of the best growths; £8 per cwt has been refused for a good lot of bramlings.

FOR 1906.

GARTONS

DISTINCT NEW BREEDS OF

WHEATS.

Full particulars of these, also

WINTER OATS AND WINTER BARLEY,

as well as other Seeds for present and later sowing, will be found in our New Catalogue, post free on application.

Seed Growers & Specialists. WARRINGTON.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fairly good demand for a moderate supply. Prices: Goslings, 5s to 6s; country ducklings, 2s to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to 2s; quails, 1s to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 1s; English hares, 2s 2s 6d; leverets, 1s to 1s 3d; Scottish hares, 1s; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen; young grouse, 4s to 5s; old, 2s to 2s 3d; young partridges, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 1s 8d to 2s per brace.

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
		s.	d.		s.	d.
September 1 ..	(per sack)	30	0	...(per sack)	27	0
,, 13 ..	,,	29	0	... ,,	26	0
October 11...	,,	28	0	... ,,	25	0
November 3...	,,	30	0	... ,,	27	0
,, 29 ..	,,	29	9	... ,,	26	9
December 11...	,,	30	0	... ,,	27	0
January 31...	,,	29	9	... ,,	26	9
February 21...	,,	29	6	... ,,	26	6
March 16 ...	,,	29	0	... ,,	26	0
March 23 ...	,,	28	3	... ,,	25	3
May 18 ...	,,	28	0	... ,,	25	0
June 20...	,,	27	9	... ,,	24	9
August 24 ...	,,	25	9	... ,,	23	9

(No change since last date given.)

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905.			1906.		
	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan	30 5	24 9	16 5	28 6	24 9	18 5
Feb	30 7	25 1	16 9	28 10	25 4	18 11
Mar. ...	30 10	25 1	16 11	28 5	24 8	18 11
April ...	30 9	24 8	17 3	29 1	24 2	19 1
May ...	30 10	24 8	18 5	30 2	24 0	20 0
June ...	31 8	24 4	19 2	30 4	23 4	20 2
July ...	32 0	22 8	18 4	30 4	23 1	20 4
Aug. ..	29 6	22 10	16 10	29 6	23 7	17 9
Sept. ...	26 10	23 9	16 0	—	—	—
Oct.....	27 1	24 11	16 6	—	—	—
Nov. ...	28 3	24 8	17 6	—	—	—
Dec. ...	28 5	24 6	18 0	—	—	—

Cereal Years Prices.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	23	8	23	2	16	9

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

REAL WELSH MOUNTAIN PONY.—SALE, SEPTEMBER 13, at Llangadock, Carmarthenshire. PONIES, COBS, DEXTERS, SHEEP, including a very smart three-year-old Stallion Pony, a beautiful mover with style and quality, a Show Pony by the well-known Starlight, sire of Greylight and other winners, including 1, 2, 3 at Polo Show, 1906. —Catalogues from Messrs. JAMES, Arcade Chambers, Goat Street, Swansea

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52 ,, ,, ...	4/- ,,

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in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning

The Mark Lane Express

when writing to our Advertisers.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Sept. 10, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 302, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has changed from hot and dry summer, but the transition into autumn has not been unwelcome to agriculturists, and the rainfall has been very satisfactory where it has been experienced. The actual fall has been only capricious, some stations having three times that of others, which, on a yearly average, are about equal as a rule. The threshing of grain goes on too actively, one might almost say, for the markets are robbed of strength by the persistence with which stuff is offered for sale with a minimum of regard for the actual local requirements at the centre to which the produce is confided. There does not exist at present anything like a farmers' agency to note where this or that staple or quality of staple is in particular demand. The press does its best, of course, but the thing mainly required is more alertness on the part of the farmer as a student of the markets.

The Russian wheat surplus seems now admitted to be materially smaller than last year, and the exports of the last campaign are not likely to be repeated in 1906-7. This should go a long way to balance any increase in the shipments of the United States.

The Bakers' Exhibition week did little for the milling trade, and bakers are not yet buying on even an autumn, let alone anything like a winter scale. The common talk, however, about bakers being overstocked has next to nothing in it, for bakers never carry more than 700,000 qr. or thereabouts, and the weekly wants of breadstuffs of the United Kingdom are 620,000 to 640,000 qr. A fortnight can always change the story of overstocked bakeries into an exactly opposite cry. On the flour market we note a fairly steady sale of the new country flour and of town households, but foreign sorts are very little inquired for. A few sorts of North-Western patents have their special buyers, just as the patrons of a restaurant will have this or that favourite sauce. But the total sales of foreign flour since September came in have almost certainly been a good deal below the average. Hungarian is pressed on sale, a rare thing in the trade, which has come to regard that sort of flour as always a scarce as well as a high-priced article.

Malting barley is increasing a little in supply, but is still decidedly rare. A good supply (in proportion to the total quantity cultivated) is to hand of winter barley. The early or six-rowed variety was to hand before August was out, and now the common or long-eared winter barley is arriving freely. The prices obtained are 23s. to 28s. per 448 lb. There is a plethora of common and light barley from South Russia.

On the other hand, Russian oats are not by any means so depressed as they were on the 10th inst. There is a desire to buy which may be variously interpreted, but is in any case there, and the usual idea is that, as with wheat so with oats, Russia will in no way repeat the shipments of 1905-6. That America has a much shorter crop from 1905 may eventually make Russian oats worth a minimum of 16s., even if exports are good. We have not yet seen any detailed estimate of the Russian oat crop, but the preliminary general estimate thus compares with the last two years:—

1906, estimate	95,000,000 qr.
1905, return	98,750,000 ,,
1904, ,, ...	113,000,000 ,,

The shipments of rye for Russia from August 1 to September 9 were 418,000 qr., against 579,000 qr. last year. This bears out the view that the crop is smaller. If Russia has a short rye crop the export surpluses of other cereals may easily be reduced.

Maize of late has been the subject of mere surface ripples in value; the big price changes will probably be those of January. The American crop of last year apparently left an export surplus of about 13,000,000 qr., but the crop of 1904 left an export surplus of 10,000,000 qr., although it was 28,000,000 qr. smaller than that of 1905. Figures like this may tax the energies of the Royal Statistical Society to reconcile. The Hungarian Minister of Agriculture estimates that the total production of maize in October, 1906, will prove to be 30,000,000 qr. more than in October, 1905. This is a guess, but it runs on lines which trade opinion is not very inclined to contradict. The American visible supply is cabled at 618,000 qr., against 888,000 qr. a year ago. In spite of this the New York average last week was only 18s. 9d. per qr., against 20s. per qr. for the corresponding week of last year.

Total supplies of wheat in sight are now estimated as follows:—

On passage to U.K.	1,950,000 qr.
,, ,, Continent .	1,375,000 qr.
Stocks in the U.K.....	2,900,000 qr.
,, France..... ..	250,000 qr.
,, Antwerp	245,000 qr.
,, Germany.....	65,000 qr.
,, Russia	900 000 qr.
,, the U.S.	5,750,000 qr.
,, Argentina	140,000 qr.
Wheat supply	13,575,000 qr.
A year ago	11,010,000 qr.
Two years ago.....	11,135,000 qr.

It will be seen that the supply is larger from both the years 1905 and 1904. It may be worth explaining that the word "stock" is used in two different senses in the trade and in the above table. In the cases of England, France, Antwerp, and Germany it means the holdings of imported wheat by merchants, and has no bearing on home production. In the cases of Argentina, Russia, and the United States it refers to certificated holdings of home-grown wheat by merchants who have bought for exportation and stored conveniently for the same. What is overlooked in some instances is that there is no obligation of the merchant to ship, and if home demand freshens the wheat in stock may never be included in a bill of lading.

Sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were fairly heavy, but thus far into the new cereal year the large sales of last campaign have not been rivalled:—

This season, 134,000 qr. at 26s. 4d. per qr.
Last ,, 171,000 ,, 27s. 0d. ,,

Sales of British barley have thus far been moderate, and the price a little better than in September last:—

This season, 25,000 qr. at 24s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, 33,000 ,, 23s. 5d ,,

Sales of British oats show a marked increase as compared with last season, but one notes with satisfaction that higher prices have been made. Value in September, 1905, however, was the subject of a depression, which can only be described as extraordinary:—

This season, 56,000 qr. at 16s. 5d per qr.
Last ,, 45,000 ,, 15s. 10d. ,,

The sales of new beans, peas, tares, and rye have been rather larger than last season, but holders are taking lower prices in some cases than in September last.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 665,000 qr.: extremely heavy.
Flour, 97,000 sks.: small.
Barley, 283,000 qr.: more than twice an average.
Oats, 95,000 qr.: less than usual.
Maize, 354,500 qr.: nearly double the estimated wants.

The shipments of America last week were 270,000 qrs. of wheat, 107,000 sks. of flour, 38,700 qrs. of maize, 26,000 qr. of oats, 13,000 qr. of barley, and 96,000 qr. of linseed, the latter an extraordinarily large quantity. The exports of Argentina were good of maize, but moderate of wheat and linseed. Russia, while shipping 400,000 qr of barley and 181,000 qr. of oats, was not a very heavy shipper of wheat, and of maize sent off only 7,000 qr. Roumania shipped 135,000 qr. of wheat, 60,000 qr. of barley, and 46,000 qr. of maize. Shipments from India and Australia were quite small, and no grain exports are announced from Chilé, Egypt, New Zealand, or Japan. The last-named country, however, joined with Burma in making some shipments of rice.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Supplies this week have been moderate, and with a continued improvement in the demand trading has been very steady at last week's full values. Although prices are no higher there is a great deal more business passing, and altogether the trade is evincing a better tone than for some time past. Doubtless the small shipments of foreign hays has a good deal to do with the better feeling which is now in evidence, and if these continue short it seems to be the general impression that we shall have a stiffening up of prices. All classes of best stuffs find a ready sale, especially so for prime hays, buyers of which are very keen; there is also a better trade for middling and inferior qualities which had been hanging fire of late. The straw trade is still much overdone with large quantities which are coming along, it is only with great difficulty that salesmen have got clear even at slightly lower prices. The imports of foreign hay are very small this week, and with a good demand all lots have been easily disposed of at slightly better values.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 60s to 67s 6d per ton. Best clovers, 90s to 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 85s to 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; plain mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; seconds hay and mixtures, 45s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 24s per load; oat straw, 25s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 78s per ton; good Dutch hay, 65s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 75s to 77s per ton; French large bale wheat straw, 50s per ton; small balo French wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargo sales show no particular change in values, but the low price at which both America and Argentina are willing to ship make any marked recovery for the present hopeless. Business done has included No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 28s. per 480 lb., South Russian at 28s 3d. per 492 lb., Red Kurrachee at 29s. per 492 lb, White Kurrachee at 29s 6d. per 492 lb., American Red Winter at 28s. per 480 lb., Argentine at 28s 3d. per 480 lb., Californian at 31s. 3d. per 500 lb., Walla Walla at 30s. 9d. per 500 lb., and Australian at 30s. per 480 lb.

Maize is firm for American for 1906 delivery, but for the first two months of 1907 there are offers to deliver at 20s. 3d. per 480 lb., a price which puts a severe limit on the opportunities of selling cargoes on passage at a profit. Transactions in such cargoes have included Odessa at 20s. 6d., Yellow Argentine at 19s. 3d., American at 21s., and Roumanian at 19s. 6d all per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes are selling well at the very low prices at which they are offered. We record Azoff grown cargoes sold at 18s. 3d., one at 18s. 1½d., and two at 18s. per 400 lb. One cargo of Danubian is said to have been sold as low as 17s. 10½d., but we hear of 18s. 3d. now asked for the Roumanian crop. A cargo of Californian for prompt shipment sold on Thursday for 26s. 3d. per 448 lb. Other cargo sales of the week include Smyrna beans at 30s. per 480 lb.; Roumanian millet at 18s. 6d. per 480 lb.; and Argentine sorghum at 19s. per 480 lb.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market still remains very firm at about 19s to 20s; ale and porter, 15s to 16s; distillers, 30s; pressed white distillery meal, 32s 6d per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains are in stronger demand, with a much firmer tendency: Ale, 10½s; mixed 91s 3d; distillers, 112s 6d per ton on rail London; and mixed 82s 6d per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail or docks London, sellers' option.—HARRISON AND CO.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies and a fair demand. Goslings, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducklings, 2s 3d to 3s; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 3d to 3s; Surrey fowls, 3s 6d to 4s; Essex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 3d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s to 2s 3d; young partridges, 4s to 5s; old, 1s 9d to 2s brace.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, unchanged. Prices:—Foreign dull, inactive, late rates. South Russian, landed, quoted 30s 6d to 33s 6d; Plata, 31s to 32s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s 9d; choice white Karachi at 29s. Flour dull, unchanged; Hungarian quoted at 28s 6d to 29s; Minnesota Patents at 24s 6d; bakers at 19s. Maize steady, quiet, for American; quiet, unchanged La Plata, which is quoted at 19s 6d to 19s 9d, ex ship. Barley firm, unchanged. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 17s 6d; landed, at 18s to 18s 3d. Oats firm, quiet; Russians quoted at 15s 9d to 16s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat.—Both English and foreign held at late rates, but demand limited. English whites quoted at 29s to 30s 6d; reds, 28s to 30s; South Russians at 28s to 33s 6d; hard winter, 27s 6d to 28s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s 3d. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 19s 6d to 19s 9d; landed, at 20s 3d to 20s 6d. Barley firm, quiet. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 17s 6d to 17s 9d; landed, at 18s to 18s 3d. Oats firm, unchanged. Russian quoted at 15s 9d to 16s.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A nice show. Quiet trade. White oats, wholesale worth about 19s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The supplies of home-grown wheat were limited, owing to a shortage of water in the hill districts, making steam threshing impossible at the moment. Trade was not at all brisk, and best samples did not exceed 31s. New tick beans made 31s to 33s, and mazagans 29s to 30s. Foreign grinding barley fetched 20s to 22s, and round maize was cheaper at 21s to 22s. Oats and peas unchanged on the week.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 26s 6d per qr; barley, 24s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (old), 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 16s to 17s per qr; oats (old), 22s to 23s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—A large attendance, with average supplies of barley on offer. Few samples of oats shown. Wheat made 26s 28s; barley, 23s to 26s 6d; and oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a falling off in the attendance, and trade generally was quiet all round. Foreign wheats slow sale at about last week's values. Not so many English wheats offering, which made from 26s to 27s per 496 lb delivered. Oats and beans remain at about last week's prices. Plate maize was 3d lower at 20s, per 480 lb Sharpness. Flat maize was unchanged at 22s 3d Bristol. Grinding barley 18s 1½d per per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 27s to 28s; new red ditto, 26s to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 28s; peas, 29s; beans, 30s to 31s; tares, 40s to 44s; maize, 22s 6d. Trade very dull.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Prices seem to be too low to attract much of the new wheat to market. The quality is excellent, and 18½ stones, and even up to 19 stones, natural weight per four bushels, is nothing uncommon; with a small supply, business was done at about 27s per 504 lb. There was a small quantity of new malting barley, and some samples changed hands at 28s to 32s per qr, but buyers are only feeling their way at present. Maize was weak at 21s 3d for Plate and 22s 3 to 22s 6d for Danubian and American flat. Oats were inclined to firmness. Tares made 19s 6d to 20s per coomb. New peas unchanged. Other feeding corns firm. Linseed cakes very firm at £8 10s to £8 15s, and cottons at £5 10s per ton. Milling offals all scarce and firm, with an upward tendency in bran, especially for orward delivery.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a good supply of wheat, at about last week's rates. Reds, 26s to 27s 6d; and white up to 28s 6d. Large supply of barley, and more inquiry for good lots. Prices ranged from 25s to 33s. A few more beans offering than last week, which made 29s. Oats very small supply, and the turn dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Large supplies tend rather to depress the market. Wheats ranged from 28s to 30s 6d, barley from 27s to 31s per qr. Spring oats were making from 18s to 18s 6d for 42 lb weight, and black winters ranged up to 20s. Grey peas, 29s to 30s per qr.

Carlisle Saturday.—Larger supply of oats in our market to-day. Slow sale at late prices. New, 17s 6d to 18s 6d per 336 lb.; old, 22s to 23s per 386 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The market continues firm, with full prices for prime samples of wheat and oats, although the demand for new grain is limited. Maize, both North American and River Plate, are a turn dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, whiteand red, 4s to 4s 1d per 75 lb; grinding barley, old, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; beans, new, 5s to 5s 3d; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; old, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance; small quantity on offer and fair trade. New white wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; old white ditto, 32s; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 18s 6d to to 19s; English oats (new), 16s to 19s; ditto (old), 21s to 22s; rye, 25s to 26s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s to 21s 6d; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat steady. Oats firm. Small supply.—Joseph Wiles and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday. — The attendance was not large. Wheats were not offered very freely, but there was no improvement in prices. Oats were more plentiful, and found a fair market at last week's figures. Beans and peas a quiet trade without alteration. The only change in quotations was new oats, 18s to 21s per qr of 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat was in small supply and sold quietly at late rates. Spring corn dull and unchanged. Prices:—Wheat, old white, 31s to 32s; new, 29s to 30s; red, old, 30s to 31s; new, 25s to 28s 6d; old beans 34s to 36s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a larger supply of wheat, in excellent condition and of fine quality, but prices were again lower. Barley and oats in small supply. A good demand for rye, which sold at 22s 6d to 26s per qr. Winter barley sold at higher prices. Vetches at 4s 9d to 6s per bushel. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best barley, 26s to 30s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 15s to 17s; malting barley, 26s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 22s to 24s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—A moderate supply of English wheat, and a fairly steady trade, the attendance of buyers being good. Prices were about the same rs last week, ad ranged from 10s to 10s 6d per load. Foreign was rather quiet at last week's rates. Rather small supply of oats, and only a moderate trade, prices 16s 6d to 17s per qr. Fair supply of barley, and steady inquiry, prices 25s to 26s 6d per qr. Other things at late rates.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The market was again flooded with new season's wheat, which everyone seems to be pouring on the market in unlimited quantities, the result being that factors were unable to cope with such phenomenal supplies, and prices suffered accordingly, lower rates again having to be accepted where sales were forced; and foreign also at the same time had an easier tendency. Barley for malting purposes was offered on similarly large quantities, but much of it was of very poor quality, and this is becoming more and more apparent, as threshings are scarce and command a good price. Grinding sorts, owing to the scarcity of keep, met more demand for feeding purposes. Other feeding stuffs more firmly held all round.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a good attendance, and a fair inquiry for native grain. Irish wheat in good supply. Oats in good demand. Flour and oatmeal steady. Bran and pollard scarce. Wheat, 16s to 16s 9d: oats, 10s to 14s; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour quiet and unchanged. Maize in better demand at last week's price of 12s per 280 lb. Corn, owing to fresh arrivals, price has declined to 13s 6d per 280 lbs. Barley a slow trade and in buyers' favour. Oats unchanged for both home and foreign. Beans unchanged. Pease quiet. Oatmeal quiet, with a slow sale.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—The market was barely so dull for wheat. Flour slow and unchanged. Mixed American maize more plentiful, and favours buyers at 13s 6d per 280 lb.; round quiet at 12s to 12s 6d. Grinding barley against sellers. Beans quiet. Foreign oats steadier; home oats dull. Mill offals continue firm; bran, 92s 6d per ton.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in small supply, unchanged; foreign better trade and occasionally slight advance. Plate maize 3d dearer; flat firm, unchanged. Barley unchanged to 3d. dearer. Oats without change in value, but show better tone.

Grantham, Saturday.—A large attendance, and business good. Wheat made 26s to 27s; barley, 25s to 32s; beans, 29s to 30s; blue peas, 50s to 60s; and oats, 16s to 17s 6d per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—All kinds of English grain were freely offered by farmers. English wheats had an easier tendency, excepting specially good samples suitable for seed, which fully made last week's figures. There was little doing in barleys, with nominally unchanged prices. Oats were quiet and unchanged on the week. Vetches were plentiful, while prices tended in favour of buyers. Beans were steady. Maize 3d per qr lower. Wholesale quotations: Wheat (new), 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56 lb; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new oats, 2s to 2s 4d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 3d per 40 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—The supply was no means large for the time of year, which perhaps is not surprising, considering the fair prices offered, as good reds, in excellent condition, could be bought freely at about 28s per 504 lb, delivered at Ipswich. Barley: There was a moderate supply, all in useful condition, and some business was done at 28s to 31s per qr, but the trade is in a purely speculative condition at present. Oats were rather firm on the week. Tares were offered at 20s to 20s 6d per coomb. Maize was the turn lower, and feeding stuffs were extremely firm.

Leeds, Friday.—New English wheats continue to arrive in larger bulk and in good condition on the whole. Best qualities are a hade higher, realising 28s, but no change in inferior descriptions. Old English and foreign wheats firm. New New English barley makes 28s, best foreign 32s. Beans, peas, oats, maize, and flour firm.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good attendance of buyers, with full supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in excellent condition. Choice samples steady; ordinary flat. Red wheats made 26s to 28s, and white 27s to 29s per 36 stones. Malting barley more saleable at at 25s to 30s per 32 stone; new beans steady; new oats realised 17s to 19s, and old 24s to 25s per 26 stones; flour, 22s, 25s, and 27s per 280 lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair attendance, and good show of English wheat, which met with a ready sale at last week's prices. Oats and beans unchanged. Malting barley in no request.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a fair attendance, and wheat meets an improved demand for red sorts with prices generally unchanged, the exception being Manitoba's, which are ½d per cental lower. Flour: Local and foreign meet a quiet demand without alteration in values. Maize: Mixed, owing to scarcity, is firm, ½d to ½d advance, with a moderate trade. Plate firm, with a fair trade at ½d advance. European grades unchanged to the turn lower, with a quiet trade. Barley: Malting scarce but quiet. Feeding favouring buyers. Beans quiet, at 6d decline for Syrian. Peas steady, unchanged. Oats are steady with an improved demand, English being the turn in sellers' favour, Foreign descriptions unchanged, Oatmeal steady, quiet. Oilcake is unchanged, but there is a good demand for autumn deliveries; spot quiet.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Manchester, Thursday.—Small attendance. English wheat in plentiful supply, and was quoted at about last week's rates; foreign wheats ½d and 1½d lower. Flour 6d per sack lower, with slow demand. Indian corn generally easier; Plata ½d lower. New English oats a shade firmer, but quotably unchanged; foreign steady. Feeding barley, foreign unchanged. English marrowfat peas in poor demand and rather lower. Beans unchanged. Bran and offals about 3d per load lower.

Newark, Wednesday. — A good attendance, and a firmer trade for wheat. Quotations: White and red wheat, 27s to 27s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 28s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; white oats, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; black ditto, 16s to 17s; old beans, 36s to 37s; new ditto, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A limited demand for wheat at our market to-day, English was fully 6d cheaper since last Saturday, whilst foreign remains steady at late rates. A steadier feeling prevails for maize, and prices slightly in sellers favour. Oats remain firm for good, old qualities, new in favour of buyers. Peas and beans in favour of buyers. Grinding barley steady at late rates, parcels for malting purposes sold from 25s to 26s according to quality, only a small business, however, transpired.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—English wheat made 3s 3d. Barley, round maize, and oats were unchanged on the week. Flour, fines, 22s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Moderate attendance. Fair show of wheats, which met with a slow trade at last week's prices. A few inquiries were made for best barleys; common barleys slow. Beans made 6d less on the week. Oats unchanged. New wheat, 26s to 26s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 17s 6d; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 28s to 28s 6d; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—A good supply of English wheat meets a ready sale at last week's prices. Very little doing in barley at 24s to 26s.

Oats firm. Beans slightly in buyers' favour.—Robert Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat a steady trade at last week's prices, a moderate supply. Barley rather quiet, but cannot be bought cheaper. Oats firm at full price.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Preston, Saturday.—There was a full attendance. New wheat and other grain was offering in small quantities, prices being little different to last Saturday, and little business passed. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, new per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto red, 12s 6d to 13s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; oatmeal, per load of 240, 25s 6d to 26s; beans, per windle of 240 lb, 16s to 16s 6d; bran, 10s 6d to 11s.

Reading, Saturday.—Vert good attendance, and trade was more brisk at appended prices:—Wheat, 27s to 32s; grinding barley, 18s to 24; malting barley, 29s to 33s; rye, 23s; peas and beans, 28s to 32; hay showed a rise of as much as 15s per ton.

Retford, Saturday.—Average supply of new wheat, generally in excellent condition, but trade dull and prices low, being 26s to 27s per qr. Nothing much doing in malting barley; 25s to 27s were the current quotations, and grinding 23s per qr. Indian corn slightly lower, selling at 23s to 24s delivered here. New oats, 16s to 17s; and old ditto, 24s per qr; new English beans, 30s to 31s ;and old ditto, 36s per 38 stones.

Ripon, Thursday.—A brisk tone prevails, and prices are firm at late rates. Round maize slightly easier. A good attendance. Old wheat, 30s to 31s; new ditto, 26s to 28s; foreign ditto, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; malting ditto, 26s to 28s; old oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 18s; round maize, 21s to 22s; flat ditto, 5s to 6s per qr; bran, £4 15s to £5 10s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With more English grain on offer and larger supplies of maize arriving, prices have given way as a whole during the past week, and Plate maize and grinding barley were 9d and 6d per qr lower. Wheat and oats showed little change, but beans are freely offered, and about 1s per qr reduction is accepted. Offals in good demand at full prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 18s 6d; ditto, white, 19s per 336 lb

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 12s to 12s 3d per 225 lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new, 11s to 12s per 225 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 13s to 14s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Much new grain offered, but holders show no inclination to trade until prices are more in their favour. Wheats made 26s to 26s 6d; and oats, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per qr. The barley offered was chiefly of an inferior kind, very few samples for malting purposSs being shown. Malting made 25s to 29s; grinding sorts, 22s to 24s; beans, 29s to 30s 6d; and peas, 45s to 50s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday. — There were few samples of local wheat showing which made from 27s to 27s 6d per qr. The foreign wheat trade was slow, prices being 3d easier on the week. Maize 6d lower. Oats unchanged. A fair show of new local barley, but the quality was rather disappointing, being on the coarse side at prices ranging from 24s to 27s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Rather more new wheat offering, for which lower prices had to be taken. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 1,394 qrs; foreign, wheat, 19,736 qrs.—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 27s to 27s 6d; old white ditto, 29s to 30s; old red ditto, 29s to 28s 6d;grinding ditto, 20s. to 23s 6d; oats, English, 17s to 22s 6d; rye, 23s to 26s; peas, 30s to 34s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 42s. to 48s; maize, 24s to 26s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, which sells at about last week's prices. New beans and oats more plentiful, and about 1s per quarter less money. Feeding stuffs scarce and dear.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A fair supply of grain at market. Wheat sold at fully late rates. Oats 16s 6d to 17s 6d 336 lb; barley, 24s to 28s 418 lb; beans, 29s to 30s 532 lb.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Larger attendance; business fair; wheat prices lower. Quotations: New wheat, 12s per 216 lb; Plate corn, 24s per 480 lb; flat corn, 26s per 480 lb; English beans, old, 15s 6d; new, 12s 6d; oats, old, 16s; new, 11s to 12s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and fair show of all kinds of grain. Slow trade. New white wheat made 26s to 27s; red ditto, 25s to 26s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new white oats, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 18s; new beans, 31s to 33s; old beans, 36s to 38s; maize, 23s to 24s per qr; fine sharps and barley meal, £6 to £6 10s; bran, £5 to £6 per ton.

Yeovil, Friday.—All the new cereals were freely on offer, and, with a desire on the part of some agriculturists to realise, the price of wheat was somewhat unsteady. Best quality made up to 28s 6d, but the general range was from 24s 6d to 26s 6d per qr. Foreign was quiet at from 31s 6d to 33s. Malting barley from 26s to 38s; other barley of good quality, 25s to 29s; secondary, from 20s to 24s; grinding foreign, 18s 3d to 19s. Oats were firm; old black, 22s to 24s; new, 15s to 17s; old white, 21s to 28s; new, 19s to 20s 6d; Irish white, 21s 6d; black, 18s 9d. Rye in good demand at from 22s 6d to 26s. Beans, 30s to 36s. Tares winter, 55s to 62s 6d; spring, 62s to 70s. Vetches, 48s 9d to 6s per bushel. The flour trade continues unusually quiet, and on the basis of 22s 6d per sack for fines. Offals and meals firm.

York, Saturday. —Farmers are not offering wheat freely; nice dry samples sell at last week's prices. Quotations:—Fine white, 27s to 28s; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley not in very great demand, many samples being of very moderate quality. Fine made 27s to 28s; good, 26s to 27s; ordinary, 24s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm. White Tartary quoted 16s to 16s 6d; black, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; white Garton, 17s to 18s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, 21s; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report.—Demand has abated, but markets generally rule firm and prices are pretty well maintained as holders stick to their limits. However, buyers have laid in some good stocks which will cover their requirements for the next time, and now prefer to look on for a while. Offers from Bohemia are still plenty, and some nice samples are shown, but long prices are asked for much. In Hungary markets ruled firm last week, but close; rather quieter this week.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

Hamburg, Saturday. — Weather cool and rainy. Prices of foreign wheat and feeding barley tend in sellers' favour; other articles quiet. Fne red Holstein and Upland wheat is selling at 27s to 28s per 504 lb, f.o.b.; No. 2 hard winter, afloat, is held at 28s; September October shipment, at 27s 9d; red winter, No. 2 afloat, free from garlic, at 27s 3d; No. 1 Macaroni, at 27s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye firm, 9½; Odessa, afloat, is offering at 22s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f., Hamburg; spot parcels selling at this price. Malting barley is offering more freely from Bohemia; good stout quality being held at 33s to 34s, fine at 34s 6d to 35s 6d, and choice lots at 36s to 37s per 448 lb, f.o.b. Pomeranian is taken by our maltsters at 33s to 35s, Mecklenburg and Oderbruck at 35s to 36s per 448 lb. Fine Danish is offering at 27s 6d to 29s per 448 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. South Russian feeding barley on the spot is selling at 17s 9d to 18s, September-October shipment at 17s 6d to 17s 9d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate maize, afloat, is offering at 19s to 19s 3d; mixed October shipment at 21s 9d; January at 20s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 15, 1906:—

Wheat	2,125,500	cwts.
Wheat-flour	311,300	,,
Barley	651,300	,,
Oats	204,600	,,
Maize	1,032,300	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	2,351,000	2,854,900	2,086,000	2,349,235
Wheat-flour	337,500	171,100	435,000	417,503
Barley ...	690,600	590,400	1,063,400	1,239,432
Oats ...	290,800	233,900	224,700	383,124
Maize ...	1,538,400	813,800	1,225,000	581,743

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 11, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	3,220	6 ...	4,354	18	5 ...	1	7	1
Barley ...	1,704	5 ...	2,287	16	6 ...	1	6	10
Oats	3,338	6 ...	2,854	7	10 ..		17	1

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d. pe 312 lb.

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Sept. 16	83,182	25	11	36,986	23	7	23,705	15	11
,, 23	95,743	27	1	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	11	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	8	147,570	24	8	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	9	224,530	25	6	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	26	11	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	1	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	4	209,509	24	10	28,316	17	1
,, 18	87,001	27	10	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	3	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	
Dec. 2	93,509	28	7	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	
,, 9	82,752	28	5	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	8	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	6	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	5	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.		23	4						
Jan. 6	30,066			43,408	24	6	14,001	18	4
,, 13	55,970	28	4	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	6	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	5	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	7	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	10	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	11	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	10	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	8	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	5	17,186	24	4	14,416	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	4	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	3	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	7	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	28	11	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	4	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	6	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	29	10	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	1	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	3	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	4	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	3	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	4	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	5	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	3	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	2	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	5	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	2	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	5	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	9	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	30	5	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	29	0	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	27	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	9	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	26	4	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Sept. 6 to 13 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat..... ..	3,750	92,000	95,750
Barley.....	600	38,000	38,600
Malt.....	7,000	—	7,000
Oats...	6,950	21,000	27,950
Beans	640	88	728
Peas.....	380	565	945
Rye	250	400	650
Haricots	—	1,000	1,000
Maize	—	2,713	2,713
Linseed	—	7,000	7,000
Rapeseed.....		2,178	2,178
Poppyseed	—	22	22
Flour..... sacks ...	27,751	25,000	52,751
Middlings ,, ...	—	6,000	6,000
Wheatmeal ,, ...		2,000	2,000

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending September 15, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	39,112..	27	1	7,600	26	4	28,822	18	4
1903 ..	45,165...	27	5	5,976	24	2	20,221	16	4
1904...	51,889..	29	7	45,918	24	9	37,554	15	11
1905...	83,185	26	11	36,986	23	7	23,705	16	0
1906...	89,745...	25	11	41,670.	24	3	34,330	16	1

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

		s.	d.
September 1	per sack	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	0
,, 10	,,	30	0
August 3	,,	29	0

(No change since last date given

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

Attendances are increasing as farmers' preoccupations in the actual fields become less. English wheat to-day was 6d lower on the week, with slow sales even at the concession. Despite this state of affairs, the situation was in reality less depressed from the 10th, there being a much more general resistance on the part of farmers to the acceptance of unduly low terms. Foreign wheat was decidedly less depressed, both North and South American being held for 6d. advance. Other sorts were not dearer; but, of course, were helped. Maize was a little cheaper for yellow and round, but a little dearer for flat. English barley was in fair request, and good malting made 33s. Foreign feeding sorts were slow, and a trifle lower for poor Russian. Oats were a rather better market from the 10th. Beet sugar was again dearer on the Mincing Lane market, and rice was very firm, though not quotably dearer.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 17.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	32 — 34
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	30 — 32
	,, ..(New) ...	,,	26 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	32 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	31 — 35
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	28 — 29
	Feeding (Old) ...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
	,, (New)...	,,	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	28 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	23 — 24
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	50 — 60
	(Spring)	,,	60 — 70

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	31	— 32	American	22/6	—23
,, ,, 2	30	— 31	Argentine	20	— 21
American Red	28/9	—29	Bulgarian	21	—21/6
Argentine ...	29	— 30	Roumanian ...	21	—21/6
Australian ...	31	— 32	Russian	21	—21 6
New Zealand	30	— 31	Rangoon	21	— 22
Californian ...	31	— 32	North African	22	— 23
Blue Stem ...	31	— 32	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	30	— 31	Smyrna	34	— 36
Saxonka	32	— 33	Konigsberg ...	33	— 35
Azima	30	— 31	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Ghirka	29	— 30	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Indian White	none		Italian	64	— 72
,, Red	28/9	—29	Burmese	32	— 42
Persian.....	28	—28/6	Chilian	56	— 64
Turkish	27	— 28	LENTILS (cental):		
BARLEY:			Split Egyptian	10	— 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29/6	—30	Whole Indian...	7	— 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	PEAS (504 lb.):		
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian White	35	— 36
Russian(400 lb)	19	—19/3	Indian Green	29	— 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18	— 19	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24	— 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23	— 24	Victoria Dun..	33	— 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Torrified(336 lb)	21	— 22	White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian ...	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Smyrna	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	— 10
Russian	24	— 25	Siamese	8	— 9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
N'wZeal'd(384 lb)	23	—25	Smyrna	25	— 26
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	19	— 20	Indian	23	— 24
Am'can (320 lb)	16/9	—17	Persian	21	— 22
Libau (320 lb.)	18	— 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	15	—15/6	French	26	— 27
Arg'nt'e(304 lb)	15	—15/6	Russian	25	— 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

There was not much doing in flour to-day, and the London Flour Millers' Association took 3d less money for their credit and delivery quotations, though actual cash transactions were at the level of a week ago. The augury for country flour is excellent, but the supplies are unduly large, and thus an otherwise favourable situation is injured. Foreign flour to-day was in fair request for Hungarian at the recent heavy decline, and also for some sorts of American; on the other hand, Australian, Californian, and French makes were all but unsaleable. A fair business was done in meal at the full prices of last week.

London Flour.

Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/9 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/9 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/9 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/9 ,,

Country Flour.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24—24/3
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22—22/3
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21—21/3
Stone made	,,	20—20/3

Foreign Flour.

		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23/6—24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23/3—24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
ascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23/6—24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings.....	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

A RETURN TO COOLER WEATHER COUPLED WITH A FIRMER FEELING IN FUTURES HELPED THE MARKET CONSIDERABLY, AND IT CLOSED STRONGER, BUT WITH NO CHANGE IN PRICES.

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Highest of Year.....	32 0	25 1	18 5
Lowest of Year	26 10	22 8	16 0
Gradient	5 2	2 5	2 5
Mean of Year	29 9	24 4	17 4

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The one new feature about the market is that holders of Argentine wheat cargoes absolutely refuse to sell at present prices, and that offers of new crop for January and February shipment are also withdrawn. A similar firmness has only to extend to other offers of futures for the trade in cargoes on passage to improve very materially. No changes are to be noted in cargoes of spring corn; they are certainly not weaker from the close of last week.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Russian Fine Azima, 30s per 492 lb, October shipment; Australian, 30s 3d per 480 lb, arrived; American Red Winter, 28s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; white Kurrachee, 29s 3d per 492 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Roumanian, 19s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Kherson, 17s 9d per 400 lb, October shipment; Danubian, 18s per 400 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 41s 6d per 410 lb, October shipment; Calcutta, 39s per 410 lb, May shipment (new crop); Argentine, 39s 3d per 416 lb, arrived.

Rapeseed.—Brown Cawnpore, 48s per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Brown Calcutta, 45s 9d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Ferozepore, 41s 3d per 416 lb, May shipment (new crop).

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 17s 6d per 2,240 lb, arrived; Egyptian, £6 7s 6d per 2,240 lb, Dec. shipment (new crop).

TERM MARKET.

The trade in futures is hardening to this extent that there is increased reluctance to tender at the only prices which buyers offer. The following prices, therefore, represent very little business:—

Red American wheat, Sep. delivery,		6s 3d per cental.	
,, ,,	Nov.	,,	6s 2d ,,
,, ,,	Jan.	,,	No sales.
Mixed American			
Maize.....	Sept.	,,	4s 8d ,,
,, ...	Nov.	,,	4s 6d ,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	No sales.
Yellow Argentine Maize ...	Sept.	,,	4s 3d ,,
,, ...	Nov.	,,	No sales.
,, ...	Jan.	,,	No sales.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—No further change to report; market continues languid; prices generally in buyers' favour.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Last week's firmness in bran has increased, and for most qualities a further advance of 2s. 6d. per ton is being quoted.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—More firmness has been shown during the last few days with more disposition on the part of buyers to purchase for shipment. American cables are 3d to 6d higher. Grain.—American corn steady in price, but the sale is slow. Round maize quiet and unchanged. Manitoba oats are still very plentiful, but holders on spot ask rather higher prices. Beans dull, resellers being in evidence. Oilcake firm. Barley in very little demand and rather easier. Mill Stuffs.—Bran very firm. Common thirds not so active, but fine are still in great demand.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Milling Offal.—Middlings are not so much asked for, but supply is small and prices are unchanged. Brans and pollards are very firm and scarce.—John Bawcombe and Co.

Flour has met only a moderate demand, but prices are firm owing to the higher quotations from the mills.—T. S. Medhill and Sons, Ltd.

Arrivals of wheat are moderate. There is an improved demand, and prices are 3d and 6d higher. Flour firm, unchanged. Maize is 3d, barley 3d, and oats 3d and 6d dearer.—Coventry and Shepherd.

SEEDS.

Borough, Monday.—The recent rains have improved the demand for trifolium, mustard, rape, winter tares, rye corn, rye grasses, thousand headed kale, clovers, &c., for present sowing. There is no material change, but all kinds are decidedly firmer. While there is a fair quantity of late trifolium in merchants' hands, the stocks of early are not heavy. New French Italian rye grass is attracting more attention. Winter tares are a trifle dearer.—W. H. & H. Le May.

London, Monday.—The late rains anxiously awaited have increased the demand for trifolium, both late and early. Prices firm. Winter tares, offering freely, find ready buyers. Prices unchanged. Rape scarce and firm. Rye on offer prices favouring buyers. Peas firm. Seed wheats in good demand. Prices unaltered.—John Picard and Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,182 bales, and from foreign ports 13,101. There was a quiet market for bacon during last week, but at the reduction in official quotations the market closed steadier, prices ranging:—Irish, 63s to 65s up to 68s; Danish, 58s to 64s up to 68s; Canadian, 59s to 62s up to 65s. Butter.—Butter was a steady market. French, 104s to 118s; Danish, finest, 122s to 125s; Russian, 90s to 106s; Irish, 100s to 116s; Canadian, 90s to 116s; Victorian, 104s to 116s; New South Wales, 104s to 116s; Queensland, 102s to 112s; New Zealand, finest, 114s to 116s; American, 88s to 102s. Lard was a firm market. Irish, 54s to 62s; American, 45s to 46s 6d; Danish, 54s to 59s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese small, owing to farmers being busy harvesting. High prices checked sales. Cheddars 62s to 65s, Dunlops 62s to 64s per cwt. Canadians are down 1s per cwt on the week, for the reason that few persons are buying, and are still regarded as too dear.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 18 tons of cheese pitched, and with a good attendance all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 65s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 61s to 63s; and other dairies, 59s to 62s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 56s. Cheddars made 65s to 76s 6d; truckles, 60s to 68s; doubles, 59s to 63s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a fair demand, and an average attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 54s to 60s per cwt; fancy dairies, 61s to 64s; Derbys, 66s to 70s; Cheddars, 65s to 68s.

EGGS.

Friday.—Altrincham: 8. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per doz. Barnstaple: 11 to 13. Chester: 9 and 10. Camelford: 12 to 14. Crewe: 8 and 9. Dartmouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per doz. Derby: 9 and 10. Helmsley: 12 and 13. Knutsford: 8. Leyburn: 11 and 12. Lincoln: 12. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 8. Nantwich: 10. Northwich: 9 and 10. Otley: 9 and 10. Redruth: 12. Runcorn: 8 and 9. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 10 to 12. Stockport: 8. Tavistock: 10 and 11. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 and 11. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 10. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Grantham: 12. Howden: 11 to 13. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 9. Malton: 11 and 12. Pontefract: 11. Retford: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Richmond (Yorks): 10 and 11. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Skipton: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 10. York: 10 to 12.

BUTTER.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Crewe: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 11d to 1s 1d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 2d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per 24 oz. roll. Redruth: 1s. Runcorn: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. St. Austell: 1s 5d. Stamford: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 1d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1½d to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 2d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Plentiful supplies to hand again met with quiet support. Quotations:—English Puritans, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s per ton. Beans, 1s to 2s per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply and steady demand at 4d to 6d per stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Not a large attendance. Only a few lots of potatoes on offer, farmers preferring to wait. Average price, 50 to 55s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Best local grown potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone.

Preston, Saturday.—Last week's increased price of 6s per load of 240 lb was obtained for potatoes.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Very slow support was accorded the moderate quantity marketed. Quotations:—Blacklands, 50s to 55s; British Queens, 55s to 65s; Up-to-dates, 55s to 65s per ton. Beans, 4s 6d per bag and 2s 6d per bushel.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 17, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Sept. 18, 1905.
Beasts	1080	1080	1,210
Sheep and Lambs	5,310	5,310	6,890
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	60	60	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 2
Lambs	5 4	6 0	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 10; Eastern Counties, 60; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 990; Devon, 20; Ireland, nil.

We note to-day an increase of seventy head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade opened and continued throughout the day for both prime and second quality of a slow and dragging nature, consequently a decline in value was inevitable, this ruling in some cases to the extent of 2d per 8 lb. A few polled Scotch beasts were included in the supply, and commanded our top quotation. There was limited inquiry for fat butchering cows and bulls, less money having to be accepted for the latter to effect sales. The prospect of a clearance being made is very doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Sept. 18, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	4 4	to 4 6	—	
Devons	4 4	to 4 6	... 4 6	to 4 8
Herefords	4 2	to 4 4	... 4 6	to 4 8
Norfolks	—		... —	
Runts	4 0	to 4 2	... 4 4	ex 4 6
Lincolns	3 8	to 3 10	... 3 10	to 4 0
Irish	—		... 3 10	to 4 0
Canadian	—		... —	
Fat Cows	3 4	to 3 6	... 3 4	to 3 6

There was an increase of 760 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For all grades of wethers and ewes trade ruled firm and steady, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one. The consignments from Scotland and Ireland also met a correspondingly better trade. Nevertheless no higher rates can be quoted for these. Lambs were in average supply, but met with little or no demand, difficulty being experienced in making last Monday's currencies.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Sept. 18, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
8st Scotch	5 8	to 5 10	...5 8	to 6 0
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10	to 6 0	...5 8	to 5 10
9 st. Downs	5 8	to 5 10	...5 6	to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 4	to 5 6	...5 4	to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		... —	
12st Lincolns	—		... —	
10 st Irish	5 4	to 5 6	...5 4	to 5 6
10 st Down Ewes	4 0	to 4 2	...4 0	to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10	to 4 0	...3 10	to 4 0
5 st Grass Lambs	—		... —	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		... —	

Calf trade not worth quoting. No pigs on the market.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 759. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 87 head, and consisted of 300 from the United States, and 405 from Canada. Trade was of a fairly steady nature, late currencies govering all kinds of States cattle. Canadians were quoted 1d per lb higher. The best States on offer made from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Canadian, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,836 beasts from the United States and 246 from Canada were offered for sale, and with a firm and steady trade, were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d for the former; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle much the same as last week. Demand fair, but prices unchanged. Large increase in number of sheep and lambs in market; sheep trade consequently slower; prices practically unaltered. Lamb trade also easier, prices in buyers' favour. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 4½d; mutton 9d to 7d; lamb, 9½d to 8d.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Extremely heavy shipments of American Linseed have caused that sort to fall in value, but otherwise the oilseed market is unchanged.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Dutch	48 to 50	Egyptian	138 to 140
American	44 to 45	Indian	105 to 107
Calcutta	43 to 44	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	44 to 46		
Russian	43 to 45	English, Best	16 to 17
Argentine	42 to 43	Russian, White	14 to 15
Duluth	41 to 42	,, Black	13 to 14
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		SESAME.	per cwt.
Best English	62 to 64	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	51 to 53	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	44 to 45	CANARYSEED. per 464 lb.	
Ferozepore	45 to 46	English	48 to 50
		Spanish	78 to 80
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		Turkish	41 to 43
Indian	46 to 48	Argentine	40 to 41

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is better supplied with new hops; the quality is all that can be desired, but prices offered are not satisfactory to growers, consequently not much business has been done. The crop proves to be considerably less than that estimated when the picking commenced.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The picking is over, except in a very few isolated cases, having lasted about a fortnight. A Mid-Kent growth has been sold at £8 per cwt. all round, and the same figure has been refused for an East Kent crop.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a good show of samples ac market to-day, and the quality of the hops was very satisfactory. Growers, however, asked prices proportionate to the shortness of the crop, but buyers were not inclined to operate. Where more reasonable prices were asked a few sales were made, but, generally, very little business passed and prices were not settled pending our fair on Wednesday next. Brewers are not yet inclined to start buying. A fair trade continues to be done in 1905's.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 80s per ton; old clover hay, 85s to 90s; old meadow hay, 80s to 85s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. New hay made £3 to £3 7s 6d per ton; straw, 2s 1½d to 2s 4d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s; best hay, 76s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—This market was very quiet, prices nominally unchanged.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A steady demand is being experienced for old hay, which is getting very scarce, and prices are firm. New meadow hay is fairly plentiful, but clover is a thin crop. A moderate trade is being done, but prices are not yet clearly defined. Old meadow hay is quoted 7d to 7½d; old clover hay, 7½d to 8d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Improved demaud. Best hay and seeds, £3 10s; secondary ditto, £3 to £3 5s; straw, 35s to £2 per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5½d to 6d; clover, 5½d to 5¾d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 4s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 7s 6d; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 10s to £5. Wheat straw, from £1 17s per load; barley straw, from £1 10s to £1 12s; oat straw, from £1 10s to £1 17s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supply at market, which met with a good demand. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s.; inferior to good clover, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 95s.; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; old hay, 95s to 105s; old seeds, 95s to 105s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Light supplies on the market met a fair demand at late values: Best clover, 81s to 95s; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 87s 6d; good ditto, 77s 6d to 82s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

With a decrease in the supply of fat cattle at the Islington market, trade opened on Monday, the first market day of the week, of a slow but steady nature, late currencies being well maintained. The majority of the arrivals were consigned from the Midlands; a few choice Devons were placed on the market, and commanding our top quotation, cleared quite early in the day. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply, but owing to their meeting with a limited inquiry from both town and country buyers, salesmen were compelled to accept a decline in value to effect sales. On Thursday as usual trade was confined to fat bulls and rough cattle, prices for which were fairly steady.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, with a fair supply of both States and Canadian cattle, trade opened slowly, late quotations being fairly well maintained; sales, however, were brisker towards the close of the week, although no higher rates were quoted. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,723, as against 5,256 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,060 British (increase 100) and 3,663 foreign, these latter comprising 2,536 from the United States and 1,127 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. sinking the offal:—90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

With regard to sheep, trade was confined to the Islington Market, and, taken as a whole, was of a fairly steady nature for both wethers and ewes, rates ruling a turn in favour of the seller. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the brisker trade which was experienced, and being in shorter supply and more sought after, slightly higher rates were both asked and obtained. Lambs were difficult to vend, even at a considerable decline in value. On Thursday trade was brisk and prices steady; lambs also sold readily, an advance in value being easily asked and obtained The total number on offer at Islington was 7,570, as against 7,970 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7¼ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5-stone grass lambs, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.

Calves numbered 30, and ruled firm and steady, the best on offer making from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. Only 5 pigs; trade not worth noting.

Trade in the West.

A good deal of congestion is still experienced in the store stock markets, the result of a very general disposition on the part of stockowners not to retain a single head of stock on the farm more than is absolutely necessary. No great complaint can be made as to sales of dairy beasts, but perhaps this is largely due to so many just now being compelled to augment their dairies in order to keep up their milk supplies, which in some cases have dwindled down to little more than half the ordinary quantity.

Sheep are scarcely affected to such a serious extent, for the reason that some of the districts, more particularly devoted to sheep-raising, have been more fortunate in the matter of rain, than those in the West have been, and, though prices just at present hardly compare, as a whole, with those ruling last year, still, on the other hand, some realise rather more, particularly lambs, where there is a good prospect for the roots. At present best Down ewes are making up to 65s. a-piece for those required for special flock purposes, ranging down to 50s.; ordinary runs of draft ewes, 30s. to 48s.; grazing ewes, 28s. 6d. to 41s.; wether lambs, 26s. to 40s.; chilver lambs, 30s. to 38s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 25s 6d. to 36s.

Fat stock, owing to the hot weather, is meeting anything but a brisk trade, especially for heavy-weights. Small neat-handling steers and heifers of good quality make up to £21 or £22 a-piece, ranging down to £15 (or 11s. to 11s. 6d. for the best and 10s. 6d. for more ordinary grades); heavy bullocks and cows, 9s. to 10s. Calves keep firm for the nicer qualities at 8d to 8½d. per lb.; but the coarser weights continue neglected at lower rates—7d. to 7½d., and some at less. Best and choice calves are scarce, prices of the best are not likely to be affected by the heat. The mutton trade keeps steady, especially nice medium-sized wethers, which may be quoted from 8¼d. to 8½d. per lb, and heavier sheep 8d.; young ewes sell at 7½d. to 8d., but old coarse weights are a very dull trade at 6d. to 7d. mutton, lamb makes 9d. to 9½d.; and anything choice in the way of sucking lamb 9½d. to 10d., rough lamb of poor quality 8½d. Only small weights in pigs claim anything like keen attention; these sell freely from 10s. to 10s. 6d. per score, and baconers 9s. to 9s. 6d., all the coarser weights being in very limited request at from 8s. to 8s. 6d., and less.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been fairly large, but the quality not nearly up to the average. The best descriptions met a good trade, but secondary were just the turn cheaper. Sheep and lambs were shown in small numbers, and they have made the highest prices of the season, an average rise of 2s. from the preceding week having been got. A large supply of calves made more money, while pigs continue to sell at satisfactory prices. There was a small supply of store sheep. Anything of good class got readily and well sold and an easy clearance effected. Rather more store cattle were offered, including a considerable number of good bullocks, and these got sold out at quite as high prices as previous week. Milch cows a good show, but they met a decidedly worse trade at nearly £1 a head reduction. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 36s. 10d.; current, 34s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; mutton to nearly 10d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

There was an increase of supplies in both departments at last Thursday's Dublin market—cattle numbering 3,531, or 241 more than the preceding week, and sheep 8,792, an increase of 104 on last week. Still, these figures are well below those for the corresponding weeks of 1904 and 1905, cattle being less by 292 and 439, and sheep by 370 and 238 respectively. The market was well attended by both home and export buyers, and trade was of a healthy nature at stiffer rates. It was a good selling market for prime bullocks and heifers of extra finish, and from start to finish things went in favour of sellers, though it was difficult to note any material advance in price. Live weight rates were about the same as on the previous Thursday:—Best bullocks from 28s. to 30s. per cwt., with prime Herefords and A.A. crosses making a couple of shillings per cwt. more. The average figure for medium beasts and prime young cows would be about 26s. to 27s. per cwt. Coarse cattle were easier placed. The approximate dead weights were:—Best ox and heifer beef from 52s. 6d. to 58s for extra finished; good second class beef, 47s. 6d. to 52s., and inferior from 42s. 6d. upwards. With a moderate show of sheep, trade opened briskly, with prices ruling against buyers. Home trade wether were scarce, and there was a good demand from local butchers. Irish dealers had large commissions to buy for the English markets, but there were few London buyers present. All good butchering sheep were in native demand, at slightly higher prices. Prime wethers and ewes were scarce, and local victuallers filled their requirements with hoggets, of which small and medium moved well. Lambs were few in number and met with an excellent trade at advanced figures, one fine lot from the eo. Meath selling at 46s. a head. Prime wether mutton made from 7½d. to 8d. per lb., prime ewe 6¾d. to 7½d., and inferior mutton from 5½d. upwards. Heavy hoggets brought from 46s. to 60s. each, and light to medium, 36s. to 44s. Lambs sold at from 18s. to 24s for small, and from 26s. to 40s. for large fat ditto. Prime veal in good request at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb, but inferior calves were selling at from 4½d. to 6½d. per lb. Good fresh cows sold at from £15 to £18, and extra choice springers and newly-calved cows at from £19 to £21 each. There was a brisk trade for home and for export. Store cattle still a quiet trade, except for well-bred beasts in forward condition, which sell freely and well. Thursday's Dublin pig market was well attended by both home and export buyers, and there was more life in trade than for the last few weeks at an all-round improvement of about 2s. per cwt. Nice light-weight pigs made from 52s. to 54s.; shipping pigs nearly the same rates, and inferior from 35s. per cwt. upwards—an early and good finish up.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was steady, both in regard to tone and value, late rates being well maintained. Top prices:—Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. A decrease of 520 in the number penned in sheep market. Trade for both wethers and ewes was decidedly firmer, prices ruling in favour of sellers, and in some cases to the extent of fully 2d per 8 lb. Lambs, being in short supply sold well, last Monday's quotations governing all transactions. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 8-stone Down sheep, 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 10d; 10-stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 6d; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 7s; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s. Calf trade slow, but firm. Pigs too few to quote. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 10d to 6s; calves, 4s 6d to 6s; lambs, 4s 8d to 7s.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies and slow trade, with a lower tendency for beef and mutton. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 2d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; exceptional, 5s; English pork, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef slow at late rates or a little under; not much selling at above 4s 4d. Mutton rather better; down wethers making up to 5s 10d, and Kents to 5s 4d. Lambs sold well at 6s 4d to 6s 8d, and veal unchanged. Pork, which was in large supply, experienced a drop; no roasters exceeding 4s, while large hogs made about 3s 6d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 6½d to 6¾d; 2nd class ditto, 5½d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5d; best sheep, 8½d to 9d; 2nd class ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7d; choice sucking lambs, 9½d to 10½d; fat calves, 7d to 8d per lb; fat porkers, 10s to 11s per score; fat sows, 8s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—177 beasts were penned in good condition. Attendance small, quality of stock good, and trade fair. Calves made £5 to £6; heifers, £7 10s to £10 10s; stirks, £7 10s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; three-year-olds, £14 10s to £16; and Shorthorn bulls, £7 to £12 per head.

Bristol, Thursday. — At market beef was plentiful, but demand restricted, and business was slow, secondary qualities falling in price 1s per cwt. Sheep were fewer than usual, and trade was quiet at late rates. Pigs were scarce and unaltered in values.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade good for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s per score; sows, 8s per score.

Calne, Wednesday.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 9s 6d per score: under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s per score.—Charles and Thomas Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Lambs were selling at 2s 6d per head cheaper than of late, the best making up to 28s; wether lambs, 15s to 26s 6d. Ewe tegs sold at 42s 6d, and three-lamb ewes at 40s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was an exceptionally large supply in anticipation of the fair next Wednesday, mostly useful wintering specimens. Buyers attended in large numbers, and trade opened and continued brisk until the close, prices showing an improvement on previous weeks. Small heifers made £6 10s to £8 10s; better sorts up to £12 10s, and a few exceptionally good beasts for finishing off purposes up to £16 each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a brisk trade for fresh calved cows and heifers, also good heifers due to calve, at satisfactory prices, but undersized heifers were difficult to dispose of. Trade for store cattle was slow and dragging, and a good many lots were unsold, but fat cattle of all classes experienced a little better demand at fully late currencies. Quotations: Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d: West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s to 4s 6d; pork, 3s 8d to 4s. Stock at the market.

Chester, Thursday.—Copious rains to-day improved both the attendance of farmers and the demand for stock. Supplies were large and trade was brisk for good milch cows. Stores also shared in the advance. Sheep were plentiful, and a fair amount of business was transacted at satisfactory rates. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22;

calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; and sheep 18s to 42s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a good trad, and good supply. Beef, 4s to 4s 4d per stone; mutton, 5s 5d to 6s; lamb, 6s 6d to 7s; and pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A good supply of beasts and sheep, but first quality sorts are again very scarce and dear. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 7½d to 9d; lambs, 9d to 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Exceedingly small supply of cattle, and poor attendance of buyers. Trade was very quiet, and milch beasts, which were decidedly easier, made from £17 to £22 10s; bullocks, £12 to £16 10s; heifers and drapes, £11 to £14; stirks, £7 to £8; and younger stock, £6 to £7 each. More sheep and lambs offered, and a fair trade at fully late rates. Breeding ewes, 45s to 50s; and gimmers, 52s to 55s each; lambs, 34s to 40s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The cattle were very well supplied all round, both at Messrs. Duke and Sons' sale as well as at that of Messrs. Symonds and Simpson. Trade was not particularly fast for stores except for milch beasts, which are still much wanted owing to the supplies having fallen off so seriously in many of the dairies. Heifers and calves sold from £16 15s to £20; plainer grades, £10 to £15. Barreners still slow of sale at from £16 (for very poor lots) to £25 for more useful grades. The supply of beef included some very choice steers and heifers, the former selling from £19 to £22, and the latter from £15 15s to £19 (or 10s 6d to. 11s 6d per score); fat cows, £11 to £14, and fat bulls, £11 to £15 (or 8s 6d to 9s 6d). Mutton showed but trifling alteration in values, but qualities selling up to 8½d (or from 44s to 50s for wethers), and fat ewes 7d to 7½d (or 42s to 48s); fat lambs, 30s to 36s (or 9d to 10d for ripest). Good clearance all through.

Dublin, Thursday. — Very little change in demand and prices realised for cattle, but there seemed to be a somewhat better feeling in the trade, and an early clearance wrs effected. Sheep in better request at firmer prices. Lambs scarce and dearer. Cattle—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s per cwt. Exceptional for Angus crosses up to 33s per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts, 26s 6d to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6d to 7½d per lb. Extreme, 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Cattle in short supply, but a brisk sale. Polled bullocks, £15 15s, stirks, £7 7s. A small supply of store sheep, but an active inquiry. Cheviot ewes, 35s to 41s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 33s to 36s. Best Shorthorn cows £23 to £25; crosses, £17 to £20; Ayrshires, £14 to £18; Irish, to £20.

Exeter, Friday.—250 beasts, but only best quality in demand at late prices; steers and maiden heifers up to 11s 6d; cows, 10s to 10s 6d; many plain ones left unsold. 1,100 sheep, but quality not so good, owing to the late drought; very slow demand; small size, 8½d; large, 8d; ewes, 6½d; a few breeding ewes on offer from 38s to 42s; small lambs, 10d; rams, 5d. 114 calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Sheep and lambs were in smaller supply and dearer. Cattle steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 58s per cwt; top hoggs, 10d; heavy weights, 9½d to 9¾d; wedders, 8½d to 9d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; lambs, 10½d per lb. Dead meat slow; mutton dearer, but beef favoured buyers; best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5d; best Canadian, 4¾d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A good supply of beef, but very little call. Best heifer and bullock beef made 6d per lb; cow beef, 4½d to 5d. Trade was firm for veal at 7d, and small supply was soon bought up. Sheep were a large supply, and trade was good, fat wethers realising 8d, fat ewes 6d to 6½d, and lamb 8½d. Store ewes were a very large supply, and sold well at good figures. The trade in pigs, of which there was a good supply, was fair. Porkers fetched 6d, and a few bacons realised 5½d. A fair trade in stores, but the supply was small. The store cattle trade was quiet.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average attendance of buyers and dealers, with very moderate supplies of home-bred stock, which met a very dragging sale at 10s to 20s decline all round. Choice milch cows made £20 to £22; good lots, £16 to £18; secondary, £14 to £15; and heifers, £10 to £12 per head. Young stock and bullocks unsaleable. Sheep in active demand at 44s to 50s per head for breeding ewes, and 25s to 35s for lamb hoggs.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Smaller show of fat beasts met a firm trade from 6s 9d to 7s 6d per stone. Stores very few shown, and slow trade from £6 to £11 each. Fat sheep an average show, from 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone. Stores 40s to 45s each. Store lambs from 30s to 40s. Fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small consignment of milch cows, which sold slowly at £20 per head. Lambs and gimmers were a good show, but business ruled dull. Lambs realised 40s, and gimmers 56s per head.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: firsts, 5¼d; seconds, 4¼d to 4¾d; thirds, 3¼d to 3¾d. Mutton: firsts, 8¼d; seconds, 7¾d to 7¾d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d. Veal: firsts, 6¼d; seconds, 5¾d to 6d; thrds, 5¾ per lb. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 4½d to 5d; seconds, 4¼ to 5¼; thirds, 3¾d to 4½d. Porket pigs, firsts: 7d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 6d to 6½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply was about the same as last week. Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second-class, 7s to 7s 3d; steers, 7s to 7s 3d; coarse and inferior, 6s to 6s 6d; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s 6d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9½d; lamb, 9d to 10d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply of cattle, sheep, lambs, and calves. Trade brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 8½d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6½d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 7d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of fresh beasts, was about equal to the demand, and averaged from 7s to 7s 6d per 14 lb. There was a larger show of store cattle, but it was still below the average for the season. Trade was of the most quiet description, farmers appearing determined to buy at less money. Prices ranged from £6 to £17 per head. With a good supply of lambs and breeding ewes for the time of year the demand was poor, especially for ewes. Values for lambs ranged from 30s to 42s per head, and for ewes from 56s to 65s. Fat sheep were in small supply, and met with a good trade at 9s to 10s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Larger supply of milch beasts, but a rather slower trade. Best in-calf cows realised up to £23 10s, and second quality from £16 to £19. There was very little store stock shown. Steers and heifers from 1½ to 2½ years old made £9 to £13 each. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—Large show of mutton and beef, but trade in the latter was dull, cattle making 10s a head. Sheep and calves of good quality met with a ready demand. Quotations:—Lambs, 9d to 9½d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; tups, 5½d to 6d; heifers and bullocks, 5½d to 6d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d; fat calves, 6½d to 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Milch cows were sold £14 to £18, and anything first class £18. A wretched trade for store stock; yearlings sold badly at £4 to £7, two-year-olds £8 to £10, and calves 30s to 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Small supply of fat beasts; trade a little better. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply; trade very slow at 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade rather better. Best small sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; large sheep, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Ewes in short supply; trade fair 4s to 4s 4d per stone. No store beasts or lambs on offer. Average supply of pigs; trade slow. Neat porkers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch cows scarce, and making good prices—£20 to £22 10s; secondary qualities, £15 to £17 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Quotations:—Beef 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 10d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score; bacon, 9s 6d to 10s score. Cows with calves up to £22.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle and trade was slow at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone, rougher kinds making 6s to 7s per stone. Lambs fetched 10d per lb, young sheep 9d, ewes 7½d, and tups 6½d. The pig trade was dragging with prices showing a downward tendency. Porkers sold at 7s 6d to 8s 3d per stone, mediums 7s, and sows 6s to 6s 6d per stone.

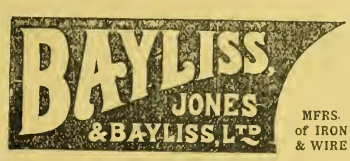
Thame, Tuesday.—There was a large attendance of buyers at this market. London, Reading, Maidenhead, Henley, Wycombe, Oxford, Newbury, Aylesbury, Watlington, and surrounding villages being represented. Beef was a decidedly better trade, a practical clearance being effected; best quality realised up to 4s 8d per stone. Unfinished cattle were again practically unsaleable. Sheep were in demand, and showed a considerable advance upon late rates. Bacon, pork, and all store pigs maintained late high prices. Veal marked an improvement. Except for very choice weaning calves there was a slow trade. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 90fat beasts, 181 fat sheep, 155 fat and store pigs, and 115 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21; fat heifers, £14 to £21 15s; fat wethers, 48s to 63s 6d; fat ewes, 42s to 52s; fat lambs, 30s to 38s; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 50s; bull calves, 8s to 42s; bacon hogs, £4 to £5 10s; porkers, 30s to 48s; small store pigs, 18s to 25s; large stores, 31s to 46s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 45s; ewes, 35s to 55s; wethers, 7½d per lb; ewes, 4½d to 5d; lambs, 7½d; large and small pigs, 50s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; do (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 5d to 5½d.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small supply of all kinds of stock, with trade slow, especially for beef. Best quality made 6s 6d to 7s, and secondary qualities, 6s to 6s 6d per stone; best Southdown wether cross-bred mutton, 7½d to 8d; and ewes and other sorts, 5½d to 6½d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round; moderate trade. Beef made 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 5d to 6½d per lb.

York. Thursday.—About 20,000 sheep and lambs of all classes were penned. Special interest attached to the market seeing that it was the first of the large autumn ewe fairs. There was a fair number of buyers, but no eagerness to purchase at the high prices asked, and trade was very slow indeed throughout. About 7,000 North-country ewes were on offer; the best made up to 54s, and others 47s to 52s. North-country lambs, 35s to 42s. About 1,000 Masham ewes were shown, and made 40s to 48s; Masham lambs, 24s to 28s; best twice-crossed lambs, up to 42s; others, 33s to 38s; twice-crossed shearlings, 46s to 52s; Masham shearlings 42s to 43s; Holderness lambs, 36s to 49s each. A few Southdowns ewes were on offer, and made up to 45s. There were no rams shown. Average offer of Irish and small of English store cattle. Buyers were extremely few, and only a few odd lots were sold at prices slightly in favour of the purchaser. The calving and milch cow trade was worse again, and in order to effect sales a reduction of 10s per head had to be accepted.



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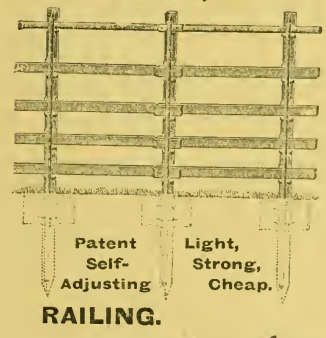

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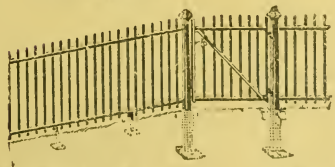
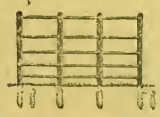
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LISTS FREE.

Tip-top animals made up to £22, but the general run sold at from £16 to £18.

Yeovil, Friday.—Best quality heifers and cows with calves at side sold at from £15 to £21 10s; secondary, £9 10s to £14 5s; in-calf heifers and cows, £9 10s to £13s 15s; yearling heifers, £5 ao £7 10s; barreners, £10 to £13 10s; steers, £9 15s to £11; bacon pigs, 65s to 72s 6d; porkers, 35s to 56s; stores, 17s 6d to 25s; wether lambs, 42s to 48s; working wethers, up to 40s; chilver lambs, 35s to 39s; regular and draft ewes, up to 42s 6d; two-teeth ewes, 44s to 48s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is very firm at the recent advance. Phosphatic manures are unchanged in value, and as yet little business is transpiring in autumn deliveries. Linseed cakes are slow of sale, but rather increased inquiries are experienced for decorticated cotton cakes, and owing to the limited offerings of prime quality, values are well maintained. The following are the quotations:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Fine Bone Ash	3	5	0	3	7	6
Nitrate of Soda	11	10	0		—	
East India Bone Meal	5	2	6	5	5	0
Kainit	2	0	0	2	2	6
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Linseed Cake, American	7	10	0	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	15	0	0		—	
Cottonseed Cake, S.A., decorticated	7	17	6	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0		—	
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	15	0		—	
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	7	6		—	
Crushed Cottonseed	7	12	6		—	
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6		—	
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6		—	
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	17	6	5	0	0
Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime	0	11	6		—	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime		4	6		—	
Treacle, feeding, prime		4	10½			
D.N.S. Brand Superphosphate of Lime	nominal.					
,, ,, guaranteed	nominal.					

—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The volume of business during the past week has been fully up to the average, considering the time of year, but there is still no disposition to enter into contracts for forward positions at present ruling high prices, there being a general impression that if these values are maintained it will have the effect of checking the consumptive demand. Russian offer rather more freely, but are unchanged in values. East India seed pures are quoted at 2s 6d per ton more money. American offer sparingly without alteration. London made meet a slow sale at about late rates. Cotton Cakes. — Egyptian remain scarce on spot, and values in consequence are firmly held up. English and Bombay sell quietly at last week's prices. Decorticated do not offer, but some American meal in warehouse may be bought at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Rape Cakes.—Nominal; East India and Ravison 5s dearer. Maize Germ Meal. — Landed lots of White American are available at £5 15s to £5 16s 3d, while English makes are if anything the turn dearer at £5 7s 6d to £5 8s 9d. Maize Gluten Meal is in good request at £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse command £4 15s to £4 16s 3d, while for shipment practically nothing offers at the moment. Locust beans are without change, £5 15s for whole and £6 for Kibbled. Dried Grains being relatively cheaply offered, find a ready sale £5 5s for ale and £4 15s for Mixed.

Per ton.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d
LINSEED CAKES.							
London made ... ex mill	8	0	0	to	8	2	6
Russian, in mats	7	13	9	to	7	15	0
,, in bags	7	16	3	to	7	17	6
Calcutta ... to arrive	7	17	6	to	8	0	0
American	7	10	0	to	7	12	6
COTTONSEED CAKES.							
Egyptian	4	18	9	to	5	0	0
English	5	0	0	to	5	2	6
Bombay	4	10	0				
Decorticated		—					
,, Cottonseed Meal	7	12	6	to	7	15	0
RAPE CAKES.							
Calcutta	5	5	0				
Ravison	5	0	0				
MAIZE.							
English Germ Meal	5	7	6	to	5	8	9
American	5	15	0	to	5	16	3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5	15	0				
RICEMEAL.							
Rangoon	4	15	0	to	4	16	3
LOCUST BEANS.							
White	5	15	0				
Kibbled	6	0	0				
MANURES.							
Nitrate of Soda (on spot)	10	17	6				
Nitrate of Soda (Spring delivery)	11	2	6				
DRIED GRAINS.							
Ale	5	5	0				
Mixed	4	15	0				

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample supplies of fruit and a fair amount of vegetables on offer. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 2s 6d; apples, 1s 6d to 6s per bushel; peaches, 3s to 15s; green figs, 1s to 3s per dozen; pears, 1s 6d to 5s 6d per half-sieve; blackberries, 1s 6d to 2s per peck; cob nuts, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per 12 lb; plums, 1s 6d to 6s 6d; damsons, 3s to 4s per half-sieve; melons, 1s to 1s 9d each; tomatoes, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; vegetable marrows, 5s to 6s; cabbages, 4s to 5s per tally; cucumbers, 6s 6d to 8s per flat; green peas, 4s to 5s; scarlet runners, 2s to 2s 6d; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; sage, 1s; parsley, 2s 6d to 3s; turnips, 1s to 1s 6d; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; mint, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen bunches; endive, 2s to 2s 6d; cos lettuce, 1s 9d to 2s 6d per dozen; horseradish, 9s to 13s per dozen rolls; mushrooms, 6s to 12s per 12 lb; celery 2s to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; potatoes, 55s to 80s per ton.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0 d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The remaining sellers for the most part decline the rates now offering, and are awaiting an advance. Present currencies:—Kent fleeces, 13d; lamb wool, 8d to 9d; half-bred fleeces, 13d to 13½d; Downs, 14d to 14½d per lb.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

TENDERS FOR FLOUR.

THE CONJOINT FLOUR COMMITTEE of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, the United Synagogue, the Federation of Synagogues, solicit Tenders for the supply of about 1,600 to 1,800 sacks of best HOUSEHOLD FLOUR, to be made of sound English Wheat, the flour to be delivered free of all charges in such quantities and at such times and in such places in London as may from time to time be directed.

The grinding of the flour must begin about the end of October and be completed within six weeks, a mill being exclusively set aside for the purpose. The preparation of the mill, as well as the grinding of the flour, will have to be carried out under the superintendence of the Jewish Ecclesiastical Authorities.

Millers desirous of tendering can obtain full particulars and copy of Form of Tender on application to Mr. P. ORNSTIEN, Secretary of the United Synagogue, 36, Hallam Street, Portland Place, London, W.

The Conjoint Flour Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 25, for the purpose of opening Tenders, which must be made on the printed form provided for the purpose and addressed to the said Committee, at the Great Synagogue Chambers, St. James's Place, Aldgate, London, E.C., not later than 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the day named, accompanied by a 4-lb. sample of the flour to be supplied. The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

September, 1906.

1,100 PEDIGREE RAMS AND LAMBS.

AYR RAM SOCIETY. ANNUAL SALE of BLACKFACE and BORDER LEICESTER RAMS and TUP LAMBS, within CATTLE MARKET, AYR, on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1906.

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Show of Blackfaces at 2 30 p.m. on Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 25; Show of Border Leicesters and Sale of Blackfaces and Border Leicesters from 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 26.

Catalogues on application to JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.

58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

HAY, SHIRE HORSES, COWS, &c.

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MESSRS. JOSHUA BAKER, COOKE and STANDEN will SELL by AUCTION, on SEPTEMBER 20, at two, 800 Loads of PRIME MEADOW HAY in 16 Stacks, 12 PEDIGREE SHIRE HORSES, 3 COWS and FAT HEIFER fit for show purposes. Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS at their Offices, 4, Quex Road, Kilburn; 11, Southampton Row, W.C., and 41, High Street, Barnet.

FOR SALE.—To be sold as a going concern, the business of an old-established Corn and Forage Merchant, situated in the heart of Plymouth. The premises are spacious and especially adapted for the trade. An energetic man would have unlimited scope for extending. Satisfactory reasons for selling. Full particulars of ELLIOTT, ELLIS & Co., Wilts & Dorset Bank Chambers, George Street, Plymouth.

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MR. ERNEST J. VIDLER has received instructions from Mr. Edward J. Bates (who is relinquishing his Dairy) to SELL by AUCTION, on the above Farm, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1906, at One o'clock,

50
SUPERIOR CROSS-BRED SHORTHORN DAIRY COWS,
in calf and with Calves by side,
40
PROMISING YEARLING SHORTHORN AND SUSSEX HEIFERS AND STEERS, AND DAIRY UTENSILS.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEER, Rye, Sussex.

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1906.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Sept. 17, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat crop of the United Kingdom in 1906 is put by some authorities at 1 per cent. more than last year. With this view we are not in agreement, but the splendid August and first fortnight of September created optimistic views as naturally as they induced the fortunate to prolong their holidays. Threshings will decide the issue so soon that discussion is unnecessary. We do not think that thirty-two bushels to the acre has been exceeded.

The barley crop is admittedly better than for three seasons, but the ideal crop has been by no means attained. There is much steely, bleached, shrivelled, and irregular sized corn, but, on the other hand, there is much more of 448 lb. weight than in an average season, and bold poultry barley, 416 to 424 lb. to the quarter, has been grown on many poor fields where feeding stuff, 400 to 408 lb. to the quarter, was alone expected.

The oat crop is decidedly curious, for it is reported by nearly all observers as better than in years of full rainfall. The quality and weight are certainly excellent.

Beans, peas, and tares are over an average yield, and the last-named staple shows some splendid samples, 532 lb. to the qr. and of great "boldness," free and full growth and development. The rye of 1906 is also a very fine crop. These good results from four minor crops may be written off against a certain disappointment in potatoes.

The French wheat crop is the subject of the following estimate, which we give for readers' convenience in English areas and weights:—

	Area. Acres.		Yield. Qr.
1906	16,010,000	...	40,800,000
1905	16,085,000	...	41,975,000
1904	16,120,000	...	37,400,000
1903	16,005,000	...	45 300,000
1902	16,195,000	...	40,900,000
1901	16,770,000	...	38,750,000
1900	16,600,000	...	40,625,000
1899	17,145,000	...	45,750,000
Average	16,419,000	...	41,500,000

A deficiency of 8,000,000 tons of potatoes in Germany is reported, and is bound to affect business both in wheat and rye. The German purchases of foreign wheat in 1906-7 very nearly reach 10,000,000 qr.

The consumption of wheat in the United Kingdom is semi-officially estimated as follows:—

1905-6	34,283,000 qr.
1904-5	32,796,000 ,,
1903-4	34,063,000 ,,
Average	33,714,000 ,,

This is at the rate of 86,400 qr. a day as compared with the old estimate of 83,000 qr. This so-called old estimate is not of greater antiquity than 1901, the beginning of the century, but it must be remembered that the population is constantly increasing, and it is also probable that more wheat is fed to poultry now than at any previous period.

Russia's sales of wheat to the United Kingdom for the past four harvest years and shipping campaigns have been as follows:—

1905-6	18,377,000 cwt.
1904-5	28,823,000 ,,
1903-4	19,331,000 ,,
1902-3	13,721,000 ,,
Average	22,563,000 ,,

The favour with which Russian wheat is regarded is pretty constant; it is the supply which varies with the production. There is very little speculation; Russian affairs compel the growers to dispose of their produce with the least possible delay. There continue to be reports that the exportable surplus of the present autumn is very small, but fuller information will hardly be forthcoming until December.

The imports of the United Kingdom for the first fortnight of the cereal year have been as follows:—

1906-7	1,161,000 qr.
1905-6	1,074,000 ,,
1904-5	1,014,000 ,,

These of course are rather depressing figures to spot holders, especially as the wheat stocks in warehouse thus compare:—

September 24, 1906	3,375,000 qr.
,, 25, 1905	3,110,000 ,,
,, 26, 1904	2,300,000 ,,

The quantity of wheat on passage, however, is smaller than in the two preceding seasons:—Russian, 120,000 qr.; American, 380,000 qr.; California, 140,000 qr.; Indian, 240,000 qr.; Argentine, 180,000 qr.; Australian, 210,000 qr.; various, 70,000 qr.; total, 1,340,000 qr.; a year ago, 1,495,000 qr.; two years ago, 2,515,000 qr.

An average quantity of wheat on passage is put at 2,500,000 qr., and in granary at the same, the total being therefore an average of five million qr. *in esse* and *in posse* combined. To-day we have:—

Stocks	3,375,000 qr.
On passage	1,340,000 ,,
Total	4,715,000 ,,

If these figures are allowed due weight the present feeling of discouragement will be found to be very much in excess of what is reasonable; in fact, a better feeling has within the last few days made itself apparent.

The American visible supply of wheat is thus cabled:—

September 22, 1906	6,035,000 qr.
,, 23, 1905	2,691,000 qr.
,, 24, 1904	2,722,000 qr.

This is a great disparity, but if the holders are confident, there can be no doubt as to their ability to "carry" 6,035,000 qr. The capital engaged in the corn trade in America is much larger than that invested in it in Great Britain.

New York prices are thus cabled for the 22nd inst.:—

Red Winter wheat	27s. 10d. per qr.
No. 1 Spring ,,	29s. 9d. ,,

We do not regard these as at all prices that should depress the London market.

Imports of wheat would not have been felt so depressingly had it not been for the large deliveries of English by farmers. These have been as follows:—

This season, 224,000 qr. at 25s. 10d. per qr.
Last season, 254,000 qr. at 27s. per qr.

For the decline of 1s. 2d. per qr. there is as yet little or no excuse; nevertheless it has occurred, and the ground lost has now to be regained with as little delay as may be.

Sales of English barley since harvest have been as follows:—

This season, 66,000 qr. at 24s. 5d. per qr.
Last season, 69,000 qr. at 23s. 6d. per qr.

The new barley is good value at the very moderate prices accepted.

Sales of English oats for the three first weeks of the cereal year have been:—

This season, 90,000 qr. at 16s. 4d. per qr.
Last season, 69,000 qr. at 15s. 11d. per qr.

The range in wheat values last week for English produce was as follows:—

London	27s. 7d. per qr.
Peterborough	25s. 0d. ,, ,,
Range	2s. 7d. ,, ,,

The depression in the Eastern Midlands is excessive. Other cheap markets were: Salisbury, 25s. 1d.; Lincoln, 25s. 5d.; and Doncaster, 25s. 6d. per qr.

American shipments last week were 270,000 qr. of wheat, 5,000 qr. of barley, 38,000 qr. of oats, 15,000 qr. of linseed, 57,000 qr. of maize, and 166,000 sacks of flour. These were fair shipments, but in no item were they heavy ones.

Argentina shipped 34,000 qr. of wheat and 347,000 qr. of maize. The latter was, of course, a very large quantity.

Russia sent off 321,000 qr. of wheat, 416,000 qr. of barley, 118,000 qr. of oats, and 50,000 qr. of rye. These were liberal shipments of the two leading staples, but much less than expected of oats. Roumania's exports were 247,000 qr. of wheat, 151,000 qr. of barley, 13,000 qr. of oats, and 9,000 qr. of maize.

Other shipments last week included 23,000 qr. of wheat and 30,000 qr. of linseed from India, and 35,000 qr. of wheat from Australia. There were no shipments of grain reported from Egypt, Persia, or Chilé.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes sell slowly, but they are held more firmly from a week ago. Transactions have included Blue stem at 31s. 3d. per 500 lb., Barletta at 29s 3d. per 480 lb., Roumanian at 28s. per 492 lb., fine Russian Azima at 29s 6d. per 492 lb., Odena Chinka 28s. 3d. per 492 lb., and No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 30s. 3d. per 480 lb.. American new crop is held above buyers' ideas, and Indian is also in strong hands.

Maize cargoes incline to go dearer. The sales have included Argentine at 20s. per 480 lb., Galatz 20s. 6d. at per 480 lb. and American at 19s. 6d. per 480 lb., the first two sales being for prompt shipment, the last for January shipment of the new crop.

Barley cargoes have fluctuated somewhat, but are now steady. We quote Kustendji at 19s. 3d. per 412 lb., Californian at 26s. per 448 lb., and Persian at 17s. 6d. per 400 lb. The price of the new Russian crop is 18s. 6d. per 400 lb. for cargoes on passage; 18s 3d. for those which have yet to be shipped.

Other cargo sales of the week include white Libau oats at 14s. 9d. per 304 lb., Calcutta linseed at 42s. 3d. per 410 lb., Brown Campore rapeseed at 49s. 9d. per 416 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £7 1s. 6d. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat (Bahia Blanca), 1 maize (San Nicolas), 2 linseed (1 Concepcion, 1 La Plata)—Total 4.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Bristol, 2 Hull), 1 maize (Birkenhead), 2 linseed (Bremen)—Total 6.

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 231 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans, and 27 linseed—Total 269.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 283 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed—Total 368.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The trade has been much firmer this week, supplies have been moderate, and there is a good and sustained demand for all qualities of stuff, prices are not quotably higher for English, but whatever has been on offer is quickly disposed of at full rates. The trade seems at last to have grasped the fact that there was a great shortage in the yield of this season's crop in the South, and now we hear of country buyers paying prices a great deal above their London parity. It is some years since there was the amount of speculation seen at the present moment in the hay trade, whether we shall follow up the prices in London remains to be seen; but just now with short supplies of foreign, there is every likelihood of a very sharp rise within the next week or so. Meadow hays are in good request and find a ready sale, clovers are coming along, especially short, and with a fine demand, easily disposed of. Mixtures are also a very firm trade. Straw still keeps in good supply, and is a very quiet sale. The supplies of foreign hays are very short, and Canadian mixtures have had a very sharp rise of 5s per ton. French clovers are also 8s per ton dearer, and Dutch hays, which are more plentiful, but for which there is a good demand, are also 2s. per ton better. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 60s to 70s per ton. Best clovers, 90s to 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 85s to 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; plain mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; seconds hay and mixtures, 55s to 60s per ton: wheat straw, 24s per load; oat straw, 25s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 83s per ton; good Dutch hay, 67s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 80s per ton; French large bale wheat straw, 50s per ton; small bale French wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday,—A fair demand was experienced for a good supply. Young grouse, 5s to 6s; old, 2s 6d; young partridges, 4s; old, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per brace; goslings, 5s to 6s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s to 4s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s 3d; quails, 9d to 1s; wild ducks, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, unchanged prices. Foreign in poor request, at about late rates. Persians quoted at 27s to 31s; hard winter at 29s 3d; red winter at 28s; choice white Karachi at 29s; red Karachi at 28s 9d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s 9d, all ex quay. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, ex quay, quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 19s 9d to 20s; landed, at 20s 3d to 20s 6d. Barley firm, but inactive. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 17s 6d; landed, at 18s 3d. Oats slow, unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, quiet. Foreign quiet at about unchanged prices; South Russians at 28s to 32s 6d ex ship; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, landed, at 32s 9d; Plata, 31s to 32s; Australians at 30s 6d to 31s; hard winter, ex ship, at 29s 3d; choice white Karachi at 29s; red Karachi at 28s 9d. Flour, slow, unchanged. Minnesota patents quoted at 24s; bakers at 19s 6d. Maize steady for American, quiet for La Plata; mixed American, landed, quoted at 22s 6d; River Plate, ex ship, at 19s 9d to 20s; landed, at 20s 3d to 20s 6d. Barley firm, but not active. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s; landed, at 18s 3d to 18s 9d. Oats steadier, but quiet.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A fair supply, with a slow trade. White oats, wholesale, 19s to 19s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was quiet, and the attendance was not up to the average of the season. Wheat was dull of sale, but last week's rates of 27s to 29s were given. New barley made 27s to 31s; foreign barley, 20s to 22s. New tick beans, 31s to 33s; new mazagans, 29s to 30s. Flat maize made 25s to 26s; round maize, 21s 6d to 23s. White oats, 17s to 20s; black ditto, 16s to 19s. New grey peas, 29s to 30s.

Banbury, Thursday. - Wheat, red (new), 27s 6d to 26s 6d per qr; barley, 24s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 29s per qr; beans (old), 32s to 33s per qr; oats, 16s to 17s per qr; oats (old), 21s to 22s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a good attendance, with average supplies of barley, which met a firm trade at fully last week's prices. Wheat and oats scarce. Wheat, 26s 6d to 28s; barley, 23s to 26s 6d; oats, 19s to 20s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was well attended, but trade proved slow and disappointing. There was a good supply of English wheats, which made from 10s to 10s 6d per 186 lb, delivered. Oats remained at from 16s to 17s per 312 lb, and beans were unchanged at 11s 3d per 196 lb, delivered. Foreign wheats met with more inquiry, sellers being firm at last week's full prices to 3d dearer. Both Plate and flat maize were 3d dearer. Grinding barley has advanced to 18s 9d per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat is in moderate supply, and making fully last week's rates. Foreign very firm, and occasionally 3d dearer. Maize, 3d dearer. Barley, 6d dearer. Oats, unaltered. Flour firm at late rates.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was again in short supply, prices being evidently not sufficiently tempting to growers. Trade was firm for reds and whites at 27s to 28s, and for revets at 26s 6d to 27s per qr. There was a fair quantity of new malting barley, and a steady demand, samples being in prime condition. Fair to medium runs sold at 27s to 31s, and better sorts at 32s to 34s per qr.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Maltsters are now quite active in their inquiry for barleys, and first-class samples have been sold as high as 33s. For average quality lots prices range from 28s to 31s 6d. The wheat trade is firmer, and 66 lb lots are now making 31s; 44 lb white oats have been sold 20s, and grey peas are firm at from 29s to 30s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a moderate attendance, and a limited offering of English grain. Wheat and oats maintained full prices for best samples. New beans were 6d per 240 lb lower. Maize was 6d per 240 lb dearer for prime American owing to scarcity. Quotations:—New white wheat, 3s 9d to 4s 1d; ditto red, 3s 6d to 4s 1d; old grinding barley, 3s 6d to 4s; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d; and new, 4s 9d to 5s per 80 lb; old oats, 3s to 3s 4d; and new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d per 46 lb; old Indian corn, 12s 6d to 13s; new, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240 lb; ditto, River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and trade quiet. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; grinding barley, 19s to 19s 9d; oats, English (new), 16s to 18s; ditto (old), 21s to 22s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 58s 6d to 6s 6d; maize, 21s to 22s; flour, 25s to 27s.

Coventry, Friday. — Trade again quiet. Wheat was not offered in large supply, but prices were maintained. Oats, as last week, still in fair quantities on offer. Beans and peas still quiet. Prices:—Wheat, old, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; new, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 18s to 21s per 352 lb; beans, old, 12s 9d to 13s 3d; new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a larger supply of wheat, in excellent condition and of fine quality, but prices were again lower. Barley and oats in small supply. A good demand for rye, which sold at 22s to 26s per qr. Winter barley sold at higher prices. Vetches at 5s to 6s per bushel. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best barley, 26s to 30s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 15s to 17s; malting barley, 26s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, and a good trade at last week's prices, 10s 6d per load being top price. Foreign wheat was firm. A few samples of barley were shown, but the quality was unsatisfactory. Prices are not settled. Small supply of oats and prices firm at 16s to 18s per qr. Maize advanced 3d to 6d per qr. Beans firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—To-day's market was again quite flooded with newly threshed corn, and, as everybody seemed anxious to sell, prices as a consequence suffered, though we cannot quote any decline on wheat compared with the previous week, farmers generally having now, it seems, come to recognise the fact that prices have already sunk to too unremunerative an ebb to accept any further decline. Wheat still proves a disappointing crop, and so does the price, 26s to 28s being a poor return for a crop that costs so much to grow, and it is to be hoped by judiciously keeping back their supplies a check will be given to the present low range of values. Malting barley continues to prove very bad for brewing purposes, and prices are affected accordingly; but where a good sample comes to hand it is readily caught up at a good price, some making 28s and over. Grinding barleys were very firm. Oats are also firmly held, and bring outside prices, so many being wanted for feeding at once; and peas and beans are likewise held for extreme rates, prices ranging for the latter from 30s to 32s per qr. Flour keeps steady.

Dublin, Friday.—White wheat, 16s 6d to 16s 9d; red ditto, 16s; white oats, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; new ditto, 10s 3d to 10s 9d; oatmeal, 11s for medium and 14s 6d for pinhead; flour, 9s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Wheat, exposed 414 qr, sold 88, top price 27s 6d—down 3s; barley, exposed 1,674 qr., sold 1,308, top price 27s—down 6d; oats, exposed 1,586 qr, sold 1,399, top price 22s 6d—unchanged.

Exeter, Friday. — Trade not very brisk. English wheat about the same as last week. English barley variable both in quality and price. Grinding barley and maize, 3d dearer. Oats firm. Flour unchanged. English barley, 28 9d to 3s 9d; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat firmer, sellers asking about 1½d per 240 lb advance, but buyers are unwilling to close unless at somewhat under late prices. More doing in flour; American millers firmer, but buyers here do not respond. A retail sale for mixed American maize at 13s 6d per 280 lb. A fair sale for beans; prices unaltered. Home oats and oatmeal favour buyers; foreign oats steady.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour quiet and unchanged at last week's prices. Maize and corn unaltered since Wednesday. Barley a little easier, owing to fresh arrivals. Oats quiet and easier in price for home; foreign, sellers asking more money, but meet with a slow sale. Beans 3d per boll down. Peas unchanged. Bran and thirds not quotably altered on the week. Oatmeal moves slowly.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market steady for wheat, with sellers not inclined for business unless at late full prices. Minnesota patent flour in improved demand at steady prices; other kinds also experience a better trade. Mixed American maize firm at 13s 6d per 280 lb.; it is not very plentiful. Round maize meets a dragging sale at late rates. Other articles in retail demand at former values.

Gloucester, Saturday.—The supply of English wheat was small, and values were the turn dearer. Foreign wheat was firm at fully 3d advance. Plate and Bessarabian maize unchanged; no flat offering. Barley and oats 6d dearer.

Grantham, Saturday.—Market well attended. Wheat commanded fully last week's prices, but barleys were somewhat lower; other departments firm. Wheat made 26s 6d to 27s 6d; barley, 25s to 32s; beans, 28s to 29s; oats, 16s to 18s; and blue peas, 45s to 60s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A good supply of grain, although the attendance was small. Wheat moved off slowly at last week's prices. Barley met with no buyers except for grinding purposes. Oats less active, although prices remain fairly firm. Beans quiet and steady. Maize 3d per qr dearer on the week. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56 lb; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s to 2s 4d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 3d per 40 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Wheat was in much shorter supply than last week, and millers could hardly obtain supplies at last week's prices. Reds or whites made 28s to 28s 6d, and revets 27s 6d to 28s per qr. There was a fairly good supply of new malting barley, most of it in a good malting condition, and a steady demand from local and other buyers at 28s to 31s per qr for useful medium samples, and 31s 6d to 34s for fine mellow samples. Foreign grinding barley was steady at 22s to 22s 6d per 448 lb. Beans were unchanged on the week at 30s to 31s per qr, with old at the rather low price of 32s to 32s 6d per qr, which considering the high quotations for feeding stuffs is moderate value. Peas steady. Indian corns firm, and too dear to buy. Oilcakes in poor demand, but firm all round.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There has been more activity in the trade during the past week, but holders of wheat have been compelled to accept rather less money to effect sales. Nevertheless, merchants have welcomed the improved demand. English wheat is steadier owing to decreasing supplies. Malting barley meets a fair sale, but prices are still irregular; foreign keeps relatively dear. Maize 3d dearer. Beans and oats unchanged.

Leeds, Friday. — New English wheat was plentiful, and in capital condition. Better descriptions made 27s to 28s; all kinds of foreign wheats made from 27s to 33s, with a hardening tendency. Foreign malt barley was firm, top prices reaching 32s; English, 24s to 28s. There was no change in oats, peas, maize, beans, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday. — Larger supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in excellent condition. Trade steady at slightly easier rates. Red wheats, 26s to 27s; white wheats, 27s to 28s per 36 stones. Malting barley in better request at 26s to 30s per 32 stones. New oats, 17s to 19s per 26 stones; old ditto, 23s to 25s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Though there was a large attendance the supply of English wheat was smaller, and sold readily at the full prices of last week. Maize 6d per qr dearer, but other feeding stuffs unchanged. Maltsters were inquiring for barley, which sold at prices ranging from 25s to 33s per qr, according to quality.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a moderate attendance, but wheat meets a good inquiry, and a fairly large business has been done at ½d to 1d advance from last Tuesday. Flour: Rather more doing in foreign, and firmer for English made brands, the minimum limit for which is raised 6d per sack. Maize: Mixed, owing to scarcity, is 2d dearer, but the high prices asked checks business. Plate firm, with a fair demand at ½d below last Tuesday. European grades steady, unchanged. Barley: Malting very scarce, and about 6d dearer for Chilian. Feeding quiet, unchanged. Beans steady but quiet. Peas in poor demand, but unchanged in price. Oats in better demand for foreign, which are held at unchanged rates. English firm, and in better demand. Oatmeal slow, but without change in values. Oilcake in rather better demand at unchanged prices. Indian meal in fair request at the quotations.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Wheat trade slow to-day, but holders would not accept lower price than last week: except determined to sell, then 6d qr give way immediately. Very little doing in any other grain, with no change from the cost of any description since last Thursday.

Manchester, Thursday.—Wheat: English was in improved demand, with a higher tendency; foreign, certain sorts ½d per cental dearer. Flour dull. In Indian corn, Plate is about ½d dearer. English oats, ½d to ¾d per bushel dearer; foreign firm. Feeding barley lower. English beans steady. Hand-picked English marrowfat peas in better demand, at full rates. Offals unchanged. Oatmeal, Canadian, 6d per load lower.

Newark, Wednesday. — Fair attendance; Smaller show of wheat; firmer tendency. White and red wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 28s; grinding, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s; black, 16s to 17s; old beans, 36s to 37s; new, 29s to 30s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat remains steady at fully last week's quotations. A fair demand for maize, prices favouring the sellers.

Oats steady at late rates. Beans and peas unaltered. A very slow demand for malting barleys at prices ranging from 24s to 26s per 448 lb; grinding qualities firm and tending dearer.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday. — The market was quiet. Trade slack, and prices a little better on the week.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance. Better show of wheat, prices steady and practically unchanged. New wheat, 26s to 26s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 28s to 28s 6d; peas, 30s to 35s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Wheat in less supply, and held firmly for late rates. A few samples of new barley offering, mostly of a flinty character; prices irregular. Oats, new, small show; values maintained. Beans, old, firm; new, shade cas er. —ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday – A smaller supply of wheat at to day's market, and a firm trade at rather more money. Barley quite as dear, but slow. Oats 3d dearer.—THOS. HILL & SONS.

Preston, Saturday.—A better business has been done in wheat of all descriptions during the week. The supply of wheat and oats to-day was limited. Flour firm and unchanged Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto red, 12s 6d to 13s; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Market slack to-day. Fair attendance. Wheat, firmer. Barley, 6d dearer. Oats, 6d dearer. Maize, unchanged.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading. Saturday.—There was a very good attendance, and a fair business at appended rates: Wheat, old, 30s to 32s; new, 25s to 30s; oats, old, 19s to 24s; new, 16s to 20s; beans, 32s to 36s; peas, 30s to 35s; barley at last week's rates.

Retford, Saturday.—A good attendance, and an improved supply of grain all round. Fair trade for wheat at 26s to 27s. Malting barley now in request at 24s to 25s; condition generally excellent: grinding barley, 23s per qr. No flat maize on offer; round met with a moderate sale in small lots at 23s to 24s per 34 stones; new oats, 16s to 18s; and old ditto, 24s to 25s per 24 stones.

Ripon, Thursday. — A good supply of new samples of wheat and barley, and 6d per qr less money has to be taken. Round maize shows a firm tone. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; wheat, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; malting barley, 25s to 27s 6d; oats, old, 23s to 24s; oats, new, 17s to 18s; round maize, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; flat maize, 25s to 26s per qr; bran, £4 15s to £5 10s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—English corn shows little variation in values from a week ago, wheats, oats, and beans all realising late prices. Plate maize dearer, 9d per qr advance over last week's prices being demanded. Peas, grinding barley, and foreign oats without alteration. Offals also unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 18s 6d; ditto, white, 19s per 336 lb: peas, grinding, 32s to 32s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 404 lb; beans, English, new, 32s 6d to 33s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 21s 6d to 23s; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d: ditto, Plate, new, 21s 6d to 22s; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per 480 lb; bran, 90s; fine sharps, 120s; broad bran, 105s per ton.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 11s 9d to 12s per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new oats, 11s to 12s per 240 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 13s to 14s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A very large attendance, and trade improved to some small extent. Wheats were practically unchanged, there still being a disposition on the part of holders to keep back until some material improvement is shown. Best lots made up to 26s 6d, and a few really specially fine ones as much as 27s per qr. Barleys again a large supply, but, as expected, the majority were of only middling quality. Best lots made up to 32s, and secondary parcels 26s to 29s; grinding barleys 22s 6d to 24s, beans 31s to 32s, peas 40s to 50s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—New local wheat made 27s per qr, and old wheat 31s per qr. Foreign wheat trade very quiet and prices unaltered. Maize 3d to 6d easier on the week. Oats steady.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Grain in fair supply. Wheat rather dearer to buy. Spring corn firmer. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 1,516 qrs; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 27s to 27s 6d; old white ditto, 29s to 30s; old red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 26s to 30s; grinding ditto, 20s to 23s; oats, English, 17s to 22s; rye, 23s to 26s; peas, 30s to 34s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 24s to 26s.

Warwick, Saturday. Small supply of wheat, for which farmers ask 3d per bag advance. Few samples of malting barley: very variable condition, and not much demand. Oats and beans scarce and rather dear. Feeding stuffs selling freely at a slight advance.

Winchester, Saturday.—A fair inquiry for English wheat, but not offered freely at present prices. Foreign 6d advance on the week. Barley 6d dearer. Oats and maize unaltered. Flour a good consumptive trade at harder rates.—COLEBROOK AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A very moderate supply of grain at market. Farmers thrashing slowly at present. Wheat à shade firmer. Reds, 27s to 27s 6d 504 lb. Oats scarce and 6d dearer to buy, 16s 6d to 18s 336 lb; barley, 24s to 28s 448 lb; beans, 29s to 31s 532 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — There was only a moderate attendance, but a fair amount of business was transacted. Quotations: New wheat, 12s per 216 lb; flat corn, 25s; English beans, old, 15s 6d; new, 12s 6d; oats, old, 16s; new, 11s to 12s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, and fair show of grain. New white wheat made 26s to 27s; red ditto, 25s to 26s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 21s to 26s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 16s to 18s; new beans, 30s 6d to 32s 6d; old beans, 36s to 38s; maize, 23s to 24s per qr; flour, 18s 1d to 18s 3d per stone; fine sharps, £6 to £6 10s; barley meal, £6 to £6 10s; bran, £5 to £6 per ton.

Yeovil, Friday.—New season's grain freely on offer, and generally in excellent condition and of fine quality. Wheat was without change for last week. Barley favoured sellers. Oats firm. English wheat of best quality made up to 28s 6d per qr; secondary, 24s 6d to 26s 6d; best barley, 26s to 30s; feeding, 20s to 24s; old black oats, 22s 6d to 24s; new, 15s to 17s; old white, 21s 6d to 27s; new, 18s 6d to 21s; Irish white, 19s 6d to 21s 6d; black, 18s 9d; rye, 22s to 24s; beans, 31s 9d to 35s 9d; winter tares, 55s to 63s; spring, 62s to 69s 6d; vetches, 5s to 6s per bushel. More inquiry for flour, but no appreciable change in values, business passing on the basis of 22s 6d for fines.

York, Saturday.—Not a great deal of wheat on offer, and sound samples are quite up to last week's prices. Fine wheats, 27s to 28s; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley of good quality is scarce; fine 27s to 28s; good, 25s to 27s; ordinary, 23s to 25s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm, and not many on offer; white Tartary, 16s to 17s; black, 16s 6d to 17s; white Garton, 17s to 18s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, 21s to 21s 6d; old beans, 32s to 33s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—There is a good demand for nearly all descriptions of grain, with prices the turn in sellers' favour. Fine German wheat is readily taken by inland millers at equal to 27s 9d to 28s 9d per 504 lb, f.o.b. duty deducted; supplies are likely to fall off next month when farmers are busy with the root crop. American hard winter No. 2 is selling at 28s; red Western No. 2 is offering at 27s 6d; 78 Ko Rosario Santafo, afloat, at 28s 9d; Macaroni No. 1, at 27s 9d per 480 lb, c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye in good demand and dearer. 9½ Odessa Nikolajef, afloat, is selling at 22s 9d, 9½ at 23s per 480 lb, c.i.f., Hamburg. Considerable quantities of good stout to fine Bohemian barley have been taken by our malsters at 30s to 34s, excluding duty; and good Mecklenburg, Russian, and Holstein, is selling at 31s to 36s including duty. Fine Bohemian and Stovakian is offering at 34s to 36s, choice lots at 37s to 38s, good to fine Danish 27s 6d to 29s 6d per 448 lb. There is a good demand for feeding barley, and prices are looking up; 60s to 61s kg. South Russian, 18s to 18s 3d September-October per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize firm. Mixed American is held at 22s to 22s 3d; River Plate selling at 19s to 20s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 18, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	2,107	4 ...	2,998	14	3	...	1	7	5
Barley ...	715	6 ...	910	6	3	...	1	5	7
Oats	1,655	6 ...	1,421	10	0	..	17	2	

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1905.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 23	95,743	27	1	70,475	23	10	30,715	16	0
,, 30	104,984	26	11	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	8	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	9	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	26	11	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	1	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	4	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	27	10	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,408	28	3	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	
Dec. 2	93,509	28	7	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	
,, 9	82,752	28	5	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,597	28	8	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	6	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	23	5	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.		23	4						
Jan. 6	30,066			43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	4	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	6	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	5	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	7	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	10	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	11	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	10	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	8	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,402	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	5	17,186	24	4	14,110	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	4	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	3	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	7	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	28	11	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	4	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	6	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	29	10	1,607	24	1	9,033	0	0
,, 19	47,890	30	1	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	3	1,087	24	2	4,976	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	4	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	3	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	4	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	5	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	3	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	2	101	23	8	1,960	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	5	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	2	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	5	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	9	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	30	5	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	29	0	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,756	27	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	9	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	26	4	41,670	24	3	34,530	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 22, 1906:—

Wheat	1,890,100	cwts.
Wheat-flour	373,300	,,
Barley	510,500	,,
Oats	2,800	,,
Maize	837,600	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,953,600	1,612,400	1,708,709	1,335,290
Wheat-flour	216,000	273,700	352,588	468,415
Barley ...	623,100	645,200	1,320,561	707,864
Oats ...	310,300	303,900	187,067	313,458
Maize ...	1,339,800	970,200	1,385,808	436,178

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Sept. 12 to 19 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	4,225	44,839	49,064
Barley.....	1,800	63,030	64,800
Malt.....	15,833	—	15,893
Oats.....	6,530	29,000	35,530
Rye	250	—	250
Beans	1,886	45	1,931
Peas.....	951	37	988
Maize	—	18,643	18,643
Tares	240	500	740
Millet	—	108	108
Buckwheat ...	—	1,180	1,180
Dholl	—	981	981
Linseed	—	3,412	3,412
Flour ..... sacks	25,773	41,520	67,293
Middlings	—	2,222	2,222
Maizemeal ...	—	300	300
Ricemeal ,, ...	—	21,000	21,000

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

English wheat to-day was held for 6d. advance from the 17th—a welcome change in the position, outweighing the moderate extent of the actual rise demanded. Foreign wheat was 3d dearer for all the chief sorts. Sales were not good, however, and the position of imported produce is still a subject of debate.

Barley was in improved request for every variety, the malting and feeding trades showing a simultaneous freshening of interest. Prices were a little better from a week ago, but most holders were more bent upon doing business at full rates than on pushing value up at the risk of losing custom. Oats were 3d dearer both for English and Russian. Maize was 3d dearer for round and yellow types, but was dull and unchanged for flat corn. Beans and peas were firm at full prices.

Tares were in request, and prices for the high quality shown were decidedly moderate. Rye was in demand for seed. Dari has met with a fair enquiry at full currencies. New linseed made 12s. per bushel for fine English. There was some enquiry for English clover seed, both red and white sorts. The price in either instance was about 70s. per cwt. for finest, 60s. for ordinary.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

September 24.

WHEAT,	White (Old)	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New)	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old)	,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New)	,,	26 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old)	(per 448 lb.)	32 — 36
	,, (New)	,,	31 — 35
	Brewing (Old)	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)	,,	28 — 29
	Feeding (Old)	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
	,, (New)	,,	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	28 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New)	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,,	,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New)	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	48 — 54
	(Spring)	,,	56 — 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	31 — 32	American	22/6—23
,, ,, 2	30 — 31	Argentine	20 — 21
American Red	29—29/6	Bulgarian	21—21/6
Argentine	29/6—30	Roumanian	21—21/6
Australian	31 — 32	Russian	21—21/6
New Zealand	30 — 31	Rangoon	21 — 22
Californian	31 — 32	North African	22 — 23
Blue Stem	31 — 32	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Walla Walla	30 — 31	Smyrna	34 — 36
Saxonka	32 — 33	Konigsberg	33 — 35
Azima	30 — 31	New Zealand	35 — 36
Ghirka	29 — 30	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Indian White	29—29/6	Italian	64 — 72
,, Red	28/9—29	Burmese	32 — 42
Persian	28—28/6	Chilian	56 — 64
Turkish	27 — 28	LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
Clifor'n (448 lb)	29/6—30	Whole Indian	7 — 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	PEAS (504 lb.):	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	Konigsberg	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian (400 lb)	19—19/3	Indian Green	29 — 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18 — 19	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24 — 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39— 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun.	33 — 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Torrified (336 lb)	21 — 22	White	42 — 44
MALT (336 lb.):		Yellow	22 — 24
Californian	33 — 36	Sorghum	20 — 22
Smyrna	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Ouchak	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
RYE (480 lb.):		Burmese	9 — 10
Russian	24 — 25	Siamese	8 — 9

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The American telegrams coming much firmer, and prices for October shipment being actually dearer than prices off stands, the market showed a better feeling than on any other occasion since the new cereal year came in. Prices for American sorts, none the less, were hardly to be quoted differently from a week ago, for bakers were stubborn in their resistance to advance.

Their attitude in this respect is due to the fine quality of the new country flour, and also of the new London millings, the new grists including new English wheat with a judicious mixture of selected strong foreign kinds, being of admirable character, and the very moderate prices asked on the 17th being accepted to-day.

Hungarian flour after a period of some six weeks' depression has regained strength, and for October shipment 6d. over present spot prices is demanded.

Australian flour remains out of favour.

London Flour.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29/0 nct.
Town Whites	,,	25/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/9 ,,
No. 2	,,	20/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	23/9 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	21/9 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	19/9 ,,

Country Flour.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24—24/3
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22—22/3
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21—21/3
Stone made	,,	20—20/3

Foreign Flour.

		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 1
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 2
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 1

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH FIRMER HOLDING OF WHEAT, BARLEY, AND OATS, BUT MAIZE WAS NOT QUITE SO GOOD AS AT THE OPENING.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is a fair supply of the new crop on the market, the quality of the latter pickings being even better than the first, which were certainly very fine. The prices realised will not pay the cost of production, consequently several gardens are already being prepared for grubbing, which is a disaster for the labour of the hop growing counties.—W. H. and H. Le May.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are firmer from Saturday. Linseed cargoes are 3d. per qr. dearer. Rapeseed cargoes are 6d. dearer. Cottonseed has advanced 1s. 3d. per ton. Maize, barley, oat, and rye cargoes are firm, but not quotably dearer.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Roumanian, 27s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Australian, 31s 6d per 480 lb, arrived; Walla-Walla, 29s 6d per 500 lb, arrived; white Kurrachee, 30s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; red Kurrachee, 29s 3d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Bahia Blanca, 28s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment (new crop); No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 29s 9d per 480 lb, October shipment; American Hard Winter, 28s 3d per 480 lb, November shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, arrived; Roumanian, 19s 9d per 480 lb, November shipment.

Barley.—Odessa, 18s 4½d per 400 lb, November shipment; Nicolaieff, 18s 3d per 400 lb, November shipment.

Oats.—White Libau, 15s per 304 lb, October shipment; Roumanian, 15s 1½d per 304 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 40s 9d per 416 lb, October shipment; Bombay, 42s 9d per 416 lb, October shipment.

Rapeseed.—Brown Cawnpore, 41s 6d per 416 lb, April shipment (new crop); Jamba, 39s per 416 lb, October shipment.

Cottonseed.—Fayoumi, £7 2s 6d per ton, prompt shipment by steamer; Bombay, £5 15s per ton, October shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour. — Prices unchanged. Market rather steadier in tone. Quotations same as last week. —Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—A fair demand continues for bran; prices not quite so firm.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—More firmness has been shown during the last few days with a better demand for shipment. American cables are 3d to 6d higher. Grain.—Both flat and round corn firmer. Manitoba oats are moving away at prices in sellers' favour in spite of the competition from new Irish oats in good condition. Beans are steady, the pressure on spot being relieved. Oilcake firm. New oatmeal about 1s 6d per sack lower. There is a very slow sale for barley. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and fine thirds are scarce. Common thirds are steady.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour in rather improved demand to-day at 3d to 6d advance on the week. The American mills offer sparingly, and at prices somewhat beyond what buyers here are willing to pay.—T. S. Medill and Sons.

Arrivals of wheat are moderate. Trade is firm, and prices are 3d per qr higher. Flour 3d per sack dearer. Maize firm. Barley and oats 3d per qr dearer.—Coventry and Shepherd.

TERM MARKET.

Wheat futures are firmer on the week, but those of maize, after a number of minor fluctuations, are to-day (Monday) rather weak.

Red American wheat,	Oct. delivery,	6s 3d	,,
,, ,,	Dec.	,,	6s 3d	,,
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 4d	,,
Mixed American Maize	Oct.	,,	4s 7d	,,
,,	Dec.	,,	4s 6d	,,
,,	Feb.	,,	4s 1d	,,
Yellow Argentine Maize	Oct.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,,	Dec.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,,	Feb.	,,	4s 3d	,,

A cargo of Russian oats for October delivery sold to-day for 15s per 504 lb

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of fruit on offer, the demand being fairly brisk. Vegetables also sold readily at the prices quoted. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 1s 9d to 5s 6d per bushel; pears, 3s 6d to 5s per bushel; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; green figs, 1s to 2s per dozen; melons, 9d to 1s 9d each; cobnuts, 4s to 5s per 12 lb; blackberries, 1s to 2s per peck; plums, 2s to 6s per half-sieve; grapes, 6d to 2s 6d; tomatoes, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; celery, 10s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; mushrooms, 6s to 12s per 12 lb; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; green artichokes, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per dozen; cabbages, 4s to 5s; vegetable marrows, 5s to 6s per tally; cucumbers, 6s to 8s per flat; horseradish, 10s to 14s per dozen bundles; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; endive, 2s to 2s 6d; cos lettuce, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; potatoes, 50s to 80s per ton.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,248 bales, and from foreign ports 12,576. The market was firm last week, with a good demand for all bacon, prices ranging:—Irish, 63s to 66s up to 68s; Danish, 62s to 66s up to 68s; Canadian, 61s to 63s up to 65s. Butter.—Butter was a firm market. French, 112s to 124s; Danish, 125s to 127s; Russian, 90s to 106s; Dutch, 114s to 116s; Irish, 102s to 117s; Canadian, 90s to 116s; Victorian, 104s to 116s; New South Wales, 104s to 116s; Queensland, 102s to 114s; New Zealand, finest, 116s to 118s; American, 88s to 102s. The lard market was firm. Irish, 54s to 62s; Danish, 56s to 59s; American, 44s 9d to 46s 9d.

BUTTER.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 2d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9 and 10. Berwick: 1s 3d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 10. Grantham: 12 to 13. Howden: 11 to 12. Lancaster: 7 to 9. Malton: 10 and 11. Pontefract: 10. Retford: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Richmond (Yorks): 9 and 10. Shrewsbury: 10 and 12. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 10. York: 10 to 12.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese were light, due to the farmers finishing up their harvesting operations. Dunlops were in chief request; prices for them and Cheddars favoured buyers; Dunlops brought 60s to 63s per cwt., and Cheddars 62s to 65s. A quiet business passing in Canadians at former prices.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 14 tons of cheese pitched, and with a good attendance all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 69s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 66s to 67s 6d; and other dairies, 64s to 65s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 60s. Cheddars made 64s 6d to 68s 6d; truckles, 63s to 67s; doubles, 59s to 62s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 8 tons pitched, a good attendance of buyers, and a brisk demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 56s to 64s per cwt; fancy dairies, 48s to 49s.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., second, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleeces continue to be quoted at 13d, and lamb wool at from 8d to 9d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business here remains in the same sluggish condition as last reported, with, however, a little less depression, but not much revival is expected before the London sales next week. Quotations for all descriptions of wool—home and foreign—remain unchanged, as far as appears, but there is very little business to show.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wet Grains: The market still remains firm at about 19s to 20s; ale and porter, 16s to 17s; distillers, 30s; pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains are in strong demand: Ale, 98s 9d; mixed, 90s; distillers, 107s 6d per ton on rail London; also ale, 92s 6d, and mixed 85s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 96s 3d; Calcutta rice meal, 86s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMLYN AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 24, 1906. British.	Total.	Sept. 25, 1905.	Monday,
Beasts	1,220	1,220		1,360
Sheep and Lambs	5,700	5,700		6,920
Calves	10	10		20
Pigs	—	—		—
Milch Cows	35	35		60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 4	6 0
Lambs	5 6	5 10	7 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 70; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,115; Devon, 35; Ireland, nil.

In the beast market to-day the supply showed an increase of 140 head compared with Monday last. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a very slow and dragging nature, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d per 8 lb. Devons in larger supply, and met a fairly steady inquiry, commanding our top quotations. Middling quality fat cattle in very little request. Fat butchering cows and bulls met a limited demand from both town and country buyers, the latter ruling 2d per 8 lb easier than on Monday last. A clearance in this part of the market is considered very doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Sept. 25, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		—	
Devons	4 4 to 4	6 ...	4 6 ex 4	8
Herefords	4 2 to 4	4 ...	4 6 ex 4	8
Norfolks	4 2 to 4	4 ...	—	
Runts	3 10 to 4	2 ...	4 0 to 4	4
Lincolns	3 6 to 3	8 ...	3 10 to 4	0
Irish	—		4 0 to 4	5
Canadian	—	...	—	
Fat Cows	3 4 to 3	6 ...	3 4 to 3	6

There was an increase of 390 in the number of sheep and lambs penned. For all grades of both wethers and ewes trade was of a dull and dragging nature, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one to the extent of fully 2d. per 8 lb. Irish being in larger supply also shared in the general depression of trade, ruling 2d. easier. On the other hand, Scotch sheep though slow of sale, well maintained last Monday's valuations. Lambs were in average numbers, but more than sufficient for the demand. A clearance will not be made. The supply included 200 Scotch, 805 Irish, and 830 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Sept. 25, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	5 10 to 6	0
9 st. Downs	5 6 to 5	8	5 8 to 5	10
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	5 4 to 5	6
10 st Yorkshires	—	...	—	
12 st Lincolns	—	...	—	
10 st Irish	5 2 to 5	4	5 2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 2 to 4	4	4 2 to 4	4
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0 to 4	2	4 0 to 4	2
5 st Down Lambs	6 10 to 7	0	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	5 8 to 5	10	—	

Calves too few to note or quote. Pigs, nil.

London Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s to 3s 6d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 6d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d. Lambs, 5s to 5s 6d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 10d to 4s 10d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts.), Monday.—Beasts, 264; sheep 1,564, pigs 424. Fat and store cattle a fair trade; fat and store sheep and pigs good demand; milch cows a short supply and good demand. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pigs, 6s 9d to 7s 9d; milch cows, £15 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,355. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 596 head, and consisted of 673 from the United States, and 682 from Canada. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a fairly steady nature, at an advance of from 1d to 2d per 8 lb, the best States being quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s 3d; Canadian, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday 1,973 beasts were offered for sale, consisting of 692 from the United States and 1,281 Canadians. Trade ruled firm, rates favouring the sellers to the extent of from 1d to 2d per lb. States beasts were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s 3d; Canadians, 3s 9d to 4s (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday. Smaller supply of stock; demand good for cattle, but prices unchanged, whilst sheep trade was not appreciably different from last week, except for strong and rough classes, which were rather easier in price. Lambs were a slower trade, but prices unaltered. Beef, 6½d to 4½d; mutton 9d to 7d; lamb, 9½d to 8d. At market 1,192 cattle and 9,224 sheep.

SEEDS.

Borough, Monday.—There is a small demand for seeds for present sowing, with no material change in values. The first few samples of new red clover are very bright in colour, and indicate a big crop, as there is a big crop of red in parts of the Continent, prices are likely to rule low this year. A few big orders having been placed, French, Italian ryegrass is rather firmer. No change in new white clover, alsyke, or trefoil. Cocksfoot is quiet. Some fine samples of new lucerne are now offering, the crop is not large, while the demand for this article increases each year.—W. H. & H. LE MAY.

London, Monday.—The demand for trifolium this season is now practically over. Winter tares in good request at unchanged prices. Rape scarce and firm. Rye without interest. Peas in good demand since change in the weather. Prices firm. Mustard shows fine samples new seed and reasonable prices. Seed wheats more freely. Prices without change.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Notwithstanding the slow demand, prices maintain their firmness, and with few foreign arrivals stocks are getting into a small compass. Cotton Cake.—There are hardly any Egyptian-made left on spot, so the small enquiry is running on London made. Values remain unchanged. Linseed.—Market advanced about 9d during present week, and demand has much improved.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0
Indian Calcutta Linseed Cake ex quay	8 2 6	—
American Western Linseed Cake ... ...ex quay	—	
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) .....ex quay	—	
Russian Oil Cake .....ex quay	7 13	9 to 1 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	—	
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal (to arrive) ex quay	7 17 6	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	5 2 6	
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	4 15 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 9 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 3 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	2 12 0
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 11 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—The market was supplied to a good extent, but a slow demand again existed. Quotations: British Queens, 55s to 60s; Up-to-Date, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 55s; English Puritans, 60s per ton. Beans, 2s to 3s per bushel.

Goole, Wednesday.—A fairly good attendance, but trade slack. Some lots, however, changed hands at from 5s 3d to 5s 6d, and Warps at 6s to 6s 3d per load.

Manchester, Saturday.—Cheshire, new, 3s 6d to 5s 6d; Lincoln, 4s 6d to 5s; Bedford Hebrons, 4s 6d to 5s per cwt.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—With no recovery in the demand, trade again made slow headway. Quotations:—Blacklands, 55s; English Puritans, 60s; Up-to-Dates, 55s to 60s; British Queens, 55s to 60s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £3 per ton.

York, Saturday.—Fair supply, but buyers rather waiting for a rise in prices, which they believe to be imminent. Best Up-to-Dates make from 40s to 45s per ton.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat be sts at I lington both in regard to prime and second quality on the chief market day of the week opened with an entire absence of life, sellers in some cases having to concede 2d. per 8 lb. to effect sales; the majority of the supply consisted of grass-fed cattle from the Midland Counties, a few polled Scotch beasts were included in the arrivals and commanded our top quotation, middling quality cattle met with little or no enquiry. Owing to the scarcity of country buyers present, fat butchering cows and bulls shared in the general depression, and ruled 2d. per 8 lb. lower in value. On Thursday trade was dull and dragging, with a downward tendency, but not sufficient to warrant our quoting any further decline

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade on Monday was of a fairly steady nature, at an advance in value for Canadian cattle, but on Wednesday was of a disappointing character, with a general decline of 2d. per 8 lb., becoming firmer again on Saturday at an advance of 3d. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,662, as against 4,723 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,120 British (increase 60) and 3,542 foreign (decrease 121), consisting of 1,467 from the United States and 2,075 Canadians. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 st. Scotch, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 to 95 st. Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 st. Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100 st. Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 st States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 st. Canadians, 3s. 9d. to 3s 11d.; 90 st. fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

In the sheep market at Islington on both days trade was of a firm and steady nature for both wethers and ewes, an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. being obtained for anything choice, this being also maintained on Thursday, notwithstanding there being few retail buyers present. Lambs met with very little inquiry on Monday, sellers being willing to accept less money to effect sales, but on the second market-day of the week trade was slow but firm, late values being upheld. The total number penned was 6,300, as against 7,570 during the previous week, showing a decrease of 1,270, the supply being entirely confined to the Islington market. Best pens made per 8 lb. as fallows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10-stone ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 10d. to 7s.; 6-stone Halfbred lambs, 5s. 10d. to 6s. So few calves on offer that trade was not worth noting or quoting. No pigs on offer.

Trade in the West.

Trade in stores has been fairly good since our last report, and prices for all the more serviceable things have been well maintained, which is quite as much as can be expected, seeing how floored the markets have been of late, and the congestion, as a consequence, that has resulted. The best selling stock just at present is milch beasts, the more serviceable grades meeting a very brisk demand at from £16 to occasionally £22, though £20 to £21 is a more average range; secondary descriptions, though fairly saleable, are less sought after at prices ranging from as low as £11 or £12 for old cows, up to £14 or £15 for plain heifers. In-calvers sell up to £15 or £16 for those of very early date, and yearlings are in some request at from £4 10s. to £8 each. Barreners are still slow of sale, a sufficient time having not yet elapsed since the rainfall for this class of stock to benefit in any material respect. Young grazing cattle, with anything like a tendency to freshness, are finding a fairly good (not to say brisk) sale at from £20 up to £26 or £27 per pair, but anything old or a poor class hangs a good deal of hand just now from £14 to £19, and but very few find buyers. The store sheep trade continues firm, and once keep becomes again at all plentiful we expect to see prices still better, even if the improvement is to no great extent, though this prediction was scarcely verified by the result of Beaminster fair on Wednesday. But, as it is, sheep are by no means bringing a bad return both for ewes and lambs. Another healthy indication of the trade is that at all the great sheep sales everything is readily caught up. Calves for rearage also make a good price; and store pigs are as dear just now as we ever remember before, this being due to the high prices pigs are bringing for butchering purposes.

The return of cooler weather has given considerable fillip both to the beef and mutton trade, as purveyors are able to buy now free from the risks they had to incur during the long spell of hot weather from which we have just emerged. Although the beef trade is by no means fast, prices for all the choicer grades of either steers or heifers rule very firm, steers making £16 to £22 or £23 a piece (or 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per stone for the neatest weights), secondary grades of fat bullocks ranging 4s. to 4s. 4d. Choice calves continue scarce, and prices have a hardening tendency; the best sell at 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and secondary kinds 7d. to 7½d. Mutton keeps steady at late values, and there is no great alteration to note in values beyond the fact that heavy mutton is much less of a "slump" on the market than it was. Best wethers now command 6s. to 6s. 4d. per stone, second lots selling from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d., and heavy ewes 4s. to 4s. 8d. Small Irish sucking lamb commands more attention than older and heavier weights at 6s. 8d. to 7s., and other grades 6s. to 6s. 4d. The pig trade continues very brisk, near hundred porkers readily commanding 18s. to 19s. 6d. per score, and baconers 9s. 3d. to 9s. 9d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been a full average, but the quality of the home-grazed cattle very indifferent. The best descriptions met a good trade at quite last week's prices, but secondary, being more plentiful, made about 10s. per head less. Fat cows met a steady trade. Good sheep scarce and exceedingly dear, the highest prices of the season being obtained for this description. Ewes also made fully last week's prices. Fat lambs in good demand, and highly satisfactory prices were got Calves and pigs without change in value. Store sheep a much larger show, but a total clearance effected at prices, for the best class, equal to last week, and secondary about 2s. a head lower. Half-bred ewes, although making high prices, in some cases did not come up the expectations of the sellers by about 1s. 6d. per head. A very large and exceedingly good show of store cattle. A great many of the farmers are not yet ready to buy, and a moderate trade was experienced, and although the better class cattle got sold out, a portion of the inferior kinds were left over. Milch cows met a very bad trade at from £1 to £2 a head reduction from last week. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 6d.; current, 31s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; mutton, to 10½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

Dublin Market of last Thursday was well attended by buyers from all parts, but with a large increase of 625 cattle (making the number 4,156, a record one for the season), buyers became indifferent after the first rush of the morning. When business opened choice beasts sold at the outside prices of the previous market, but as the day advanced they saw that they had plenty to pick and choose from, and it was with the greatest difficulty that salesmen were able to repeat the morning's offers for even the best beasts, and trade lulled into a very dull position, and before the close rates were decidedly easier than the market before, particularly for heavy-weights. The live-weight price for nice medium cattle would be about from 28s. to 31s. per cwt., but extra Aberdeen Angus and Herefords made up to 33s. per cwt. There were a number of coarse and unfinished cattle, and these sold at a reduction of from 10s. to 15s. per head, but quite a number did not find purchasers. Dead-weight prices may be quoted as follows:—Best ox and heifer beef made from 52s. to 55s. and up to 57s. 6d. for extra quality beasts; good second quality beef from 47s. to 52s., and inferior beef from 42s. to 45s. per cwt.

There was also a big market of sheep—9,025, or 260 more than the previous week. Business was rather disappointing, and on the whole it was considered that rates were down about 3s. per head, and this was the case. From start to finish it was a dragging market. Prime wethers for home trade sold at about from 7½d. to 8d., and a little more for choice Cheviots and mountains; good ewe mutton from 7d. to 7½d.; and inferior sheep from 5½d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets made from 46s. to 60s. each; and small to medium do., from 36s. to 44s. Export buyers bought cautiously, saying they had lost money on their purchases at late Dublin markets. Lambs were more difficult to sell at about 1s. per head less money, but the season for lamb is practically over. Large fat lambs made from 30s. to 40s. each, and small thin ones could be bought from 18s. upwards. Fully 500 of the sheep penned were only stores, and gave to market a full appearance.

Veal was also a depressed trade; very few prime calves on offer, but these were sufficient to meet the demand, and sold at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; rough calves neglected, and selling from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

Milch cows were in good supply, and a good attendance of home and export buyers, but trade was slow, except for really first-rate springers and newly-calved cows, which made from £17 to £20 ahead; common cows from £8 10s. up.

At Dublin Pig Market on Thursday there was a fairly large number of pigs on offer, and good attendance of buyers. Prices were firmer. Heavy-weight pigs for export were in good request, values all round well maintained. Choice light-weight hogs from 52s to 54s per cwt., heavy ditto 42s. to 51s., and inferior pigs from 35s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was very quiet, difficulty being experienced in obtaining late rates. A few prime quality cattle were offered, but met absolutely no demand. Top prices fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. Decrease of 510 in number penned in sheep market. Trade ruled slow but steady for both wethers and ewes, late currencies being well maintained. Lambs also sold fairly well, salesmen both asking and obtaining last Monday's value. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 7½ to 8-stone Down sheep, 6s 2d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone ewes, 4s 6d; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 7s; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6. Calf trade nominal. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; sheep 4s 10d to 6s 2d; lambs, 5s 6d to 7s.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and slow trade, especially for beef. Quotations: English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 2d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d; ditto veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday. — Best beef made last week's figures, nothing quoted over 4s 4d. Prime mutton sold a little better, small Down and half-bred wethers going up to 6s; Kent wethers made up to 5s 4d; and lamb, 6s 4d to 6s 8d. Veal, 5s 4d to 6s. Pork rather dearer, best making 4s 2d.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance; mutton trade not quite so fast. Beef made about 58s per cwt. The quotations were:—Fat steers, £18 to £21 5s; fat heifers, £15 to £18 15s; fat cows, £15 to £17 5s; calves, 22s to 105s; fat wethers, 50s to 57s; tegs, 48s to 54s; ewes, 41s to 48s 6d; lambs, 32s to 38s.

Berwick, Saturday.—243 beasts were penned. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade slow. Stirks, £7 10s to £9 15s; two-year-olds, £12 10s; three-year-olds, £14 to £16 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small number of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Beef made 5l to 6½l per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but not in much demand, and business was slow at late rates. Sheep were in fair supply, and trade was quiet without change in values Pigs were scarce and quotations unaltered.

Calne, Wednesday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 6d per score.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Improved keep prospects as a result of the rain tend to strengthen the market. Ewe tegs were selling at from 41s to 50s 6d, and wethers up to 44s 6d; old ewes, 27s 6d to 39s 6d. There was a fair inquiry for lambs, which ranged up to 23s 6d per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 600 cattle, mostly Irish wintering heifers, were exposed for sale on the sands, but the supply was rather beyond the demand, and trade was rather slow as compared with last week. Small heifers made £6 10s to £10 10s; others suitable fogging realising £12 10s to £14 10s; horned bullocks, £7 10 to £10 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—A better attendance by buyers and sellers, trade again showing an improvement, especially for milking stock. Stores

also shared in the higher rates current. Sheep plentiful, and trade satisfactory. Milch cows made £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £17; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £5 to £10; and sheep 18s to 42s per head.

Derby, Tuesday.—Beasts and sheep of best quality again very dear, choice sheep going up to 9½d per lb; beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 8d to 9½d; lambs, 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a small supply of cattle, and trade rather slow, milch beasts being a little easier, and others unchanged Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; young stores, £7 to £9 each. Breeding ewes, 44s to 54s; dape ewes, 30s to 34s; lambs, 34s to 42s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A very large company of buyers were attracted to Messrs, Ensors and Sons' sale to-day at the Agricultural Repository, a feature of which was the dispersion of some forty head of well-bred Devon and cross Devon cattle belonging to Mr. W. J Chick, of Stratton, who has been compelled to reduce his dairy stock for want of more adequate accommodation. The dairy cows were a specially good lot, mostly in calf to Cowslip's Duke 4,368, and the heifers, which were equally meritorious, are in calf to Lemco 5,038. A purebred Devon was also included in the sale. There was a full supply of other cattle, both fat and store, but not a very large offer of sheep. As there is now a little better prospect for stores after the rain the better-class milch beasts, as well as the barreners, met a very fair inquiry, the ordinary runs of heifers and calves making £16 to £21 apiece, and plainer kinds, £12 to £15. The Wratton Devons met a very good sale, both the cows and the heifers. In-calf dairy cows made £13 to £18 10s; three-year-old heifers, £10 to £13; two-year-olds, £16 to £20 10s; yearlings, £10 to £12 10s. a pair; steers to £19 10s. A general range for best barreners was from £18 to £27 per pair; but anything very plain met a quiet trade at prices ranging down from £17 to £14 per pair. In fat beasts there was a steady inquiry for steers and heifers, which included some very ripe bullocks, at from 10s. 6d to 11s. 6d. per score (or from £16 to about £21 10s. each); fat cows, 9s to 9s 6d. Mutton in steady consumptive request up to 8½d per lb. for best wethers, and 6½d to 7½d for ewes. Mutton lamb may be quoted 8½d to 9½d; sucking lambs, 9½d to 10d,, the latter being the most, nor in request.

Dublin, Thursday. — The large increase in cattle had a quietening tendency on trade, and any short of first class finish made less money, and a clearance could not be effected. Sheep in excess of requirements, buyers securing their wants on better terms for all classes, with a good many lots remaining unsold. Cattle—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s per cwt. Angus crosses 32s per cwt. Secondary sorts 25s to 28s per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to 8d per lb. Fancy mountains 8½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Exeter, Friday.—Smaller supply of beasts, and only best quality maintained late rates, 11s to 11s 6d; plain ones, 9s to 10s. Owing to the drought the sheep varied considerably in quality, and prices showed a lower tendency; small sorts, 8½d; larger, 7½d to 8d; only the best sold. Fat ewes scarce, and very plain, 6d; choice lambs, 10d, all sold; rams, 5d; calves, 7d.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Bruton, Knowles and Co. report as follows:—A large supply of cows and calves, with trade not so good except for the very best, which sold readily. The sale included six pure bred Jerseys from Messrs. Fowler de la Torrelle and Co., which sold at satisfactory prices. Store cattle, fair supply but little demand, except for those in condition.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The store cattle trade was well maintained. The supply of fat cattle was fair, being quite equal to the demand. Best bullock and heifer beef made 6½d, cow beef, 4½d, and bull beef 4d. A short supply of calves sold slowly. Veal was down in price, making 7d to 7½d. Fat sheep were scarce, young wether mutton making 8d, and ewe 7d. Store trade fairly firm, but only the best were looked after. A large supply of butchers' lambs made 8d. Store lambs were in fair demand, Pigs a fair supply. Small porks of good quality realised 5½d to 6d, while big weights sold at 5½d. Stores were scarce and dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Average consignments of home-bred stock. Trade slow, and prices 10s to 15s. per head lower. Choice milch cows £19 to £20; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary, £14 to £16; bullocks, £9 to £12; calves, 15s to 30s. Sheep were a large supply and sold freely. Breeding ewes, 44s to 59s 6d; lamb hoggs, 25s to 39s 6d; rams, £3 3s to £5 5s.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small show of milch cows at this store stock market, and trade was moderate at £20 per head. Sheep were penned in large numbers, and a fair trade was experienced. Grimmers made 54s to 65s, young ewes 42s to 54s, drape ewes 30s to 40s, lambs 30s to 42s, and rams 3 guineas to 6 guineas.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Rather larger show of fat beasts at about 6s 9d to 7s 3d, stores very few shown, and scarcely any trade from 6s to 13s. Fat sheep an average show, making 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone Stores 40s to 46s each. Store lambs from 25s to 36s, fat lambs 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.— Beef: firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Mutton: firsts, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porket pigs, firsts: 7d½; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 6½d to 6½d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Heifers, 7s to 7s 6d; steers, 6s 9d to 7s 3d; coarse, 6s to 6s 6d; pigs, porkers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; medium, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; bacon, 6s to 7s; fat, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone; sheep, 8½d to 9½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; rams, 5d to 6d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply of cattle, sheep, lambs, and calves. Trade brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; lambs, 9½d to 9¾d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was an average supply of fat beasts, and trade was firm at 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb; the show of store cattle was barely an average one, and was composed largely of Irish stock, there being only one or two good lots of Shorthorns; the Irish cattle left a good deal to be desired as to condition and quality; trade slow throughout, but a great proportion of the beasts were sold. There was no improvement in values, prices ranging from £6 to £18 per head. Store sheep were about an average supply, consisting chiefly of breeding ewes. The demand was poor; lambs made from 28s to 40s per head, and breeding ewes ranged from 45s to 60s; fat beasts were offered in usual numbers, and sold well at 9s to 10s per stone. The supply of fat and store pigs is very limited, and the demand was in excess of the supply. Fat pigs averaged 7s per stone; small stores ranged from 12s to 24s per head, and larger sizes from 30s to 54s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a good supply of stock, which met with a moderate demand. Best in calf cows made about £22, and second quality £15 to £18. Calves, for which there was a brisk inquiry, sold at about 46s each. A fair supply of sheep and lambs sold at about the same prices as usual.

Preston, Wednesday.—A capital show of cows and sheep, but the demand was only moderate. Compared with the previous week trade showed a marked improvement, best beasts making good prices. Lambs made 9½d to 9¾d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6½ to 7½d; tups, 5½d to 6d; heifers and bullocks, 5½d to to 6½d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d. Calves were difficult to sell, and made from 6d to 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Milch cows lower in value; only the best made up to £18, the run of the market being £14 to £16 per head. Grazing stock was a drug; two-year-old steers and heifers realised £9 to £11; yearlings, £4 to £6; and calves 30s to 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Small supply of fat beasts, trade about the same. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, trade rather better at 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade dear. Best small, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Ewes scarce, trade fair 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Quotations for lambs are discontinued. No store beasts on offer. Good supplyof pigs, trade better. Neat porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; large hogs, 3s 10d to 4s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch beasts more numerous than last week. A good demand, late prices being upheld. Best qualities made £22 to £23; secondary, £15 to £17 10s 6d each.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Fully an average show of the best cattle, which met slow trad eat 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone, rougher kinds selling 6s to 7s. Lambs made 10d per lb, young sheep 8½d, ewes 7½d, and tups 6½d. A large show of pigs at prices 3d easier on the week.

Thame, Tuesday.—There were more buyers present at this market than has been the case for many weeks, and there was a capital and large entry of stock. Beef was of decidedly better quality, for which there was a selling trade throughout, but no material change in value, although a practical clearance was effected. Sheep were a very sharp trade, competition being keen, showing an advance of fully 2d per stone on the preceding week. A grand show of weaning calves met a dragging trade; in fact, there is little demand only for the best. Pigs continue to sell well. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 117 fat beasts, 255 fat sheep, 120 fat and weaning calves, and 125 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21 5s; fat heifers, £14 to £19 5s; fat wethers, 48s to 64s; fat ewes, 42s to 57s; fat lambs, 32s to 52s; fat calves, £3 5s to £4 15s; weaning cow calves, 16s to 65s; bull calves, 8s to 42s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 10s; porkers, 30s to 46s; store pigs, 12s to 36s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance good, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 55s to 58s per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s per cwt; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £15; rearing calves, 25s to 42s; ewes, 36s to 48s each; wethers, 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d; lambs, 7½d; pigs, 16s to 42s each.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of all kinds of stock. Best quality beef made 6s 9d to 7s; secondary qualities, 6s 3d. to 6s 6d per stone; best Southdown wether cross-bred mutton, 7½d to 8d; coarser qualities, 5½d to 6½d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair supply; slow trade all round. Beef made 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies were on offer at the usual weekly sales held yesterday afternoon at the Foreign Animals Wharf, 1,905

COOPER'S
FOOT-ROT
OINTMENT
AN INFALLIBLE CURE.
POST FREE 1/6 PER LARGE TIN.
WILLm. COOPER & NEPHEWS, BERKHAMSTED.

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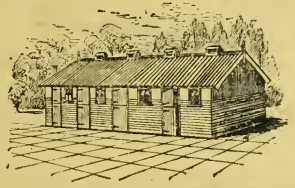

Registered Copyright. Tenant's Fixture. Best Materials and Workmanship. Boxes from £5 10s. each. Carriage Paid.

GAMEKEEPER'S OR SHEPHERD'S HUT.

Registered Copyright On Massive Iron Wheels. Size: 9 ft. long, 6 ft. wide, 9 ft. high. Price £10 15s. Carriage Paid.

SHEEP TROUGHS.

The Cheapest, Best and Strongest 10 feet long, best Foreign Red Deal, Iron-hooped, and Bolted. Troughs: 7 inch sides, 5/6 each; 8 inch, 6/-; 9 inch, 7/-. Troughs with top rail, 8 inch sides, 6/9; 9 inch, 7/6. Six Carriage Paid.
Send Penny Stamp for Catalogue and Book of Testimonials to Dept. M.
J. T. HOBSON & CO., Makers of all kinds of Portable Buildings, Stables, Poultry Houses, &c. Established Sixty Years. Works cover Six Acres BEDFORD.

head being penned, and all the animals, with the exception of 139 from Newport News, were from Montreal. There was a good attendance of buyers, and business, which drooped somewhat towards the close of the week-end sales, recovered a little, with the result that prices were, for the better qualities at anyrate, about equal to late quotations. Canadian bullocks of good qualities at about 54s per cwt dead weigt, while a few of superior description were cashed from 55s to 56s per cwt, and secondary, middling, and inferior grades from 50s to 52s per cwt. Bulls were difficult to cash, prime animals making 47s per cwt dead weight, and rough and heavy beasts as low as 43s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The amount of business passing is small, and mostly of a retail description; nevertheless, there is no indication of lower values, while, on the contrary, higher rates are asked in anything like forward positions, especially on the part of home manufacturers. Russian remain good value at late rates. East India seed pures make last week's prices. La Plata, owing to their excellent quality, continue to attract most attention. London made are in moderate request. Cotton Cakes. — The market is practically bare of Egyptians, but a steamer parcel nearly due may be bought at £5, and September shipments at £4 18s 9d. English and Bombays move off quietly. Decorticated still do not offer, but a parcel of meal in warehouse is available at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s per. ton. Maize Germ Meal.—Arrived parcels of White American are firmly held, but English makes are the turn dearer. Maize Gluten Meal meets a free sale at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon command full prices at £4 15s to £4 16s 3d, but there are some steamer parcels afloat in second hands quoted at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s ex ship terms. Locust beans are without alteration £5 15s for Whole and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains find a ready sale at £5 5s for Ale and £4 15s for Kibbled.

	Per ton £ s. d.	£ s. d
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
,, in bags	7 16 3	to 7 17 6
Calcutta .....to arrive	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
La Plata	7 17 6	to 7 18 9
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian		5 0 0
English	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated...	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	5 5 0	
Ravison	5 0 0	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon	4 15 0	to 4 16 3
,, afloat, ex ship	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
LOCUST BEANS.		
White	5 15 0	
Kibbled	6 0 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of Soda (on spot) ...	10 17 6	
Nitrate of Soda (Spring delivery)	11 2 6	
DRIED GRAINS.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is very very sparingly offered on the spot, and holders ask a further advance of 2s. 6d. per ton, £11 12s. 6d. being the current price of 95 per cent. purity, whilst refined is quoted at £12 2s. 6d. For autumn deliveries an increased demand is experienced for phosphatic fertilisers, and there are also inquiries for kainit. Feeding stuffs are in slow consumptive request, and with the present rates of oil cakes, offer no inducement to dealers to stock, yet the market is firm. A fair demand is experienced for feeding treacle, and sales made at 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10½d. per cwt. as in quality and quantity, the latter for prime American. Rice meal is in increased request at the quotations :—

	£ s d	£ s d
Fine Bone Ash	3 10 0	—
Nitrate of Soda.....	11 12 6	—
East India Bone Meal.....	5 2 6	5 5 0
Kainit.....	2 2 6	2 3 9
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Linseed Cake, American.....	7 10 0	7 15 0
,, ,, English, prime...	8 7 6	8 12 6
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed).....	14 10 0	15 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, S.A., decorticated.....	7 15 0	8 2 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8 5 0	—
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4 17 6	5 5 0
Fattening Cake.....	6 15 0	—
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6 7 6	—
Crushed Cottonseed	4 12 6	—
Maize Germ Meal.....	5 12 6	5 15 0
Corn Oil Cake	6 2 6	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon.....	4 17 6	5 2 6
Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime.....	—	—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	—
Basic Slag, prime quality ...,..	1 11 0	1 13 0
,, ,,	1 18 6	2 0 0
,, finest ,,	2 2 6	
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	4 6	—
Treacle, feeding, prime.....	4 10½	
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime	nominal.	
,, ,, guaranteed		—

—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—Owing to the proximity to the fair there was not a large attendance at market to-day. Business ruled slow, but a fair number of hops changed hands at prices a few shillings less than were current on fair day. Now that picking is almost completed it is possible to get some idea of the crop grown in this district. The crop taken generally is very light; many growers having none whatever, others one-tenth or one twentieth of what they had last year. Some, especially the larger growers, have very good crops, and will grow about one-half of their last year's growth. The quality is exceptionally good, the hops being rich in lupilin and of good colour. About 850 pockets have been weighed to date.—CHARLES FARAM AND Co.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

DARNELLS FARM,
RADLETT.

(Five minutes walk of Radlett Station.)
IMPORTANT SALE OF
FAT AND STORE STOCK.

MR. FRANK CHARLES has been favoured with instructions by R. C. Prill more, Esq. (who has let Kendals Park), to SELL by AUCTION, on
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1906,
After Luncheon at 12 o'clock,
60
HIGHLAND AND IRISH STEERS AND HEIFERS.
Heifers in Calf and down Calving.
(Most of the Irish Cattle are from Lord Leitrim's Bulls.)
40 FAT AND STORE PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS,
SEVERAL USEFUL CART HORSES, POULTRY, &c.

Luncheon will be provided at 2s. each person, which will be allowed to purchasers of £2 and upwards.

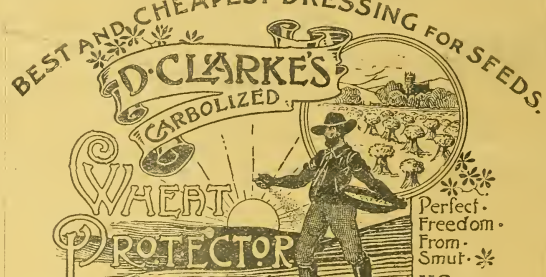
May be viewed on morning of Sale, and Catalogues had at the KENDALS ESTATE OFFICE, Radlett, and of the AUCTIONEER, St. Albans.

Telephone 0294.

By order of the Executors of Sir J. Blundell Maple, deed.
IMPORTANT SALE OF LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK.
200 Tons of Prime Old Meadow Hay,
12 Useful Cart Horses, Nag Mare,
28 Fat Devon Steers,
24 Young ditto,
30 Shorthorn ditto, 2 years old,
8 Cows,
150 Crossbred Sheep,
and the VALUABLE IMPLEMENTS and MACHINERY for a farm of 600 acres. Mr.

HARRIE STACEY will SELL the above by AUCTION at PETRIDGE WOOD FARM, Earlswood, Redhill, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 & 5, 1906.

Catalogues may be had of the AUCTIONEER, Redhill, Reigate, and Tadworth, Surrey.



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PER INCH, SINGLE COLUMN:

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6 insertions at	7/- each.
13 ,, ,, ...	6/- ,,
26 ,, ,, ...	5/- ,,
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OVERTON, BISHOPSTAWTON.
(2½ miles from Barnstaple.)
IMPORTANT SALE of 51 Grand Pure-bred Pedigree DEVON COWS, HEIFERS, and BULLS, the property of Mr. J. L. Huxtable, the noted breeder of prize-winning cattle at Overton, on
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3,
Sale at 1 o'clock.
Descriptive Catalogues of SANDERS & SON, Auctioneers, Barnstaple.

MANOR FARM, READING.
(Two miles from Reading Stations.)

NOTICE of IMPORTANT SALE of SHIRE HORSES, PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS and SHORTHORN CATTLE.

MESSRS. SIMMONS & SONS, in conjunction with Mr. James Burbidge, having received instructions from the Reading Corporation, will OFFER by AUCTION on the premises as above, on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1906, 20 SHIRE HORSES, 85 Pedigree BERKSHIRE PIGS, and 25 Head of SHORTHORN CATTLE.

Auctioneers' Offices: — Reading, Henley, and Basingstoke.

ROUGH ON RATS
TRADE MARK
DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE

The unbeatable Rat Exterminator. Being all poison, a 1s. box will kill fifty or more rats and mice. The most effective in exterminating Ants and Bed Bugs, and the large Black Cock roach or Beetle. Feeds the Rats, Mice and Bugs, but never disappoints or fools the buyer. 7½d. and 1s. boxes; AT CHEMISTS. Wholesale, F. NEWBERY & SONS, Ltd.

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The Board of Agriculture foolscap leaflet of the 27th ult. presents in a very compendious and readable form the result of a careful enquiry into the results of the recent grain harvest. Wheat is admittedly over an average crop in all the chief counties of Great Britain, but the extent of the yield is not quite what it was last year. Barley has been decidedly a satisfactory crop so far as bulk is concerned, and we fancy quality will not be below the average, although, of course, the very finest malting samples are bound to be rather scarce. The obtaining of a large yield of barley to the acre, 1,800 lb., and one is seems hardly compatible with the very finest quality. This interesting question, however, is not to be dealt with in this column, it is receiving the attention of the best experts in actual cultivation. Oats are stated by the Board of Agriculture to be under an average crop in Eastern Scotland and in Northern England, also in Suffolk. But in all the other regions of Great Britain rather over an average yield is recorded, and some exceptionally fine crops are reported from Dorset, Devon, Cornwall, Kent, Warwick, and Worcester.

The Russian crop news points to a large maize yield, and Caucasia is expected to ship freely in 1907. The maize will be gathered in the course of the next few weeks, but needs two months to mature and dry. Shipments will begin in January from ice free ports—Poti and Batoum. But it is not anticipated by leading operators that the maize surplus of Russia will be in substantial evidence much before the spring opening of navigation in April. The recent wheat crop is very much out of condition in the south owing to very wet weather in harvest. It ought not to be shipped until the cold, dry weather of a Russian November and December has improved it in the stack. Russian farmers, however, are in sore straits for money, and sales are being pressed. The Government in the years preceding the war with Japan financed farmers over the winter and made Russia an influence on the "bull" side. But since the financial resources of Russia became involved, this aid has not been possible, and the hi tory of Russian agriculture for now nearly three years has been one of pressure of commodities on sale as soon as they are harvested. Russia, therefore, is the focus of market depression at the present time. Not very much Russian wheat comes to England, but by meeting the import wants of Italy, Spain, and the South of France, Russian shipments release large quantities of North and South American wheat, which accordingly are directed to British ports.

The maize crop of the United States of America begins harvesting to-day, October 1, being the traditional date, and this year coinciding with the commencement of a week. Frost has been escaped even in the most northern States, and the total crop is expected to be a record. The following is the latest estimate:—

1906 2,800,000,000 bush.	1903 2,245,000,000 bush.
1905 2,708,000,000 ,,	1902 2,524,000,000 ,,
1904 2,468,000,000 ,,	1901 1,523,000,000 ,,

The importance of this crop to the United States may be judged from the Government returns of prices realised for the four first years of the century:—

1904..... £218,000,000	1902..... £203,400,000
1903..... £190,575,000	1901..... £184,000,000

The average value of the maize crop does not, therefore, fall below two hundred millions sterling, and these figures do not include Canadian production, which the import trade of the United Kingdom usually "lumps in" with that of the American Republic.

Wheat stocks at Michaelmas will naturally take some time to ascertain, quantities being large and distributed over many depôts, entrepôts, and ports. The following preliminary estimates are, however, available:—

In merchants' hands, U.K., 3,515,000 qr.
,, ,, ,, U.S., 6,165,000 ,,
,, ,, ,, Russia, 490,000 ,,

Of maize, the only forecast is of American holdings. Merchants are not credited with stores of more than 879,000 qr. It is very rarely that these holdings fall below 1,000,000 qr., so that despite the large new crop in America there is expectation of firm markets for maize for two months to come. The price at New York on Saturday was 19s. per qr.

The sales of British wheat since harvest have been as follows:—

This season, 315,000 qr. at 25s. 10d. per qr.
Last season, 351,000 qr. at 26s. 11d. per qr.

The fall in price with smaller sales is altogether disastrous.

The sales of British barley at the 190 statute markets are singularly level for the two seasons, actual figures being:—

This season, 143,000 qr. at 24s. 5d. per qr.
Last season, 141,000 qr. at 23s. 7d. per qr.

Here prices are encouraging.

The sales of British oats have been large—
This season, 127,000 qr. at 16s. 3d. per qr.
Last season, 91,000 qr. at 15s. 11d. per qr.

That prices have kept up despite the cagerness to sell is a good sign, but the sales off the farm must in themselves be adjudged indiscreetly large. London during the last six days has received over ten thousand quarters of oats grown within the United Kingdom. This, if not a record, is a near approach thereto.

The average price of household flour in London for September was 22s. 9d., a fall of 3d. on the month. The average price of corresponding quality in Paris was 30s. 6d., a recovery of 9d. on the month. The better feeling in Paris is of good augury for Mark Lane.

The range of English wheat prices has been as follows:—London, 27s. 4d. per qr.; Peterborough, 25s. per qr.; gradient, 2s. 4d.

There seems no reason for the exceptional depression in the Eastern Midlands.

The range of English barley prices has been as follows:—Chichester, 26s. 3d. per qr.; Bridlington, 22s. 9d.; gradient, 3s. 6d.

Oats are very depressed in several counties, but the tone of the latest markets is mere encouraging. The recent range of price has been:—Salisbury, 18s. 2d. per qr.; Peterborough, 15s. 1d.; gradient, 3s. 1d.

Peterborough has just now the fame, such as it may be, of being the cheapest English market for English produce. We hope that the figures in question do not argue special want of capital and need to sell among the farmers of Northamptonshire.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 441,000 qr.: a full supply.
Flour, 148,500 sks.: a fairly liberal supply.
Barley, 143,000 qr.: rather above wants.
Oats, 80,000 qr.: decidedly less than usual.
Maize, 202,000 qr.: a full supply.

Supplies on passage show a decided falling off in wheat, and the expectations at Michaelmas were 1,070,000 qr. below the average—Californian, 150,000 qr.; American, 510,000 qr; Russian, 130,000 qr.; Indian, 300,000 qr.; Argentine, 110,000 qr.; Australasian, 190,000; various, 40,000 qr.; total, 1,430,000 qr.

The supply of flour on passage, 295,000 sacks, is fair, but cannot be called large.

Of maize, expectations are as follows:—Flat, 50,000 qr.; round, 170,000 qr.; yellow, 700,000 qr.; total, 920,000 qr.

The supply of barley on passage is moderate, the following being the details:—Russian, 200,000 qr; American, 60,000 qr.; Asiatic, 60,000 qr.; total, 320,000 qr.

Other supplies on passage include 250,000 qr. of oats, 112,000 qr. of linseed, 10,000 qr. of rapeseed, 9,500 tons of cottonseed, and 31,000 tons of rice.

American shipments last week showed a great increase in the leading item—wheat. Actual quantities were: Wheat, 478,000 qr.; barley, 2,000 qr.; oats, 37,000 qr.; maize, 64,000 qr., and flour, 150,000 sacks. Argentina was a liberal shipper of maize, 200,000 qr, but only sent off 84,000 qr. of wheat and 53,000 qr. of linseed.

Russian shipments last week were liberal, including 357,000 qr. of wheat, 467,000 qr. of barley, 71,000 qr. of oats, and 12,000 qr. of maize. Roumania added the substantial quantities of wheat, 235,000 qr.; barley, 81,000 qr.; oats, 49,000 qr., and maize, 15,000 qr.

Other shipments were 77,000 qr. of wheat and 30,000 qr. of linseed from India, and 35,000 qr. of wheat from Australia and New Zealand.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Trading during the past week has been of a very steady character, supplies have been short, and with a large increasing demand sellers have occasionally been able to obtain slightly better prices with needy buyers, although top values on the whole are quotably unchanged. We notice that country dealers are paying much better prices than their London parity for stuff in stacks, and in consequence anything wanted for future delivery is at a higher figure than now ruling. Whether our London market will go better remains to be seen, but the position from a seller's point of view is a strong one, as with an improving demand and a shortage in the supplies of both English and foreign there is every conceivable reason for better prices. Meadow hays are in good request and find eager buyers. Clovers are very firm, and mixtures a good steady trade.

The demand for wheat straw remains quiet, but there is more inquiry for oat straw, which is making 2s per ton more money. In the foreign market there have been very poor supplies of Canadian Mixture, which are again slightly dearer. More Dutch hay has been coming along, and with a strong demand, sellers have obtained 3s per ton more money. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton; inferior, 60s to 70s per ton. Best clovers, 90s to 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 85s to 90s per ton; good mixtures, 75s to 85s per ton; plain mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; seconds hay and mixtures, 53s to 60s per ton; wheat straw, 24s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 85s per ton; good Dutch hay, 70s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 80s per ton; French large bale wheat straw, 50s per ton; small bale French wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are less depressed from the beginning of last week. The sales have included White Kurrachee at 29s 6d. per 492 lb., Red Kurrachee at 29s 3d per 480 lb, Argentine at 28s. 6d. 480 lb., Walla Walla at 30s. per 500 lb., Australian at 31s. per 480 lb., Roumanian at 27s. 6d. per 492 lb., and fine Russian Azima at 31s 6d. per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes are decidedly firmer. Sales have included Bulgarian at 21s. per 480 lb., Argentine at 19s. 9d. per 480 lb., and American also at 19s. 9d. per 480 lb.; the first two sales were for prompt, the last for January shipment.

Other cargo sales of the week have embraced Azoff barley at 19s. per 400 lb.; Californian barley at 25s. 9d. per 448 lb.; Petersburg oats at 16s. per 304 lb.; Roumanian oats at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb.; Smyrna beans at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb.; Kurrachee grain at 26s. 3d. per 504 lb.; Argentine linseed at 39s. 9d. per 416 lb.; and Egyptian cottonseed at £7 2s. 6d. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat (Sydney).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Cardiff and 1 Emden), 1 linseed (Sharpness)—Total 3.

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 232 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans, and 27 linseed—Total 270.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 284 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 6 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 48 linseed—Total 372.

The Secretary of the London Corn Trade Association informs us that the following standards were made up on September 29:—Plate wheat of the Province of Senta Fé, 1.a.q.; Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fé, 58·25 lb.; at time of discharge. Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fé, 59·65 lb.; at time of discharge. Plate wheat of the Province of Santa Fé, 60·35 lb.; at time of discharge. Bahia Blanca Barletta & or Russo 61·55 lb.; at time of discharge. Bahia Blanca Barletta & or Ruso, 62·76 lb.; at time of discharge. Bahia Blanca Barletta & or Ruso, 63·35 lb.; at time of discharge. Ruso wheat at Buenos Aires, 63·65 lb.; at time of discharge. Ruso wheat at Buenos Aires, 61·35 lb. at time of discharge. Barletta & or Ruso at Buenos Aires, 62·55 lb. at time of discharge. Hongrois wheat, 61·15 lb.; at time of discharge. Hongrois wheat, 62·15 lb.; at time of discharge. La Plata oats. Red La Plata maize. Yellow La Plata maize. These standards may be inspected at the association offices, 26, St. Mary Axe, E.C.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at late rates. Foreign held at firm prices, but in poor demand. South Russian quoted at 28s, 32s 6d ex ship, and 30s 6d, 33s 6d landed, No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 32s 9d, No. 2 at 31s 6d, No. 3 at 30s, hard winter at 29s 6d. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize firm, but quiet; mixed American landed quoted at 23s: La Plata, ex ship, 19s 9d to 20s; landed at 20s 3d to 20s 6d. Barley firm, with a fair inquiry. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s to 18s 3d; landed, at 18s 6d to 18s 9d. Oats firm, but inactive; common sorts quoted at 16s to 16s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat.—English firm, but quiet. Foreign sellers ask 3d advance, but buyers do not respond freely. South Russian ex ship quoted at 28s, 32s 6d, landed at 30s 6d, 33s 6d. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, 32s; No. 2 at 31s 9d, No. 3 at 30s 3d; No. 2 hard winter at 29s 9d: Plata, ex quay, at 31s, 32s. Flour firm, unchanged. Maize firm, and held for 3d to 6d more money, but quiet; River Plate, ex ship, quoted at 20, 20s 3d; landed, at 20s 6d to 20s 9d. Barley firm, and 3d dearer since Monday; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 3d, 18s 6d; landed, at 18s 9d to 19s. Oats firm, but quiet; common sorts quoted at 16s, 16s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was a better tone about the trade, both for wheat and other articles, except malting barley. Wheats made 28s to 30s, 1s rise on the week; white oats, 18s to 20s, and black oats, 17s to 19s, also a rise for some qualities of 1s; round maize slightly dearer, at 22s to 23s; malting barley, 27s to 30s; foreign feeding barley, 20s to 22s; new Mazagen beans, 29s to 30s; new tick beans, 31s to 33s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr; barley, 23s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 29s per qr; oats 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old), 22s to 23s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a good attendance, with full supplies of barley, which met a firm trade all round. Oats and wheat a small show. Wheat, 26s to 28s; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A small attendance and not much doing. Foreign wheats slow at last week's full prices. English wheat 10s to 10s 6d per 186 lb, delivered; oats, 18s to 19s per 312 lb; beans, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 196 lb; River Plate maize unchanged at 20s 3d per 480 lb at Sharpness, flat 6d dearer at 23s, Bristol; grinding barley 3d up at 19s per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance and a quiet trade. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, English, 17s to 18s; peas, 28s to 29s; beans, 30s to 31s. Oats 3d to 6d dearer.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat still in fair supply to-day, 6d advance being paid. Foreign wheat 6d dearer. Maize unchanged. Barley 3d dearer. Oats 6d dearer. Flour unaltered.—Grace Brothers.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat supplies are getting much shorter, and with a demand which remains steady, prices were 6d per qr better on the week; reds or whites 27s 6d to 28s 6d, rivets 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Barley in good average supply, with a healthy demand for all descriptions. Medium runs 27s to 31s. Some buyers of Burton quality were in evidence, and were giving 32s to 35s 6d for fine parcels. Oats, beans, and other feeding corns were firm, with maize 3s to 6d dearer at 22s for Plate and 23s for Danubian. Feeding stuffs firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of wheat, which sold readily at 6d more money than last week. Red wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; and white up to 28s 6d per 504 lb. Large supply of barley, trade very dull for common sorts, but good enquiry for anything over 30s. Very small supply of oats at 6d dearer rates. Beans moderate supply at last week's prices.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat is again very firm, and 31s 6d on rail has been the rate for a 66 lb sample; some 65's are selling at 31s delivered. Good malting barleys are worth from 30s to 31s, and up to 32s for exceptional qualities. Oats sell steadily, at from 17s to 20s per qr.

Carlisle Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at last week's prices. 17s 6d to 18s per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a quiet demand for English grain, and no changes were noted in prices. Mixed corn and River Plate firm at late prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 3s 9d to 4s 1d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; beans, new, 4s 9d to 5s; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, new, 12s 6d to 12s 9d; old 12s 8d to 13s per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance and fair trade. There was not a large quantity on offer, but there was a ready sale at the prices quoted. New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 18s 6d to 19s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat firm; 6d dearer. Oats 6d advance. Barley steady.—Joseph Wiles and Son.

Coventry, Friday.—A moderately good attendance, and fair supply of wheat on offer. Trade a shade firmer. Oats offered freely, and purchaseable at late quotations. Beans and peas a slow trade at recent figures. Quotations:—Old wheat, 10s 6d to 11s per 186 lb; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 29s to 34s per 448 lb; old oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; new oats, 18s 6d to 21s per 352 lb; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new beans, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat continued in small supply, but was firm at the late rates of last week; spring corn in fair supply at the full rates of last week. Old white wheat, 31s to 32s; new, 29s to 30s; old red, 30s to 31s; new, 25s to 28s 6d; old beans 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—With condition and quality good, and foreign dearer, there was a better demand for wheat, prices being firm, with an upward tendency. Any really good lots of malting barley made 30s upwards. Oats firmer, and rye fully as dear. Winter barley and vetches in good demand, the latter making 5s to 6s per bushel. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s; best barley, 26s to 30s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 15s to 17s; malting barley, 26s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Market well attended, and a better tone all round. Average supply of English wheat, and a fair demand; prices firm, whilst foreign, for which there was an improved trade, was 3d per qr dearer on the week. English wheat, 10s 6d per load. Moderate supply of oats, which made 3d to 6d per qr more. Only a small supply of barley, and prices more settled, and from 26s to 30s per qr. Beans a little dearer.

Dublin, Friday.—There was a good attendance. A quiet trade for wheat. Oats unchanged. Flour and oatmeal firm. Bran scarce and dear. Pollard in fair request. Quotations:—Wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding ditto, 13s to 14s; oats, 11s to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade somewhat improved. English wheat a shade better value, and foreign 6d dearer. Maize and barley 3d to 4d dearer. Oats 6d dearer. Flour very firm. English wheat 3s to 3s 4½d; English barley, 3s to 3s 9d; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market firm for wheat, sellers asking 3d advance; millers are willing to do business, but only at late prices. Flour moves in a fair way, with prices the turn against buyers. American maize quiet and 1½d lower; round maize at late rates. Manitoban oats held firmly, owing to crop reports from France not being so favourable. Oatmeal 6d down. Other articles steady.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat was in small supply and 1d bushel dearer. There was good trade in foreign at 3d to 6d advance. Plate maize and barley 3d dearer. White oats 1s, black 6d dearer.

Grantham, Saturday.—A very good attendance, and fair supply of grain. There was no change in the values in any department, with the exception of wheat, which was rather dearer. Wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; barley, 25s to 32s; beans, 29s to 30s; oats, 16s to 18s; blue peas, 59s to 60s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate trade in English grain. Wheats firm at last week's figures. Very little doing in barley. Oats were steady, with perhaps less business passing. Beans firm at recent rates. Maize 3d per qr dearer. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56 lb; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s to 2s 4d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in short supply, and 3d to 6d per qr dearer on the week; good reds or whites were worth 28s to 28s 6d per qr delivered at Ipswich, and rivets 27s to 28s. Barley was in fair average supply, with a good steady demand for fair malting runs at 27s to 31s per qr. There was also a healthy enquiry for the finer parcels at 32s to 36s per qr. Oats were firm, and the turn dearer, at 17s to 19s per qr. Maize 3d to 6d higher, at 21s for Plate and 22s for Danubian. Other feeding corns, also cakes and offals, firm at last week's prices.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The American markets are gradually creeping up, and buyers on this side have grudgingly paid more money; in fact, most exporting countries have advanced limits, but with ample stocks and supplies millers show little inclination to go into stock, and trade is of a hand-to-mouth character, at slightly higher rates. Malting barley meets a steady demand, fine sorts being firmly held. Maize rather dearer. Beans and oats steady.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Old English wheats being practically exhausted, there was an improved demand for new arrivals, which continued in excellent condition. Prices were a shade higher than Tuesday's top quotations of 28s. No further advance in foreign, prices ranging from 27s to 33s. Maize hardening, best American making 24s. Foreign and English malting barley firm. Flour hardening, finest making over 28s per 30 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate supply of English wheat which realised 6d per quarter more than last week, quotations being 27s 6d on rail and 28s delivered. Oats and beans unchanged. Malting barley prices hardly yet settled, samples making anything from 24s to 34s per qr, according to quality.

Liverpool, Friday.—There has been a moderate attendance, and wheat is firm with a fair business passing at ½d to 1d advance from last Tuesday. Flour firm, with a more active demand at fully late rates. Maize: Mixed is firm, with a moderate trade at unchanged prices. Plate firm and in good request at ¼d advance. European grades steady, with a quiet trade at ½d to 1d advance. Barley: Malting steady, unchanged. Feeding steady, without alteration. Beans quiet, unchanged. Peas in better demand, and more steadily held at late rates. Oats in better demand, and more firmly held at a further advance of ¼d per bushel. Oatmeal quiet, unchanged. Oilcake in slow demand at about recent quotations. Indian meal has moved in satisfactory quantities at fully the prices quoted.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat dearer, and foreign unchanged. Flour 6d per sack dearer. Indian corn 1d per cental higher. Oats 1d per bushel dearer. Barley: Feeding firm; foreign, ½d to 1d per bushel dearer. Beans: English, 6d per qr higher. Peas firm and unchanged. Bran and offals command full rates

Newark, Wednesday.—A good attendance; prices firm. Quotations: White and red wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 29s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 17s 6d; black ditto, 16s 6d to 17s; old beans, 36s to 37s; new ditto, 29s to 30s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market was held for the full values of this day week, and in some instances 6d per qr more money was obtained. Maize firm and tending dearer. Beans and peas unaltered. Fine quality of oats was held for the full values of last Saturday, common sorts were neglected. Local malting barley sold from 24s to 26s per 448 lb, commoner sorts at 22s.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—The trade very quiet. Barley 6d to 9d dearer on the week, and maize 6d. Offals very firm.

Northampton, Saturday.—Moderate attendance. More grain showing. A good inquiry for wheat and beans. Prices a trifle dearer. New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old white oats, 21s to 32s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 28s to 29s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 25s to 28s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in better supply, a fair trade passing at prices in sellers favour. The few barleys offering were of a flinty character, and sold at irregular prices. Oats moderate when 6d higher. Beans firm.—Robert Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A very moderate supply of wheat at market, and again rather, say, about 3d per qr. Barley firm, but slow. Oats 3d to 6d dearer.—Thos. Hill & Sons.

Preston, Saturday.—There was an average attendance, and farmers' wheat and oats remained firm at last week's full prices. Flour unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, 12s 9d to 13s per windle of 220 lb; ditto red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, 3s 3d to 3s 4d per bushel; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, 16s to 16s 6d per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday.—The exchange was very well attended, and business ruled firm. Wheat, of which a fair quantity was on offer, made from 27s to 31s per qr.; malting barley, 26s to 33s; grinding, 23s to 26s; oats, 16s 6d to 20s; good old

oats, 20s to 24s; beans, 31s to 36s; peas, 29s to 33s; flour, 24s to 25s; rye, 22s to 23s; straw, 26s to 31s per load.

Ripon, Thursday.—Good supply of samples, and business continues to be brisk at late rates. Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; ditto new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; ditto foreign 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 24s; ditto malting, 25s to 27s 6d; oats, old, 23s to 24s; ditto new, 17s to 18s; maize, round, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto flat, 25s 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—with plenty of English grain prices have reached a more settled basis, and wheat has a ready sale at 31 per qr advance. Beans, peas, and oats unchanged. Foreign grain continues steady at last week's prices. Maize, barley, and oats being all quoted without change. Flat maize dearer with very small stocks. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 18s 6d to 19s; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb: peas, grinding, 32s to 32s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 32s 6d to 33s per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 21s 6d to 22s; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 21s 6d to 22s; ditto, flat, 26s to 26s 6d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 11s 9d to 12s per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new oats, 11s to 12s per 240 lb; peas, 13s to 14s per 240 lb; beans, 13s to 14s per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Even with a large attendance and a keen inquiry, holders of grain could not sustain last week's quotations. The best wheats were worth 28s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; ditto best malting, 28s 6d to 29s; choicest samples making 28 per qr less money on the week; beans, 28s to 29s; oats, 17s to 18s; peas, 40s to 50s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—New English wheat made 37s per quarter, and old English wheat 30s to 31s per quarter. Foreign wheat was steady at 3d to 6d advance on the week, which rather checked business. Maize steady. Oats firm. Malting barley 23s to 27s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat was rather more freely offered, but made full prices of last week. Barley steady. Oats dull. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 225 qr; barley, 614 qr; oats, 43 qr; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; old white ditto, 29s to 30s; old red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 26s to 30s; grinding ditto, 20s to 23s; oats, English, 17s to 22s; rye, 23s to 26s; peas, 30s to 34s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 42s to 46s; maize, 24s to 26s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Wheat made 10s per bag. Beans a shade higher in price. Barley very disappointing, being very hard and gritty. Feeding stuff unchanged.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain at market. Wheat a firm trade at fully 6d advance. Reds, 27s 6d to 28s 6d 504 lb. Oats 17s to 18s 336 lb; barley, 24s to 28s 418 lb; beans, 29s to 31s 532 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was only a small attendance, but a fair trade was transacted. Quotations: Wheat, new, 12s per 216 lb; flat corn, 26s; English beans, old, 15s 6d; new, 12s 6d; oats, old, 16s; new, 11s to 12s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of grain. Best wheat sold readily for seed purposes at last week's full prices. New white wheat, 26s to 27s; red wheat, 25s to 26s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 16s to 18s; new beans, 30s to 32s 6d; old beans, 36s to 38s; maize, 23s to 24s per qr.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather dry with frosty nights. There is a brisk demand for all descriptions of grain, with improving prices. Towards the end of the week a quieter tone manifests itself. Fine red Mecklenburg and Saale wheat is now held at 28s 9d to 29s 6d; Holstein at 27s 6d to 28s per 504 lb, f.o.b. Hard winter No. 2 has been sold at 28s to 29s 3d; Bahia Blanca Russa at 29s 3d; Macaroni No. 1, at 28s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye meets a free sale at steadily advancing prices. 9½ South Russian is setting at 23s 3d, 23s 6d, 9⅝ is held at 24s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley in fair request. Our brewers are paying for good to fine stout Bohemian 31s to 34s; choice lots are held at 35s 6d to 37s; fine Slovokian at 36s to 37s; Danish at 27s to 29s per 448 lb. Feeding barley firm in value; ⅝ South Russian was sold at 18s to 18s 3d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Offers of River Plate Maize are less abundant; there is a good sale for October shipment at 19s 9d; Danubian April-May, 19s 3d; mixed American October, 21s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report.—Demand is not active just now, and trade rules quieter, but prices are fairly maintained, as holders are firm and not pressing upon the market. Especially finest quality is held firm, being relatively scarce, and choice mellow Bohemian Chevalier find buyers at good prices; good medium sorts are, however, rather neglected. In Hungary business has been rather quiet, as the quality generally is not appreciated, being somewhat yellow in colour.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 25, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	3,414	5 ...	4,673	8	6	...	1	7	4
Barley ...	4,056	6 ...	5,564	12	9	...	1	7	5
Oats	5,107	3 ...	4,402	15	7	...		17	3

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statemont of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 29, 1906:—

Wheat	1,660,100	cwts.
Wheat-flour	319,500	,,
Barley	573,700	,,
Oats	225,890	,,
Maize	1,084,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	2,039,100	2,033,200	1,682,900	2,137,784
Wheat-flour	238,900	160,600	570,300	415,577
Barley ...	793,000	870,000	688,000	825,377
Oats ...	241,700	284,400	329,500	410,617
Maize ...	1,339,800	970,200	1,385,808	339,807

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Sept. 19 to 26 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	4,122	56,000	60,122
Barley.....	2,300	90	2,390
Malt.....	31,000	—	21,000
Oats...	10,000	61,000	71,000
Rye	250	1,000	1,250
Beans	1,802	820	2,622
Peas.....	1,191	621	1,812
Maize	—	57,076	57,076
Tares	190	100	290
Rapeseed	—	234	234
Linseed	—	27,000	27,000
Dholl	—	600	600
Millet	—	112	112
Flour..... sacks...	24,840	30,000	54,840
Middlings ,, ...	—	5,000	5,000
Ricemeal..	—	3,000	3,000
Ryemeal ,, ...	—	113	113

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d. pe 312 lb.

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending September 29, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	73,159...	25	10	49,279...	25	11	35,232 ...	17	5
1903...	57,499...	26	3	41,730...	23	9	34,054...	15	9
1904...	56,534..	29	10	119,553...	25	5	44,796...	15	8
1905	104,984...	26	9	123,125...	24	3	42,067...	16	1
1906...	83,907...	25	9	129,209...	24	8	37,120...	16	2

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

	s.	d.
September 1 .....(per sack)	29	0

(No change since last date given.)

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	Loudon Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1...(per sack)	26 9	...(per sack) 23 9

(No change since last date given.)

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1905.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 30	104,984	26	11	123,125	24	3	42,067	15	11
Oct. 7	89,579	26	8	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	9	224,530	25	0	24,636	16	6
,, 28	86,116	26	11	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	1	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	4	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	27	10	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	3	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	7	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	5	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	8	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	6	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	5	77,385	24	4	19,985	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	23	4	43,408	24	6	14,601	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	4	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	6	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	5	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	7	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	10	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	11	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	10	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	8	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	5	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	4	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	3	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	7	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	28	11	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	4	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	6	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	29	10	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	1	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	3	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	4	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	3	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	4	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	5	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	3	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	2	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	5	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	2	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	5	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	9	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	30	5	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	29	0	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	27	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	9	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	26	4	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	11	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.
Jan. ..	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2
Feb. ...	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3
March	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3
April ...	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9
May ...	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8
June ...	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6
July ...	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9
August	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4
Sept. ..	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3
Oct. ...	—		31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0
Nov. ..			31	9	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4
Dec. ...	—		31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0
Yrly. } Avrg. }	—		30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
1890...31	9 per qr.		28	8 per qr	18	7
1891 ..37	1	,,	28	2 ,,	20	0
1892...30	4	,,	26	2 ,,	19	11
1893..26	4	,,	25	6 ,,	18	9
1894...22	10	,,	24	6 ,,	17	1
1895...23	1	,,	21	11 ,,	14	0
1896...26	2	,,	22	11 ,,	14	0
1897..30	2	,,	23	6 ,,	16	1
1898...34	0	,,	27	2 ,,	18	3
1899...25	8	,,	25	7 ,,	17	0
1900..26	11	,,	25	9 ,,	17	9
1901...26	9	,,	25	3 ,,	18	3
1902...28	0	,,	25	8 ,,	20	2
1903..26	9	,,	22	11 ,,	17	2
1904...28	4	,,	22	4 ,,	16	4
1905...29	9	,,	24	4 ,,	17	4

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

There was a good inquiry for new English wheat, and 3d. more money from the 28th ult. was obtainable. The price of American and Manitoba wheat advanced a full 6d. per quarter. Other sorts of foreign wheat, without being quotably dearer, were firm in sympathy with the American kinds. Russian barley was held for 6d. advance, and 3d. rise was obtained. English was in fairly good request at 32s. for sound, but not quite first-class, malting samples.

Oats advanced 3d. for Russian, American, and Roumanian, but were not quotably dearer for English and New Zealand types. Inquiry was decidedly brisker from the September markets. Maize sold well, both the yellow and round sorts being required in good quantity for the time of year. Beans were 6d. dearer for English, which are now better value than foreign.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

October 1.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old)	,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New) ...	,,	26 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	32 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	31 — 35
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	28 — 29
	Feeding (Old)...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
	,, (New)...	,,	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	28 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	23 — 24
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	48 — 54
	(Spring)	,,	56 — 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32 – 32/3	American	23—23/3
,, ,, 2	31—31/3	Argentine	20/6—21
American Red	29/6—30	Bulgarian	21—21/6
Argentine ...	30—30/6	Roumanian ...	21—21/6
Australian ...	31 — 32	Russian	21—21/6
New Zealand	30 — 31	Rangoon	21 — 22
Californian ...	31 — 32	North African	22 — 23
Blue Stem ...	31 — 32	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Walla Walla	30 — 31	Smyrna.....	34 — 36
Saxonka	32 — 33	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Azima	30 — 31	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Ghirka	29 — 30	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Indian White	29/6—30	Italian	64 — 72
,, Red	29—29/9	Burmese	32 — 42
Persian.....	28—28/6	Chilian	56 — 64
Turkish	27 — 28	LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29 — 30	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	PEAS (504 lb.):	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian(400 lb)	19 – 19/3	Indian Green	29 — 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18 — 19	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24 — 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39— 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Torrified(336 lb)	21 — 22	White	42 — 44
MALT (336 lb.):		Yellow	22 — 24
Californian ...	33 — 36	Sorghum	20 — 22
Smyrna	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Ouchak	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
RYE (480 lb.):		Burmese	9 — 10
Russian	24 — 25	Siamese	8 — 9
OATS:		DARI (480 lb.):	
N'wZeal'd(384 lb)	23 —25	Smyrna	25 — 26
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	19— 20	Indian	23 — 24
Am'can (320 lb)	16/9—17	Persian	21 — 22
Libau (320 lb.)	18 — 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)	
,, (304 lb.)	15—15/6	French	26 — 27
Arg'nt'e(304 lb)	15—15/6	Russian	25 — 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

American millers have cabled instructions to their Mark Lane representatives not to sell for November and December delivery at present prices. This definite action invested the trade in foreign flour to-day with decided firmness, and made the situation quite different from what it was in September.

Household flour, however, was not better, indeed a few weak holders of this type took 3d. less money in order to clear. Of course, these sellers were not the great London millers, but those who had bought of them and been disappointed of a rise.

Country flour commanded a large sale at the currencies of the 28th ult., the vendors deciding not to check a brisk business by making any advance in their prices.

Hungarian flour was held for 6d. advance, which was sometimes paid.

Bran, middlings, pollard, and wholemeal inclined to favour buyers, but rice meal and barley meal were sometimes a trifle dearer on the week.

London Flour.		
Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		29/0 nct.
Town Whites	,,	25/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/9 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/9 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/9 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/9 ,,

Country Flour.		s. s.
Best Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		24—24/3
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22—22/3
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21—21/3
Stone made	,,	20—20/3

Foreign Flour.		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED DECIDEDLY FIRMER, FOR ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER WAS SUMMERLIKE, THE WANT OF RAIN CAUSED THE ENQUIRY TO BE GOOD FOR ALL FORMS OF DRY FOOD.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market still remains in a quiet state, the large buyers are operating yet. The quality of the last pickings is splendid, the English crop this year is all fit for putting into cold store.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Holders of wheat, maize, barley, and cottonseed cargoes are firmer from Saturday, but linseed and rapeseed are weaker. Cargoes unchanged in price, and demand are those of oats and pulse.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Rosaria, 28s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment (new crop); Barletta, 29s 6d per 480 lb, promp shipment (old crop); Blue Stem, 31s 3d per 500 lb, prompt shipment (new crop); Azima, 30s per 492 lb, prompt shipment (new crop); Odessa Ghuiks, 29s 30s per 492 lb, prompu shipment (new crop); No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s per 480 lb, arrived; No. 2 Soft Winter American, 28s per 480 lb, October shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 19s per 400 lb, October shipment; Persian, 17s 6d per 400 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—Turkish, 15s 4½d per 304 lb, October shipment; Roumanian, 15s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment.

Maize.—Galatz, 20s 6d per 480 lb, November shipment; Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, November shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 40s 6d per 416 lb, arrived; Argentine, 38s 6d per 416 lb.

Rapeseed.—Yellow Cawnpore, 44s 9d per 416 lb, April shipment (new crop); Brown Calcutta, 49s 6d per 416 lb, arrived.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 2s 6d per ton, arrived, Fayoumi, £6 18s 9d per ton, prompt shipment.

TERM MARKET.

There is little change in futures, but a slightly increased disposition to operate for remote dates is shown.

Red American wheat,	Oct. delivery,	6s 6d per cental.	
,, ,,	Dec.	,, 6s 6d	,,
,, ,,	Feb.	,, 6s 7d	,,
Mixed American Maize.....	Oct.	,, 4s 7d	,,
,, ...	Dec.	,, No sales.	
,, ...	Feb.	,, 4s 2d per cental.	
Yellow Argentine Maize ...	Oct.	,, 4s 3d	,,
,, ...	Dec.	,, 4s 3d	,,
,, ...	Feb.	,, 4s 3d	,,

A sale was effected this morning of American wheat for March delivery at 4s 6½d per cental.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The market for oil-seeds is rather weaker from the 28th Sep. There is however, so firm a market for oilcakes that recovery in the "raw material" is generally predicted.

LINSEED	per 416 lb. s. s	COTTONSEED.	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	47 to 49	Egyptian.....	138 to 140
American.....	43 to 44	Indian	105 to 107
Calcutta	42 to 43	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	43 to 45	English, Best ..	16 to 17
Russian	42 to 44	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Argentine	41 to 42	,, Black.	13 to 14
Duluth	40 to 41	SESAME.	per cwt.
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.	Indian	14 to 15
Best English ...	62 to 64	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.
Yellow Guzerat	51 to 53	Russian	49 to 50
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.
Brown ,,	44 to 45	English	48 to 50
Ferozepore	45 to 46	Spanish	78 to 80
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	41 to 43
Indian	46 to 48	Argentine	40 to 41

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The demand as well as the price of flour is better, values being 6d. per sack dearer both for springs and winters. Grain.—American corn 1½d lower. Round rather firmer on spot and 1½d per boll dearer to arrive. Manitoba oats 14s per 264 lb. American barley 14s 6d per 320 lb. Not much demand for beans. English are rather lower. Oilcake quiet. New oatmeal steady. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—Demand fairly steady, though trade somewhat quieter than of late; quotations remain unchanged.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Market firm with upward tendency. In some instances quotations are being advanced 3d to 6d per sack.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Wheat arrivals are moderate. Trade is firm, and prices are 6d per qr higher. Flour 3d per sack dearer. Maize 9d to 1s, and barley and oats 3d per qr dearer.—COVENTRY AND SHEPHERD.

Flour trade very firm with fair business passing at 3d to 6d advance on the week.—MEDILL AND SONS.

Milling Offals.—There is no fresh feature to report, bran and pollards still remaining very scarce and firm.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,763 bales, and from foreign ports 12,448. There was a stedy demand for Bacon throughout last week, prices ranged:—Irish, 64s to 66s up to 68s; Danish, 62s to 66s up to 68s; Canadian, 62s to 64s up to 66s. Butter.—Butter was a firm market. French, 112s to 126s; Danish, 126s to 128s; Russian, 90s to 106s; Dutch, 116s to 118s; Irish, 102s to 119s; Canadian, 94s to 116s; Victorian, 106s to 118s; New South Wales, 106s to 118s; Queensland, 102s to 116s; New Zealand, finest, 116s to 120s; American, 92s to 102s. Lard.—Lard was a steady market. Irish, 54s to 62s; American, 45s to 47s; Danish, 56s to 59s.

BUTTER.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 6d to 1s Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s to 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8. Berwick: 1s 2d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 7 and 8. Doncaster: 10. Grantham: 11 and 12. Howden: 10 to 12. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 7 to 9. Malton: 10 and 11. Pontefract: 9. Retford: 2s to 2s 2d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 8 and 9. Shrewsbury: 9 and 10. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 9. York: 10 to 12.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals of cheese were more liberal. Domand was moderate for all classes. Holders adhered to late prices. What is desired is a good cheese to retail at 9d per lb. Cheddars, 62s to 66s; Dunlops, 58s to 64s per cwt. Values of Canadians rather above buyers' ideas. Home cheese reckoned better value. Top Canadian, 66s per cwt.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 7 tons pitched, good attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 60s to 66s per cwt; fancy dairies, 67s to 69s; truckles, 65s to 70s; Derbys, 67s to 69s.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday. — Dull demand; moderate supply. Goslings, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; quails, 9d to 1s 2d; wild ducks, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; English hares, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s each; young grouse, 6s to 6s 6d; old, 3s 6d to 4s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample supplies of fruit and vegetables met with a steady demand, Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 2s to 6s per bushel; ditto (Cox's orange pippins), 5s to 7s per half-sieve; pears, 2s 6d to 6s 6d per half-sieve; grapes, 6d to 2s 6d; peaches, 3s to 15s per dozen; green figs, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; plums, 2s to 6s; damsons, 4s to 5s per half-sieve; pomegranates, 6s 6d to 9s per case; pineapples, 2s to 4s 6d each; cobnuts, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per 12 lb.; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s to 8s per bag; mint, 1s 3d to 1s 9d; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 2s to 2s 6d; radishes, 6d to 8d; sage, 9d to 1s per dozen bundles; cucumbers, 3s to 5s; endive, 2s to 2s 6d; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; cabbages, 4s to 5s; marrows, 6s to 8s per tally; horseradish, 9s to 14s; celery, 6s to 12s per dozen rolls; tomatoes, 2s 3d to 3s; onions, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per cwt; mushrooms (forced), 6s to 9s per 12 lb; ditto (outdoor), 1s 6d to 2s 6d per half-sieve; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; potatoes, 55s to 75s per ton.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wet Grains: The market remains firm at ale 20s, porter 17s, distillers, 32s 6d; pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains are in strong demand: Ale, 100s; mixed 91s 3d; distillers, 100s per ton on rail London; also ale, 92s 6d, and mixed 85s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 72s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 98s 6d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 97s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMBYN AND CO., 37-38, Park Lane, E.C.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 1, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 2, 1905.
Beasts	1,210	1,210	1,150
Sheep and Lambs ...	5,080	5,080	6,650
Calves	20	20	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 0
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	∠	—

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 40; Midland, Homo, and Western Counties, 1,140; Devon, 30; Ireland, nil.

To-day's supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed a decrease of ten head. Trade in the early morning opened slow, and continued so throughout the day, the tendency in regard to value ruling in favour of the buyers, though not sufficient to enable us to quote it so. Middling quality cattle practically unsaleable. Fat butchering cows and bulls in average numbers also shared in the general depression, this being chiefly due to the overstocked state of the dead meat market and to the marked absence of country buyers. A clearance under these circumstances is considered very doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 2, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch		—		—
Devons.....	4 4 to 4 6	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Herefords	4 2 to 4 4	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Norfolks		—		—
Runts	4 0 to 4 2	...	4 0 to 4 4	
Lincolns	3 8 to 3 10	...	3 8 to 3 10	
Irish		—	4 0 to 4 5	
Canadian.....		—		—
Fat Cows	3 4 to 3 6	...	3 4 to 3 6	

In the sheep market to-day there was a decrease of 620 in the number penned, the supply including 150 Scotch, 600 Irish, and 457 from Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. Trade for all grades for both wethers and ewes was of a slow and dragging nature, prices ruling easier to the extent of fully 2d. per 8lb. for the former, and from 2d. to 4d. per 8lb. for the latter. On the other hand, both Scotch and Irish sheep sold fairly well, last week's values being well maintained. The lamb season being now finished, trade is not worth recording. A clearance in this part of the market will not be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 2, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5 10 to 6	0	...5 8 to 5	10
9 st. Downs	5 6 to 5	8	...5 6 to 5	8
10 st Halfbreds	5 4 to 5	6	...5 4 to 5	6
10 st Yorkshires	—		...	—
12st Lincolns	—		...	—
10 st Irish	5 4 to 5	6	...5 2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 0 to 4	2	...4 0 to 4	2
11 st Halfbred ditto.....	3 10 to 4	0	...3 10 to 4	0
5 st Down Lambs	—		...	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		...	—

Calves too few to note or quote.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies met with a quiet demand. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s to 3s 6d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 6d. Ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Lambs, 5s to 5s 4d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 10d to 4s 10d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts.), Monday.—Beasts, 401; sheep 1,466, pigs 412. Fat and store cattle, fair demand; fat and store sheep, good trade; fat and store pigs, sharp trade; milch cows a short supply and in good demand. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 9d; milch cows, £15 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 631. To-day's supply compared with the corresponding day last week showed a decrease of 724 head, and consisted of 372 from the United States, and 259 from Canada. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a very slow and dragging nature, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of from 1d to 2½d per 8 lb. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d exceptionally, for States beasts, and from 3s 7d to 3s 9d for Canadians (offal given in). On Saturday 1,600 beasts from the United States and 487 from Canada were offered for sale, trade ruled fairly firm and steady, late currencies governing most sales. The best on offer were quoted as follows (offal given in):—Best States beasts, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; Canadian 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Besides the above numbers given, 400 more were withheld.

Liverpool, Monday. — A larger supply of cattle, and demand fair for good quality, but middling sorts difficult to dispose of at lower prices. There was a large decrease of sheep, and trade very slow for all classes. To effect sales considerable reduction on late rates was accepted. Prices: Beef, 6d to 4½d; mutton 8½d to 6½d per lb. At market 1,389 cattle and 6,322 sheep.

SEEDS.

Borough, Monday.—There is no change in the seed market. The autumn sowing season is practically over; a small trade is being done in winter tares and rye corn at late rates. New clovers are offering, but as undoubtedly there is a big crop of fine quality of English red clover, buyers are holding off. White alsyke and trefoil are quiet, seed merchants being busy selecting their natural grasses. Cocksfoot is also quiet. French, Italian is firm, also lucerne and sowing rape.—W. H. & H. LE MAY.

London, Monday.—The autumn sowing demand is drawing to a close. Seed wheats in good request. Prices firm. Winter tares offering freely, finding ready buyers. Prices tempting. Mustard firm. Peas selling freely. Prices unchanged. The new clover seeds are now appearing. English reds show fine samples. Prices realised so far 48s. to 52s. Whites disappointing in quality. Alsikes various. Trefoils show fine samples of English. Foreign ordinary. Grasses unchanged.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday.—The fifth series of London sales of colonial wool commenced to-day, with catalogues comprising 13,169 bales out of an available total of 98,000 bales. There was a very large attendance, and good general competition with a firm tone. Compared with the closing rates of last series merino wool shows practically no change. Fine crossbreds are very firm, but the coarser greasies sell at from par to 5 per cent., slipes at from 5 to 10 per cent. below July. Cape Snow Whites and good greasies are unchanged. Inferior grease shows a halfpenny decline.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 1d.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday. —Good arrivals submitted experienced a fair amount of attention. Quotations: British Queens, 60s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-Date, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 60s.; English Puritans, 60s to 65s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was not a very large attendance, and not much demand. The average prices of potatoes were 5s 6d to 6s per load.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply, which met a quick sale at 6s 6d to 7s 6d per load; retail, 6d to 7d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Cheshire, 4s to 5s 6d per load; Lincoln, 4s 6d to 5s; Bedford Hebrons, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt; turnips, washed, 40s to 45s; swedes, 30s to 35s; carrots, washed, 50s to 60s per ton.

York, Saturday.—Limited supply, and a higher price was asked. Hampshires of 10 stone realised 2s to 2s 6d; best Up-to-dates, to 45s, and inferior sorts to 40s per ton.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington market during the week there was a slight increase in the number on offer for sale. Trade for both prime and second quality fat beasts was of a dull and dragging nature, rates ruling easier in most cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. There was a rather larger consignment of Devons, trade for which, though slow, was steady, late currencies governing most transactions. Middling quality fat cattle were largely in excess of the demand, being practically unsaleable. The majority of the supply as usual at this time of the year consisted of Herefords and Runts from the Midland and Home Counties. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average numbers, but met a very limited enquiry from both town and country buyers, the tendency in regard to value being in favour of the buyers, a decline of 2d. per 8lb. being noticeable in most cases; rough cattle unsaleable. On Thursday very few transactions were recorded owing to a slacker demand by country buyers, last Monday's reduced rates governing all sales, at which quotation a few were left unsold.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a slow but steady demand, the tendency in regard to value ruling in favour of the sellers in some cases to the extent of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,805, as against 4,662 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,290 British (increase 170) and 4,515 imported (increase 973). These latter comprised 3,073 from the United States and 1,442 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Runts, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d.; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 6d.; 95 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; 100 stone fat bulls, 2s. 8d. to 3s.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday for best quality Downs and half-breds, which were short in number, was slow but firm, late rates being well upheld; on the other hand, ewes met with less inquiry and were easier in value, this being particularly noticeable on Thursday, when business was almost at a standstill. The lamb season being almost finished, only the best found buyers at a reduction of from 2d to 4d per 8 lb. A few sheep were offered for sale at Deptford, but met a very sluggish trade, prices remaining unquotable. The total number penned at both markets was 6,657 (increase 357). The supply consisted of 6,500 British and 157 Canadians. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—8 stone Downs, 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 8d.

The calf trade ruled very slow with a shorter supply, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

Deliveries of most classes of store stock continue to come very freely to hand, but as much of it is of a stamp not generally wanted, business remains very inactive, especially for distinctly plain grades. The principal thing for which there may be said to be a really good demand is anything useful in the milk line, prices for which all round are being well maintained, with no immediate prospect, whilst the supply of milk keeps so abnormally short all over the country, of this class of stock becoming appreciably cheaper; in fact, the tendency of present sales is to enhance values rather than the reverse. Heifers are much wanted, as also are early calvers, and the supply of just the class now in so much request is difficult to provide for, the great bulk of the offer being altogether unsuitable for the purpose for which they are immediately required. Best class heifers and deep-milking cows now sell readily from £17 up to £22 apiece for anything at all fit for drafting into town dairies, and seconds from £14 to £16 10s.; but outside these there is very little sale for the large numbers offering at from £10 to £12 or £13.

The keep question is also telling adversely on the price of grazing cattle, and just for the present even the youngest bullocks seldom make over £28 for well-fleshed animals, ranging down to £18 or £20 for those less proofy; whilst the rougher grades are in many cases practically unsaleable, except at "giving-away" prices—£12 to £16 or £17 per pair! Sheep of good character maintain late rates, which, however, are still somewhat below last year's currencies.

Sales of fat stock all round are not quite so good as they were, and, though there is no great drop in the choicer grades of either beef or mutton, still prices are certainly favouring buyers. Fat beasts, amongst which are some exceptionally choice Devons, Shorthorns, and cross-breds, come splendidly to hand as regards finish, and for these from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb. is an outside quotation, which is very rarely exceeded, whilst the more ordinary runs—nice-quality animals, almost good enough for anything—sell from 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d., and the rougher qualities, of which purveyors are very indifferent buyers, not more than 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. These figures, therefore, show a distinct decline in the price compared with those ruling of late. Calves continue to make a good price, the best from scarcity realising 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per stone.

Only the very choicest grades of either wethers or young ewes maintain their value, and these only with difficulty, coarser weights favouring buyers to the extent of 2d. per stone, 5s. 6d. to 6s. being the top rate just now for the very best weights, whilst the more ordinary runs make from 5s. 4d. down to as low as 4s. 4d. for old ewes. Occasionally anything very choice in suckling lambs sells up to 7s., though a more average quotation for the great bulk of what is offering is from 5s. 10d. to 6s. 4d., sellers having to accept less money all round, especially where sales are forced.

Pigs are the one thing only that remain firm, and porkers just for the present are readily making up to 10s. 6d. for all the neater weights, and 10s. for larger size; baconers, 9s. to 9s. 6d.; and coarse, heavy animals at from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d., according to quality and weight. Sales continue as firm as ever for this particular class of meat, no doubt the result of the high prices stores are selling at.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle has been large, but the general quality under an average. For the best descriptions prices were nearly equal to those of last week, but all others were about 15s. per head lower. A large show of fat cows met a decidedly worse market. Sheep and lambs in large supply. Trade was quieter throughout at prices nearly 2s. per head lower all over. Fat calves scarcer and very dear. Pigs in short numbers and sold at prices the highest of the season. A very large supply of store sheep. Trade was slow at from 1s. to 2s. a head reduction, with part of the secondary sheep left unsold.

There was a fair supply of store cattle, many of them of good quality. For this class there was a steady demand, and a nearly total clearance was effected, but rough cattle and stirks are difficult to sell. Milch cows met a better trade at nearly £1 a head over the prices of the preceding week. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 37s. 10d.; current, 32s. to 35s. 6d.; mutton to nearly 9½d per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

There was an increase of 123 head of cattle in last Thursday's Dublin market, the number of beasts penned being 4,279. There was a large attendance of home and English buyers, but the latter had been heavily hit over their transactions on this side for the last couple of weeks, so would not do business except on better terms, and it was not till a reduction of about 10s. per head was come to that they began buying, when they operated pretty freely, and the purchases more than doubled those of the previous week. The show of cattle, though so much larger, was in a great measure made up of what were not much better than stores. During the early hours of the market all the choice bullocks and heifers were picked up at about late rates, but later on everything sold at the reduction mentioned. All salemasters had to work hard to complete sales at from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. (live weight) below late values. From 28s to 30s. might be the value set down for nice beasts, but some choice Polled and Herefords made up to 31s. and 32s. (live weight). The approximate dead-weight rates were:—Choice bullocks and heifers, from 50s. to 56s. for very choice; medium classes, 45s. to 47s. 6d; and inferior grades, from 40s. to 43s. 6d.

Sheep, though showing a decrease of 382 on the week (number penned, 8,670), were a bad trade, nothing bringing the top price (8d. to 8¾d. per lb.) but prime small Cheviot and Mountain wethers, which upheld previous quotations, but heavy-weight mutton was difficult to dispose of at lower prices. Export demand slack, hoggets generally being from 2s. to 3s. per head less money. A disturbing element to business was the large shipments of Iceland sheep, which are always due in Ireland about this time, and for which buyers are evidently waiting. Medium and light-weight hoggets were purchased with caution. Lambs slow at from 25s. to 35s. for nice ones, and up to 40s. each was paid for large, fat. A good many buyers were picking up ewes suitable to the coming season. Messrs. Sanly held a large sale of some 6,000 store sheep, and many buyers attended, and bidding was keen. Wicklow, Cheviot, and Scotch black-faced were in good demand. Best Roscommon and Galway ewes realised from 45s. to 57s each, ordinary and inferior quality ewes from 33s. to 43s, and Cheviots from 33s. to 44s. apiece. Black-faced ewes brought from 27s. to 35s., black-faced lambs made from 14s. to 16s, and black-faced wethers from 33s. to 47s. Cross bred lambs realised from 22s. 6d. to 45s. each according to condition and quality. Prices for long-woolled sheep were hardly up to the level of previous rates. Veal moved slowly at about late rates for prime, secondary and inferior slow at from 4½d. per lb. Milch cows in fair supply, with improved demand. Best springers from £18 to £20, other descriptions from £8 10s. upwards. Store cattle a very quiet trade.

Dublin pig market well supplied, attendance of buyers good, and trade fairly active, with an easier tendency. Choice light-weight pigs from 59s. to 51s. per cwt.; inferior pigs from 30s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was very slow, rates ruling in favour of buyers, though not quotably so. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s per 8 lb. Decrease of 190 in number penned in sheep market. Trade ruled firm for wether sheep, late rates governing all sales. Ewes, however, were in very little request, even at reductiou of 2d to 4d per 8 lb. Lambs sold from 4d to 6d per 8 lb lower, the season being now practically finished. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 8-stone Down sheep, 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10-stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d. Calf trade slow but firm. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; sheep 4s 2d to 6s; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 8d.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade slow. Pork firm. Quotations: English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d, exceptional, 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 10d; Dutch ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 6d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday. — Beef trade slow, as usual, with 4s 4d quite top price. Mutton sold better, Down wethers making up to 6s, Kent wethers up to 5s 6d, barrens up to 4s 4d. Veal was unchanged, at 5s 4d to 6s, and roasting pork rose about 2d, making 4s 4d. A fair trade for store sheep.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb, a few Herefords 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, and moderate business was done at late rates; sheep and lambs were again in small supply, and trade was quiet, without any change of quotations. Pigs were scarce, and porkers advanced 3d, making 11s 3d per score.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in. 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2¼ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 6d per score.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Strong tegs made up to 43s; ewe tegs, 38s to 45s; and good three-lamb ewes from 38s to 41s. Working lambs were in demand at from 21s to 26s, and extra good pens from 28s to 30s 6d. Very little inquiry for store bullocks.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were smaller, with a good attendance of buyers. Best milking stock was in demand, but inferior were difficult to move, the higher rates demanded generally making trade slow. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £22; calvers, £15 to £20; barrens, £9 to £13; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £9; sheep, 18s to 42s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Lambs met rather

a slower trade than a fortnight ago, and prices were easier. Breeding and grazing ewes were in better demand at higher prices. Fresh calved dairy cows and heifers with good stocks met a brisk trade at highly satisfactory prices, but inferior cattle were difficult to sell. Best quality fat cattle sold better at advanced prices, but for half fat animals, cows and bulls, there was little demand. Quotations: Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; South-down sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 5s to 5s 3d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Derby, Tuesday.—There was a fair attendance, and with a smaller supply of stock prices rule firm. Beef, 6d to 6½d; mutton, 7½d to 8½d; lambs, 8½d to 9½d per lb.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market: Beasts, 4,279—increase, 123; sheep, 8,670—decrease, 382; calves, 92—increase, 48. The cattle trade was slow and dragging, and, except for fancy lots of choice finish, last week's prices could not be realised. Sheep of all classes a weaker trade, especially shipping qualities. Lambs getting out of season. Cattle—Live weight (best) 29s to 31s and 32s per cwt; secondary sorts, 25s to 28s per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to 8d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Cattle and sheep met a decidedly slower trade, with smaller prices. Best Polled bullocks, £11 11s to £14 14s; Cheviot ewes, 26s to 38s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 32s to 41s; Cheviot lambs, 22s; best Shorthorn cows, £20 to £26; Ayrshires, £18; calving Ayrshires to £16 10s; Irish, to £23.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a moderate supply, but demand was slow at barely late prices. Top Scotch cattle, 61s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s to 58s per cwt; top hoggs, 10d; heavy weights, 9d to 9½d; wedders, 8d to 9d; lambs, 10d to 10½d per lb. Dead meat in moderate request and values steady; best Scotch beef, 5¾d; best States, 5d; best Canadians, 4¾d; cows, 4½d; hoggs, 8d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A fair supply of beef to-day, but no alteration in the trade. Best quality bullock and heifer beef firm at 6½d, and in some cases 6¾d, with cow beef at 4½d, and bull beef 4d. Good supply of sheep, and trade firm, wether mutton making 8d, and ewe mutton 6½d to 7d. Stock ewes were dear, and store lambs also met with a good demand. Butchers' lambs made 8d. Porks were a better supply and trade was brisk, porkers making 6d and bacons 3½d to 6d. Stores were scarce and dear. There was a good call for calves, fat ones making 7½d to 8d per lb. Store cattle trade dull.

Lincoln, Friday.—Beasts were in small supply, milch cows alone being shown, and a fair trade was experienced at £16 to £20 each. A smaller consignment of sheep, and business ruled brisk. Lambs, 28s to 43s; ewes, 40s to 56s; and gimmers, 50s to 83s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, and trade slow, from 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Very few stores shown, with very slow trade, making £6 to £13 each. Fat sheep an average show, and trade at late rates from 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone. Stores 40s to 46s each, store lambs 23s to 38s, fat lambs 23s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Cheviots, 8½d; others, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5¾d to 6½d. Veal: firsts, 6d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4½d. Porkers: Firsts: 7d½; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade was slow and dragging, prices favouring buyers. Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 4½d; seconds, 6s 9d to 7s; steers, 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s 9d to 6s 3d; pigs, 6s 3d to 8s per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; lambs, 8½d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A very large supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs, but short of calves and pigs. Trade was brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9½d to 9¾d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a larger supply of fat beasts, and the demand was good; prices averaged from 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone of 14 lb, whilst a few choice lots made up to 8s. Rather more store cattle on offer, nearly all of which were Irish stock; trade was quiet, and values ruled very slow without change, prices ranging from £6 to £7 10s per head. Small market for store sheep, consisting principally of breeding ewes; a quiet trade was experienced all round, with late rates being about maintained. Lambs made from 30s to 44s per head, and breeding ewes from 48s to 60s. Fat sheep were offered in limited numbers, and sold readily at 9s 6d to 10s per stone. The fat and store pigs were small, and trade very firm for all descriptions. Fat pigs averaged 7s 3d per stone, and small stores ranged from 14s to 24s per head; larger qualities, from 30s to 59s.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a good display of beef and mutton, and prices ruled above the average. Quotations of beasts were still 10s per head down, but mutton made a little more. Calves sold at good rates. Heifers and bullocks, 5½d to 6d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d; lambs, 9½ to 9¾d; tups, 5½d to 6d; hoggs, 8¾d to 9¼d; ewes, 6d to 7½d; fat calves, 7d to 7¾d; calves, 6½d to 7d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade slow. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in short supply, trade a little better at 4s 10d to 4s per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade dear. Best small, up to 6s; large, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, very slow demand. Pig trade about the same. Large hogs up to 4s; small porkers, 4s 6d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Good milch beasts still in good demand, and realised £20 to £22; secondary lots making £15 to £16 10s each.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Owing to the drought there were very few store cattle. The usual supply of fat cattle, which met with a ready sale at prices in advance of last week. Good trade in store sheep, ewes especially being in good demand, Shropshires realising 52s and cross breds 46s. Slower trade in store pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; veal, 7d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 0d per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 10s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which made 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 7s. per stone. Young sheep realised 9d per lb, lambs 10d, ewes 7d, and tups 6d. Pigs showed a reduction of 3d per stone all round.

Thame, Tuesday.—This market was again well supplied with all description of stock, although the cattle were not such a choice lot as the previous week, a considerable number of half fed cattle being in evidence, which were unsaleable. The usual large numbers of buyers were in attendance, and the trade for choice quality was fully maintained. A sluggish demand for ewes. Sheep still continue to sell well. A good clearing trade for all pigs, and veal but weaning calves (except for best) found few purchasers. At Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale were 111 fat beast, 238 fat sheep, 121 fat and weaning calves, and 126 fat and store pigs. Fat heifers made from £13 to £19; fat oxen, £16 to £22 5s; fat wethers, 50s to 61s; fat ewes, 45s to 52s; fat lambs, 30s to 51s; fat calves, £3 15s to £5 10s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 46s; bacon hogs, £4 to £5 15s; porkers, 32s to 46s; store pigs, 16s to 28s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, Fat bullocks, 55s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £15; rearing calves, 25s to 32s; ewes, 38s to 45s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 10s to 45s each; beef, 6½d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8d; lamb, 8½d to 9½d; veal, 6½d to 8d; pork, 6½d to 8½; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9½; pork (carcasses), 5½d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply; slow trade. Beef 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 9½d to 9¾d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of cattle, but of very good quality. Sheep were also a small supply, with trade good. Best beef, 6s 9d to 7s 3d; secondary qualities, 6s 3d. to 6s 6d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 5½d to 6½d; lamb to 9½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—A light show of Irish cattle, and a very small one of English. It is rather too early for the bullock season, most of the men being busy at the sheep fair. There are few buyers except for choice lots, which sell at late rates. Some good two-year-old bullocks, full of beef, make up to £14 10s. A larger show of calving and milch cows, and a fair number changed hands at prices slightly in favour of the buyers. The absence of several "off" buyers accounts for a dragging trade, but the best young fat animals sold fairly well, in a few cases up to £22 being made, but the general run of prices is between £15 and £18. There was the largest display of breeding sheep seen during the season, the number being estimated at over 20,000, the greater part being north and west country ewes. Generally trade was good, and most of the pens were cleared. North country ewes sold at 5½ to 56s; Cheviots, 30s to 38s; west country (chiefly Mashams), up to 53s, with an average of about 49s. There was an average show of twice crossed sheep for turnips, prices ruling from 42s to 51s; twice-crossed lambs, up to 49s; and Mashams, 24s to 30s. Rams were not so numerous as usual at these fairs, but they met with a fair trade at £4 to £6 per head.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—There is a decided improvement in the consumptive demand, but country dealers are still shy at entering into forward contracts; nevertheless, values remain particularly firm, shippers asking full prices, while in some instances they have slightly raised their limits. Russian may still be had at last week's quotations. East India seed purcs make 2s. 6d. less money. La Plata continue to find a ready sale at about late rates. London made are in moderate request and unchanged. Cotton Cakes.—In spite of some recent arrivals of Egyptian, the market is almost bare of stocks, and £5 is freely paid for ready parcels. English maintain their value on account of the small production, while Bombays are quoted unaltered. Decorticated are not procurable for immediate delivery, but some prime meal offers at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Rice Meal.—There is practically no Rangoon remain in store, but a steamer parcel shortly due is available at £4 14s to £4 16s 3d, ex ship terms. Maize Germ Meal.—White American is relatively cheap at £5 15s to £5 16s, ex quay, while English makes aae held for rather more money at £5 8s 9d to £5 10s. Maize Gluten Meal moves off more freely at £5 10s per ton. Locust beans are without change at £5 15s for Whole, and £6 per ton for Kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains meet a good enquiry at £5 5s for Ale and £4 15s per ton for Porter.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ... ... ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
,, in bags	7 16 3	to 7 17 6
Calcutta ... to arrive	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
La Plata	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian		5 0 0
English	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	—	
Ravison	—	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon	—	
,, afloat, ex ship	4 15 0	to 4 16 3
LOCUST BEANS.		
White	5 15 0	
Kibbled	6 0 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of Soda (on spot)	10 17 6	
Nitrate of Soda (Spring delivery)	11 2 6	
DRIED GRAINS.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed. — Following the break in North America the market has turned weak and prices are down 1s to 1s 3d from the best. River Plate: Spot and passage, 39s 4½d; October-November, 39s 9d; December-January, 38s 3d; January-February, 38s. Baltic sorts offer at 39s to 39s 3d. Cottonseed.—More money paid again for old crop Egyptian, and business done ex store at £7 to £7 1s 3d, also up to latter price by steamer afloat and early positions. New crop made £7 3s 9d to £7 5s passage, £7 1s 3d to £7 2s 6d shipping, £6 12s 6d first half of October and £6 10s all the month, but November-January scarcely dealt in, and has offered all the week at £6 5s. To day there is a quieter tone all round and prices generally 1s 3d per ton lower. Bombay on spot sold at £5 13s 6d to £5 13s 9d, and still offers at the latter price; September-October, £5 13s 6d; November-December done at £5 6s 6d; and later periods, £5 3s £5 2s. Oils — The market is steady. Linseed Oil: 18s 6d spot, 18s 6d September-December, 18s 4½d January-April. Cottonseed Oil: 21s spot, 18s 4½d November-April. Oilseed Cakes.—A quiet trade with, however, firm prices in face of the approaching usual demand.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: After a sharp decline owing to weakness in America, the market is now firm, and offers are very scarce. London—Spot 42s, afloat 41s 9d. September-October 41s 9d, October-November 41s 6d. Hull—Firm, but inactive. Plate spot 40s, September-October 40s 6d, October-November 40s 6d. Rapeseed is very strong for old and new crop. Yellow Guzerat, March-May 45s 6d, Yellow Cawnpore, March-May 44s. Brown Cawnpore, September-October 51s 3d, Ferozepore March-May 42s, Brown Calcutta, April-May 41s, Jamba, September-October 38s 6d. Cottonseed. Near positions have about maintained their values, but forward are weaker. London—Loading £7, about to load £6 15s—first half October £6 12s 6d, all the month £6 8s 9d, Novem

ber/January £6 5s. Hull—Spot £7, £6 8s 9d, November/January £6 3s 9d. —October £6 12s 6d, November £6 8s 9d. Linseed Oil: Prices have fluctuated to some extent, but remain about the same as last quoted. Spot in pipes £19 10s, barrels £19 15s in all positions to April. Hull naked spot and to December £18 15s, January/April £18 12s 6d. — The Produce Brokers Co., Ltd.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda has further improved 5s. per ton, and is £11 17s. 6d. for 95 per cent. and £12 7s. 6d. for refined, whilst the spot value of standard quality of sulphate of ammonia is £12 2s. 6d. For kainit there is an increased inquiry for autumn deliveries, and likewise phosphatic fertilisers; basic slag is unchanged in values, but superphosphates have advanced about 5s. per ton. Feeding stuffs are only a quiet trade, but values are upheld. Small sales in feeding treacle and rice meal.

	£ s d	£ s d
Fine Bone Ash	3 10 0	—
Nitrate of Soda	—	11 17 6
East India Bone Meal	5 2 6	5 7 6
Kainit	2 2 6	2 3 9
Palm Nut Cake	6 7 6	6 10 0
Linseed Cake, American	7 10 0	7 15 0
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14 0 0	15 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, S.A., decorticated, soft	7 17 6	8 1 3
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8 2 6	8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4 17 6	5 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, Egyptian, undecorticated	—	—
Fattening Cake	6 15 0	—
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6 7 6	—
Crushed Cottonseed	7 12 6	—
Maize Germ Meal	5 12 6	—
Corn Oil Cake	6 2 6	—
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4 17 6	4 18 9
Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime	—	—
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	—
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	0 4 6	—
Treacle, feeding, prime	0 4 9	4 10½
D.N.S. Brand } Superphosphate of Lime	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed	2 10 0	2 12 0

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

CHADNOR COURT,

6½ miles from Leominster and five miles from Moorhampton Railway Station.

MESSRS. A. & D. EDWARDS are favoured with instructions from Mr. John C. Jones, who is leaving the county, to SELL by AUCTION, upon the premises as above, on

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1906,

the whole of his excellent herd of

80 HEAD of PEDIGREE HEREFORDS of the most fashionable strains,

21 Yearling and Two-year-old STEERS,

Flock of Pure-bred SHROPSHIRE SHEEP, the Stud of

15 Well-bred Weight-carrying HUNTERS, HACKS, and PONIES, including Winner of Gold and Silver Medals.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, Leominster and Hereford.

Sale will commence with Sheep at 11 o'clock.

Conveyances will leave Leominster at 10 a.m. and 12.15, and will meet the 8.31 a.m. and 9.41 a.m. trains at Moorhampton Station.

CHESTER-LE STREET AUCTION MART.

THE NORTHERN DURHAM AND DISTRICT TWENTIETH ANNUAL FOAL SHOW AND SALE OF YOUNG HORSES.

will be held in connection with the above Mart on

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1906.

Present Entries 182 HORSES, comprising:—

23 Draught Foals.
26 Draught Yearling Colts and Fillies.
54 Draught Two year-old Colts, Geldings, and Fillies.
24 Draught Horses and Mares up to six years.
12 half and three-parts-bred Colt and Filly Foals.
25 half and three-parts-bred Colts and Fillies under 3 years.
10 half and three-parts-bred Horses and Mares up to 6 years.
6 half and three-parts-bred Brood Mares up to 10 years.

The principal part of the above are pedigree Clydesdales, and comprise most of the prize winners from the shows in Durham, Northumberland, and North Yorkshire.

Buyers will find some of the best strains of Clydesdale blood included. This is the oldest established sale of the kind in Northumberland or Durham. Sale in field adjoining the Railway Station. Horses boxed from ring if required.

Judging at 10 a.m. Sale immediately after.

James Turnbull,
Auctioneer.

WANTED for Lady.—COTTAGE, detached, and ground suitable for Poultry Farming, on L. and S. W. Ry. or S. Coast, near to Station and Post, or Pretty Cottage on Gentleman's Estate, with run for Poultry. Replies, "M. L.," c/o 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

WINDMILL REPOSITORY, YORK.

Important Sale of Shire, Clydesdale Breeding Stock, Town and Van Horses.

MESSRS. SOWDEN & BURNAN will hold a Special Sale of

80 SHIRE, CLYDESDALE BREEDING STOCK, TOWN and VAN HORSES,

On THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1906, when they will include the entire stud of valuable Shire and Clydesdale Mares and Foals, including Spital Rose, Birdsall Carol, Albany Pink, Reamhills Queen, Maple Duchess and Carnation, the property of T. H. Sowden, Esq., Clifton, York, who is giving up breeding.

A few more entries can be taken for this Sale, but must be sent in early to the Auctioneers, 16, Tanner Row, York, or Yorkshire Stables, Harrogate

WANTED, Situation as Farm Bailiff or Manager; age 30; life experience and references on a 1,000 acre farm. — "B.," c/o of this Journal.

BLAGDON SHIRE STUD,

BILLINGTON,

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.

3 miles from Leigton and Cheddington, L. & N.W.R., 5 miles from Dunstable, G.N.R. Stations.

☞ UNRESERVED SALE

OF

43 Shire Horses of the Best Blood,

ON

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1906.

MESSRS. SEXTON, GRIMWADE & BECK (of Peterborough) have received instructions from Mr. CLEMENT KEEVIL to conduct this high-class Sale as above, which will include 12 Shire Foals, several by Blagdon Benefactor (21141), Lockinge Midnight (19780), Birdsall Menestrel (19337), Dunsmore Jameson (17972), &c.; One, Two, and Three-Year-Old Fillies; Yearling Stallions; also two Four-Year-Olds, one by Lockinge Forest King (18867), and one by Ercall Wynn (14620). Some exceedingly well-bred in-foal Mares, which are good workers.

CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Farm School, Basing, Basingstoke.

UNDER the inspection of the Board of Agriculture. Instruction in general farm work, Buttermaking, Poultry keeping, Bee-keeping, and Gardening. Terms very moderate. For Prospectus apply to the Headmaster.

OILCAKE AGENTS WANTED, to sell well-known Compound Cake to farmers on commission.—Address, stating qualifications, to "OILCAKE," care of Birchall's Advertising Offices, Liverpool.

OIL AND GAS ENGINES, 1½ h p £20; no lamp required. Specially simple, and suitable for all farmer's work. Any size equally cheap. List free.—Cliffe Engine Works, Morton, Bingley.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

Bread, Flour, Live Cattle, and Dead Meat.

SEALED Tenders for Military Services, during six months from the 1st December, 1906, will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on the following dates:—Meat and Live Cattle Tenders, on Wednesday, 24th October, 1906; Bread and Flour Tenders, on Friday, 26th October, 1906, by the General Officers Commanding the undermentioned Districts:—

Aldershot Army-Corps Command.—Aldershot.

Eastern Command.—5th Division.—Dover; 6th Division.—Colchester; Thames and Medway Coast Defences.—Chatham; Woolwich District.—Woolwich.

Irish Command.—7th Division.—Curragh; 8th Division.—Cork; Belfast District.—Belfast.

London District.—23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.

Northern Command.—York.

Scottish Command.—Edinburgh.

Southern Command.—4th Division.—Tidworth; Portsmouth Coast Defences.—Portsmouth; Plymouth Coast Defences, Devonport.

Western Command.—Chester.

Guernsey and Alderney District.—Guernsey.

Jersey District.—Jersey.

Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock.

War Office,
Pall Mall, S.W.,
October, 1906.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

THE Directors of this Company are prepared to receive Tenders for the supply of:—

6,500 Quarters of Oats.
1,850 ,, ,, Beans.
3,200 ,, ,, Maize.
800 Tons of Hay—Upland Meadow.
700 ,, ,, Hay—Broad Leaf Clover and Rye Grass.
150 ,, ,, Oat Straw.
300 ,, ,, Wheat Straw.
150 ,, ,, Packing Straw — Oat, Wheat or Barley.
220 ,, ,, Bran.

Forms of Tender (upon which alone Tenders will be received) may be obtained on application to the undersigned, by whom Tenders, marked outside "Tender for Provender," will be received on or before Tuesday, the 9th October.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

G. K. MILLS, Secretary.
Paddington Station, London,
26th September, 1906.

SEED WHEAT.—Square Head's Master, grown on good fen land; also Carter's Stand Up White, which grows short straw, not liable to lodge; price 32s. per qr. of 36 st., f.o.r. Hilgay Station, G.E.R.; cash with order or banker's reference required; sample on application.—Horace J. Martin, Littleport.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Oct. 1, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather since October came in has been favourable, an inch of rainfall and the more humid winds being very refreshing to the thirsty fields. There should be a pause in threshings, but this we fear is in October almost too much to hope for. September weather records show the month to have been exceedingly fine, but the rainfall was not what was required. None the less the drought is exaggerated, and there was a powerful reinforcement of moisture to the subsoil in May and June which has prevented the better farmed lands from getting really arid. The following are our own records :—

1906.	Rain, inches.	Sun, hours.	Warmth, degrees.
Jan.	3·70	30	46·0
Feb.	3·75	80	45·0
March	1·08	85	47·0
April	·70	201	48·0
May	1·71	121	49·0
June	3·06	225	57·5
July	1·01	261	62·5
Aug.	·90	222	65·0
Sept.	1·60	161	59·0

We are indebted to *Dornbusch* (October 5, 1906) for the following highly-instructive percentage divisions of breadstuffs imports for the cereal year ended August 31 :—

From United States of America	27	per cent.
,, Canada	12	,,
,, Russia	16	,,
,, India	10½	,,
,, Australasia	8	,,
,, Argentina	20½	,,
,, Various	6	,,
	100	

The sales of British wheat for the last seven cereal years are thus estimated by the same authority :—1905-6, 7,000,000 qr. ; 1904-5, 7,510,000 qr. ; 1903-4, 4,990,000 qr. ; 1902-3, 6,100,000 qr. ; 1901-2, 7,285,000 qr. ; 1900-1, 6,740,000 qr. ; 1899-1900, 6,790,000 qr.

Of course, these figures are simply estimates ; we have returns for sales at 190 markets, but there are 500 in the country. This refers to England and Wales. To Scottish and Irish wheat sales we have no clue at all.

The imports of the United Kingdom for the first month of the cereal year were as follows :—

Wheat	2,429,000 qr.
Flour	498,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	2,727,000 qr.
Maize	1,321,000 ,,
Barley	903,000 ,,
Oats	457,000 ,,

These figures, as compared with September, 1905, show an increased importation of flour and barley, but reduced pressure on spot holders with respect to the other staples.

Last week's imports into the United Kingdom were as follows :—

Wheat	388,000 qr.	a fair supply.
Flour	127,200 sks.	a moderate arrival.
Maize	245,000 qr.	a good supply.
Barley	161,000 qr.	more than usual.
Oats	84,000 qr.	less than usual.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets for the first month of the cereal year were as follows :—

September, 1906	399,000 qr.
,, 1905	456,000 ,,

The relief is slight ; still, it is a relief. Farmers have not quite repeated the wild rush to sell of September, 1905.

The sales of British barley at the same markets thus compare :—

September, 1906	272,000 qr.
,, 1905	264,000 ,,

The sales of British oats have been large ; the price certainly cannot have been the temptation, and there is no comment possible, except that there has been a sacrifice of good stuff at a quite uncalled-for lowness of price :—

September, 1906	169,000 qr.
,, 1905	142,000 ,,

The average price of English wheat at the statute markets has been as follows :—

September, 1906	25s. 10d.	per qr.
,, 1905	26s. 11d.	,,

Of barley, the price comparison is slightly in favour of the present season ; the mean quality is probably better :—

September, 1906	24s. 5d.	per qr.
,, 1905	23s. 8d	,,

Of oats, the price has been wretchedly low, both seasons prices for September witness to the folly of selling this cereal in the autumn :—

September, 1906	16s. 3d.	per qr.
,, 1905	15s. 11d.	,,

London averages show that Mark Lane keeps up its reputation for good quality grain. Wheat, barley, and oats all fetch more money in London than in the country. Prices for the last three months have been :

London.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
July, 1906	31s. 6d.	23s. 6d.	20s. 11d.
August, 1906	29s. 3d.	28s. 7d.	17s. 8d.
September, 1906	27s. 5d.	26s. 7d.	17s. 2d.

London is also paying more money for tares, beans, and peas than are the country markets.

Wheat gradients last week were as follows :—

Dearest : London, Canterbury	27s. 8d.	per qr.
Cheapest : Peterborough, Nottingham	25s. 2d.	per qr.
Range	2s. 6d.	,,

Barley gradients were steeper :—

Dearest : London	27s. 2d.	per qr.
Cheapest : Doncaster	22s. 5d.	per qr.
Range	4s. 9d.	,,

The range of oats was low, and there was no really good market :

Dearest : London	17s. 8d.	per qr.
Cheapest : Bridlington	15s. 8d.	per qr.
Range	2s. 0d.	,,

An average of 21s. 6d. is officially reported from Canterbury, but is evidently a clerical error, probably for 17s. 6d. per qr.

Supplies on passage on the 6th inst. were small of wheat, oats and linseed, fairly good of maize, and moderately so of flour. The supplies of all grain and seeds on passage were decidedly below the average.

Wheat totals were as follows :—

Russian, 125,000 qr. ; Californian, 180,000 qr. ; American, 410,000 qr. ; Indian, 120,000 qr. ; Argentine, 110,000 qr. ; Australasian, 220,000 qr. ; various, 50,000 qr. ; total, 1,215,000 qr. Last week, 1,430,000 qr.

Of flour the expectations were 337,000 sacks.

Of barley there were on passage :

American, 70,000 qr. ; Russian, 210,000 qr. ; Roumanian, 40,000 qr. ; various, 110,000 qr. ; total, 430,000 qr.

Of maize there were on passage :—

Yellow, 700,000 qr. ; flat, 40,000 qr. ; round, 100,000 qr. ; total, 840,000 qr.

The supply of linseed on passage is 112,000 qr.

The great shipping countries last week sent off a large total of wheat, but extremely small quantities of oats. The totals of barley and maize were of a more medium description, but for barley the world is now largely dependent on the ports of the Euxine, and for maize on those of South America.

The American shipments were 310,000 qr. of wheat, 9,000 qr. of barley, 37,000 qr. of oats, 80,000 qr. of maize, and 244,000 sacks of flour. The large increase in the exports of flour are somewhat disconcerting, for our home mills are at their full production, and a plethora of flour in November is much to be deprecated.

Argentina shipped 35,000 qr. of wheat, 228,000 qr. of maize, and 31,000 qr. of linseed. Maize alone is a serious item in Argentine shipments in October and November.

Russia shipped 335,000 qr. of wheat, 477,000 qr. of barley, 112,000 qr. of oats, and 12,000 qr. of maize, while Roumania sent off 208,000 qr. of wheat, 198,000 qr. of barley, 8,000 qr. of oats, and 5,000 qr. of maize.

Australasia shipped 43,000 qr. of wheat, a good supply for the fag end of the season ; but India's 12,000 qr. of wheat was a very small shipment, and the trade is more than ever convinced that the Government crop estimate for India last midsummer was gravely overstated.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The market has been very firm during the past week. Supplies have been short, and with a strong and improving demand prices are the turn dearer. Country dealers and farmers are asking much higher prices than at present obtainable in London, and as supplies of both English and foreign are coming along very short and the consumption in London improving as the winter comes on, we ought to look for a steady trade at good prices for some time to come. Clovers are a good trade at last week's full prices. Mixtures firm and very strong demand, and for good qualities 2s 6d ton more money is easily obtainable ; and hays are a very steady trade, and inclined to go better. There is also a slight improvement to report in the straw market, wheat straw being 1s load better, while oat straws are strong at last week's full prices ; and barley straw finds a fair demand at unchanged rates.

In the foreign trade there is little fresh to report. Canadian mixture still comes along very short and commands full prices. Dutch hay is more plentiful, but with a strong demand is again dearer, and French clovers are more inquired after and occasionally 2s 6d to 5s per ton more money is obtainable. Prices ruling are about as follows :—English best meadow hay, 80s to 82s 6d per ton ; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 77s 6d per ton ; inferior, 60s to 70s per ton. Best clovers, 90s to 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton ; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 90s to 92s per ton ; good mixtures, 77s 6d to 87s 6d per ton ; plain mixtures, 65s to 75s per ton ; seconds hay mixtures and clovers, 60s per ton ; wheat straw, 25s per load ; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load ; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign : Canadian mixtures, 85s per ton ; good Dutch hay, 70s to 72s 6d per ton ; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 80s to 85s per ton ; French large bale wheat straw, 50s per ton ; French small bale wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat, barley, oats, and maize are all a quieter trade from a week ago, but oats are held as firmly as they were then. The same can scarcely be said of the other three staples—in fact, a wave of depression seems to have struck the trade. The attitude of grain cargo holders is very uncertain this autumn.

Wheat cargo sales from October 2 to 6 were—Rosario, 29s. 9d per 480 lb. ; Barletta, 29s. 9d. per 480 lb. ; White Walla, 30s. 3d. per 500 lb. ; Red Walla, 29s 6d. per 500 lb. ; Blue Stem, 31s. 6d. per 500 lb. ; Danubian, 28s. 6d. per 492 lb. ; Bessarabian, 28s. per 492 lb. ; White Kurrachee 30s. 3d. per 492 lb. ; and South Australian, 30s. 6d. per 480 lbs.

Maize cargo sales embraced Argentine at 20s. 3d. per 480 lb. ; Danubian, at 19s. 9d. per 480 lb. ; and American, at 19s. 9d. per 480 lb. ; the two first sales were for prompt, the last for January, shipment.

Barley cargo sales were Azoff, 19s. 3d. per 400 lb., and brewing Californian, 26s. 3d. per 448 lb.

Sales of other cargoes have included the following :—Oats : Danubian, at 15s. 6d. per 304 lb. Beans : Sea of Marmora, 30s. per 480 lb. Peas : White Calcutta, 29s. 3d. per 504 lb. Linseed : Calcutta, 42s. per 480 lb. Rapeseed : Brown Cawnpore, 43s. 3d. per 416 lb. ; and Cottonseed, £7 2s. 6d. per ton for a cargo just to hand from Egypt.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Seattle, 1 Tacoma).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were none, so that there is a net increase of 2 vessels off coast.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 234 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 1 maize, 1 locust beans and 27 linseed, total 272.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 288 wheat, 2 wheat and barley, 1 barley and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 6 maize, 1 beans, 1 linseed and 49 linseed, total, 377.

WOOL.

Halifax, Saturday.—While there is no material change to record in the wool market, the tone is certainly better, but for the present with extremely small quantities changing hands. Home-grown wools are well held, but with no change in price for Lincolns, Irish, and Kent descriptions. Scotch and Welsh wools are fully firm.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English firm but quiet, at Monday's rates. Foreign steadily held at late prices, but demand limited. Hard winter, ex ship, quoted at 30s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s 6d, No. 2 at 32s; South Russians, 28s to 32s 6d, landed at 30s 6d to 33s 6d; choice white Karachi at 30s, red Karachi at 29s 6d. Flour firm but quiet. Hungarians quoted at 29s, Iron Dukes at 20s, Minnesota patients 24s to 24s 6d, bakers' 19s 6d to 20s. Maize firm, inactive. River Plata, ex ship, quoted 20s 3d to 20s 6d, landed at 20s 9d to 21s. Barley firm, but only small trade passing. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 9d to 19s, landed 19s 3d to 19s 6d. Oats slow, unchanged. Common sorts quoted at 16s 3d to 16s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet. Foreign dull, with an easier tendency, and demand limited, No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 32s 6d, No. 2 at 32s; choice white Karichi, landed, at 30s, reds at 29s 9d; Australians, 30s 6d to 32s. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize firm at full prices, with a fair demand. 20s 6d paid, ex ship, for River Plate, landed held at 21s. Barley firm and dearer. 19s 3d asked Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, and 19s 6d landed. Oats steady, but quiet; common sorts quoted at 16s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—Not much grain showing. White oats (horse corn), wholesale, 19s to 19s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was a fair attendance, but trade for wheat was slow; feeding stuffs as a whole were firm, but without quotable alteration; flour was reduced 1s per sack. Prices:—Wheat, 28s to 30s; new barley, 27s to 30s; new Mazagan beans, 29s to 30s; new tick beans, 31s to 33s; flat maize, 25 to 26s; round maize, 22s to 23s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 17s to 19s; new grey peas, 29s to 30s per qr; flour, whites, 28s; seconds, 25s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 25s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 30s per qr; oats 17s to 20s per qr; peas, 27s to 33s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a good attendance, with full supplies of barley, which met a quiet trade. Wheat scarce. Oats rather more plentiful. Wheat, 26s to 28s; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 19s 6d to 21s.

Birmingham, Thursday. — There was improved attendance and a fair trade resulting. Foreign wheats were fully 6d per qr dearer, English also obtaining better prices. Quotations:—Wheat, River Plate, 31s 6d to 32s per 496 lb; Russians, 31s 6d. to 32s 9d: Kurrachee, 30s per qr, all at Sharpness. English wheats 10s to 11s per bag (186 lb) delivered. English oats were scarce, and made from 18s to 19s per 312 lb; beans, 12s per bag (196 lb), delivered. Plate maize was 3d dearer at 26s 6d per 480 lb at Sharpness. Grinding barley was 6d dearer at 19s 6d per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance and little business doing. Wheat sold at about last week's prices. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 19s; peas, 28s to 29s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance at our market to-day, and trade generally is fairly active. English wheat in fair supply, last week's full values being paid. Foreign, very firm. Maize 3d dearer. Barley 3d dearer. Oats unaltered. Flour unchanged, and with considerable inquiry.—Grace Brothers.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in shorter supply, and holders were asking an advance, but the trade was simply firm at last week's full prices. Reds or whites 27s 6d to 28s 6d, rivets 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Barley—We had a good supply, and a large business was done in all descriptions; useful malting vans sold freely at 27s to 31s per qr, and there was also a healthy demand for the Burton qualities at 32s to 36s per qr.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Fair attendance. Supplies of wheat were short, and prices were about the same as last week, though firm, at 27s to 27s 6d per 504 lb. on rail. Large supply of barley and prices 1s lower on the week. Fair supply of oats, and sellers holding for more money. Beans 6d advance on the week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Large supplies of barley caused trade to be slow at from 26s 6d to 31s. Wheat scarce and very firm, up to 31s 6d for 66 lb on rail. Oats are sparingly offered, and range up to 20s per qr. Grey peas, 29s to 30s, delivered.

Chester, Saturday.—The attendance was good. Wheat was a little better sold; other prices about the same as the previous week. Oats maintained full rates; offals scarce, with advancing prices. Quotations:—White and red wheat, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; grinding barley (old), 3s 6d to 4s per 64 lb; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d, and new, 4s 9d to 5s per 80 lb; new oats, 3s to 3s 4d, and old, 2s 2d to 2s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, feeding (old), 12s 9d to 13s per 240 lb; new River Plate, 11s to 11s 9d.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A average attendance. There was very little wheat and oats on offer, which readily sold at the following prices. The farmers are turning their attention to threshing barley. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 17s 6d to 20s; oats, English, 16s 6d to 19s 6d; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat slow trade. Oats firm. Barley steady.—Joseph Wiles and Son.

Coventry, Friday.—A fairly good attendance. The supply of wheat was but limited, and the late advance well maintained. There was less spring corn consequent upon the recent wet weather checking threshing operations. Prices, generally speaking, were unchanged, though dealers asked more money for oats and beans. Quotations:—Old wheat, 10s 6d to 11s per 186 lb; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 34s per 448 lb; old oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; new oats, 18s 6d to 21s per 352 lb; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new beans, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—The market was very poorly attended, and a limited supply of wheat was on offer at last week's prices. Old white wheat made 31s to 32s; new, 29s to 30s; old red wheat, 30s to 31s; new, 25s to 28s 6d; old beans 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday. — There was a distinct improvement in the price of wheat, which to-day is worth fully 1s per sack more than three week's since. The best seed wheats are up to 16s per sack, and fine 13 score lots command 15s for milling purposes. No change in barley. Oats firm. Winter barley and rye unaltered. Vetches cheaper. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 15s to 17s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good attendance of millers and farmers. Only a small supply of English wheat, which was firm at last week's prices. Foreign unchanged. Oats firm. Barley in request, and prices more settled. Beans a shade dearer.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Fairly good offers came to hand at to-day's corn market, at which there was likewise a good attendance. The wheat trade was scarcely as active as of late, the enhanced rates asked by holders and the greater firmness evinced all round having a tendency to check the demand, and we must quote prices as about the same. A similar remark applies to foreign. Malting barley in no great demand, except where suitable parcels are concerned; grinding a more restricted demand. The same may be said of feeding-stuffs generally, the late rains having stimulated pastures considerably.

Dublin, Friday. — There was a fair attendance, but business rather quiet. Irish wheat in good request. Oats in fair demand. Barley quiet. Flour steady. Oatmeal firm. Bran scarce. Quotations:—Wheat, 16s to 16s 8d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding ditto, 13s to 14s; oats, 12s to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour quiet but firm. Corn unchanged. Maize firmer, and held for 1½d per boll advance. Barley firmer, and 3d per boll dearer. Oats quiet, and unchanged for home; foreign firmer, and 3d per boll more money asked. Beans and pease quiet and unaltered. Oatmeal quiet, with a slow sale.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Sellers of wheat continue to ask full prices; this retards business. Flour improved request at the prices ruling on Wednesday. Mixed American maize slow at 13s 1½d to 13s 3d per 280 lb; round rather firm at 12s 1½d to 12s 3d. Foreign oats favour sellers. Other articles unaltered.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat 1d per bushel dearer; reds, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; whites, 3s 6d to 3s 7d. Foreign wheat 3d dearer, but tone hardly so good. Plate maize unchanged at 20s 6d; Bessarabian 3d dearer at 21s to 21s 3d. Grinding barley 3d dearer at 19s 6d. Oats firm, unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—The attendance was large, and trade was generally keen. Wheat fully maintained its value, and sales were effected at 27s to 23s per qr. For good barley numerous inquiries prevailed, and 32s to 32s 6d per qr was paid; inferior samples, 24s to 26s. Beans were 6d per qr dearer on the weak, at from 29s 6d to 31s; blue peas, 50s to 60s; and oats, 17s to 18s 6d per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A fair amount of business, and values were pretty well maintained. English wheats were steady at fair rates. Barleys a little more business, but prices were not regarded as altogether satisfactory by growers. Oats were steady, without quotable change. Maize 3d per qr dearer. Slightly less doing in beans. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56 lb; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s to 2s 4d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 3d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in about average supply, with a firm trade fully at last week's prices. Reds 29s, rivets 28s to 28s 6d per qr. Barley in good average supply, with a steady demand for all malting descriptions. Medium runs, 27s to 31s; fine Burton qualities, 32s to 36s pr qr. Oats firm on the week at 17s 6d to 19s per qr. Maize 3d dearer, at 21s for Plate and 22s for Danubian. Maize germ 5s per ton dearer, at £5 10s to £5 15s per ton. Oil-cakes and milling stuffs very firm at full prices.

Leeds, Wednesday.—The wheat trade has undergone a complete change; the anticipated world's surplus has practically disappeared, owing to reduced estimates of the Russian, Canadian, and American spring wheat crops, so that the late decline was not justified. Merchants and millers grasping this fact, firmness has taken the place of depression, and prices have advanced from 1s to 1s 6d per qr, with an active demand. Barley is not in great demand, and prices are rather easier. Maize fully 3d dearer. Beans and oats steady.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—All descriptions of wheat hardened, and Tuesday's top prices were fully realised, English being 28s to 29s, and foreign over 33s. There was no change in English or foreign malting barley, but grinding barley was the turn dearer. English oats were firm, new making 18s and old 22s. English beans and Plate maize were dearer, the latter being quoted 19s to 20s. Finest flour made 29s, other kinds 23s to 28s

Leicester, Saturday.—Full supplies of home-grown wheats. Good attendance, and trade slightly brisker at firm rates. Red wheats 26s to 28s, white wheats 27s to 29s per 36 stone; malting barley 25s to 30s per 32 stone; beans steady; new oats 17s to 19s, old 24s to 25s per 26 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair attendance, but a small show of English wheat, which met with a ready sale at and advance of 6d per quarter on the week. A quiet demand for foreign wheat, quotations being 6d to 9d more than a week ago. Oats, beans, and barley firm at last week's full prices.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a small attendance, but wheat is firmly held with a moderate trade passing; red sorts are generally ½d. lower, but whites are the turn dearer. Flour: A quiet trade, but without quotable change in prices of either foreign or home-made brands. Maize: Mixed is easy, with a small inquiry at 1d below last Tuesday. Plate is firm, with a fair business at full prices. European steady, unchanged. Barley: Malting scarce. Feeding quiet, without change. Peas very steady at fully late rates, with fewer offers, but demand slow. Beans a quiet trade, but firmly held at some advance. Oats firm, with rather more demand at the turn higher prices and very light offers. Oatmeal in poor demand at the quotations. Oilcake an improving trade at occasionally higher prices.—Segar and Tunnicliff.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The wheat trade displays a firm tone, and an occasional 3d to 6d per qr advance in the cost realised. The quality being good the article is dry, no doubt in consequence of the spell of hot weather in the summer? Barley business is not very cheerful, as the buyers are reticent, except for very choice samples, which, being scarce, necessarily attract particular inquiries. Beans and peas bring quite as much money as recently. Oats may be said to be up as quite 6d per qr during the last fortnight. Maize holds on at about former value. The flat, or what is sometime called "square" hereabout, is hardly obtainable; its absence causes much remark, but no serious effect. The demand for winter tares has improved a little, but about 5s to 5s 6d per bushel does not please growers. There is no attention to note in the value of brank, hemp, lergo, dari, and millet.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat, 3d to 6d per qr, and foreign 1d to ½d per cental higher. Flour, 6d per sack dearer. Indian corn, Plate, ½d to 1d; Cinquantina, 2d per 100 lb dearer. Feeding barley and foreign about 1d lower. Beans and peas in good request. Oats, 1d higher all round. Bran and offals in sellers' favour.

Newark, Wednesday. — There was a fair

attendance ; firmer trade all round. White and red wheat, 27s to 28s ; malting barley, 26s to 29s ; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s ; white oats, 17s to 18s ; black ditto, 16s to 17s ; old beas, 36s to 37s ; new ditto, 29s to 30s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A fair trado for English wheats at an advance of 6d per 504 lb. Hard foreign qualities advanced 3d. Maize remains firm at fully late rates. Oats of fino qualities advanced 6d per qr ; common sorts, however, are difficult to dispose of, and lower prices had to be accepted to make sales. Beans and peas firm, and in sellers' favour. Barley in quiet demand at last Saturday's quotations, pricos ranging from 22s to 26s per 448 lb.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—The trade was fair. An advance all round of 3d to 6d on the week. Flour firmly held, and 6d dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—A good attendance. Not much wheat on offer, prices being firm, samples making 27s in the mills. Best barleys met with a good inquiry, but there was a very slow trade for common sorts. Oats and beans were firm, beans making 6d advance. New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d ; malting barley, 26s to 32s ; new white oats, 17s to 18s ; old white oats, 21s to 23s ; black oats, 16s to 17s ; new beans, 28s 6d to 29s 6d ; peas, 28s to 32s ; flour, 24s to 28s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in less supply. Millers had to give an advance of fully 6d per qr. Barley, not much business passing, sample of weak growth being mostly of a flinty character. Oats but few offering, and held for full prices. Beans firm.—Robert Hubble.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, and a moderate business is recorded at late rates. Barley is quoted at 28s to 32s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat has been a small supply. Trade firm to an occasional 3d per qr advance. Barley quiet and unchanged in value. Oats again rather dearer.—Thos. Hill & Sons.

Preston, Saturday.—There was a fairly good attendance, but very little new grain was shown. Good samples of wheat and oats are readily disposed of, the latter bringing 1d per bushel over recent quotations. Flour unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb; 12s 9d to 13s ; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d ; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d ; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d ; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Retford, Saturday.—Fairly active trade ; good attendance ; fully an average supply. Malting barley sold freely at fully late rates, especially the best, which made 28s to 30s ; secondary, 24s to 27s ; and grinding 23s per qr. Wheat still selling at 26s 6d to 27s 6d ; maize, 24s ; English beans, 30s to 31s ; new oats, 17s to 19s ; and old ditto, 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance, with little trade passing. Malting and grinding barley show a downward tendency. Prices :—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s ; ditto, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d ; ditto foreign, 32s to 35s 6d ; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s ; ditto malting, 25s to 27s ; oats, old, 23s to 24s ; ditto new, 17s to 18s ; maize, round, 21s 6d to 22s 6d ; ditto flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Much business was done. Prices were firm for wheat and beans from 6d to 1s per qr advance was quoted. Other quotations unchanged. Quotations :—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d ; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb ; oats, black, 18s 6d to 19s ; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb : peas, grinding, 32s 6dto 33s ; ditto, blue, 55s to 79s per 504 lb ; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb ; barley, grinding, 21s6d to 23s ; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb ; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d : ditto, Plate new, 21s 6d to 22s ; ditto, flat, 26s to 26s 6d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 12s to 12s 3d per 225 lb ; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb ; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d ; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240 lb ; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb ; barley, 14s to 18s per 200 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—With a large attendance, inquiries for new corn came in readily, and farmers' insistence for an increase in rates was granted without much demur. Best wheats were back 28s 6d, after a drop of 1s. last week, and the advance in barleys was even more noticeable, amounting to about 3s to 4s per qr for the best, which stood at 33s ; oats, 17s to 18s 6d ; grinding barley, 22s to 25s 6d ; beans, to 29s 6d ; peas, 40s to 52s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday. — Holders of local English wheat were asking more money on the week, and were making 27s to 27s 6d per qr. The foreign wheat trade was firm, making 6d advance. Maize 3d dearer. Oats 6d dearer. Malting barley slightly easier, common samples fetching 23s to 25s per qr, and good qualities 25s to 28s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Grain in good supply. Wheat sold at last week's prices. Barley dull. Oats firm. Arrivals coastwise :—Wheat, 426 qr ; barley, 800 qr ; foreign, nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d ; new red ditto, 27s to 27s 6d ; old white ditto, 29s to 30s ; old red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d ; barley, 26s to 30s ; grinding ditto, 20s to 23s ; oats, English, 17s to 22s ; rye, 23s to 26s ; peas, 30s to 34s ; beans, 32s to 35s ; tares, 42s to 48s ; maize, 24s to 26s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat, which sold at about last week's prices. Good samples of malting barley are scarce, and in good demand. Oats and beans rather dearer, and very few offering. Feeding stuffs rather dearer.

Winchester, Saturday. —English wheat scarce and held at 1s over last week's prices. Foreign firm and fully 6d advance. Barley and maize 3d, and oats occasionally 3d dearer. Flour a better inquiry at 6d higher rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — There was a moderate attendance, and a fair trade was passing, with a slight upward tendency in prices. New wheat, 12s per 216 lb ; flat corn, 26s ; English beans, old, 15s 6d ; new, 12s 6d ; oats, old, 16s ; new, 11s to 12s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, and fair show of grain, with trade rather slow at last woek's prices. New white wheat, 26s to 27s ; red ditto, 25s to 26s 6d ; best malting barley, 28s to 30s ; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s ; grinding barley, 24s to 26s ; old white oats, 23s to 24s ; new ditto, 17s to 19s ; old black oats, 21s to 23s ; new ditto, 16s to 18s ; new beans, 30s to 32s 6d ; old beans, 36s to 38s ; maize, 23s to 24s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Farmers are not offering much wheat. Dry samples sell readily at rather over last week's prices. Fine white wheat, 27s to 28s ; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. Plenty of barley offering, and last week's prices are hardly maintained ; fine, 26s 6d to 28s ; good, 25f to 26s 6d ; ordinary, 23s to 25s. per qr of 32 stones. Oats scarce, and rather dearer ; white Tartary, 16s to 17s ; black ditto, 16s 6d to 17s ; short oots, 17s to 18s per qr.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday. — Weather seaoonable. The soil being in good condittion for sowing operations, farmers are very busy in the fields and supplies of grain have fallen off. There is a good demaad for nearly all cereals, with steady advance in prices. Red Mecklenburg, Holstein, and Upland wheat selling at 27s 6d to 28s per 504 lb, f.o.b., duty deducted. American Hard winter No. 2, afloat, is held at 28s 6d to 28s 9d. Northern Spring Duluth No. 1, at 30s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye meets a good sale, sound German being taken by our millers at 24s 6d per per 480lb, duty deducted, and 9$\frac{10}{18}$ Odessa Nicolajeff afloat is selling at at 23 6d to 23s 9d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. The demand for malting barley is not so brisk as before, brewers having bought sufficiently for their immediate wants, they are trying to get reductions for further purchases, bnt holders in general are firm. Good to fine Bohemian is held at 32s 9d to 34s 6d ; choice lots at 35s 6d to 37s 6d ; good but rather yellow Slovokian at 35s to 36s 6d ; Danish at 28s to 29s per 448 lb. Feeding barley continues in brisk demand, $\frac{50}{61}$ Ko South Russian selling at 18s 6d to 18s 9d per 400 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. For mixed American maize on the spot 21s 9d to 22s has been paid ; River Plate in fair demand at 20s per 480 lb for October-November shipment.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 2, 1906 :—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	2,656	1 ...	3,672	17	3 ...	1	7	8
Barley ...	5,025	2 ...	6,831	1	11 ...	1	7	2
Oats	2,428	3 ...	2,145	5	4 ...		17	8

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 6, 1906 :—

Wheat	1,368,100 cwts.
Wheat-flour	346,700 ,,
Barley	508,800 ,,
Oats	184,290 ,,
Maize	692,700 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz. :—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	918,200	1,723,500	2,183,000	1,593,450
Wheat-flour	307,100	265,200	372,700	310,936
Barley ...	552,000	764,300	929,300	825,303
Oats ...	160,400	367,000	211,300	497,081
Maize ...	1,027,000	1,226,500	894,100	484,481

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Oct. 7	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	1
,, 14	85,149	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Sept. 26 to Oct. 3 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	5,962	64,436	70,398
Barley	2,900	33,000	35,900
Malt	18,161	—	18,161
Oats	6,300	41,000	47,300
Rye	70	—	70
Beans	1,689	412	2,101
Peas	1,485	454	1,939
Tares	257	—	257
Maize	—	31,105	31,105
Linseed	—	13,844	13,844
Rapeseed	77	900	977
Cottonseed	—	5,200	5,200
Millet	—	164	164
Buckwheat	150	2,500	2,650
Lentils	—	2,030	2,030
Flour .... sacks ...	27,188	37,847	65,035
Oatmeal ... ,, ...	—	2,000	2,000
Ricemeal .. ,, ...	—	3,000	3,000

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 6, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	72,647	25	5	93,387	26	2	34,082	17	2
1903	56,620	25	10	58,717	23	8	31,189	15	6
1904	54,607	30	2	153,280	25	6	43,575	15	9
1905	89,579	26	9	147,570	24	9	31,190	16	3
1906	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year [illegible]

		s.	d.
September 1	.... per sack	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The London Exchange to-day was well attended. There were some visitors up for the Dairy Show who looked in at Mark Lane, and the general attendance of buyers who regularly frequent the market was also satisfactory. English wheat meets with much favour, and it is sold needlessly cheaply. Foreign was 6d. dearer for all sorts, but this rise checked inquiry. Maize was 6d. dearer for flat, yellow, round, white, and mixed corn; every type, in fact, favoured buyers. This firmness witnesses to the good retail inquiry, and despite the gigantic new crop of American, spot holders expect to get fully present rates and effect a complete clearance before any new corn comes to hand. Barley has a fair sale of new English malting, fine bright samples from Norfolk and Suffolk fetching 36s. per qr. Feeding barley has not a brisk sale. Oats were duller from October 1, but by no means depressed.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

October 8.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
	,, (New) ... ,,	28	— 30
	Red ... (Old) ... ,,	29	— 31
	,, ... (New) ... ,,	26	— 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...(per 448 lb.)	32	— 36
	,, (New)... ,,	31	— 35
	Brewing (Old)... ,,	29	— 31
	,, (New)... ,,	28	— 29
	Feeding (Old).. (per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
	,, (New)... ,,	21	— 22
MALT,	Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
	Black ..... ,,	28	— 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)... ,,	19	— 20
	Black Tartary (New) ,,	18	— 19
	White Gartons (New) ,,	19	— 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
	Winter (New).....(per 336 lb.)	18	— 19
	Light Spring (New)...(per 312 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop) .....(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
	,, New ,, ... ,,	22	— 23
BEANS,	Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	43	— 45
	Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
	Winter (Old) ..... ,,	37	— 38
	,, (New) ..... ,,	32	— 33
	Spring (New) ..... ,,	33	— 35
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	22	— 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
	Unpicked ditto ..... ,,	48	— 52
	Maple (Old)..... ,,	34	— 35
	,, (New)..... ,,	32	— 33
	Dun (Old) ..... ,,	33	— 34
	,, (New)..... ,,	30	— 31
TARES	(Winter).....(per 532 lb.)	40	— 48
	(Spring) ..... ,,	48	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/6 32/9	American	23/6 23/9
,, ,, 2	31/6 31/9	Argentine	21—21/6
American Red	30—30/6	Bulgarian	21/6—22
Argentine ...	30/6—31	Roumanian ...	21/6—22
Australian ...	31/6 32/6	Russian	21/6—22
New Zealand	30/6 31/6	Rangoon	21/6 22/6
Californian ...	31/6 32/6	North African	22/6 23/6
Blue Stem ...	31/6 32/6	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Walla Walla	30/6 31/6	Smyrna	34 — 36
Saxonka	32/6 33/6	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Azima	30/6 31/6	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Ghirka	29/6 30/6	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Indian White	30—30/6	Italian	64 — 72
,, Red	29/6 30/3	Burmese	32 — 42
Persian.....	28/6—29	Chilian	56 — 64
Turkish	27/6 28/6	LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29 — 30	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	PEAS (504 lb.):	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian(400 lb)	19—19/6	Indian Green	29 — 31
Am'can (400 lb)	18/9 —19	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24 — 25	NewZeal'd Maple	39— 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Torrified(336 lb)	21 — 22	White	42 — 44
MALT (336 lb.):		Yellow	22 — 24
Californian ...	33 — 36	Sorghum	20 — 22
Smyrna	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Ouchak	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
RYE (480 lb.):		Burmese	9 — 10
Russian	24 — 25	Siamese	8 — 9
OATS:		DARI (480 lb.):	
N'wZeal'd(384 lb)	23 —25	Smyrna	25 — 26
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	19 — 20	Indian	23 — 24
Am'can (320 lb)	16/9—17	Persian	21 — 22
Libau (320 lb.)	18 — 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)	
,, (304 lb.)	15/6—16	French	26 — 27
Arg'nt'e(304 lb)	15/6—16	Russian	25 — 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

Some interesting changes were effected to day in flour prices. The top price of London was reduced from 29s. to 28s., and the price of town households fell from 22s. 9d. to 22s. 6d. for cash. At the same time credit and delivery prices were advanced 3d. per sack. These are alterations which suggest that cash payments are in more than usual favour. The price of imported flour is scarcely altered from a week ago; 24s. is paid for fine Manitoba.

There is a good inquiry or country flour ground from the wheat of 1906, but the eagerness to sell is unfortunately giving takers a complete mastery of this branch of the business. London sales of country flour used to average 20,000 sacks weekly, now that we have at least 27,000 sacks pushed on sale, the situation easily becomes one of depression and price decline, even where the bona-fide inquiry rises to 21,000, or, it may possibly be, 22,000 sacks.

Milling offals to-day are a decidedly good trade at fully previous quotations.

London Flour.		
Top Price .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/6 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/9 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/9 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/9 ,,
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Best Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		24—24/3
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22—22/3
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21—21/3
Stone made	,,	20—20/3
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal...	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

ALTHOUGH THE MIXED WEATHER WAS AGAINST RETAIL CONSUMPTION, A FAIR TRADE WAS DOING THROUGHOUT THE MARKET. PRICES ARE NOT CHANGED FROM THE EARLIER REPORT, AS A RULE, BUT SOME HOLDERS OF FOREIGN WHEAT TOOK 3D. LESS—THAT IS TO SAY, WERE CONTENT WITH 3D. NET ADVANCE ON THE WEEK.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Mill prices from the other side are high, but selling values here can hardly be quoted higher than last week unless for spring wheat patents, which are 3d to 6d up. Grain.—American corn dull at 3d decline. Round held for 4½d per toll advance. Scotch and Irish oats are best value at present. Manitoba oats are 6d per boll dearer. American barley in sellers' favour. Beans steady, but only in small demand. Oilcake rather easier. Oatmeal 6d per sack higher. Mill Stuffs.—Bran unchanged, but thirds have improved again.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—The demand for bran has rather improved, and prices are somewhat firmer.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There is no new feature to report; demand fairly steady; last week's quotations remain unchanged.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Arrivals of wheat and flour are small. Trade is quiet, and prices are 3d higher; lower for American wheat. Flour is unchangep. Maize, barley, and oats are unchanged in values.—COVENTRY AND SHEPHERD.

Flour has met only a languid demand to-day, and prices barely maintain last week's rates. The offers from America are not pressing, and generally speaking are at prices beyond buyers' ideas.—MEDILL AND SONS.

TERM MARKET.

The wheat corner, concerning which a London daily had a large placard on Saturday, is not known outside Bouverie Street. The market in futures to-day is decidedly dull, and the very large American visible supply of wheat makes the idea of manipulation exceedingly improbable.

Red American wheat, Oct. delivery, no sales.

,, ,,	Dec.	,,	6s 5d per cental.
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 6d ,,
Mixed American			
Maize.....	Oct.	,,	4s 6d ,,
,, ...	Dec.	,,	4s 5d ,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d ,,
Yellow Argentine Maize ...	Oct.	,,	4s 2d ,,
,, ...	Dec.	,,	4s 3d ,,
,, ..	Feb.	,,	4s 3d ,,

A cargo of Moulmein oats for November delivery sold to-day for 15s 6d per 304 lb.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The cargo trade is not in a very encouraging position to-day. There is a decided firmness in two staples, oats and rapeseed, and both linseed and barley may be called steady. Wheat, however, is weak, and maize futures are against holders.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Odessa Ghuiks, 30s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 28s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Australia, 31s per 480 lb, arrived; Walla Walla, 30s per 480 lb, promp shipment; Red Kurrachee, 29s 6d per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Hard Manitoba, 31s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment. ; Hard Winter, 28s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Baruso (La Plata), 29s per 480 lb, Februars shipment (new crop).

Maize.—Argentine, 20s 3d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Odessa, 20s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 19s 6d per 400 lb, November shipment; Persian, 17s 9d per 400 lb, November shipment.

Oats.—Petersburg, 15s 9d per 304 lb, October shipment; Koningsberg, 17s per 320 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 39s per 416 lb, February shipment (new crop).

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There are no changes except in cottonseed which is 2s 6d dearer on spot but 7s 6d cheaper for delivery a month hence. The scarcity therefore is merely temporary.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Dutch	37 to 49	Egyptian.....	141 to 143
American.....	43 to 44	Indian	107 to 109
Calcutta	42 to 43	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	43 to 45	English, Best...	16 to 17
Russian	42 to 44	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Argentine	41 to 42	,, Black.	13 to 14
Duluth	40 to 41	SESAME.	per cwt.
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.	Indian	14 to 15
Best English ...	62 to 64	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.
Yellow Guzerat	51 to 53	Russian	49 to 50
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.
Brown ,,	44 to 45	English	48 to 50
Ferozepore	45 to 46	Spanish	78 to 80
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	41 to 43
Indian	46 to 48	Argentine	40 to 41

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The mar ket is a trifle firmer. Kent fleeces, 13d to 13½d; la mb wool, 8d to 9d per lb.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s 0½d.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fruit and vegetables in ample supply and steady demand. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 3s; pears, 2s 6d to 7s per half sieve; apples, 2s to 5s 6d per bushel; blackberries, 1s to 2s per peck; cobnuts, 5s to 6s per 12 lb.; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s to 7s 6d per bag; melons, 1s to 2s each; green figs, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; plums, 2s to 3s per half sieve; peaches, 3s to 12s per 12 lb; tomatoes, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; spinach, 2s to 3s; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; ditto (outdoor), 2s to 3s per half-sieve; cabbages, 4s to 5s; vegetable marrows, 7s to 9s per tally; eschallots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s to 1s 3d; mint, 1s to 2s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; sage, 9d to 1s per dozen bunches; cucumbers, 6s to 8s 6d per flat; endive, 2s to 2s 6d; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; horseradish, 9s to 13s; celery, 6s to 12s per dozen rolls; potatoes, 50s to 75s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Moderate supplies and a slow demand. Pheasants, 6s to 7s; young grouse, 6s to 7s; old, 2s to 2s 6d; young partridges, 3s to 4s; old, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per brace; goslings, 5s to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Essex fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 3d to 2s; quails, 9d to 1s 2d; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 3d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 7d to 10d; live hens, 1s 4d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per dozen.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A fair demand prevailed for the moderate supplies offered. Quotations: Snowdrops, 60s to 70s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-Date, 60s; English Puritans, 65s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 65s; British Queens, 55s to 60s.; Silts, 60s to 65s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Lighter supplies brought forward met with slow attention. Quotations:—Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s; Silts, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supplies of potatoes, and a fair trade at 4d to 5d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply of potatoes, and trade moderate, prices ruling from 6s 6d to 7s 6d per load of 18 stones; retail, 8d to 10d per peck.

Goole, Wednesday. — Moderate attendance of farmers, the majority being engaged in the taking up of the remainder of the potatoes. There was consequently very little doing.

Lancaster, Saturday.—There was a good demand for potatoes, and a dearer trade. Retail, 8d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, 4s to 6s; Lincoln, 4s to 5s; Bedford Hebrons, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 4s 6d to 5s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Potatoes plentiful at 5s to 7s per load, best home-grown making highest prices.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes, £2 15s per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply of potatoes, which made 6s to 6s 6d. per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—There were fewer potatoes on offer, and a somewhat improved demand. Warp Up-to-Dates made 45s per ton, and Sands 38s to 42s.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 8, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 9, 1905.
Beasts	970	970	1,040
Sheep and Lambs ...	6,020	6,020	6,050
Calves	30	30	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 4	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 4	6 0
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 8	5 4	6 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 27; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 908; Devon, 35; Ireland, nil.

To-day's supply of beasts compared with the corresponding day last week showed a decrease of 240 head. For all descriptions of both prime and second quality fat beasts, trade was of a very quiet nature; no quotable decline in value can, however, be noted; middling quality cattle very little sought after, even at a reduction of 2d per 8 lb. Fat butchering cows and bulls met a dull and dragging trade from both town and country buyers, prices ruling easier to the extent of from 2d to 4d per 8 lb. Rough cattle unsaleable. This is chiefly due to the overstocked state of the dead meat market. A clearance is very doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 9, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		—	
Devons.....	4 4 to 4	6 ...	4 4 to 4	6
Herefords	4 2 to 4	4 ...	4 4 to 4	6
Norfolks	—		—	
Runts	4 0 to 4	2 ...	4 0 to 4	4
Lincolns	3 6 to 3	8 ...	3 8 to 3	10
Irish	—	...	3 10 to 4	0
Canadian.....	—	...	—	
Fat Cows	2 10 to 3	4 ...	3 2 to 3	6

There was an increase of 940 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last, the supply including 100 Scotch, 476 Irish, and 403 from the Eastern Counties. Trade taken as a whole was of a fairly steady nature both in regard to tone and value, prices ruling in favour of the sellers in some cases to the extent of fully 2d per 8 lb; big, heavy sheep very little sought after. Irish descriptions met a poor inquiry at a reduction of 2d. On the other hand, Scotch sheep sold fairly well, salesmen both asking and obtaining last Monday's quotations. Lamb trade nominal. A clearance in this part of the market is not expected.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	Monday, Oct. 9, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0	...	6 0
8 st. Downs	5 10	...	5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 8	...5	6 to 5 8
10 st Yorkshires	—	...	—
12st Lincolns.....	—	...	—
10 st Irish	5 4	...5	0 to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 4	...4	4 to 4 6
11 st Halfbred ditto.....	4 2	...4	2 to 4 4
5 st Down Lambs	—	...	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	...	—

Calves were in average numbers and met a slow but firm trade, late rates governing all sales, best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

London (Central), Monday.—Moderate offerings, with a slow inquiry. Beef, English, 3s to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 2s 10d to 3s 5d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 2d to 3s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb, 5s to 5s 4d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 4d. Pork, 3s 6d to 4s 8d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Thursday.—Beasts, 665; sheep 1,521, pigs 380. Fat and store cattle in fair demand; and fat and store sheep and pigs a good trade. Milch cows a fair show and in good demand. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; milch cows, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 819. To-day's supply compared with the corresponding day last week showed an increase of 188 head, and consisted entirely of consignments from the United States. Trade ruled very slow and dragging; prices well maintained. The best on offer quoted as follows (offal given in) per 8 lb.:—States, 3s 8d to 4s 1d. On Saturday 1,944 beasts from the United States and 416 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade, though slow, was firm in regard to value, an upward tendency in value being noticeable. The best on offer were quoted at from 3s 8d to 4s 1d, exceptionally 4s 2d for the former and from 3s 2d to 3s 7d for the latter per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—A larger supply of cattle in market to-day; demand slow and prices lower, especially for middling and inferior descriptions. Sheep supply practically unaltered. Trade of a slow, dragging character, and a further concession of last week's prices had to be made to effect sales. Beef, 6d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 6d. At market 1,553 cattle and 6,088 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,521 bales, and from foreign ports 12,286 bales. Although the bacon market was quiet at the commencement of last week, it closed firmer on Friday, with prices ranging:—Irish, 64s to 68s; Danish, 60s to 64s up to 68s; Canadian, 62s to 64s up to 66s. Butter.—The butter market was quiet. French, 112s to 126s; Danish, 123s to 125s; Russian, 88s to 110s; Irish, 102s to 120s; Canadian, 92s to 118s; Victorian, 106s to 120s; New South Wales, 106s to 120s; Queensland, 102s to 116s; American, 92s to 106s. Lard.—The lard market was firm, with a good idquiry. Irish, 54s to 62s; Danish, 54s to 59s; American, 45s 3d to 47s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The lower prices ruling have brought about more business, and a fair quantity has been taken during the last few days, there has also been more trade done on the Worcester market, some important growths having been sold. The imports of hops for September were 9,032 cwt, for the corresponding month last year 4,606 cwt. The exports of hops for September were 451 cwt, for the corresponding month last year 1,224 cwt.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—The supply of winter tares and the demand continues good. Prices unchanged. Seed wheats in good request. Prices firm. Mustard the same. Peas selling freely at hardening prices. The new clover seeds are now coming out slowly with the open weather experienced. English reds show fine samples. Prices paid so far 48s to 52s per cwt according to quality. Whites disappointing. Trefoils show fine samples of English. Foreign only ordinary. Grasses unchanged.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

Borough, Monday.—Owing to the favourable weather, a small demand for trifolium, tares, &c., for present sowing still continues. New clovers, both red and white, are offering more freely from home growers and abroad. We think growers of English red clover would do well to put same on the market as soon as possible, as there is a large trade to be done before Christmas, and this may as well be done in English seed as foreign. Alsyke and trefoil are quiet. There is little doing in cocksfoot, French, Italian, lucerne, sowing rape, and natural grasses.—W. H. & H. LE MAY.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay made £3 5s to £3 10s per ton, and straw, 2s 3d to 2s 4d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 80s per ton; old clover hay, 80s to 90s; old meadow hay, 80s to 85s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d, second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best new hay and seeds, £3 10s; secondary ditto, £3; old hay, £4 on the ground; straw, 35s per ton at stack. Improvement in trade.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4½d to 5½d; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 3d to 3½d.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair attention was accorded the moderate supplies offered, at rather firmer prices: Best clover, 84s to 95s; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington market last week, both in regard to prime and second quality, on the chief market day of the week, opened with an entire absence of life, the tendency in regard to value being in favour, but as the day advanced rates ruled slightly firmer, a practical clearance being made. On Thursday very few sales were recorded, there being a marked absence of both town and country buyers. Fat butchering cows were in moderate supply and met a limited inquiry at about late rates; fat bulls were difficult to cash even at a slight concession on last Monday's reduced rates; absolutely no dedemand for rough cattle, and but few on sale.

At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, there was a decrease of 674 in the number on offer. Trade throughout the week was of a dull and dragging nature, prices ruling easier to the extent of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb., the supply consisting chiefly of consignments from the United States. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,096 as against 5,805 during the previous week, consisting of 1,255 British and 3,841 foreign, the latter comprising 2,586 from the United States and 1,255 Canadians. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 st. Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 st. Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 st. Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100 st. Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 110 st. ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d; 100 st. fot cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. fat bulls, 2s. 8d. to 3s.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday, notwithstanding the considerable decrease in the supply, was extremely slow and dragging throughout the day, the tendency in value being slightly in favour of the buyer. On Thursday trade was again of a very quiet nature; late currencies, however, governed most transactions. Scotch and Irish were in shorter numbers and met a fairly steady inquiry, sellers both asking and obtaining last Monday's valuations. The season for lambs being now practically over, the few on offer are not worth noting or quoting. No sheep supplies at Deptford this week. The total number on offer was 5,420, as against 6,657 the previous week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stono Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d. A protracted finish ensued on both market days.

Only thirty calves were offered for sale, trade for which was of a slow but steady nature at a slight advance in value, the best on offer to dress from 166 to 177 lbs., and were quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

No pigs on the market.

Trade in the West.

Flockmasters and owners of store stock in general have seldom, if ever, had a more trying time than this season, and, though the drought has at last broken, and finally so, no doubt, for this year, their troubles are by no means as yet at an end. Grazing cattle if at all fresh, and there is promise of early maturity for beef, buyers can be found at fairly remunerative figures, ranging from £18 up to £25 or £26 per pair; but this is for the very best; for condition lots meet a very neglected sale at more irregular rates, ranging from £17 down to £13 or £14, and even then without attracting buyers. Sheep are also seriously affected in price by the shortage of grass keep for immediate requirements, as well as the present unsatisfactory condition of many of the roots, from which no very great improvement is now to be expected, seeing the lateness of the season. The scarcity of sheep in a measure keeps the trade more buoyant than but for this it would in all probability be; but values are not likely under any conditions to improve, but rather the reverse. Still, up to the present prices have not been worse than anticipated when the shortness of keep is taken into account; in fact, most flockmasters have been counting upon an even greater decline than has yet taken place, the best authorities placing this at from 3s. to 4s. under last year's rates, though some go so far as to quote the decline at 5s. a head, but the drop affects ewes as a rule more than lambs.

The fat stock trade is also in an equally bad way, most things having suffered in price since last week. Only in the case of the very choicest grades of grass-fed beasts have values been maintained, nice quality steers and heifers still making 11s. to 11s. 6d, though all the more ordinary runs of beef are selling on decidedly lower terms, 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. being the present range, and 8s. to 9s. for coarse bullocks. Calves keep up price, and are not likely to give way whilst buyers requirements are so difficult to meet. The best finished calves are again touching 8½d. per lb., and even plain qualities bring 7d. to 8d. Mutton, except in cases where the supply is at all short, has again favoured the buyer, both for ewes and wethers, though the neater weights and better qualities have scarcely suffered to the extent of the more ordinary runs. Lamb is also back, especially heavy weights; only choice suckers hold their own, and this they only do with difficulty. Pigs are the only one thing that, up to the present, have not suffered in price. The smaller weights in porkers still make 10s. 3d. to 10s. 9d., and baconers 9s. to 16s., and even the coarser weights are selling more freely now that the weather is favourable, from 8s. to 8s. 9d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle offered has been a full average, but the general quality, especially of the home grazed cattle, was deficient. The demand for the best descriptions was steady, and they maintained previous prices. Secondary cattle, however, were again rather cheaper. There was a full average supply of both sheep and lambs. These met a fairly steady trade at prices without quotable changes from last week. Fat calves and pigs were very dear. The store cattle are in fair supply, but owing to the disappointing state of the turnip crop, a slow demand is experienced with prices tending downwards. There is little demand for rough, poor cattle, a considerable number of this kind being left unsold. In the store sheep trade the demand is quieter by about 2s. a head for lambs and feeding sheep from last week. There was a smaller show of milch cows and they met a better trade than last week. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 36s. 6d.; current, 32s. to 34s.; mutton, 7d. to 9d per lb.—John Swan and Sons.

Trade in Ireland.

A very dismal day was Thursday, October 4, for the holding of the Dublin market, for it rained heavily nearly all day, and gave buyers and sellers a bad time of it. There was a large reduction in the numbers of both cattle and sheep exposed for sale, and a good attendance of buyers. The dulness which has been so apparent of late was not so noticeable, and, on the whole, business was very fair, despite the bad weather. For the few well-finished beasts on offer the bidding was brisk, and late rates were maintained, but coarse and middling met with a slow sale at irregular prices. Some really nice Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford bullocks and heifers made fancy rates; the best making up to 32s. per cwt. live weight. Secondary and half-meated sorts dull, and did not share in the slight improvement. The dead-weight prices of best ox and heifer beef ranged from 50s up to 56s. per cwt. for the very best; good second quality, from 44s. to 47s 6d.; and inferior beef, from 40s. per cwt. upwards. A good number of coarse cattle were left unsold. The lamb season has practically closed, and lambs were not quoted, though a few changed hands, but chiefly as stores. Prime wether mutton rated from 7d. to 7½d. per lb. and in a few cases some choice Cheviot and Mountain made up to 8½d.; prime ewe mutton, 6½d. to 7½d.; and inferior sheep, from 5½d. upwards. Large heavy hoggets paid from 46s. to 60s., and small to medium from 36s. to 44s. each. Veal a very dull trade, and only choice well-fed calves wanted. Best made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; rough calves sold at from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

The market was well supplied with all classes of milchers. Choice springers and newly-calved cows met with a good demand at firm rates, but coarse cows in little request. Best cows paid from £17 to £20. Stores in small supply, and prices still low.

Ballinasloe Fair has been going on for the week, and as it is the most important sheep fair in Ireland, and gives the tone to markets for the remainder of the year, great interest is taken by Irish farmers and graziers on what goes on there. Some magnificient sheep are shown in Ballinasloe, but Mr. Smith, of Masonbrook, generally takes the lead, and did so this year, getting 61s. each for his top lot of wethers. Mr. Cooke, of Cornfield, was also a big seller, obtaining 60s. apiece for over 1,300 wethors. The price of sheep was considerably in advance of this time last year. Wethers were considered to be 3s. to 4s. up; ewes about 4s.; and lambs from 5s. to 7s. each for the best.

The number of sheep sold on the first day was nearly 16,000.

In the Dublin pig maket on Thursday there was a fine show of pigs, and with a good attendance of buyers a smart trade was done at an improved rate of about 1s. per cwt. all round. Choice bacon pigs made from 53s. to 55s per cwt., heavy pigs 49s. to 52s., and inferior from 36s. upwards per cwt. A good trade done in forward store pigs.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies and trade extremely bad, prices tending lower all round. English beef, 3s to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 2s 10d to 3s 5d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s; inferior beef, 2s to 2s 4d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s to 5s 2d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, which met very limited inquiry, with lower tendency in prices, though not quotably so. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s per 8 lb. Decrease of 460 in number penned in sheep market. Sheep trade was very quiet, late currencies being barely maintained. Lambs were too few to quote. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows: 8-stone Downs 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10-stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d. Calf trade slow but firm. Pigs too few to quote. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; sheep 4s 2d to 6s; calves, 4s 10d to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef and mutton a slow sale, former at 4s to 4s 4d, latter at 5s 6d to 6s for Down wethers, and 5s to 5s 6d for best Kent wethers. Veal about 4d chaper on the week, best making 5s 8d. Pork fell 2d, best roasters fetching 4s to 4s 2d.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a much larger show of cattle than the previous week—361 against 220. Attendance small and trade fair. Calves, £5 to £6 10s; heifers, £9 10s; stirks, £7 10s to £11; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14 10s; three-year-olds, £14 10s to £16 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs. Small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb; pigs, bacon, 10s per score; porkets, 11s 8d. per score; cutting, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The cattle were numerous, but enquiry not brisk, and business quiet at late rates. Less than an average supply of sheep, and trade dull without any change in quotations. Few pigs, and porkers rose to 11s 3d per score.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in., 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 6d per score.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market was heavily supplied, and prices in many instances lower. Lambs ranged from 18s to 25s, and up to 31s; for the best wether tegs, 38s; old draft ewes, 22s to 32s per head; ewe tegs, 43s 6d; some choice pedigree ewe tegs ranged up to 86s; and registered rams were selling at from £6 6s to £15 4s 6d.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies were smaller than usual, only 300 being forward, but the quality of the stock was good. Buyers were rather scarce, and a slow trade was experienced. Heifers for wintering made £8 10s to £10 10s; others for feeding-off, £16.

Chester, Thursday.—There were liberal supplies of good stock, with an excellent attendance of buyers. Trade was slow, save for rough stock, which sold well. The best store stock found purchasers at last week's rates, but inferior descriptions were not wanted. Sheep trade dull. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £22; calvers, £15 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; and sheep, 16s to 42s each.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef, 4s to 4s 4d per stone; mutton, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fairly brisk market, with a strong demand for first beasts and sheep. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 8d to 9½d; lambs, 9d to 10d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply, but only a moderate trade. Prices unchanged. Milch beasts £16 to £22; bullocks, £11 to £17; heifers, £11 to £15; drapes, £10 to £12; young stores, £6 to £9 each. Very large supply of sheep and a good demand, this being one of the largest markets of the season. Prices firm. Ewes, 48s to 59s; gimmers, 58s to 60s; lambs, 36s to 44s; rams 8 to 12 guineas each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Moderately good sup-

plies, though not quite so extensive as late, came to hand at Messrs. Ensor's sale at their repository, but there is no marked improvement to note in stores, though milk beasts were again in much request up to £20, ranging down to £16 10s for other serviceable beasts; seconds, £13 10s to £15 5s. Barreners sold up £26 per pair for the best, and from £17 to £22 for seconds; store bulls, £9 to £11 each. Beef trade steady, heifers making 10s 6d to 11s per score (or £16 10s to £18); fat cows, 9s to 10s (or £14 10s to £15 15s). Little quotable change in the price of mutton—which may be quoted up to 8d for best, and 6½d for secondary.

Dublin, Thursday.—There was more animation in the demand for cattle and prices, particularly for choicer qualities, recovered somewhat from last week's low level. Middling and inferior classes were difficult to place to advantage at about late rates. Sheep a brisker trade at firmer prices, and a fair clearance effected. Lambs practically out of season. Cattle—Live weight (best) 28s to 30s per cwt, exceptional, 31s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to8d per lb. —GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Trade in cattle and sheep was very slow. Polled bullocks, £13 10s to £17 10s; horned cattle, to £13; stirks, £7; Cheviot Dinmonts, 26s to 34s; half-bred and cross lambs, 22s to 38s; Cheviot ewes, 24s; best Shorthorn cows, £21 to £25 10s; Ayrshires, £13 to £18 15s; crosses, £18 to £20 each.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Supply moderate. Cattle steady, but sheep easier. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s; Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, light weights, 9½d to 9¾d; heavy weights, 9d to 9½d; blackfaced wedders, 9½d; old wedders, 8½d per lb. Dead meat favoured buyers; best Scotch, 6d; best States, 4¾d; best Canadian, 4½d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d; ewes, 4½d to 6d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Bruton, Knowles, & Co. report their sales as follows:—A very large supply of cows and calves, for the majority of which there was little demand, but a few sold well, the highest price being £23. A small supply of store cattle, with slightly better trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A rather large influx of fat beasts, and none of them being very ripe, the prices appeared to drop. The extreme top figure for best bullock and heifer beef was 6½ l per lb, fat cows went slowly at 4½d, and fat bulls at 4d. Store cattle met a very slow trade. Sheep were a short supply. Fat wethers were selling at 8d, fat ewes 6½d. Fat lambs were scarce at 8d. Good store lambs dear. Fat calves a short supply and short trade at 6½d to 7d. Pigs were a better supply to-day. Porks realised 6d, and a few bacons at 5½d to 6d per lb. Store pigs were scarce and dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with moderate supplies of home-bred stock. Trade irregular, and all except the best milch cows were 20s per head lower. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £16 to £17; secondary, £14 to £15; heifers, £11 to £14; bullocks, £10 to £12; and calves, 15s to 25s each. Sheep sold freely, breeding ewes making 40s to 50s; and lamb hoggs 22s to 46s 6d. each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Buyers were in fairly good attendance. Only milch cows shown, and for these there was a good sale at £16 to £20 each. The sheep pens were well filled, and brisk demand prevailed. Lambs, 30s to 44s; gimmers, to 63s; young ewes, 50s to 56s; drape ewes, 30s. to 40s. each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Larger show of fat beasts, making about 6s 9d to 7s per stone. Stores, average show, from £6 to £14 each. Average show of fat sheep made about 8s 9d to 9s 6d. Stores, 40s to 46s each. Store lambs, 30s to 36s each. No fat lambs.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, 8d, others, 7¾d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 5¾d to 6¼d; thirds, 4¾d to 5¼d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porkets: Firsts: 7¾d; seconds, 7¼d to 7½d; thirds, 6½d to 7d.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Heifers, 6s 9d to 7s 6d; steers, 6s 6d to 7s; coarse, 5s 9d to 6s 3d; pigs, porkers, 7s 3d to 8s; bacons, 6s 9d to 7s; fat, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone; sheep, shearling, 8½d to to 9d; heavy, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d: rams, 6d to 5¾d; lambs, 8½d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A very large supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs, with a fair number of calves and pigs. Trade was brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 5½d to 6d; Irish beef, 5½d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—An average supply of fat beasts, and trade ruled about the same as last week, at 7s 4d to 7s 9d per stone of 14 lb. The show of store cattle was still below the average for past years. Business in the main was conducted much upon the same lines as of late, most of the cattle changing hands at from £6 to £17 per head. Store sheep were penned in larger supply, and the demand was of a slow description; breeding ewes ranged in value from 40s to 58s per head, and lambs from 30s to 42s; fat sheep were offered in usual supply, and met with a good trade at 9s 6d to 10s per stone. There was a larger show of fat and store pigs, but the demand was quite as brisk as of late, and all sold; fat pigs averaged 7s 3d per stone, and stores ranged from 14s to 50s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a short supply of stock. Best cows made £18 to £22, and in-calf heifers £16 to £18. Store stock met with a slow trade. Two and a-half year old heifers and steers sold at £10 to £12, and yearlings, £4 10s to £6 each. No calves, pigs, or sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was an average supply of both beef and mutton. Beef met with a rather slow demand at prices favouring buyers, but mutton met with a fair trade. Quotations:—Heifers and bullocks, 5d to 6d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; tups, 5½d to 6d; hoggs, 8½d to 9½d; ewes, 6d to 7½d; fat calves, 7d to 8d; young calves, 6½d to 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—All kinds of store stock met with a sluggish inquiry, and the limited business transacted was at a slight decline in prices, milch cows being offered at £14 to £18, two-year-old steers and heifers, £9 to £11; and yearlings, £6 to £8 per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade about the same: Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, trade fair at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Average supply of sheep, trade about the same: Best small, 5s 10d to 6s; large, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, slow demand. Average supply of pigs, trade about the same: Large hogs, 3s 10d to 4s; small porkers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch beasts were scarce, and prices show little alteration from last week, the best making £20 to £22 10s; secondary, £17 to £10 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Small supply of cattle, but usual supplies of calves, sheep and pigs. Beef trade easier than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 8d per lb; veal, 7d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score: bacons, 9s to 10s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s to 7s per stone. Lambs made 9½d per lb, young sheep 9d, ewes 7d, and tups 6d. The pig trade was slow, but slightly better than last week, porkers selling at 8s to 8s 3d per stone, mediums 7s to 7s 6d, and sows 6s to 6s 9d per stone.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of stock than usual, the quality of the cattle being hardly so good as in previous markets, Fat oxen made from £14 to £18 10s; fat heifers, £12 to £18; fat wethers, 48s to 55s; fat ewes, 38s to 52s; fat calves, £3 10s to £4 5s; weaning cow calves, 12s to 60s; bull calves, 8s to 40s; bacon hogs, £1 10s to £5; fat sows up to £10; porkers, 32s to 48s; strong store pigs, 28s to 36s; small stores, 15s to 25s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 57s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £14 10s; rearing calves, 26s to 45s; ewes, 35s to 45s each; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 13s to 44s 6d each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcasses), 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply and slow trade. Quotations:—Beef 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small show of stock, beef being an exceptionally small show and poor trade, with demand for sheep good. Best beef, 7s to 7s 3d; secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; lamb 9d per lb.

York, Thursday.—There was a good show of cattle, and trade was conducted on a firm basis. Best quality young bullocks realised up to £14 10s; secondary, £10 to £12. Calving and milch cows continued to be dear, the best realising £20, and others £15 to £18. There was a good show of sheep, over 17,000 being penned. Twice-crossed lambs made 32s to 39s; and ewes, 47s to 56s; Masham ewes, 48s to 52s; Wensleydale rams, £5 to £10; and other sorts, £4 to £5 10s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—There is no improvement to note in the demand, which remains purely of a retail description, but with continued short supplies of foreign and a firmer tendency on the part of shippers, prices are firmly held up. Russian offer sparingly at £7 13s. 9d. to £7 15s. in mats, and £7 15s. to £7 17s. 6d. in bags. East India seed pures make £7 15s. to £7 17s. 6d. La Plata attract rather more attention at £7 17s. 6d. to £8, owing to their excellent quality. London made are in moderate request at about late rates of £8 to £8 2s. 6d. per ton. Cotton Cakes.—In spite of some fairly heavy arrivals of Egyptian, the market is in no way effected, and £4 18s. 9d. to £5 is freely paid for ready parcels. English move off quietly at £5 to £5 2s. 6d., and Bombays at £4 10s. Decorticated do not offer for present delivery, but some meal is obtainable in warehouse at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Rape Cakes.—Nominal. East India, £5 10s.; Ravison, £5 5s. Maize Germ Meal.—Landed lots of White American command full prices of £5 15s to £5 17s. 6d, while there are sellers of English makes at £5 8s 9d to £5 10s Maize Gluten Meal meets a steady sale at £5 15s Rice Meal.—The market is almost bare of stocks, but there are some second-hand parcels afloat, which may be bought at £4 13s. 9d. to £4 15s., ex ship terms. Locust beans are without change at £5 15s for Whole, and £6 per for Kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains offer at the relatively low figure of £5 5s for Ale and £4 15s per ton for Porter.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
,, in bags	7 16 3	to 7 17 6
Calcutta .....to arrive	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
La Plata	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
English	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated...	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	5 10 0	
Ravison	5 0 0	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American	5 15 0	to 5 17 6
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon	4 15 0	to 4 16 3
,, afloat, ex ship	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
LOCUST BEANS.		
White	5 15 0	
Kibbled	6 0 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of Soda (on spot) ...	10 17 6	
Nitrate of Soda (Spring delivery)	11 2 6	
DRIED GRAINS.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda values are firmly upheld at £11 17s. 6d. for ordinary and £12 7s. 6d. per ton for refined, and the offerings are limited. Autumn manuring has commenced in some districts, as is indicated by the increasing demand for basic slag and other phosphatic fertilisers, as also for potassic superphosphate; the latter supplies two important plant-foods at one application, and attracts attention of those who purpose using phosphates and potash. Kainit likewise is more inquired for. Feeding stuffs are a quiet trade, yet command late rates, and linseed cakes are firm in anticipation of higher prices ruling when the cold weather sets in Whilst the offerings of decorticated cotton cake are on a moderate scale, they are ample to meet the present slow consumptive demand. Rice meal dull. Feeding treacle in fair request.

	£ s d	£ s d
Fine Bone Ash	3 10 0	—
Nitrate of Soda.....	11 17 6	—
East India Bone Meal.....	5 5 0	5 7 6
Kainit	2 2 6	2 5 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 7 6	6 10 0
Linseed Cake, American.....	7 12 6	7 15 0
,, ,, English, prime..	8 5 0	8 10 0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14 0 0	14 10 0
Cottonseed Cake, S.A., decorticated, soft	7 17 6	8 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8 2 6	8 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4 17 6	5 5 0
Cottonseed Cake, Egyptian, undecorticated	—	—
Fattening Cake	6 15 0	—
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6 7 6	—
Crushed Cottonseed	7 12 6	—
Maize Germ Meal	5 12 6	—

Corn Oil Cake	6	5	0	—		
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	17	6	4	18	9
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	8	6	2	10	0
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	0	4	6	—		
Treacle, feeding, prime	0	4	9			
D.N.S. Brand } Superphosphate of Lime	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	•
,, ,,	1	18	6	2	0	•
,, finest ,,	2	2	6	—		

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

BUTTER.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s to 1s 1d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Driffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Evesham, 1s 1d and 1s 2½d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Northtawton: 1s. Penistone: 1s 3d. Penzance: 11½d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashbuaton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s to 1s 1d. Crewe: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s. Knutsford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Leyburn: 11d to 1s. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 2d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Redruth: 1s 1d. Runcorn, 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 2d. Stamford: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Stockport: 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11d to 1s 2d Berwick: 1s Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per dozen. Birmingham: 8 and 9. Brigg: 11 and 12. Devizes: 9 and 10. Driffield: 12 and 13. Evesham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Kidderminster: 10. Penistone: 9. Penzance: 1s 2d to 1s 6d per doz. Plymouth: 9 and 10. Ripon: 9. Wellington (Salop): 10. Wetherby: 8 and 9.

Friday.—Altrincham: 8. Ashburton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per doz. Barnstaple: 10 to 11. Chester: 9. Camelford: 1s 1d per doz. Crewe: 8 and 9. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 6d per doz. Derby: 8 and 9. Helmsley: 11. Knutsford: 9. Leyburn: 9 and 10. Lincoln: 10 and 11. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 8 and 9. Nantwich: 10. Northwich: 9. Otley: 8. Redruth: 1s 2d per doz. Runcorn: 8 and 9. St. Austell: 10. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 8 and 9. Tavistock: 10. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8. Berwick: 1s 2d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 7. Doncaster: 9. Grantham: 10 and 12. Howden: 10 to 12. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 7 and 8. Malton: 10 and 11. Pontefract: 9. Retford: 2s 3d to 2s 4d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 8 and 9. Shrewsbury: 8 and 9. Skipton: 8 and 9. Stokesley: 9 and 10. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 9. York: 8 to 10.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals of cheese were moderate, buyers more disposed to operate, and a fair business resulted, chief demand being for Dunlop. Cheddars are quoted from 62s to 66s per cwt., Dunlops 58s to 64s. Canadian parcels meet with a limited trade, as they are regarded as too high.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 15 tons of cheese pitched, and with a large attendance all was cleared. Best dairies realised up to 68s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 60s to 68s 6d; and other dairies, 64s to 66s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 60s. Cheddars made 64s to 68s; truckles, 63s to 67s 6d; doubles, 60s to 63s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—A moderate supply and a good demand. An average attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 65s to 68s per cwt; fancy dairies, 70s to 71s; truckles, 68s to 72s; Derbys, 72s.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has remained firm at ale 22s, porter 17s, distillers' 35s, and pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains, 102s 6d; mixed 92s 6d; distillers, 110s per ton on rail London; also ale, 92s 6d, and mixed 85s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 75s; Rangoon rice meal, 98s 9d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 100s per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a falling off in the attendance of growers to-day. Many of the smallest have sold out the few pockets of which their growths consisted, whilst others have taken their hops off the market until the demand improves. Trade was slow again, as merchants had received very little encouragement from brewers, who are not yet ready. Three or four long lots have been cleared out to some large brewers, who evidently wished to secure a pick of the market. Prices were about the same as last week. 1,122 pockets have been weighed this week, and there is a steady demand for yearlings.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

LEICESTER ANNUAL FOAL SHOW AND SALE.

IMPORTANT SALE OF SHIRE FOALS AND HORSES.
WEDNESDAY NEXT, OCT. 10, 1906.

MESSRS. HINCKS AND LAWRENCE will SELL by AUCTION, in the Paddock adjoining the Cattle Market, as above,

82 SHIRE FOALS.

15 ONE, TWO, and THREE YEAR OLD COLTS and FILLIES, and BROOD MARES.

Foals sold at past Sales here at moderate prices have afterwards won high honours at London and other Shows, and been resold at enormous prices.

This year's Sale includes many animals of great promise.

All animals to be in the paddock at 9.30 a.m. Judging at 10 o'clock.

Sale commences with foals at 12.30 o'clock prompt.

Catalogues on application to the AUCTIONEERS, 25, Halford Street, Leicester, and at Sleaford.

GREAT ANNUAL MICHAELMAS SALES of RAMS and BREEDING SHEEP at MALTON.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 11 and 12, 1906 (Michaelmas Fair Days).

MESSRS. BOULTON & COOPER (who are honoured with instructions from the most celebrated flockmasters in the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire) will SELL by AUCTION, in the Cattle Market and the Fair Field, Malton, on the above dates,

300 PEDIGREE LEICESTER, LINCOLN and DOWN RAMS, and
1500 LEICESTER, LINCOLN, and MASHAM GIMMER SHEARLINGS, YOUNG EWES, and STORE LAMBS.

Sales at 10.30 o'clock each day.

Descriptive catalogues forwarded free on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Malton, Yorks.

KENT.
MAIDSTONE FAIR.

MESSRS AMBROSE & FOSTER beg to announce they will SELL by AUCTION

At MAIDSTONE FAIR, on
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1906,

6,740
KENT, SOUTHDOWN and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS.
viz.,

1,239 Kent Lambs.
2,105 Half-bred and Southdown ditto.
1,051 Kent Tegs.
301 Half-bred ditto.
1,961 Kent Breeding Ewes.
79 Southdown ditto,

including a run of 120 Ewes and 30 Ewe Tegs from Mr. George Farmer's Registered Kent Flock; also 120 Ewe Tegs from Mr. S. Skinner.

130
Registered Rams
from the following well-known and successful Breeders;

16
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from C. P. Wykeham Martin, Esq.;

27
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from Mr. George Farmer (also 120 Ewes and 30 Ewe Tegs from his Flock);

4
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from Messrs. W. Skinner and Sons;

13
Kent or Romney Marsh Ram Tegs, from Mr. John Robinson;

14
Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from Messrs. Cannon and Rogers;

10
Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from H. B. Hohler, Esq;

6
Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from Messrs. Moore and Miskin;

6
Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, from G. F. Hohler, Esq.;

9
Southdown Ram Tegs, from Thomas Powell, Esq.;

Continued in next column.

Continued from previous column—

16
Southdown Rams, Tegs and Lambs, from W. M. Cazalet, Esq.;
and several other lots from other Breeders in the District;
also
82
Home-bred Steers and Heifers and several Nag and Cart Horses.

Sale to commence at 10 a.m. sharp.

Intending purchasers other than clients are requested to forward to the Auctioneers, prior to the Sale, a letter of reference from their bankers.

Catalogues may be obtained of the AUCTIONEERS at 3, Market Buildings, Maidstone, Kent.

FOR SALE.—Great reduction. Six Clays' well-known Cultivators; 7 and 9 Tines; quite new; £5 10s. each, carriage paid to any station; splendid value.—C. CLAY & CO., Albert Works, Horbury, Wakefield.

GOOD PLAIN COOK (30 to 40) and HOUSE PARLOURMAID (about 25) wanted for small family resident twelve miles from London; sisters or friends preferred.—Reply, "J. S.," care of MARK LANE EXPRESS, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London.

Three Counties Asylum, Arlesey, Near Hitchin.

FARM BAILIFF

WANTED for Farm of 400 Acres: Salary £100 a year, with house, garden and gas. Applicants for the Appointment must be between the ages of 25 and 35, and their applications in writing, stating age, whether married or single, with testimonials, must be sent to Mr. F. N. BUTLER, Clerk to the Visitors' Office, St. Neots, Hunts., on or before Thursday, the 18th of October instant. No canvassing.

JEE'S MILK (ACCOUNT) BOOK. For Farmers, for Dairymen, for Consumers. Price 2s., by post, 2s. 3d. Published by W. A. MAY, "Mark Lane Express" Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE KENNEL CLUB'S DOG SHOW, CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM, OCTOBER 16 to 18, 1906.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY will convey exhibits for the above Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Durham, Darlington, and other towns on and in connection with their system.

Through Vans will be run wherever necessary for the conveyance of Exhibits.

Conveyance Rates may be obtained of any Great Northern Stationmaster or Agent.

Special arrangements will be made for the return of Exhibits at the close of the Show.

A Company's representative will attend the Show to give all information.

Exhibitors must mark their address labels "Per Great Northern Railway."

OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

ATTERTON'S
IMPROVED
CRANES
FOR ALL PURPOSES.
HAVERHILL, Suffolk

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TRADE MARK

"Rough on Rats, the unrivalled Rat Exterminator being a slow poison rats in their misery and thirst work their way out of your premises. Exterminates Beetles, Ants, and Bed Bugs. Fools the Rats, Mice and Bugs but never disappoints or fools the buyer. 7½d. and 1s. boxes at

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Oct. 8, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Wheat sowings are in progress, and the land is now working kindly. Very low prices act as a discouraging element, and it is on the whole not likely that the area under the leading cereal will be increased. At the same time, when the sowings begin early and the land works well, the area eventually sown is apt to come to a larger total than farmers themselves at the beginning of a season would have anticipated.

Threshings continue to show an over-average yield of wheat from Kent to Fife and Forfar, the most northern region for any extensive culture. The quality is good, the weight is good, and thus we have to be thankful for two decidedly good consecutive harvests. The failure of farmers to benefit financially indicates that our national economics are on a wrong basis.

Barley has been yielding quantity rather than quality on recent threshings, but results are so diverse that an extraordinary difficulty attaches to averaging the outturn other than in mere bulk per acre, which in the case of barley is far from being the main consideration.

Oats are proving a bigger crop than at first supposed, but fifty bushels per acre will probably not be exceeded, the small yield in the east and south having to be reckoned off the undoubtedly heavy results in the north and west.

Tares, beans, and peas are over-average yields, and the quality also is excellent. The demand for these staples is at present a little slow, but total production is so moderate that growers really have the situation in their own hands; no supplies of any consequence are expected from foreign countries, and the home produce is bound to be in active request before long.

The estimated stocks of wheat and flour in British merchants' hands are as follows:—

Oct. 13, 1906	3,180,000 qrs.
,, 14, 1905	2,715,000 ,,
,, 15, 1904	2,375,000 ,,

The American merchants hold the following quantities of wheat:—

Oct. 13, 1906	7,644,000 qrs.
,, 14, 1905	2,170,000 ,,
,, 15, 1904	1,700,000 ,,

These figures are a sufficient rebuke to the ignorant inventions of a London daily which sought recently to alarm the bread eater with news of a corner in wheat. The corner never extended beyond Bouverie Street, and the solution is the exact reverse of what was there indicated. The discouragement of wheat growers is the danger this autumn; the world has probably an unique surplus of milling wheat, and the markets, if alarmed at all, are apprehensive of too rapid pressure of the new crops on sale.

The American Bureau report of the 11th inst. admits that the wheat crop had been over-estimated by 2,500,000 quarters. On an English crop this would, of course, be enormous, but in America it does not exceed 3 per cent., cutting down a crop of 89,500,000 quarters to 87,000,000 quarters. America was credited with 27,500,000 quarters available for export; the total will now, of course, be 25,000,000.

The other cereal crops, &c., are thus estimated for the United States:—

Barley	144,528,000	bushels.
Oats	851,482,000	,,
Rye	19,202,000	,,
Maize	2,780,069,000	,,
Buckwheat	13,249,000	,,
Potatoes	287,615,000	,,

The American mills are fairly busy, but not so active as at this time last year. The North-Western group last week turned out 420,400 barrels, against 526,290 barrels in the like week of last year.

Supplies of wheat on passage are much below the average:—Californian, 170,000 qr.; American, 310,000 qr.; Indian, 166,000 qr.; Russian, 250,000 qr.; Australasian, 175,000 qr.; Argentine, 90,000 qr.; various, 40,000 qr. Total, 1,201,000 qr. A week ago, 1,215,000 qr.

Of these the quantity on passage is 361,000 sacks, against 367,000 sacks.

Barley supplies on passage are about an average:—Russian, 220,000 qr.; Californian, 80,000 qr.; American, 50,000 qr.; Asiatic, 120,000 qr. Total, 470,000 qr.

Of oats 205,000 qr. are on passage.

Expectations of maize are less than usual:—America, 40,000 qr.; Argentine, 600,000 qr.; Russian, 45,000 qr.; Roumanian, 100,000 qr.; total, 785,000 qr.

Other supplies on passage are 100,000 qr. of linseed, 12,000 qr. of rapeseed, and 20,000 tons of cottonseed.

The wheat gradient this week is from 25s. 1d. at several north country markets to 28s. 2d. at Canterbury; 3s. 1d. per qr.

The barley gradient is as follows:—Canterbury, 28s. 4d. per qr.; Doncaster, 23s. 3d. per qr; range, 5s. 1d.

Oats are down to 15s. 9d. at Peterborough, 15s. 10d at Doncaster. The gradient is as follows:—Canterbury, 17s. 8d. per qr.; Peterborough, 15s. 9d. per qr.; range 1s 11d.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been not quite so large as last season, yet the price shows a decided retrogression. This is not as it should be.

This season,	416,000 qr.	at 25s. 10d.	per qr.
Last ,,	515,000 ,,	26s. 10d.	,,

Of English barley increased sales have taken place, and yet the price is better. Value is evidently eccentric this season.

This season,	455,000 qr.	at 24s. 7d.	per qr.
Last ,,	411,000 ,,	23s. 11d.	,,

English oats have been in good request ever since harvest, but the price ruling is not a remunerative one, and farmers would do well to hold.

This season,	205,000 qr.	at 16s. 3d.	per qr.
Last ,,	173,000 ,,	16s.	,,

Disastrously low prices are being accepted for new tares, which are the less called for, as both beans and peas command reasonable rates.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 320,000 qr.: a fair supply.
Flour, 138,000 sks.: a fair supply.
Maize, 161,000 qr.: under an average.
Barley, 143,000 qr.: over an average.
Oats, 67,000 qr: a very small arrival.

Since harvest the arrivals of foreign grain have been as follows:—

Qr.	1906	1905
Wheat	2,748,000	2,665,000
Barley	1,045,000	1,044,000
Oats	526,000	604,000
Maize	1,483,000	1,622,000

The supplies of the first three articles have been proportionately much more liberal than of the last two.

Of flour the imports have been as follows:—

1906	734,700 sacks
1905	603,000 ,,
Surplus	131,700 sacks

Increased reliance on foreign flour is not at all a favourable sign

The North American shipments last week were good of breadstuffs, small of feeding stuffs, actual quantities being:—Wheat, 313,000 qr.; barley, 40,000 qr.; oats, 19,000 qr.; maize, 104,000 qr.; and flour, 194,000 sacks.

South American shipments were good of maize, otherwise moderate. Totals for Argentina wheat, 70,000 qr.; maize, 248,000 qr.; and linseed, 40,000 qr. A separate cable says, "wheat 94,000 qr."

Russia shipped decidedly less of all cereals last week, but the following are still by no means insignificant quantities:—Wheat, 271,000 qr.; barley, 187,000 qr.; oats, 109,000 qr.; and maize, 19,000 qr. Roumanian shipments were exceedingly heavy: Wheat, 287,000 qr.; barley, 149,000 qr.; oats, 79,000 qr.; and maize, 10,000 qr.

Indian shipments were 109,000 qr. of wheat and 13,500 qr. of linseed, while from Australia 4,000 qr. of wheat, and from New Zealand 5,000 of peas were shipped.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With short supplies and a strong demand the trade during the past week has ruled very firm, with prices again the turn dearer. Although the mild and unseasonable weather has been much against any increase in the consumption, the trading all round has been very strong and buoyant, and all lots on offer have been easily disposed of. Clovers are a very steady trade at last week's full prices. Meadow hays are strong, and for best qualities an advance in value of 2s 6d ton is easily obtainable. Mixtures are coming along in very short supply, and with fierce demand find a very ready sale at top prices, and in some instances at a slight improvement. Wheat straw is a steady trade at unchanged rates. Oat straws find a very good market and are very firm, as with the shortness of hay for chaffing purposes this quality is being more extensively used in its place. Barley straw is steady at last week's price. In the foreign market the trading is very strong. Canadian mixture still comes along very short, and lots on offer are eagerly snapped up. Dutch hay is coming along fairly plentiful, but as this quality is more asked for all parcels are quickly disposed of. French clover also finds a better demand at slightly higher prices. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hays, 85s to 87s 6d; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 80s per ton; inferior, 60s to 70s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 90s to 92s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers and mixtures, 60s per ton; wheat straw, 26s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 85s per ton; good Dutch hay, 70s to 73s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 80s to 85s per ton; French large bale wheat straw, 50s per ton; French small bale wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside London Thames Wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are dull, but prices are not lower. Sales have included Rosario at 29s. 3d. per 480 lb, Balue Blanca at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb., Walla Walla at 29s. 9d per 500 lb, Australian at 31s. 3d per 480 lb., Bessarabian at 29s. per 492 lb., Russian Azima at 30s. 9d. per 492 lb., Odessa Glinka at 29s. 6d. per 492 lb., common Hard Taganrog at 28s. per 492 lb., No. 1 Hard winter at 29s. per 480 lb., and No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes are well held, and on Saturday a cargo of Russian made 19s. 6d. per 400 lb., a rise of fully 3d. per qr. Persian is offered for prompt shipment at 17s. 9d. per 400 lb., with buyers at 17s. 6d. Oats are 3d. cheaper on the week, White Canadian having been sold at 16s. 9d. per 320 lb., Roumanian at 15s. 3d. per 304 lb., and Konigsberg at 17s. 6d. per 320 lb.

Maize is inclined to favour buyers of flat and yellow corn, but round at the recent low currencies is in improved request. The following cargoes have been sold:—American, four cargoes for January shipment, at 19s. 3d. per 480 lb.; Argentine, two cargoes on passage, at 19s. 9d. per 480 lb.; and Russian, two cargoes for prompt shipment, at a guinea per 480 lb. Bulgarian is held for the same price as Russian.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Port Augusta, 1 Port Victoria, and 1 Wallaroo), 1 Linseed (Buenos Ayres). Total, 4.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Belfast, 1 Hull, and 1 Runcorn), 1 Linseed (Harburg). Total, 4.

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 237 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 28 linseed, total 276.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 290 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 8 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 49 linseed, total, 381.

East Indian wheat rejections as published by the London Corn Trade Association are as follows viz.:—

Choice white Kurrachee, 30s. 3d.; soft red Kurrachee, 29s. 9d. per 492 lb. These prices will rule until further notice under the association's contracts.

The secretary of the same association announces that the following standards have been made up, all July shipments, viz.:—

Wheat.—Choice white Kurrachee, soft red Kurrachee, choice white Bombay.

Bombay lentils, Kurrachee gram, Calcutta white pease, Persian dari.

Samples can be inspected at the offices in St. Mary Axe.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at late rates. Foreign held at Monday's prices, but demand very small. South Russians, cx ship, quoted at 28s to 32s 6d, landed at 30s 6d to 33s 6d; No. 2 hard winter, ex ship, at 29s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s to 32s 6d, No. 2 at 31s 9d. Flour slow, unchanged. Hungarians quoted at 29s, Iron Dukes at 20s, Minnesota patents at 21s, bakers' at 19s Maize quiet at about unchanged rates. La Plata, ex ship, quoted at 20s 3d to 20s 6d, landed at 20s 9d to 21s. Barley steady, but inactive. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s, landed 19s 6d. Oats steady, but quiet.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, quiet, at late rates; white quoted at 30s to 31s 6d; reds at 29s to 31s. Foreign sellers ask rather more money for American, but buyers do not respond. No. 2 hard winter ex ship quoted at 29s 6d to 29s 9d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s 3d to 32s 6d; No. 2 at 31s 9d to 32s; Australian landed at 31s to 32s; Plata, 30s 6d to 32s; South Russian at 30s 6d to 33s 6d. Flour firm, but quiet. Maize quiet, unchanged prices; La Plata, ex ship, quoted at 20s 3d to 20s 6d; landed at 20s 9d to 21s. Barley firm, but only small business passing; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s to 19s 3d; landed at 19s 6d to 19s 9d. Oats slow, at about unchanged prices; common quoted at 16s 3d to 16s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—With an average attendance, trade was very firm for both wheat and oats, which were not largely offered. Wheat made up to 31s, a rise of 1s on the week for best samples; oats made from 17s to 20s, and foreign grinding barley was no dearer at 21s to 22s; barley of malting quality was freely offered, and made 27s to 30s; new tick beans, 31s to 33s; mazagans, 29s to 30s; flat maize, 25s to 26s; round maize, 22s to 23s; flour unchanged.

Appleby, Saturday.—Very little offering. White oats (horse corn), wholesale, about 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 25s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 29s 6d per qr; oats 17s to 19s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Smaller supplies of grain. Barley unchanged. Wheat and oats scarce, the latter making fully last week's prices. Wheat, 26s to 28s; barley, 23s to 26s 6d; oats, 19s 6d to 21s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A quiet, steady trade, with prices generally about unchanged. A small show of English wheats, which range from 10s to 11s per 186 lb delivered. New Russian wheats were offered at 29s per 496 lb, old ones making up to 32s 6d: River Plates and Kurrachee were unchanged. River Plate maize was 3d easier at 20s 3d per 480 lb at Sharpness. Grinding barley 19s to 19s 6d per 400 lb, Sharpness. English oats firm at from 18s 9d to 19s per 312 lb. Beans, 12s per bag (196 lb), delivered.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—With a rather small supply, there was no quotable change in prices. Reds, 28s to 28s 6d; whites, 28s to 28s 6d; revets, 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Barley was in fair average supply, and a good quantity changed hands, but prices were lower for fair malting runs, 26s to 30s per qr.; finer sorts were quiet, but steady at 31s to 35s per qr. Oats, beans, and peas firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Weat was in short supply, and rates were slightly reduced, at 27s to 27s 6d per 504 lb. on rail. No trade for barley. Oats in short supply, and sellers ask more money. Very few beans offering.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Seed wheat is making up to 33s, but for milling purposes 66 lb samples are quoted at 31s 6d. Barley moves off steadily at recent prices, lots of exceptional quality being held at 32s and 33s per qr. Oats range from 16s for 36 lb up to 22s for 45 lb.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at full prices. 17s 6d to 18s per 336 lb. No old oats shown.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—The market continues firm for English grain, with a satisfactory demand. White oats were scarce and readily saleable at a little more money. Flat corn favoured buyers. Quotations:—White and red wheat, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 64 lb; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d, and new, 4s 9d to 5s per 80 lb; new oats, 2s 3d to 2s 6d, and old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, 12s 3d to 12s 6d per 240 lb; new River Plate, 11s 3d to 11s 9d.

Chichester, Wednesday.—The weather caused a slight shortage in supply, and the market was consequently a trifle firmer. Oats were 6d. dearer on the week, and foreign barley about 3d. dearer. The market generally was steady. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 17s 6d to 20s; oats, English, 17s to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat firm, 28s 6d, but very little offering. Oats steady. Barley firm.—Joseph Wiles and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—A moderate attendance, and the supply of wheat still limited. Spring corn is not yet showing in any quantity. Prices ruled:—Wheat, old, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per 186 lb; new, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 34s per 448 lb; oats, old, 25s to 25s 6d per 352 lb; new, 18s 6d to 21s 3d per 352 lb; beans, old, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 196 lb; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A fair supply, and trade steady, without any alteration in the price of wheat or spring corn. Old white wheat, 31s to 32s; new wheat, 29s to 30s; old red wheat, 30s to 31s; new red wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; old beans, 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new oats, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a fair supply of corn. Wheat was firm at last week's prices. The inferior quality of the barley crop makes the trade slow except for fine malting samples. Oats firm. Other corn unchanged. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 15s to 17s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Small supplies of grain in all departments, and only a moderate attendance of buyers. Trade for English wheat was rather quiet at nominally late rates. Some inquiry for seed. Foreign wheats steady at last week's prices. Oats very firm, and the finest samples advanced 3d to 6d per qr. Barley was rather quiet at about late rates. Beans steady.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The continuous rain this week has greatly retarded threshing, and as a consequence has led to a lessened supply of corn at to-day's market. Teere was enough and more, however, to meet the requirements of buyers, and as the condition was affected by the wet, factors held off as regards price, and we must therefore quote wheat as a trifle lower than it was, sales, at the same time being only to a moderate extent. Barley fairly active for feeding at barely late rates, but not much doing in malting, the weather not being favourable for sampling. Oats showed a little easier feeling, but there was only a trifling variation in values. Maize, beans, and peas practically remain unchanged.

Dublin, Friday. — There was a fair attendance and a quiet business, without material change. Flour in fair request. Irish wheat moved slowly. Oatmeal and pollard firm. Bran dear. Quotations:—Wheat, 16s 3d to 17s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding ditto, 13s to 14s; oats, 11s to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday. — Trade better. English wheat firm at 6d advance; foreign unchanged. Barley 3d dearer. Maize firm. Oats 3d to 6d dearer. Flour unchanged. English wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 4½d; English barley, 3s to 4s; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat unchanged. Flour in better demand, with prices in sellers' favour. Corn unaltered since Wednesday. Maize firm, with a quiet trade. Barley quiet, but steady in price. Oats quiet and unchanged for home; foreign firmer. Beans quiet, with no change in price. Peas 3d per boll dearer. Oatmeal in better demand at stiffer prices.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday. — Market quiet. Mixed American maize on the spot steadier owing to temporary scarcity, but easier forward; spot 13s per 280 lb; round dull at 12s 3d to 12s 4½d. Wheat the turn against buyers; business moderate. Flour steady. Feeding stuffs generally unaltered.

Grantham, Saturday.—Wheat commanded fully last week's prices; oats were 6d dearer; whilst no change was noted in any other department. Wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, 26s to 33s; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; blue peas, 58s to 60s; beans, 29s to 30s 6d per qr.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat was in small supply and prices were unchanged. In foreign wheat there was moderate trade without alteration. Maize unchanged. Barley and oats firm.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of English wheats was on offer. Prices firm at fully last week's figures. Barleys rather inactive, prices for general medium qualities ranging from 25s. to 28s. Oats not much doing, with prices firm. Maize 3d per qr dearer on the week. Beans also steady at last week's full prices. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 62 lb; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per 40 lb; new, 2s to 2s 4d; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 3d per 60 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in rather shorter supply than last week, with no change in prices, at about 29s for reds and 28s to 28s 9d for revets, delivered at Ipswich. Barley was in good supply. A large business was done, but sellers were obliged to accept somewhat lower prices for the fair to medium malting runs, at 26s to 30s 6d per qr. There was not so much change in the values of the finer descriptions. Oats steady on the week at 17s 6d to 19s 6d per qr. Beans unchanged, at 30s to 30s 6d per qr. Maize firm, at 21s for Plate and 22s for Danubian. Feeding stuffs all very firm on the week.

Leeds, Thursday.—Last week's extreme prices have not been fully maintained, the weaker American advices causing millers to buy wheat less freely, yet the tone remains firm, owing to the liberal shipments demonstrating the large continental requirements. English wheat in diminished supply and rather dearer to buy. Fine malting barley fully as dear; inferior sorts rather easier. Maize, beans, and oats in seller's favour.—Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday.—With average supplies of both English and foreign wheats, prices remained about stationary, Tuesday's closing quotations being barely maintained. There was a good demand for the cheaper kinds of flour, prices ranging from 23s to 27s; finest qualities, which made 29s, were in less request. Maize was dearer, Plate being quoted at 20s, and Americans 21s. English malting barley closed at 28s and foreign 31s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with full supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade steady. Red wheats 26s 6d to 28s 6d, white wheats 27s 6d to 29s 6d per 36 stone; malting, 26s to 31s per 32 stone; beans in fair demand; new oats 17s to 19s, old oats 24s to 25s per 26 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Very good attendance and moderate show of English wheats, which met with a fair inquiry, quotations being firm at last week's rate. Best qualities of malting barley inquired for at full price, common sorts being hard to dispose of. No change in feeding stuffs.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had a good attendance, and wheat is firmly held for ½d advance for red sorts with a moderate trade passing; white sorts are in fair demand, Indians being ½d dearer, Australians the turn lower. Flour: A small trade for both home-made and foreign brands, but without quotable change in prices of either. Maize: Mixed is easy at 1½d decline, but there is a moderate trade passing at the lower figures. Plate is quiet at 1d decline. European grades slow, at unchanged prices. Barley: Malting scarce and 6d dearer. Feeding quiet, unchanged. Beans steady but quiet. Peas quiet, a slow trade at about late rates. Oats in improved request at fully late prices for foreign, and the turn dearer for new English. Oatmeal firm at late currencies, but slow to move. Oilcake a quiet trade for foreign, but English cakes in better demand at the prices quoted. Indian meal in good demand at the quotations.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Maidstone, Thursday.—In consequence of the remarkable weather for this season of the year, the heat equal to midsummer, wheat is in excellent condition, which is probably the reason of the firm tone and the cost of it to-day, 6d per qr. more than last week. Barley also manifests a slight improvement, especially for fine parcels, for which maltsters are seeking. The oat trade is about the same as our last report. Beans and peas sell fairly well, and a large supply of them is not brought to the market. Maize is quiet. It is on sale at about former rates. Winter tares are disappointing business; dry weather induces those who sow them to wait for showers. We do not note any change in brank, hemp, dari, lergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat firm, and occasionally 6d dearer on the week. Foreign in small demand, and unchanged. Flour steady. In Indian corn Cinquantina is 1d, and Plate ½d dearer, but mixed American 1½d lower on the week. Barley unchanged. Oats easier. Peas in fair demand. Beans quietly steady. Offals scarce and firm at fully late rates.

Newark, Wednesday.—Fair market; moderate enquiry at full prices. White and red wheat, 27s 6d to 28s; malting barley, 25s to 29s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; black ditto, 17s to 18s; beans, 30s to 31s 6d per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—No active demand for wheats of any description. Prices however, remain steady. A steadier feeling for

maize, and prices unchanged from this day week. A good, steady demand for good oats, and last week's prices were maintained. Soft qualities, however, are difficult to dispose, and consequently lower prices had to be accepted. Beans and peas 6d per 504 lb dearer on the week. Barley unaltered.

Northampton, Saturday.—Fair attendance. Wheat, small supply, at prices practically unchanged. Brisk demand for barley at firm prices: New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, more offering, and trade ruled slow at late rates. Barley more inquired for, and best parcels held for 6d advance. Oats and beans both poorly represented, and made full prices to 6d advance.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The trade for wheat has been quiet to-day, with prices unchanged from last week. Barley slow except for really fine samples. Oats firm at late rates.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Preston, Saturday.—The market attracted a moderate attendance, and wheat remained about the same as last week, but oats were again 1d dearer. Flour unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a very good attendance, with a firm trade. White wheat, 28s to 31s; red, 27s to 29s. Malting barley, 27s to 32s for the choicest; grinding, 23s to 25s. Oats, 17s to 23s. Flour, 24s to 26s. Beans, 31s to 37s. Peas, 28s to 30s.

Retford, Saturday.—Increased supply of malting barley, and an active demand, especially for the best qualities, the value of which was well maintained at 28s to 29s; medium lots made 24s 6d to 27s; and grinding 23s 6d per qr. Wheat a slow trade, but no lower, selling at 27s to 27s 6d; maize, 24s; English beans, 30s; black oats, 17s; white, 18s; and old oats, 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A dull tone prevails, and only a small trade passing at late rates. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; wheat, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 25s to 27s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; oats, new, 17s to 18s; maize, round, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There is no special feature to report. Prices were firm all round at last week's full rates. Grinding barley 6d to 9d per qr dearer on the week. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 18s 6d to 19s; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 32s 6d to 33s; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 22s 9d; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 21s 6d to 22s; ditto, flat, 26s to 26s 6d per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s to 12s 3d per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Large attendance. New grain was in demand, this sea-on's barleys being inquired after. Best malting barley, 30s to 31s; ditto grinding, 23s to 25s; wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; beans, to 31s; peas, 40s to 48s per qr. Maize firm and unchanged in value.

Stockton, Wednesday.—New local wheat made about 27s per qr. Foreign wheat, owing to the lower advices from America, was slightly easier upon the week. Oats dearer. Maize 3d lower. Malting barleys met a dragging sale at 23s to 25s for common varieties, 26s to 27s for the best.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Fair supply of grain. Wheat steady at late rates. Spring corn unaltered. Arrivals coastwise:—Oats, 52s qr; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 27s to 27s; old white ditto, 29s to 30s; old red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 26s to 30s; grinding ditto, 20s to 23s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 23s to 26s; peas, 30s to 34s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 24s to 26s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a small supply of grain on offer. Wheat made the same price as last week. Oats a shade dearer. The samples of barley were rather disappointing. Feeding stuffs about the same.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat in full supply at fully last week's values. Foreign unaltered. Barley unchanged. Maize 3d easier. Oats occasionally 6d advance. Flour a steady trade at rather better rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little grain offering, farmers being busy with mustard seed. Wheat unchanged from last Saturday. Reds, 28s 504 lb. Oats very firm, 17s 6d to 19s 6d 336 lb; Barley, best lots, 26s to 30s 448 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Only a moderate business was passing, and the demand was quiet. Quotations: New wheat, 11s to 11s 6d per 216 lb; flat corn, 26s; English beans, old, 15s 6d; new, 12s 6d; oats, old, 13s to 14s; new, 10s to 10s 6d.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance, owing to it being Worksop Fair Day, and better supply of grain than for several weeks past, with trade fairly brisk at about last week's prices. New white made from 26s to 27s; red ditto, 25s to 26s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 16s to 18s; new beans, 30s to 32s; old ditto, 36s to 38s 6d; maize, 23s to 24s per qr; flour, 1s 1d to 1s 3d per stone; bran, £5 to £6 per ton.

Yeovil, Friday.—More business passing than at any time since the new crop has come on the market. English wheat maintained the improvement in price recorded last week. Foreign wheat was firm. Growing barley firm. Oats up to 3d. per qr for best samples. Maize 3d cheaper. Home-grown wheat, 29s 6d to 32s 6d per qr; secondary, 26s 6d to 28s 6d; foreign wheat, 31s to 33s; malting barley, 26s to 33s; secondary barley, 20s to 24s; grinding barley (foreign), 19s to 20s 6d; new black oats, 15s 6d to 17s; old, 22s 6d to 23s 9d; new white, 18s to 19s; rye, 22s to 23s 3d; tares (winter), 47s to 52s; spring, 55s to 62s; beans (winter), old, 37s 6d to 38s; new, 32s 6d to 33s; spring 33s to 34s 6d; vetches, 4s 9d to 5s 9d per bushel; flour, 22s 6d for fines. Milling offals and meals are a good market at improving prices.

York, Saturday.—Again a very small supply of wheat, which met a slow sale at last week's prices. Fine white, 27s to 28s; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. Quite a glut of malting barley, and prices are difficult to maintain: fine, 26s to 28s; good, 24s to 26s; ordinary, 22s to 24s per qr of 32 stones. Oats scarce and firm; white Tartary, 17s to 17s 6d; black, 17s to 18s; white Garton, 17s 6d to 18s 6d per qr of 24 stones; rye, 21s per qr; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report: Market remains firm, and prices are easily maintained, as our home brewers and maltsters are buying rather freely, principally Bohemian Chevalier, and although we have no orders from England for that class, price since beginning of the season has slowly but gradually improved. Hungary reports also an improved demand, and the offers of the cheap mercantile barley are rather small.—J. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 9, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	3,556	1	... 4,917	8	11	...	1	7	8
Barley ...	3,470	0	... 4,621	14	8	...	1	6	8
Oats	4,682	0	... 4,021	1	4	...	17	2	

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 13, 1906:—

Wheat	780,100	cwts.
Wheat-flour	357,700	,,
Barley	455,800	,,
Oats	199,590	,,
Maize	1,111,600	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,898,600	2,602,400	1,554,000	2,246,197
Wheat-flour	303,000	202,600	677,110	464,076
Barley ...	1,050,400	743,800	773,600	1,075,435
Oats ...	293,600	398,000	191,100	485,503
Maize ...	1,136,000	832,800	1,146,300	644,503

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
,, 14	85,449	26	9	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	3
,, 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	24,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,209	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	30,088	16	7

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Oct. 3 to 10 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	4,260	12,619	16,879
Barley	1,900	10,000	19,900
Malt	17,150	—	17,150
Oats	5,700	55,000	60,700
Rye	150	700	850
Beans	2,690	1,500	4,190
Peas	1,518	1,177	2,695
Maize	—	18,685	18,685
Tares	63	172	235
Linseed	—	8,000	8,000
Rapeseed	—	250	250
Cottonseed	—	4,700	4,700
Dari	—	850	850
Flour ..... sacks ...	28,000	18,000	46,000
Middlings ... ,, ...	—	7,000	7,000
Oatmeal ... ,, ...	—	5,000	5,000
Ricemeal ... ,, ...	—	7,500	7,500
Pollard ... ,, ...	—	3,150	3,150

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 13, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	66,117	25	1	113,598	26	1	29,852	17	0
1903	48,270	25	8	87,204	23	9	30,004	15	5
1904	45,462	30	7	185,031	25	4	34,940	18	8
1905	85,449	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,354	16	6
1906	80,630	26	11	226,940	25	3	28,088	16	7

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Household. s.	d.
September 1 ... (per sack)	26	9	(per sack) 23	0
October 8 ... (per sack)	27	0	(per sack) 23	0

(No change since last date given.)

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

There was a firm and steady inquiry for English wheat to-day at fully previous prices. American, Manitoba, and Argentine wheat was again a little in sellers' favour, and good samples of Russian found a steady sale at former best terms. Weak white wheat from abroad was out of request, but prices were not lower. Maize sometimes declined 6d. per qr. for flat and yellow corn. Demand was poorer from a week ago. Oats were sometimes a little dearer for 304 lb Russian, American, and Argentine, but prices for the 312 lb. samples were not encouraging. Barley was 3d. dearer for feeding descriptions, but malting oats were cheaper, little was to be had of a 36s. level and the great bulk of offerings, though of good weight, did not attain the best malting standard by any means. The grains this year when examined under the microscope are seldom of uniform colour throughout. Beans and peas were firm, especially for imported sorts.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

October 15.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, ..(New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	32 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	31 — 35
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	28 — 29
	Feeding (Old) ...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
	,, (New)...	,,	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	28 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old).....	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 48
	(Spring)	,,	48 — 56

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):

	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9	—33
,, ,, 2	31/9	—32
American Red	30/9	—31
Argentine ...	30/9	—31
Australian ...	31/6	32/6
New Zealand	30/6	31/6
Californian ...	31/6	32/6
Blue Stem ...	31/6	32/6
Walla Walla	30/6	31/6
Saxonka	32/6	33/6
Azima	30/6	31/6
Chirka	29/6	30/6
Indian White	31—	31/6
,, Red	30/9	—31
Persian.....	29	— 30
Turkish	28	— 29

MAIZE (480 lb.):

	s.	s.
American	23—	23/3
Argentine	21—	21/6
Bulgarian	21/6	—22
Roumanian ...	21/6	—22
Russian	21/6	—22
Rangoon	21	— 22
North African	22	— 23

BEANS (480 lb.):

Smyrna	34	— 36
Konigsberg ...	33	— 35
New Zealand...	35	— 36

HARICOTS (504 lb.):

Italian	64	— 72
Burmese	32	— 42
Chilian	56	— 64

LENTILS (cental):

Split Egyptian	10	— 11
Whole Indian...	7	— 8

PEAS (504 lb.):

Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Indian White	35	— 36
Indian Green	29	— 31
Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Victoria Dun..	33	— 34

MILLET (416 lb.):

White	42	— 44
Yellow	22	— 24
Sorghum	20	— 22

RICE (cwt.):

Indian	14	— 16
Burmese	9	— 10
Siamese	8 —	9

DARI (480 lb.):

Smyrna	25	— 26
Indian	23	— 24
Persian	21	— 22

BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)

French	26	— 27

BARLEY:

C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30
Russian (400 lb)	19/6	— 20
Am'can (400 lb)	19	19/3
Tunisian (448 lb)	24	— 25
Gaza (448 lb)	23	— 24
Salonica (400 lb)	21	— 23
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22

MALT (336 lb.):

Californian ...	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36

RYE (480 lb.):

Russian	24	— 25

OATS:

N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23	— 25
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	19	— 20
Libau (320 lb.)	18	— 19
,, (304 lb.)	16	—16/3

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

Too much country flour continues to be pressed on a market which with very mild weather cannot take a large quantity for retail needs. London mills also produce freely, so that, if anything, there is reason for surprise that prices are no worse than they are. America offers to ship flour from new spring wheat for various winter and early spring months at 24s c.f.i. for the best patents, and 23s for good secondary. These prices do not affect spot values for winter wheat patents, but they indicate the level at which supplies for the past three months of 1907 are likely to come to hand. Hungarian flour to-day sold fairly well at the moderate prices with which shippers are satisfied. French was out of favour, and made barely previous quotations. Middlings, Pollard, and Bran were firm, with a good sale, considering the open character of the season and the recent improvement of the pastures.

London Flour.

Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/6 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/6 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/6 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/6 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 25
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	— 23
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	20	— 21

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20	— 21
Cascadia	,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22	— 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28	— 29
,, 1	,,	27	— 28
,, 2	,,	26	— 27
,, 3	,,	25	— 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22	— 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21	— 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20	— 21
Australian	,,	22	— 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33	— 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET WAS DULL, AND MAIZE WAS A LITTLE LOWER FROM THE EARLIER DECLINE.

THE BALTIC, 1 p m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The wheat cargo trade to-day is rather disappointing, it being hard to find buyers, though when they are found they are content to pay old terms. Maize is likewise temporarily out of request. Barley, beans, and peas are held for 3d. per qr. advance, but linseed and oats are 3d. lower, and rather difficult to place. An increased supply of cottonseed on passage makes futures for that oilseed weaker, though spot scarcity puts a high price on any parcels admitting of early delivery.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Roumanian, 29s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Bulgarian, 28s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Turkish, 27s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Hard Duluth, 30s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Soft Winter, 28s per 480 lb prompt shipment; Hard Winter, 27s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Bahia Blanca, 29s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Blue Stem, 30s 6d per 500 lb, on passage.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s per 480 lb, October shipment; American, 20s 9d per 480 lb, October shipment.

Barley.—Californian, 26s 3d per 448 lb, October ment; Persian, 17s 6d per 400 lb, October shipment.

Oats.—Petersburg, 16s per 304 lb, October shipment; Smyrna, 15s 6d per 304 lb, October shipment.

Linseed.—Bombay, 43s 3d per 416 lb, November shipment; Calcutta, 42s per 410 lb, on passage.

Rapeseed.—Yellow Gujerat, 47s 9d per 416 lb, May shipment (new crop); Jamba, 33s 9d per per 416 lb, May shipment (new crop).

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 per 2,240 lb, October shipment (old crop); Egyptian, £6 11s 3d per 2,240 lb, December shipment (new crop).

TERM MARKET.

Futures are against holders both of wheat and maize.

Red American wheat,	Oct. delivery,	no sales.	
,, ,,	Dec.	,,	6s 6d per cental.
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 6d ,,
Mixed American Maize.....	Oct.	,,	no sales.
,, ...	Dec.	,,	4s 5d per cental.
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d ,,
Yellow Argentine Maize ...	Oct.	,,	4s 3d ,,
,, ...	Dec.	,,	4s 2d ,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d ,,

A cargo of Baltic oats for November delivery sold to-day for 15s 4½d per 304 lb.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Prices are firm for shipment, but arrivals are heavy, and there is some pressure to sell ex quay. Grain.—American corn again scarce on spot, but is offering freely for shipment. Round is firm Scotch, Irish, and Manitoba oats are 3d per boll higher. Barley quiet. Beans are held for 3d per boll advance. Oilcake in very small demand. Oatmeal in sympathy with oats is in sellers' favour. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds, principally owing to the small output, are firmer. —MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Demand only moderate; no further change in prices.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—Demand for bran rather slow prices, however, remain unchanged.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Arrivals of wheat are small. The trade is firm, and prices are supported. Flour firm. Barley and oats a quiet trade at late prices. Maize 3d per qr lower.—COVENTRY AND SHEPHERD.

With higher quotations from America the trade to-day assumed a stronger aspect, and business passed at fully last week's rates.—MEDILL AND SONS.

Milling Offals.—The demand for bran and pollard is still very strong, and middlings are in fair demand, and there is no change in prices. Mills keep quite clear.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed and rapeseed are a trifle cheaper on the week, but cottonseed is again 2s 6d per ton dearer for prompt delivery. Much more moderate prices rule if the buyer can wait for Egyptian new crop which will reach London in a month from now.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Dutch	47 to 49	
American.....	43 to 44	
Calcutta	42 to 43	
Bombay	43 to 45	
Russian	41 to 42	
Argentine	41 to 42	
Duluth	42 to 43	

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Best English ...	62 to 64	
Yellow Guzerat	51 to 53	
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	
Brown ,,	44 to 45	
Ferozepore	45 to 46	

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb. s.	s.
Indian	46 to 48	

COTTONSEED.	per ton. s.	s.
Egyptian.....	144 to 146	
Indian	109 to 111	

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt. s.	s.
English, Best...	16 to 17	
Russian, White.	14 to 15	
,, Black .	13 to 14	

SESAME.	per cwt. s.	s.
Indian	14 to 15	

HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb. s.	s.
Russian	49 to 50	

CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb. s.	s.
English	48 to 50	
Spanish	78 to 80	
Turkish	40 to 42	
Argentine	39 to 40	

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb. —Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s 0½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Holders decline to sell at recent rates, and business at a standstill. Staplers' offers do not exceed 13d to 13½d for Kent fleeces, and 8d to 9d for lamb wool.

Halifax, Saturday.—Some descriptions of wool a little better to sell, but chiefly in small lots. As to home-grown wools, North descriptions are fully firm, hoggets 13d, and wethers at 13½d, Yorkshire wethers have declined to 13½d. Spinners keep busy, and importers find it useless to wait for lower prices. In the piece trade, looms are kept, as a rule, well engaged.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Trade a little slower, and prices unchanged at 40s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were marketed, for which a fair demand prevailed. Quotations: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; British Queens, 55s to 65s.; and Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Average supplies; a quiet demand was experienced at 4d to 5d per stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Plenty of potatoes on offer, and a fairly good trade. Best potatoes, £3; Evergoods and Royal kidneys, 50s per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply, which met a ready sale at 7d per stone.

Preston, Saturday.—There was a fair supply and an average trade at 4s 6d to 5s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Potato market well supplied. Best lots of home-grown made 6s to 6s 6d, and other kinds 5s per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—With no recovery in the demand trade again proceeded slowly; heavy supplies being offered. Quotations:—Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-Dates, 60s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes, £2 15s per ton.

York, Saturday.—Prices ruled rather firmer, as the supply is slighter, owing to farmers being busily engaged in "pieing" for the winter. Up-to-Dates made 42s 6d to 47s 6d per ton; other sorts slightly less.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £3 5s to £3 12s 6d per ton; straw, 2s 4d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 80s per ton; old clover hay, 85s to 90s; old meadow hay, 80s to 85s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s per ton; new clover, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new hay, 80s to 90s; second hay, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Not much demand. Best new hay and new seeds, £3 10s; second quality ditto, £3 per ton on the ground; straw, 35s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5½d to 5½d; clover, 5½d to 6½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £5 to £5 5s per ton; this year's growth, from £4 4s to £4 12s; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 15s to £5 5s. Wheat straw, from £1 6s to £1 8s per load; barley straw, from £1 4s to £1 6s; oat straw, from £1 5s to £1 7s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Fair business done at about the following prices:—Choice seeds, £4 10s to £4 15s; seconds ditto, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d; meadow hay, £3 14s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £2 15s; turnips, 21s to 24s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were on a heavier scale this morning, and met a slow demand, but at steady rates: Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 15, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 16, 1905.
Beasts	960	960	1,030
Sheep and Lambs	4,530	4,530	7,350
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 2
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 38; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 840; Devon, 45; Ireland, 37. There was a decrease of 10 in the supply on offer, compared with Monday last. Trade was of a firm and steady nature for all descriptions of both prime and second quality fat beasts, salesmen both asking and obtaining an advance of fully 2d. per 8 lb. in most cases; on the other hand, middling quality cattle were in little request, though no quotable decline in value can be recorded. We note to-day a small consignment of Irish, consisting entirely of Waterfords, trade for which was of a slow but steady nature, all on offer being eventually cleared. Fat butchering cows and bulls met a limited demand at about late values, rough cattle being practically unsaleable. A clearance is considered doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 16, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		—	
Devons	4 4 to	4 6	4 4 to	4 6
Herefords	4 4 to	4 6	4 4 to	4 6
Norfolks	—		—	
Runts	4 0 to	4 6	4 0 to	4 4
Lincolns	3 8 to	3 10	3 10 to	4 0
Irish	3 8 to	3 10	3 10 to	4 0
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 4 ex	3 6	3 4 to	3 6

There was an decrease of 1,490 in the number of sheep and lambs penned, the supply including 100 Scotch, 630 Irish, and 460 from the Eastern Counties. For all grades of both Downs and half-breds, trade ruled firm both in regard to tone and value, an advance of fully 2d per 8 lb being made on late values. On the other hand, Irish were slightly in excess of the inquiry, though no quotable decline in value can, however, be noted. Scotch sheep also shared in the general brightening up of the trade, prices ruling 2d. per 8 lb firmer than on Monday last. Lambs too few to note or quote. A clearance in this part of the market is expected.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 16, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0 to	6 2 5	8 to 5	10
9 st. Downs	5 10 to	6 0 5	4 to 5	6
10 st Halfbreds	5 8 to	5 10 5	2 to 5	4
10 st Yorkshires	—	...	—	
12st Lincolns	—	...	—	
10 st Irish	5 2 to	5 4 5	2 to 5	4
10 st Down Ewes	4 4 to	4 6 3	10 to 4	0
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 2 to	4 4 3	8 to 3	10
5 st Down Lambs	—	...	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	...	—	

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

London (Central) Monday.—Dull supplies; trade slow; best beef firm. Beef, English, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; American, 3s to 3s 6d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s to 3s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 8d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,365. To-day's supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed an increase of 546 head, and consisted of 1,283 from the United States and 82 from Canada. Trade was of a fairly firm nature, rates ruling from 1d to 2d per 8 lb more than on Monday last. Best States on offer made from 3s 9d to 4s 2d to dress from 720 to 760 lb. Canadian were quoted at from 3s 8d to 3s 10d (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—There was a decrease in the supply of cattle in market to-day; demand rather better and prices more in favour of sellers. Sheep also shown in smaller numbers. Nothwithstanding this, there was no improvement in trade, last week's prices governing most transactions. Beef, 6d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 6d. At market 1,023 cattle and 4,780 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Demand is disappointing, especially considering period of the year, but there is no disposition on the part of manufacturers or shippers to lower prices. Cotton Cake.—This is also a dull trade at last week's quotations. Decorticated Cotton Cake and Meal.—There is some inquiry for immediate requirements, but buyers have to wait for a parcel shipped this month. Linseed.—A good demand, and market steady.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0
Calcutta Linseed Cake ex quay	8 2 6	
American Western Linseed Cake ... ...ex quay	—	
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ...ex quay	—	
Russian Oil Cake ...ex quay	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake ...	7 17 6	
ecorticated Cotton Cake Meal (to arrive) ex quay	—	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	5 2 6	
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	5 1 3	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	4 15 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 10 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	—	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 3 0	2 11 0
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 4 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

Borough, Monday.—Our market is quiet. A fair quantity of Chilian red clover has been bought during the past week, principally by foreign buyers. There are buyers ready to take English reds; if growers will only thresh now, they will in all probability obtain a better price than later on, each week adds to the supply of foreign seed on offer. White clover seems to have reached a point when it should pay for buying; this also applies to Cocksfoot. The market for Aleyke, trefoil, and Timothy is quiet. French Italian is firm; also sowing rape seed and Lucerne. There is a steady demand for these for export; stocks are not heavy, but quality is excellent. A small sowing demand for winter tares, and rye corn at late rates continues.—W. H. & H. LE MAY.

London, Monday.—The supply of winter tares are diminishing, prices firming. Seed wheats in good demand. Prices firm. Mustard offering freely and finding ready buyers, prices unchanged. Peas selling freely freely, prices hardening. The new clover seeds are coming out very slowly, the weather being against threshing. English reds show fine samples. Whites very ordinary. Trefoils useful, and good grasses are unchanged.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday. There has been a considerable amount of business done during the last few days, particularly in hops suitable for copper purposes, the Weald of Kent commanding the principal attention. As a result, prices are now hardening for this class.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has remained firm at about ale 21s, porter 18s, distillers' 35s, and pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains, ale, 102s 6d; mixed 92s 6d; distillers, 110s per ton on rail London; also ale, 92s 6d, and mixed 85s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 75s; Rangoon rice meal, 98s 9d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 100s per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on the chief market day of the week there was a decrease in the number of beasts offered for sale; for both prime and second quality fat cattle trade opened and continued of a slow, but fairly steady nature, all sales being governed by late currencies; on the other hand, middling quality cattle met with very little inquiry, notwithstanding sellers being willing to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited demand from both town and country buyers, consequently from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. decline in value had to be accepted to effect sales. On Thursday trade was practically confined to rough cattle.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade ruled slow and dragging during the early part of the week, but became firmer at the end. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,348, as against 5,096 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,000 British (decrease 255), and 3,348 foreign (decrease 493), these latter comprising 2,657 from the United States and 691 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): 80 to 90 stone Devon, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 11d. to 4s. 1d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.

In the sheep market on Monday trade was fairly steady, both in regard to tone and value, at an advance in some cases of 2d. per 8 lb. Irish met a poor inquiry at 2d. less money, whilst Scotch descriptions sold fairly well at late rates. Lambs met with very little demand. On Thursday sales were difficult to effect even at less money. The total number penned was 6,220, as against 5,420 during the preceding week, showing an increase of 880. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone half-bred ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered fifty, and met with a firm but slow trade, late values governing all transactions; the best on offer were quoted at 5s. 8d. to 6s. per 8 lb. Pig trade not worth noting.

Trade in the West.

The accumulated supplies of store stock have not, as yet, undergone any very perceptible diminution, and, though the rain has somewhat stimulated the demand for the better class things, the more ordinary runs still hang a good deal on hand, which even low prices help only to a very limited extent. Result, needy buyers are keenly on the alert in securing every real good milcher that comes into the market, and, though they have to give somewhat enhanced values, this they readily do in order to cope with the contracts they have in hand. The best heifers with calves, are now selling readily from £17 to £22 each, and those prices are not likely to sink to a much lower level, whilst really good milchers continue as scarce as they now seem to be. There are any number of the ordinary class both in heifers and cows on offer at most markets at prices ranging from £15 10s. down to £11 or £12; but animals of this class do not appeal very largely to those in quest of milchers. In-calf heifers sell up to £16 or £17 for anything very forward, and yearlings are making £5 to £6 10s. Grazing cattle meet with a still more indifferent sale except anything at all fresh in condition, which are making £22 to £26 per pair, which is quite an outside figure. The plainer grades can only quote as making £20 down to £14 or £15, and with a very lifeless trade on these terms. The sheep trade is steadily holding its own, and that is all; but prices are not so good as they were at this time last year, but quite 3s. a head if not more; and there is no doubt that ewes are more affected than lambs—that is, the ordinary runs of working lambs—and also high-condition mutton lambs, which are suffering from the decline in the price of mutton. Ewes of a good serviceable stamp for keeping on may be quoted from about 38s. to 46s. or 47s. apiece, a poorer class ewe sinking as low as 31s. for working purposes; working lambs ranging from about 29s. to 40s.; and but very few either sheep or lambs are returned from market unsold, the shortage in numbers all over the country tending to keep values at a higher level than would otherwise be the case. And should the promise of more plentiful keep be realised, we shall hardly be surprised at seeing prices yet becoming even firmer.

Though the trade in fat things keeps fairly steady, prices all round have undoubtedly received a check. Choice quality steers and heifers of nice weights make 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score for the best grades, and cows 9s. to 10s.; heavy bulls, 8s. to 8s. 6d. Calves keep steady at firm prices—8d. to 8½d. per lb. for the best grade, and 7d. to 7½d. for seconds. Mutton is slow, but best legs sell from 8d. to 8½d., and mutton lamb about the same price; fat ewes, 7d. to 7½d. The lamb trade is now practically over for this season. Pigs keep at outside values, the neatest handling porkers selling up to 10s. 6d. and, in exceptional cases, to 10s. 9d.; baconers also selling well at 9s. to 9s. 6d.; and there is an improved demand for even the coarser weights of pigs, fat sows, &c., at from 8s. to 8s. 6d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle on offer has been a full average. There was rather a better feeling in the trade, and prices on an average would be from 10s. to 15s. a head higher. An average supply of sheep, and the quality generally good. Trade was fairly steady at prices without quotable change. Fat calves and pigs continue to sell very dear. There was a smaller supply of store sheep, generally of a poor class. Anything good maintained previous prices, but a portion of the secondary kinds were left over, this class being decidedly cheaper. There was a very large supply of store cattle. These met a quiet trade, and to effect sales a reduction of quite 10s. a head had to be accepted, and a considerable proportion of those on offer were left over. Milch cows a small show, and they met a dearer market. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s. 5d.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton to fully 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a small attendance of Cross-Channel and North of Ireland buyers at Thursday's Dublin market, and trade from first to last was very slow and dragging, heavy cattle receding in price about 10s. per head. The only class of cattle which made a fancy finish were nicely-finished medium weight heifers, which sold at from £13 10s. to £17 each. Buyers' held aloof from secondary quality cattle, making the market one of the slowest experienced for years here, in this description of cattle. The very pronounced dulness is the outcome of an absence of British buyers, especially contractors, who procure their supplies for Army and Navy contracts from American and Canadian cattle landed at British ports. During the weeks ending September 29 and October 6 the number of foreign cattle landed in England was 27,000. There is every reason for graziers and salesmen to feel rather gloomy over the prospects of the fat stock industry. A large number of rough cattle remained unsold. Live-weight prices for prime bullocks and heifers from 27s. to 31s. for extra; secondary and rough beef from 21s. to 26s. per cwt. The approximately dead-weight rates were:—Prime ox and heifer beef from 48s. to 54s. 6d. per cwt.; good second class, from 43s. to 46s. 6d.; and coarse beef, from 36s. 6d. upwards per cwt. There were 4,106 cattle in market, an increase of 360 head on the previous Thursday. In the mutton department, trade was of a firmer nature, partly due to smaller supplies; 5,620 being penned, being 822 less than the preceding market. Home butchers, finding the supply limited, were forced to bid freely at the extreme rates of the previous market to fill their requirements, and prices, generally, favoured sellers in the case of wethers. Ewes and shipping hoggets were quiet, showing little or no change, the demand being slow, more particularly for the latter. This slackness in the hogget trade is due to the heavy arrival of foreign sheep in England, considerably over 5,000 having been landed during the week, chiefly from Ireland. A good clearance was effected. Best wether mutton sold at from 7¾d. to 7¾d. per lb., choice ewe 6d. to 7d., and inferior sheep 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Veal was quiet. Prime well-fed calves made from 7d. to 8d., and coarse calves from 5d. per lb. upwards. There was a fair show of milch cows, prime springers, and newly-calved cows sold freely at stiffer prices, but there was no improvement in the sale of common cows. Prime milkers and springers sold from £17 to £20 10s., and other descriptions from £9 upwards.

The pig-market on Thursday was well supplied. Cross-channel buyers and city pork butchers were well in evidence, but the representatives of home-curing firms were conspicuous by their absence. An active demand for choice pigs for shipping. Nice light pigs made from 54s. to 56s. per cwt., good shipping pigs about the same rate, and coarse pigs from 38s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies of good meat, but lot of middling quality about, for which there was practically no demand; trade rather firmer for best beef. English beef, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 3s to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s; inferior beef, 2s to 2s 4d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; English pork, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday. — Good supplies, and trade very slow. Lot of stale meat about, which is difficult to vend. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d, exceptional, 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 2s 2d to 3s 4d; ditto, forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s; inferior beef, 2s to 2s 4d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; ditto tegs 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef and mutton sold slowly at last week's rates, beef going up to 4s 4d and mutton to 6s for Downs and 5s 6d for small Kents. Lamb was not offered. Veal made 5s 4d to 5s 8d, and roasting pork 4s to 4s 2d. A number of Kent rams were sold.

Berwick, Saturday.—The numbers of cattle are steadily rising, there being 561 on Saturday, an increase of 290 over the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade quiet. Stirks, £7 10s to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £13 10s; three-year-olds, £14 10s; shorthorn bulls, £10 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs. Small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Herefords, 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 10d per score; porkets, 11s 8d per score; cutting pigs, 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but trade dull, 56s being quoted as top price of best qualities, and secondary sorts being reduced to 52s. Mutton was rather scarce, and business slow at late rates; lamb not being quoted. Pigs were not numerous, and late rates obtained.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Some good rams were offered, and averaged about 6 guineas per head. Lambs were quoted from 21s up to 29s 6d, and registered ewe tegs from 45s to 55s; wether tegs up to 43s. Old ewes were making from 31s to 39s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday. — About 400 Irish cattle were exposed for sale, and buyers being numerous a healthier tone prevailed. Heifers for wintering purposes realised £7 10s to £10 10s, better sorts making up to £12 5s, while animals for finishing-off purposes changed hands up to £15 each; horned and polled bullocks made £8 10s to £11 10s each.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs.—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 6d per score.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supplies of all descriptions, which met a disappointing demand. Best cattle found purchasers at last week's prices with difficulty, and many lots of inferior quality remained unsold. In sheep business was slow, and a clearance was not made. Milch cows, £16 to £24; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; stirks, £6 to £9; heifers, £9 to £14; and sheep, 16s to 35s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A steady selling trade prevailed for sheep and lambs throughout, and a clearance was effected. There was more inquiry for store cattle, but prices were about the same. Dairy cattle met a brisk trade at good prices, and for fat cattle late currencies were maintained. Quotations: Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s to 4s 6d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a poor show of cattle, and both beef and store beasts changed hands at recent low prices. Sheep and

pigs were in good demand. Beef made 4s, and mutton 5s 6d per stone; pork, 9s 6d per score.

Derby, Tuesday.—A strong demand for choice sheep, which were scarce and very dear, 10d being realised in many cases. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 8d to 10d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Larger supply of cattle than at recent markets, but not much improvement in trade. Prices unchanged. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £14; stirks, £8 to £10; young stores, £6 to £8 each. Smaller supply of sheep, this being about the last of the big markets. Fair attendance, and some business done at late rates. Shearling ewes, 48s to 50s; gimmers, 52s to 55s; lambs, 36s to 42s; Lincolnshire rams, £5 each.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Heavy deliveries came to hand at the cattle market to-day, at which sales were held by Messrs. Oake & Son and by Messrs. Symonds & Simpson, who between them offered some rare milch beasts, barrencrs, stirks, fat maiden heifers and steers, and some very good fat sheep. Buyers were well represented, but trade, except for the better-class things in the way of milk, graziers, and fat bullocks, which held their own very well, was not particularly brisk, though prices for anything useful showed some firmness. Good class dairy stock made from about £16 5s to £21; seconds, £12 to £15 15s; barreners from £16 to £24 10s per pair as a general run; seconds, £14 to £15 6s; fat steers and heifers, £15 5s to £20 10s; seconds, £14 to £16 10s. Mutton steady at 7d to 8d per lb for best qualities; seconds 6½d to 6¾d. Good clearing trade.

Dublin, Thursday.—Choice finished bullocks and heifers were in good demand at last week's rates. Middling and inferior sorts were displayed in larger numbers, and met a very uneven trade at generally lower prices. The large reduction in the number of sheep caused a better trade and a fair clearance effected. Cattle—Live weight (best) 28s to 30s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 24s to 27s per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to 8d per lb.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Sheep supplies were similar to last week, and trade unchanged. Cheviot Dinmonts, 28s to 40s; cross-bred lambs, 30s to 38s. Trade for good milch cows showed an improvement; Shorthorns made to £26; Ayrshires, £17 10s; polled bullocks, £14 10s; and stirks, to £12 each.

Exeter, Friday.—300 beasts. Trade dull, late prices not being maintained; steers and maiden heifers, 10s to 10s 9d, many unsold; 1,300 sheep, prices lower owing to London dead meat market being congested; hoggs, 8d; big wethers, 7½; ewes, 6d; 100 calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. —Lighter supplies and trade quiet. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; best hoggs, 10d; heavy weights, 9d to 9½d; best wedders, 9½d; old wedders, 8½d; lambs, 10½d per lb. Dead meat slow, with values in favour of buyers; best Scotch beef, 5¾d; best States, 4¾d; best Canadian, 4½d; hoggs, 8½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Bruton, Knowles, & Co. report as follows:—A large supply of cows and calves (100), with fair trade, highest prices being as follows:—£22 15s, £21 15s, £21 10s. Good supply of store cattle, with very little demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The supply of cattle was small, and trade in beef was generally dull. Best bullock and heifer beef made 6½d per lb, cow beef 4½d to 5d, while bull beef realised 4d per lb. A small supply of calves sold quickly, veal making 7d. Sheep were a short supply, with an average demand. Best wether mutton sold at 8d, and ewe at 7d per lb. Several drafts of good store lambs made from 35s to 36s apiece. A large supply of porks, with a brisk demand, made 6d. A lot of good bacon pigs, owing to the warm muggy weather, sold slowly at as low as 5d per lb. Good store pigs were dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Small consignments of store stock, and after the extensive operations at the fair, trade ruled flat at 10s per head further decline. For Shorthorn bullocks sellers asked £12 to £13 10s; calves, 15s to 25s; and lamb rams, £3 to £4each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good attendance of buyers. Horned stock were in poor supply, milch cows alone being offered. These sold at £16 to £20 each. Fair trade for sheep. Lambs, 32s to 40s; young ewes, 46s to 52s 6d; drape ditto, 30s. to 40s. each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Few more store beasts than of late, trade slow, £6 to £15. Smaller show of fat beasts, trade slow 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Sheep in average supply for the time of year, stores making 40s to 48s each. Fat sheep 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone, Store lambs, 30s to 38s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 4¾d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, Scotch, 9d; first, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 5½d to 5¾d. Veal: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 5¾d to 6½d; thirds, 4¾d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porkets pigs: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—A heavier trade and prices tending lower. Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; steers, 6s 6d to 7s; coarse and inferior, , 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; lambs, 8¾d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — A plentiful supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs, but a short supply of calves and pigs. Trade good all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; secondary, 5¾d; Irish beef, 5½d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Supply of fat beasts was small; and there was a ready demand for best descriptions, prices averaging from 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. In general store cattle values were about the same as during the past two weeks, prices ranging from £6 to £17 per head. Store sheep trade again of a slow description; lambs made from 32s to 42s per head, and breeding ewes from 45s to 60s; fat sheep were offered in small numbers, and met with ready sales at 10s to 10s 6d per stone. Both fat and store pigs were penned in limited supply, and a ready demand resulted in a clearance. Fat pigs averaged 7s 3d per stone; small stores ranged from 12s to 24s per head, and larger sizes from 28s to 50s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small supply of stock, and trade was much as usual. In-calf cows, which met with a more active demand, fetched £18 to £22 10s, and in-calf heifers, £14 to £16 10s. There was a show of calves, which made 25s to 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a fair show, but trade was slow for beef. Sheep were rather worse to sell, but a fair trade passed. Quotations:—Heifers and bullocks, 5½d to 6d; cows and bulls, 4d to 5½d; lambs, 8¾d to 9d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7d; fat calves, 6d to 7d; fat calves, 5¾d to 6¾d; ditto young calves, 5d to 5½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Not a large show of store stock, and rather a better inquiry, particularly for good milch beasts. Healthy young stock changed hands a little more freely, but quotations showed no perceptible change from last Saturday.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat beasts, trade about the same: Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in average supply, trade fair at 4s 5s to 5s 4d per stone. Short supply of sheep, trade fair. Best small, 5s 10d to 6s 4d; middlings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone No store beasts on offer. Pigs in short supply, trade better. Small porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch beasts met with a fair demand, with little alteration from late prices. Good milch beasts, £18 to £21 10s; secondary lots, £15 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. — Small supply of cattle, but usual supplies of calves, sheep and pigs. Beef trade and prices are not quite up to last week. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 9½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d per score: bacons, 10s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 7s. Lambs sold at 9½d per lb, young sheep 9d, ewes 7½d, and tups 6d. The pig trade was moderate, prices showing a reduction of 3d per stone all round.

Thame, Tuesday. — A good attendance of buyers from all parts, with fair supplies of stock of every description but mutton, which showed a decline. Beef remained at late prices. Mutton continued to sell brisker. Bacon, pork, and veal maintain late rates. Weaning calves, except for the choicest quality, sold extremely slowly. Fat oxen made from £15 to £21; fat heifers, £13 to £17 15s; fat wethers, 46s to 63s 6d; fat ewes, 42s to 58s; fat calves, £3 to £5; weaning cow calves, 12s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 40s; bacon hogs, £3 15s to £5 10s; porkers, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 15s to 28s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £15 each; rearing calves, 26s to 45s; ewes, 35s to 55s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 12s to 45s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Moderate supply, trade slow. Quotations:—Beef 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply of all kinds of stock, owing to it being Fair Day. Butchers' beef, however, was very scarce, nor was there much call for it. Best qualities made up to 7s 3d, and secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 6s 8d per stone. Southdown wether and cross-bred mutton was an exceptionally good trade, making from 8d to 9½d per lb, ewes and other sorts 6d to to 6½d, lamb 8½d to 9½ per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Cows of best quality with calves, £20 10s to £22 12s 6d; secondary animals, £17 to £19; heifers and calves, £18 5s to £22 10s; barreners, £11 5s to £16 5s; yearlings, £7 5s to £9 10s; steers, £13 5s to £15 5s; store lambs, 27s 6d to 32s 6d; store ewes, 35s to 40s; horn wethers, 38s 6d to 44s 6d; down wethers, 37s 6d to 43s.

York, Thursday.—A large show of Irish and English store cattle, about 3,600 being penned. Best three-year-olds full of beef made up to £16, two-year-olds to £11 10s, and stirks, £6 to £9. A very small show of calving and milch cows, which met with a fairly good trade. Newly calven cows made up to £22, but the general run was from £16, to £18 10s. North country ewes made up to 53s, and Mashams 42s to 50s. A large show of "turniping" sheep from 44s to 50s, and these were nearly all sold. A very large number of lambs were offered, chiefly out of the West country, which met with a slow trade at 1s to 2s less than last week, prices ranging from 30s to 40s each.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales, held to-day, 1,093 head being penned. All were from Montreal, and were delivered in fair shape and condition. Buyers were present in large numbers, but business was quiet throughout the day, very little demand taking place for anything but first-class qualities, which were again scarce, and prices ruled on somewhat similar lines to those prevailing at last week's market. Bullocks of handy sizes and weights and of good, useful qualities sold from 50s to 52s per cwt dead weight, a few extra choice animals being reported as fetching 1s per cwt more, while secondary, middling, and inferior descriptions were cashed from 48s to 50s per cwt. Ranchers were easy at from 40s to 44s per cwt dead weight, according to quality and condition, and bulls were disposed of up to 46s per cwt dead weight.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is firm. The recent rainfall has had a beneficial effect on the land, and in many districts ploughing operations are in progress, and an increased demand is experienced for autumn fertilisers. Kainit commands a slight advance on last season's prices, and superphosphate values are very firm. In insoluble phosphates best basic slag and fine bone ash participate in a good demand for this early date, and as they are identical in price, about 1s. per unit, the fine bone ash attracts more than usual attention owing to its high test. The market for feeding-stuffs is firm, but the demand is quite retail in character.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Fine Bone Ash	3	10	0	3	12	6
Nitrate of Soda	11	17	6		—	
East India Bone Meal	5	5	0	5	7	6
Kainit	2	2	6	2	5	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	7	6	6	10	0
Linseed Cake, American	7	12	6	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14	0	0	14	10	0
Cottonseed Cake, S.A., decorticated, soft	7	17	6	8	2	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	2	6	8	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	15	0		—	
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	7	6		—	
Crushed Cottonseed	7	12	6		—	
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6	5	15	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	6	5	0
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	17	6		—	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	8	6	2	10	0
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	0	4	6		—	
Treacle, feeding, prime American	0	4	9			
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	2	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	18	6	2	0	0
,, finest	2	2	6		—	

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday. Linseed Cakes.—There is only a small quantity of foreign available in warehouse, and with probable light shipments in the near future prices are fairly well maintained in spite of an exceedingly poor demand. Absolute descriptions remain at about last week's prices. Cotton Cakes.—The recent heavy arrivals of Egyptians

have nearly all been cleared, and the tone of the market has again improved, and prices for all have an upward tendency. Rape Cakes.—Nominal. East India, £5 10s.; Ravison, £5 5s. Maize Germ Meal.—Landed lots of White American move off quietly at last week's price, but English makes are 2s 6d per ton more money. Maize Gluten Feed continues to find a steady trade at £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—The market is bare of stocks as regards Rangoon parcels, but there is a fair quantity afloat for which £4 15s ex ship terms would be accepted. Locust beans are without change. Dried Brewers' Grains are without change with a tendency to improve.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
Linseed Cakes.		
London made .....ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 12 6	to 7 13 9
,, in bags	7 16 3	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 17 6	to 7 18 9
La Plata	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
English	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Bombay	4 12 6	
Decorticated.....	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
Rape Cakes.		
Calcutta	5 10 0	
Ravison	5 5 0	
Maize.		
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
American	5 15 0	to 5 17 6
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon	4 15 0	to 4 16 3
,, afloat, ex ship	4 15 0	
Locust Beans.		
White	5 15 0	
Kibbled	6 0 0	
Manures.		
Nitrate of Soda (on spot) ...	10 17 6	
Nitrate of Soda (Spring delivery).....	11 2 6	
Dried Grains.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

BUTTER.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Driffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Evesham, 1s 1½d and 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Northtawton: 1s. Penistone: 1s 3d. Penzance: 11½d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 11d to 1s 1d. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 11d to 1s. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 2d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s to 1s. 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Redruth: 1s 1d. Runcorn, 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 2d. Stamford: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11d to 1s 2d. Berwick: 6d to 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s 2d per dozen. Birmingham: 7 and 8. Brigg: 10 and 11. Devizes: 9 and 11. Driffield: 12 and 13. Evesham: 1s 2½d to 1s 3d per doz. Kidderminster: 10. Northawton. 10. Penistone: 8 and 9. Penzance: 1s 2d to 1s 6d per doz. Plymouth: 9 and 10. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 9. Wellington (Salop): 8 to 10. Wetherby: 7 and 8.

Friday.—Altrincham: 7 and 8. Ashburton: 1s 2d to 1s 5d per doz. Barnstaple: 8 and 9. Chester 8. Camelford: 10. Crewe: 7 and 8. Dartmouth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per doz. Derby: 8. Helmsley: 10 and 11. Knutsford: 8 and 9. Leyburn: 9. Lincoln: 10 and 11. Lostwithiel: 12. Macclesfield: 7 and 8. Nantwich: 8 and 9. Northwich: 8 and 9. Otley: 7 and 8. Redruth: 1s 3d per doz. Runcorn: 8 and 9. St. Austell: 10. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 7. Tavistock: 10. Totnes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8 and 9. Berwick: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 8. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Grantham: 10 and 11. Howden: 10 and 11. Ipswich: 9 to 11. Lancaster: 6 to 8. Malton: 10 and 11. Pontefract: 8. Retford: 2s 4d to 2s 5d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 9 and 10. Shrewsbury: 8 and 9. Skipton: 8 and 9. Stokesley: 9 and 10. Whitby: 9. Worcester: 8. York: 8 to 10.

CHEESE.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—There were 20 tons of cheese pitched to-day, and a good attendance with a brisk competition. Best dairies realised up to 70s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 67s to 69s; andother dairies, 62s to 66s. A few inferior lots failed to realise 60s. Cheddars made 67s to 73s; truckles, 66s to 72s; doubles, 61s to 64s.

Newport, Wednesday.—A fair supply and a good demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 63s to 68s per cwt; fancy dairies, 69 to 72s; truckles, 68s to 72s; Derbys, 74s.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fairly good supply and demand. Pheasants, 6s to 6s 6d; young grouse, 5s to 8s; old, 2s to 2s 6d; young partridges, 2s 6d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 8d per brace; goslings, 5s to 6s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s to 1s 4d; snipe, 4d to 6d; quails, 9d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 6d; Scottish hares, 1s 3d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s to 7s per dozen.

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Oct. 15, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

"Full steam ahead!" is to-day's motto on all farms, and with the land working splendidly, horses in good health, and labour abundant, the only thing needed to make farmers contented is a fair market price for corn, so that it may pay to sow it. It is, unfortunately, a big "only," and if the world's wheat production is really necessary at the rate of ten million quarters per annum, it seems undesirable that the English agriculturist should accompany the Argentine settler, the Indian ryot, and the Russian peasant down the inclined slope leading to a general bankruptcy.

No plethora of barley is likely, and there is some chance of our not being overwhelmed with Gussian and American oats. On the other hand, the American farmer is now nearly at the end of his maize harvesting, and soon the cobs hung up to dry will be yelling the fronts of many thousands of farms. The very latest estimates of the U.S. yield are as follows:—1906, 350,000,000 qrs.; 1905, 316,000,000 qrs.; 2904, 285,000,000 qrs.; 1903, 361,000,000 qrs. The price at New York is 18s. per qr., and it can be landed in London for a sovereign. Freights may rise with the approach of winter, but it is still probable that in the first three months of 1907 maize will be on sale at our ports for a halfpenny per lb.

Out of a crop of 316,000,000 qr. America has shipped some 9,300,000 qr. to Europe and 5,000,000 qr. to all other countrie, and of old maize may yet ship the present visible supply.

316,000,000 qr. grown: Oct., 1905.	
14,300,000 ,, exported: Jan. 1 to Oct. 20, 1906.	
301,700,000 qr.	
969,000 ,, remaining to be exported Oct. 20 to Eec. 31, 1906.	
300,731,000 qr. presumptive home wants.	

It is as well to work these figures out in detail, as otherwise the acceptance of 300,000,000 qr. as the American home wants might appear a guess-work calculation for the sake of the convenience attaching to an easily remembered total.

With reference to the barley trade it may be noted that the Continent is an unusually heavy buyer of grinding quality this season. Russia, from Aug. 1 to Oct. 20, shipped 4,300,000 qr., of which the Continent took 3,400,000 qr. In the like period of 1905 total shipments were 4,450,000 qr., or 150,000 qr. *more*, bnt the Continent took only 3,200,000, or 200,000 qr. *less*. Thus the Continental purchasing has developed both absolutely and comparatively. We may add that Continental buyers since Aug. 1 have taken an extra 180,000 qr. of Roumanian, Bulgarian, and Roumelian feeding barley.] The holders of feeding barley in England may take up a strong position, and a 20s. quotation for Russian seems fully indicated. Bristol, which often sets the pace in this trade, is, we notice, about 3d. dearer than London for feeding barley.

Russia seems to have better crop of oats than in 1904, but a much smaller one than in 1905, her shipments August 1 to October 20, adding up as follows:—1906, 2,148,000 qr.; 1905, 3,891,000 qr.; 1904, 1,171,000 qr.

It is curious that America, while a small shipper by the side of Russia, shows precisely the same general conditions, 1906 taking its place among the years as being markedly superior to 1904, as it is noticeably inferior to 1905. The following are the American shipments of oats from August 1 to October 20:—1906, 309,000 qr.; 1905, 740,000 qr.; 1904, 89,000 qr.

At present but little relief has been felt in the English oat trade, because Germany has been buying so much less than last season, but on this point we need much fuller information than is at present available. The German yield of oats is not at present clearly ascertained within some 5,000,000 qr. Last year it was 46,245,000 qr., and a very great development of cultivation is apparently going on, seeing that in 1883 the yield was only 22,500,000 qr. For twenty-two years the yield was a little more than doubled, and it appears to be increasing at the rato of about 2,500,000 qr. per annum. We need much more detailed statistics of German agriculture. Cannot our Consuls throw any light upon the subject?

Sales of British wheat at the statute markets have been since harvest:—

This season...	497,000 qr. at 25s. 11d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	631,000 ,, 26s. 11d. ,,

Sales of British barley have been thus returned:—

This season...	682,000 qr. at 24s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, ...	603,000 ,, 24s. 0d. ,,

Of oats we are selling, as farmers, more off the farm than is perhaps advisable:—

This season...	243,000 qr. at 16s. 3d. per qr.
Last ,, ..	201,000 ,, 16s. 0d. ,,

A price of 16s. 3d. is hardly sufficient to tempt the agriculturist to any rash act. There is practically certain to be a demand for all the oats England has grown in 1906, and at a fair price later on.

In what is especially *the* brewers' week of the year we may note the following prices as ruling for some by-products of the brewery:—

Malt Cooms, on rail Burton ...	83s. to 84s. per ton.
,, ,, Norwich..	83s. to 85s. ,,
,, ,, Salisbury.	80s. to 82s. ,,
,, ex brewery, London	86s. to 88s. ,,
Malt screenings ,, ,,	53s. to 55s. ,,
Torrified barley best grade ...	21s. to 22s. per 336lb.
,, ,, secondary ...	20s. to 21s. ,,

We understand that no immediate delivery of the last named can be guaranteed. The cooms and the screenings have many useful feeding purposes and are particularly serviceable in rations in which some concentrated fattener plays a part.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 182,000 qr.: barely half an average.
Flour, 151,000 sacks: a fairly good supply.
Barley, 128,000 qr.: a full supply.
Oats, 73,000 qr.: less than requirements.
Maize, 260,000 qr.: more than requirements.

Since September 1 the following have been our imports:—

Wheat	2,930,000 qr.
Flour	740,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	3,670,000 qr.
Barley	1,173,000 ,,
Oats	599,000 ,,
Maize	1,742,000 ,,

The imports in the like period of last cereal year are:

Wheat...	3,108,000 qr.
Flour	604,000 ,,
Breadstuffs....	3,712,000 qr.
Barley....	1,338,000 ,,
Oats....	712,000 ,,
Maize	1,887,000 ,,

It will be seen that the increase in receipts of foreign flour is our sole extra burden. In all other directions more or less relief has been afforded. The above figures are decidedly encouraging to spot holders of barley and oats.

The supply of wheat on passage is a little larger from a week ago, but is still much below the average for the time of year:—Californian, 220,000 qr.; American, 325,000 qr.; Russian, 225,000 qr.; Indian, 300,000 qr.; Argentine, 75,000 qr.; Australasian, 165,000 qr.; various, 30,000 qr. Total, 1,340,000 qr. A week ago, 1,201,000 qr.

The quantity of flour on passage on 20th inst. was 301,000 sacks.

Of barley an increased quantity is afloat:—Russian, 350,000 qr.; Asiatic, 150,000 qr.; American, 90,000 qr.; total, 590,000 qr.

There are 180,000 qr. of oats on passage, chiefly from Russia and Roumania. A decline in expectations of maize has to be signalised:—Russian, 60,000 qr.; Roumania, 70,000 qr.; Turkish, 30,000 qr.; Argentine, 490,000 qr.; American, 75,000 qr.; total, 725,000 qr.

Other supplies on passage are 90,000 qr. of linseed, 24,000 qr. of rapeseed, and 39,000 tons of cottonseed.

North American shipments last week were large of wheat and fair of maize, but small of barley, oats, and flour. Actual totals were:—Wheat, 368,000 qr. (100,000 qr. Californian); barley, 37,000 qr. (33,000 qr. Californian); oats, 11,000 qr.; maize, 150,000 qr; and flour, 104,000 sacks. The Californian shipments cannot reach England before the close of 1906. South American shipments were fair of wheat, large of maize, and small of linseed. Wheat, 107,000 qr.; flour, 3,000 sacks; maize, 29,000 qr.; and linseed, 4,000 qr.

Russia shipped 338,000 qr. of wheat, 330,000 qr. of barley, 100,000 qr. of rye, 90,000 qr. of oats, and 15,000 qr. of maize, while Roumania sent off 290,000 qr. of wheat, 138,000 qr. of barley, 60,000 qr. of oats, and 21,000 qr. of maize. European Turkey is shipping also, and 60,000 qr. of wheat, 10,000 qr. of oats, and 5,000 qr. of maize are credited to Roumelian, Macedonian, and other Turkish ports.

The shipments of wheat from India were 45,000 qr., and from Australia 12,000 qr. Linseed shipments from India were 30,000 qr.

THE BALTIC.

Prices for cargoes have had their fluctuations, but they have not exceeded 3d. per qr. in any case. Business shows no clear leanings one way or the other, but the Bank rate being up to 6 per cent., owing mainly to a drain of gold to America, the operations of speculation on this side of the Atlantic are curtailed.

Sales of wheat cargoes include Hard Taganrog at 28s. per 492 lb., No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 30s. 3d. per 480 lb., Hard Duluth at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb., Odessa Ghurka at 29s. 6d. per 492 lb., White Kurrachee (for Nov. shipment) at 31s. 3d. per 492 lb., and Argentine at 29s. per 480 lb. The good price obtained for White Kurrachee for early shipment is not unconnected with a practical exhaustion of that type on spot.

Maize cargoes have made 19s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, and also for American. Barley has realised 18s. 9d. per 400 lb. for Russian, and 19s. per 400 lb. for Roumanian. Oats have fetched 15s. 4½d. per 304 lb. for Libau, and 15s. 6d. per 304 lb. for Roumanian. Other sales include Russian linseed at 38s. per 424 lb., and Jamba rapeseed at 33s 9d. per 416 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 1 wheat (Tacoma).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Bristol, 1 Dublin).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 238 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 3 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 28 linseed, total 277.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 294 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 8 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 50 linseed, total 386.

On Thursday afternoon, at a meeting of the committee appointed by the East Indian Wheat Conference held at the offices of the Liverpool Corn Trade Association, there were present Mr. Robert A. Patterson (chairman), Mr. Strawson, Mr. Barber, and Mr. Wares, representing the London, Liverpool, and Hull Corn Trade Associations respectively; Mr. Petrie, Mr. Sanday, and Mr. Ziffo, representing East Indian shippers; and Mr. Humphries, Mr. Nicholls, and Mr. Rank, representing the National Association of British and Irish Millers. Mr. E. M. Hutchinson, President of the Liverpool Corn Trade Association, was also present. The following resolutions were adopted in reference to Karachi and all other descriptions of Indian wheat:—"That all dirt, seed, &c., up to 2½ per cent. be paid for by the seller at contract price of the wheat and at double that price beyond 2½ per cent. That only one form of contract be adopted by the Associations. That the wheat be assumed to contain 2 per cent. barley and/or pulse and or other feeding stuffs, and to be free from dirt, oil-seeds, and other extraneous matter. All barley, pulse, or other feeding stuffs beyond the 2 per cent. to be deemed one-half the value of the wheat."

This settlement is on as near a purity basis as practical requirements call for. It may be regarded, in fact, as exceedingly satisfactory.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains. The market has remained firm at about ale 20s, porter 17s, distillers' 35s, and pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains, ale, 102s 6d; mixed 92s 6d; distillers, 110s per ton on rail London; also ale, 92s 6d, and mixed 85s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 77s 6d; Rangoon rice meal, 98s 9d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 100s per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMLYS AND Co., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at late rates. Foreign steadily held at Monday's prices, but not active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 32s 6d, No. 2 at 31s 9d; choice white Karachi landed at 30s 6d, red Karachi at 30s; Australian 31s, 32s; South Russians, ex ship, at 28s, 32s 6d, landed at 30s 6d, 33s 6d. Flour firm, but inactive. Maize rather firmer for La Plata. Mixed American, none on the spot. La Plata ex ship, quoted at 20s 3d to 20s 6d, landed 20s 9d to 21s. Barley steady, but quiet; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s, landed 19s 6d. Oats slow, unchanged; common sorts quoted at 16s 3d, 16s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, unchanged. Whites quoted at 30s to 31s 6d; reds at 29s to 31s. Foreign firm, at fully late prices, but demand not over active. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 28s to 32s 6d, landed at 30s 6d to 33s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 32s 6d; No. 2 at 32s; hard winter at 30s 6d. Choice white Karachi, landed, at 30s 6d; reds at 30s. Flour firm, unchanged prices. Maize firm and 3d dearer for La Plata, which is quoted at 20s 6d ex ship, and 21s landed. Barley firm, and holders are asking 3d more money, but demand slow. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s 3d, landed at 19s 9d. Oats steady but quiet. Common sorts quoted at 16s 3d to 16s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A small supply of oats. White oats (horse corn), wholesale, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday. — The attendance was rather small, and trade as a whole was dull. Wheats were fairly firm at 28s to 31s, but barley was weaker owing to lack of demand, and though 30s was quoted for best samples, it was difficult to make; other corn firm at late rates, English oats making 18s to 20s for whites, and 17s to 19s for blacks. New mazagan beans fetched up to 30s to 26s; round, 22s to 23s; grey peas, 29s to 30s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 24s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 29s 6d per qr; oats 17s to 20s per qr; peas, 27s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Average attendance, with small grain. Fine barleys scarce and unaltered. Oats and wheat unchanged. Wheat, 26s to 28s; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 19s to 21s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair attendance here; steady trade, with prices tending upwards. Foreign wheats at fully last week's prices to 3d dearer. Plate maize unchanged at 20s 3d per 480 lb at Sharpness. Grinding barley 19s 3d to 19s 6d per 400 lb, Sharpness. A good supply of English wheats, which made from 10s to 11s per 186 lb delivered. Oats firm at from 18s 6d to 19s 6d. Beans, 12s to 12s 3d per 196 lb delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance and very little business doing. New white wheat, 27s 6d to 29s 6d; new red ditto, 27s to 29s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, English, 17s to 19s; peas, 28s to 29s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat sparingly offered, and makes fully last week's prices. Foreign wheat very firm, and 3d dearer generally. Maize rather firmer. Barley and oats 3d dearer. Flour unchanged, demand being of a hand-to-mouth character.—Grace Brothers.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in smaller supply, but there was no change in the value of reds or whites at 28s per qr on the line; revets, 27s to 27s 6d. Barley in good average supply. Demand for medium runs rather quicter, and, to do business, lower prices were accepted, at 26s to 30s per qr. Fine sorts were quiet, but fairly steady, up to 34s per qr. English grinding firm at 24s to 25s 6d, foreign at 22s to 24s per qr.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Wheat remains firm at from 30s to 31s 6d for the choicest. Malting barley is plentiful, and sells slowly, best lots ranging up to 32s, while average samples are only worth 27s to 28s per qr. Oats range from 17s to 20s 6d, and grey peas from 29s to 30s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a fair demand for feeding stuffs. Wheat and oats maintained full prices, mixed corn was lower, and River Plate favoured sellers. Beans and barley quiet at late rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 3d per 64 lb; beans, new, 4s 9d to 5s; old 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—An average attendance and a fair trade. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 17s 6d to 20s; oats, English, 16s 6d to 19s 6d; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat unchanged, fair supply. Oats steady. Barley offered freely, prices weaker.—Joseph Wiles and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday. — Attendance not large. Wheats in small supply, and prices remained firm at fully late rates. All classes of spring corn well maintained at recent quotations: Old wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per 186 lb; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new beans, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 196 lb; old oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; new oats, 18s 6d to 21s per 352 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was only a moderate supply of grain, and business was steady, without any alteration in price. Old white wheat, 31s to 32s; new, 29s to 30s; old red, 30s to 31s; new, 28s to 28s 6d; old beans, 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new oats, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The trade for wheat was slow, and only kept steady by the demand for seed. Prices same as last week. The inferior quality of the barley crop makes the trade slow. Spring black oats worth 18s. per qr. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s 6d to 32s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old black oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 18s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a small supply of English wheat. Large attendance of millers and farmers. English firm, and from 10s to 11s per load. Foreign steady at last week's prices. Plenty of oats, and a good supply of barley, chiefly of a moderate quality. Fine barley, 28s to 30s; medium, 24s to 26s per qr. Maize 6d per qr dearer. Old oats and beans firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—To-day's market was fairly well attended, and with less corn offering owing to the unfavourable weather for threshing, the wheat trade ruled very firm, though sales were by no means active; foreign met a quiet sale, anything serviceable in the way of malting barley found a good sale at firm rates, but the bulk was unsuitable for maltsters' requirements, and consequently difficult to cash; grinding, on the other hand, had rather an upward tendency. Feeding stuffs as a rule in fair demand at fully late rates.

Dublin, Friday. — There was a fair attendance and a quiet market Irish wheat unchanged, with a fair business doing. Barley dull. Oats in fair demand. Flour and oatmeal firm. Bran and pollard continues to be stiffly held owing to scarcity. Quotations:—Wheat, 16s to 17s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding ditto, 13s to 14s; oats, 11s to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday. — Trade rather improved. English and foreign wheat a shade better value, and barley and maize 3d to 6d dearer. Flour very firm. English wheat, 3s 4½d to 3s 6d; English barley, 3s to 4s; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour firm at late rates. Corn steady, but nominally unaltered. Maize shows no change. Barley unchanged for feeding, but firmer, and 3d to 6d more money asked for heavier qualities. Oats show an upward tendency for both home and foreign, with a better consumptive demand. Beans unchanged for home; foreign slightly firmer. Peas quiet. Bran and thirds unchanged. Oatmeal firmer.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday. —Wheat steady, but buyers not inclined to pay the prices asked. Flour, fairly firm. Barley steady. Oats firm. Mixed American maize steady from temporary scarcity at 13s 1½d. per 280 lb; round quiet at 12s 1½d to 12s 3d. Mill offals firm owing to millers being slack. Medium bran 95s per ton; broad 10s more.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat in moderate supply, firm, unchanged; foreign, quiet trade at last week's prices. Maize and barley unchanged. Oats 6d dearer.

Grantham, Saturday.—A fair attendance. Wheat made fully last week's prices. Barley met a brisk trade for best qualities, inferior samples being neglected. Oats were steady. Beans and blue peas firm. Wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, 24s to 32s; oats, 17s to 18s; blue peas, 50s to 60s; beans, 29s to 30s 6d per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday. — English wheats quietly steady, without quotable change in figures. Barley trade irregular. Oats firm. Maize weak. Quotations: Wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 5d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 65½ lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—With a moderate supply, the demand for wheat was quiet, but prices were firmer at about 29s for fine reds. Barley in good average supply. A large business was done, but the prices of ordinary to medium malting runs were barely equal to last week, or, say, 1s per qr less money on the fortnight at 26s to 31s per qr. The finer sorts were fairly steady at 31s to 34s. Danubian and other grinding barley steady at 22s 6d to 23s 6d per 448 lb. Oats firm, at 17s 6d to 19s per qr.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The fluctuating state of the American markets proves a great hindrance to business; all the same, the tendency of prices is upwards. Shippers are gradually raising their limits, and there is an improved demand for all fine, strong descriptions of wheat to-day at 3d to 6d over last week's rates. English wheat in smaller supply and firmer. Fine malting barley fully as dear; inferior sorts favour buyers. Maize 3d lower, beans and oats rather dearer. —Dunns and Co.

Leeds, Friday. — Supplies of English and foreign wheats being plentiful, prices were the turn easier, the top quotations being 3d below Tuesday's closing values. There was also a good demand for the cheaper qualities of flour, at 23s to 26s. Maltiug barely was firm, best qualities making from 28s to 29s. Maize improved, Plate making over 20s. Oats were firm, English closing at 19s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance, with full supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade steady at firm rates. Red wheats, 27s to 29s; white wheats, 28s to 29s per 36 stone. Barley in very large supply, and sold steadily at 27s to 30s per 32 stones; new beans, 33s; old beans, 37s to 38s per 38 stones; new oats, 19s to 21s; old oats, 24s to 26s per 26 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a steady tone in the wheat trade, with prices as last week, best samples being to 27s 6d per qr on rail. A fair sale for oats at late prices, while barley was about the same, except that trade for inferior kinds was slow, and prices a shade lower. Feeding stuffs were firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a fair attendance. Wheat is firmly held for an occasional ½d advance, but there is only a quiet trade. Flour quiet, unchanged for foreign and home-made brands. Maize: Mixed continues easy, and there is only a small trade passing at 1d decline. Plate firm, with a quiet trade at ½d advance from Tuesday. European grades are steady and generally ½d dearer. Barley: Malting unchanged. Feeding is quietly steady without alteration. Beans: English again in fair request, but foreign slow at the prices quoted. Peas in moderate request at late rates. Oats firmly held at the quotations, with a generally fair trade passing. Oatmeal firm, 6d dearer, but a slow sale. Oilcake: A very fair trade at fully recent rates to 2s 6d per ton advance. Indian meal continues in good demand at the quotations.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat was slow and unchanged. Foreign was firm without quotable change, except in one or two sorts. Flour quiet and unchanged. In Indian corn, Plate was ½d, and mixed American 2d. lower on the week. Oats firm and unchanged. Barley variable, and in sellers' favour. Beans and peas firm. Bran and thirds in demand at full rates.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet market; little change in prices. White and red wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 26s to 28s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, white, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; black, 16s to 17s; beans, new, 29s 6d to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Not a big demand for wheats at our to-day's market at unchanged prices. American maize remains firm on spot, to arrive, however, lower prices have to be taken to do business. Plate and European qualities, however, remain steadier in slightly buyers' favour. Beans and peas remain unaltered. oats of good sound quality favour buyers, parcel in soft condition, however, is difficult to dispose of, therefore lower prices have to be taken to make sales. Barley steady at late rates.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—The trade was quiet, and prices were about the same as the week, except foreign wheat, which was 3d dearer.

Northampton, Saturday. — Quiet trade. Prices practically the same. New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 16s to 18s; new beans, 27s to 28s; peas, 27s to 30s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Wheat in fair supply, late rates barely supported. Barley steady sale at previous prices. Oats firm to 6d advance. Beans steady.—Robert Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat trade slow without any quotable change in value. Malting barley dull, and for middling qualities the tendency was downwards. Oats firm, and full prices paid for good ones.—Thos. Hill & Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance on our market here to-day. Wheat remained unchanged, maize was very firm, and oats and barley 6d dearer. — Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—There was only a moderate attendance, and farmers' offerings were again light, there being no change in prices. Flour unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading. Saturday.—Good attendance and fair trade. Wheat, 28s to 32s; barley, malting, 27s to 35s; grinding barley, 24s to 27s; oats, 16s to 24s; flour, 22s to 28s; beans, 32s to 38s.

Retford, Saturday.—Locally grown wheat was about an average show, and the best lots, dry and in good condition, sold fairly well at 27s 6d. Good malting barley was in active demand at 27s to 29s; commoner kinds, 24s 6d to 26s; and grinding, 23s 6d per qr. All kinds of grain for feeding purposes remained unchanged.

Ripon, Thursday.—Business was inactive and very few samples were shown. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; ditto, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 25s to 27s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; ditto, new, 17s to 18s; maize, round, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market continues quiet, without much change in prices. Plate maize fractionally easier on the week; mixed American more freely offered at fully 6d per qr less money. Beas, peas, and oats firm and unchanged. Grinding barley firm at late prices, Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 18s 6d to 19s; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb: peas, grinding, 32s 6d to 33s; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 332 lb; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 22s 9d; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 21s 3d to 21s 6d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday. —Wheat, new, 12s to 12s 3d per 225 lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Average attendance, and a large supply of this season's grain, the show of barleys being the largest for some years. In spite of this, maltsters were willing to give up to 33s per qr.; grinding barleys, 24s to 26s; wheats, 27s 6d to 28s; oats, 18s to 19s; beans, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr; peas and maize unaltered.

Stockton, Wednesday. — New local wheat made about 27s 6d per qr. Foreign wheat steady, with a fair demand at last week's prices. Maize steady and oats dearer. There was a fair show of malting barley, and quotations were about the same as last week, namely, 23s to 25s for common and 25s to 27s per qr for best qualities, though farmers were not disposed to take current prices.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Small show of grain at this day's market. Wheat quiet at late rates. Barley dull. Oats steady. Arrivals coastwise:—Barley, 500 qr; foreign, barley, 6,600 qr.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. —New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 29s to 30s; old white ditto, 30s to 31s; old red ditto, 29s to 30s; barley, 26s to 30s; grinding ditto, 20s to 23s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 23s to 26s; peas, 30s to 34s; beans, 30s to 34s; tares, 40s to 44s; maize, 24s to 26s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a very small supply of all kinds of grain on offer. Wheat very firm at late rates. Malting barley, except finest samples, slightly easier. Beans and oats made 1s 4d to 1s per qr over last week's prices. Feeding stuffs in fair demand at slightly higher prices.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat scarce and better values. Foreign unchanged. Barley unaltered. Oats occasionally 3d dearer. Maize offered at 6d down to arrive. Flour a fair trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Supplies of grain continue on a limited scale. Wheat sold at about late rates. Best reds, 28s to 28s 6d per 504 lb. Oats scarce and very firm, 17s 6d to 19s 336 lb; Barley, 25s to 30s 448 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and fair show of grain. Wheat for seed met with a ready market; other kinds were slow. Best malting barleys were scarce, and easy to dispose of; secondary qualities were plentiful, and difficult to sell. Oats met with a ready sale. New white wheat, 26s to 27s; red ditto, 25s to 26s; best malting barley, 28s 6d to 31s; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 16s to 18s 6d; new beans, 30s to 32s; old maize, 23s to 24s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown grain freely on offer, but was firmly held. Best English wheat, 28s to 30s per qr; secondary, 26s to 27s 6d; foreign wheat, 31s to 33s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; grinding barley (foreign), 19s 3d to 20s 6d; old oats, 22s to 24s; new 16s 6d to 18s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 20s; Irish white oats, 19s to 20s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; rye, 22s to 26s; beans, 16s to 18s; maize, round, 20s to 21s; flat, 23s; tares (winter), 47s 6d to 52s 6d; spring, 54s to 60s. Flour without change in values, which are based on 22s 6d per sack for fines. The offal and meal trade continues brisk at prices which favour millers.

York, Saturday.—Very little wheat on offer, and prices are very firm. Fine white, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red and mixed, 26s 6d to 27s 6d per qr of 36 stone; barley, fine, 26s to 28s; good, 24s to 26s; ordinary, 22s to 24s per qr of 32 stone. Oats were scarce, and rather dearer; white Tartary, 17s to 17s 6d; black, 17s to 18s; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stone; rye, 21s to 21s 6d; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather mostly dry and sunny, favouring sowing operations. It appears that in general, as regards quantity, this year's harvest does not come up to expectations, oats excepted. Owing to a general strike of the bargemen, traffic on our rivers is suspended, and spot parcels of grain are declining in value, while forward deliveries remain firm. German wheat meets a slow trade. Red Holstein and Upland is offering at 27s 9d to 28s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b.; American Hard Winter, No. 2, firm at 28s 6d; No. 1 in demand at 29s 3d; 80 ko October-November River Plate, 29s 3d; February-March, 28s 6d per 448 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet and easier; 9½ South Russian afloat is offering at 23s 3d, 9 20/25 Oct.-Nov. at 23s 6d to 23s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Malting barley firm in value. Our brewers take good to fine stout Bohemian at 32s to 34s 6d, Danish at 28s to 29s, Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Oderbruck at 33s to 38s per 448 lb. Fine Bohemian is held at 33s 6d to 36s 6d per 448 lb f.o.b., Slovakian at 35s 6d to 37s. South Russian barley on the spot quiet and offering at 18s to 18s 3d, while November shipments are selling at 18s 9d, January-March at 19s per 400 lb c.i.f. Fine white Pomeranian oats 19s per 336 lb c.i.f. east coast England. American mixed maize on the spot and shipping has been sold at 20s 3d to 21s 6d, December-January at 19s 9d; River Plate spot and October-November 20s per 448 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 16, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	2,585	4 ...	3,595	14	9 ...	1	7	10
Barley ...	1,762	6 ...	2,196	3	10 ...	1	4	11
Oats	2,820	3 ...	2,487	14	1 ...		17	8

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 20, 1906:—

Wheat	1,547,000	cwts.
Wheat-flour	336,000	,,
Barley	915,900	,,
Oats	262,700	,,
Maize	1,006,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,139,500	2,451,100	2,430,500	1,644,195
Wheat-flour	346,400	232,500	453,100	435,690
Barley ...	754,500	706,400	1,233,000	1,042,293
Oats ...	285,600	254,300	267,500	220,181
Maize ...	811,300	1,532,500	752,300	1,075,543

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 20, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	56,148...	24	11	143,774...	26	4	28,514...	17	0
1903...	40,256...	25	10	99,029...	23	7	26,249...	15	8
1904...	45,960...	30	4	213,190...	25	5	31,445...	15	11
1905...	90,548...	27	1	224,530...	25	0	24,635...	16	7
1906...	71,352...	26	6	230,637...	24	10	33,636...	16	8

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Oct. 21	90,548	26	11	224,530	25	0	21,635	16	6
,, 28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,316	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,260	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	33,636	16	8

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Oct. 10 to 17 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	5,000	25,000	30,000
Barley	3,300	5,000	8,300
Malt	17,000	160	17,160
Oats	5,500	46,000	51,500
Beans	1,905	4,000	5,905
Peas	700	1,700	2,400
Maize	—	9,709	9,709
Tares	43	90	133
Linseed	—	1,809	1,809
Rapeseed	—	535	535
Cottonseed	—	4,613	4,613
Rye	51	15	66
Dholl	—	353	353
Flour ..... sacks ...	28,562	76,035	104,597
Ryeflour ... ,, ...	—	2,000	2,000
Ricefiour ... ,, ...	—	5,000	5,000
Maizemeal ... ,, ...	—	2,650	2,650
Middlings ... ,, ...	—	2,526	2,526

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.
Jan. ..	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2
Feb. ...	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	25	4
March	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3
April ...	31	6	30	9	29	0	31	0	27	3	24	6	28	0
May ...	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	0	25	6	28	8
June ...	31	0	30	3	28	3	33	0	0	0	28	3	28	6
July ...	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	28	9
August	29	9	29	9	33	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	28	4
Sept. ...	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	28	3
Oct. ...	—		31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	28	0
Nov. ...	—		31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4
Dec. ...	—		31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0
Yrly. Avrg.	—		30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The market for wheat to-day was firm, and full prices were obtained without difficulty both for home grown and imported kinds. Maize was dull at the decline given in our "Close of the Market" report last Monday. Where this additional fall of 3d. was not given in that day's market circulars to-day's market was quoted as 3d. down. Some good Maize from the Caucasus made 21s 6d, and round consequently sold more freely than either flat or yellow. Barley made up 38s for good North Norfolk and best Suffolk samples, but the great majority of samples struggled into 30s. with difficulty. With respect to foreign barley 30s was paid for good Californian. Feeding corn was firm both for poultry—bold grain 416 lb. to the quarter—and for the light sorts from Russia. Oats showed no price change, neither did beans and peas, but tares were again rather cheaper. Linseed cake was a little firmer, but with respect to cottonseed cake buyers had rather the best of the market. Some Ouchak malt was on offer at 36s. for the best, and 33s. to 34s. for ordinary.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

October 22.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New)..... ,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ... ,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New) ... ,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...(per 448 lb.)	33 — 37
	,, (New)... ,,	32 — 38
	Brewing (Old)... ,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)... ,,	27 — 28
	Poultry (New)...(per 416 lb.)	24 — 26
	Feeding(New)...(per 400 lb.)	21 — 23
MALT,	Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27 — 29
	Black ..... ,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)... ,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New) ,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New) ,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop) .....(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ... ,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old) ..... ,,	37 — 38
	,, (New) ..... ,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New) ..... ,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Pickod Marrowfat ...(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto ..... ,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old) ..... ,,	34 — 35
	,, (New)..... ,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old) ..... ,,	33 — 34
	,, (New)..... ,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring) ..... ,,	46 — 50

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9—33	American	22/9—23
,, ,, 2	31/9—32	Argentine	20/9—21
American Red	30/9—31	Bulgarian	21/6—22
Argentine ...	30/9—31	Roumanian ...	21/6—22
Australian ...	31/6 32/6	Russian	21/6—22
New Zealand	30/6 31/6	Rangoon	21 — 22
Californian ...	31/6 32/6	North African	22 — 23
Blue Stem ...	31/6 32/6	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Walla Walla	30/6 31/6	Smyrna	34 — 36
Saxonka	32/6 33/6	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Azima	30/6 31/6	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Ghirka	29/6 30/6	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Indian White	none	Italian	64 — 72
,, Red	30/9—31	Burmese	32 — 42
Persian.....	29 — 30	Chilian	56 — 64
Turkish	28 — 29	LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29 — 30	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	PEAS (504 lb.):	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian(400 lb)	19/6—20	Indian Green	29 — 31
Am'can (400 lb)	19 —19/3	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24 — 25	NewZeal'd Maple	39— 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Salonica (400 lb)	21 — 23	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	White	42 — 44
Torrified(336 lb)	21 — 22	Yellow	22 — 24
MALT (336 lb.):		Sorghum	20 — 22
Californian ...	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Smyrna	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
Ouchak	33 — 36	Burmese	9 — 10
RYE (480 lb.):		Siamese	8 — 9
Russian	24 — 25	DARI (480 lb.):	
OATS:		Smyrna	25 — 26
N'wZeal'd(384 lb)	23 —25	Indian	23 — 24

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The London flour houses were glad to do business at last week's prices, as a fall of 3d. in both country and American sorts rendered the position unfavourable. For November shipment America is offering best North-Western spring patents at 23s. 6d. c.f.i., while the like quality, but from other than the great mills, is offered at 23s. c.f.i. Manitoba patents at 24s. per sack arrived are in fair request, 23s. 6d. c.f.i. is the forward quotation. There is no decline in Hungarian or French flour to-day, but the weakness of the American market, of course, was against value. Despite the mild weather of last week, a good retail business in bran, pollard and middlings was done, and prices for these by-products of the mill are accordingly well maintained. The spot price of flour in New York is cabled at 20s. per sack (spring wheat clears), or the same price as on last Monday. Thus the forward weakness in America has not yet touched the market at New York. This helped to steady Mark Lane a little, but the tone on the whole was not favourable.

London Flour.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		28/0 nct.
Town Whites	,,	25/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/6 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/6 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/6 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/6 ,,

Country Flour.

		s. s.
Best Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		24—24/6
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22—23/6
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21—21/6
Stone made	,,	20—20/6

Foreign Flour.

		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER DEPRESSED FOR AMERICAN WHEAT, OF WHICH THE OFFERS FOR PROMPT SHIPMENT CAME DECIDEDLY LOWER FROM LAST WEEK.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Business continues dull. No further change in quotations; tone of market, however, rather more in favour of buyers—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—Demand for bran continues slow; there is, however, rather more inquiry; prices somewhat firmer.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Arrivals continue very heavy, necessitating in many cases low prices being taken ex quay to avoid storage. Grain.—American corn not plentiful on spot, but October-November shipment is freely offered. Round maize in liberal supply and in quiet demand. Oats of all kinds are active and in sellers' favour. Barley is also in better demand. Oatmeal firm. Oilcake steady. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Milling Offals.—Offals firm. Middlings and pollard unchanged. Bran 2s 6d per ton dearer.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour a dull trade to-day at prices favouring buyers.—MEDILL AND SONS.

We have moderate arrivals of wheat. The trade is quiet, and prices of American wheats are 3d to 6d lower. Flour unchanged. Maize 6d per qr dearer. Barley and oats steady in values.—COVENTRY AND SHEPHERD.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat and maize cargoes are unchanged. Barley is a little dearer. Cottonseed is extremely dear for near dates, but weak for remoter ones. Linseed and rapeseed cargoes are slightly in buyers' favour, but not for anything at all near at hand.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—White Kurrachee, 33s 3d per 492 lb, on passage; Red Kurrachee, 29s 9d per 492 lb, on passage; Santa Fé, 29s per 480 lb, January shipment; Barletta, 29s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; Walla Walla, 30s per 500 lb, December shipment; Blue Stem, 36s 6d per 500 lb, December shipment; South Australian, 29s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 6d prompt shipment.

Maize.—Roumanian, 20s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; American, 19s 3d per 480 lb, January shipment.

Barley.—Kustendje, 19s 9d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Californian, 27s 3d per 448 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Roumanian, 15s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Turkish, 15s 6d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 39s 3d per 416 lb, February shipment.

Poppyseed.—Bombay, 51s per 377 lb, prompt shipment.

Cottonseed.—Bombay, £5 5s per 2,240 lb, prompt shipment; Egyptian, £7 5s per 2,240 lb, due; Egyptian, £7 per 2,240 lb, expected by 27th; Egyptian, £6 11s 3d per 2,240 lb, prompt shipment; Egyptian, £6 8s 9d per 2,240 lb, January shipment.

TERM MARKET.

The continued mildness of the autumn, reducing demand as it does, makes buying forward restricted. To-day all futures were the turn in buyers' favour.

Red American wheat,	Oct. delivery,	no sales.	
,, ,,	Dec.	,,	6s 5d per cental.
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 6d ,,
Mixed American Maize.....	Oct.	,,	no sales.
,, ...	Dec.	,,	4s 5d per cental.
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 1d ,,
Yellow Argentine Maize ...	Oct.	,,	4s 4d ,,
,, ...	Dec.	,,	4s 3d ,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d ,,

A cargo of Baltic oats for November delivery fetched 15s 4½d per 304 lb.

SEEDS.

Borough, Monday.—With the exception of Chilian red clover, trade is quiet in the seed market. There is undoubtedly a large crop of English red clover this year; it is to be regretted that English growers will not thresh earlier. No change in Alsyke or trefoil. White clover and cocksfoot can now be bought at reasonable figures. Grasses unchanged—W. H. & H. LE MAY.

London, Monday.—Fair business passing in winter tares. Supplies light, prices unchanged. Seed wheats in good demand, prices very firm. Mustard supplies diminishing, prices firm. Peas selling freely at hardening prices. New clover seeds coming out slowly. Recommend growers threshing early preventing foreign competition later on. English reds show fine clear samples. Whites various qualities. Trefoils useful and good. Foreign trefoil medium quality. Grasses unchanged.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With a continuance of short supplies and a strong demand trade has ruled very firm during the past week, and prices again show a hardening tendency. Clovers are a very steady trade, and although not quotably dearer, are firm at last week's top prices. Hays find a very strong market, especially for best qualities, and in some instances more money is obtainable. Mixtures continue a very fierce trade, with demand far exceeding supplies, and values of this are the turn higher. Wheat straw remains a quiet trade at unchanged rates. Oat straw still continues in good demand at last week's prices, and barley remains steady at same value.

Owing to the shortage of English hays the importations of foreign are beginning to figure largely in our London market, and the supplies of these, although very large from week to week, are all readily disposed of at gradually increasing prices. Canadian mixtures, which are coming along rather shorter, are a firm trade at last week's values. Dutch hay, which is in larger supply, finds a good demand, and is very steady at unchanged rates, and French clovers are in short supply and inclined to go dearer.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hays, 87s 6d to 89s per ton; good meadow hay, 75s to 85s per ton; inferior, 65s to 75s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 90s to 95s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers, and mixtures, 65s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 26s per load; oat straw, 26s to 27s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 85s to 87s 6d per ton; good Dutch hay, 70s to 73s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 85s per ton; French large bale wheat straw, 50s per ton; French small bale wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by large delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

HAY AND STRAW.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 80s per ton; old clover hay, 85s to 90s; old meadow hay, 80s to 85s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 85s to 90s per ton; best hay, 75s to 87s 6d; second, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Hay: Very little business passing, prices remaining steady. Straw: Nothing doing, with no change in values. New hay, 50s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—New hay and straw is arriving in moderate quantities, and with the old crop diminishing prices are fully maintained, the fine, sharp weather favourably affecting business. Quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6½d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay and seeds, 70s, and secondary qualities, 55s to 60s per ton, on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5½d; clover, 6d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3¾d; oat, 3½d to 3¾d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 15 to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 4s to £4 10s; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 15s to £5. Wheat straw, from £1 8s per load; barley straw, from £1 3s to £1 5s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Large supply and trade quieter and at lower rates. Quotations: Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 105s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s; swede turnips, 18s to 22s; mangolds, 15s to 18s per ton.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate supply, and a quiet trade. Choice seeds, £4 to £4 5s; prime meadow hay, £3 10s to £3 15s; seconds, £3 5s to £3 7s 6d; straw, £2 10s to £2 15s; turnips, 20s to 22s per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Large supplies to hand received fair support at late rates. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is active; prices are advancing; the shortness of supplies is realised now; more than half the crop was sold during the last ten days.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a much smaller attendance at market to-day, and it is evident many growers have sold their growths. Higher prices were asked, and an advance of 10s was paid on rates ruling last week. 2,646 pockets have been weighed this week, making 7,389 pockets to date.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 22, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 23, 1905.
Beasts	1,180	1,180	1,280
Sheep and Lambs	4,730	4,730	6,440
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 6	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 8	5 6	6 2
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 41; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 989; Devon, 30; Ireland, 120.

There was an increase of 220 in the number of beasts offered for sale to-day compared with Monday last. For all descriptions of both prime and second quality English beasts trade ruled very slow, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one, in some cases to the extent of 2d. The consignments from Ireland to-day were considerably larger, and consisted of 63 Dublins and 57 Waterfords, for which there was a poor inquiry, late rates being barely maintained. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply, but met a limited demand from country buyers, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one. A clearance is not expected.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 23, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	—		—	
Devons	4 4	to 4 6	... 4 4	to 4 6
Herefords	4 4	ex 4 6	... 4 4	to 4 6
Norfolks	—		... —	
Runts	4 0	to 4 4	... 4 0	to 4 4
Lincolns	3 6	to 3 8	... 3 8	to 3 10
Irish	3 8	to 4 0	... 3 10	to 4 4
Canadian	—		... —	
Fat Cows	2 10	to 3 4	... 3 4	to 3 6

There was an increase of 200 in the number of sheep penned, the supply including 100 Scotch, 636 Irish, and 437 Eastern Counties. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a decidedly firmer nature, last week's advanced values governing all transactions, choice small wethers selling best. There was an average supply of Scotch sheep on offer, which shared in the generally better tone of the trade, salesmen both asking and obtaining fully last Monday's values. Irish descriptions also sold well, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one, though not quotably so. Lamb trade finished. A clearance in this part of the market will be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 23, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6	0 to 6	2 5	8 to 5 10
9 st. Downs	5	10 to 6	0 5	6 to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5	8 to 5	10 5	4 to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		...	—
8st Scotch	6	0 to 6	2 5	6 to 5 8
10 st Irish	5	4 to 5	6 5	0 to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4	4 to 4	6 4	0 to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	—		...	—
5 st Down Lambs	—		...	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		...	—

Calves too few to note or quote.
Pigs nil.

London (Central), Monday.—Offerings and inquiry both fair, the tone being firmer. Beef, English, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s to 3s 6d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 2d to 4s. Mutton, English, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s to 3s 8d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 8d. Lamb, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 4s to 5s 4d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Thursday.—Beasts, 746; sheep, 852; pigs, 437; horses, 7. Fat and store cattle met a better demand, whilst fat and store sheep and pigs were also in good demand. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; milch cows, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 977. To-day's supply compared with the corresponding day last week showed a decrease of 388 head, and consisted of 291 from the United States and 686 Canadians. Trade taken as a whole was of a slow nature, a decline of from 1d to 2d per 8 lb being made. Best States beasts to dress about 680 lb were quoted 3s 11d to 4s 2d.; Canadian 3s 9d (offal given in). On Saturday the supply of beasts consisted of 1,600 from the United States and 278 from Canada, trade for which was of a fair and steady nature, at a slight advance on late rates. The best States beasts were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s 2d, exceptionally 4s 3d; Canadians, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday. — A considerable increase in number of cattle, for which demand was slow, and prices lower except for good qualities. Sheep: Supply practically unaltered, and trade good for all classes. Small handy weights, readily changing hands at advance on late rates; rough sorts, though easier to sell, were not quotably dearer. Prices: Beef, 6d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6d. At market 1,630 cattle and 4,916 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake. — Prices remain firm, but present mild weather tends to keep business quiet. Cotton Cake. — Market owing to a rather heavy arrival of Egyptian made coupled with the rise in oil, is weaker, and 1s. 3d. less money being accepted. Linseed.—Firm, and a good trade doing in the feeding sorts. Molascuit and dried grains are both in brisk demand.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ....ex quay	8 0 0	—
American Western Linseed Cake ....ex quay	—	
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) .....ex quay	--	
Russian Oil Cake .....ex quay	7 15	to 8 0 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ...	—	
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 17 6	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	5 1 3	
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	5 0 0	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	4 15 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 10 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 3 0	2 12 0
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 4 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Cottonseed on spot is hardly to be had, but for November delivery £6 13s 9d is accepted and £6 12s 6d for December. These prices are for good Egyptian A rise of 2s 6d per qr. in poppyseed has taken place owing to scarcity. Linseed and rapeseed are unchanged. The following are wholesale cash spot prices.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Dutch	47 to 49	Egyptian	nominal
American	43 to 44	Indian	109 to 111
Calcutta	42 to 43	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Bombay	43 to 45	English, Best	16 to 17
Russian	41 to 42	Russian, White	14 to 15
Argentine	41 to 42	,, Black	13 to 14
Duluth	42 to 43	SESAME.	per cwt.
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		Indian	14 to 15
Best English	62 to 64	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
Yellow Guzerat	51 to 53	Russian	49 to 50
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	CANARYSEED. per 464 lb.	
Brown ,,	44 to 45	English	48 to 50
Ferozepore	45 to 46	Spanish	78 to 80
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		Turkish	40 to 42
Indian	51 to 53	Argentine	39 to 40

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.		OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.		
	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1...(per sack)	26 0	...(per sack) 23 0
October 8...(per sack)	27 0	...(per sack) 24 6

(No change since last date given.)

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

For fat beasts of both prime and second quality, trade, which was practically confined to Monday, opened and continued throughout the day of a firm and steady nature, with an upward tendency in regard to value to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. The supply as usual at this season of the year consisted principally of arrivals from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties; there was also a larger number of Devons offered for sale. Small consignment of Irish cattle consisting entirely of Waterfords, met a slow but steady trade, all on offer being eventually sold; middling quality cattle were little sought after. There was a limited inquiry for fat butchering cows and rough cattle, the former making, however, late values, whilst the latter were practically unsaleable.

At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, trade was of a fairly steady nature, late values ruling all transactions. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 5,582, as against 4,348 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,050 British (increase, 50) and 4,532 foreign (increase, 1,184), comprising 3,172 from the United States and 360 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90-stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95-stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95-stone runts, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Lincoln Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95-stone Irish, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90-stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95-stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. ex 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington, taken as a whole, was of a firm and steady nature, with a rise on Monday of 2d. per 8 lb. in value for all grades of both Downs and half-breds. On the other hand, Irish descriptions were not so readily sought after, nevertheless no quotable decline in value can be noted. Scotch sheep met with an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. on late currencies, whilst the lamb trade was not worth noting or quoting. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. On Thursday at Islington we noted the shortest supply this year, these consisting entirely of wethers. Trade was practically at a standstill, although sellers were willing to accept a decline of 2d. per lb. The total number of sheep and lambs penned at both markets was 4,620, as against 6,220 during the previous week, showing a decrease of 1,600. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 11 stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.

Calves numbered 20, trade nominal on both days. Pig trade not worth noting, only 10 on offer.

Trade in the West,

The rain we have had has proved of incalculable benefit not only to the pasturo lands by greatly stimulating the growth of the grass, which now promises abundance of keep a little later on, should only favourable weather prevail and frosts keep off. The best milchers, as a general run, are now making from £17 up to £22 apiece, whilst in one instance one good heifer of rare character brought the very exceptional figure of £25, the quantity of milk it produced being quite phenomenal, but it just suited the buyer who acquired it at such a high price; plainer heifers and cows with calves are in slower demand at from £12 up to £16. In-calf beasts, especially those of early season, also sell very well, the more forward animals commanding £11 to £15, and those of a later date £8 to £9 10s. Good suckler calves from scarcity command a good price from scarcity, so many having been sacrificed soon after birth in order that the milk might be devoted to other purposes during the shortage from the drought. Very fresh barreners occasionally fetch from £28 to £30 per pair. Store sheep continue very firm, and there is, with the improvement taking place in the roots, every prospect of this continuing so, good flock ewes—we are referring now to Downs—selling from 38s. to 52s. apiece, and draft ewes from 33s. to 42s.; grazing ewes making from 30s. to 36s. or 37s.; wether sheep make 36s. to 46s.; wether lambs, 32s. to 49s. (for those very fresh); chilvers, 31s. to 42s.; and mixed lambs, 23s. to 46s. As supplies continue short, little difficulty is experienced by flockmasters in realising.

The beef trade still continues very sluggish except in the case of the very choicest breeds, good quality Devon and Shorthorn steers and heifers making 11s. and 11s. 6d. per score, with a very firm demand at the price; more ordinary qualities, 10s. to 10s. 6d.; and half fat bullocks a very poor trade at 9s. to 9s. 6d. All the choicer grades of fat sheep, wethers especially, rule very firm, with a tendency to higher values—namely, 8d. to 8½d. per lb.; but anything secondary or rough sells slowly at from 6d. to 7d. per lb.

Fat calves of any quality or finish are very very scarce, and these may be quoted at from 7½d. to 8½d.; but the great bulk consists of animals of a very ordinary stamp and of poor finish, the ruling price of which may be given at from 7d. to 7½d. Pigs of all classes are as brisk as ever, especially neat, handling porkers, which sell very readily from 10s. to 11s., everything being eagerly caught up at the price; fat hogs, 9s. to 9s. 6d.; and heavy sows, 8s. to 8s. 6d. Everything at all serviceable in the different departments attracts plenty of buyers.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been a fair average. The demand has been steady throughout at prices similar to last week. Fat cows met a slightly better trade at about 10s. a head dearer. Fat sheep have been shown in average numbers. Trade was fairly steady and any change just favouring buyers. Fat calves and pigs continue to sell at high prices. There was a moderate supply of store cattle. These met a slow market, but nearly a total clearance effected without change in prices. A small supply of store sheep, generally of an indifferent class. The better descriptions got easily sold out, but a few of the inferior kinds met a very quiet trade at less money. Milch cows met a moderate demand, although prices hardened towards the finish. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 38s. 10d.; current, 34s. to 35s. 6d.; mutton to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

Dublin market of last Thursday had a good supply of cattle and sheep, there being a fairly large increase of stock in both departments, there being 4,283 (or 178 more) cattle, and 6,108 sheep, or 428 more than the previous market. There was a large attendance of cross-Channel buyers for both sheep and cattle, and this made business more animated, especially for choice stock. For cattle of good to prime quality the market opened with great briskness, owing to several large buyers operating freely, and purchases were made at somewhat higher rates than those at the preceding market. Dead-weight prices were: Best ox and heifer beef from 49s. to 56s; good second beef from 45s. to 47s. 6d.; and inferior beef from 42s. to 44s. per cwt. Live-weight prices ranged from 30s. to 32s. per cwt. for best qualities, and 27s. to 28s. for good medium sorts. Secondary and half-meated beasts dragged heavily at uneven prices, and coarse cow beef was difficult to move at uneven prices. Well-finished cows, suitable for the city trade, were in better demand. Values showed a hardening tendency, due to the scarcity of well-finished beasts; some fine bullocks, fed by Mr. M'Cabe, of Ratoak, co. Meath, were sold to an English buyer at £22 10s. each.

In the mutton department trade was very active for all classes of sheep suitable for the English and home trade at a decided improvement on the previous market. Some prime wethers sold at from 66s. to 72s. each, but these heavy sheep did not sell as freely as lighter sheep of extra quality. Rough sheep were difficult to cash. There was a brisk trade done in shipping hoggets, this being due chiefly to the increased attendance of buyers from the Midland districts of England. The price for hoggets was about 2s. per head better all round. There was good buying for suitable hoggets for the London markets. Prime wethers made from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; prime ewe mutton from 6½d. to 7½d.; and inferior from 5½d. per lb. upwards. Best well-fed veal in brisk demand at from 7½d to 8½d. per lb.; other calves without any improvement at from 4½d. per lb. upwards. A good supply of milch cows in the market. Best springers and new milch cows in good request at firmer rates; choice cows making from £17 to £24 a head; other sorts dragged rather heavily at late rates—viz., from £9 to £15 each. In sympathy with the general tone of the fat stock markets, there is a slow demand for store stock at late rates. The country fairs are quiet, and it is not likely that there will be any rise until spring time. Only the nicer kinds in good condition meet with the approval of buyers at present.

At last Belfast market there were about 400 head of cattle and 1,600 sheep offered for sale. Best fat bullocks paid from £15 15s. to £21 10s. a head. Mutton sold at from 7d. to 9d. per lb.

There was a limited supply of pigs in the market early in the day, but numbers increased as the day wore] on. The attendance of home and cross-Channel buyers was small, and prices gave way from 2s. to 3s. per cwt. Nice light pigs made from 50s. to 53s. per cwt.; heavy bacon and shipping pigs, from 49s. to 52s. per cwt.; and coarse pigs from 36s. to 46s. per cwt. A bad clearance was made. Store pigs were in great request.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Moderate supplies of beef. Trade firm, especially for pork. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 5s, extreme 5s 4d; Dutch ditto, 4s to 4s 6d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday. — Beast supply, compared with Thursday last, showed increase of 60 head, the majority consisting of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade ruled slow but steady, late currencies governing most transactions. No inquiry for prime quality cattle. Top value fat cows, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s per 8 lb. Decrease of 110 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of English wethers, no ewes or lambs being offered. Notwithstanding smallness of supply, trade was practically at a standstill, even at reduction of 2d per 8 lb. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—8 stone Downs, 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 6d to 5s 8d. Calves too few to quote. Pig trade nominal. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 6d to 3s 4d; sheep, 5s 6d to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—With a smaller supply, beef ruled dearer, best steers making up to 4s 6d. Mutton very firm at 5s to 6s 6d for Down wethers, and 5s to 5s 6d for Kents. Roasting pork dearer, best making up to 4s 4d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—Prime fat Devon beasts, 6½d to 7d; ditto, Shorthorn, 5½d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5d; best sheep, 9d to 9½d; 2nd class ditto, 8d to 8½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6½d to 7½d; fat calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb; fat porkers, 10s to 11s; fat hogs, 8s 6d to 9s 3d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—A large number of cattle in fine condition. Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade slow. Calves, £6 10s; stirks, £8 10s to £11 10s; two-year-olds, £12 to £13 10s; three-year-olds, £13 to £14 5s; shorthorn bulls, £11 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs. Small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 11s 8d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, and a satisfactory trade was done at slightly better prices, 56s to 58s per cwt for best qualities, and 53s for secondary sorts. There was rather less than the average quantity of mutton, and a moderate business was done at low rates. A fair number of pigs, porkers declining to 11s per score and baconers to 9s.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 6d per score.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Half-bred lambs were making from 24s to 35s 6d, and Kent lambs up to 31s 6d. Ewe tegs, 43s to 53s; wether tegs up to 44s; and old ewes, from 25s to 34s. A fair number of Kent rams were disposed of at from 4 guineas to 6½ guineas.

Carlisle, Saturday. — About 300 cattle of superior class, and, with a good attendance of buyers, a fairly brisk market was experienced. Wintering heifers, £8 10 to £12 10; stall-feeding cattle, £14 to £15; polled bullocks £8 10s to £10 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—An excellent show of stock and a good attendance of buyers. A quick demand for milking stock, which sold well. Store cattle were not much inquired for, and a very disappointing trade was done. The sheep season is approaching a close, and business was slack. Milch cows made £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £15; and stirks, £5 to £9.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fairly busy market, and high prices again offered for choice sheep, which were very scarce. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 8d to 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—More cattle shown, and a good attendance. Fair trade at fully late rates. Milch cows, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £10; young stores, £6 to £8 each. Good supply of sheep, though less than at recent markets. Steady trade, late prices firm. Ewes, 40s to 50s; shearlings, 50s to 55s; lambs, 43s to 46s each; rams, £4 to £5 each.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Scarcely as large deliveries as usual at Messrs. Ensor & Sons' sale at to-day's cattle market, but there was a marked improvement in the quality of that offering. Milch beasts included some very useful heifers and calves, prices of which ranged from £19 down to £15 10s; cows and calves selling from £18 10s down to £12 15s. Barrencrs as a rule were a very plain lot and prices ruled rather low, £19 10s per pair being the top price, ranging down to £14 15s. Fat bullocks sold from £16 15s to £18 10s each (or 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score for primest grades); fat bulls, £15 5s. Very limited offer mutton, which sold at enhanced rates.

Dublin, Thursday.—The supply of really finished cattle was limited, and these met a brisk inquiry at slightly improved rates. Unfinished animals were exposed in large quantities, and experienced an uneven trade, prices being somewhat lower, and a clearance not effected. Sheep were in brisk demand at advanced prices. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 28s per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to 8¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Good classes of cattle sold well, but rougher sorts were cheaper. Sheep met a quiet trade. Polled bullocks, £11 10s to £14 10s.; blue grey bullocks, £13; stirks, £8 10s to £10 15s; Cheviot sheep, to 38s; half-bred sheep, 34s to 41s; blackfaced Dinmonts, 26s to 36s; best Shorthorn cows, to £25 10s; Ayrshires, to £19 5s; crosses, to £23.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of beasts., but the best quality maintained late prices. Maiden heifers and steers, 11s; cows, 9s to 10s. Sheep in better demand; small hoggs, 8¼d to 9d; large, 8d; ewes, 6d; best animals sold readily. Calves, 7d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a larger show of sheep, but a smaller one of cattle. Values steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; secondary, 60s to 62s; Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, 9½d to 9¾d; ditto heavy weights, 9d; wedders, 8d to 9d per lb. Dead meat slow, and prices favoured buyers. Best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5d; best Canadian, 4¾d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d per lb; light pork, 56s; heavy, 42s per cwt.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Bruton, Knowles, & Co. report their sales as follows:—Ninety cows and calves with good quality and satisfactory sales. Larger supply of store cattle, with rather better demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A fair supply of beef, not overdone with butcher's beasts. Trade in best quality fat cattle firmer. Best bullock and heifer beef made 6¼d per lb, and in some instances 6¾d; cow beef 4½d. Fair trade in a moderate supply of calves, sold at 7d. An adequate supply of sheep sold fairly well, wether mutton making 8d, and ewe 7d. A good supply of pork pigs sold at 6d, while bacons made 5½d. Store pigs were dear, some making £3 5s apiece. Lambs were in fair demand. The supply was moderate. Fat lambs made 8d. Brisk trade in stores.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a very slack market, the attendance being evidently affected by the counter attraction of St. Dennis's Fair. Store heep were rather dear, and store bullocks made more than was anticipated; otherwise prices showed little variation from last week's. Fat hoggets continue to sell well, making up to 56s 6d. Pork trade good, and store pigs sold freely. Beasts made £18 to £15 5s, fat hoggets 56s to 47s, hogs 80s to 60s, jointers 45s to 30s, store pigs 28s ta 14s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good supply of fat cattle, which consisted mostly of choice yard-fed medium weights. Trade was brisk, top qualities making up to 9s per stone; grass-fed cattle sold slowly at from 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Grazing cattle: Polled two-year-olds, £12 15s to £10 12s 6d; Shorthorn steers, two year old, in good condition, £12 2s 6d to £10 10s; eighteen months, £10 5s to £8 15s; sixteen to twelve months, £8 5s to £6. Fat sheep were short, and sold freely, Suffolk hoggets to 60s. Grazing sheep were scarce and in fair demand. Larger supply of fat and store swine, which changed hands quickly at the current high rates.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good average supply of home-bred stock. Trade quiet, and prices rather irregular. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary, very flat at £14 to £16; Irish bullocks, £11 to £13; Welsh cattle, £9 to £14; calves, 10s to 30s. Sheep were in fair demand at 24s to 32s for lamb hoggs.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair number of beasts were shown, and a large number of buyers attended. Business ruled brisk. Milch cows, £16 to £20; strong beasts, £13 to £16. Average consignment af sheep, and trade was good. Lambs, 25s to 44s; drapo ewes, 30s. to 40s. each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts for the timo of year made 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Larger show of stores met a slow trado, from £6 to £18 each. An average show of fat sheep made about 8s 9d to 9s 6d. Stores 40s to 48s each. Store lambs made about 30s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 8½d; others, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4⅞d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 7½d to 7¼d; thirds, 6¾d to 7d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—A slow, heavy trade. Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; steers, 6s 6d to 7s; coarso and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s 3d to 7s 9d per stono; shoep, 5d to 9d; lambs, 8½d to 9¼d; veal, 6d to 8¼d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday. — An average supply of cattle, sheep, [and lambs, and a fair supply of calves and pigs. Trade was rather better all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; secondary, 6d; Irish beef, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¼d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a shorter supply of fat beasts, which included several stall-fed cattle, and for these there was a firm demand at 8s per stone of 14 lb.; other descriptions averaged from 7s to 7s 6d. There was a larger show of store cattle, but no improvement in values, prices ranging from £6 to £17 per head. Storo sheep were offered in short supply, and the demand was fairly good, with values firm. Lambs made from 35s to 45s per head, and breeding ewes from 45s to 55s. [Fat and store pigs were offered in average supply, and met with ready sales; fat pigs averaged 7s 3d per stone, and stores ranged from 12s to 50s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Best dairy cows made a very good trade, prices ranging from £17 to £22; newly calved heifers from £12 to £18. Trade in store beasts was not so brisk, there being few shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a big show of cows and sheep, but customers were few, and trade was dragging. Mutton was in good demand, but little trade passed in beef. Lambs 8½d to 9d, tups 7d to 7½d, hoggs 8d to 9d, heifers and bullocks 5½d to 6d, ditto best quality 6¼d, cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Abont the usual supply of stock at this market. Milch beasts changed hands at fair prices, making £14 to £18; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £4 to £7; and calves, about 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade dearer for best animals: Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in short supply, trade a little better at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade about the same. Best small, 5s 8d to 6s; large, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stonc. Ewes in average supply; trade about the same, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, very slow demand. Pig trade rather better.

Shrewsbury, Tucsday. — Good supply of store cattle, which met a fair trado. Smaller supply of sheep and pigs. Very good trade in pigs. Beef slightly better than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 8d to 9½d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score: bacons, 10s per score.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Very few milch beasts, and only a small attendance of dealers. Trade was dull. Best milch beasts, £19 to £20; rougher cattle, £15.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which made from 7s to 7s 6d per stone, and rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d, trade being slow. Young sheep and lambs made 9d per lb, ewes 7d, and tups 6d. Porker pigs 7s to 7s 6d per stone, and strong pigs 6s to 6s 6d.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attondance very large, and business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 56s per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 45s; wothers, 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d; lambs, 7½d; pigs, 9s to 38s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A moderate supply, with fair trade all round for best quality. Quotations:—Beef 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock, with trade very good, and prices higher than for several weeks. Best quality beef 7s to 7s 6d per stone, secondary qualities 6s 6d to 6s 9d, best Southdown wether and cross-breds 8½d to 9d, and in a few instances 9½d per lb; coarser sorts 7½d to 8d, ewes to 6½d, lamb 8d to 9½d, veal 8d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Only about 350 Irish store cattle, and no English stores or calving and milch cows on offer. Practically no trado. This was the last of the extra autumn fairs, and about 8,500 sheep of all classes, principally lambs, were penned. Trado all round was very slow. North country ewes, of which only a few were on offer, made 45s to 50s. A good show of Cheviots, which made 25s to 35s; a moderato supply of "turniping" sheep, which realised 40s to 50; an average offer of twice crossed sheep from the west, making from 40s to 50s; three-parts bred lambs, 34s to 42s; and half-bred lambs, which wore very dear, 27s to 34s each.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of American and Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 1,149 head being penned. All the animals, with the exception of 129 from Newport News, were from Montreal, and were landed in fair shape and condition. During the early part of the day business was somewhat slow, but latterly trade became more brisk, and a fair clearance was effected. Prices for really good qualities, which were scarce, improved slightly on recent rates, but other descriptions were without quotable alterations. Bullocks of really choice quality and useful weights and sizes were in demand at prices ranging from 52s to 54s per cwt dead weight, while secondary and middling descriptions wore easy from 50s to 51s per cwt, and inferior sorts were down to 48s per cwt. Ranchers found buyers from 40s to 45 per cwt dead weight, according to quality and condition, and bulls of prime firm make realised about 46s per cwt, rough and heavy classes changing hands at about 44s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda values remain unaltered at £11 17s. 6d for ordinary 95 per cent. and £12 7s. 6d. per ton for refined. Phosphatic and potassic fertilisers are in fair demand on the spot, and forward deliveries are attracting increased attention. The feeding stuffs trade continues one of expectancy, with little or no business passing, doubtless owing to the recent warm weather experienced for this season of the year, yet, on the whole, values are upheld by the limited offerings.

	Per ton.					
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Fine Bone Ash	3	10	0	—		
Nitrate of Soda	11	17	6	—		
East India Bone Meal	5	5	0	5	7	6
Kainit	2	2	6	2	5	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	7	6	6	10	0
Linseed Cake, American	7	12	6	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14	0	0	14	10	0
Cottonseed Cake, S.A., decorticated, soft	7	15	0	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	5	0	—		
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	15	0	—		
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	7	6	—		
Crushed Cottonseed	7	10	0	7	12	6
Maize Germ Meal	5	12	6	5	15	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	6	5	0
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	17	6	—		
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	8	6	2	10	0
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	0	4	6	per gal.		
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of	Per ton.					
D.N.S. Brand { Lime	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	18	6	2	0	0
,, finest ,,	2	2	6	—		

—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

London, Thursday. — Linseed cakes firm. London made £8 to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes firm. London made £5 2s 6d. —PRODUCE BROKERS Co.

Mark Lane, Monday. - Linseed Cakes. — Supplies of foreign have recently been on a more liberal scale, and with only a restrained demand, the market rules dull, with occasional lower prices being accepted for prompt removal. Russian continue relatively best value. East India seed pures remain unchanged. La Plata offers at 2s. 6d. more money. London made meet a slow sale and are unchanged in value. Cotton Cakes. — With some fairy heavy arrivals of Egyptian, quo-

tations are barely as strong, while in forward positions full prices are asked. English.—Owing to an increased output crushers are willing to submit to a slight reduction, and there are to-day sellers at £4 18s. 9d. to £5. Decorticated do not offer on spot, but some meal is obtainable at late rates. Rape Cakes.—Nominal. East India and Ravison unaltered. Maize Germ Meal.—Some White American in warehouse commands last week's prices, while English makes are the turn dearer. Maize Gluten Meal sells steadily at £5 15s Rice Meal.—Only a limited quantity of Rangoon is available in store, for which £4 17s 6d is asked, but there are sellers of steamer parcels afloat at £4 13s. 9d. to £4 15s. ex ship terms. Locust beans are again easier at £5 5s. for whole and £5s 10s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains attract considerable attention at the quotations of £5 5s. for ale and £4 15s. for porter.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
Linseed Cakes.		
London made .....ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 12 6	to 7 13 9
,, in bags	7 16 3	to 7 17 6
Calcutta	7 16 3	to 7 18 9
La Plata	7 15 0	to 7 16 3
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 18 9	
English	4 18 9	to 5 0 0
Bombay	4 12 6	
Decorticated...	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
Rape Cakes.		
Calcutta	5 10 0	
Ravison	5 5 0	
Maize.		
English Germ Meal	5 11 3	to 5 12 6
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon	4 17 6	
,, afloat, ex ship	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Locust Beans.		
White	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 10 0	
Dried Grains.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Driffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Evesham: 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Northtawton: 1s. Penistone: 1s 3d. Penzance: 1s 0½d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 5d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Crewe: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s to 1s 1d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s to 1s 1d per 24-oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Redruth: 1s 1d to 1s. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 4d. Stamford: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10½d to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 1d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Thursday.—Birmingham: 6 to 8. Brigg: 9 and 10. Devizes: 9 and 10. Driffield: 11 and 12. Evesham: 1s 1½d to 1s 3d per doz. Kidderminster: 10. Northawton. 10. Penistone: 8. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Plymouth: 9 and 10. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 8. Wellington (Salop): 8 and 9. Wetherby: 9.

Friday.—Altrincham: 7. Ashburton: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Barnstaple: 8 and 9. Chester: 8. Camelford: 1s 3d per doz. Crewe: 7. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per doz. Derby: 7 and 8. Helmsley: 9 and 10. Knutsford: 8. Leyburn: 9. Lincoln: 9 and 10. Lostwithiel: 12. Macclesfield: 7. Nantwich: 8 and 9. Northwich: 7 and 8. Otley: 7 and 8. Redruth: 1s 4d per doz. Runcorn: 8. St. Austell: 10. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 6 and 7. Tavistock: 7 and 8. Totnes: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8 and 9. Berwick: 1s 4d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 8. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Doncaster: 8. Grantham: 8 and 9. Howden: 8 to 10. Lancaster: 6. Malton: 9 and 10. Pontefract: 7. Retford: 2s 5d to 2s 6d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 7 and 8. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Skipton: 7 and 8. Stokesley: 8 and 9. Whitby: 9. Worcester: 8. York: 6 to 8.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—About 7 tons pitched. A moderate demand, and a fair attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 63s to 69s per cwt; fancy dairies, 70s to 72s; truckles, 68s to 72s; Derbys, 74s to 75s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, and a brisk competition. Best dairies realised up to 74s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 67s to 70s; and other dairies, 63s 6d to 66s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 61s. Cheddars made 67s to 75s; truckles, 66s to 74s; doubles, 60s to 64s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Little doing in the cheese market, buyers holding off till Kilmarnock Cheese Show, which is held on Friday next. Cheddars quoted 62s to 66s per cwt; Dunlops, 60s to 64s; Canadian dull at 64s. Best home parcels command 9d per lb retail.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Business generally brisk, and a good supply. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 2s to 6s per bushel; ditto (Cox's orange pippins), 4s to 6s 6d per half-sieve; pears, 3s 6d to 7s per half-sieve; melons, 1s to 2s each; green figs, 9d to 1s per dozen; grapes, 6d to 3s per lb; pomegranates, 7s to 9s 6d per case; peaches, 8s to 18s per dozen; cobnuts, 5s to 6s per 12 lb.; chestnuts (Ridon), 10s to 12s 6d; walnuts (Grenoble), 7s to 7s 6d per bag; tomatoes, 3s to 3s 6d; cauliflowers, 2s to 3s; cabbages, 2s 6d to 4s; collards, 2s to 3s per tally; celery, 6s to 12s; horseradish, 9s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; cucumbers, 3s to 5s; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; endive, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; turnips, 1s to 2s; carrots, 1s to 2s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; parsley, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 50s to 70s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fairly good supply and demand. Prices: Goslings, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s to 3s; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 4d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; snipe, 6d; quails, 9d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 4d to 1s 8d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 5s 6d to 7s; young grouse, 6s to 7s; old, 2s 6d to 3s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 4d to 1s 8d per brace.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were marketed, but the demand proved slow. Quotations: Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s; and British Queens, 60s. per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supplies, and a fair trade at 4d to 5d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Plenty of potatoes, moderate inquiry, late prices ruling and from 6s to 7s 6d per load of 18 stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance and a large supply of potatoes on offer, 50s to £3 being given according to quality, sample, and condition.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Good supply and a ready sale; retail, 7d per stone; wholesale, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per load.

Malton, Saturday.—Better supplies. Good potatoes make wholesale £2 5s to £2 8s per ton, 3s per bag, and 6d per stone retail.

Manchester, Saturday.—Cheshire, 5s to 7s; Lincoln, 4s to 5s; Bedford Hebrons, 4s to 5s per load.

Preston, Saturday.—An average business at 4s 6d to 5s per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Plentiful supply of sound potatoes, local grown sorts making up to 6s 6d to 7s per load; other descriptions, 5s 6d per load.

Southwark, Saturday.—During the past week the demand for really first-class potatoes has improved, and prices have hardened. The supply of second-class samples has been heavy, and prices have been difficult to maintain. Prices to-day are as follows:—Lightsoil: Up-to-dates, 55s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 55s to 65s per ton; Conquest, 55s to 60s per ton; Evergoods, 55s to 60s per ton; Edward VIIth, 55s to 60s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton; British Queens, 45s to 50s per ton; Evergoods, 50s to 55s per ton; Royal Kidneys, 45s to 55s per ton.—R. G. Brown.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—With no recovery in the demand trade again proceeded very slowly for the plentiful supplies to hand. Quotations:—Up-to-Dates, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Royal Kidneys, 50s; and British Queens, 60s per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large supply of potatoes, best samples making 5s 9d to 6s 3d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Some slight disease has shown itself locally. The crop on the whole is turning out better than was expected, having regard to the dry season. The supply was less plentiful than usual, owing to the farmers being busy "pieing" for the winter. Prices were somewhat firmer, the best sand Up-to-Dates making 45s to 50s per ton. Other sorts made less money.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a slight improvement in the tone of trade early in the week, but it did not continue, and prices remain at from 13d to 13½d per lb for Kent fleeces, and from 8d to 9d for lamb wool.

Halifax, Saturday.—Home grown wools are either barely steady in price, or have fallen practically on the week. Fine Down wools have receded for some sorts about a ½d. Lincoln wools range from 12½d to 13½d, and exhibit some weakness.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been a brisk business in medium priced copper hops at £5 to £5 15s per cwt. A few East and Mid-Kent golding growths have also chaged hands at prices ranging up £6 10s per cwt.

A Crack Ploughman.—John Baldwin, who for years has been in the service of Mr. A. E. Harrison, of Farnham Royal, near Windsor, has again won with a Howard Champion plough the Royal prize of 5 guineas given by the King for the best ploughing at the Royal South Bucks match, held at Burnham, near Slough, a few days ago.

A rat hunt, participated in by several adjoining farmers and their dogs, took place last week at Broyd's farm, Bocking, Essex. The presence of an abnormally large swarm had been detected in a barn stored with peas in sacks, and by stopping up every aperture preparations were made for slaughtering the rodents. They proved far more numerous than was anticipated, for at the end of the afternoon's sport 366 dead rats were counted. Although the dogs suffered severely from bites, it is claimed that not one of the rats escaped.

Yorkshire's Milk Supply.—As a result of a conference between the East and West Riding County Councils and the County Boroughs of Yorkshire, a systematic investigation is to be made, says the *Yorkshire Post*, into the conditions of the milk supply of the county, with the object of ascertaining definitely the extent, if any, to which it is contaminated, and the cause or source, and the nature of such contamination. The cost of the proposed investigation is not to exceed £500, and is to be shared. The examination of milk samples is to extend over a complete year, so that the effect of varying local conditions as influenced by climatic changes may be observed.

The third portion of the Meux estates, embracing an area of about 5,670 acres in North Wilts, was brought to the hammer on Tuesday in the presence of a very large company. There being no purchaser for the estate as a whole, the property was offered in several lots. After the passing of the first lot, namely, Dauntsey House, together with sundry farm lands, at £130,000, biddings began in earnest. Thus Brook Farm, an attractive and well built Manor House, and 143 acres, fell to a purchaser at £6,000; Beanhill Farm, a stone built residence, with 119 acres, sold for £4,000; the Mermaid Inn, an old-fashioned hostelry, and 108 acres, sold for £5,000; Malford Farm and 264 acres sold for £7,200; and a residential property or hunting box called The Comedy, and six acres, sold for £2,850. The remainder sales consisted of sundry lots of lands, cottages, &c., which ran to £4,045. The total of the day's realisations under the hammer amounted to upwards of £29,000.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Oct. 22, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 160, Pitt Street Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

There has seldom been a more favourable week on the farm than that which ended on Saturday. The rains were fairly frequent, but never heavy, and the soil has benefited without becoming in any degree waterlogged. The temperature was 9 degrees above the average on three days, but fell to an average at the close of the week, there being night frosts and the wind shifting to the north. If we now get a spell of medium chilly weather, with sun by day and a slight frost at night, it will enable all agricultural work to proceed with a maximum of advantage. Turnips are most susceptible to frost, and may be raised and got into cover as soon as possible now. But mangolds may be allowed to get a bit bigger before they are lifted. The threshings of barley were very large last week, and the yield per acre proves large on the threshings. The dates of sowing and securing, as revealed at the Brewers' Exhibition, are of interest, but the catalogue contained some mistakes; no barley was reaped on July 2, as stated on p. 205, or on March 8 (p. 205), and some items are left blank, whereas we understand that competitors are required to say when the corn was secured. Early dates of sowing were:—

Sept. 28, 1905, Mr. Thurmer, Semer, Suffolk.
Dec. 28, 1905, Mr. Miles, Alburgh, Norfolk.
Feb. 8, 1906, Mr. Manning, Mollands, Essex.

These encourage early sowing, for they reached a fine standard. Early harvestings were:—

July 25, 1906, Mr. Smith, Birchington, Kent.
July 30, 1906, Mr. Purser, Colnbrook, Bucks.
July 30, 1906, Earl of Ancaster, Normanton, Rutland.

The Argentine wheat crop is the subject of the following semi official telegram:—

January, 1907.....	5,000,000 tons (estimated).	
,, 1906.....	3,672,000 ,,	(yield).
,, 1905.. ...	4,202,000 ,,	(,,).
,, 1904.....	3,530,000 ,,	(,,).

Home wants are thus calculated:—1907, 1,300,000 tons; 1906, 1,200,000 tons; 1905, 1,100,000 tons; 1904, 1,000,000 tons.

Thus the surpluses indicated are:—1907, 3,700,000 tons; 1906, 2,472,000 tons; 1905, 3,102,000 tons; 1904, 2,530,000 tons.

The actual exports for 1905 were 3,130,000 tons, and for 1904 were 2,502,000 tons, or a grand total of 5,632,000 tons, where a surplus of 5,632,000 tons the same figure had been calculated. The exact figures are due to allowances of 180,000 qr. and 160,000 qr. respectively for missed exports, many of flour; but even if we rule these out (though there were unquestionably *some* exports not officially returned) the discrepancy of 345,000 qr. in two years is insignificant. The Argentine supplies for 1907 will, we fancy, prove a very fair guide to the actual quantity which will be exported.

The Italian Government inform the corn trade that during the cereal year ended August 31 last the wheat imports of Italy were 6,486,000 qr. (480 lb.). The estimated consumption of wheat in Italy for 1906 is put semi-officially at 26,000,000 qr., but, of course, there is no certainty as to this item in any country. It is rather a high figure to take, but not at all extraordinarily so.

The American visible supply of wheat is cabled as follows:—

October 27, 1906	8,232,000 qr.
,, 28, 1905	5,510,000 ,,
,, 29, 1904	5,353,000 ,,

This increased stock despite a considerable increase in the shipments argues that the recent harvest was a decidedly good one. Prices at New York indicate considerable firmness despite this state of supply. There is steady holding of wheat and flour, and increased strength in maize.

The following conversions into English figures will be found convenient. The latest New York cable is also, of course, of importance in itself:—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.		Wheat, per qr. s. d.	Maize, per qr. s. d.	Flour, per sk. s. d.
September	1 ...	29 0	21 6	20 6
,,	8 ...	28 9	21 6	20 3
,,	15 ...	28 6	21 6	20 3
,,	22 ...	28 3	21 6	20 0
,,	29 ...	28 0	21 2	20 0
October	6 ...	28 3	20 6	20 0
,,	13 ...	28 3	20 3	20 0
,,	20 ...	28 0	20 3	20 0
,,	27 ...	28 0	20 6	20 0

The wheat is red winter (480 lb.), the maize is flat corn (480 lb.), and the flour is "spring wheat clears," (280 lb.). Weights vary daily, but on Saturday 1s per qr., a wonderfully low quotation was accepted; 1s. 6d. would be a safer price to quote as a rule.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been quite noticeably smaller from last season. That the price has declined is, therefore, an especially bad sign.

This season..... 568,000 qr. at 26s. per qr.
Last ,, ... 721,000 qr. at 26s. 11d. per qr.

With reference to English wheat we must correct a very bad misprint which occurred in last week's ssue, the word "increasing" being given as "necessary." "Copy" written at the last moment must always run these risks, and no journal escapes them, but this error may have misled the reader rather awkwardly. We meant to warn farmers that foreign production of wheat appeared to be increasing at the rate of ten million quarters per annum. We may now add that we do not believe this rate will be kept up, but that it has occurred in the period from 1894 to 1905 the evidence submitted by "Dornbusch's List" is too strong to be ignored.

The sales of British barley at the statute markets since September 1 have been as follows:—

This season, 912,000 qr. at 24s. 8d. per lb.
Last season, 828,000 qr. at 24s. 2d. per qr.

The sales of British oats appear to be larger than is prudent. Not only are oats primarily needed on the farm, and not off it, but the price arranged is miserably inadequate.

This season 277,000 qr. at 16s. 4d. per qr.
Last season, 225,000 qr. at 16s. 2d. per qr.

Beans and peas fetch fairly good prices for new home crop, but rye and tares are parted with at a needless sacrifice.

Imports into the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 361,000 qr.: a fair average.
Flour, 133,000 sks.: a moderate supply.
Barley, 257,000 qr.: twice as much as usual.
Oats, 97,000 qr.: less than usual.
Maize, 234,000 qr.: more than usual.

Total imports of breadstuffs this cereal year thus compare with two preceding seasons:—

1906 7	3,636,000 qr.
1905 6	3,590,000 ,,
1904 5	3,935,000 ,,

The present year would have been in sellers' favour but for increased receipts of foreign flour.

Stocks of foreign breadstuffs in British granaries are estimated as follows:—

October 27, 1906	2,975,000 qr.
,, 28, 1905	2,830,000 ,,
,, 29, 1904	2,675,000 ,,

The Continent is buying wheat with more freedom than usual at the present moment. This helps the market, of course.

Supplies on passage include the following to 1 of wheat. It is small for the time of year, but as it shows a slight increase on the week it cannot be said to help the markets:—Californian, 250,000 qr.; American, 380,000 qr.; Russian, 235,000 qr.; Indian, 266,000 qr.; Argentine, 65,000 qr.; Australasian, 180,000 qr.; various, 40,000 qr.; total, 1,416,000 qr.; a week ago, 1,340,000 qr.

The quantity of flour on passage is 261,000 sacks. Of barley the quantity on passage is rather good:—Russian and Roumanian, 350,000 qr.; American and Californian, 150,000 qr.; Asiatic, 100,000 qr.; total, 600,000 qr.

Other supplies on passage are 165,000 qr. of oats, 815,000 qr. of maize, 90,000 qr. of linseed, and 39,000 tons of cottonseed.

Shipments from America last week were large of wheat, but only moderate of other staples, actual quantities being wheat, 421,000 qr.; barley, 9,000 qr.; oats, 3,000 qr.; maize, 210,000 qr.; linseed, 230,000 qr.; and flour, 115,000 sacks.

Argentina is still shipping maize freely, and 285,000 qr. cleared last week; but shipments of both wheat and linseed were unimportant.

Russia shipped with energy, and the latest reports of threshings in that country speak of the results exceeding earlier anticipations. The actual quantities sent off were 418,000 qr. of wheat, 330,000 qr. of barley, 104,000 qr. of oats, and 15,000 qr. of maize. Roumania was also a free shipper, and exported 292,000 qr. of wheat, 119,000 qr. of barley, 60,000 qr. of oats, and 18,000 qr. of maize. Bulgarian shipments are included in the Roumanian.

India shipped 20,000 qr. of wheat, and 39,000 qr. of linseed, while Australasia sent off 33,000 qr. of wheat and 5,000 qr. of peas.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—With a continuance of shortage in supplies, trading during the past week has been of a very strong description, and again we have to report a further hardening of prices. Hays are in very strong request, and there is keen competition for all lots, especially for the better sorts, and all qualities show an improvement in value. Clovers are very steady, and although not quotably dearer are a very firm trade at last week's full prices. Mixtures continue a very fierce trade, and for prime qualities a price equal to that of best clover is now obtainable. The straw trade remains very quiet, with the exception of oat straw, which is firm at late rates.

In the Foreign Market arrivals have been light, and importers have found a good trade for all that has been on offer. Canadian mixture still comes along very slowly, and is a very firm trade at unchanged values. In Dutch hay there is a much larger trade doing, and this class of stuff now figures as the largest imported; values here show a slight increase. French clovers are in very short supply, and quotably 5s ton dearer.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 90s per ton; good meadow hay, 80s to 87s 6d per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers, and mixtures, 65s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 25s to 26s per load; oat straw, 26s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 87s 6d per ton; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d. to 75s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 90s per ton; French large wheat straw, 50s per ton; French small wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

There has been singularly little doing in wheat cargoes of late, but, of course, no week ever passes at this great centre of business without some sales occurring. We have accordingly to note, sales of Red Kurrachee at 29s. 9d. per 492 lb., White Kurrachee at 30s. 3d. per 492 lb., Azoff at 29s. 6d. per 492 lb., Taganrog at 28s. 6d. per 492 lb., Roumanian at 28s. 3d. per 492 lb., Bulgarian at 28s. per 492 lb., Baruso at 28s. 6d. per 480 lb., and No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 9d. per 480 lb. The Baruso is high quality Argentine wheat.

Maize has been steady. A cargo of Odessa sold on Friday for 21s. per 480 lb., and one of American for January shipment for 19s. 6d. per 480 lb. For February shipment American is offered at 19s. 3d., which is the low water mark of maize prices thus far. We advise purchase at anything under 20s., for though the new American crop is a record one, demand is always surprising us by its vigour whenever maize has once touched the attractive cheapness of a halfpenny per lb (or 20s. per qr.).

A cargo of barley sold on Friday for 20s. per 400 lb. Kherson. This is a price showing 3d. advance. On Saturday a cargo of Californian made 26s., and one of Oregon 27s. 3d., both per 448 lb., of good brewing quality.

Other sales include Smyrna beans at 30s. 6d per 480 lb., and white Calcutta peas at 30s. 3d. per 504 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 1 barley (Gaza).

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 1 barley (Hull).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 238 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 4 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 28 linseed, total 278.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 295 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 9 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 51 linseed, total 389.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been a fair trade during the week in complete growths, and prices are firm. East Kents range from 6 guineas to £7, and Mids up to £6 10s.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, but inactive. Foreign sellers ask late rates, but demand poor; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 32s. No. 2 at 31s 3d, hard winter at 30s; La Plata, landed, 30s to 32s; choice white Karachi at 30s 3d. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize steady, but quiet; La Plata, ex ship, quoted at 20s 3d, 20s 6d, landed 20s 9d, 21s. Barley quiet, about late rates; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s, landed at 19s 6d. Oats dull, and in poor demand; common sorts quoted at 16s 3d to 16s 6d. Arrivals, October 20 to 23: Foreign wheat, 59,240 qr; barley, 14,610 qr; oats, 31,320 qr; maize, 14,200 qr; flour, 20,810 sacks.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, quiet at about unchanged prices. Whites quoted at 30s to 31s 6d; reds at 29s to 31s. Foreign steady but quiet. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 27s 3d to 32s 6d, landed at 30s 6d to 33s 6d; Persian landed, at 28s to 31s 6d; La Plata at 30s to 32s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 32s; No. 2 at 31s 3d. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize steadier, but not active. La Plata, ex ship, quoted at 20s 3d to 20s 6d; landed at 20s 9d to 21s. Barley dull, unchanged. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s; landed at 19s 6d. Oats slow, unchanged. Common sorts quoted at 16s 3d to 16s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—White oats, horse corn (wholesale), worth about 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade for English wheat was dull and dragging, and prices for many descriptions declined 1s per quarter. Best 65 lb white wheat made no more than 30s delivered, and reds from 27s to 29s. Barleys, too, were ill supported, and only very best samples made 30s, and some fine ones not above 29s; other corn unchanged. Magazan beans, 29s to 30s; tick beans, 31s to 33s; flat maize, 25s to 26s; round maize, 22s to 23s; black oats, 17s to 19s; white oats, 19s to 20s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s 6d per qr; barley, 25s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 29s 6d per qr; oats 17s to 19s 6d per qr; oats (old), 21s to 23s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. —Moderate attendance, with average supplies of grain. Wheat unchanged. Barley firm, especially for fine samples. Oats scarce. Wheat, 26s to 28s 6d; barley, 23s to 27s 6d; oats, 19s 6d to 21s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a good attendance, but trade was very quiet, transactions being small and few. Rather a limited supply of English wheats, which made from 10s to 11s per 186 lb delivered. Oats were again firm, and made from 18s 6d to 19s 6d per 312 lb. Beans remained at 12s per 196lb delivered. The demand for foreign wheats was dull at the following quotations:—River Plate wheat 31s to 31s 6d, Russians 29s to 32s 6d, and Kurrachees 29s 6d to 30s per 496 lb, all at Sharpness. Plate maize was unchanged at 20s 3d per 480 lb, Bessarabian 21s, both at Sharpness. Grinding barley made from 19s 3d to 19s 6d per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade and small attendance. English oats 6d dearer. Wheat in large supply. Barley, 28s to 33s; feeding ditto, 20s to 25s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheats were scarcely in so large a supply as last week, although the trade was quite as firm at 28s to 29s per qr delivered to the mills. For medium quality barley trade still rules dull, and samples found a slow sale at prices varying from 26s to 28s 6d for good ordinary samples. Maize quiet at 22s to 23s delivered. Cakes firm at £8 15s. Linseed cotton £5 10s. Millers' offals very scarce, and still relatively dear to buy compared with other feeding stuffs. Oats, 17s to 19s per qr.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair inquiry for seed wheat, at from 32s to 33s per qr; rather a slow demand by millers, and 30s 6d was about the top price. A very quiet sale for barley, at from 27s to 32s per qr. Oats ranged up to 21s, and grey peas from 29s to 30s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at full prices. 18s to 19s per 336 lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—Market quiet, with little business passing. Feeding stuffs in fair demand at recent prices, and Indian corn the turn easier. Quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per 75 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance and better trade. New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; new red ditto, 28s 6d to 9s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 20s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday. — Wheat quiet. Oats steady at last week's prices. Barley, slow trade.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade has been slightly down on the week, but oats remain firm. At this market on Saturday there was a moderate attendance. Wheat was 6d lower on the week, making 27s to 27s 6d on rail. Barley in small supply and firmer. Beans and oats in short supply and prices unchanged.

Coventry, Friday. —A moderate attendance, and spring corn maintained recent prices, as did generally other classes of grain. Quotations:—Wheat, old, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; new 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 18s 6d to 21s per 352 lb; beans, old, 12s 9d to 13s 3d; new, 11s 3d to 11s 9d; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a moderately good supply of grain, but prices remained unchanged. Quotations: Old white wheat, 31s to 32s; new, 29s to 30s; old red, 30s to 31s; new, 28s to 28s 6d; malting barley, 25s to 28s; old beans, 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The trade for wheat was slow, and prices the turn in favonr of the buyer. There is still a considerable demand for seed samples. Second-rate lots of barley are again decidedly lower in value. Oats are firm. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 18s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—There was an average attendance, but trade was not brisk in any department. English wheat was slow at last week's prices, viz., 10s 9d and 11s. New English black oats, 17s to 18s; new beans, 12s to 13s; maize, 22s 6d. Foreign wheat quiet at last week's prices. Barley trade very slow and irregular.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Thursday's fair seems to have in no way affected the attendance at the corn exchange this afternoon, both factors and farmers being well represented. A good few samples of English wheat were on offer, but trade was somewhat inactive, though last week's rates ruled; foreign very quiet, and only the best parcels held their own. Malting barley was in plentiful supply, but the bulk was scarcely of the class to attract brewers, and hung a good deal on hand, which was not the case with good serviceable parcels, which were readily secured at good prices. Some demand for grinding, which, with a quiet sale, can hardly be quoted as lower. Oats, beans, and peas practically unaltered in price.

Dublin, Friday.—White wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; red ditto, 15s to 16s 3d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 14s 9d; oats, old, 12s 6d to 13s; ditto, new, 10s 3d to 10s 9d; oatmeal, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 9s to 10s; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow. English wheat unchanged; foreign firm. Barley shade weaker. Oats unaltered. Flour steady. English wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English barley, 3s 3d to 4s; superflour, 24s to 26s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Grantham, Saturday.—An average attendance of farmers and dealers, and a fair trade was done. The supply of wheat was small, and the quotations showed no variation 27s to 28s per qr; barley, 28s to 32s for malting, and 25s to 27s for commoner sorts. There was no change in the price of peas and beans, and trade for these was about normal.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Wheat and flour quiet at late rates. Maize and corn unchanged. Barley firmer, and held for 3d per boll advance. Oats firmer for Scotch; foreign, 3d per boll dearer, with a good demand. Beans 3d per boll dearer. Pease quiet and unchanged. Bran and thirds no change from last week. Oatmeal firmer, and 6d per sack higher.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat quiet at previous prices. Flour might be similarly described. Mixed American maize in slow demand at 13s. per 280 lb; round steady at 12s to 12s 3d. Beans, barley, oats, and peas in fair request at previous currencies. Mill offals in good demand at late firm figures.

Gloucester, Saturday.—There was no change in prices of English wheat. Trade in foreign descriptions was slow at about late rates. Plate maize 3d cheaper. Flat and Bessarabian together with barley unchanged. Oats rather easier.

Hereford, Wednesday. — A fair attendance of buyers, and a full supply of all kinds of English grain. English wheats steady at recent prices. Barleys somewhat easier in tone. Maize 3d per qr. dearer. Oats steady. Wholesale quotations:—New wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 5d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat in small supply; prices unchanged for reds, at about 29s per qr, delivered at Ipswich. Barley in good supply, but the trade for medium qualities is still suffering from a rather sharp reaction in prices, which are now not very satisfactory, most of the business being done at from 26s to 30s per qr. Finer sorts in small supply, and just steady. Maize quiet, at 20s 9d for Plate. Other feeding corns firm, as also were oilcakes and milling offals.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Steady, but dull and inactive is the verdict of the past week's trade. The abnormally mild weather, liberal shipments, and lastly the advance in the bank rate, have all contributed to restrict operations, and inferior descriptions of wheat have suffered in value, fine strong sorts keep fully as dear. Common malting barley difficult to sell, fine keeps steady. Maize firm and fully 4½d per qr dearer. Beans and oats steady.

Leeds, Friday.—With good supplies of English wheat, and heavier arrivals of foreign, buyers held back in expectation of easier prices, and Tuesday's closing quotations were barely realised. Flour was also weaker, bests averaging from 27s to 28s, and seconds and thirds 22s to 26s. English malting barley was 24s to 29s, and foreign 30s to 32s. English oats, 18s to 19s; and foreign, 19s to 20s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full supplies of home-grown wheats, and a steady sale. Red wheats, 27s to 28s; white wheats, 28s to 29s per 36 stone. Barley in large supply, and trade quiet at 27s to 30s per 32 stones; new beans, 33s; ditto old, 37s to 38s per 38 stones; new oats, 19s to 21s; old, oats, 24s to 26s per 26 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Average attendance. Very small supply of wheat, which made fully last week's prices. The barley trade was quiet; best sorts were firm at late rates, but common samples experienced a dragging trade. Oats were very firm, and beans had an upward tendency. There was a good demand for feeding stuffs, and prices were firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a fair attendance of millers, but wheat meets a slow demand, and prices are again ½d lower for Winters and Australians, other grades about unchanged. Flour: a very quiet trade in both foreign and home-made brands, but no material alteration is made in quotations. Maize: Mixed is in moderate demand, and prices are steady, unchanged from last Tuesday. Plate is quiet, at ½d. decline. European grades steady, with a fair demand, and values are occasionally ½d dearer. Barley: Malting very scarce, unchanged. Feeding, with a fair trade passing at unaltered prices. Beans quiet, with a moderate demand at about recent rates. Peas very slow to move, but steadily held at last Tuesday's prices. Oats in moderate demand at last market day's prices. Oatmeal firmly held at the quotations, but difficult to sell. Oilcake—English linseed cake slow, but other grades meet a good demand at late rates. Indian meal is held at late rates, and moves fairly well thereat.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Not at all an active state of the wheat trade to-day, and the sales were not abundant, but at about former rates. Barley is slow business, and except for extensively fine parcels difficult of disposal, although grinding qualities are firm, and tend to increase cost. Oats are about the same figure as last week, also beans and peas. Winter tares are unsatisfactory this year, a rise of 5s per bushel is not easily obtained No change in other descriptions of grain, etc.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat in fair demand, but 3d lower on last week. Foreign showed no quotable change. Flour was generally dull. In Indian corn Plate was ½d dearer, and mixed American 1d. lower. Oats firm and about ½d higher. Beans and peas unchanged and steady. Bran and offals firm and unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday. — Poor attendance. Trade very slow all round. Quotations:—White and red wheat, 27s to 27s 6d; malting barley, 25s to 28s; grinding, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; new beans, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — The demand for wheat at our to-day's market was slow, prices, however, remained steady at last week's quotations. Maize slow, and in buyers favour. Beans and peas firm with a fair demand. A steady trade was done at last week's prices for oats, both Scotch and foreign. Barley for malting purposes favoured the buyer.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was quiet, and quotations were unchanged.

Northampton, Saturday. — Moderate attendance. Wheat met with a slow trade at late rates. New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s;

new beans, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply, but trade ruled slow and barely late rates maintained. Barley: the few samples of good quality quickly sold at full rates, but secondary sorts slow of sale. Oats but few offering, and made 6d per qr. advance. Beans firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat slow, and where sales were pressed rather less money had to be taken. Barley was in poor demand, but there was no change in prices. Oats and beans firm. Supply small all round.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Preston, Saturday.—There was an average attendance. Last week's quotations for farmers' wheat were obtained. Flour unaltered. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; oatmeal, per load of 240 lb, 25s to 25s 6d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—A very good attendance, with a fair amount of business at the following rates:—Wheat, 28s to 32s; barley, malting, 27s to 34s; grinding barley, 24s to 27s; oats, 16s to 21s; flour, 28s to 31s; beans, 30s to 35s. Flour had fair trade, at current prices.

Retford, Saturday.—About an average attendance, and a fair supply of all kinds of grain. Wheat in good condition made up to 27s 6d, but inferior qualities were neglected. Only the best malting barley sold freely at 27s 6d to 29s; medium kinds, 25s to 27s; grinding, 23s 6d per qr; round maize, 24s; English beans, 30s; black oats, 17s to 19s; white ditto, 20s; old oats, 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance and a steady trade. Oats show an increase of 6d per qr, and for barley 6d per qr less money had to be taken. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; wheat, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; maize, round, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market continues firm, and is supported by an advance of 6d per qr. on Plate maize. Barley, oats, and beans all firm at full prices, with an upward tendency, oats in some cases making 3d per qr advance. Small maize 6d per qr dearer. Wheats very firm, and unchanged from last week. Offals in good demand at late rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb: peas, grinding, 32s 6d to 33s; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 22s 9d to 23s; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 21s 6d to 21s 9d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; new wheat, 12s to 12s 3d per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Limited attendance of buyers, and even with a quiet trade late rates were fully upheld. Best malting barley, 31s to 32s 6d; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; beans, 28s 6d to 30s; wheat, 27s 6d to 28s; oats, 18s to 19s per qr. Peas and maize firm and unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—English wheat unchanged. Foreign wheat in very heavy shipments was easier, and was 3d to 6d down on the week. Oats dearer; maize unchanged. Malting barley also unchanged on last week's quotation.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Moderate supply of grain. Wheat rather easier. Barley and oats unchanged. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 904 qr; barley, 255 qr; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 30s to 32s; new red ditto, 29s to 29s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 30s to 34s; beans, 30s to 34s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 22s 6d to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a small supply of wheat on offer at slightly lower rates. Barley increased demand at slightly easier price, owing to the large supply on the market. Feeding stuffs about the same.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of grain at market. Wheat a slow trade at 6d reduction. Reds 27s to 28s 504 lb. Oats a firm trade at full price, 17s 6d to 19s 336 lb. Barley, 25s to 30s 448 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Good attendance and fair trade. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 11s to 11s 6d per 216 lb; English beans, old, 15s 6d; new, 12s 6d; oats, old, 13s to 14s; new, 10s to 10s 6d; Plate grown corn, 23s per 480 lb.; flat corn, 26s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large attendance, and a busy market. New white wheat, 26s to 27s; red ditto, 25s to 26s; best malting barley, 28s 6d to 31s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 16s to 18s 6d; new beans, 30s to 32s; old beans, 36s to 38s per qr; maize, 23s to 24s 6d per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—A fairly good offer of grain. The business passing in home-grown wheat favoured buyers, but oats were up 3d per qr, barley selling at the full rates of last week. Best quality English wheat, 27s 6d to 29s 6d; secondary, 26s to 27s; foreign wheat, 31s to 33s; malting barley, 27s 6d to 32s; winter barley, 22s 6d to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; grinding, foreign, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; old oats, 20s to 24s; new 16s 9d to 18s 6d; winter oats, 18s to 20s; Irish white oats, 19s to 20s; ditto black, 17s 6d to 18s; maize, round, 20s to 21s; flat, ditto, 23s; rye, 22s 6d to 26s; tares winter, 47s 6d to 53s; spring ditto, 53s to 59s; beans, 32s to 36s; vetches, 46s to 56s per bushel. Flour a quiet trade, on the basis of 22s 6d for fines. Bran, offals, and meals very firm at last week's full rates.

York, Saturday.—Not much wheat on offer, and a slow trade. Fine white wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red and mixed, 26s 6d to 27s 6d per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley dull; fine, 26s to 28s; good, 24s to 26s; ordinary, 22s to 24s per qr of 32 stone. Oats steady and firm; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stone; rye, 21s; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather seasonable. Market quiet. The strike of the river bargemen continues, and impedes traffic with the interior. Prices of wheat tend slightly in buyers' favour. Fine Holstein and Upland is offering at 27s 6d to 28s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b., duty deducted, but there is scarcely any demand for exportation. American Hard Winter, No. 1, is held 29s 3d; No. 2, at 28s to 28s 3d; 9½% Russian Ulka at 27s 6d; 79/80 Ko Bahia-Blanka-Russo, February-March, at 28s 3d to 28s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Russian rye meets some attention at the reduced prices. 9½% Odessa-Nikolajeff afloat is selling at 22s 9d to 23s, November shipments are held at 23s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Offers of Bohemian barley are getting scarcer, and owing to higher rates of river freight holders have raised their prices, good stout quality being held at 32s 6d to 34s 6d; fine parcels at 34s 6d to 37s per 448 lb; Slovakian is held at 35s to 37s 6d, Danish at 28s to 29s per 448 lb. Feeding barley in fair demand, 60s to 61s; South Russian October-November shipment is held at 18s 3d, January-March shipment at 18s 9d 19s, Danubian prompt 18s 6d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Fine white Micklenburg and Pomeranian oats are selling at 18s 9d to 19s 3d per 336 lb c.i.f. east coast of England. Mixed American maize afloat is selling at 21s, River Plate October-November at 19s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 23, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	1,718	6	2,378	4	3	...	1	7	8
Barley ...	1,893	1	2,482	8	0	...	1	6	3
Oats	2,989	3	2,639	6	4	...		17	8

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 27, 1906:—

Wheat	1,405,300	cwts.
Wheat-flour	215,900	,,
Barley	789,800	,,
Oats	216,790	,,
Maize	956,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,288,600	3,478,900	1,371,500	2,082,391
Wheat-flour	382,000	308,500	418,000	505,054
Barley ...	486,000	714,400	601,300	686,676
Oats ...	321,100	234,400	304,300	407,481
Maize ...	718,000	1,030,400	1,244,100	715,674

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1905.		Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Oct.	28	86,116	27	1	237,307	24	11	28,860	16	7
Nov.	4	80,360	27	4	231,869	24	9	28,424	16	8
,,	11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,,	18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,,	25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec.	2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,,	9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,,	16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	31,878	17	11
,,	23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,,	30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.										
Jan.	6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,,	13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,,	20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,,	27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb.	3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,,	10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,,	17	91,006	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,,	24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar.	3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,,	10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,,	17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,,	24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,,	31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April	7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,,	14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,,	21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,,	28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May	5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,,	12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,,	19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,,	26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June	2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,,	9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,,	16	18,447	30	4	282	23	0	2,979	20	2
,,	23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,,	30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July	7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,,	14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,,	21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,,	28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug.	4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,,	11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,,	18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,,	25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept.	1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,,	8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,,	15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,,	22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,,	29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct.	6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,,	13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,,	20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	33,636	16	8
,,	27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending October 27, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	54,366	25	0	177,079	26	7	30,541	17	3
1903	41,412	26	0	130,955	23	7	26,050	15	8
1904	47,947	30	6	221,044	24	2	29,704	15	10
1905	86,116	27	4	237,307	24	11	23,860	16	8
1906	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Oct. 17 to 24 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	3,300	46,000	49,300
Barley	3,700	6,900	10,600
Malt	18,606	—	18,606
Oats	3,800	59,000	62,800
Beans	1,322	1,275	2,597
Peas	1,002	2,366	3,368
Maize	—	4,702	4,703
Tares	68	137	205
Ryo	100	10	110
Dari	—	957	957
Dholl	—	328	328
Rapeseed	—	725	725
Haricots	—	6,300	6,300
Coriander	—	246	246
Flour ..... sacks ..	22,622	35,694	58,316
Middlings ... ,, ...	—	5,000	5,000
Maizemeal ... ,, ..	—	2,900	2,900

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1906.

London White Flour.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	26	0
October 8	,,	27	0
,, 26	,,	27	0

(No change since last date given.)

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	24	0
October 8	,,	24	0
,, 26	,,	24	0

(No change since last date given.)

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

Prices were fully supported to-day for English, American, Argentine, and Russian wheat, but Indian was a little cheaper to buy. Malting barley sold well, but only at a further reduction of 1s. per qr. Farmers are naturally very discontented with the prices which their representatives in London are obtaining, but they are not doing better in the shires. For feeding barley rather less money was accepted. Buyers of oats expected 3d reduction, but did not always obtain it. Maize was against sellers, as Argentina is pre-sing her yellow corn on the market. Beans and peas sold well at previous extreme rates. The extremely low price of canarysced causes it to be in request for certain feeding purposes which it is ordinarily far too dear to reach.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

October 29.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, .. (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ..	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 38
	,, (New)...	,,	31 — 37
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)...	(per 416 lb.)	23 — 25
	Feeding (New)...	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New) ..	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New) ..	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	46 — 50

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9—33	American	23—23/3
,, ,, 2	31/9—32	Argentine	21—21/3
American Red	31—31/3	Bulgarian	21/9 22/3
Argentine ...	31—31/6	Roumanian ...	21/9 22/3
Australian ...	31/6 32/6	Russian	21/9 22/3
New Zealand	30/6 31/6	Rangoon	21/3 22/3
Californian ...	31/6 32/6	North African	22/3 23/3
Blue Stem ...	31/6 32/6	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Walla Walla	30/6 31/6	Smyrna	34 — 36
Saxonka	32/6 33/6	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Azima	30/6 31/6	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Ghirka	29/6 30/6	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Indian White	30/9—31	Italian	64 — 72
,, Red	30/6 30/9	Burmese	32 — 42
Persian.....	29 — 30	Chilian	56 — 64
Turkish	28 — 29	LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29 — 30	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30 — 32	PEAS (504 lb.):	
,, (400 lb)	24 — 26	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian (400 lb)	20—20/3	Indian Green	29 — 31
Am'can (400 lb)	19/6 — 20	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24 — 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39 — 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23 — 24	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Salonica (400 lb)	21 — 23	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	White	42 — 44
Torrified (336 lb)	21 — 22	Yellow	22 — 24
MALT (336 lb.):		Sorghum	20 — 22
Californian ...	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Smyrna	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
Ouchak	33 — 36	Burmese	9 — 10
RYE (480 lb.):		Siamese.....	8 — 9
Russian	24 — 25	DARI (480 lb.):	
OATS:		Smyrna	25 — 26
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23 — 25	Indian	23 — 24
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	19— 20	Persian	21 — 22
Libau (320 lb.)	18 — 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)	
,, (304 lb.)	16—16/3	French	none
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	16—16/3	Russian	25 — 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The price of London flour was the turn dearer for credit and the turn cheaper for cash, a variation which is due to the money market and not to Mark Lane influences. America is pressing offers of new spring wheat flour at 23s. c.f.i., but buyers are not numerous. Manitoba patents make 24s. ex ship, and 23s. 9d. on passage. The price ex warehouse would be 25s. per sack. Some excellent French flour is offered at 21s. 6d. We hear that the famous French house of Corbeil is establishing a London branch, and that a well-known expert has already been appointed to the post of London manager. Hungarian flour barely maintained previous quotations. There was no change in country flour; or in the by-products of the mill, such as bran, pollard, and middlings. Value was in all these instances fully maintained, though the trade was not large.

London Flour.		s. s.
Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/6 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1...	,,	23/6 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/6 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/6 ,,
Country Flour.		s. s.
Best Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		24—24/6
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22—23/6
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21—21/6
Stone made	,,	20—20/6
Foreign Flour.		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT CHANGE FOR WHEAT AND MAIZE, WHILE BARLEY WAS AGAINST THE SELLER THROUGHOUT.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are 3d. lower, but barley, oats, and maize command Saturday's full values. Beans and peas are harder to buy. La Plata is offering to ship linseed at 3d. decline on former cables, but India is quite firm. Cottonseed, with supplies rapidly nearing us, is the turn cheaper to buy.

Business Done.

Maize.—Argentine, 29s per 480 lb, on passage; American, 17s 9d per 480 lb, December shipment.

Barley.—Roumanian, 19s 9d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Smyrna, 25s per 448 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Petersburg, 16s per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Marmora (Asia Minor), 15s 3d per 304 lb, prompt shipment.

Wheat.—Rosaria, 28s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Blue Stem, 30s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; White Walla, 29s 9d per 500 lb, on passage; Australian, 29s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Hard Manitoba, 30s per 480 lb, on passage; Northern Manitoba, 29s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Soft Winter, 28s per 480 lb, on passage; Hard Winter, 28s per 480 lb, on passage.

Linseed.—Bombay, 42s per 416 lb, April shipment; Argentine, 39s 3d per 416 lb, January shipment.

Rapeseed.—Gujerat 47s 3d per 416 lb, April shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 16s 3d per 2,240 lb, November shipment.

TERM MARKET.

Wheat futures are a little less depressed, but maize is in buyers favour.

Red American wheat,	Dec. delivery	6s 5d	per cental
,, ,,	Feb. ,,	6s 6d	,,
Mixed American Maize	Dec. ,,	4s 5d	,,
,, ...	Feb. ,,	4s 2d	,,
Yellow Argentine Maize ...	Dec. ,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ..	Feb. ,,	4s 2d	,,

A cargo of Russian barley for December delivery was sold for 19s. per 400 lb., or 4s. 9d. per cental. It will be seen that feeding barley is still dear by comparison with the exceptional cheapness of maize futures.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour. — Market continues quiet, and the tendency of prices more favourable to buyers than to sellers.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues in fair demand. No further change to report in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—The quays are congested with flour, and to make sales lower prices are taken. American mills are also more anxious for business for shipment. Grain.—Round and flat corn are in good demand, and prices are steady. Scotch oats are 3d dearer. There is also a good demand for foreign. Barley is a poor trade. Oatmeal unchanged. There is a better inquiry for oilcake. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds very firm.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

We have large arrivals of wheat. The trade is firm, and prices are maintained. Arrivals of flour are moderate, and prices are unchanged. Maize and oats all at late prices. Barley 3d to 6d per qr lower.—Coventry and Shepherd.

Milling Offals.—All offals remain scarce and firm at late prices.—John Bawcomb and Co.

Flour has met only a moderate demand to-day and prices remain steady at last week's rates, both for spot and shipment.—Medill and Sons, Ltd.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There are no material changes in oilseeds this week, but Ferozepore rapeseed is 2s dearer and English is 3s up.

Linseed. per 416 lb.	s. s.	Cottonseed. per ton.	s. s.
Dutch	47 to 49	Egyptian.....	nominal
American.....	43 to 44	Indian	109 to 111
Calcutta	42 to 43	**Sunflowerseed.**	
Bombay	43 to 45		per cwt.
Russian	41 to 42	English, Best...	16 to 17
Argentine	41 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Duluth	42 to 43	,, Black .	13 to 14
Rapeseed. per 416 lb.		**Sesame.**	per cwt.
Best English ...	65 to 67	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	51 to 53	**Hempseed.**	per 336 lb.
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	44 to 45	**Canaryseed.**	per 464 lb.
Ferozepore	47 to 48	English	48 to 55
		Spanish	78 to 80
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.	Turkish.....	40 to 42
Indian	51 to 53	Argentine	39 to 40

SEEDS

London, Monday.—There is still a fair demand for seed wheats, prices unchanged, winter tares selling freely at the late prices. Mustard firm. Peas find ready market, prices very firm. The new clover seeds are coming out a little more freely. English reds, fancy quality, 58s to 62s; fine, 54s to 58s: good, 48s to 52s. Whites, fancy, 60s to 64s; fine, 52s to 58s: good, 45s to 50s. Trefoils, 20s to 25s per cwt. In grasses, French and Irish Italian ryegrass and perennials prices unchanged, New Zealand cocksfoot attracting more buyers at the reduced prices ruling.—John Picard and Co., Ltd.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade slow. Quotations: Hay, £3 7s 6d to £3 15s per ton; straw, 2s 6d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 80s per ton; old clover hay, 85s to 90s; old meadow hay, 80s to 85s; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s per ton; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay steady at last week's figures; straw nothing doing. Quotations: New hay, 50s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Moderate supplies of new hay and straw. Prices for old hay continue firm and unchanged. Quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay, £3 10s.; secondary, £2 15s to £3; seeds, £3 10s per ton, on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5½d to 5¾d; clover, 6d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 2¾d to 3¼d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £5 to £5 5s per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 10s; new land hay, from £5 15s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 10s to £5. Wheat straw, from £1 6s to £1 9s per load; barley straw, from £1 3s to £1 4s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supply, which met with a slow sale, except for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A larger supply than last week, and a better trade done. Choice seeds, £4 to £4 5s; prime meadow hay, £3 10s to £3 17s 6d; mixture, £3 5s to £3 10s; straw, £2 15s to £3 5s.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Light arrivals were submitted, for which a fair inquiry predominated. Quotations:—Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were marketed, but the demand proved quiet. Quotations: Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—The attendance of farmers was small. There was a fair lot of potatoes on offer. No change in prices.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Smaller supply, which sold at 6s 6d to 7s per load; retail, 7d per stone.

Preston, Saturday.—There was a sharp nerease in the prices of potatoes, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb being obtained.

Retford, Saturday.—The potato market was well supplied, and there was a good trade for the best local grown at 6s to 7s per load; other kinds, 5s to 5s 6d per load.

Southwark, Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been moderate; the inquiry for best samples has been steady, with prices firm, but second-class samples have been a slow sale at last week's prices. To-day's prices are as follows:—Lightsoil: Up-to-dates, 57s 6d to 67s 6d per ton; British Queens, 55s to 65s per ton; Conquest, 55s to 60s per ton; Evergoods, 55s to 60s per ton; Edward VIIth, 55s to 60s per ton. Blackland; Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton; British Queens, 45s to 50s per ton; Evergoods, 50s to 55s per ton; Royal Kidneys, 50s to 55s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Plentiful supplies to hand again experienced slow support. Quotations:—Up-to-Dates, 60s to 75s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s; British Queens, 60s to 65s per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply of potatoes, which were a trifle dearer. Best, 6s to 6s 6d per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Steady trade and fair supply. Sand Up-to-Dates made 50s, and warps 60s per ton.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

Good prices were realised at Whitchurch Cheese Fair held on Wednesday. The pitch of Cheshire cheese was 60 tons, and there was a large attendance of buyers and a quick clearance. The following were the prices:—Best, 73s. to 78s. per cwt.; medium, 67s. to 72s.; and nothing lower than 60s. At the corresponding fair of last year the pitch was 45 tons, and prices ruled from 70s down to 55s.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 29, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 30, 1905.
Beasts	1,150	1,150	990
Sheep and Lambs	5,540	5,540	6,090
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	45	45	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 8	4 8
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 4
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 6	5 4	6 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 10; Eastern Counties, 46; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 904; Dovon, 40; Ireland, 150.

We note to-day a decrease of thirty head in the number of beasts offered for sale. The majority of the arrivals, as usual at this season of the year, were from the Midland Counties. A few choice Polled Aberdeens were readily disposed of early in the day, these making our top quotations. The Irish arrivals consisted of 112 Dublins and 38 Waterfords. These met with a good inquiry, consequently an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. was both asked and obtained. Both prime and second quality English beasts met with a good trade at higher rates. Fat butchering cows and bulls were also firmer in value, there being a better demand from both town and country buyers. A clearance will be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Oct. 30, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	4 10	to 5 0	—	
Devons	4 6	to 4 8	4 4	to 4 6
Herefords	4 6	to 4 8	4 4	to 4 6
Norfolks	—		—	
Runts	4 0	to 4 4	4 0	to 4 4
Lincolns	3 8	to 3 10	3 8	to 3 10
Irish	3 10	to 4 2	3 10	to 4 4
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 6	to 3 8	3 4	to 3 6

There was an increase of 810 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last, trade for all grades of both wethers and ewes ruling firm and steady, higher rates being both asked and obtained, in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8lb. There was a rather larger consignment of Scotch sheep, which shared in the general brightening up of trade, and made 2d. per 8 lb. advance in value. Irish descriptions were slower, nevertheless no lower rates were quoted. The brisker market which was experienced to-day is attributable to the colder weather. The supply included 300 Scotch, 635 Irish, and 662 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Oct. 30, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 2	to 6 4	5 8	to 5 10
9 st. Downs	6 0	to 6 2	5 6	to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 8	to 5 10	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 4	to 5 6	5 0	to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 6	to 4 8	4 0	to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 4	to 4 6	3 10	to 4 0
5 st Down Lambs	—		—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

Calf trade not worth noting.

No pigs offered for sale.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade remained slow for moderate supplies. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 4s 2d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Lamb, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 4s to 5s per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 962; sheep, 710; pigs, 497; horses, 3. Fat and store cattle met a better demand, and fat store sheep and pigs were in good demand; milch cows a fair trade. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; milch cows, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 600. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 377 head, and consisted of 200 from the United States and 400 from Canada. Trade was of a firm and steady nature, with an upward tendency in value. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d; seconds, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lb (sinking the offal). 578 sheep from Canada were offered for sale, and were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8 lb. On Saturday 1,690 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and were quoted at from 4s 3d to 4s 4d, ex. 4s 5d; seconds, 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle slightly less than last week; demand good for best qualities at fully late rates; middling and inferior a shade lower. Increase in the number of sheep, sor which trade was slow for all classes, and small finished sheep barely maintained late qdotations, whilst all other classes were lower. Prices: Beef, 6d to 4½d; mutton, 8½ to 6d per lb. At market, 1,490 cattle and 5,986 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—The continuance of mild weather has caused the trade for linseed cake to be flat, but there is no alteration to note in prices. Decorticated cake and meal are both dearer for arrival, but there is none on the spot. Ordinary London and Egyptian cotton cake is rather lower.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ...ex quay	—	—
American Western Linseed Cake ...ex quay	7 10 0	
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ...ex quay	—	
Russian Oil Cake ...ex quay	7 12 6	to 8 0 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ...	—	
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 15 0	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	5 0 0	
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	4 15 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 8 0	2 10 0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 4 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	2 8 0
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 3,152 bales, and from foreign ports 12,595 bales. There was 1 slow trade for bacon during last week, resulting in quotations for Irish and Danish being reduced some 3s to 4s. Irish, 58s to 60s up to 65s; Danish, 54s to 60s up to 63s; Canadian, 60s to 61s up to 63s. Butter.—There was a quiet market for butter. French, 120s to 126s; Danish, 122s to 124s; Russian, 86s to 108s; Dutch, 114s to 116s; Irish, 98s to 116s; Canadian, 90s to 116s; Victorian, 100s to 116s; New South Wales, 100s to 116s; Queensland, 100s to 118s; Argentine, 112s to 114s; American, 94s to 98s. Lard.—Lard was a firm market. Irish, 56s to 64s; American, 47s 6d to 49s 9d; Danish, 58s to 61s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market is firm, and a considerable quantity of hops have been taken by consumers. The Worcester and Hereford crop is now practically cleared up, very few hops being left in growers' hands after last Saturday's Worcester market. Mid and East Kent growths are now commanding attention.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market shows a great falling off in attendance, as so many growers have sold out. The planters to-day asked rather more money, but business was done at late rates. 1,632 pockets have been weighed this week, making the total 9,021 pockets to date. There are a few inquiries for yearling and older hops.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week we note a rather larger supply of both prime and second quality fat beasts. As usual at this season of the year, the majority of the supply arrived from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties. There was also an increase amongst the Irish arrivals, these consisting of sixty-three Dublins and fifty-seven Waterfords, for which there was a poor demand, late currencies being difficult to maintain. For all descriptions of English cattle trade ruled extremely slow, the tendency in regard to value ruling in favour of the buyer, in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. There was an average supply of fat butchering cows and bulls; these, however, met with little country demand, and consequently showed a decline in value. Trade on Thursday was practically confined to fat bulls and rough cattle, Monday's prices governing all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade taken as a whole was of a slow nature, a decline from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. being made. On Wednesday no market was held, the beasts which were withheld on Monday last having been killed and no further supplies received. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 3,887 as against 5,882 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,220 British (increase 170) and 2,667 foreign (decrease 1,865), comprising 1,981 from the United States and 686 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. and 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. ex. 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 6d. to 3s 8d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d.; 90 stone fat cows, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.

In the Sheep Market at Islington trade for both wethers and ewes was of a decidedly firmer and steadier nature, last week's values being easily maintained; especially was this so with regard to choice small wethers. Scotch descriptions shared in the general brightening up of trade and made good money; Irish sheep also showed an upward tendency in value. Lambs not worth noting or quoting. On Thursday no sheep offered for sale at Deptford. The total number of sheep and lambs penned were 4,920 as against 4,620 during the preceding week, showing an increase of 300. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 st. Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9st. Downs, 5s. 10d to 6s.; 10 st. Half-breds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 st. Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 10 st. Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 st. Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.

Calves numbered 30 and were quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 6s.

No pigs offered for sale.

Trade in the West.

The markets continue to be very heavily stocked with the more medium class of stores, for which there is but little call, and more particularly for those of a distinctly plain, not to say rough, description. The best barreners now available are only worth from about £20 to £24 per pair, as every bullock showing the least promise is being studiously kept back almost everywhere for the Christmas trade. Business is very much firmer as regards milch beasts, the best claiming the same attention that they have done of late at from £17 up to £20 or £21 apiece for deep milking heifer or useful cows, though it is only now and then that a cow touches £20. Anything at all serviceable in the way of store sheep from scarcity command a good price, business being helped materially by the rain we have had in greatly stimulating the stagnant roots, which apart from the mildew which was showing itself so badly almost everywhere, were sickening and languishing in many districts in a manner quite pitiable to see.

In fat stock all the choicer grades of Devon and cross-bred bullocks continue to meet a firm trade at fully late rates—4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per stone—the more ordinary runs selling from 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d. Calves are equally firm at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 10d. for all the riper qualities. A slightly improved trade is being experienced in mutton, especially for best Downs and cross-bred wethers or tegs, which are now making 6s. to 6s. 3d., and secondary runs 5s. 6d. to 5s. 10d.; ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. Young mutton lamb is still in demand, though hardly at ordinary lamb rates. The pig trade shows no declining tendency in any direction. Porkers, for one thing, continue to harden in value, 11s. per score for special weights being anything but an uncommon occurrence, though a more average range is from 10s. 8d. to 10s. 9d.; whilst medium weights in baconers being up to 10s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been a seasonable average. Satisfactory prices have been obtained for those of the best quality, but the secondary and inferior descriptions are still dull to sell at disappointing prices. Sheep have been shown in moderate numbers. These have met a better demand at prices from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per head over those of the preceding week. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs continue to sell at full prices. A moderate supply of store sheep, generally of an indifferent class. Demand was moderate, without change in prices, with part of the secondary descriptions left over. Rather larger supply of store cattle, for which a fairly satisfactory trade was experienced, and a good clearance effected at quite last week's prices. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s. 8d.; current, 35s. to 35s. 6d.; mutton, to 9¾d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

Dublin Market last Thursday was largely supplied with both cattle and sheep. The cattle were very much made up of coarse and half-meated beasts, well-finished bullocks and heifers being scarce. For the best grades trade was good at late rates, but for indifferent cattle trade was about as bad as it could be. A number of the rougher sort were taken by English and Irish contractors at cheap rates. The live-weight prices for prime beasts varied from 28s. to 30s. for horned, and from 31s. to 32s. per cwt. for polled. Anything below 28s. per cwt. was very irregular, and the market finished badly. Dead weight prices were: Best ox and heifer beef, 49s. to 56s. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 45s. to 47s.; and inferior from 42s. to 44s. per cwt. Irish beef is now being sold at about 4d. per lb. (dead weight), which is lower than American or Canadian beef killed at English or Scotch ports.

Compared with the previous Thursday's market, the sale of mutton was rather disappointing, prices all round giving way a little. The increase in supplies was in excess of the requirements of the home trade, and buyers from the English Midlands were few, so that several pens of good shipping hoggets remained unsold. Aged wethers, Cheviots, and choice ewes suitable to Dublin butchers suffered proportionately with shipping sheep, and the coarser qualities were neglected. Choice wether mutton sold at from 7½d. to 8d.; choice ewe, 6½d. to 7½d.; and inferior sheep from 6d. per lb. The shipping trade was of very moderate dimensions. Choice veal scarce, and in demand at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; inferior and coarse calves sold at from 4d. per lb. upwards. Milch cows of good quality upheld late values, with a good demand of from £18 up to £22 each for best; ordinary beasts made from £9 up to £16 each. In the country fairs stores are moving fairly well, but not much was done with the store cattle exposed for sale in Dublin market.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade slow, but firm. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 2d; ditto, seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 8d; extreme 5s; Dutch ditto, 4s to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts, compared with Thursday last, showed decrease of 40 head, the majority consisting of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which ruled very slow, though no quotable decline in value can be recorded. No demand for fat cattle. Top prices, fat cows, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; fat bulls, 2s 6d to 3s per 8 lb. Increase of 100 in sheep market. Trade ruled very quiet, difficulty being experienced in obtaining late rates, choice neat handy-weight wethers selling best. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—8 stone Downs, 6s to 6s 2d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s; 10 stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Calf trade slow but steady. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 6d to 3s 4d; sheep, 4s 4d to 6s. 2d.; calves, 4s 6d to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Last week's improvement in beef was maintained, best beasts making up to 4s 6d. Mutton also sold well, Down wethers up to 6s, and Kent wethers up to 5s 6d, with barrens 3 s 8d to 4s 4d. Veal and pork unchanged, latter making up to 4s 6d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers. Prime fat Devon and Galloway beasts, 6½d to 7d; ditto, Shorthorn, 5½d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5d; best fat sheep, 9d to 9¾d; 2nd ditto, 8d to 8½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6½d to 7½d; fat calves, 6½d to 7½d per lb; fat hogs, 8s to 9s; fat porkers, 10s to 11s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade slow. Calves, £5 to £5 10s; striks, £7 to £9; two-year-olds, £10 to £12; three-year-olds, £12 to £14.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; trade fair. Small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 9d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8s 4d to 8s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, and in moderate demand at about late rates. Mutton also in good supply, and moderate business was done without any appreciable change in quotations. Pigs not numerous, and trade quiet at current values.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 9d per score.—C. and T Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Best yearling bullocks sold slowly at from £8 to £9 10s per head. Lambs of good quality ranged from 28s to 32s; working lambs, 18s to 25s. Average ewe tegs were worth from 40s to 45s, but one or two special lots of registered animals made up to 55s per head; old ewes, 22s to 35s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies numbered 300 cattle. Wintering heifers, £6 10s to £10 10s; stall-feeding cattle, £12 10s to £15; polled and horned bullocks, £6 10s to £10 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Good show of stock, and a large attendance of buyers. The demand for store and dairy cattle was excellent, and prices satisfactory, sellers finding the market the best for some months past, and a good clearance was effected. Sheep trade active, and supplies large. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £23; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10; calvers, £16 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; sheep, 19s. to 37s. each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a very good attendance, and lambs and sheep of all classes met a buoyant trade at advanced rates. Fat cattle that are well finished made rather more money, but half fat cattle and fat cows met a dragging trade, and previous prices were barely maintained. There was a good supply of store cattle of all classes, but trade showed no improvement, except for a few lots of home-bred barren heifers suitable for stocking. Quotations: Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s to 4s 6d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was rather a poor market. Fat beasts sold fairly well, but grass cattle were very cheap. Mutton still dear, and in short supply.

Derby, Tuesday.—A busy market, there being a very strong demand for first quality beasts and sheep; prices very firm, and a shade higher than last week. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 8d to 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Much better supply of cattle and a good supply of sheep. Fair attendance and average trade at late rates. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £9; young stores, £5 to £7; ewes, 56s to 60s; shearlings, 50s to 52s; lambs, 43s to 45s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Very full supplies of cattle, both store and fat, were on offer at to-day's cattle market, both at Messrs. Duke and Son's sale as well as at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's, but mutton only came very sparingly to hand. A better tone pervaded business in most respects, and prices as a rule were well maintained. Milch beasts of the best class sold readily at from £16 to £20 15s. each, and others from £11 to £15, with a much slower demand for yearling heifers, £8 4s. per pair. Barreners were not a good deal sought after, and prices as a rule proved somewhat disappointing, £22 per pair being the top price for the best graziers, ranging downwards to as low as £18 for anything of a poor stamp. Fat beef included many heifers and steers of rare finish, which made from £17 10s to £22 for nice ripe steers, seconds ranging from £13 to £16 (or 11s to 11s 3d per score for the old, and 10s to 10s 6d for good class cows). The few sheep penned sold from 41s 6d to 45s

each (or 7d to 7½d per lb); lambs, 21s 6d to 28s each, with a very restricted sale.

Dublin, Thursday. — Fair trade for choice heifers and bullocks at last week's prices, with a better clearance for all sorts. There was no alteration in the value of best suitable sheep for home use. Shipping qualities met a weaker trade, middling and inferior things not so easily placed. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 28s per cwt. Mutton – Dead weight, 6½d to 8½d per lb.—CANDY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There were smaller supplies, with a quieter trade. Polled bullocks, £11 11s to £14 10s.; hornod, to £12; stirks, £9 to £10; Choviot Dinmonts, to 32s; blackfaced sheep, to 38s; blackfaced Dimmonts, to £32; best Shorthorn cows, to £26; Ayrshires, £19; Irish, £20 each.

Exeter, Friday.—Rather a larger supply of fat beasts, but trade very quiet. Steers and maiden heifers up to 11s; cows, 9s to 10s; many unsold. Large supply of sheep, principally lambs of various sizes and quality; hoggs, 8½ to 9d; large size, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d; choice lambs, 35s to 40s; plain ones, 28s to 30s; many unsold. Calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies larger and demand steady at previous values. Top Scotch cattle, 64s, current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; hoggs, light weights, 9½d to 10d; heavy weights, 9d; wedders, 8d to 8½d per lb. Dead meat quiet; best States cattle, 5½d; best Canadian, 4¾d; best Scotch, 6½d; cows, 3¾d to 4d; hoggs, 8¼d; wedders, 7½d to 7¾d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—No alteration in the beef trade. The supply was moderate, and best quality made 6½d; cow beef was low in price, making from 4d to 4½d. Calves were a small supply; trade was fairly good, veal making 7d. A short supply of sheep; trade firm. Wethers made 8d, ewes 7d. Very few fat lambs in the market; prices 8d to 8½d. Store lambs scarce and dear. Porks were a better supply and trade good. Best quality pork made 6d. Small bacons made 5½d to 5¾d, and bigger weights, 6d. Stores were scarce. The store cattle trade was dull, and the supply small.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle, nearly all of which were yard-fed of first-class quality. Trade was brisk at from 8s 9d to 8s per stone; the few grass-fed cattle forwarded sold slowly at about 7s 6d per stone. This being the third special sale of grazing cattle, there was a good entry, about 400 being penned, about half of which were Shorthorns of exceptional quality, bred in Cumberland and Westmoreland. There was a large attendance of buyers, and an improved demand at rather higher prices, the recent rains and warm weather having much improved the grass and root crops. Polled Irish two-year-olds in good condition to £12 5s; Red Poll steers, two year old, £11; Polled Scots, two years old, £14; Cumberland steers, two years old, in good condition, £13 to £11; eighteen months, £9 15s to £8 15s; Westmoreland steers, sixteen to twelve months, £8 5s to £6 7s 6d; calves, £5 5s to £5 2s 6d. A good show of dairy stock, the best animals selling freely; cows, £19; heifers, fresh calved, to £17 10s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Large consignments of home-bred stock. Trade was not so sluggish, and well-conditioned animals met a ready sale. Choice milch cows, £22 to £23; good lots, £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; bullocks, £11 to £14 10s; young stock £5 to £7; and calves, 15s to 25s. Sheep in fair demand at late rates.

Lincoln, Friday.—Dairy cows and strong beasts sold rather slowly. Milch cows, £16 to £20; strong beasts, £13 to £16. In-lamb ewes realised 60s to 61s 6d; drape ewes, 30s. to 43s; and lambs, 30s to 40s per head.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 4¾d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 8½d; wethers, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 7½d to 7¾d; thirds, 6½d to 7d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There was a larger supply, but trade was slow and prices unchanged. Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; steers, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s. Pigs met a quict trade at 6s to 7s 6d per stone. Sheep easier at 5d to 9d; and veal steady at 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Rather a short supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs, and a very short supply of calves and pigs. The prices for cattle were a little easier, and rather better for lambs and calves. A good attendance. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; Irish beef, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5½d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d o 7d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Short supply of fat beasts, and a good trade was experienced at prices averaging from 7s to 8s per stone; rather more store cattle on offer, and trade was of a dragging description throughout the day; prices ranged from £6 to £18 10s. per head. Very small supply of sheep, and trade steady at fully late rates. Lambs made from 38s to 46s per head; keeping shearlings, 50s to 55s; and breeding ewes from 50s to 60s. Fat sheep were offered in limited supply, and sold readily at 10s to 11s per stone. The supply of fat and store pigs was not equal to the brisk demand. Fat pigs averaged 7s 3d per stone, and small stores ranged from 12s to 26s per head; larger sizes, 30s to 54s. Store sows made up to £4 10s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a good show of milking beasts, and trade was fairly brisk for all kinds of stock. Best milking cows made £17 to £21; and in-calf heifers £13 to £18. Larger show of store beasts, with a moderate inquiry; strong heifers and steers fetched £10 to £14, and younger beasts £6 to £9. Calves realised 28s to 45s. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance. Choice cattle were in good demand, but sheep were in poor demand, and as the supplies were large all round trade generally was dragging. Lambs made up to 9d; best sheep to 9d; tups and ewes, 6d to 7½d; prime heifers 6¼d; others, 5d to 6d; calves, to 6½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Fair inquiry for store stock, and with a very small supply values were maintained. Milch cows of good quality made up to £18; medium ditto, £14 to £16; two-year-old steers and heifers, £9 to £10; yearlings, £5 to £7; and calves, 40s.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply. Trade rather better at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Short supply of sheep, trade dearer. Best small sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; large, 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Ewes in fair supply; trade about the same, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Better trade for store beasts. Fair supply of pigs, trade rather better: small porkers, 4s 8d to 5s; large hogs, 4s to 4s 4d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show of milch beasts, which sold fairly well at £18 to £20; smaller lots at £15 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good supply of store cattle, which met a good trade. Small number of fat cattle, but usual supplies of calves, sheep, and pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; veal, 8d to 9d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, and trade was slow at 7s to 7s 6d per stone for the best, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s to 6s 6d. Young sheep made 9d per lb, lambs 9d and 10d, ewes 7½d, and tups 6d per lb. The pig trade was very quiet, prices being 3d per stone down all round.

Thame, Tuesday.—Buyers attended in large numbers fully prepared to purchase at remunerative prices to sellers. Fat oxen made from £15 to £21 5s; fat heifers, £12 10s to £18 17s 6d; fat wethers, 46s to 60s 6d; fat ewes, 42s to 60s; fat calves, £3 5s to £5 7s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 58s; bull calves, 8s to 42s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 5s; fat sows, to £7; porkers, 30s to 48s; store pigs, 15s to 32s.

Truro, Wednesday. — Business fair, attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 52s to 56s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 43s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 5d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; large and small pigs and suckers 8s to 40s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 9d; pork, carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.— Fair supply, and trade for best. Quotations:—Beef 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 7d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of stock. Best beef made 7s 3d to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 9d to 7s per stone. Mutton made less money than last week. Southdown wether and cross-breds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Milking animals and store stock were in good request. Best quality heifers, with calves, £19 5s to £21 10s; secondary, £15 to £18 10s; cows and calves, £18 15s to £22; secondary, £13 to £17 5s; in-calf cows and heifers, £15 to £18 10s; barreners, £10 to £12 5s; yearlings heifers and steers, £7 10s to £6 10s; Down ewes, 42s to 48s; Down wethers, 45s 6d to 52s; down lambs, 32s 6d to 37s 6d; horn ewes, 45s to 50s; horn wethers, 45s to 56s; horn lambs, 33s to 38s; some slips, 10s 6d to 22s 6d; stores, 25s 6d to 42s 6d; baconers, up to 55s; sows, £4 10s to £5 2s 6d.

York, Thursday.—A large show of Irish cattle, but barely an average of English for the time of year, about 3,400 being penned altogether. Trade continues in a depressed condition, chiefly owing to the low price of beef, and trade dragged. Best three-year-olds made up to £16, and some good English cattle changed hands at £14. Although the trade was fairly good for calving and milch cows, there was a general reduction of 10s per head. The best made up to £23, and a lot of useful cows sold from £17 to £19. Close upon 10,000 sheep were penned. Best twice-crossed make up to 45s; others, 36s to 42s; Masham lambs, 26s to 33s; Holderness lambs, 36s to 40s; south country lambs met with a bad trade at 36s to 40s; north country lambs, 35s to 42s; a few good twice-crossed shearlings made up to 52s; Masham shearlings, 48 to 50s; north country ewes realised fully 3s per head less than last week's figures, 47s to 52s; Cheviot ewes, 30s to 35s; rams made about 30s each.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday—Nitrate of soda values, *i.e.*, of agricultural quality, 95 per cent. purity, are lower by 5s. per ton, and are now quoted at £11 12s. 6d., but refined, chemical quality is still held for £12 7s. 6d. Kainit meets a fair seasonable demand, and there have been recent imports at the various outports to meet the usual autumnal requirements. Phosphate manures are being sought for and there is ample choice on the market from the bone ash of 65 to 70 per cent. test, and basic slags ranging from 26 to 42 per cent, whilst of the soluble manures superphospeate of lime offers in sundry grades. There is practically no demand for oil cakes, &c., &c., and this is mainly ascribed to the mild autumn so far enabling farmers to keep their stock out of doors. Values, however, are firm, and to-day the weather in this district is much colder.

	Per ton. £	s	d	£	s	d
Fine Bone Ash	3	10	0	—		
Nitrate of Soda	11	12	6	—		
East India Bone Meal	5	2	0	5	7	6
Kainit	2	2	6	2	5	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	7	6	6	10	0
Linseed Cake, American	7	12	6	7	15	0
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14	0	0	14	10	0
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated, soft	7	15	0	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8	2	6	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Fattening Cake	6	15	0	—		
Feeding and Dairy Cake	6	7	6	—		
Crushed Cottonseed	7	10	0	7	12	6
Maize Germ Meal	5	15	0			
Corn Oil Cake	6	5	0			
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	17	6	—		
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	8	6	2	10	0
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	0	4	6	per gal.		
Treacle, feeding prime, American	0	4	9			
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	Per ton. 2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	18	6	2	0	0
,, finest ,,	2	2	6	—		

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday. Linseed Cakes.—There are still no signs of improvement in the demand, which is of an exceptionally limited description; at the same time, with comparatively small stocks and continued light shipments values remain stationary. Russian offer relatively cheaply at slightly less money. East India seed pures are unchanged. La Plata move off quietly at £8 to £8 2s. 6d. London made being in small production, and therefore not pressed on the market, maintain their price. Cotton Cake.—A fair quantity of Egyptian is available in warehouse, which, however, meets a good inquiry. English go steadily into consumption at about late rates. Decorticated still do not offer, but some meal is obtainable on spot at the same price as last week. Rape Cakes.—Nominal. East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—White American is in moderate request, while English makes are more reasonably offered. Maize Gluten Meal finds a ready sale at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held at £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d, but there are sellers of steamer parcels afloat at £4 12s 6d ex ship terms. Locust beans are unchanged at £5 5s. for whole, and £5s 10s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers Grains are now recognised as one of the cheapest foods on the market at £5 5s. for ale and £4 15s. for porter.

LINSEED CAKES.	Per ton. £	s.	d.	£	s	d
London made ... ex mill	7	17	6	to 8	0	0
Russian, in mats ...	7	10	0	to 7	12	6
,, in bags ...	7	16	3	to 7	17	6

Calcutta	7 16	3 to 7 18	9
La Plata	8 0	0 to 8 2	6
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 17	6 to 4 18	9
English	4 17	6 to 5 0	0
Bombay	4 10	0	
Decorticated	—		
„ Cottonseed Meal	7 12	6 to 7 15	0
Rape Cakes.			
Calcutta	5 10	0	
Ravison	5 5	0	
Maize.			
English Germ Meal	5 10	0 to 5 12	6
American	5 15	0 to 5 16	3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15	0	
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon	4 16	3 to 4 17	6
„ afloat, ex ship	4 12	6	
Locust Beans.			
White	5 5	0	
Kibbled	5 10	0	
Dried Grains.			
Ale	5 5	0	
Porter	4 15	0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

London, Thursday. — Linseed cakes firm. London made £8 to £8 2s 6d. Cotton cakes easier. London made £4 18s 9d. — Produce Brokers Co.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending October 27.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 11d to 1s 1d Barnstaple: 1s 2d. Berwick: 10d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Camelford: 1s. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 5d to 1s 8d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 3½d. Evesham: 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24-oz. roll. Penrith: 11d to 1s 2d. Penzance: 1s 1½d to 1s 4d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Redruth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro: 1s to 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Week ending October 27.—Altrincham: 5 and 6. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnstaple: 7 and 8. Berwick: 1s 5d per dozen. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Camelford: 1s 3d per doz. Carlisle: 7. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 6d. Devizes: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Dorchester: 1s 6d to 1s 9½d. Evesham: 1s 3d per doz. Hereford: 8 to 10. Ipswich: 9 to 11. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Lincoln: 8. Market Drayton: 7 and 8. Otley: 7 and 8. Penrith: 7 and 8. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Plymouth: 9. Redruth: 1s 5d per doz. Retford: 2s 6d to 2s 8d per score. Ripon: 7. Scarborough: 7. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Spalding: 9 and 10. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 6 and 7. Totnes: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per doz. Truro: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 7 and 8. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score. York: 6 and 8.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of cheese were fair, not a few of the parcels coming on from the Kilmarnock Cheese Show. The demand was quiet. Cheddars were quoted 64s to 68s per cwt, and Dunlops 60s to 66s. Canadians are in quiet demand.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, and a brisk competition. Best dairies realised up to 77s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 68s 6d to 70s; and other dairies, 66s to 67s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 62s. Cheddars made 68s to 75s; truckles, 67s 6d to 72s 6d; doubles, 62s to 66s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance of buyers and a good demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 60s to 69s per cwt; fancy dairies, 70s to 72s; truckles, 68s to 72s; Derbys, 74s.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s. ½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Factors continue to offer from 13d to 13½d for Kent fleeces, and from 8d to 9d per lb for lamb wool; but most of the holders are awaiting an advance on these figures.

Halifax, Saturday.—Home grown wools are not fully firm, though prices here are below those current in the country. Lincoln hoggs are weaker at 13½d, and wethers at 12d. Selected Irish hoggs, too, are no more than 13¾d, with wethers at 13d; and best North hoggs are quoted at 14½d, with wethers at 13½d. Other sorts are about steady.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of fruit and vegetables met with a steady inquiry. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 3s 6d; melons, 1s to 2s each; medlars, 6s to 7s per crate; peaches, 9s to 20s per dozen; cobnuts, 5s to 6s per 12 lb; chestnuts (Kidon), 10s to 18s per bag; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s 6d to 7s 6d per bag; pears, 4s to 7s per half-sieve; tomatoes, 3s to 4s; onions, 4s to 5s per cwt; eschallots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; spinach, 3s to 3s 6d per bushel; cauliflowers, 3s to 3s 6d; cabbages, 3s to 4s per tally; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s to 2s; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; parsley, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; endive, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; cucumbers, 7s to 9s per flat; horseradish, 9s to 15s; celery, 6s to 12s per dozen rolls; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; potatoes, 55s to 70s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Better demand for a fair supply. Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 3d to 2s; goslings, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; snipe, 4d to 6d; quails, 9d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s to 6s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 5s to 5s 6d; young grouse, 9s to 6s 6d; old, 2s 6d; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per brace.

Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at the Crown Hotel, Brayford, Lincoln, on Friday, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Colin Campbell. Others present were Messrs. E. W. Howard, G. A. Bellwood, J. Bartholomew, J. Brocklebank, W. E. Brocklebank, W. T. Brown, J. H. Copping, J. T. Glew, G. Powell, G. H. Turner, J. C. Smalley, W. Searby, F. F. Nicholson, and C. H. Turner, with the secretary, Mr. H. W. Palmer.

The question of a Motor Taxation Bill, which had been adjourned from the last meeting, was brought forward. The chairman said he brought the matter up at the last meeting to see if they approved of this Bill, which was going to be brought before Parliament, and he thought roughly the lines of it were that they should put on a tax of £1 per horse power, and that the proceeds should be paid into the Imperial Exchequer.

A member thought that motors used for trade purposes should be absolutely exempt.

Mr. Howard said now there were many roads that received motor traffic as well as main roads. He thought those motors which were up to 20 horse-power should pay half a sovereign, and those over a sovereign.

The Chairman expressed the opinion that it should be left over until the Bill was brought forward in Parliament. It was eventually decided, however, that the matter should be left over until the next meeting, and then they would probably know what the Government were going to do.

With regard to the sheep dipping question, it was decided that the matter be left over until the next meeting.

With regard to the warble fly, the Grimsby branch forwarded a resolution that a Bill was urgently needed to make compulsory the treatment of all cattle in the United Kingdom attacked by the warble fly, and that the affected cattle be treated by extracting the bots or by covering the opening of the warble with grease or mercurial ointment as laid down by the Board of Agriculture leaflet. The resolution was supported.

A letter was read from the Board of Agriculture concerning the Land Tenure Bill, with regard to the appointment of a single arbitrator. It stated that there was nothing to prevent matters in dispute being settled by agreement between two valuers or other persons representing the landlord and the tenant, and it was only in case they disagreed that there would be arbitration. The arbitrators could be selected by the agreement of the parties, and only in default of agreement was an arbitrator to be appointed by the Board.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has remained without change at about ale 20s, porter 17s, distillers' 35s, and pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains, ale, 102s 6d; mixed 92s 6d; distillers, 110s per ton on rail London; also ale, 92s 6d, and mixed 85s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Oat feed, 80s; Rangoon rice meal, 98s 9d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 100s per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—Hamlyn and Co., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

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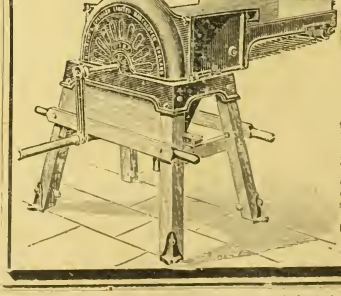

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Oct. 29, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 150, Pitt Street Sydney; 262, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 8, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The mild character of October was quite remarkable, and the mean temperature of twenty-seven days out of thirty-one exceeded the average, as the rainfall was larger than usual, though without any severe flooding or torrential downpours, the pastures made wonderful recovery from September drought, which with the exception of a few counties, was very partial after all. Derby had only half an average rainfall in September, and is still wanting more rain, but a very little to the N.W. in Lancashire rainfall has now been rather beyond requirements. Wheat sowing has made steady progress, the land has seldom become unworkable even in the stiffest clays. There have been considerable sowings of tares, winter beans, and winter oats, the good price made for white and grey winter oats, and their good weight leads to increased cultivation. They come in very handy in late July and in August, and sell very readily where the farmer is willing to part with them. Our weather record is as follows:—

1906.	Rain. inches.	Sunshine. hours.	Warmth. degrees.
January	3·70	30	46·0
February	3·75	80	45·0
March	1·08	85	47 0
April	·70	201	48·0
May	1·71	121	49·0
June	3·06	225	57·5
July	1·01	261	62·5
August	·90	222	65·0
September	1·60	161	59·0
October	3 33	80	54·0

The average temperature of October for the last fifty years of the old century was 50·2 deg., so that the past month has stored the soil with a total of 117 deg. reserve warmth. This should mean the pastures holding out and affording a bite for the stock later than usual into the present month, perhaps to its very close. We cannot, under these circumstances, expect firm or brisk markets for dry feeding stuffs, and holders of oats, maize, feeding barley, and so forth will be fortunate if they keep present prices into December. The supplies of English wheat being moderate and quality high, that staple should harden, whatever the weather may be.

London averages have shown the following changes during the last five weeks:—

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
October 3	27 8	27 2	17 8
,, 10	27 8	26 8	17 2
,, 17	27 10	24 11	17 8
,, 24	27 8	26 3	17 8
,, 31	27 8	25 1	17 11
Oct. average	27 8½	26 0	17 7½
Sept. average	27 5	26 7	17 2

Wheat and oats, therefore, have recovered a little from September depression, but barley has receded in net value. The samples have undoubtedly included an unusually large proportion of harsh and steely grain, though the averrge weight is good.

October averages for the country markets thus compare with those of September:—

1906.	October. s.	d.	September. s.	d.
Wheat	26	5	26	1
Barley	25	0	24	5
Oats	16	7	16	2

Country trade, relatively speaking, is healthier than metropolitan, for all three staples show some advance. The depression in September, however, was much deeper than that in London, and therefore there was more room for recovery. None the less, the achievement of a rise is a good thing in itself.

The sales of wheat at the statute markets since September 1 have been moderate, but the price has declined all the same. This is indeed a depressing state of affairs.

This season ... 638,000 qr. at 26s. 1d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 807,000 ,, ,, 26s. 11d. ,,

Barley is a little dearer from a year ago despite increased offerings. But while the mean price remains below five and twenty shillings quotations for barley can never be regarded as satisfactory.

This season ... 1,146,000 qr. at 24s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,065,000 ,, ,, 24s. 3d. ,,

Oats have been freely offered; the price, however, is unsatisfactory, and farmers have only to show a little patience in order to obtain a much more reasonable quotation.

This season, 306,000 qr. at 16s. 5d. per qr.
Last season, 250,000 qr. at 16s. 3d. per qr.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 328,000 qr.: moderate.
Flour, 86,400 qr.: small.
Barley, 222,000 qr.: very heavy.
Oats, 80,000 qr: very light.
Maize, 224,000 qr.: more than usual.

Breadstuffs imports for the period September 1 to October 31 were:—

Wheat	3,619,000 qr.
Flour	924,000 ,,
Total	4,543,000 qr.
Last season	4,520,000 qr.

The course of prices in America is of so much practical importance, that the following conversions will be found worth study from the opening of the season;—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.	Wheat, per qr. s.	d.	Maize, per qr. s.	d.	Flour, per sk. s.	d.
September 1	29	0	21	6	20	6
,, 8	28	9	21	6	20	3
,, 15	28	6	21	6	20	3
,, 22	28	3	21	6	20	0
,, 29	28	0	21	2	20	0
October 6	28	3	20	6	20	0
,, 13	28	3	20	3	20	0
,, 20	28	0	20	3	20	0
,, 27	28	0	20	6	20	0
November 3	29	3	20	8	20	0

The wheat is red winter (480 lb.), the maize is flat corn (480 lb.), and the flour is "spring wheat clears" (280 lb.). Freights vary daily, but on Saturday 1s. 6d. per qr. was quoted, or 1s. per qr. less than from Norwich to London. These very low freights are a danger to the British markets, but wheat will be seen to have risen 1s. 3d. since the end of October; in fact, New York is just now decidedly bullish. The visible supply in America included on 3rd inst. 8,850,000 qr. of wheat, but in these figures the American estimators with a generosity for which little Englanders will be grateful include the two Canadas with Manitoba as American States. The Dominion authorities should surely see their way to giving us independent weekly returns.

Supplies of wheat on passage on November 1 were 1,600,000 qr., including flour as wheat, and thus compare with two previous years:—

November 1, 1906	1,600,000 qr.
,, 1905	1,675,000 ,,
,, 1904	2,680,000 ,,

The stocks of breadstuffs in the United Kingdom irrespective of farmers' holdings were as follows:—

November 1, 1906	2,800,000 qr.
,, 1905	2,575,000 ,,
,, 1904	2,700,000 ,,

There is nothing in these figures to depress the trade.

Stocks abroad in other countries than America are not very easily ascertained, but the following figures are known in the case of wheat.

Argentina, 135,000 qr.; Russia, 2,400,000 qr.; France, 300,000 qr.; Germany, 280,000.

These stocks are inclusive of flour, but relate entirely to merchants holdings, and include no grain in the hands of actual growers.

Of maize, there were on November 1, 795,000 qr. on passage against 490,000 qr. a year ago. The supply is largely Argentine. Of barley, the supply on passage is:—

Russian, 190,000 qr.; American, 19,000 qr.; Californian, 90,000 qr.; Asiatic, 100,000 qr.; total, 399,000 qr.

America last week shipped 340,000 qr. of wheat, 25,000 qr. of barley, 8,000 qr. of oats, 15,000 qr. of linseed, 122,000 qr. of maize, and 131,000 sacks of flour. The wheat shipments alone came up to anticipation.

The Argentine shipments of the past week have been 105,000 qr. of wheat, 245,000 qr. of maize, and 45,000 qr. of linseed, and they exceed an average exportation for the time of year.

Russia sent off 425,000 qr. of wheat, 300,000 qr. of barley, 103,000 qr. of oats, and 1,500 qr. of maize. The telegram which brought these figures, however, brought with it the news of the Volga, Dnieper, and Don being frozen, and of the inland navigation in general closing a fortnight earlier than usual.

Roumania shipped 200,000 qr. of wheat, 90,000 qr. of rye, 146,000 qr. of barley, 49,000 qr. of oats, and 3,000 qr. of maize, shipments which argue good all-round surpluses. Maize, of course, is old crop; the new is only just being husked,, and will not be available for shipment for a couple of months.

Australasia shipped 10,000 qr., India 109,000 qr. of wheat. From India 21,000 qr. of linseed were exported, and Persia sent off 15,000 qr. of barley.

THE BALTIC.

There has been a contest of influences in the wheat cargo trade, the naturally weakening effect of the mild weather and small demand for consumption in Great Britain being at issue with the advance in America, where there is a growing tendency to hold the harvest. Friday and Saturday saw the firmer influence getting the upper hand. Recorded sales include White Kurrachee wheat at 30s. per 492 lb., Red Kurrachee at 29s. 6d., Rosario at 29s. per 480 lb., New South Wales at 29s. 3d. per 48s lb., Odessa Ghirka at 27s. 6d. per 492 lb., and the finest Azima at 29s. 6d. per 492 lb. These two last prices are very low. No. 2 Hard Winter American on Saturday made 28s. 6d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes have made 20s. for Argentine, and the same price for Danubian on passage, while 19s. 6d. is paid for American new crop for fair shipment. All maize sales are per 480 lb.

Barley is 3d. cheaper. A cargo of Persian has been sold at 17s. 6d. per 400 lb., a cargo of Odessa at 18s. 9d. per 400 lb., while 26s. 6d. per 448 lb. has been accepted for Californian, and 27s. 3d. per 448 lb. for Oregon.

Oats are firm, with 17s. 3d. per 320 lb. paid for Canadian and 15s. 6d. per 304 lb. for Libau. Other cargo sales include Calcutta linseed at 43s. 3d. per 410 lb., Egyptian cottonseed at £7 2s. 6d. per ton, and Turkish canaryseed at 40s. per 464 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Melbourne, 1 Tacoma).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were nil.

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 240 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 4 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 28 linseed, total 280.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 296 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 9 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 51 linseed, total 390.

LONDON HAY MARKET.

Saturday.—Much better supplies came to hand at earlier part of week, and in consequence, with a slight falling off in the demand, our market showed a weakening tendency, although prices were quotably unchanged. At end of week, however, with the wet weather preventing senders cutting out at stacks, the arrivals have been shorter, and trade finishes up steady at last week's full rates. Clovers are not in over strong demand, and although old prices are maintained, salesmen have found difficulty in effecting clearances at full values.

The straw trade is very quiet, with good supplies of all sorts, which are being sold at unchanged rates. In the foreign market supplies have been short, and all qualities on offer have found a fairly good trade, the principal demand for the moment being for Dutch hay, in which importers are doing a large business. Canadian mixture remains steady, the arrivals of this quality being exceedingly short.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 90s per ton; good meadow hay, 80s to 87s 6d per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers, and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 25s per load; oat straw, 26s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 87s 6d per ton; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d. to 75s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 90s per ton; French large wheat straw, 50s per ton; French small wheat straw, 40s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet late rates. Whites quoted at 29s 6d, 31s 6d; reds at 29s, 31s. Foreign held at Monday's prices, but demand limited. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 31s. 9d; No. 2 at 31s; hard winter at 30s; No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 32s; choice white Karachi landed at 30s 3d; reds at 30s; South Russian, ex ship, at 27s 3d, 32s 6d; landed at 30s 6d, 33s 6d. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize firm, but not active. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 6d, landed at 22s; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 3d, 20s 4½d; landed at 20s 6d, 20s 9d. Barley steady, but quiet. Odessa-Nicolaieff-Kherson quoted, ex ship, at 18s 9d; landed at 19s 3d. Oats slow, unchanged. Common sorts quoted at 16s 3d, 16s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, unchanged prices. Foreign firmly held, at full rates to a slight advance for American, but trade not over active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 31s 9d to 32s; No. 2 at 31s to 31s 3d; hard winter at 30s to 30s 3d; No. 1 hard Manitobas, at 32s to 32s 3d; choice white Karachi, ex quay, at 30s 3d to 30s 6d; reds, at 30s. Flour slow, unchanged. Minnesota patents quoted at 24s 3d; bakers at 19s 6d. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 6d, landed at 22s. Barley quiet, at unchanged prices. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 9d, landed at 19s 3d; Danubian, ex ship, at 18s 9d to 23s; Persian, at 17s 9d; Smyrna, ex quay, at 20s to 25s. Oats steadier, with rather more inquiry, at fully late rates. Common sorts quoted at 16s 3d to 16s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A fair show of samples. White oats (horse corn) wholesale, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was very quiet, and for most things prices were lower. No wheat samples went beyond 30s unless of very exceptional quality. Malting barley of medium quality made 26s to 28s, and the very best did not exceed 30s. Mazagan beans, at 28s to 30s, were 1s down, and flat maize fell to 25s. Round maize and peas were nominally unaltered as to price, with a poor demand. Milling offals, 5s per ton higher.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 25s to 28s per qr; beans (new), 28s 6d to 29s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr; peas, 28s to 33s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. —Moderate attendance. Smaller supplies of all kinds of grain. Wheat and oats unchanged. Barley firm, and fully maintained last week's prices. Wheat, 26s to 28s; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 19s to 21s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Rather a limited attendance. Trade quietly steady, with a better inquiry. Foreign wheats show no change in value from last market day. English wheats were not quite so plentiful, and made rather better prices, values ranging from 10s 3d to 11s per 186 lb delivered. English oats and beans a slow sale at late rates. Grinding barley was 3d lower at 19s 3d per 400 lb Sharpness. Bessarabian maize 21s 3d per 480 lb, and Plate 20s 3d per qr at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Very little business doing and small attendance. Prices remain as last week. Large supply of wheat, which was 6s per qr cheaper. Slow demand. Barley, 28s to 33s; feeding ditto, 24s to 26s; oats, English, 18s to 20s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on market to-day. English wheat in rather small supply at last week's prices. Foreign wheat firm, occasionally 3d dearer. Maize, barley, and oats unchanged. Flour trade slow at recent rates, continued mild weather seeming to check consumption.—Grace Brothers.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was weak at last week's prices. Reds 27s 6d to 28s, rivets 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Barley in good average supply, but demand bad at 25s 6d to 29s per qr; finer samples were not plentiful, and sold at 30s to 33s per qr. Oats the turn dearer, at 18s 6d to 19s 6d per qr. Beans steady, at 30s to 30s 6d per qr. Maize unchanged, at 22s to 22s 3d per qr.

Cambridge, Saturday. — The wheat trade during the week has been steady, with no alteration in value. There was a short supply, which sold readily at last week's full rates. Prices ranged from 27s 6d to 28s per 504 lbs on rail. Barley a little smaller supply; trade very dull. Oats and beans a moderate supply, no alteration in prices; oats 18s and 19s, beans 30s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Maltsters have apparently supplied present requirements, and business is very slow. The choicest barleys are still quoted up to 32s, but most of the sales are at from 27s to 29s. Millers' wheat has declined 6d per qr on the week, but for seed purposes there is a good demand at from 32s to 33s. Grey peas, 29s to 30s per qr.

Chester, Saturday. — Market firm for all descriptions of home grain. Supplies somewhat limited, and the small business transacted was at full rates. Feeding stuffs continue in good demand at unchanged figures. Quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per 75 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair attendance and no change in prices. New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; new red ditto, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 20s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat steady, 28s 3d. Oats, rather more offering at last week's prices. Barley steady.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—The attendance was a fair one, and a moderate trade was done at about previous week's rates—Wheat, old, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; new 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 16s to 21s per 352 lb; beans, old, 12s 9d to 13s 3d; new, 11s 6d to 12s; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A scanty supply of wheat, which was unaltered in value. There was no change in the price of spring corn. Old white wheat, 31s to 32s; new, 29s to 30s; old red, 30s to 31s; new, 28s to 28s 6d; malting barley, 25s to 28s; old beans, 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Wheat was again a shade the turn in favour of the buyer, and great difficulty experienced in obtaining more than 15s per sack for the best 13 score lots. There seemed to be a poor demand for barley, and very low prices had to be accepted. Oats continued very firm in value, and good 40 lb. lots were worth 19s per qr. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 18s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good attendance of farmers and millers. Poor supply of English wheat, and steady trade at last week's prices; top value, 10s 9d per load of three bushels. Foreign wheat steady, and last week's prices repeated. Barley trade slow. Fine samples scarce, and made 30s per qr; medium almost unsaleable, and from 23s to 25s. Oats firm, but only a poor supply. Maize 3d per qr dearer.

Dorchester, Saturday.—To-day's corn market was fairly well attended, and there was a good offer of most kinds of grain. The wheat trade was even more inactive than it has been of late, and the general trend of business was to lower values, but there was no great amount of business passing even at the prices ruling; foreign was also very quiet, at prices nominally unaltered from those lately current. For the few good samples of malting barley on offer there was a quick demand at late rates, but the more ordinary runs were very difficult to sell; grinding descriptions about held its own, with a steady sale at the price. Although there is no great demand for feeding stuffs now that grass is again plentiful, still prices keep firm without any indication of values lessening.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 14s 9d; grinding ditto, 13s to 14s; white oats, 12s 6d to 13s; oatmeal, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; firsts, 9s to 10s; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 5s 6d to 6s.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Wheat and flour quiet at late rates. Maize keeps steady, with good business passing. Corn easier, and 3d per boll reduction on the week. Barley in buyers' favour, with a slow demand. Beans unchanged for feeding, but grinding 3d per boll dearer. Pease steady. Oats unaltered for home, but more money asked for foreign. Bran and thirds unchanged. Oatmeal quietly steady at late rates.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market firm. Manitoban spring wheat advanced 1½d; however, millers will not give the rise, as they find the sale of flour keeps disappointing. Millers are not over well supplied ahead. Flour dull and pressed for sale. Indian corn steady at 12s 9d per 280 lb; round maize in improved request at 12s. Feeding stuffs keep firm, although the sale is of a retail character.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat in small supply, and values firm. Foreign a steady trade without alteration in price. Plate maize 3d dearer, and Bessarabian unchanged. Barley and oats unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—Owing to the heavy rains the supplies of grain were only limited. Wheat was slow at last week's prices, whilst a steady inquiry prevailed in other departments. Barley, 24s to 32s; peas, 50s to 60s; beans, 29s to 30s; oats, 17s to 20s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a plentiful supply of all kinds of English grain, and the tendency generally was in the buyers' favour. Barleys were especially pressed, but the demand showed much less action than last week. Oats moved steadily. Beans unchanged. Maize a turn in sellers' favour. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 5d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in fair supply, and a quiet trade at unaltered prices. Reds or whites up to 29s per 504 lbs, delivered at Ipswich; rivets, 28s to 28s 6d. Barley in good average supply, but trade remains depressed, with local malsters obtaining the medium runs freely, at 26s to 30s per qr. The few finer samples were nominally unchanged. Oats the turn dearer, at 19s to 20s per qr, delivered. Beans steady, at 30s to 31s; old corn up to 34s per qr. Maize: Plate unchanged, at 20s 9d to 21s per qr.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There has been no special feature in the trade during the past week, the demand has ruled quiet at full prices for all approved qualities of wheat. With stronger foreign advices the tone to-day is firmer, and holders occasionally obtain a slight advance on late rates. Malting barley remains rather slow for all but finest descriptions. Feeding stuffs steady and unchanged.

Leeds, Friday. — With continued liberal supplies of both English and foreign wheat, and cheering advices of the harvest in Canada, prices were a shade below Tuesday, except for choice Americans, which made from 30s to 33s. Medium qualities of flour, at prices ranging from 24s to 26s, were in good demand. There was no change in beans, peas, oats, barley, or maize.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance, with full supplies of home-grown wheats. There was more life in the trade, and prices had a firmer tendency. Red wheats, 27s to 28s; white wheats, 28s to 29s per 36 stone. Barley in large supply, and sold more freely at 27s to 30s per 32 stone; beans, new, 33s; old, 37s to 38s per 38 stone; new oats, 19s to 21s; old, 24s to 26s per 26 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small show of English wheat, which met with a slow trade at late rates. Common barleys rather easier; no trade in best samples owing to the bad light. Oats firm at late rates. Beans slow and unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has had only a moderate attendance, and wheat is steady with a fair trade at last market day's full prices, except Manitobas, which are the turn lower. Flour: A very quiet trade at about recent rates for both foreign and English-made brands. Maize: Mixed is steady, with a moderate business at unchanged prices. Plate meets a fair inquiry, but values are ½d lower. European grades quiet, unchanged. Barley: Malting steady. Feeding meets a good inquiry, and last week's prices are repeated. Beans slow at recent currencies. Peas firm but inactive, without change in prices. Oats in rather quieter demand, but unchanged in values. Oatmeal continues firm but inactive. Oilcake quiet for foreign, but in good demand for English cakes, except linseed, which is too dear. Indian meal unchanged in price, but moving in less liberal quantities.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat was slow, and occasionally 3d per qr. lower. Foreign was also quiet, and generally unchanged. Flour dull and unchanged. English oats fully ½d higher. Beans, peas, and barley unchanged. Offals scarce, and holders maintain full rates.

Newark, Wednesday. — There was a fair attendance; slow trade all round, owing largely to the rise in Bank interest. Quotations:—White and red wheat, 27s to 27s 6d; malting barley, 25s to 28s; grinding, 22s to 24s; white oats, 18s 6d to 19s; black ditto, 17s to 18s; new beans, 29s to 30s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A moderate attendance at our to-day's market, wheat steadily held for last week's prices. Maize firm at last week's prices: demand, however, was not brisk. Local and foreign oats remain firm, and a fair business was done at a slight advance. Beans dearer; peas unchanged. Fine barleys made fully last week's prices; common sorts, however, were very difficult to dispose of at a reduction.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Newport, Wednesday. — Flour and wheat were again unchanged. Barley and maize firm. Oats about the same as last week.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Wheat, small supply, steady trade at late rates. A fair trade in good barely at full rates; secondary sorts a shade easier. Oats and beans firm.—Robert Hubble.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was a poor attend-

ance, and prices were quotably unaltered. Oats were in limited supply, and prices remain firm.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a small supply of wheat, but the demand was slow, and the tendency was towards lower prices. Malting barley 6d cheaper. Oats made fully as much money, not many offering.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Preston, Saturday.—A fair attendance, but little business was done in farmers' wheat and other grain. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, but business ruled somewhat quiet. Prices: Wheat, 28s to 32s; malting barley, 26s to 34s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; new oats, 17s to 20s; old oats, 20s to 24s; beans, 31s to 36s; peas and flour at last week's rates.

Retford, Saturday.—No improvement in the wheat trade. The best of the locally grown samples dry and in good condition made 27s 6d, and other kinds 27s per qr. Moderate demand for malting barley at 24s 6d to 29s, and grinding 24s per qr. Still no flat maize on the market; round sold slowly at 24s. English beans 30s 6d, black oats 17s, white ditto 18s 6d, and winter oats 18s to 19s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Business was dull, few samples being on offer. Maize shows a downward tendency. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; ditto, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; maize, round, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The market continues without animation, the business done being very limited, though prices are quoted firm at last week's rates. Maize generally unchanged, but with an inclination to advance. Beans, oats, and barley firm. Peas 6d per qr dearer. Millers' offals firm at late prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 29s to 29s 6d; ditto, red, new, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb: peas, grinding, 33s 3d to 33s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 22s 9d to 23s; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 21s 6d to 21s 9d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 11s 6d to 12s per 225 lb; old oats, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225 lb; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a very much smaller supply of maize and barley at prices unaltered from last week. English wheat at 27s to 27s 6d on line. Foreign wheat steady and unchanged from last week. Oats 3d and 6d dearer; maize steady and slightly dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering at this day's market, and the value of wheat, barley, and oats remains nominally unaltered. Arrivals coastwise:—Barley, 1,000 qr; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 42s to 50s; maize, 22s to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—The market was very much the same as last week. A small supply of wheat made about the same as last week. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat meets a slow trade, late rates barely maintained. Reds, 27s to 27s 6d 504 lb. Oats 6d dearer, 18s to 19s 336 lb. Barley, 25s to 30s 448 lb. Beans, 30s to 32s 532 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was only a moderate attendance, and trade was quiet at last week's prices. Quotations:—New wheat, 11s to 11s 6d per 216 lb; flat corn, 26s.; English beans, old, 15s 6d; new, 12s 6d; oats, old, 13s to 14s; new, 15s to 15s 6d.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large attendance, and a large show of grain. Fair demand for wheat at late rates. Large show of barley. Good demand for best samples; secondary qualities slow, at barely last week's prices. Oats scarce. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red ditto, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s to 27s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new ditto, 17s 6d to 19s; old black oats, 22s to 23s; new ditto, 17s to 18s; maize, 23s to 25s; old beans, 37s to 38s; new beans, 30s to 34s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Very little wheat on offer, and prices have undergone no change. Fine white, 27s to 28s; red and mixed, 26s to 27s 6d per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley slow; fine, 26s to 28s; good, 24s to 26s; feeding, 22s to 24s per qr of 32 stone. Oats firm, and not many on offer; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stone; rye, 21s to 22s; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather has been all that could be desired for sowing operations, and the fields are in a good condition. There is a fair demand for all articles near at hand, while forward deliveries are less inquired after. Farmers being still busy in the fields, supplies are coming forward sparingly. Fine Holstein and Upland wheat held at 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b., duty deducted. American Hard Winter, No. 2, afloat, is offering at 28s 3d; 80 ko River Plate, February-March, at 28s 6d; Australian on the spot, 30s 3d per 480 lb., c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye firmer, though not much inquired after; 9⅔ Nikolaieff afloat is held at 23s to 23s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Malting barley firm. Our brewers draw supplies from the neighbouring districts, paying 35s to 37s for good stout Holstein and Mecklenburg, while the high duty of 8s per qr prevents a liberal importation of foreign barley. Fine Bohemian is held at 33s 6d to 36s 6d; Slovakian at 35s 6d to 37s; Danish at 28s to 30s; stout English at 28s to 33s per 448 lb. Feeding barley firm, 59/60 ko South Russian afloat is selling at 18s 6d; February-March, 19s to 19s 3d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. American mixed maize afloat has been sold at 20s 9d, January shipment at 19s 9d to to 20s; Galfox April-May, 19s 6d: River Plate October-November, 20s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley Report: Market rules quiet, but prices cannot be written lower, as supplies are decreasing and holders are firm; good to fine medium sorts are offering pretty freely, but choice lots are exceedingly scarce; in Hungary markets remain firm, and offers are fast decreasing, in fact in some districts stocks seem to be almost exhausted, at least, of the low-priced qualities.—M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 30, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	3,027	5 ...	4,187	9	7 ...	1	7	8
Barley ...	1,495	6 ...	1,876	4	6 ...	1	5	1
Oats	777	4 ...	696	19	0 ...	17	11	

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 3, 1906:—

Wheat	1,004,200 cwts.
Wheat-flour	314,500 ,,
Barley	759,900 ,,
Oats	327,100 ,,
Maize	677,800 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,628,500	2,229,200	2,350,800	1,393,585
Wheat-flour	316,600	209,200	609,200	462,888
Barley ...	869,500	906,900	1,142,300	852,502
Oats ...	166,700	233,700	332,100	185,646
Maize ...	451,200	1,017,300	1,504,300	930,822

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

	s.	d.
September 1 .....(per sack)	29	0
October 8 ..... ,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.....	30 5	24 9	16 5	28 6	24 9	18 5
Feb.....	30 7	25 1	16 9	28 10	25 4	18 11
Mar. ...	30 10	25 1	16 11	28 5	24 8	18 11
April ...	30 9	24 8	17 3	29 1	24 2	19 1
May ...	30 10	24 8	18 5	30 2	24 0	20 0
June ...	31 8	24 4	19 2	30 4	23 4	20 2
July ...	32 0	22 8	18 4	30 4	23 1	20 4
Aug. ...	29 6	22 10	16 10	29 6	23 7	17 9
Sept. ...	26 10	23 9	16 0	26 1	24 5	16 2
Oct.....	27 1	24 11	16 6	26 5	25 0	16 7
Nov. ...	28 3	24 8	17 6	—	—	—
Dec. ...	28 5	24 6	18 0	—	—	—

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1905.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 4	80,360	27	4	231,369	24	9	28,424	16	8
,, 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	1
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	2
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	4
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	7
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	18	10
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	19	0
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	8
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	10
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	8
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	18	11
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,356	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 3, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	49,887...	25	1	199,578...	26	3	30,748...	17	2
1903...	41,897...	26	4	160,241...	24	3	22,245...	15	9
1904...	43,313...	30	6	205,816...	25	0	35,145...	16	9
1905...	80,360...	27	10	231,869...	24	9	28,424...	17	1
1906...	64,404...	26	7	229,015...	24	8	32,527...	16	11

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Oct. 24 to 31 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	2,600	100,000	102,600
Barley	2,900	19,000	21,900
Malt.....	18,514	200	18,714
Oats.....	5,200	80,000	88,200
Rye	100	3,370	3,470
Beans	1,405	1,581	2,986
Peas.....	749	1,883	2,632
Tares	47	160	207
Maize	—	77,400	77,400
Linseed	—	10,000	10,000
Rapeseed	—	998	998
Cottonseed	—	16,000	16,000
Millet	—	500	500
Coriander	—	100	100
Dari	—	400	400
Flour.....sacks ...	27,390	25,600	53,000
Ricemeal ... ,, ...	—	5,000	5,000
Maizemeal ... ,,	—	600	600
Oatmeal ..... ,, ...	—	2,200	2,200

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1906.

	London White. s.	d.	Town Flour. s.	d.
September 1...(per sack)	26	9 ... (per sack)	25	9
October 8. ,,	27	0 ,,	24	0
,, 26 ,,	27	6 ,,	24	6

(No change since last date given.)

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The market for English wheat was a little against holders. Indian was scarce and firm, but other foreign sorts were out of favour, and sales at currencies were hard to effect. Mark Lane is declining to follow New York, which is firmer. Maize was steady to-day, but on Friday 6d. fall occurred, so that values quoted below will be found, on the week, to be lower. Barley declined 3d. for Russian, and 1s. for the medium qualities of English. Oats were firm for English, dull for foreign. A good trade was doing in seeds. Canadian alsyke made 70s. per cwt., American timothy 25s. per cwt. A decline of 6d was allowed on brewers' grains.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

November 5.			
WHEAT,	White (Old).....(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
	,, (New) ... ,,	28	— 30
	Red ... (Old) ... ,,	29	— 31
	,, ... (New) ... ,,	27	— 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...(per 448 lb.)	33	— 37
	,, (New)... ,,	30	— 36
	Brewing (Old)... ,,	29	— 31
	,, (New)... ,,	27	— 28
	Poultry (New)...(per 416 lb.)	24	— 26
	Feeding(New)...(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT,	Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
	Black ..... ,,	29	— 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)... ,,	19	— 20
	Black Tartary (New) ,,	18	— 19
	White Gartons (New) ,,	19	— 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...(per 320 lb.)	20	— 21
	Winter (New).....(per 336 lb.)	18	— 19
	Light Spring (New)...(per 312 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop) .....(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
	,, New ,, ... ,,	22	— 23
BEANS,	Pigeon .....(per 532 lb.)	43	— 45
	Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
	Winter (Old) ..... ,,	37	— 38
	,, (New) ..... ,,	32	— 33
	Spring (New) ..... ,,	33	— 35
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	22	— 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
	Unpicked ditto ..... ,,	48	— 52
	Maple (Old) ..... ,,	34	— 35
	,, (New)..... ,,	32	— 33
	Dun (Old) ..... ,,	33	— 34
	,, (New)..... ,,	30	— 31
TARES	(Winter).....(per 532 lb.)	40	— 44
	(Spring) ..... ,,	46	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9	—33	American	22	—22/3
,, ,, 2	31/9	—32	Argentine	20/9	—21
American Red	30/9	—31	Bulgarian	21	— 22
Argentine ...	31/9	—32	Roumanian ...	21	— 22
Australian ...	31/6	32/6	Russian	21	— 22
New Zealand	30/6	31/6	Rangoon	21	— 22
Californian ...	31/6	32/6	North African	22	— 23
Blue Stem ...	31/6	32/6	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	30/6	31/6	Smyrna	34	— 36
Saxonka	32/6	33/6	Konigsberg ...	33	— 35
Azima	30/6	31/6	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Ghirka	29/6	30/6	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Indian White	none		Italian	64	— 72
,, Red	30/6	30/9	Burmese	32	— 42
Persian.....	29	— 30	Chilian	56	— 64
Turkish	28	— 29	LENTILS (cental):		
BARLEY:			Split Egyptian	10	— 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29	— 30	Whole Indian...	7	— 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	30	— 32	PEAS (504 lb.):		
,, (400 lb)	24	— 26	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian White	35	— 36
Russian(400 lb)	19 6	—20	Indian Green	29	— 31
Am'can (400 lb)	19 6	—20	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Tunisian (448 lb)	24	— 25	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Gaza (448 lb)	23	— 24	Victoria Dun..	33	— 34
Salonica (400 lb)	21	— 23	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	White	42	— 44
Torrified(336 lb)	21	— 22	Yellow	22	— 24
MALT (336 lb.):			Sorghum	20	— 22
Californian ...	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Smyrna	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
Onchak	33	— 36	Burmese	9	— 10
RYE (480 lb.):			Siamese	8	— 9
Russian	24	— 25	DARI (480 lb.):		
OATS:			Smyrna	25	— 26
N'wZeal'd(384 lb)	23	—25	Indian	23	— 24
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	19	— 20	Persian	21	— 22
Libau (320 lb.)	18	— 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)		
,, (304 lb.)	16	—16/3	French	none	
Arg'nt'e(304 lb)	16	—16/3	Russian	25	— 26

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

Both London and country makes of flour were difficult to keep up in price to-day, but the chief millers were reluctant to lower prices already low, and acquiesced for the most part in a minimum of business. A good mixture of half new English wheat and half strong Russian wheat can be bought to-day at this market for 23s. per sack. Some special sales were of Cascadia at 24s. 6d., of Granardia at 25s, of top grade Belgian at 27s. 6d., of Six Anchors Hungarian at 29s., and of good Hamburg at 23s. 6d. per sack. American brands now offering in London are inclusive of Pittsburg's Best, Stanard's Best, Star, Radwinter, Pilot, Miami, Old Glory, Anchor Steam, Sunlight, Zenith, Gold Dust, Cutter's Best, Refined Gold, Pleiades, Ceresota, Gold Medal, Battle Axe, Alberta, Ceresa, Fairy Queen, and Phœnix. Bakers have to make their separate bargains for these proprietary articles, the London agents having, as a rule, a pretty free hand over accepting bids. Speaking generally, finest American made 24s. for cash, and first bakers' grade 20s. 6d. per sack.

London Flour.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		28/0	net.
Town Whites	,,	25/6	,,
,, Households	,,	22/6	,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/6	,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/6	,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/6	,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/6	,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Best Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		24	—24/6
Fine Roller Whites	,,	22	—23/6
Ord'y Roller ,, ...	,,	21	—21/6
Stone made	,,	20	—20/6

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20	— 21
Cascadia	,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22	— 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28	— 29
,, 1	,,	27	— 28
,, 2	,,	26	— 27
,, 3	,,	25	— 26
French, Corbeil	,,	22	— 23
,, Renaux	,,	21	— 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20	— 21
Australian	,,	22	— 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33	— 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE EXTREMELY MILD WEATHER WAS ALL AGAINST DEMAND, SO THAT TRADE CLOSED LESS SATISFACTORILY FOR HOLDERS THAN IT WAS EARLIER IN THE DAY.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are 3d. dearer; canaryseed is 1s. 6d. cheaper; cottonseed is 1s. 3d. dearer; barley, oats, and maize are unchanged.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Roumanian, 29s per 492 lb, prompt shipment; Hard Duluth, 30s. 6d. per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Soft Winter, 28s per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Bahia Blanca, 28s 9d per 480 lb, January shipment; Santa Fé, 28s 9d per 480 lb, January shipment; White Walla, 29s 9d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Blue Stem, 30s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Australian, 30s 6d per 480 lb, arrived; Red Kurrachee, 30s 6d per 492 lb, December shipment.

Barley.—Odessa, 18s 6d per 400, on passage; American, 21s per 420 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Manitoba, 17s 6d per 320 lb, on passage; Chilian, 17s per 312 lb, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, prompt shipment; Odessa, 20s 6d per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 41s 3d per 416 lb, on passage; Riga, 40s 9d per per 424 lb, prompt shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 47s per 416 lb, January shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 3s 9d per ton, due.

Canaryseed.—Turkish, 38s per 464 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed oil.—Indian, 21s per cwt, prompt shipment.

TERM MARKET.

Wheat futures were firmer at the close of last week, and to-day the market opens bullish. Maize is only moderately firm.

Red American wheat,	Nov. delivery	6s 6d per cental		
,, ,,	Jan.	,,	6s 6d	,,
,, ,,	March	,,	6s 6d	,,
Mixed American Maize	Nov.	,,	4s 6d	,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	March	,,	4s 1d	,,
Yellow Argentine Maize ...	Nov.	,,	4s 3d	,,
,, ...	Jan	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	March	,,	4s 2d	,,

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Although prices for shipment are higher, it is difficult to make sales here at even late rates. Grain.—Round corn is firm, but flat is 3d easier. Scotch oats are again 3d higher. Foreign oats are unchanged. Grinding beans are in demand at 3d to 4½d per boll advance. Barley is rather pressed on spot, the demand being poor. Oilcake more doing. Oatmeal very firm. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—Prices of bran unchanged; demand rather quiet at the moment.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Market continues dull; no new feature to report; quotations unchanged; the tendency, however, continues favourable to buyers.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Milling Offals.—The trade remains firm, especially bran, which is very scarce and again 2s 6d per ton dearer.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are small. Trade is dull and prices are unchanged. Maize, barley and oats sell slowly at full prices.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Flour has met only a moderate trade to-day and prices remain at last week's level.—MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The market for linseed is unchanged but rapeseed is again dearer. Cottonseed also is dear.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.	COTTONSEED.	per ton. s.	s.
Dutch	47	to 49	Egyptian.....	140	to 142
American.....	43	to 44	Indian	109	to 111
Calcutta	42	to 43	SUNFLOWERSEED.		
Bombay	43	to 45		per cwt.	
Russian	41	to 42	English, Best...	16	to 17
Argentine	41	to 42	Russian, White.	14	to 15
Duluth.....	42	to 43	,, Black .	13	to 14
RAPESEED.	per 416 lb.		SESAME.	per cwt.	
Best English ...	66	to 70	Indian	14	to 15
Yellow Guzerat	52	to 54	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.	
,, Cawnpore	45	to 46	Russian	49	to 50
Brown ,,	44	to 45	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.	
Ferozepore	47	to 48	English	48	to 53
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.		Spanish	78	to 80
Indian	51	to 53	Turkish	40	to 42
			Argentine	39	to 40

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay made £3 15s to £3 17s 6d per ton.

Bristol, Friday.—Now hay, 77s 6d to 82s 6d per ton; old clover hay, 87s 6d to 92s 6d; old meadow hay, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay quiet, with no change in prices. Straw dull at recent rates. Hay, 50s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Good supplies of hay and straw in the warehouses met with a moderate demand. Prices have an easier tendency, the present mild weather checking business. Quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—The demand was rather slow. Best hay and seed realised £3 10s.; and second quality, £2 15s to £3 per ton on the ground; straw, 30s to 35s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5d to 5½d; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d to 3½d; oat, 2½d to 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 15s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 5s; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 10s to £5. Wheat straw, from £1 6s to £1 8s per load; barley straw, from £1 3s to £1 4s; oat straw from £1 5s to £1 8s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supply, which met with a slow sale at lower rates. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 80s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Owing to the rough weather there was a small attendance of dealers, with a limited trade moving at about late prices. Choice seeds, £4 to £4 5s; prime hay, £3 10s to £3 15s; mixture, £3 5s to £3 7s 6d; straw, £2 10s to £2 15s.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Good support was accorded the plentiful supplies offered. Quotations:—Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A quiet demand was experienced for the good assortment received. Quotations: Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—The potato market was fairly well attended, but trade was very slow. Best potatoes made £3, and common sorts 50s. per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone. Smaller supplies.

Preston, Saturday.—A good trade passed in potatoes at 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Good show of home-grown potatoes, best lots making 6s to 6s 6d, and other descriptions 5s to 5s 6d per load.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week, owing to the short supply, potatoes have been in better demand, and prices have slightly advanced. To-day's prices are as follows:—Light soil: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 67s 6d; British Queens, 60s to 65s per ton; Evergoods, 55s to 65s per ton; Edward VIIth, 55s to 62s 6d per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 55s to 60s per ton; British Queens, 50s to 60s per ton; Evergoods, 55s to 60s per ton; Royal Kidneys, 50s to 55s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals are still light, for which fair support was forthcoming. Quotations:—Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s; British Queens, 55s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes £2 15s per ton.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 4d to 5d per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply of potatoes, which sold at slightly more money. Best samples, 6s to 7s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—Owing to the continued rain of the last few days there was only a short supply, and prices were slightly in advance of last week. Best Up-to-Dates, 50s to 52s 6d; secondary sorts, 45s to 47s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 5, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 6, 1905.
Beasts	1,600	1,600	930
Sheep and Lambs	5,230	5,230	6,140
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	50
Milch Cows	50	50	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 10
Sheep	4 8	5 4	6 2
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 20; Eastern Counties, 65; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,165; Devon, 50; Ireland, 300.

To-day's supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed an increase of 450 head. Trade for all grades of both prime and second quality English beasts was of a fairly steady nature, late values being well upheld. The arrivals from Ireland to-day consisted of 140 Dublins (23 being choice Polled beasts) and 160 Waterfords; for this class of cattle trade ruled slow but steady, late currencies governing all sales. A few Polled Aberdeens were also offered for sale, and commanded our top quotation. Fat butchering cows and bulls met a limited inquiry from both town and country buyers, difficulty being experienced in obtaining late rates. A clearance is expected.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Nov. 6, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	4 8	to 4 10	—	
Devons	4 4	to 4 6	... 4 4	to 4 6
Herefords	4 4	to 4 6	... 4 4	to 4 6
Norfolks	—		... —	
Runts	4 0	to 4 4	... 4 0	to 4 4
Lincolns	3 8	to 3 10	... 3 8	to 3 10
Irish	3 10	to 4 2	... 3 8	to 4 0
Canadian	—		... —	
Fat Cows	3 4	to 3 6	... 3 4	to 3 6

There was an decrease of 310 in the number of sheep penned compared with the corresponding day last week. Trade taken as a whole was of a very disappointing nature, salesmen having to accept a reduction of fully 2d. per 8 lb. less money. Scotch also sold slowly, prices ruling easier to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. On the other hand, Irish met a slow but steady inquiry, late rates governing all transactions. A clearance in this part of the market is, under the circumstances, extremely doubtful. To-day's supply included 300 Scotch, 680 Irish, and 502 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Nov. 6, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0	to 6 2	5 8	to 5 10
9 st. Downs	5 10	to 6 0	5 6	to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 8	to 5 10	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		... —	
12 st Lincolns	—		... —	
10 st Irish	5 4	to 5 6	5 0	to 5 2
10 st Down Ewes	4 2	to 4 4	4 0	to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0	to 4 4	3 10	to 4 0
5 st Down Lambs	—		... —	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		... —	

Calf trade nominal.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade quiet and dull for good supplies. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Lamb, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 4s to 5s per stone.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts nil. No market held at Deptford to-day. On Saturday 1,060 beasts from the United States and 751 from Canada (342 being ranch cattle) were offered for sale, and with a firm and steady trade a slight advance in value was made. The best on offer were quoted as follows: States, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; Ranchers, 3s 7d to 4s. Besides the above 700 more Canadians were withheld for Monday's market. 149 Canadian ewes were also offered for sale, and were eventually disposed of at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8 lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle was larger than last week; demand good, and prices rather better for all descriptions. Sheep shown in reduced numbers; demand somewhat slow, but firmer in value. Prices, however, were only slightly better than on Monday last. Beef, 6½d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6½d per lb. At market, 1,858 cattle and 5,167 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—There is only a retail demand, but as there is not much foreign cake offering prices remain unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake, with no arrivals, are dearer for forward delivery. Ordinary cotton cake, with heavy arrivals of seed, the price declined, but the market is again firmer.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ...ex quay	—	--
American Western Linseed Cake ...ex quay	7 10 0	
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ...ex quay	7 7 6	
Russian Oil Cake ...ex quay	7 12 6	to 8 0 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake ...	—	
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	--	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 0 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 10 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 4 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 3 0	2 12 0
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 4 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,829 bales, and from foreign ports 13,153 bales. The bacon market was in a very depressed state last week, but with a further considerable drop in prices, there was a good deal more business passing and the market closed steadier, prices ranging—Irish, 53s to 56s up to 61s; Danish, 46s to 56s up to 59s; Canadian, 52s to 53s up to 56s. Butter.—The butter market was quiet, with prices ranging—French, 116s to 127s; Danish, 122s to 124s; Russian, 86s to 106s; Australians, 100s to 116s. Lard.—Lard was in good request. Irish, 52s to 64s; Danish, 58s to 61s; American, 47s 3d to 48s 3d.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—The demand for seed wheats is gradually drawing to a close: prices firm. Winter tares still on offer, and find ready buyers at unchanged prices. Mustard shows fine samples, and keep exceptionally firm. Peas a ready market at hardening prices. The new clover seeds, principally red and white, are coming out more freely. English reds, fancy quality, 58s to 62s; fine, 52s to 56s; good, 48s to 52s. Whites, fancy quality, 60s to 64s per cwt; fine, 54s to 56s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils, 20s to 24s per cwt. Grasses, including French and Irish Italian ryegrass and perennial ryegrass remain unchanged. New Zealand cocksfoot and meadow fescue show improved demand with hardening prices.—JOHN PICARD & Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market during the past week was not very fast for ordinary coppicy hops, but full prices were made of choice Mid and East Kent golding growths. W. H. & H. LE MAY.

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
Highest of Year	32 0	25 1	18 5
Lowest of Year	26 10	22 8	16 0
Gradient	5 2	2 5	2 5
Mean of Year	29 9	24 4	17 4

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

We note during the week a rather larger supply of fat cattle, amongst the arrivals on Monday being a small consignment of choice Polled Aberdeens; these cleared early in the day, and commanded our top quotation. The arrivals from Ireland consisted of 112 Dublins and 38 Waterfords; these met with a good inquiry, sellers both asking and obtaining an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. Both prime and second quality English beasts also met with a better trade, this being attributed to the colder weather which has been experienced. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with more demand from both town and country buyers, consnquently were firmer in value. On Thursday the supply consisted, as usual, of fat shed cows and bulls, for which late rates were upheld.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade throughout the week was of a fairly firm and steady nature, prices being well maintained. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 4,331, as against 3,887 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,280 British (increase 50), and 3,051 foreign (increase 384), these comprising 1,900 from the United States and 1,151 Canadians (342 being Ranch cattle). The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 90-stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95-stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95-stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday for all grades of both wethers and ewes ruled firm and steady, higher rates from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. being both asked and obtained. Scotch sheep were in large numbers, and shared in a brisker trade. On the other hand, Irish descriptions were slower of sale, late rates, however, were maintained. On Thursday very few buyers were present, consequently many were turned out unsold. A small consignment of Canadian sheep were received at Deptford, and made good money. The total number of sheep was 5,938, as against 4,920 during the previous week, consisting of 5,460 British (increase 540) and 578 Canadian. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; 9 stone ditto, 6s to 6s 2d; 8 stone Scotch, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone Irish, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; 8½ stone Canadian, 4s 2d to 4s 4d.

Calves numbered 20; trade not worth noting. Pig trade nominal, only 10 on offer.

Trade in the West.

Considerable difficulty seems to be experienced in getting rid of the congestion so long prevalent in respect to grazing cattle, which has only been helped to a very limited extent by the abnormally low prices now ruling. Graziers do not "go" at all well just at present, there being absolutely no demand for anything but the very best, and these now only make, as a rule, from £18 up to £24 or £27 per pair, and only very rarely as much. The milch beast trade continues in a very satisfactory state for the best heifers or for cows of good repute, animals of this class commanding a very brisk sale at from £18 to £24 each, the latter being a very rare price, though we know of numbers that have sold at £20, £21, £22, and £22 15s most of these having calves at their side. In-calf heifers and cows may now be quoted as selling from about £10 10s. to £17 15s., the higher-priced ones being in most demand, as they come into earlier profit. Stirks are coming into a little more favour at from £6 15s. to £7 15s. each.

As the sales of store sheep draw towards a close prices are unmistakably hardening, but this is more pronounced in the case of lambs than in that of ewes; but both are selling very well indeed, and those who have need to keep their sheep over are being rewarded by getting considerably enhanced rates, the reason of which evidently is that there is an insufficiency of sheep to meet the demand.

The beef trade continues somewhat inactive, in spite of the generally excellent quality of a good proportion of the fat beasts which have come to hand during the week, some of the heifers as well as steers being of admirable finish. For these the trade has kept fairly firm, the ripest making 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score (or from £16 to £22 apiece for nice meaty beasts); fat cows, except for the best, a much slower trade at from £12 10s. to £16 5s. (or 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per score). Fat calves keep steady, but as there is nothing very special offering just now, present currencies 8d. to 8½d. for the best, and 6½d. to 7½d. for the more ordinary runs. Pigs are also scarce, and prices keep exceptionally firm, the best weights in small neat-handling porkers commanding a quick sale at 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score, and baconers 9s. to 10s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been large, but many of them of indifferent quality. The best class made fairly satisfactory prices, but all others were quite 1s. a cwt. cheaper. Fat sheep have been shown in full average supply. Demand was fairly good, and with difficulty the prices of the previous week were maintained, in some cases 1s. a head less having to be accepted. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs also command good prices. A moderate supply of store sheep, mostly of an indifferent class. To effect sales rather less money had to be taken, and a few of the inferior descriptions were left over. There was a fair supply of store cattle. The demand was rather better than last week, and all the best descriptions got sold out without change in value, a few of the rougher kinds being left unsold. A small supply of milch cows met a dearer market. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 38s. 2d.; current, 34s. to 36s.; mutton to nearly 9¾d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

There was again a very large attendance at Thursday's Dublin Cattle market, while supplies in both departments showed a large decrease. Cattle numbered 4,230, being 494 beasts less than the previous market, and sheep 6,088, or 390 fewer. On opening, the market proved brisk for everything of good finish, but salemasters were unable to raise rates. Cattle dealers were early at work, and had no hesitation in paying premium rates for good quality animals, but for the rougher beasts, beyond, perhaps, a readier clearance, no improvement was to be noted. The live-weight price for best cattle ranged from 27s. 6d. to 32s., the latter figure being paid for choice black polls. The morning was very wet, but it was said that some of the early sales for choice cattle were 10s. to 15s. per head up, and medium-weight heifers to suit city butchers were considered to be somewhat firmer. The shrinkage of near 500 head as compared with last Thursday's supplies, coupled with a large decrease of Canadian and American cattle (practically 8,000 head) landed at British ports, is mainly responsible for the better buying of secondary class cattle in Dublin, though there was little or no advance in price. Best ox and heifer beef rated at from 50s. to 56s. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 46s. to 48s.; and inferior, from 42s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt.

The sheep department was disappointing, and got worse towards the close of business. Sales opened well, home butchers operating freely at late rates, but soon seemed to fill their requirements, and all was very dull, as the shipping trade was almost nominal, and North of Ireland buyers did not seem in want of much. London buyers took very few, and some fine pens of hoggets, very suitable for that market, were left unsold. Choice wether mutton was worth from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; prime ewe ditto, 6¾d. to 7½d., and rough sheep from 5½d per lb. upwards.

Veal calves of the right sort scarce and wanted at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; inferior veal not looked for, and worth from 4½d. per lb. upwards. Dairy cattle in good supply, with a fair demand for all grades, but notably for choice springers, some of which sold as high as £21 and £22; good cows could be had at from £14 to £17, and ordinary sorts at from £9 upwards.

Mr. Gavin Low had a large sale of some 1,250 head of store cattle, which sold at satisfactory prices.

Pig market well supplied and fairly active for choice shipping. Home buyers in small attendance, which made it difficult to keep up late rates. Choice light-weight pigs paid from 49s. to 50s. per cwt.; shipping pigs from 47s. to 50s. per cwt.; and coarse from 36s. to 44s. A late clearance effected.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow with drooping tendency for beef. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; extreme, 4s 10d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ditto, seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 3s; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 5s; Dutch ditto, 4s to 4s 6d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts, compared with Thursday last, showed increase of 80 head, majority consisting of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade ruled steady, late currencies being well maintained. Top prices paid per 8 lb fat cows, 3s 6d, extreme 3s 8d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s 1d. Decrease of 70 in number penned in sheep market. Trade was of a very disappointing nature, sales being more or less forced, even at a reduction of fully 2d per lb. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows:—8 stone Downs, 6s 2d; 9 stone ditto, 6s; 10 stone ditto, 5s 10d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 4d. Calf trade nominal. Pigs too few to quote. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 8d; sheep, 4s 4d to 6s. 2d.; Total supply of beasts, 130; sheep, 120; calves, 10; pigs, 10; milch cows, 5.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday. — Trade good, in bad weather. Best beef made up to 4s 6d very readily, and mutton improved, especially in regard to lower and medium quotations. Down wethers made up to 6s, Kent wethers to 5s 6d, barrens to 4s 6d, and veal and pork unchanged, with good demand.

Berwick, Saturday.—The number of beasts penned was considerably larger than for some time, being an increase of 296 over the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade dull. Calves, £6 10s to £8 10s; stirks, £8 10s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £9 10s to £11 10s; three-year-olds, £11 to £15. Cows in good demand at £17 10s to £23.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; trade fair. Small quantity of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb, a few 9½d; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s 4d to 8s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was in good supply, but not much request, and trade was dull at late rates. Sheep were not numerous, and values of best qualities advanced slightly, light down wethers being quoted at 8½d to 8¾d, and prime wethers at 8½d. Pigs were scarce, and late rates prevailed.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 9d per score.—C. AND T HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a smaller offering of sheep; wether tegs ranged from 37s to 50s, and wether lambs from 22s to 29s 6d; useful old ewes made from 23s to 38s. Poor inquiry for store bullocks; rough yearlings made from £4 to £5, and better class up to £7 10s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Buyers were scarce, and a slow trade was experienced. Heifers for wintering, £7 10s to £10 10s; white beasts for stall purposes to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £7 10s to £10 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—The supplies were large, and there was a good attendance of buyers. Dairy cattle and young stock were in demand, and a fair business was done in other classes. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £22; calves, £15 to £20; heifers, £10 to £14; barrens, £9 to £13; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 26s. to 30s. each.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of stock. Home-fed cattle and sheep sold well at about last week's prices.

Derby, Tuesday. — Attendance good, and a busy market. First quality beasts again in demand, and choice sheep harder to buy than last week. Beasts, 5½d to 6¾d; sheep, 8d to 10d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, and fair attendance, and steady trade for milch beasts, which were firm, and up to £22 each; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; young stores, £7 to £9 each. Rather small supply of sheep; trade getting slow and prices easier. Shearlings, 45s to 53s; ewes, 48s to 52s; and lambs, 35s to 42s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Messrs. Ensor and Son were moderately well supplied at their repository sale to-day, most classes on show making a full display, except that of mutton, which still comes very sparingly to hand. Trade on the whole showed signs of revival, especially in the case of heifers, which for the best heifers sold from £17 15s to £20 15s; and for seconds down to £15 15s; best cows and calves selling from £18 15s to £22 5s, and others down to £16 15s. Barreners still a very slow trade and

little improvement in price, despite the fact of the barron season now being close at hand; from £17 15s to £19 10s was the range of those offering fat bullocks, which were nothing very special, sold from £14 15s to £18 5s., and culls up to £13 15s, with a very small supply of mutton in the pen, prices ruled very firm from 7d to 8½d per lb being the range.

Dublin, Thursday.—Cattle showing superior finish were in good demand, and sold up early at slightly improved prices. The decrease in numbers helped to steady the trade for secondary sorts, and a good finish was made at fully late rates. A keener trade for sheep of all classes at last week's prices. Cattle—Live weight (best), 28s to 30s per cwt; exceptional, 32s 6d per cwt for Angus cross-breds; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to 8½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Cattle and sheep met a fair trade. Polled bullocks, £11 to £15 10s; stirks, to £11; horned, £9 9s to £12 12s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 29s to 33s; half-bred sheep, 39s; Grey-faced, 27s to 39s; Cheviot ewes, to 34s; best Shorthorn cows, to £26 5s; Ayrshiros, £19 10s; crosses, to £24.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a fair show of cattle, but scarcely so many sheep as last week. Demand was slack, due to the Clyde strike, but cattle keep up owing to the sudden sharp rise in tallow. Top Scotch, 64s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, 9½d to 10d; heavy weights, 9d; wedders, 8½d to 9d; secondary, 7d to 8d per lb. Dead meat slow; best Scotch, 6d; States, 5½d; Canadians, 5d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A fair supply of fat cattle, the best quality of which went rather firmer than last week, though slow. Best bullock and heifer beef made from 6½d to 7d per lb, cow beef 4½d, and bull beef 4d to 4½d per lb. The calf trade was brisker, nice quality veal making 7d. Sheep in short supply and trade firm; fat wethers made 8d and ewes 7d per lb; fat lambs, 8d. Store lambs dear. Pigs in large supply; small porks made 6d and bacons 5½d to 6d. Strong stores scarce and dear; small stores cheap.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good supply of yard-fed cattle mostly well-finished medium weights of first-class quality, buyers were numerous and trade ruled firm at from 8s 9d to 8s 3d per stone. Grass cattle about 7s 6d. At the special sale of grazing cattle about 600 were penned, including upwards of 400 north country steers of excellent quality and in nice condition. There was a large attendance of buyers, including several from other counties. A good demand was experienced for yearlings at last week's prices, but for the older cattle prices were down from 5s to 10s per head, finishing slow. Westmoreland and calves at £4 17s 6d to £5 7s 6d; yearlings, £6 2s 6d to £7; Cumberland steers, sixteen months old, £7 10s to £8 10s; eighteen months old, £8 15s to £9 15s; twenty months in good condition, £10 2s 6d to £11 2s 6d; Red Polls, two year old, £13 5s; Polled Irish, £10 to £8 5s; Polled Scots, £11 5s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Larger consignments of stock. Choice milch cows were in active demand at £20 to £22 10s; good lots, £18 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £12 to £20; bullocks, £11 to £14; young stirks, £4 to £8; calves, 15s to 30s. Sheep met a brisk trade. Oxford and Hampshire breeding ewes, 40s to 55s; lamb hoggs, 28s to 34s.

Lincoln, Friday.—A fair consignment of horned stock and a slow demand. Young beasts, £8 to £10; strong ditto, £13 to £15 10s. Hogg sheep 36s to 44s.

Lynn. Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts met late rates, from 7s to 7s 6d. Large supply of stores met slow trade, from about £6 to £16 each. Small supply of fat sheep met a firm trade, from 8s to 10s per stone. Stores, few shown, making about 40s to 48s each. Store lambs about 40s to 48s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, 8½d and 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5¾d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade slow. Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; steers, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s to 7s 9d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—An average supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs, and a very good trade all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6d to 6½d per lb; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; Irish beef, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5¼d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 9½d to 9¾d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Good supply of fat beasts, and for best qualities there was a good demand up to 8s per stone of 14 lb; store cattle were in very large supply, and sales progressed very slowly up to the middle of the day, when but few lots had changed hands; afterwards trade was more lively, but at no time could it be called active, and values of the past two or three weeks were barely maintained, prices ranging from £5 to £17 per head. Store sheep were in average supply, and met with a fair trade; and hoggets, which chiefly composed the market, made from 35s to 46s per head. There was a good show of fat sheep, and these met with a fair demand at 10s to 11s per stone. The supply of fat store pigs was again insufficient to meet the demand; trade was very brisk, fat pigs averaging 7s 3d per stone, and stores from 10s to 50s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Poor attendance owing to wet weather. Fair trade in milking beasts; best milking cows, £17 to £21; in-calf heifers, £13 to £17. Larger show of store stock, but only a poor demand; strong heifers and steers made £12 to £13, and younger animals, £6 to £9. Calves, 25s to 45s. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday. — There was an unusually large show of beasts, but although the attendance was much above the average, trade dragged. Heifers and bullocks, 5¾d to 6d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5d; lambs, 8½d to 9d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7; tups, 6d; fat calves, 6d to 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Small show of store stock, but sufficient to meet all requirements, the demand being sluggish and prices low, milch beasts selling at £14 to £18; two-year-old steers and heifers, £9 to £11; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 40s. per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade for best animals unchanged. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in shorter supply, trade a little better at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Fair supply of sheep, trade slower. Best small wether, 6s to 6s 2d; large, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Ewes a little better trade at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, trade a little better. Pig trade about the same: small porkers, 4s 8d to 5s; large hogs, 4s to 4s 4d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A better supply of milch beasts than last week, but the wet weather was against trade, and only a few lots changed hands at £18 to £20; second-class ditto, £15 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good supply of store cattle, which met a good trade. Prices of fat stock about the same as last week. Very good trade in store pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 9d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 8d to 9d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score; bacons, 10s per score. Cows with calves up to £24.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was an average show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s to 6s 6d. Lambs made 9½d per lb; shearlings, 9d; ewes, 7d; tups, 6d. The pig trade was a dragging one, with last week's prices ruling.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a large supply of stock and a full attendance of buyers. Fat oxen made from £16 to £20 7s 6d; fat heifers, £14 10s to £21 10s; fat wether sheep, 58s to 74s; fat tegs, 52s to 60s; fat ewes, 44s to 54s; fat calves, £3 to £5 1s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 15s; porkers, 28s to 50s; store pigs, 15s to 28s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business brisk. Fat bullocks, 48s to 56s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 44s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 19s to 43s; wethers, 7d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 10s 3d to 40s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round; trade fair for best. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 7d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of stock, with trade fairly brisk. Best beef showed a marked improvement on last week's prices, making up to 7s 9d per stone; secondary qualities, 6s 9d to 7s 3d. Sheep trade very good, the late high rates being fully maintained. Southdown wethers and cross-breds to 9d; secondary qualities, 8d; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrato of soda value are without change. More business is passing in kainit, and likewise phosphatic manures such as basic slag, superphosphate, &c., and quotations are as detailed below. The consumptive demand for feeding stuffs is unimportant, yet values are well upheld, and in some instances holders ask a slight advance. Feeding treacle is firmer, and in rather better request. The low value of cod-liver oil is attracting attention, and there is a very fair demand. About 450 bags Peruvian cotton cake, all faults, realised at auction £7 2s. 6d. to £8 per ton.

	£ s d	£ s d
	Per ton.	
Corn Oil Cake, prime English	6 5 0	—
Cod Liver Oil, cattle feeding, prime	per gal. 0 4 0	0 4 6
Treacle, feeding prime, American	Per cwt. 0 4 9	0 4 10½
	Per ton.	
Fine Bone Ash	3 10 0	—
Nitrate of Soda	11 12 6	—
East India Bone Meal	5 5 0	5 7 6
Kainit	2 2 6	2 5 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 7 6	6 10 0
Linseed Cake, American	7 12 6	7 15 0
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14 0 0	—
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated,	7 15 0	8 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, soft	8 5 0	—
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4 17 6	5 5 0
Crushed Cottonseed	7 10 0	7 12 6
Maize Germ Meal	5 15 0	5 17 6
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4 17 6	—
	Per 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 8 6	2 10 0
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	Per ton. 2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,,	3 1 3	3 3 3
Basic Slag, prime quality	1 11 0	1 13 0
,, ,,	1 18 6	2 0 0
,, finest ,,	2 2 6	—

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

Hull, Tuesday.—Cakes: Linseed. A rather better demand, prices steady. Cotton.—Firm and unchanged for best. Bombays steady at a reduction of 2s 6d per ton. Orders are somewhat better, and some stock feeders are talking of taking their stock up for the winter this week.—Keighley, Maxsted and Co.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Supplies of foreign continue on a very moderate scale, and with rather more inquiry for ready parcels, values are fully as dear, while in some instances a slight advance is demanded. Russian remain unchanged and cheaply offered. East India seed pures make 1s. 3d. per ton less money. Americans are quoted at £7 10s. London made move off quietly at about late rates. Cotton Cakes.—With comparatively small stocks and probable short shipments of Egyptians in the near future, the tone of the market has somewhat improved, holders asking full prices. English being in increased production are barely as strong. Decorticated do not offer, but some meal is obtainable at last week's prices. Rape Cakes scarce and dear. East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—Parcels of White American in warehouse meet a steady sale, while English may be bought without alteration in price. Maize Gluten Meal is in good request at £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are attractively offered at slightly less than last week, with shippers also accepting less for steamer parcels to come along. Locust beans are without change at at £5 5s. for whole and £5 10s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains are much inquired after at £5 5s. for ale and £4 15s. for porter.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d
	Per ton.	
Linseed Cakes.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Russian, in mats	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
American	7 10 0	—
La Plata	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
English	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated	—	
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
Rape Cakes.		
Calcutta	5 10 0	
Ravison	5 5 0	
Maize.		
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon	4 15 0	
,, afloat, ex ship	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Locust Beans.		
White	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 10 0	
Dried Grains.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending November 3.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 11d to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s 3d. Berwick: 10d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Camelford: 1s 1d. Carlisle: 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s 2½d to 1s 5d. Evesham: 1s 2½d to 1s 3½d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2½d to 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 4d per 24-oz. roll. Penrith: 11d to 1s 1d. Penzance: 1s 1½d to 1s 4d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Redruth: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24-oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Truro: 1s to 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Week ending November 3.—Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 6 and 7. Barnstaple: 6 to 8. Berwick: 1s 3d per dozen. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Camelford: 1s 6d per doz. Carlisle: 6. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Derby: 7. Devizes: 8 to 10. Doncaster: 7. Dorchester: 1s 6d to 1s 11d per doz. Evesham: 1s 6d per doz. Hereford: 8 and 9. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Market Drayton: 6 and 7. Otley: 6. Penrith: 6 and 8. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Plymouth: 8 and 9. Redruth: 1s 6d per doz. Retford: 3s to 3s 2d per score. Ripon: 6 and 7. Scarborough: 7. Shrewsbury: 6. Spalding: 9 and 10. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 5 and 6. Totnes: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per doz. Truro: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 3s per score. York: 6.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies, quiet demand. Prices: Country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; goslings, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 3d to 1s 9d; wild ducks, 1s 3d; woodcocks, 1s 6d; snipe, 5d to 6d; quails, 1s to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 3d to 3s; leverets, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d; live hens, 1s 4d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen; pheasants, 4s to 5s; young grouse, 6s; old, 2s 9d; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per brace.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals liberal; market over-stocked; trade well supplied, for the demand was poor. Sellers were willing to concede 1s to 1s 6d per cwt. Trade now feeling the effect of the Clyde boilermakers' strike. Cheddars, 62s to 67s per cwt; Dunlops, 56s to 63s. Canadian cheese c.i.f. prices easier; demand quiet; values vary from 63s to 64s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A good attendance of buyers, and a brisk competition. Best dairies realised up to 77s per cwt.; secondary dairies, 69s to 70s 6d; and other dairies, 66s to 67s 6d. A few inferior lots failed to reach 63s. Cheddars made 72s 6d to 75s 6d; truckles, 68s 6d to 74s; doubles, 58s to 66s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance of buyers and a good demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 60s to 69s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 70s to 73s; truckles, 65s to 74s; Derbys, 74s.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has remained without change at about ale 20s, porter 17s, distillers' 35s, and pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains, ale, 102s 6d; mixed 92s 6d; distillers' 107s 6d per ton on rail London; also ale, 95s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 100s per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 15s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 10s to £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s. 0½d.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—The market was well supplied with fruit and vegetables, a steady trade being transacted. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 3s 6d; pears, 4s to 7s 6d per half-sieve; apples, 3s to 6s per bushel; cobnuts, 5s to 6s per 12 lb; chestnuts (Ridon), 8s to 12s 6d per bag; Brazil nuts, 55s to 60s. per cwt.; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s 6d to 7s 6d per bag; tomatoes, 3s 6d to 5s; cucumbers, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; lettuce, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; cauliflowers, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; cabbages, 2s 6d to 4s per tally; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s; spinach, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel; horseradish, 9s to 16s; celery, 6s to 10s 6d per dozen rolls; onions, 4s to 5s per cwt; carrots, 9d to 1s 3d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; eschallots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; potatoes, 55s to 75s per ton.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The choicest hops are in considerable favour, and prices tend upwards, ranging at present up to £7 7s.

Worcester, Saturday.—Some lots of hops have been sold to-day at late rates, although growers are rather reluctant to sell, expecting better prices later on, as the supply is now very limited. 1,251 pockets have been weighed this week, making the total 10,272. A few older hops have also been sold.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. pe 312 lb.

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.		1900	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ..	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.		1900.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ..	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2
Feb. ...	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3
March	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	9	24	0	27	3
April ...	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9
May ...	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8
June ...	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6
July ...	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9
August	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4
Sept. ...	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3
Oct. ...	31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0
Nov. ..	—		31	9	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4
Dec. ...	—		31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0
Yrly. Avrg.	—		30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.	
1890 .	31	9	per qr...	28	8	per qr...	18	7	per qr.
1891...	37	1	,,	...28	2	,,	...20	0	,,
1892...	30	4	,,	.. 26	2	,,	...19	11	,,
1893 ..	26	4	,,	.. 25	6	,,	...18	9	,,
1894 ..	22	10	,,	...24	6	,,	...17	1	,,
1895...	23	1	,,	...21	11	,,	...14	6	,,
1896...	26	2	,,	...22	11	,,	...14	9	,,
1897...	30	2	,,	.. 23	6	,,	...16	11	,,
1898...	34	0	,,	...27	2	,,	...18	5	,,
1899...	25	8	,,	...25	7	,,	...17	0	,,
1900...	26	11	,,	...25	9	,,	...17	9	,,
1901...	26	9	,,	...25	3	,,	...18	5	,,
1902...	28	0	,,	...25	8	,,	...20	2	,,
1903 ..	26	9	,,	...22	11	,,	.. 17	2	,,
1904...	28	4	,,	...22	4	,,	...16	4	,,
1905...	29	9	,,	...24	4	,,	...17	4	,,

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1906	£68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

CHIPPENHAM AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION. The 71st Annual CATTLE, CHEESE, and POULTRY SHOW will be held in the Market Yard, Chippenham, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29 and 30, 1906, when Prizes and Premiums amounting to £250 will be awarded. Entries close November 16. — The ANNUAL MEETING will take place at 2 p.m. on Thursday, and the ASSOCIATION DINNER at 7 p.m. same day. Special Cheap Return Railway Tickets will be issued by the Great Western Railway Company (see special bills). Admission to Show: Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 1s.; 7 to 10 p.m., 3d.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 1s — For schedules and further particulars, apply to C. JAS. HIBBARD, Secretary, Chippenham.

LEEDS SMITHFIELD SHOW.—47th Annual Exhibition will be held in the Victoria Cattle Market Hall, December 11, 12, and 13, 1906. Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Dressed Poultry, Butter, Poultry, Pigeons, and Rabbits. Entries finally close December 1, 1906. Schedules, now ready, may be had on application to the Secretary, H. KITCHEN, 3, Wormald Row, Leeds.

SITUATION WANTED as ESTATE FARM BAILIFF; thoroughly experienced in all branches of farm and estate work; fourteen years in present situation as bailiff of nearly 2,000 acres, under James Forrester, Esq., the resident agent to Viscount Portman's Dorset estate: excellent references. — Apply, J. K. BISSENT, Bryanston Farm, Blandford.

GREAT NATIONAL POULTRY and PIGEON SHOW at the CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM, NOVEMBER 13, 14, and 15, 1906.

The Great Northern Railway Company have arranged for the transit of exhibits to and from the Crystal Palace.

Conveyance rates for the exhibits can be obtained at the various stations on the line.

A Representative will attend the Show to give all information to Exhibitors. The removal order should be sent to the Chief Passenger Agent, King's Cross Station, at the commencement of the Show.

OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

London, *October*, 1906.

SEED POTATOES. — Genuine Scotch-grown. Old and new varieties. — ROBERT ARMSTRONG, Potato Merchant, 43, Victoria Street, Govan, Glasgow.

AGENT OR TRAVELLER. — Wanted, a first-class man with a good connection in the Home Counties to represent an old-established house in Feeding Stuffs, Fertilisers, and Farm Seeds. Commission and part expenses paid.—Full particulars to "J. W. S.," care of *Mark Lane Express.*

"PAYING POULTRY."—An illustrated Handbook on Poultry Keeping and Breeding. Price 1s. (by post 1s. 2½d.). Bound in cloth, 2s. 6d. (post free 2s. 9d.).—WILLIAM A. MAY, *F. F. & F.* Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Nov. 5, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 302, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The rainy twelve days—from 9th inst. back into later October—must not lead us to forget that the bulk of the wheat sowings were completed both early and well. A pause is now not unwelcome. The lifting of roots is impeded by the sticky state of the land, but otherwise the outlook is satisfactory.

The bite on the pastures has seldom been so good so late in the year, or the weather so general for cattle still out in the open. In Germany the rains have been unusually light, and the Rhine has seldom been so low. Wheat and rye sowings are completed over a good area, and a showery later November is wished for to help germination. The Russian autumn sowings are over as the ground is in the grip of frost; everybody seems agreed that the area cultivated is less than usual.

The wheat markets have lost ground since November 1, and the flour trade attracts attention by reason of its unhealthy condition. The relations of millers and bakers are always more or less of a mystery, and to peruse the organs of the two trades is to see that the mystery deepens. The competition of rival millers for bakers' custom leads not only to the percentage of bad debts being very large, but to the prices quoted and taken showing very strange variations. The cash price of household flour is 2s. 6d. per sack below the credit and delivery price to-day, whereas 1s. 6d. used to be the widest difference, and a shilling is about what should exist when the trade is in a healthy condition. The relations between brewers and publicans are modified by the frequency of tied houses. This has been opposed by many politicians, but it is gravely to be questioned whether the undercutting, dangerously long credit, and all the rest of it, which mark milling business, are not worse evils. If millers owned bakers' shops they would only let them to responsible tenants, and there is no fear that the flour would be inferior. The poor in especial are good judges of bread, besides which miller would compete with miller as brewer does with brewer. The effect of a deeply depressed milling trade on farmers is most prejudicial, for the miller when prosperous is a good friend, often buying when the farmer needs the money rather than when he himself has run out of wheat. When household flour is down to 22s. per sack net it is impossible for the miller to pay more than 23s. per 480 lb. for wheat.

The Roumanian maize crop has now been secured, and it is admittedly by far the largest ever grown in that country. As, however, the whole month of its ingathering was rainy, it is in condition thoroughly unfit for immediate shipment. None is likely to reach England in 1906, and even in the first three months of 1907 condition will require watching. But the maize cobs take no actual injury if allowed full time to dry in a proper atmosphere. The actual yields are thus returned for Roumania:—

1906, 17,500,000 qr.; 1905, 8,500,000 qr.; 1904, 3,000,000 qr.; 1903, 9,750,000 qr.; 1902, 8,275,000 qr.; 1901, 15,500,000 qr. The figures for 1904, though official, are clearly wrong, as the home wants of Roumania are 6,000,000 qr., and there were no imports. For 3,000,000 qr. read 6,500,000 qr. All the other figures are accepted by the trade, and it is not improbable that the wrong figures for 1904 were issued in order to cover an unpopular law in restraint of the export trade.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets continue markedly smaller than in 1905, the mean difference week by week being seldom less than 15 per cent.

The price made unfortunately does not prove at all satisfactory, but it is a little better now than it was at Michaelmas:—

This season ... 702,000 qr. at 26s. 1d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 888,000 ,, ,, 27s. 1d. ,,

Barley prices are less unsatisfactory, but they are still a good deal short of what one might like to see them. Sales are very heavy:—

This season ... 1,375,000 qr. at 24s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 1,297,000 ,, ,, 24s. 3d. ,,

The sales of oats off the farm continue to be heavier than is perhaps advisable, and certainly there is very little in the price made to justify the willingness to part with valuable food such as is bound to be in request later on:—

This season... 338,000 qr. at 16s. 5d. per qr.
Last ,, ... 278,000 ,, ,, 16s. 4d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 235,000 qr.: small.
Flour, 124,900 sacks: moderate.
Barley, 213,000 qr.: large.
Oats, 121,000 qr.: an average.
Maize, 159,000 qr.: less than usual.

Since harvest the sales of breadstuffs from abroad have been as follows:—

Wheat	3,856,000 qr.
Flour	1,029,000 ,,
Breadstuffs.....	4,885,000 qr.

In the like period of last cereal year sales were:—

Wheat	4,054,000 qr.
Flour	952,000 ,,
Breadstuffs.....	5,006,000 ,,

The discontent manifested in America over the prices realised for the recent flour consignments is expressing itself in higher prices for future shipment. If this discontent remains the recent excess of imported flour will soon disappear, as the trade will be surely, if slowly, working off the surplus, which will not be replenished. Of course the American market is proverbially fickle, but from all that we hear the chief United States millers are taking up a genuinely firm attitude.

Linseed shipments for the first ten months of the year prove to have been a good deal less than for the two preceding seasons:—1906, 649,000 tons; 1905, 874,000 tons; 1904, 1,307,000 tons.

Of rapeseed the shipments for the same period have been fair; an increase on 1905's small totals, but still appreciably below the large supply of 1904:—1906, 149,000 tons; 1905, 105,000 tons; 1904, 223,000 tons.

It is best to give these figures where practicable in a weight like the ton, for the quarter varies almost indefinitely for linseed, and for rapeseed the quarter of 416 lb. competes in all branches with the quarter of 424 lb.

Of the linseed trade, especially in America, *Beerbohm's List* remarks: "Duluth holds for high prices; unless values improve it is not expected that America will part with much more seed beyond the quantity already contracted for. The estimates of the American crop point to the yield having turned out smaller than expected; one of the crop experts has reduced his estimate, made early in September, from 36,000,000 bushels to 33,000,000 bushels; if this latter quantity be correct, this year's crop is not much different to that of 1905, although the official estimate for that crop was only 28,478,000 bushels. The fluctuations in values have been within narrow limits for some weeks past; as compared with a month ago Calcutta is 9d. to 1s. dearer for old crop, and 6d. for new crop; Bombay is 1s. up for old and 3d for new crop, whilst La Plata is about 3d. dearer for both old and new crop."

The supply of wheat on passage has increased on the week, but is still much below the average:—

Californian, 280,000 qr.; American, 305,000 qr.; Russian, 390,000 qr.; Indian, 331,000 qr.; Argentine, 125,000 qr.; Australian, 195,000 qr.; various, 50,000 qr.; total, 1,676,000 qr. A week ago, 1,400,000 qr.

Of flour, 307,000 sacks are on passage.

Of maize the quantity on passage has increased owing to large shipments from Argentina to the United Kingdom:—

Argentine, 610,000 qr.; American, 190,000 qr.; Russian, 80,000 qr.; total, 880,000 qr. A week ago, 795,000 qr.

Of barley the following quantities are on passage:—

Russian, 235,000 qr.; Californian, 170,000 qr.; American, 30,000 qr.; various, 200,000 qr.; total, 635,000 qr.

These are also on passage 117,000 qr. of oats, 104,000 qr. of linseed, and 43,000 tons of cottonseed.

America last week was a free shipper of wheat and a fair shipper of flour and maize. Actual quantities were:—Wheat, 374,000 qr.; flour, 165,000 sks.; maize, 173,000 qr.; barley, 50,000 qr.; and oats, 16,000 qr.

Argentina shipped an amazingly large supply of maize, 498,000 qr., a total wholly without precedent so late in the season. Other shipments were:—52,000 qr. of wheat, and 69,000 qr. of linseed.

Of wheat and barley Russia shipped heavily, but of oats very little. Actual quantities were:—Wheat, 407,000 qr.; barley, 331,000 qr.; oats, 72,000 qr. No maize was shipped.

Roumania sent off 225,000 qr. of wheat, 75,000 qr. of barley, 114,000 qr. of oats, and 10,000 qr. of maize. The oats shipped by Roumania constitute a record for that country, and do much to make up for the abstention of Russia.

Other shipments of the week were 24,000 qr. of wheat and 23,000 qr. of linseed from India, and 24,000 qr. of wheat from Australia.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are rather pressed on sale at 3d. decline, which makes 9d. fall since the end of October. Latest sales include White Kurrachee at 29s. 9d. per 492 lb., Red Kurrachee at 29s. 3d. per 492 lb., Rosario at 28s. 9d. per 480 lb., Roumanian at 29s. per 492 lb., Bulgarian at 28s. per 492 lb., Walla Walla at 29s. 6d. per 500 lb., and No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 3d. per 480 lb.

Maize is also 3d lower, sales being at 20s. per 480 lb. for Argentine on passage, and 19s. 6d. for early spring shipment; Roumanian at 20s. 6d for prompt shipment, and American at 19s. 6d. for February shipment.

Barley cargoes are not much changed. Prices are 18s. 9d. per 400 lb. for Temriuk, 20s. 9d. per 416 lb. for Kustendje, 17s. 6d. per 400 lb. for Persian, and 19s. 3d. per 400 lb. for Odessa.

Oats are 3d. cheaper, for the Roumanian exports have surprised the trade by their liberality. These Roumanian oats at 15s. 9d. per 304 lb. on passage are quite up to Russian standard. Russian oats make 15s. 6d. per 304 lb. only, but are scarce. This is a little curious, and the two kinds may easily reverse their values by this day week.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat (San Francisco.)

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Hull, 1 Silloth).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 241 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 4 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 28 linseed, total 281.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 296 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 10 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 51 linseed, total 391.

LONDON HAY MARKET.

Saturday.—At the earlier part of this week, with larger supplies, prices showed a weakening tendency, and there was an all-round reduction in values; but during the last few days, with the excessive rains, and consequent stoppage of supplies, the market has considerably firmed up again, and at end of week prices show but a slight reduction from previous quotations. The trade is in a rather nervous condition, and it is more than probable that during the next few weeks we shall see a slight set back in values. Clovers are not in strong demand, and prices show a slight easing off. Hays at earlier part of week were considerably weaker, but now, with lessened supplies, finish up within 2s 6d per ton of previous quotations. Mixtures still find a fair demand at previous currencies.

Straw is a quiet trade at about previous rates. In the foreign market there are much heavier arrivals of all qualities; Canadian mixture shows a slight reduction, although meeting a fair demand. Dutch hays are in good request at about previous rates, but French clovers are slightly easier.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 87s 6d to 90s per ton; good meadow hay, 80s to 85s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers, and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 24s to 25s per load; oat straw, 26s per load; barley straw, 25s to 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 86s per ton; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d to 75s per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 85s to 87s 6d per ton; French large bale wheat straw, 49s per ton; French small bale wheat straw, 49s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Improved inquiry, but the farmers' demand for 14d for Kent fleeces, and 9d for lamb wool, checks business.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English quiet, unchanged. Foreign slow, and occasionally in buyers' favour, with a small business passing. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted 31s 6d, 31s. 9d; No. 2, 30s 9d, 31s; hard winter, 30s; Persian landed, 28s, 31s 6d; La Plata, 30s, 32s; choice white Karachi, 30s 3d; red Karachi, 29s 9d. Flour slow, unchanged prices. Maize steady, quiet; mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 3d, landed at 21s 9d, 21s 10½d; La Plata, ex ship, at 20s 3d; landed at 20s 9d, 21s. Barley, slow sale at about late rates. Odessa Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted, at 18s 9d, landed at 19s 3d; Persian, ex ship, at 18s, landed at 18s 9d; Smyrna, 20s, 25s; Californian brewing, 27s 6d, 29s. Oats rather firmer, but not active; common sorts quoted at 16s 6d, 16s 9d; Danubian at 16s 3d, 16s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English dull, with an easier tendency. Foreign slow, and 3d lower since Monday for American; South Russian ex ship quoted at 26s 9d, 31s 6d, landed at 30s to 33s; No. 1 Northern, ex ship, at 31s 6d; No. 2 at 30s 9d; La Plata landed at 30s, 32s: choice white Karachi at 30s 3d, red Karachi at 29s. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize steadily held, late rates, but inactive; mixed American ex ship quoted at 21s 3d, landed at 21s 9d, 21s 10½d; River Plate ex ship at 20s 3d, landed 20s 9d, 21s. Barley dull, easier tendency: 18s 9d asked Odessa-Nicolaieff ex ship, and 19s 3d landed. Oats slow, unchanged; 16s 6d wanted South Russian, 16s 3d Danubian.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—White oats, wholesale, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was very dull, and wheats from 6d to 1s cheaper on the week; best samples made 27s to 29s 6d. No demand for barley: Medium malting samples quoted 25s to 27s; best, 28s to 30s. Beans cheaper: Ticks, 31s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s. Maize firm: Flat, 25s; round, 23s. White oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 17s to 19s, unchanged on the week.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 24s 6d to 30s per qr; beans (new), 29s to 29s 6d per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr; peas, 28s to 33s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, with smaller supplies of grain. Oats scarce and firm. Barley sold at rather over last week's prices. Wheat, 26s to 28s; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 20s to 21s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Moderate attendance, and only a small trade passing. Small show of English wheats which made last week's prices—viz., 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 186 lb delivered. Oats a steady demand, values 18s 6d to 19s 6d per 312 lb. Beans unchanged at 12s per 196 lb delivered. Very little done in foreign wheats, for which sellers asked last week's prices. Plate maize, 20s 3d per 480 lb; Bessarabian, 21s, both at Sharpness. Grinding barley no change.

Brighton, Thursday.—Wheat trade quiet at late rates. Small attendance. Barley, 28s to 33s; feeding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance at our market to-day. Foreign wheat 3d lower. English wheat in limited supply at unchanged rates. Maize, 3d dearer. Barley, 3d lower. Oats unaltered. Flour, slow to sell, prices firm at recent levels.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: The supply was small, but the trade was weak at rather lower prices. Some of the samples offered were hardly in good condition. Dry reds 27s 6d to 28s; others, 27s; revets 26s to 27s per qr. Barley: In average supply, and about steady on the week at the current; rather low prices for fair malting runs at 26s to 30s per qr. The few finer parcels made 31s to 33s per qr.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Most of the business in barley is done at from 27s to 29s, but specially choice lots range up to 32s. Wheat is firm at the recent reduction, 64 lb samples being worth 29s, and 65 lb from 30s to 31s. A fair inquiry for seed wheats. Oats met a steady trade, 40 lb lots being worth 19s, and 44 lb 21s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at a little more money, 18s 6d to 19s 6d per 336 lb.—THOS. ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain remains unchanged. Oats were freely offered, but the demand is rather disappointing. Beans and barley quiet. Feeding stuffs in better supply, and trade in some instances favoured buyers. Indian corn 3d per 240 lb lower. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 4s to 4s 3d per 75 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance. Average quantities on offer and a very fair trade. New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; new red ditto, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 20s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 24s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat steady, small supply. Barley slow. Oats unchanged.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Fair attendance; small supply of English corn. Prices: Wheat, old, 10s 6d to 11s per 186 lb; new 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 18s to 21s per 352 lb; beans, old, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new, 11s 6d to 12s per 196 lb; peas, 11s to 13s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was a very small attendance, and a scanty supply of grain. Both wheat and spring corn were unaltered in value. Quotations: Wheat, new white, 29s to 30s; new red, 27s 6d to 28s; malting barley, 25s to 30s; old beans, 34s to 35s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Wheat a dull trade, at late rates, and no improvement in the demand for barley, which fell about 3s per qr from its highest price since harvest. Oats unchanged. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—There was only a poor supply of English wheat and a thin attendance of buyers. Prices had a slight tendency to decline, and were from 10s to 10s 9d per load of three bushels. Foreign wheat was slow and easier. Only the finest examples of barley were in request, but there was a poor supply. Oats firm. Maize made up to 22s per qr. Beans unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The weather being much finer to day, there was a better attendance at the corn market, but supplies came much more sparingly to hand, the continuous wet throughout the week having completely put a stop to threshing operations. The wheat trade rules very dull for both English and foreign at nominally unchanged rates. Good barley suitable for malting was very scarce and quickly secured at outside values for nice qualities; secondary very difficult to cash owing to the market being so greatly overstocked with barleys of this class; grinding in limited request. Feeding stuffs maintained their values, though there was no great demand, the abundance of pasture keep everywhere effectually checking sales.

Dublin, Friday.—White wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; red ditto, 16s to 16s 6d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 14s 9d; oatmeal, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; patent flour, 10s to 11s 6d; firsts ditto, 9s to 10s; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 5s 6d to 6s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat quiet. Flour practically unchanged on the week. Maize firmer, and 1½d per boll dearer. Corn depressed in sale, with a reduction of 1½d per boll since last Wednesday. Barley firmer, but demand limited. Oats firmer for both home and foreign. Beans dearer. Pease very firm, and sellers asking 3d per boll more money. Bran and thirds firm but unchanged. Oatmeal quiet, but steady in tone.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat dull, but steady in price. Flour rather pressed for sale, and prices favour buyers. Mixed American maize dull at 12s 7½d per 280 lb.; round rather steadier at 12s 1½d to 12s 3d. Oats and other feeding stuffs steady. Bran in good demand; medium 95s, and broad £5 2s 6d per ton.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat in moderate supply, and prices 6d lower. Foreign dull at 3d decline. No change in maize, barley, or oats.

Grantham, Saturday.—Owing to the recent stormy weather there was only a small show of wheat, and prices were 6d lower on the week, namely, 26s 6d to 27s 6d per qr. There was a keen demand for barley at 24s to 32s per qr. Common barleys were a drug on the market, and scarcely quotable. Blue peas were much dearer, prices ranging from 55s to 68s per qr; beans, 29s to 30s; oats, 17s to 19s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Very dull market. Wheats were somewhat easier. Oats remained firm. Beans less active. Maize 3d per qr dearer. Wholesale quotations:—New wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 5d per 62 lb; barley, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat in short supply, with some samples in rather soft condition. Trade quiet, and the turn lower, 28s, 28s 6d, and up to 29s for the very best. Barley trade dull, at about last week's prices for fair malting runs, at 26s to 29s 8d per qr. Better sorts are now somewhat scarce and nominally firm. Oats firm, at 19s 6d to 21s per qr. Beans steady, at 30s to 31s 6d per qr. Maize firm, at fully last week's prices.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wheat trade remains in the same firm but inactive state that we have reported for several weeks. Exporters show no disposition to increase business by reducing limits, and merchants on this side naturally are guided by what they can buy at, while millers operate from hand to mouth, hoping shortly for an improved demand for flour at more remunerative prices. Malting barley quotably unchanged. Feeding stuffs firm at full prices.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—The long spell of damp, foggy weather having interfered with threshing operations, English wheat was in smaller supply, and makes more money than on Tuesday. Foreign wheat was plentiful at 28s to 32s. Lower qualities of flour were in active demand at 23s to 25s. There was no change in English or foreign barley. Oats were in better request, English closing at 20s. Maize firmly held. Other articles unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—With full supplies of home-grown wheats in excellent condition trade ruled steady, there being a slightly better demand. Red wheats, 27s to 28s; white wheats, 28s to 29s per 36 stone; malting barley in better demand at 28s to 31s per 32 tones; old beans, 32s to 38s; new, 33s per 38 stone; fine oats in brisker demand, 19s to 22s; old oats, 24s to 26s per 26 stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair attendanee, but moderate show of English wheat, the recent rains having hindered threshing operations; foreign sorts firm. Malting barleys rather lower except for the best samples. Feeding stuffs firm and unaltered in values.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a small attendance, but wheat meets a moderate demand, red sorts, however, are generally ½d lower, whites unchanged. Flour: A very quiet trade for both foreign and home-made flour, but no quotable change is made in values. Maize: Mixed is easy, with a buiet trade at ¾d decline. Plate is quiet, at ¾d less than Tuesday. European steady, unchanged. Barley: Malting quiet. Feeding steady and the turn dearer. Beans firm, but demand quiet. No change in prices. Peas steadily held, but slow to move. Oats firm, but inactive for both English and foreign sorts. Oatmeal quiet, very difficult to quit. Oileake in moderate demand and no change is quoted in prices. Indian meal continues in good demand at the prices quoted.—SEGAR AND TUNNCLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Rain has fallen this week very heavily, and no exception to-day, a constant downpour which, of course, made the attendance at the Corn Exchange less than usual. The wheat trade slow, former prices about maintained by sellers who do not press, but to push the article a concession in the cost imminent, say 6d per qr. Barley does not please holders, the prices are disappointing, no 40s lots as last year. Oats of best quality were firm, inferior inclined to drop. No change in beans or peas, nor in other feeding material.

Manchester, Thursday. — Foreign wheat easier, but only a slow trade passed. Flour rather on the easy side. Indian Corn: Plate and mixed American about ½d lower, but Cinquantina about 1d dearer on the week. Barley (feeding) steady at full rates. Oats firm, best English having a higher tendency. Bran in good request at 3d a load dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet market; little doing all round. Whit eand red wheat, 27s to 28s per qr; barley, malting 24s to 27s; grinding, 22s to 24s per qr; oats, white, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; black, 17s to 18s per qr; beans, 29s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand at our to-day's market at last Saturday's quotations. Maize, steady demand at late rates. Peas and beans firm, and in sellers' favour. Fine oats maintained fully late rates with a good demand; common sorts, in soft condition, was hard to dispose of at late quotations. A dull sale for barleys, and prices in buyers favour.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Business was quiet, and prices ruled about the same as last week.

Northampton, Saturday. — Small attendance. Wheat remained unchanged at late rates. The trade for common barley was very slow, being 6d to 1s per qr easier on the week; choice samples sold freely. Oats were firm and beans made 6d per qr less. New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 28s 6d to 29s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Trade slow. Wheat, barley, and beans each the turn lower. Oats firm but slow. Prices:—Wheat, 27s to 28s per 50

lb; barley, 25s to 29s per 448 lb; beans, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 532 lb; oats, white, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, black, 18s to 19s.—Robert Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wet weather has prevented threshing this week, and the supply of all grain has been small. Wheat was slow but not quotably lower. Barley still very dull. Oats firm, but only a quiet demand at late rates.—Thos. Hill & Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on our market to-day. Wheat, barley, maize, oats unchanged, and all steady at last week's prices.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—A fair attendance. There was a small business passing without material alteration in the prices of wheat and oats from those which ruled last week. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; oatmeal, per load of 240 lb, 23s to 25s 6d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a very good attendance, and a healthy tone prevailed, business in every department being very good. Prices: Wheat, 26s to 32s; malting barley, 27s to 33s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; new oats, 17s to 20s; old oats, 20s to 24s; beans, 30s to 34s; peas, 28s to 31s; flour, 24s to 26s.

Retford, Saturday.—Thrashing in this district has been hindered by the heavy rain. The supply of grain was small. Wheat was slow and prices remained at 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Good dry lots of malting barley were readily saleable, but inferior qualities were a drug. Currencies ranged from 24s to 26s; grinding barley, 23s 6d per qr. The value of grain for feeding purposes was not quotably altered. English beans, 30s; round maize, 24s; black oats, 17s to 18s; white ditto, to 19s; and old oats, 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A small supply of grain and little business passing. Barley shows a downward tendency. Round maize firm and rather dearer. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; ditto, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; maize, round, 22s to 23s; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Trade continues very inactive, and business was restricted to small purchases for present needs only. Prices continue unchanged all round. Maize beans, and peas firm, but wheat and oats slightly weaker. Other feeding stuffs unchanged. Quotations:—New white wheat, 29s to 29s 6d; new red ditto, 29s to 29s 6d per 504 lb; black oats, 19s to 19s 6d; white ditto, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb: grinding peas, 33s 3d to 33s 6d; blue ditto, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; new English beans,, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; grinding barley, 22s 9d to 23s; malting ditto, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; small Indian corn, 24s to 24s 6d; new Plate ditto, 21s 6d to 21s 9d; flat ditto, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—There was not a large attendance. Wheat was slightly lower on the week, the best samples realising 26s 6d to 27s, secondary quality, 25s to 26s; best malting barley made up to 29s per qr; grinding barley, 23s. Peas firm at late rates. Beans showed a downward tendency in prices.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Owing to the wet weather locally, which has stopped threshing operations, there were no samples of English wheat on offer. Foreign wheat slow, and owing to heavy shipments prices were a little easier. Maize steady. Oats slightly dearer. Very little malting barley at unchanged prices.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Small supply of grain, rain preventing thrashing. Wheat rather easier. Barley dull. Oats firm. Arrivals nil.—E. and F. Richardhson.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat quiet and prices unaltered. Barley and oats unchanged. Maize 6d dearer on the week. Flour in fair demand and fully late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wet weather stops threshing. Wheat has lost somewhat in condition, and only really dry lots maintain late rates. Reds, 26s 6d to 27s 6d 504 lb. Oats firm, 18s to 19s 336 lb. Barley, 24s to 28s 448 lb. Beans, 29s to 32s 532 lb.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and a fair amount of business was transacted. Quotations:—Wheat, 11s 6d per 196 lb; oats, 10s 6d per 196 lb: beans, 11s 9d per 196 lb; old beans, 14s per 196 lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of grain owing to the weather having prevented the thrashing operations. White wheat, 26s to 27s; ditto, red, 25s to 26s; barley, best malting, 28s 6d to 31s; ditto, secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding ditto, 25s to 26s; old white oats, 23s to 24s; new white ditto, 17s to 19s 6d; old black ditto, 23s to 24s; new black ditto, 16s to 18s 6d; maize, 23s to 24s 6d per qr.

York, Saturday.—The wet weather has prevented farmers threshing, and there is not much grain on offer. Wheat remains quiet at last week's prices. Fine white, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red and mixed, 26s 6d to 27s 6d per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley remains dull, without change in value; fine, 26s to 28s; good, 24s to 26s; ordinary, 22s to 24s per qr of 32 stone. Oats firm; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stone; rye, 21s; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather mild and rainy. Market quiet for wheat and rye; offers of foreign tend in buyers' favour, and home-grown is coming forward more freely. The strike of the bargemen causes high river freights, a drawback to business; however, feeding barley continues in fair request at unaltered prices. The same is the case with River Plate maize also. Oats of fine quality are in demand. Fine dry Holstein and Upland wheat is held at 28s to 29s per 504 lb f.o.b., duty deducted. American Hard Winter, No. 2, 28s to 28s 6d; 19/80 ko Bahia Blanca Russo, February-March, 28s 3d per 480 lb., c.i f., Hamburg. 9½ Odessa rye, afloat, is offering at 22s 6d; fine 9½ Nikolajeff is held at 23s to 23s 3d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley firm in value. Offers from Bohemia and Hungary are getting scarce. Fine stout Bohemian is held at 33s to 35s 6d; Slovakian at 35s 6d to 37s per 448 lb f.o.b. Holstein Mecklenburg and Eastern Germany is taken by our brewers at 34s to 39s; Danish is offering at 28s to 30s per 448 lb; 60/61 Ko South Russian November and December shipment is offering at 18s 3d to 18s 6d; January-March at 18s 9d to 19s per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Fine white oats are offered less freely; Pomeranian are held 19s 3d to 19s 9d per 336 lb c.i.f. East Coast of England. River Plate maize is selling 20s; Danubia May-June is offering at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; mixed maize prompt, 21s; December shipment 20s to 20s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 6, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Av. Price per q. £ s. d.
Wheat ..	3,303	1 ...	4,589 16 0 ...	1 7 9
Barley ...	1,405	7 ...	1,804 16 7 ...	1 5 8
Oats	814	2 ...	725 17 5 ...	17 10

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 10, 1906:—

Wheat	1,239,000 cwts.
Wheat-flour	304,100 ,,
Barley	660,300 ,,
Oats	285,790 ,,
Maize	941,500 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,558,700	2,332,400	1,747,300	2,014,023
Wheat-flour	259,600	193,800	443,325	330,459
Barley ...	459,400	509,900	827,080	1,016,433
Oats ...	129,700	219,200	514,860	371,046
Maize ...	547,400	824,800	1,482,270	635,772

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.....	30 5	24 9	16 5	28 6	24 9	18 5
Feb.....	30 7	25 1	16 9	28 10	25 4	18 11
Mar. ...	30 10	25 1	16 11	28 5	24 8	18 11
April ...	30 9	24 8	17 3	29 1	24 2	19 1
May ...	30 10	24 8	18 5	30 2	24 0	20 0
June ...	31 8	24 4	19 2	30 4	23 4	20 2
July ...	32 0	22 8	18 4	30 4	23 1	20 4
Aug. ..	29 6	22 10	16 10	29 6	23 7	17 9
Sept. ...	26 10	23 9	16 0	26 1	24 5	16 2
Oct.....	27 1	24 11	16 6	26 5	25 0	16 7
Nov. ...	28 3	24 8	17 6	—	—	—
Dec. ...	28 5	24 6	18 0	—	—	—

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1905.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 11	78,276	27	10	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	1
,, 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,413	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,685	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,601	18	2
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	4
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	7
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	10
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	19	0
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	18	8
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	10
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	8
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	11
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	19	4
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	5,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,256	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 10, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	51,592	25	0	220,987	25	11	30,347	17	3
1903	43,045	26	6	172,879	24	6	23,074	15	9
1904	43,740	30	3	204,446	24	6	32,320	15	11
1905	78,276	28	3	209,509	24	10	28,346	17	4
1906	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Oct. 31 to Nov. 7 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	3,700	30,000	33,700
Barley.....	3,530	40,000	43,530
Malt.....	17,877	—	17,877
Oats.....	3,900	80,000	83,900
Beans	1,730	5,038	6,768
Peas.....	1,066	2,284	3,350
Maize	—	18,804	18,804
Lentils.....	—	4,500	4,500
Millet	—	870	870
Tares	137	—	137
Cottonseed.. tons ...	—	9,000	9,000
Linseed ..... ,, ..	—	2,000	2,000
Sunflowerseed ,, ..	—	150	150
Flour.....sacks ...	25,100	23,000	48,100
Middlings ... ,, ..	—	3,700	3,700
Oatmeal ..... ,, ..	—	2,500	2,500

Cereal Years Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

The price of wheat to-day was barely maintained, for a good many samples of English were damp and out of condition, while a proportion of Russian gave dissatisfaction on account of impurities, and of American on account of quality. The holders of Indian and Argentine obtained full terms. Maize was 3d. per qr. lower, and sales were slow even at the decline. Barley was again 6d. lower for English and for the various imported descriptions old prices were hard to realise. The demand for oats was below the average for the time of year, but after so long a spell of open weather this is not surprising. Holders were rather more confident than on the Friday. Beans and peas were firm, and there was a little recovery from recent depression in rye and tares. Buckwheat, dari, and millet sold comparatively well at previous full prices.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

November 12.

WHEAT,	White (Old)	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New)	,,	28 — 30
	Red	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old)	(per 448 lb.)	33 — 37
	,, (New)	,,	29 — 35
	Brewing (Old)	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)	(per 416 lb.)	24 — 25
	Feeding (New)	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New)	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,,	,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New)	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter)	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	46 — 50

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32/9—33	American	22—22/3
,, ,, 2	31/9—32	Argentine	20/9—21
American Red	30/9—31	Bulgarian	21 — 22
Argentine	31/9—32	Roumanian	21 — 22
Australian	31/6 32/6	Russian	21 — 22
New Zealand	30/6 31/6	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Blue Stem	31/6 32/6	Smyrna	34 — 36
Walla Walla	30/6 31/6	Konigsberg	33 — 35
Saxonka	32/6 33/6	New Zealand	35 — 36
Azima	30/6 31/6	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Ghirka	29/6 30/6	Italian	64 — 72
Indian White	31 — 32	Burmese	32 — 42
,, Red	30 — 31	Chilian	56 — 64
BARLEY:		LENTILS (cental):	
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29 — 30	Split Egyptian	10 — 11
Ouchak (448 lb)	27 — 29	Whole Indian	7 — 8
Chilian (448 lb)	28 — 29	PEAS (504 lb.):	
Bohemian (448 lb)	34 — 38	Konigsberg	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian (400 lb)	19/6—20	Indian Green	29 — 31
Tunis (400 lb)	23 — 24	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Gaza (400 lb)	23/9—24	New Zeal'd Maple	39— 40
Persian (400 lb)	18—18/6	Victoria Dun.	33 — 34
Hama (448 lb)	26 — 27	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Spanish (448 lb)	29 — 33	White	42 — 44
Crush'd (304 lb)	20 — 21	Yellow	22 — 24
Torrified (336 lb)	21 — 22	Sorghum	20 — 22
MALT (336 lb.):		RICE (cwt.):	
Californian	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
Smyrna	33 — 36	Burmese	9 — 10
Ouchak	33 — 36	Siamese	8 — 9
RYE (480 lb.):		DARI (480 lb.):	
Russian	24 — 25	Smyrna	25 — 26
OATS:		Indian	23 — 24
N'wZeal'd (384 lb)	23 —25	Persian	21 — 22
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	18— 19	BUCKWHEAT (416 lb.)	
Libau (320 lb.)	18 — 19	French	26 — 27
,, (304 lb.)	16—16/3	Russian	25 — 26
Arg'nt'e (304 lb)	16—16/3		

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p m.

Prices are rather lower on the week for town whites, town households, country patents, all English straights, roller whites, and French patents. Prices were maintained, albeit with no very good market, American, Hungarian, Belglan descriptions. Australian was weak in tone, but not quotably cheaper. Argentine was scarcely offered. Bran, pollard, and middlings were firm, and some houses asked a little more money from Friday.

London Flour.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/0 ,,
No. 2	,,	20/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	21/0 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	19/0 ,,

Country Flour.		s. s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
Roller Whites	,,	21 — 22
Stone made	,,	20 — 21

Foreign Flour.		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
Belgian	,,	26 — 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH SOMEWHAT LESS DEPRESSION AS THE WEATHER SEEMS TO BE HARDENING, AND AS SOON AS NOVEMBER IS OVER MARKETS ARE APT TO SHOW AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE ALL ROUND ENQUIRY.

THE BALTIC, 1 p m.

State of Trade.

Wheat.—Best Manitoba, 29s per 480 lb, November shipment; Hard Winter, 28s 6d per 480 lb, November shipment; Hard Duluth, 30s. 3d. per 480 lb, November shipment; Bahia Blanca, 29s 3d per 480 lb, November shipment; Australian, 29s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment (new crop); Roumanian, 28s 9d per 492 lb, November shipment; Blue Stem, 30s 6d per 500 lb, November shipment; White Walla, 29s 6d per per 500 lb, November shipment.

Maize.—American, 19s 3d per 480 lb, January shipment; Turkish, 19s 6d per 480 lb, November shipment.

Barley.—Kherson, 18s 6d per 400 lb, on passage; Californian, 26s 6d per 448 lb, on passage.

Oats.—Manitoba, 18s per 320 lb, December shipment.

Linseed.—Duluth, 42s per 424 lb, on passage; Calcutta, 43s 3d per 410 lb, on passage.

Rapeseed.—Guzerat, 47s per 416 lb, May shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 per 2,240 lb, November shipment; Egyptian, £6 18s 9d per 2,240 lb December shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Buyers continue indifferent, and it is difficult to make progress. Grain.—American corn is more plentiful and 1½d per boll lower. Plate is scarce on spot and held for a slight advance. Oats are steady, but less active. Pease are scarce, and in sellers' favour. Grinding beans are held for a further advance of 3d to 6d per boll. Feeding beans quiet. Barley is now pretty well cleared from quay. Oilcake firm. Oatmeal unchanged. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and common thirds are firm, but fine thirds are inclined to weaken.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Rather more inquiry, but no improvement to report in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran in short supply; prices firm and tending upward.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

We have liberal arrivals of wheat. The trade has recovered the depression of last week in Canadian wheat, and prices are unchanged. Russians are rrther lower for inferior qualities. Flour unchanged. Maize 3d lower. Barley and oats firm, and prices unchanged.—Coventry and Sheppard.

Milling Offals.—The trade for milling offal remains firm all round, with mills clear and prices unchanged.—John Bawcombe and Co.

Flour: A quiet trade at last week's prices.—Medill and Sons, Ltd.

TERM MARKET.

The prospect of American wheat being shipped under better guarantees than those at present existing has improved since the conference at St. Mary Axe on the 8th inst. The Term market owes not a little of its recent dulness to the dissatisfaction caused by the American certificates. Prices are as follows:—

American winter wheat	Nov. delivery,	6s 4d	per cental	
,, ,,	Jan.	,,	6s 4d	,,
,, ,,	March	,,	6s 4d	,,
Mixed American Maize	Nov.	,,	4s 4d	,,
,,	Jan.	,,	4s 1d	,,
,,	March	,,	3s 11d	,,
Yellow Argentine Maize	Nov.	,,	4s 1d	,,
,,	Jan.	,,	4s 1d	,,
,,	March	,,	4s 1d	,,

A cargo of Canadian peas was sold to-day for January delivery at 6s 9d per cental.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Large arrivals of cottonseed have made the market easier for buyers of oilseeds generally.

Linseed.	per 416 lb. s. s	Cottonseed.	per ton. s. s.
Dutch	47 to 49	Egyptian	136 to 138
American	43 to 44	Indian	106 to 110
Calcutta	42 to 43	Sunflowerseed.	
Bombay	43 to 45		per cwt.
Russian	41 to 42	English, White	15 to 16
Argentine	41 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Duluth	42 to 43	,, Black.	13 to 14
Rapeseed.	per 416 lb.	Sesame.	per cwt.
Best English	68 to 69	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat	52 to 54	Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	44 to 45	Canaryseed.	per 464 lb.
Ferozepore	47 to 48	English	48 to 50
		Spanish	78 to 80
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.	Turkish	39 to 41
Indian	51 to 53	Argentin	38 to 39

OILCAKES.

Mark Lane, November 12.—A decline of 1s. 3d. per ton was allowed to-day both on linseed cakes and on cotton cakes, but rapeseed cake is too scarce to fall in price.—(Special to M.L.E.).

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £3 17s 6d to £4 per ton.

Bristol, Friday.—Old clover hay, 87s 6d to 92s 6d; old meadow hay, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds ditto, 65s to 70s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay steady at 50s to 60s in stack. Straw very inactive, without quotable change in price at 30s in bulk per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d to 6⅞d; wheat straw, 4¼d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A steady trade is passing in the warehouses for hay and straw at the following quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 6d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay realised £3 10s.; and secondary quality, £2 15s to £3 per ton on the ground; straw, 30s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5½d; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 3d to 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 10s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 8s; now land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 10s to £5. Wheat straw, from £1 8s per load; barley straw, from £1 4s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supply, which met with a quiet trade. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — Business ruled quiet, with little alteration from late quotations. Choice seeds, £4 to £4 5s; choice hay, £3 10s to £3 15s; seconds ditto, £3 5s to £3 7s 6d; straw, £2 10s to £2 15s.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were on a light scale, and a fair demand prevailed. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Light supplies on offer experienced fair support. Quotations: Maincrops, 70s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 65s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply at both the public retail markets, and a steady demand at 5d to 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply and a fair demand. Prices, which were a shade firmer, ruled from 6s 6d to 7s 6d per load of 18 stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, but trade was slow. There was no alteration in the prices. Best potatoes £3 to £3 2s 6d; inferior, 52s 6d per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Wholesale potatoes rule same as last week. Retail, 6d to 7d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Yorkshire Warps, 8s to 9s 6d; sands, 8s to 9s; Cheshire, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; Lincoln Warps, 8s to 9s per load; Irish 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—There was an increase in the quotations, which ruled at 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Potatoes plentiful. Best home-grown 6s to 6s 6d per load, other descriptions 5s to 5s 6d per load.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Better attention was given to the light consignments delivered. Quotations:—Blacklands, 60s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; British Queens, 65s to 75s; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s; Maincrops, 80s per ton.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals from all districts have been limited, and prices have improved. To-day's prices are as follows:—Lightsoil: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s per ton; British Queens, 60s to 70s per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 65s per ton; Edward VIIth, 60s to 65s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 55s to 60s per ton; Evergoods, 55s to 60s per ton; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 5d to 6d per stone.

York, Saturday.—Not many potatoes on offer, and late rates ruled. Best Up-to-Dates, 50s to 52s 6d; inferior sorts, 45s to 47s 6d per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 12, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 13, 1905.
Beasts	1,390	1,390	870
Sheep and Lambs	4,660	4,660	5,130
Calves	20	20	—
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	40	40	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	5 0
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 4
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 8	5 4	6 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 15; Eastern Counties, 78; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 977; Devon, 45; Ireland, 275.

There was a decrease of 210 in the number on offer to-day compared with Monday last, the majority, as usual, consisting of Midland and Home Counties cattle. For all grades of both prime and second quality fat cattle trade opened slow, and continued so throughout the day. Nevertheless no quotable decline in value can be recorded; middling quality in very little request. The Irish arrivals to-day were again very large, and consisted of 169 Dublins and 106 Waterfords; for this class of cattle trade ruled quiet, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one, though not quotably so. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average numbers, the former meeting a limited demand from both town and country buyers at a reduction in value, whilst the latter sold fairly well at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. Clearance doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Nov. 13, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	4 10	5 0	—	
Devons	4 4	to 4 6	4 4	to 4 6
Herefords	4 4	to 4 6	4 4	to 4 6
Norfolks	—		—	
Runts	4 0	to 4 4	4 0	to 4 4
Lincolns	3 8	to 3 10	3 8	to 3 10
Irish	3 10	to 4 2	3 8	to 3 10
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	2 10	to 3 6	3 4	ex 3 6

There was a decrease of 570 in the number of sheep penned, the supply including 300 Scotch, 570 Irish, and 550 from Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. Trade for all grades of both wethers and ewes opened very quiet, prices ruling easier to the extent of fully 2d. per 8 lb. in most cases, anything small and choice found ready purchasers. Irish also met a limited inquiry, salesmen having to accept 2d per 8 lb less money to effect sales. On the other hand, Scotch sheep sold fairly well, last Monday's money being well maintained. A clearance in this part of the market is not expected under these circumstances.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Nov. 13, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 2	to 6 4	5 8	to 5 10
9 st. Downs	5 10	to 6 0	5 6	to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 8	to 5 10	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		...	—
12 st Lincolns	—		...	—
10 st Irish	5 2	to 5 4	5 5	to 5 6
10 st Down Ewes	4 2	to 4 4	4 0	to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0	to 4 2	3 10	to 4 0
5 st Down Lambs	—		...	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		...	—

Calf trade slow but firm, best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supplies. Trade rather firmer on colder weather. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; ditto, refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 4s 2d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 4s to 4s 10d per stone.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts nil. No market held here to-day. On Saturday 1,221 beasts from the United States and 469 Canadians were offered for sale, and met a firm and steady trade at from 4s 2d to 4s 5d for the former and from 3s 9d to 4s 1d per 8 lb for the latter (offal given in).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Principally owing to mildness of the weather, trade has been disappointing, but with the present rising linseed market, there is little chance of a weakening in prices for cake. Cotton Cake: After a slight drop in values the market has a firmer tendency with a much improved demand. Decorticated cottoncake and meal.—An arrival of cake is just reported, full prices being asked for same. Market strong with a brisk trade doing. Linseed in the leading ports.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
Carbonelles Calcutta Linseed Cake ...ex quay	8 2 6	
Carbonelles Western Linseed Cake ...ex quay	—	—
Carbonelles Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ...ex quay	—	—
Russian Oil Cake ...ex quay	7 12 6	to 7 18 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake ...	7 12 6	
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	--	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	4 17 6	
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4 16	3 to 4 17 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 0 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	—	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 3 0	2 12 0
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 4 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,124 bales, and from foreign ports 13,933 bales. The bacon market was steadier last week, quotations ranging —Irish, 53s to 56s up to 61s; Danish, 46s to 56s up to 59s; Canadian, 52s to 53s up to 56s. Butter: Butter was a quiet, steady market.—French, 116s to 126s; Danish, 124s to 127s; Russian, 86s to 106s; Colonials, 100s to 116s. Lard.—The Lard market was firm—Irish, 56s to 60s up to 65; Danish, 55s to 58s up to 61s; American, 47s to 49s.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There is nothing fresh to report on the market, hops are quietly going into consumers' hands at prices current last week. The imports from September 1 to October 31, 1906, were 32,124 cwt; for the corresponding period last year, 18771 cwt. The exports from September 1 to October 31, 1906, were 1,498 cwt; for the corresponding period last year, 9,236 cwt. —W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Business was not quite so good early in the week, but there has been a better inquiry since, resulting in one or two big transactions. A parcel of choice Mid-Kents was sold this week at £7 per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—The attendance at market to-day was very scanty, so many having cleared out. The demand was good, and prices were rather better than last week's. Good yearlings sell well.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The demand for seed wheats is now practically over. Winter tares in good demand. Supplies diminishing; prices unchanged. Mustard is not offering so freely; prices firm. Peas selling steadily; prices very firm. The new clover seeds, reds and whites, offering more freely; prices unchanged. Reds, fancy quality, 58s to 62s; fine, 53s to 56s; good, 48s to 52s per cwt. Whites, fancy quality, 60s to 64s; fine, 54s to 58s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils show steady prices, 20s to 24s per cwt. Grasses, including French and Irish Italian ryegrass and perennial ryegrass, firm. New Zealand cocksfoot and meadow fescue, unchanged.—JOHN PICARD & CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

In reviewing the cattle trade of the past week at Islington we have to note an increase in the supply due to larger arrivals from the Midland, Home, and Western counties and Ireland, these latter consisting of 140 Dublins (20 of which were choice polled cattle) and 160 Waterfords. Trade for this class of beast was of a somewhat slow but steady nature, late currencies governing all transactions. For all grades of both prime and second quality late values were well upheld, a few polled Aberdeens making our top quotations. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited demand on both market days, difficulty being experienced in obtaining late rates.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, no market was held on Monday; for the remainder of the week, viz., Wednesday and Saturday, trade was of a slow nature, lower rates having to be asked to effect sales. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 4,710, as against 4,331 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,720 British (increase 440) and 2,990 foreign (decrease 61), these comprising 2,241 from the United States and 749 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 00 stone Scotch, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington was practically confined to Monday; on Thursday, owing to the inclement weather, very few buyers were present, consequently the majority were turned out unsold. Trade on the first market day of the week was of a dull and dragging nature, rates favouring the buyers to the extent of fully 2d. per 8 lb. Scotch were also slow of sale at the same decline in value; on the other hand, Irish descriptions met with a steady demand at late rates. The total number of sheep penned was 5,320, as against 5,660 during the preceding week, consisting entirely of British consignments.

Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone half-bred ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered 20, trade for which was nominal. Only 5 pigs on offer, consequently not quotable.

Trade in the West.

Excessive supplies of stores still come to hand in most districts, and this naturally operates against any great advance in prices. This view is somewhat fortified by the turn things have taken since our last report, the reaction in respect to fresh condition graziers being very marked, though many now being sold have by no means reached their value. Once, however, graziers begin to lay in their stocks in earnest we shall see values rapidly rise, many who are putting out their barreners within the next fortnight or three weeks hoping to realise from £2 to £3 apiece more for their graziers than is now obtainable, though we have seen a few sold already up to £32 10s. a pair, these, however, being very fresh indeed—quite beef. Milch beasts, which continue in short supply as regards the more serviceable grades, maintain all their old buoyancy, best heifers making up to £22 and good deep-milking cows to £20, though a more average range for milchers to meet ordinary requirements is from £15 to £17 10s. Of the plainer grades plenty are offering from £10 up to £14, but in many cases this is for old cows; springers ranging from £15 to £18 10s. The sheep trade, as we predicted, is brisker now almost than at any previous period in the season, and prices have still further advanced on Dorchester rates, and these showed an improvement on previous fairs of from 2s. to 5s. a head. Wether and chilver lambs, the former selling from 34s. to 55s, and chilvers from 31s. to 44s.; mixed lambs making 34s. to 38s., and draft ewes from 42s. to 49s.; grazing ewes, 34s. 6d. to 39s. Business keeps unusually brisk on these terms, and, with a keen demand for almost every class of sheep or lamb, everything is readily cleared at all the sheep marts of any note. Calves for keeping on, as well as store, also sell at high rates.

There has, likewise, been a corresponding improvement in fat stock sales, prices all round having taken an upward turn. The beef trade is considerably more buoyant than it has been of late, and buyers are showing a much more general disposition to speculate, in spite of the markets being against them, all the better-quality steers and heifers now coming out (but of which there is no superabundance) realising 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per stone, and those of not quite so good finish 4s. 4d.; anything coarse or rough (cows, bulls, &c.) selling at 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d. Fat calves from scarcity are selling at a trifling advance compared with late markets. Mutton keeps exceptionally scarce, especially nicely-finished wethers and young ewes, which may now be quoted 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d. per stone; coarser weights and secondary ewes, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; and anything very rough, in which a reaction in price has taken place, down to 4s. 4d. There is a difficulty in meeting the demand for fat pigs, which keep phenomenally dear, all the neater weights in porkers making 10s. 3d. to 11s. 3d. per stone, and baconers 9s. 6d. to 10s.; heavy pigs also freely at 8s. to 9s for sows.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has not been quite so large as last week. The best qualities have met a good demand and prices were rather better. The secondary descriptions were also more easily sold. An exceedingly large show of sheep and lambs. The tone of trade was against sellers, and prices on an average would be from 1s. to 2s. a head down. Fat calves short in numbers, and exceedingly dear. An average number of pigs on offer which met quite a satisfactory trade. A small supply of store sheep, generally of an indifferent class. These were rather worse to sell, and part of the indifferent descriptions were left over. Not quite so many store cattle on offer this week. Everything of a good description got fairly well sold, but a considerable number of the rougher class were left over. A small supply of milch cows sold very dear. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 7d.; current, 35s. to 36s. 6d.; mutton to nearly 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a very good attendance of home and export buyers at last Thursday's Dublin market, with a larger supply of cattle by nearly 500 head on the previous market, and a decrease of 476 sheep. The numbers were:—Cattle, 4,715; sheep, 5,613. There were fewer really well fed cattle, and a larger proportion of rough and half-meated beasts on offer. The live weight price of prime cattle touched 33s. 6d. in some instances. Trade was slow for the ordinary classes, but a fair clearance was made, though at a late hour. The shipping trade was not good. Dead-weight prices were as follows:—Prime ox and heifer beef, from 50s. to 52s. 6d., and up to 56s. 6d. per cwt. for very extra; good second quality beef from 46s. to 48s., and inferior from 42s. to 45s. per cwt. The improved rates for prime cattle noticed last week were maintained, and, in some cases, improved upon. Second-rate beasts did not share in this improvement, as very heavy arrivals in English ports from Canada and the States supplied English contractors. Mr. Gavin Low had an exceptionally nice lot of Aberdeen-Angus cattle on his stand, which made 34s. (live weight) per cwt., the top price of the market. Heavy-weight bullocks and heifers, suitable to the Scotch market, were in very good request and firmer in price.

Trade was not quite so steady in the mutton department as on the previous Thursday, even though there was a good shrinkage in supplies. For shipping hoggets it was extremely difficult to realise the former week's prices, and the buying for the London markets was limited. Heavy and coarse classes did not command satisfactory figures, and generally could only be sold at a small discount on previous day's rates. Few sheep were bought for the Lancashire districts, which usually take the majority of the shipping classes. Prime wether mutton was worth from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb, prime ewe 6¾d to 7½d., and inferior mutton from 5½d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets paid up to 50s. and 60s. each, and small to medium ditto from 34s. to 48s. Prime veal scarce and in strong request at from 7d. to 8d. per lb. Coarse veal neglected, and selling from 4½d. per lb. upwards. Good supply of dairy cattle, but demand slow, especially for coarse cows. Prime cows from £17 to £20, others from £9 to £16. Store cattle much the same.

Pig market well supplied. Business opened slowly, as cross-Channel buyers were not in attendance, and home-curers' representatives were doing little. Prices generally from 2s. to 3s. per cwt. less than the previous market. Prime light-weight pigs 45s. to 48s. per cwt., coarse pigs from 33s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt. Store pigs in good request.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow. Prices for beef and mutton not quite so firm. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 4s to 4s 2d; ditto, seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 10d; Dutch ditto, 4s to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which, taken as a whole, was slow but steady, late currencies being both asked and obtained, a clearance being made: Top value fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s per 8 lb. Decrease of 30 in number penned in sheep market. Trade was practically nil, owing to the inclement weather prevailing, and the marked absence of buyers; consequently prices cannot be recorded, the majority being turned out unsold. Calf trade nominal. Pigs too few to quote. Quotations per 8 lb:—Beasts, 2s 6d to 3s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Good trade all round. Best beef made 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Down mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; small Kent mutton, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; roasting pigs, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; large hogs, 3s 10d to 4s a stone.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance. Best beasts, 6½d to 7d; second class ditto, 5½d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5d; best sheep, 9d to 9½d; second ditto, 8d to 8½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 7d to 7½d; fat calves, 7d to 8d per lb; fat hogs, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; fat porkers, 10s to 11s per score.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance. The quotations were:—Mutton, 9d to 9d; two-tooth wethers, 46s to 56s 6d; tegs, 53s to 55s 6d; store tegs, 37s; fat steers, £20 to £22; heifers, £15 10s to £20 10s; cows and calves, £12 to £14 10s; yearling steers, £5 to £5 10s; barreners, £8 to £11; calves, 25s to 96s.

Berwick, Saturday.—The supplies of cattle showed a considerable decrease on the previous week, but the quality was excellent. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade dull. Calves, £6 10s to £8 10s; heifers, £10; stirks, £8 10s to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; three-year-olds, £11 to £14 15s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Herefords, 6¾ per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; sows, 8s to 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but business slow at late rates, in consequence of restricted demand. Mutton was again rather scarce, and trade quiet, values of heavy wethers advancing slightly. Few pigs were on offer, and quotations were unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 9d per score.—C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a large offering of sheep. Half-bred tegs made from 34s 6d to 41s; lambs from 30s to 34s; and old ewes up to 36s. Horned stock were in larger supply and trade was a trifle better. Yearlings, £5 to £7 10s, and animals rising two years up to £9 per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies, which reached over 100, were the smallest this back-end. Very few buyers attended and trade was slow. Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £12 10s; polled bullocks, £7 10s to £8 10s; horned bullocks, to £11.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were again large, with a good attendance of buyers. Milch stock and young cattle were in active demand, and business generally was satisfactory at last week's full rates. Milch cows made £16 to £22; calves, £15 to £20; heifers, £10 to £14; barrens, £9 to £13; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 26s to 30s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a good average attendance of buyers. Trade for sheep opened slowly, but improved later, and a clearance was effected at about late prices. Trade for well finished fat beasts was firmer, but half-fat and rough cattle sold very slowly. Good dairy cattle fully maintained late prices. For store cattle, with the exception of a few lots all changed

hands, but without much alteration in prices. Quotations: Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s to 4s 6d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef averaged 5s per stone of 8 lb; mutton, 6s to 6s 4d. Home-fed bullocks were dear, and there were very few sheep, either store or fat.

Derby, Tuesday.—There was again a scarcity of first quality beasts and sheep, and prices hardened. Beasts, 6d to 7d; sheep, 8d to 10d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply of cattle, and good attendance. Trade was slightly better at fully late rates. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; young stores, £7 to £9 each. Plenty of sheep. Not much inquiry for ewes, which made 40s to 45s each. Lambs unchanged at 35s to 48s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—With much more favourable weather to-day than had been experienced throughout the week, supplies came fairly well to hand, particularly of fat and store cattle, but mutton made a very poor display. Milch beasts again experienced a quick sale at from £16 to £20 for the best, and £12 10s to £16 for others. Barreners improved with the change in the weather, and as many men were on the look out for this class of stock, a slightly upward turn in prices has to be quoted, the best making up to £25 per pair, ranging to £20 for serviceable bullocks. Plainer kinds still slow of sale, at from £17 to £19 10s. A few store bulls made £9 to £10 apiece. The beef trade also showed a slight revival in price, best heifers and steers making £16 10s to £22 each (or 11s to 11s 3d per score); fat cows £13 to £16 (or 10s to 10s 6d). Mutton very firm, at from 47s 6d to 52s for wethers (or 8d to 8½d per lb); ewes, 47s to 49s 6d (or 7d to 7½d). To-day's sales were conducted by Messrs. Drake and Son, and by Messrs. Symonds and Sampson.

Dublin, Thursday.—There was again a good demand for best finished cattle at last week's full rates. Secondary and inferior sorts, owing to large increase in supplies, were harder to clear at sagging prices. No material alteration in the price of sheep compared with last week, though the trade finished up very slowly. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 31s per cwt; exceptional for Angus crosses, 33s per cwt. Secondary and middling classes, 25s to 28s per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6¾d to 8¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Small supplies of cattle and sheep, with a moderate trade, many being left unsold. Polled bullocks to £14; stirks, £9 to £11; Grey-faced sheep to 36s; Cheviot lambs, 24s; half-bred lambs, 31s 6d. Cows met a slightly better trade; Shorthorns to £25 10s; Ayrshires to £19; Irish, £23; and calving cows, £21.

Exeter, Friday. — Very fair attendance; business brisk. Maiden heifers and steers made up to 11s 3d per score; cows and second quality beasts, 9s to 10s; small hoggs, 8½ to 9d per lb; large ditto, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d; lambs, 35s to 38s; calves, 7d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Trade slow but prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 58s to 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; best hoggs, light weights, 9¾d to 10d; heavy weights, 9d to 9½d; wedders, 8d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7½d per lb. Dead meat quiet, with little alteration in values; best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5½d; best Canadian, 5d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Bruton, Knowles, & Co. report their sales as follows:—A large supply of cows and calves and incalvers (ninety) with good trade for best quality, the highest prices being as follows: £22 15s, £22 10s, £21 15s; a good supply of store cattle, with not quite so much demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A fair supply of beef, and the best quality met with a fairly firm trade; bullock and heifer, 6½d to 7d; fat cow, 5d to 5½d; and bull beef 4½d per lb. Mutton was scarce, and the best quality wethers made 7d, fat ewes 7d. and fat lambs 8d per lb, store lambs also meeting with a good demand. Fat calves were a short supply at 7d, and store calves went brisker. Pigs were a small supply, with firm trade; porks at 6d, bacons 5d to 6d; store pigs were dear, and weaners cheap. A slight improvement in the store cattle trade.

Leicester, Saturday.—Larger consignments of home-bred stock. Prices were very irregular. Choice milch cows, £21 to £23; good ditto, £18 to £20; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £12 to £17; Irish bullocks, £11 to £14; Hereford cattle, £13 to £15; Welsh runts, £10 to £14; calves, 15s to 30s each.

Lynn. Tuesday.—A larger show of fat beasts met slow trade from 7s to 7s 6d. An average show of stores, with a slow trade, made about £6 to £15 each. Fat sheep were a small supply, with a firm trade, and made 9s to 10s per stone. Stores about 40s to 48s each; store lambs from 30s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—The supply of beasts was on a limited scale. Young beasts realised £10 to £12. Lambs made 34s to 44s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 6½d to 6½d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade slow. Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 3d; second class, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; steers, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s to 7s 9d per stone. Sheep prices favouring sellers at 5d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—An average supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs, but calves and pigs were scarce. A good attendance and trade was brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d to 6½d per lb; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; Irish beef, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 6½d; lambs, 9½d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score; baconers, 9s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of fat beasts was fully up to the average, and for best beef there was a good demand at 8s per stone of 14 lb; inferior qualities averaged from 7s to 7s 6d. There was a large show of store cattle, and trade was the worst experienced for the last three or four weeks. Although values were not materially lower, sales were difficult to effect, and a large number of cattle remained unsold at the close of the market. Prices ranged from £5 to £16 per head. The supply of store sheep was composed of a few lots of hoggets, and for these there was a fair demand at values ranging from 35s to 45s per head. There was an average show of fat sheep, which were in fair request at prices ranging from 10s to 14s per stone. Both fat and store pigs were in larger supply, and trade was a trifle easier for fat pigs, values being quite 3d per stone less. Fat averaged from 6s 9d to 7s, and stores ranged from 15s to 50s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Short supply of stock. In-calf cows made £19 to £22; in-calf heifers, £10 10s to £13, and yearling beasts £6 to £8 10s. Calves, of which there was a very small show, realised 25s to 35s each. No pigs or sheep were on sale.

Preston, Wednesday. — There was an improved trade in all departments. Sheep and calves commanded more money. Heifers and bullocks made 5¾d to 6½d; cows and bulls, 4¾d to 5½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; hoggs, 8¾d to 9d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; calves, 7d to 7¾d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Store beasts were comparatively few, but there was a thin attendance. Prices generally about unchanged.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts; trade a little better. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, trade better at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade for small sheep very dear, at 6s 4d to 6s 6d; large, 5s 10d to 6s per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade about the same at 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone. Very slow demand for store beasts. Pig trade about the same: small porkers, 4s 8d to 5s; large hogs, 4s to 4s 2d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A moderate show of milch beasts, with a slightly improved trade, prime lots making £18 to £21; secondary, £15 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good supply of store cattle, and usual supply of fat cattle, calves, sheep, and pigs. Prices slightly in advance of last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 9d to 10d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 8d to 8½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle met with a slow trade at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Young sheep and hoggs made 9d per lb; ewes, 7½d; tups, 6d. The pig trade was slow, and there was no alteration from recent quotations.

Thame, Tuesday.—Fat oxen made from £16 to £22 15s; fat heifers, £13 to £22 2s 6d; fat tegs, 50s to 68s 6d; fat wethers, 52s to 67s; fat ewes, 41s to 50s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £6 8s; weaning cow calves, 40s to 65s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 15s; fat sows, £6 to £8; porkers, 28s to 45s; small store pigs, 14s to 26s; large stores, 30s to 42s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 44s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 16s to 36s; wethers, 7¾d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7¾d to 8d; pigs, 10s to 30s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair number of animals penned, but only a moderate demand. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; wether mutton, 8½d to 9½d per lb; calves, 7d to 8½d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 9d to 10s; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s; and sows, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Fat beasts were scarce, but a large supply of store stocks. Best beef made up to 7s 9d; other sorts, 6s 6d to 7s 3d per stone. A short supply of sheep, which were in good demand, 10d per lb being reached in some cases.

Yeovil, Friday. Best quality heifers and cows, with calves at side, made from £18 10s to £22; secondary animals, £10 5s to £16 10s; in-calf heifers, £9 10s to £13 10s; in-calf cows, £7 10s to £16 18s; yearlings heifers, £6 to £8 5s; grazing steers, £12 to £14 5s; barren heifers, £9 10s to £13. Down ewes, 42s to 46s; Down wethers, 48s to 55s; Down lambs, 30s to 37s 6d; horn ewes, 42s 6d to 48s; horn wethers, 50s to 55s 6d; horn lambs, 34s to 40s.

York, Thursday.—There were more store cattle shown than for several years, close on 4,000 being penned, and with the supply far exceeding the demand, prices were all in favour of buyers. The chief demand was for strong cattle, and some good three-year-old bullocks full of beef made up to £16; two-year-olds, £9 to £11 10s; English stirks, £6 to £8 10s. Calving and milch cows met a fairly good demand. Some of the very best made up to £22, but the majority sold at from £17 to £19 per head. About 8,000 sheep were penned, but trade generally was bad. A few north country ewes, left over from last market, made 45s to 50s; north country shearlings, to 46s; north country lambs, 37s to 43s; best twice-crossed shearlings, to 52s; Masham shearlings, 44s to 48s; Masham lambs, 24s to 30s; one or two lots of specially good twice-crossed lambs made up to 48s; and others, 35s to 42s. A few south country lambs on offer, which fetched up to 42s; and about 300 Cheviot ewes made 26s to 33s each.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales, 922 head being penned. All were from Montreal, and were delivered in fair shape and condition. There was a good attendance of buyers, and, with a keener demand for good qualities, improved quotations were returned for several classes. Bullocks were, as usual, in the majority, and for those of good quality a sharp trade was experienced at the higher quotations, while secondary and middling sorts also met a fair demand, but rough and inferior sorts were difficult to cash. Bulls of prime, choice quality sold well, but heavy grades met with a slow trade. Bullocks made up to 56s per cwt dead weight, and Ranchers were cashed from 45s to 48s per cwt, whilst bulls sold at from 42s to 46s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. — Linseed has met with a better demand and prices have hardened about 1s 6d per qr. River Plate: Spot now held for 42s 6d., October-November sold up to 42s 3d, December-January made 40s 6d, and January-February 40s. Baltic sorts have sold from 40s 6d up to 41s. Cottonseed.—During the last week the market continued to advance, spot Egyptian making up to £7 7s 6d, also £7 5s paid by steamer due in a few days. First half November sold at £6 17s 6d, and November-January at £6 16s 3d, but to-day the tone is quiet, with sellers at these prices. Bombay near at hand held £5 17s 6d, and a little business done October-November at £5 13s to £5 15s, also November-December at £5 12s 6d, with still sellers; £5 9s asked December-January, £5 8s January-February. Oilseed Cakes: Linseed.—There is a firmer tone owing to the advance in seed. The supply of cakes and seed is below the average, which about balances the slower demand. Cotton. — A firm market, with a slight improvement in demand.—KEIGHLEY, MANSTED AND Co.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes.—There is a slight improvement in the consumptive demand, but with a continued absence of any speculative inquiry and a firmer tendency on the part of shippers, values although not quotably dearer, are inclined to harden. Russians offer relatively cheaply at £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. in mats, and £7 13s. 9d. to £7 15s. in bags. East India seed pures may be bought £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. ex steamer to arrive. American are nominally quoted at £7 10s. English move off steadily at full prices of £7 17s. 6d. to £8 per ton. Cotton Cakes.—The momentary depression of last week has passed, and there are to-day free buyers where there were sellers; best Egyptians in bags making £4 15s. to £4 17s. 6d., and English £4 12s. 6d. to £4 15s., with Bombay seed cakes selling at £4 7s. 6d. Decorticated just arrived offer £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. with meal at the same price. Rape Cakes scarce and dear. East India, £5 10s. Ravison, £5 5s. Maize Germ Meal.—Some white American in ware-

house is in fair request at £5 15s. to £5 16s 3d., while English sells quietly at £5 10s. to £5 12s. 6d. Maize Gluten Meal finds a ready sale at £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held at £4 13s. 9d. to £4 15s. with shippers still asking £4 11s. 3d. to £4 12s 6d. ex ship terms for steamer parcels to come along. Locust beans are without change at a £5 5s. per ton for whole and £5 10s. per ton for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains attract considerable attention at £5 5s. for ale and £4 15s. for porter.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Russian, in mats	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
American.....	7 10 0	
Calcutta (to arrive)	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
English	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated...	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	5 10 0	
Ravison	5 5 0	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon	4 13 9	
,, afloat, ex ship	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
LOCUST BEANS.		
White	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 10 0	
DRIED GRAINS.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is inactive at £11 12s. 6d. for ordinary 95 per cent., and £12 7s. 6d. per ton for refined. An increased demand is experienced for kainit and the various phosphatic manures for autumn application, and values are unchanged. Feeding stuffs continue in extremely limited consumptive demand, but the market is firm owing to limited offerings; some 170 bags American decorticated cotton cake meal realised at auction £7 12s. 6d. ex store. Feeding treacle continues in good request, and the most moderate prices of cattle cod-liver oil are arresting attention.

	£ s	£ s	d
	Per ton.		
Bone Ash, fine and powdery...	3 10 0	—	
Nitrate of Soda.....	11 12 6	—	
Bone Meal (coarse to fine)	5 5 0	5 7	6
Kainit	2 2 6	2 5	0
Palm Nut Cake	6 7 6	6 10	0
Linseed Cake, American.....	7 12 6	7 15	0
,, ,, English, prime...	8 5 0	8 10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed).....	14 0 0	—	
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good to prime)	7 15 0	8 2	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated (prime soft).....	8 5 0	8 7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4 17 6	5 5	0
Cottonseed, Egyptian	—	—	
Cottonseed (crushed)	7 10 0	7 12	6
Maize Germ Meal.....	5 15 0	5 17	6
Rice Meal, Rangoon.....	4 15 0	4 17	6
Indian meal	—	—	
	Per 416 lb.		
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	—	
	Per Cwt.		
Treacle, feeding, prime	0 4 9	—	
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime	Per ton. 2 5 0	2 7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2 10 0	2 12	0
,, ,, ,,	3 1 3	3 3	3
Basic Slag, prime quality	1 11 0	1 13	0
,, ,,	1 18 6	2 0	0
,, finest ,,	2 2 6	—	

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fair demand for a moderate supply. Pheasants, 3s to 4s 6d; young grouse, 5s 6d to 6s; old, 3s; young partridges, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 1s 9d to 2s per brace; goslings, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; woodcock, 2s; snipe, 9d; quails, 10d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 4d to 1s 8d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Supplies of cheese were lighter. A very quiet business passing. Where business was done values favoured buyers. Cheddars, 63s to 67s; Dunlops, 58s to 65s per cwt. Business slow in Canadian; quotations 63s to 64s per cwt.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A fair attendance of buyers, and a brisk competition. Best dairies realised up to 75s 6d per cwt.; secondary dairies, 69s to 70s 6d; and other dairies, 66s to 68s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 63s. Cheddars made 68s to 74s 6d; truckles, 67s 6d to 72s 6d; doubles, 58s to 66s.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance of buyers and a good demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 64s to 70s per cwt; fancy dairies, 71s to 73s; Derbys, 75s to 76s.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Week ending November 10.—Altrincham: 5 and. Appleby: 5 and 6. Barnstaple: 6. Berwick: 1s 6d per dozen. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Camelford: 1s 6d per doz. Carlisle: 5. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 7d to 1s 11d. Derby: 7. Devizes: 6 to 8. Doncaster: 7. Dorchester: 1s 9d to to 2s per doz. Hereford: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 7 to 9. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Lincoln: 6 and 7. Otley: 5 and 6. Penrith: 5 and 6. Penzance: 1s 4d per doz. Plymouth: 9 and 10. Redruth: 1s 6d per doz. Retford: 3s 2d to 3s 4d per score. Ripon: 6 and 7. Scarborough: 6. Spalding: 8. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Stockport: 5. Stockton: 5 and 6. Totnes: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per doz. Truro: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 2s 11d to 3s 4d per score. York: 6 and 7.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending November 10.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 11d to 1s 2d Barnstaple: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Berwick: 10d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Camelford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Evesham: 1s 0½d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Penrith: 11½d to 1s 3d. Penzance: 1s 1½d to 1s 4d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Redruth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Truro: 1s to 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 6d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of fruit and vegetables, trade being fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 3s 6d; apples (Cox's orange pippins), 4s to 6s per half-sieve, ditto (Blenheims), 4s to 6s; ditto (King pippins), 3s to 5s per bushel; cranberries, 10s to 12s per case; Brazil nuts, 55s to 60s. per cwt.; cobnuts, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 12 lb; chestnuts (Redon), 8s to 12s 6d; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s 6d to 7s 6d per bag; tomatoes, 5s to 6s; sprue, 7s to 9s per dozen bundles; cabbages, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; cauliflowers, 3s to 6s per tally; beet-roots, 1s 6d to 2s; spinach, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel; Brussels sprouts, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per half-sieve; onions, 4s to 5s per cwt; cucumbers, 3s to 4s 6d; cos lettuce, 1s 6d to 2s; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen; horseradish, 9s to 15s; celery, 6s to 10s 6d per dozen rolls; carrots, 9d to 1s 3d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; turnips, 1s 3d to 2s per dozen bunches; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; green artichokes, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen; potatoes, 55s to 70s per ton.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: The market has remained without change at about 20s to 21s ale, and 17s to 18s porter. Distillers' 35s, and pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale, 102s 6d; mixed 92s 6d; distillers' 107s 6d per ton on rail London; also ale, 95s per ton on rail Burton-on-Trent. Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; and rice germ, 100s, and kibbled locust beans 110s. per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option. — HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 10s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £13 10s to £14; half-bred wethers, £13 5s to £13 15s; Kent fleeces, £13 to £13 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15 10s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £12 10s to £13. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s 0½d.

Halifax, Saturday.—More business passing, and market the turn dearer. Pick Shropshire hoggs up at 14½d, or even more, with wethers 14¼d; North hoggs, 14¼d; wethers, 13½d; Yorkshire hoggs, 14d; and wethers 12½d. Irish and Lincoln unchanged. Merinos and fine cross-breds incline upwards. Spinners busy.

Alford Bull Fair.

The annual bull fair and sixth annual sale by auction of Lincoln Red Shorthorn and other registered red bulls and cows took place at Alford on Wednesday, and was the most successful the society has held. In the point of entries the number of animals was greater than at any previous exhibition, and the quality was never better. The weather was delightfully fine and the attendance was large, and the bidding at the sales was brisk and keen. The champion prize for the best bull in the show was awarded to a Royal Show winner, Brandon Grenadier, sent by Mr. J. Langham, J.P., of the Park, Nottingham. That the award was a popular one was proved at the subsequent sale, for competition for the animal was the keenest of the day, and finally at 200 guineas he was knocked down to Mr. G. E. Sandars, Scampton House, Lincoln. This is a record price for Alford Bull Fair, and no other animal fetched anything like such a sum last week, the nearest approach being 88 guineas given by Mr. Dennis, Kirton, Boston, for Mr. S. B. Carnley's Keddington Baron. Several prices over the half century were recorded, and the result of this most successful sale was a total of a little over £2,696, or an average per head of nearly £26 for 104 bulls.

Advertisements Received Too Late for Classification.

GARTON'S RED KING WHEAT, very heavy cropping variety, 33s. per qr., f.o.r.; sacks charged 1s., returnable.—CARR, Aldersley Farm, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton.

CATTHORPE SHIRE STUD, the Property of J. P. Cross, Esq., Catthorpe Towers, Rugby.—There is always a choice selection of SHIRE STALLIONS, MARES and FILLIES, as well as a large Herd of PEDIGREE SHORTHORNS of deep milking propensities, and a uniform Flock of OXFORD DOWN SHEEP.—Apply, Mr. F. CAMPBELL, Estate Office, Catthorpe, Rugby. Telegrams: "Campbell, Catthorpe."

WATER TANKS for storing water, will hold 400 gallons, wrought iron, with manhole at top, weight 476 lbs., size 4 ft. 3 ins. square. Carriage paid, for £4 each. Cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

GOVERNMENT GREASE for waggon, cart, and farm use. 28 lbs. of grease in iron box with lid, 3s 6d.; iron box alone worth the money.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

GOVERNMENT YARN for sack tying and farm use, 4d. per lb., carriage paid on orders of 56 lbs.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets: 12 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 18s. 9d.; and so on to any size at 1s. 3d. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity large pieces Tarpaulin, £1 5s cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. cwt.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

HORSES' LOIN CLOTHS, lined throughout with Army Woollen Rugging; best and strongest in the market, 46 in. long by 38 in. wide; Waterproof on Stout Navy Canvas, and weigh 4 lb., 3s.; any size made; price in proportion. Special Carriage Loin Cloth, 4s. 6d. Either post free.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

There was in October last 4·52 in. of rain at Tenterden, 4·52 in. at Bury St. Edmunds, 4·13 in. at Boston, and 4·58 in. at Swaffham. For these important particulars from the great wheat-growing (and in October, sowing) districts we are indebted to the courtesy of Dr. H. R. Mill. London records, therefore, did not show the full extent of the October rainfall by any means, and the rains which have fallen so freely since November came in have saturated the agricultural districts more fully than the fields round London. The situation, in fact, has become serious, and wheat does not make a healthy early growth in a heavily waterlogged soil. The colour of the corn where up is good, but unless the season soon changes we cannot expect it so to remain.

On the Continent fine cold weather prevails west of the Vistula and the Carpathians, but in Russia the severe frost has been completely broken up, and torrents of rain are reported, together with an exceedingly high temperature. This is not of good augury for Russian cereals now in the soil.

The yield of the new maize crop in the United States is thus officially stated. In bushels per acre:—1906, 30·2; 1905, 28·8; 1904, 26·7; 1903, 25·8; 1902, 26·8: 1901, 16·7.

Although these figures show that 1906 is a record year, the maize plant well cultivated easily yields thirty-two bushels to the acre, and there is consequently no reason to suppose that the above figures are exaggerated.

The American potato crop is thus returned. In bushels per acre:—1906, 102·5; 1905, 87·0; 1904, 110·4; 1903, 84·7; 1902, 95·4; 1901, 65·5. The yield this year being 2½ per cent. over average, will release an extra quantity of wheat and maize for shipment to Europe.

The sales of British produce last week were large of barley, moderate of oats and wheat.

Since harvest wheat sales at the statute markets have been as follows:—

This season 766,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last season 966,000 qr. at 27s. 2d. per qr.
The sales of barley thus compare:—
This season 1,581,000 qr. at 24s. 8d. per qr.
Last season 1,507,000 qr. at 24s. 4d. per qr.

Of oats sales have been heavy since harvest, but the excess was in September and October, and since November came on a policy of a much wiser character has prevailed with already an excellent result, the last average being 17s. 1d. against 16s. 6d. for the whole eleven completed weeks.

This season 366,000 qr. at 16s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, 307,000 ,, 16s. 5d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, qr. 290,000: a moderate supply.
Flour, sks. 121,300: a moderate supply.
Barley, qr. 185,000: a large arrival.
Oats, qr. 106,000: a moderate arrival.
Maize, qr. 220,000: liberal supplies.

London arrivals of grain for the first two months of the cereal year are thus returned:—

1906-7.	September.	October.
Wheat, qr.	338,000	315,000
Barley ,, ...	177,000	120,000
Oats ,, ...	280,000	440,000
Maize ,, ...	163,000	149,000
Flour, sacks ...	287,000	389,000

The October arrivals of wheat, barley, and maize were decidedly moderate, but oats were in heavy supply, and the flour imports were in excess of requirements; indeed the pressure of American sorts on sale resulted on the 14th inst. in the suspension of a by no means unknown firm of standholders.

The quantity of wheat on passage shows a slight advance upon the week:—Californian, 315,000 qr.; American, 270,000 qr.; Russian, 420,000 qr.; Indian, 335,000 qr.; Argentine, 135,000 qr.; Australian, 195,000 qr.; various, 40,000 qr.; total, 1,710,000 qr. A week ago, 1,676,000 qr. Of flour, however, the quantity on passage, has declined to 258,000 sacks.

The supply of barley on passage is now a good one, Russia and Manchuria being very well represented:—

Russia and Manchuria	270,000 qr.
America and California	200,000 ,,
Asiatic	200,000 ,,
Total	670,000 ,,
A week ago	635,000 ,,

Of oats the quantity on passage has increased to 167,000 qrs.

The supply of maize on passage is as follows:—American, 180,000 qr.; Roumanian, 70,000 qr.; Argentine, 630,000 qr.; total, 880,000 qr.

The Roumanian includes Russian and Turkish.

Of linseed the quantity on passage has now risen to 114,000 qr., but is still smaller than usual. On the other hand, the quantity of cottonseed on passage has risen to 45,000 tons. Of rapeseed 10,000 qr., and of rice 12,000 tons are on passage; both smaller quantities than usual.

American shipments last week were 211,000 qr. of wheat, 16,000 qr. of barley, 5,000 qr. of oats, 173,000 qr. of maize, and 109,000 sacks of flour. These were quite moderate totals, and America is said to be especially dissatisfied with prices offered for her flour by English buyers.

The course of prices in America is of so much practical importance, that the following conversions will be found worth study from the opening of the season:—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.	Wheat, per qr. s. d.	Maize, per qr. s. d.	Flour, per sk. s. d.
September 1 ...	29 0	21 6	20 6
,, 8 ...	28 9	21 6	20 3
,, 15 ...	28 6	21 6	20 3
,, 22 ...	28 3	21 6	20 0
,, 29 ...	28 0	21 2	20 0
October 6 ...	28 3	20 6	20 0
,, 13 ...	28 3	20 3	20 0
,, 20 ...	28 0	20 3	20 0
,, 27 ...	28 0	20 6	20 0
November 3 ...	29 3	20 8	20 0
,, 10 ...	28 4	20 7	20 0
,, 17 ...	28 8	20 3	20 0

The wheat is red winter (480 lb.), the maize is flat corn (480 lb.), and the flour is "spring wheat clears" (280 lb.). Freights vary daily, but on Saturday 1s. per qr. was quoted for wheat and maize, and 1s. per sack for flour.

There is now some new crop spring wheat on offer at New York at 31s. 1d. per qr.

Argentine shipments were heavy of maize, 364,000 qr., but moderate of all other articles (wheat, 80,000 qr., and linseed, 26,000 qr.). The new crops will be ripe in the northern or sub-tropical provinces in a month's time, and the wheat is expected to be a full average yield though not a bumper crop.

Russia last week shipped 291,000 qr. of wheat, 404,000 qr. of barley, 149,000 qr. of oats, and 6,000 qr. of maize. These are considerable totals, and that of barley is especially large. Roumania added materially to the total coming from south-east Europe by contributing 254,000 qr. of wheat, 101,000 qr. of barley, 106,000 qr. of oats, and 14,000 qr. of maize, while 20,000 qr. of barley shipped by Turkey will best be placed in this section of supplies.

Other exports of the week were 76,000 qr. of wheat and 11,000 qr. of linseed from India, 10,000 tons of cottonseed from Egypt, and 5,000 qr. of peas from Australia. The latter shipped no wheat.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are more firmly held from the 12th, when trade was exceedingly depressed. Sales on the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th insts. include Australian at 29s. 6d. per 480 lb., Santa Fe at 29s. per 480 lb., Roumanian at 28s. per 492 lb., Blue Stem at 30s. 6d. per 500 lb., best Russian Azima at 31s. per 492 lb., and No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 6d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are firmly held. Prices ruling are 19s. 9d. for American for December shipment, 20s. for Roumania, and 19s. 9d. for Argentine on passage, all per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes are against sellers. Odessa has been parted with for 19s. 9d. per 400 lb., and Persian for 17s. 6d. per 400 lb. Other cargo sales include Bombay poppy seed at 45s. 9d. per 377 lb., Egyptian cotton seed at £6 17s. 6d. per ton, and Ferozepore rape at 44s. per 416 lb. (spring shipment).

The London Corn Trade Association officials apprize the trade that the following standards have been made up—all August shipments, viz.:—

Wheat.—Choice white Kurrachee, soft red Kurrachee.

Bombay lentils, Calcutta white peas, Kurrachee gram.

Also that East Indian wheat rejections are now (for the settlement of difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts) as follows, viz.:—Choice White Kurrachee, 29s. 9d.; Soft Red Kurrachee, 29s., both per qr. of 492 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were nil.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 1 wheat (Dublin).

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 241 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 4 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 28 linseed, total 281.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 297 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 11 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 52 linseed, total 394.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Although arrivals during the earlier part of week at the different rails were not large, trade was of a very dragging character. Certainly prices showed little or no change, but the general tone of the market was weaker, with prices inclined to go lower. At end of week with smaller supplies, owing again to the excessive wet weather, salesmen were doing their level best to obtain more money, but their efforts were unavailing, and the trade finishes up very quiet at about last week's values. Clovers are a quiet trade, and it is with difficulty last week's rates are maintained. Hays are finding a much smaller demand, and to effect clearances in some cases lower rates have been accepted. Mixtures still continue in fair request and previous quotations hold good. Owing to the wet weather the straw trade is showing more firmness, and a slight increase in prices is obtainable. In the foreign market much larger supplies of all qualities are to hand, and values here show an easier tendency.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 85s to 85s per ton; good meadow hay, 80s to 85s per ton; plain hay, 70s to 80s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton. Good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers, and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 25s to 26s per load; oat straw, 26s per load; barley straw, 26s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 86s per ton; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d per ton; French 1st and 2nd eut clover, 85s to 87s 6d per ton; French large wheat straw, 49s per ton; French small wheat straw, 41s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £14 5s; Kent fleeces, £14; South Down ewes and wethers, £15; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s 0½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is an improvement in the tone of trade. It is reported that 13d per lb has been offered and refused, farmers asking 14d.

Halifax, Saturday.—A rather strong tone has been given to the market, owing to the sharp rise in the coarser cross-breds, 40's having advanced fully 1½d on the week.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There have been many sales of East and Mid-Kent growths during the week, some of the best of which have now been secured.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English quiet at about late rates. Foreign sellers maintain Monday's prices, but business passing is very small. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 25s 6d, 33s; landed, 28s, 33s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 31s 3d; landed at 32s; No. 2, ex ship, at 30s 3d; landed at 31s 3d; choice white Karachi landed at 30s; red Karachi at 29s 3d. Flour dull, unchanged. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 3d; landed, 21s 9d, 21s 10½d; La Plata, ex ship, at 20s; landed at 20s 7½d, 20s 9d. Barley quiet, unchanged. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 18s 6d; landed at 19s 3d; Danubian, ex ship, at 18s 9d, 23s; Persian, ex ship, at 18s; landed at 18s 9d; Smyrna, 20s, 25s; Oushae, 23s, 27s. Oats steady, inactive; common sorts quoted at 16s 3d, 16s 6d; Danubians at 16s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, inactive, at about late rates; white quoted at 29s 6d to 31s; reds at 28s 6d to 30s. Foreign: American firmly held at full rates. Other sorts quiet, unchanged. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize steady at late prices. Barley: Slow sale at late prices. Oats quiet, unchanged.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—Very little grain offering. White oats, wholesale, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The samples of wheat on offer were few in number, and but little trade was done, best lots being quoted at 27s to 29s 6d. Barley of medium quality made 25s to 27s, and fine samples 28s to 30s. Other corn moved slowly at late rates. Foreign grinding barley, 21s to 22s; mazagan beans, 28s to 29s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 17s to 20s; flat maize, 25s; round maize, 23s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 24s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 28s 6d to 29s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.— Average attendance, with seasonable supplies of grain, which met a trade similar to last week. Barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 19s 6d to 21s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was only a very limitec trade done, buyers being scarce. Only a small supply of English wheats, which made from 10s 3d to 11s per 186 lb delivered. Oats unchanged, but rather easier inclined. Beans 11s 9d to 12s per 196 lb. Quotations: Foreign wheat. River Plate, 30s 9d to 31s 6d per 496 lb; Russian, 27s to 32s; Kurrachee, 29s 6d to 30s; all at Sharpness. Maize, River Plate 20s 6d per 480 lb; Bessarabian, 21s, at Sharpness; grinding barley, 19s per 400 lb, also at Sharpness.

Bristol, Thursday.—The past has been a week of dull trade in all articles. English wheat in fair supply on our market to-day, values being unchanged. Foreign wheat unaltered. Maize, 3d lower. Barley, 3d lower. Oats unchanged. Flour, dull trade.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—The market was very sparsely attended, and a much smaller quantity of samples were on offer. Wheats were rather poor in condition, and consequently slightly lower prices were obtainable for the ordinary run; fine parcels, however, were fully as dear at the late prevailing rates of 28s to 29s per qr delivered to the mills. The barley trade showed no improvement. Good mediums, 27s to 30s per qr. General business quiet in maize and feeding stuffs.

Cambridge, Saturday. — There was a fair attendance. Wheat was in short supply, and condition is apt to be affected by the wet weather. Prices ruled about the same as last week, 27s to 28s per 504 lb, in mill. Moderate supply of barley, and trade no better. Fair supply of oats, and prices 18s to 19s per qr, on rail. Beans in moderato supply, and the turn easier.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Millers bought freely, in view of a possible shortage after the wet weather. Prices were firm, and ranged up to 30s 6d for samples scaling up to 66 lb to the bushel. Barley trade continues slow at recent rates. Oats, in short supply, were making from 17s to 21s, and grey peas 29s to 30s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat unchanged, and oats quiet with a poor inquiry. Feeding stuffs continued in fair demand, and Indian corn firmer. Quotations:—Wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per 75 lb; oats, old, 2s 2d to 2s 3d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair attendance. Very little on offer, and not much business done. New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s 6d; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 24s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat firmer, short supply, 28s 6d. Oats steady. Barley unchanged. —COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Not a good attendance of farmers, but a fair supply of wheat, for which there was a pretty good demand at fully late figures. Thin show of barley and oats. The latter made perhaps 6d per qr more money for good samples. Quiet business in beans and peas. Wheat, old, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; new, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per bag (186 lb net); barley, 27s to 32s per qr (448 lb net); peas, 12s to 14s per bag (196 lb net); beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per bag (196 lb net); oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 19s to 21s per qr (352 lb net).

Derby, Friday.—Wheat was in small supply and unaltered in value. There is no change to report with regard to spring corn. Quotations:—Wheat, new white, 29s to 30s; new red, 27s 6d to 28s; barley, malting, 25s to 30s; grinding, 23s. to 24s.; beans, old, 34s to 35s; new, 16s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was no change to report in the value of corn to-day, prices remaining about the same as last week. New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, but larger than last week. Trade rather slow, though last week's prices were repeated, and were up to 10s 6d per load of 3 bushels. Little doing in foreign wheat, which was 3d per qr lower with a quiet trade. A good deal of rough barley was shown, but was not in request. Fine samples were firm, aud made up to 30s per qr. Maize unchanged, with a quiet trade for most things.

Dorchester, Saturday. — The unfavourable weather of the past week, coupled with a drenching rain, led to shortened supplies at the corn market, at which there was also a very limited attendance, so many being kept away by business at the cattle market at the great county sale of barreners there in progress. Of English wheat but very fine samples were shown, and these met a very inactive sale at prices practically unaltered from the previous week; foreign also very dull of sale. Malting barley of good quality still continues very scarce, and commands extreme prices, low class descriptions, of which the great bulk of the supply is made, declined 1s per qr; grinding barley sold at late rates. Feeding stuffs generally ruled firm despite the weather being against sales.

Dublin, Friday.—White wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; red ditto, 16s to 16s 3d; oats, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; oatmeal, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; patent flour, 10s to 11s 6d; firsts ditto, 9s to 10s; seconds ditto, 8s to 9s; pollard, 5s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 5s 6d to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Although good attendance, trade was only moderate. English and foreign wheat, no change; barley, firm; maize, 3d advance; oats, steady; flour unchanged. English wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; English barley, 3s to 4s; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fines, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a better attendance. Wheat and flour unchanged at late rates. Maize firmer, and 1½d per boll dearer since Wednesday. Corn unchanged on the week. Barley firm, but business limited. Oats: Home and foreign firm at stiffer prices. Beans firm, but practically no change in price. Pease 3d per boll dearer. Brau and thirds in good demand, but no change in values. Oatmeal quiet, but steady in price.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat firm, owing to the scarcity of offers. Flour, however, romains dull, and is pressed for sale. Mixed American maize more plentiful, but demand slow at 12s 4½d per 280 lb.; round steady at 12s 1½d to 12s 3d. Oats dull of sale, but held for full prices. Grinding beans firm. Other feeding stuffs quiet. Bran remains unchanged; medium, 95s per ton.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat unchanged: Reds, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; whites, 3s 6d to 3s 7d. Foreign wheat, dull trade, values unaltered: Plates, 31s to 31s 6d; Russians, 31s to 32s. Plate maize, 3d down, at 20s 3d; flat, 3d cheaper, at 21s 6d; Bessarabian unchanged, at 21s. Barloy unchanged, at 19s to 19s 3d per qr. Oats unchanged, but with firmer tendency.

Grantham, Saturday.—There was a small supply of wheat, prices ranging from 26s to 27s per qr. Barley was a fair representation, best samples maintaining their value, and common sorts 1s lower. Keen demand for blue peas, which commanded up to 65s. Beans fell slightly in value. Oats firm.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Market generally inactive. Wheats 1d. per bushel lower. Barleys exceedingly dull and difficult to sell. Oats the turn in favour of buyers. Maize quiet at last week's prices. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat (new), 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: Supply small, with some samples in scarcely good condition. Demand quiet, and price unchanged at 28s to 29s per qr for reds. Barley: Last week's wet weather prevented much threshing, and the supply was, therefore, considerably smaller, with a fair demand for medium sorts, running from 28s to 31s per qr, but a bad trade for low qualities. Maize unchanged, at 21s per qr. Oats and beans firm on the week. Business somewhat slow in other feeding corns, but not much change in prices. Feeding stuffs firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The trade remains practically unchanged, although with smaller shipments and decreasing port stocks the tone has undoubtedly improved. The demand for all descriptions of foreign wheat continues limited; inferior sorts bad to move, good strong lots meet some inquiry at full prices. English, though iu smaller supply, finds a slow sale. Malting barley about unchanged. Maize slow. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With better arrivals of English wheat, and larger supplies of foreign, prices had an easier tendency, and were 1s 3d below Tuesday's closing quotations. Flour was in more active demand, especially qualities ranging from 24s to 26s per sack of 20 st. English and foreign malting barley was slightly in buyers' favour, but maize was more wanted. Plate made over 20s. Beans, peas, and oats were firm.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a steady sale. White wheats, 28s to 30s; red wheats, 27s to 29s per 36 stone; malting barley, in fair request, 27s to 31s per 32 stones; beans firm; old oats, 24s to 26s per 26 stones; new ditto, 20s to 22s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good attendance, but very little business doing; only a few samples of English wheat came to hand; the continued wet weather having again hindered threshing operations. Trade was slow at last week's prices. Barley quiet and unchanged. Oats and feeding stuffs as last week.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a good attendance, and wheat is firmly held for an occasional ½d advance, with a fair trade passing in American Winters; other red wheats also meet more inquiry. Flour steady, but a slow sale without change in quotations. Maize: Mixed is in better demand, and very steady at ½d advance. Plate is also ½d better, with a moderate trade doing. European grades quiet at about unchanged prices. Barley: Malting idle. Feeding quiet at ⅛d lower to sell. Beans firm but inactive. No change in values. Peas firm, in moderate demand, at occasionally the turn higher prices. Oats firmly held at last Tuesday's full prices. Demand moderate. Oatmeal: A retail trade at unchanged prices. Oilcake: A quiet sale for foreign, but English cakes in fair demand at recent currencies. Indian meal in good demand at recent quotations.—SEGAR AND TUNNCLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat unchanged, and au improved demand. Foreign was firm. Flour met a dull trade at unchanged rates. Indian corn rather on the easy side, and prices unchanged. Foreign barley steady, and English easier. Oats firm and unchanged. Peas quietly steady. Beans in sellers' favour. Bran and thirds firm and unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Fair attendance; trade slow; little change in prices. Quotations: White and red wheat, 27s to 28s; maltiug barley, 24s to 27s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 19s; black ditto, 17s to 18s; beans, 30s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet demand to-day for wheats at unaltered prices from last week's quotations. Maize steady, with a fair consumptive demand at late rates. Beans and peas remaiu firm at late quotatious. A good demand for fiue oats; common sorts, however, are bad to sell, consequently buyers had the advantage. Barley, slow demand; prices in buyers' favour.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Business was quiet, and prices ruled about the same as last week.

Northampton, Saturday. — Small attendance and very little corn on offer; brisk demand for barley, prices practically unchanged. New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 28s 6d to 29s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat rather more offering, holders asking higher prices, but the business passing is at last week's full rates.

Barley steady trade at late prices. Oats and beans firm.—Robert Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply; trade steady at last week's prices. Barley less pressed for sale, and values remain as last Saturday. Oats firm, with an upward tendency.—Thos. Hill & Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on our market to-day. Wheat and feeding stuffs unaltered at last week's prices. Oats firm, perhaps little dearer.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—The market was fairly attended, and offers of local-grown produce from farmers were taken at recent full prices. Flour unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 12s 9d to 13s per windle of 220 lb; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, 3s 3d to 3s 4d per bushel; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, 16s to 16s 6d per windle of 220 lb.

Reading, Saturday. — The attendance was hardly up to the average, whilst business was tame at following rates:—Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 25s to 29s; oats, 17s to 21s; beans, 30s to 34s; peas, 28s to 31s.

Retford, Saturday. — Very fair supply of wheat and barley. Wheat was fully 6d lower on the week, and prices scarcely went beyond 27s. No change in malting barley, the best samples on offer were selling at 26s to 28s; commoner sorts down to 24s 6d, and grinding 23s 6d per qr. Maize, 24s; English beans, 30s; black oats, 17s to 19s; white up to 20s, and old oats up to 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A dull tone prevails, very little business passing. Prices:—Wheat, old, 30s to 31s; ditto, new, 25s 6d to 27s 6d; ditto, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; maize, round, 22s to 23s; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—With the continuance of only a small consumptive demand, business was very limited. Prices were well maintained, wheats being rather in buyers' favour. Beans, peas, oats, and barley all command late full prices. Maize unchanged for both round and flat samples. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 28s 6d to 29s; ditto, red, new, 28s 6d to 29s per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 3d to 33s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 22s 9d to 23s; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 21s 6d to 21s 9d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, new, 11s 6d to 12s per 225 lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225 lb; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Large attendance. The inclement weather has stopped threshing operations. Wheats were a trifle lower on the week, making 26s to 27s; barleys are flat; the best did not make more than 30s; black oats, 18s 6d to 20s; white oats, 21s to 23s; beans, 29s 1d to 29s 6d per qr. Peas firm and unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no farmers' wheat showing. Foreign wheat keeps quiet, and prices are slightly easier on the week. Maize easier and oats very steady. Small show of malting barley at unaltered prices.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain on offer at this day's market. Wheat quiet at late rates. Spring corn unchanged.—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; rye, 25s to 26s; peas, 32s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 42s to 48s; maize, 22s to 25s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a very small supply of all grain on offer, owing to the bad weather. Barley is still falling. Wheat a shade easier in price. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat quiet, prices unchanged. Barley 3d cheaper. Maize and oats unaltered. Flour a steady trade at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A very small supply of grain at market. Stormy weather checks threshing. Wheat a slow trade at about last week's rates. Reds, 27s 504 lb. Oats firm at full prices, 18s to 19s 336 lb. Barley, 24s to 28s 448 lb. Beans, 29s to 32s 532 lb.—James Fletcher.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and good supply of grain, but the market was sluggish, with wheat easier. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s 6d to 31s; secondary, 26s to 27s; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; old white oats, 24s to 25s; new ditto, 18s 6d to 20s; old black oats, 22s to 23s; new ditto, 17s 6d to 19s per qr; maize, 23s to 25s per qr; old beans, 37s to 38s; new beans, 32s to 37s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown wheat made up to 30s per qr for best samples, secondary selling at from 26s to 27s 6d; foreign, 31s to 33s; malting barley, 27s to 34s 6d; brewing, 26s 6d to 28s 6d; feeding, 18s 6d to 21s 3d; foreign grinding, 19s to 19s 6d; black oats, 18s to 19s; white, 19s 3d to 30s; Irish black, 17s 6d to 18s; white, 19s to 20s; winter tares, 39s 6d to 43s 3d; spring, 45s 6d to 48s 6d; winter beans, 32s 6d to 33s; spring, 32s to 34s 6d; maize, flat, 22s; round, 20s 3d. Flour continues in quiet demand; demand for offals at values which considerably favour sellers.

York, Saturday. Wheat is in small supply, with a slow sale at a little under last week's prices. Fine white, 27s to 28s; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley remains flat at barely last week's figures:—Fine, 26s to 27s; good, 24s to 26s; feeding, 22s to 24s per qr of 32 stone. Oats firm, not many offering; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stone; rye, 21s 6d; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather mild and rainy. Market firmer, but not much doing except in barley and maize, which articles continue in fair demand. Offers in German wheat are scarce, and fine Holstein and Upland is held at 28s to 29s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b. American Hard Winter, No. 2, is offering at 28s to 28s 6d, 80 lb; River Plate afloat at 28s, February-March shipment, 28s 3d per 480 lb., c.i.f. Ryo quiet, 9½ South Russian afloat is offering, 22s 6d to 22s 9d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Fine malting barley scarce and dearer; Bohemian to arrive is held at 34s to 36s; Slovakian at 35s to 37s per 448 lb f.o.b.; Danish is selling at 29s to 30s, Holstein and Mecklenburg at 34s 6d to 38s 6d per 448 lb; 59/60 ko South Russian afloat, 18s 3d, December, 18s 6d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate maize, November-December shipment, 20s; Danubian, May-June, 18s 9d; mixed American, January-March, 20s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: Market remains firm and prices are maintained; although the demand is not brisk there is a regular trade doing, and for anything good and tempting there are ready buyers. Finest is relatively scarce, and held at extreme figures; offers of Bohemian Chevalier have fallen off a good deal, but also in Hungary very little is left now in first hand.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 13, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	2,430	3	...3,321	7	6	...	1	7	4
Barley ...	1,079	6	...1,394	17	0	...	1	5	10
Oats	615	2	... 559	7	7	...	18	2	

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 17, 1906:—

Wheat	2,159,200	cwts.
Wheat-flour	255,600	,,
Barley	744,000	,,
Oats	209,000	,,
Maize	643,800	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ...	1,678,400	2,046,300	2,577,400	1,798,790
Wheat-flour	407,200	321,300	568,400	329,798
Barley ...	665,700	472,500	1,082,900	1,353,256
Oats ...	386,500	402,700	516,400	403,525
Maize ...	254,400	446,900	676,000	480,649

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat		Barley		Oats		1906. Wheat		Barley		Oats	
Jan.....	30	5	24	9	16	5	28	6	24	9	18	5
Feb.....	30	7	25	1	16	9	28	10	25	4	18	11
Mar. ...	30	10	25	1	16	11	28	5	24	8	18	11
April ...	30	9	24	8	17	3	29	1	24	2	19	1
May ...	30	10	24	8	18	5	30	2	24	0	20	0
June ...	31	8	24	4	19	2	30	4	23	4	20	2
July ...	32	0	22	8	18	4	30	4	23	1	20	4
Aug. ...	29	6	22	10	16	10	29	6	23	7	17	9
Sept. ...	26	10	23	9	16	0	26	1	24	5	16	2
Oct.....	27	1	24	11	16	6	26	5	25	0	16	7
Nov. ...	28	3	24	8	17	6	—		—			
Dec. ...	28	5	24	6	18	0	—		—			

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Nov. 18	87,001	28	3	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
,, 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	2
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	4
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	7
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	10
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	19	0
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,025	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	18	8
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	10
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	8
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	11
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	19	4
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,687	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	53,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	38,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending November 17, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	49,736	24	11	194,298	25	6	26,939	17	3
1903...	50,771	26	9	182,891	24	3	29,260	15	9
1904...	41,025	30	2	178,529	24	5	31,299	15	11
1905...	87,001	28	7	209,520	24	6	32,382	17	4
1906...	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Nov. 7 to 14 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	3,300	83,000	86,300
Barley.....	3,500	15,000	18,500
Malt.....	15,868	—	15,868
Oats.....	2,600	96,000	98,600
Beans	881	972	1,853
Peas.....	573	2,035	2,608
Haricots	—	5,000	5,000
Lentils.....	—	6,000	6,000
Maize	—	20,525	20,525
Tares	65	—	65
Linseed ..... ,, ...	—	12,000	12,000
Hempseed	—	700	700
Mawseed	—	44	44
Sunflowerseed	—	270	270
Cottonseed	—	9,400	9,400
Canaryseed.....	—	400	400
Coriander	—	282	282
Carraways	—	180	180
Flour.....sacks ...	23,925	56,878	80,803
Middlings ... ,, ...	—	3,000	3,000
Oatmeal ..... ,, ...	—	5,000	5,000
Maizemeal ... ,, ..	—	4,000	4,000

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

Thus far the very wet weather has had an uniformly depressing effect on the market, which has only considered the damp state of samples and the reduction in retail food wants. Later on, however, the injury to the newly sown corn and the general deterioration in the farm outlook will certainly have weight and tell for higher prices, as he momentery tendencies do for lower.

All sorts of wheat must be quoted 6d. lower on the week, but this decline occurred on Wednesday and Friday and has not been further accentuated to-day. Maize to-day was a little steadier despite the large Argentine shipments. Barley was dull for malting grade, but feeding corn recovered a little from its recent depression.

Oats were a better trade, supply is not excessive, and demand seems to be rallying. Beans are again the turn in sellers' favour, but peas were a slow sale.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

November 19.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	33 — 37
	,, (New)...	,,	29 — 35
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)...	(per 416 lb.)	24 — 25
	Feeding (New)...	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	46 — 50

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32—32/6	American	21/9—22
,, ,, 2	31—31/6	Argentine	20/6—21
American Red	30/6—31	Bulgarian	21—21/6
Argentine ...	31/9—32	Roumanian ...	21—21/6
Australian ...	31/6—32	Russian	21—21/6
New Zealand	30/6—31	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Blue Stem ...	31/6—32	Smyrna	34 — 36
Walla Walla	30/6—31	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Saxonka	32/6—33	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Azima	30/6—31	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Ghirka	29/6—30	Italian	64 — 72
Indian White	30/3 30/6	Burmese	32 — 42
,, Red	30—30/3	Chilian	56 — 64
BARLEY:		LENTILS (cental):	
C'lifor'n(448lb)	29 — 30	Split Egyptian	10 — 11
Ouchak (448 lb)	27 — 29	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Chilian (448lb)	28 — 29	PEAS (504 lb.):	
Bohemian (448lb)	34 — 38	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian(400lb)	19/6 — 20	Indian Green	29 — 31
Tunis (400lb)	23 — 24	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Gaza (400lb)	23/9—24	NewZeal'd Maple	39— 40
Persian (400lb)	18—18/6	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Hama (448lb)	26 — 27	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Spanish (448lb)	29 — 33	White	42 — 44
Crush'd (304lb)	20 — 21	Yellow	22 — 24
Torrified(336lb)	21 — 22	Sorghum	20 — 22
MALT (336 lb.):		RICE (cwt.):	
Californian ...	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
Smyrna	33 — 36	Burmese	9 — 10
Ouchak	33 — 36	Siamese	8 — 9
RYE (480 lb.):		DARI (480 lb.):	
Russian	24 — 25	Smyrna	25 — 26
OATS:		Indian	23 — 24
Konigsb'g(320lb)	18 — 19	Persian	21 — 22
Libau (320 lb.)	18 — 19	BUCKWHEAT (416lb.)	
,, (304 lb.)	16—16/3	French	30 — 32
Arg'nt'e(304lb)	16—16/3	Russian	26 — 28

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 p.m.

American advices are a trifle firmer from last week, and this aids the London market a little. Bakers, however, complain that bread is very out of favour, the good supply of green vegetables and the high temperature much affecting the retail demand.

London makes were held rather more confidently from the 12th, but the sales were below the average. A fair business continued to be done in country flour at the very low prices previously admitted.

French patents were the turn lower, but Hungarian were quite as dear as formerly, and for Australians, despite the slackness of the inquiry, less money was not taken. Middlings, pollard, and bran were firmly held, and considering the weather, had a fair sale.

London Flour.		
Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/0 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/0 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/0 ,,
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	23	— 24
Roller Whites	,,	21 — 22
Stone made	,,	20 — 21
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
Belgian	,,	26 — 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rice Flour	,,	19 — 20
Rice Cones	,,	17 — 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET WAS QUIET AT THE CLOSE, BUT THE TONE WAS LESS DISCOURAGING FROM A WEEK AGO.

THE BALTIC, 1 p m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The cargo trade is quietly steady for wheat and maize, but is rather weak for barley and oats. Linseed, rapeseed, and cottonseed are very firm.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Rosario, 28s 6d per 480 lb, on passage; Blue Stem, 30s 6d per 500 lb, on passage; Red Walla, 29s 3d per 500 lb, December shipment; Roumanian, 27s 3d per 488 lb, December shipment; Australian, 29s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment; Hard Duluth, 30s 9d per 480 lb, December shipment; Hard Manitoba, 30s per 480 lb, December shipment; Hard Winter, 28s per 480 lb, December shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s per 480 lb, on passage; Roumanian, 19s 6d per 480 lb, May shipment; American, 20s per 480, prompt shipment; American, 19s per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Crimean, 19s 3d per 400 lb, December shipment; Kustendge, 21s per 416 lb, December shipment.

Oats.—Koningsberg, 17s per 320 lb, December shipment.

Linseed.—Bombay 44s per 424 lb, April shipment.

Rapeseed.—Brown Cawnpore, 49s 9d per 416 lb, April shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 per ton, on passage.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Prices remain unchanged; the tone of the market, however, rather steadier.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran firmer, and demand somewhat improved.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There is no change to report. Grain.—American corn continues in good supply, and prices are again 1½d to 3d per boll easier. Plate is scarce on spot, and held for 3d per boll higher. Pease are in small compass. Oats quietly steady. There is a good demand for grinding beans, and the stock is very small. Feeding beans are unchanged. Feeding barley ex store is held for 14s 9d per 320 lb. Oilcake unchanged. Mill Stuffs.—Although the output from mills is small, there is now more difficulty in keeping clear of stock.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been steady, with a moderate demand. Prices show no change since this day week.—T. B. MEDILL and Sons, Ltd.

Milling Offal.—The supply of offal does not improve, and prices remain unchanged with a fair demand.—JOHN BAWCOMB and Co.

Arrivals of wheat from abroad have been large. The trade is steady, and prices of last Monday are unchanged. Flour sells slowly at late prices. Feeding stuffs sell at full prices.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

TERM MARKET.

The prices ruling for maize futures are rather lower on the week, but wheat is a trifle steadier than it was.

Wheat.....	Dec.	delivery,	6s 5d per cental
,, ...	Jan.	,,	no sales.
,, ...	March	,,	6s 3d per cental
,, ...	May	,,	6s 5d ,,
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 4d ,,
,, ...	Jan.	,,	4s 1d ,,
,, ...	March	,,	4s 0d ,,

The maize is American. There were some sales to-day of Argentine maize for 4s 1d, December dellvery.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—There are no material changes in oilseeds which remain rather dear than cheap all along the line.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Dutch	47 to 49	Egyptian.....	139 to 145
Calcutta	43 to 44	Indian	106 to 110
Bombay	44 to 45	SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
Russian	41 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Argentine	41 to 42	English, White	15 to 16
Duluth	42 to 43	,, Black .	13 to 14
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		SESAME.	per cwt.
Best English ...	68 to 69	Indian	14 to 15
Yellow Guzerat.	52 to 54	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Russian	49 to 50
Brown ,,	44 to 45	CANARYSEED. per 464 lb.	
Ferozepore	47 to 48	English	48 to 53
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		Turkish	39 to 41
Indian	51 to 53	Argentine	38 to 39

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Winter tares in good demand. Prices unchanged, in spite of the new foreign spring tares opening high. Rye corn firm and advancing; supplies diminishing. Mustard supplies falling off; prices very firm. Peas selling steadily; prices unchanged. The new clover seeds, reds and whites, are offering freely; prices unchanged. Reds, fancy quality, 58s to 62s; fine, 52s to 56s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Whites, fancy quality, 60s to 64s; fine, 54s to 56s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils unchanged, 20s to 24s per cwt. In grasses, French Italian ryegrass firm. Irish Italian ryegrass and perennial ryegrass unchanged. New Zealand cocksfoot and Meadow Fescue firm.—JOHN PICARD & Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Fair supply; trade quiet. Hay, £3 10s to £4 per ton; straw, no quotations.

Bristol, Friday.—Old clover hay, 87s 6d to 92s 6d; old meadow hay, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; second, 65s to 70s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 50s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay remains very firm, with very few transactions. Straw unchanged, and practically no inquiry. Hay, 55s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; ditto clover, 6½d to 6¾d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday. — Hay and straw in the warehouses moves steadily into consumption, supplies being fully up to the average. Quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 6d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay, £3 10s.; secondary ditto, £2 15s to £3 per ton on the ground; straw, 30s per ton at the stack. Business quiet.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5d to 5½d; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, oat, 3½d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Supplies still short, and only a moderate attendance of buyers. Choice seeds, £4 to £4 5s; meadow hay, £3 15s to £3 17s 6d; straw, £2 10s to £2 15s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 10s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 8s; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 15s to £5. Wheat straw, from £1 6d to £1 8s per load; barley straw, from £1 4s; oat straw from £1 8s.

Nottingham, Wednesday. — Fair supply, which met with a slow sale, except for best seeds. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 65s to 75s; prime ditto, 85s to 95s; inferior to good clover, 70s to 80s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Brisk support was accorded the light arrivals, prices being unchanged. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 80s to 87s 6d; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Trade is now slackening a little, and prices are steadily rising. Quotations range from 47s 6d to 50s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Small supplies on offer met a fair demand at steady rates. Quotations: Up-to-Dates, 70s; Blacklands, 60s; British Queens, 65s to 75s; Royal Kidneys, 65s to 70s; Maincrops, 80s to 85s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of potatoes forward at the two public retail markets, and a quiet demand at 5d to 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply and a fair trade. No change in prices, which ruled at 6s 6d to 7s 6d per load of 18 stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Few farmers attended, wheat sowing detaining them. Dealers have to make up with Scotch. Heavy arrivals at Hull, making about 55s to 60s per ton delivered in Hull by boat.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Supplies of potatoes very limited. Dealers' wholesale quotations £2 10s to £3 per ton; auction sales 3s per bag; retail prices, 6d to 7d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Yorkshire Warps, 8s to 9s 6d; Sands, 8s to 9s; Cheshire, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; ditto Main Crop, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; Lincoln Warps, 8s to 9s; ditto Sands, 8s to 9s per load; Irish, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Prices remained firm at 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Potatoes plentiful, the best home-grown varieties making 6s to 7s; and other descriptions 5s to 5s 6d per load.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been moderate, for which the demand has been steady, with prices for best qualities well maintained. Lightsoil: Up-to-Dates, 63s to 75s per ton; British Queens, 60s to 70s per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 65s per ton; Edward VIIth, 60s to 65s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; Evergoods, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; Royal Kidneys, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large supply, and trade slow. Best potatoes, 6s to 7s per load of 18 stones.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 19, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 20, 1905.
Beasts	1,410	1,410	1,190
Sheep and Lambs	4,530	4,530	6,400
Calves	20	20	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	5 0
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 4
Lambs	4 8	5 4	6 0
Calves	4 8	5 4	6 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 20; Eastern Counties, 85; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1023; Devon, 35; Ireland, 247.

We note to-day an increase of 20 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow nature, with a downward tendency in value, though hardly sufficient to quote any lower rates. A small consignment of Polled Aberdeens found buyers, and commanded our top quotation. There was again a large supply of Irish, consisting of 141 Dublins (20 of which were choice black polled cattle) and 106 Waterfords; these met with a limited inquiry, late values being difficult to maintain. Fat butchering cows and bulls shared in the poor trade, there being an absence of both town and country buyers.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Nov. 20, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	4 10	5 0	—	
Devons	4 4	4 6	4 4	4 6
Herefords	4 4	4 6	4 4	4 6
Norfolks	—		—	
Runts	4 0	4 4	4 0	4 4
Lincolns	3 8	3 10	3 8	3 10
Irish	3 10	4 2	3 8	4 0
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	2 10	3 6	3 6	3 8

There was a decrease of 130 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. For both wethers and ewes trade was of an extremely slow nature; prices, however, were able to be upheld on account of the smaller numbers which were offered for sale. There was a fair average supply from Ireland, these shared in the general depression; on the other hand, Scotch were short in number and sold readily at late values. A clearance will not be made owing to the scarcity of retail buyers present. The supply, 150 Scotch, 510 Irish, and 590 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Nov. 20, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0	to 6 2	5 8	to 5 10
9 st. Downs	5 10	to 6 0	5 6	to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 8	to 5 10	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 2	to 5 4	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Down Ewes	4 2	to 4 4	4 3	to 4 0
11 st Halfbred ditto	3 10	to 4 0	3 8	to 3 10
5 st Down Lambs	—		—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

Calves were in short supply, and met with a slow trade; late currencies, however, were well upheld, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 568; sheep, 768; pigs, 458. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 11s 8d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d. Fat beasts, good demand; stores, fair; fat and store sheep, sharp trade. Fat and store pigs, good demand. Milch cows, short supply, good demand; prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,181. To-day's supply consisted of 687 from the United States and 494 from Canada. Trade was of a slow nature, nevertheless, late rates were upheld. Best States were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 4s to 4s 1d; Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lb offal given in). On Saturday 1,122 States, 278 Canadian, and 700 Canadian ranchers were offered for sale. Trade was of a slow nature, with a downward tendency in value. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d, seconds 4s to 4s 1d, Canadian 3s 9d to 4s, and Canadian Ranch cattle 3s 2d to 3s 8d. Besides the above 509 Canadians were withheld.

Liverpool, Monday.—The upply of cattle was smaller than last week; demand fair for good cattle at late rates; middling sorts harder to sell. Sheep supply also smaller; trade slow, last week's prices being difficult to realise, even for finished classes; strong and rough sorts lower. Best, 6d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 9d to 6½. At market, 1,991 cattle and 3,953 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: With short shipments and a smart advance in the prices of linseed, crushers are inclined to be firm, and some have advanced their prices 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton. Decorticated Cottoncake Meal.—After a long time shipments have just arrived, for which high prices are asked. The quality, however, is not very good. Cottoncake is rather dearer. Dried grains are 10s. per ton dearer.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8 0	0 to 8 5 0
American Western Linseed Cake	ex quay	9 10 0	—
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive)	ex quay	9 7 6	—
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 10	8 to 8 0 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake		7 10	0 to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal	ex quay	7 10	0 to 7 15 0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 17	6 to 5 0 0
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 15	0 to 4 17 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	5 10 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb	ex warehouse	4 8 0	5 0 0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb	ex warehouse	4 6 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb.	ex warehouse	4 5 0	5 2 0
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb,	ex warehouse	—	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,713 bales, and from foreign ports 12,993 bales. With a better demand and lighter supplies coming in from all centres, the market was firm last week.—Irish, 56s to 60s up to 63s; Danish, 50s to 59s up to 61s; Canadian, 54s to 56s up to 58s. Butter was a quiet, steady market.—French, 122s to 126s; Danish, 124s to 126s; Russian, 86s to 108s; Irish, 97s to 120s; Canadian, 86s to 114s; Victorian, 100s to 118s; New South Wales, 100s to 116s; Queensland, 100s to 114s; New Zealand, 112s to 118s; Argentine, 112s to 114s. Lard.—Lard was quiet but firm market—Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 56s to 61s; American, 47s to 50s 9d.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: The market has had a more limited supply, and prices are firm at about 20s to 21s ale, and 17s to 18s porter. Distillers' 35s, and pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale, 102s 6d; mixed 92s 6d; distillers' 107s 6d per ton on rail London. Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 100s, and kibbled locust beans 110s. per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies, but only a moderate demand. Cock turkeys, 8s to 10s 6d; hen ditto, 4s 6d to 6s; goslings, 4s 6d to 6s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 6d to 9d; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; pheasants, 3s 6d to 4s.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week we note a decrease in the supply, principally due to shorter arrivals from the Midland counties. On Monday trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow and dragging nature, nevertheless sellers both asked and obtained in most cases late currencies. Irish, though not so large in regard to numbers as on the previous Monday, were in full supply and consisted of 169 Dublins and 106 Waterfords, these shared in the slow trade which was experienced and showed a slight downward tendency in value. There was very little inquiry for fat butchering cows, consequently a decline in value had to be accepted to effect sales; bulls, on the other hand, were fairly steady at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb.

At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, no markets were held on either Monday or Wednesday, this being due to the boats being delayed by fog. On Saturday, 1,122 from the United States. 278 Canadian, and 700 ranchers were offered for sale, and met a very slow trade at late rates. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,610, as against 4,710 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,510 British (decrease 210) and 2,100 foreign (decrease 890), these comprising 1,122 from the United States and 978 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal:—80 to 90 stone Scotch, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 9d. to 4s.; 90 stone fat cows, 2s. 10d. to 3s.

The sheep trade at Islington was practically confined to Monday, and for all grades of both wethers and ewes opened and continued throughout the day of a slow nature, in most cases 2d. per 8 lb. less money having to be accepted. Anything small and choice, however, found ready purchasers. Irish descriptions were also lower in value, whilst Scotch sold fairly well at late rates. On Thursday neither trade nor quotations were worth noting. The total number of sheep penned was 4,670, as against 5,320 during the preceding week, consisting entirely of British consignments. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone Halfbred ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered thirty met with a slow but firm trade, best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

With keep unusually abundant for the time of the year—the pasture lands generally presenting more the appearance of spring instead of that just on the verge of winter—prices of stores are steadily, if slowly, hardening in value, and this has been very clearly evidenced by the turn things have taken since our last report, and of which grazing cattle seems to have been the first to benefit. In corroboration of this statement we can assert that all the fresher-condition graziers advanced quite £1 to £2 apiece, this, of course, being for a good-class bullock in every respect adapted for wintering purposes, and for these prices have now gone up from £23 or £24 per pair as last quoted to £25 or £26, and occasionally, for anything very special, up to £29, the price now ruling; but the plainer grades are still a slow business, though prices for these also show marked signs of recovery, there being nothing now available at the very low figure we quoted a few weeks back, when it was a common occurrence to see barroners selling at £6 or £7 apiece, this, of course, being principally for old cows of a very poor type. Now £16 to £17 per pair is easily obtainable, and with the season just beginning, prices will no doubt sensibly improve a little later on.

As we have predicted all along, sheep sales continue to improve very sensibly as the season rapidly draws to a close, the advance on most classes of sheep and lambs being from 3s. to 5s. apiece, everything, too, being cleared on these terms.

A slightly better tone characterises the beef trade than has been the case of late, particularly for choice qualities, which are becoming scarcer and scarcer as the supply of grass-fed beasts dies out. Of the ordinary grades supplies still come to hand very extensively. We must quote the weights in Devons and Shorthorns, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per stone; seconds, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; and anything coarse and of poor quality 4s. to 4s. 2d. The supply of calves is by no means equal to the demand, the best making 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d., and seconds 5s. 2d. to 5s. 6d. Mutton, too, is very scarce, especially the better class, and whilst this continues to be the case there is little likelihood of values declining; on the contrary, sellers are asking more money, and this has had to be conceded in all the choicer grades, wethers making 6s. 6d. to 6s. 10d. per stone; heavier weights, 6s. to 6s. 4d.; and coarse old sheep, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. Pigs bring full values all round, both for small and heavy weights, porkers making 10s. to 11s. per score, and baconers 9s. to 9s. 9d.; coarse heavy sows, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.

Trade in Ireland.

The attendance of both home and export buyers was very good, but trade in both sections was slack. Some of the more important buyers expressed their opinions pretty freely as to their disappointment in finding such a scarcity of choice, well-finished beeves, and a large number of medium and inferior cattle had to be left over unsold, though, on the whole, prices were fairly well maintained for anything with quality, and for choice beef were slightly higher, full prices of the previous market being well maintained for anything good. Good secondary quality beef also did better than the previous Thursday. Live weight prices ruled from 29s. to 31s. per cwt. for Shorthorns, while Herefords and Aberdeen-Angus fetched up to 32s. and 33s. per cwt. for choice. The increase of some 400 head of dealers' cattle made coarse beef a drug. Dead-weight prices were:—Choice ox and heifer beef, 50s. to 54s. 6d.; while for some very choice beasts up to 56s. and 57s. 9d. was given; good second class beef from 47s. to 49s.; and inferior qualities from 40s. per cwt. upwards. Sellers tried to press for higher rates, but though perhaps a little firm, no quotable change could be said to have been made. The export trade for beef was quiet.

In the sheep department there was a fair inquiry for home buyers, and for prime hoggets and wethers perhaps the best prices of the season were got, but for other descriptions no particular change was to be noted. Owing to the quietness of the export trade, dealers for shipping lots could buy on easier terms. Heavy-weight sheep were more or less neglected. Prime wethers sold at from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; prime ewes, 6¾d. to 7½d.; and inferior sheep from 6d. per lb. upwards.

Shipping hoggets in very quiet demand, and worth from 50s. to 60s. each for large heavy, and from 34s. to 42s. for small to middling.

Really prime veal sold freely at from 7d. to 8d. per lb., but other qualities could be got at from 4½d. to 6d. per lb. Milch cows were quieter, but a fair clearance was made, choice springers and newly-calved cows making from £17 to £21 a head; medium qualities, £14 to £16; and inferior, from £9 upwards.

Store cattle of good breeding and with condition went well at Messrs. Ganley and Sons' auction, and at the country fairs there seems to be an improved demand at better rates for two and three-year-old stores in forward condition. The late wet weather made business bad.

In the pig department on Thursday a moderate supply of fat pigs was entered, but though export and home buyers were in good attendance, trade was dull and dragging. Even in the best class of pigs a drop of 1s. to 2s. per cwt. was to be noted, on the top of the depression on last week's rates. It is hard to understand the slackness in buying where bacon is so high. The large importations of American and Australian fresh pork into England is said to have upset the markets and lowered prices. Choice light-weight pigs in Dublin on Thursday fetched from 46s. 6d. to 48s. per cwt.; coarse, from 40s. to 44s.; and inferior, 34s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade very slow, prices being lower. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ditto, tegs, 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 5s; Dutch ditto, 4s to 4s 6d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Fair supplies and trade very slow, with a drooping tendency in prices for beef and mutton:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 10d to 5s; ditto tegs, 5s to 5s 2d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; extreme 5s; English pork, 4s to 4s 8d; extreme, 5s; Dutch pork, 4s to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade somewhat quieter. First-class beef still made up to 4s 6d, but secondary qualities were rather cheaper on the week. Down wether sheep made 5s 8d to 6s; Kent wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; and ewes, 3s 10d to 4s 6d. Pork sold well, roasters making 4s 2d to 4s 8d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a crowded attendance of buyers. Ruling values:—Prime fat Devon beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; ditto Shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5½d; fat sheep, 9d to 9½d; second ditto, 8d to 8½d; best ewes, rams, and inferior, 7d to 7½d; fat calves, 7d to 8d per lb; fat hogs, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; fat porkers, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; fat sows, 8s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was again a considerable decrease in the number of cattle shown, Calves, £5 10s to £7; heifers, £7 to £10; stirks, £7 15s to £11 15s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; three-year-olds, £13 to £15; shorthorn bulls, £10 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; fair demand for pigs; trade slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; porkets, 11s 8d per score; sows, 7s 9d to 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but not in much request, and trade dull at late rates. Mutton was again rather scarce, and moderate business done at last week's full prices, light Down wethers realising 8¾d per lb. Pigs were not numerous, and porkers advanced to 11s 3d per score. About 800 store cattle, and most sold at current prices.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 6d per score.—C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A small offering of sheep, wether tegs making from 36s to 41s, and lambs up to 31s per head. Yearlings and eighteen months old bullocks ranged from £6 to £10, two-year-olds up to £13 10s, and Irish calves from four to five guineas per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply was larger than for several weeks, over 300 being exposed, chiefly good heifers. Business was restricted. Small heifers, £6 10s to £10 10s; better sorts, £12 to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £7 to £8 10s; and horned bullocks £9 10s to £11 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—There was a good selection of store and dairy stock, a fair attendance of buyers, and a quiet and steady trade. Last week's prices were fully maintained, and a pretty good clearance was made. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calves, £15 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; and stirks, £6 to £10.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a thin market. Store beasts were in short supply, and there were not many buyers. Beef made 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone of 8 lb, and mutton about 6s. Pork from 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Store pigs changed hands at last week's prices.

Derby, Tuesday.—There was again a strong demand for first quality beasts and sheep, and many of the latter touched 11d. Beasts, 6d to 7d; sheep, 8d to 11d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, and an average supply of sheep. Fair attendance of buyers. A better demand for milch beasts, which were firmer, and made £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers, £11 to £15; drapes, £10 to £14; young stores, £7 to £9 each. Hoggs sheep firm and in better demand. Prices from 36s to 48s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Despite most unfavourable weather, an enormous company of buyers—from places as distant as Kent on one side and Cornwall on the other—were attracted to the agricultural Repository to-day on the occasion of Messrs. T. Ensor and Sons' great county sale of barreners. The Devon steers were a superb lot, the best selling from £14 10s to £15 10s each, and younger animals £1 10s 6d to £12 each; Devon barreners, £26 to £28 10s per pair; best Shorthorn barreners, £26 10s per pair; seconds, £17 10s to £19 10s; cross-bred yearling steers, £8 10s to £9 15s each; meaty cows, £16 to £26 per pair. Trade showed a decided improvement both as to demand and price, this being evidenced by the keenness of the competition, more especially for animals showing condition. Milch beasts also sold exceedingly well at from £17 10s to £20 10s for heifers, and

cows from £14 to £17 5s; stock bulls, £9 10s to £11 15s. Fat beasts, good steady trade at from £16 10s to £17 5s. Mutton was conspicuous by its absence.

Dublin, Thursday.—Fair demand for all cattle of choice quality at about last week's rates. Secondary and rough sorts difficult to negotiate, and further concessions had to be made in price in order to effect a clearance. There was no alteration in price of best suitable sheep for home and export purposes, but the finish was not quite so satisfactory as last week, many rough and inferior lots remaining unsold. Cattle—Live weigh (best), 28s to 30s per cwt; choice Angus crosses, up to 33s per cwt. Secondary and rougher classes, from 24s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6¾d to 8¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Store cattle quiet. Trade for sheep fairly good. Polled bullocks, £12 12s to £15 15s; stirks, £8 to £10; Shorthorn cows to £25 5s; Ayrshires to £19 15s; crosses, to £22; half-bred hoggs, 32s to 37s; Oxford crosses, 32s to 35s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 28s to 35s.

Exeter, Friday.—Brisk trade. First quality steers and maiden heifers, 11s 3d to 11s 6d; cows, 9s to 10s per score; hoggs, 9d per lb; old wethers, 8½d; ewes, 6½d; lambs, 33s to 38s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Shorter supplies, and a fair demand at steady prices. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, 10d for light weights, heavy weights, 9d to 9½d; top wedders, 8d to 9d per lb. Dead meat quiet; best Scotch beef, 6d; States, 5½d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d; ewes, 6d per lb; light pork, 56s per cwt.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A very large supply of beef, but there was no change in the trade. A few of the primest oxen and heifers made 6¾d per lb, but the main portion was hardly up to 6½d. Fat cows averaged 5d to 5½d per lb. Veal (a short supply) was firm at 7d per lb. Store calves were not wanted. A short supply of mutton, consequently prices ran rather high, nice wethers in some exceptional cases reaching 9d per lb. Fat lambs were also scarce, and reached the same figure. Fat ewes made as much as 7½d per lb for choicest. Several lots of good store lambs realised handsome prices, ranging from 28s to 38s. Pigs were plentiful; best quality porkets up to 6d. Bacon pigs made hardly 5½d per lb. Store cattle in short supply, and trade about the same as last week.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a larger supply of fat cattle, which were nearly all prime yard-fed animals. The numbers caused a slower demand, and values ruled somewhat lower, 8s 6d being the top quotation. At the sale of grazing cattle about 500 were penned, including a grand show of north country Shorthorns, homebreds, Polled Scots, and Polled Irish. Buyers were not so numerous as last week, but a good trade was experienced for Cumberland calves and yearlings, while older animals were not so much in request, and sold at rather lower rates. A consignment of North country bulls sold freely, prices ranging from 22 guineas to 11 guineas for animals fifteen to twelve months old. The dairy stock consisted mostly of fresh calved heifers; those which promised to make good cows were well competed for from £19 to £14. Fat sheep were scarce, and sold without alteration in values. Suffolk hoggets, to 61s 6d; half-breds, to 56s 6d; shearlings, to 60s 6d. Grazing hoggets were fairly represented, but of secondary quality, and changed hands quickly at from 37s to 34s. Fat swine were short in numbers, and sold without any quotable alteration. Numbers at sales and market:—1,244 cattle, 1,176 sheep, 646 swine.

Leicester, Saturday. — Larger supplies of stock, and a better attendance, while trade showed a considerable recovery all round, and prices were firmer. Choice milch cows, £20 to £23; good lots, £17 to £18 10s; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £12 10s to £16 10s; Irish bullocks, £12 to £13 10s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12; young stock, £5 to £7; calves, 15s to 30s. Sheep were in active demand at 28s to 39s for lamb hoggs, and 42s to 51s for breeding ewes.

Lincoln, Friday. — An average number of beasts, but business ruled dull. Strong beasts, £13 to £15; young ditto, £8 to £10; lambs, 36s to 47s; drape ewes, 36s to 40s each.

Lynn. Tuesday.—This should be "Bullock Fair," but there was no special show of beasts; fat beasts in large supply, with rather slower trade, made from 7s to 7s 9d. An average show of stores met a slow trade from £6 to £15 each. Small supply of fat sheep met with firm trade at 9s to 10s per stone. Very few stores at 40s to 48s. Store lambs, 33s to 44s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, Scotch, 8½d; others, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5½d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Lighter supply and a shade firmer trade. Quotations:—Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; steers, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s to 7s 9d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A large supply of cattle, a fair number of sheep and lambs, but a small supply of calves and pigs. A large attendance of buyers, and a good trade all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d per lb; secondary, 6d; Irish beef, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6¾d to 7½d; lambs, 9½d to 9¾d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s per score; baconers, 9s 3d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat Beasts were offered in good supply, and trade was not quite so good, prices averaging from 7s 3d up to 8s for best qualities. There was not quite so large a number of store cattle on offer, and trade was conducted much upon the same lines as during the past three or four weeks; a clearance was not effected, values ranging from £6 to £16 per head. Very small supply of store sheep, and barely sufficient to meet the demand, values for hoggets ranging from 35s to 45s per head. Fat sheep were offered in average numbers, and met with a fair trade, prices averaging from 10s to 11s per stone. Both fat and store pigs were offered in short supply, and the demand was of a brisk description, fat pigs averaging from 6s to 7s per stone, and stores ranged from 12s to 50s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday. — There was an average show of milking beasts; best cows met with a good demand, and made £17 to £21, while in-calf heifers sold at £13 to £17 each. There was a small show of store animals, which realised £9 to £13, younger beasts selling at £5 to £9. Calves fetched 25s to 45s each. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday. — There was an unusually large show of cattle and sheep, the supply being much greater than the demand. Trade was rather slow, especially in sheep, but the best quality of cattle made good prices. Fat calves dragged. Lambs made 9½d to 9¾d; hoggs, 8¾d to 9½d; ewes, 6d to 7¾d; heifers and bullocks, 5¾d to 6d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5¼d; fat calves, 5½d to 7d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Small supply of all kinds of store stock, but with thin attendance the demand was sluggish, milch cows making £14 to £18, two-year-old steers and heifers £9 to £11, yearlings £6 to £8, and calves 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade about the same. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply, trade dear at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade about the same. Best small, 6s 4d to 6s 6d; large, 6s to 6s 2d per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade unchanged at 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, very slow demand. Fair supply of pigs, trade good: Small, neat porkers, 4s 8d to 5s; large hogs, 4s to 4s 2d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—More milch beasts than last week, which met a fairly good demand at £18 to £21; rougher cattle, £14 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies and good trade all round, especially in store pigs, prices slightly in advance of last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6¼d to 7d per lb; mutton, 9d to 10d per lb; lamb, 10d per lb; veal, 8d to 9d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle met with a slow trade at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher kinds made 6s to 6s 6d. Young sheep made 9½d per lb; hoggs, 9½d; ewes, 7½d; and tups, 6½d. The pig trade was much the same as last week, small porkers selling at 8s 3d per stone; mediums, 7s 6d; strong pigs, 7s; and sows, 6s 3d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a fair entry of stock for the time of year, and there was a keen trade throughout for beef, which made higher prices than it has done for some time past. Some choice and heavy fat cows met a ready sale. Sheep were in short supply and continue to make high prices. Veal, bacon, and pork met a good demand. At Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale were 79 fat beast, 178 fat sheep, 108 fat and weaning calves, also fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £22 15s; fat heifers, £14 to £23; fat wethers, 48s to 59s; fat ewes, 40s to 55s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 13s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 50s; bull calves, 10s to 42s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £6 1s; porkets, 29s to 51s; store pigs, 12s to 26s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk; attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 15s to 40s; wethers, 8d per lb; ewes, 6d; lambs, 8d; pigs, 7s 9d to 26s 6d each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Moderate supply and trade. Beef made 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Fair attendance. Moderate supply of stock, and trade brisk, rates being fully maintained. Best beef, 7s to 7s 3d; secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Sheep met a good trade. Best Southdown and crossbreds, 8½d to 9½d; ewes, 6½d to 7d per stone.

Yeovil, Friday. —Fairly good supply of sheep and cattle, and trade was active. Barreners made from £8 to £12 10s each, extra good quality animals selling from £13 to £18 10s each; steers, £9 15s to £10 10s; bulls, from £9 15s to £12 10s; heifers and cows, and calves, £16 10s to £21 10s; horn wether lambs, 30s to 35s; Down wether lambs, 29s to 37s 6d; Down ewes, 40s to 45s; Down wethers, 47s 6d to 52s 6d; horn ewes, 41s to 49s; horn wethers, 48s 6d to 54s.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Wednesday.—A sale of Canadian cattle was held to-day, there being on offer 692 head from Montreal. There was a large attendance of buyers, and trade was somewhat active at the opening, but latterly became dull, and the close was quiet. Prices were little altered from those ruling last week, but trade for good cattle was decidedly firmer. Bullocks of handy sizes and weights of first-class quality experienced a good selling trade at rates ranging from 54s to 56s per cwt. dead weight, while secondary and middling were easy from 52s to 53s per cwt., and rough and coarse animals at 50s per cwt. Many ranchers of good points were shown, and for these a steady demand was experienced up to 48s per cwt. dead weight, lower grades making down to 44s per cwt. Only a few bulls of prime choice were penned, and these were cashed at rates ranging from 45s to 46s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed.—A slightly better demand with a firm market. Cotton.—After the recent reduction rather more orders are coming in. Market very firm—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED AND Co.

Liverpool, Friday.—Since last report nitrate of soda values have receded 2s. 6d. per ton, and are quoted £11 10s. for ordinary 95 per cent., and £12 5s. per ton for refined. The autumnal demand for kainit and phosphatic manures is increasing, and a good business is experienced; values unchanged. The trade in feeding stuffs keeps slow, and very moderate are the sales recorded. American linseed cakes are more freely offered at a decline of fully 2s. 6d. per ton, but decorticated cotton cakes command late rates, owing to the limited offerings; some really choice South American, to arrive, is quoted £8 3s. 9d. ex quay. Feeding treacle and cattle cod-liver oil meet a fair consumptive demand.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
	Per ton.					
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (good to prime)	7	15	0	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated (prime soft).....	8	5	0	—		
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4	17	6	5	5	0
Cottonseed, Egyptian	—			—		
Cottonseed (crushed)	7	15	0	—		
Linseed Cake, American.....	7	7	6	7	12	6
,, ,, English, prime...	8	7	6	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed).....	14	0	0	—		
Palm Nut Cake	—			6	10	0
Corn Oil Cake	6	2	6	6	5	0
Maize Gorm Meal.....	5	15	0	5	17	6
Indian meal	—					
	Per 416 lb.					
Rice Meal, Rangoon.....	4	15	0	4	16	3
	Per ton.					
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0			
	Per Gallon.					
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	0	4	0	—		
	Per Cwt.					
Treacle, feeding.	0	4	9	—		
	Per ton.					
Nitrate of Soda.....	11	10	0	—		
Kainit	2	2	6	2	5	0
Bone meal (coarse to fine)	5	5	0	5	7	6
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3	10	0	—		
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	18	6	2	0	0
,, finest ,,	2	2	6	—		
D.N.S. Brand { Superphosphate of Lime	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3

—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes.—The tone of the market has slightly improved, and with a better consumptive inquiry, a further hardening of prices is anticipated, while home manufacturers have already raised their limits 2s. 6d. per ton. Russians remain by far the best value at £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. in mats, and £7 13s. 9d. to £7 15s. in bags. East India seed pures make £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. ex steamer to arrive. Americans are quoted at £7 10s. London made move off rather more freely at £8 to £8 2s. 6d. per ton. Cotton Cakes.—A fair quantity of Egyptians have changed hands during the past week, and with probable light shipments in the near future, values are the turn dearer, and there are to-day free buyers at £4 10s. to £4 17s. 6d. for ready parcels. English meet a ready sale at £5 12s. 6d to £7 15s., and Bombays at £4 5s. Decorticated shortly due may be bought £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. Meal at £7 5s. Rape Cakes scarce. East India, £5 10s. Ravison, £5 5s. Maize Germ Meal.—A limited quantity of white American in warehouse is firmly held at £5 15s. to £5 16s. 3d., but there are sellers of English makes at £5 10s. to £5 12s 6d. Maize Gluten Meal is in good request at £5 15s. per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon sell quietly at £4 13s. 9d. £4 15s., while shippers continue to ask £4 11s. 3d. to £4 12s 6d. ex ship terms for steamer parcels to come along. Locust beans are held for more money at £5 5s. for whole, and £5 15s. kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains are relatively cheaper offered at £5 5s per ton for ale, and £4 15s. for porter.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
Linseed Cakes.		
London made .....ex mill	7 0 0	to 8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
American.....	7 10 0	
Calcutta (to arrive)	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
English	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 5 0	
Decorticated...	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 5 0	
Rape Cakes.		
Calcutta	5 10 0	
Ravison	5 5 0	
Maize.		
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
,, afloat, ex ship	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
Locust Beans.		
White	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
Dried Grains.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

London, Thursday.—Oil Cakes.—Linseed cakes firm. London made, £8 to £8 2s 6d. Linseed, American Westerns, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s. Cotton cakes firmer. London made, £4 17s 6d.—London Produce Brokers' Co., Ltd.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending November 17.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 11d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 3d to 1s 6d. Berwick: 10d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s 2d to 1s 3½d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3½d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Penrith: 11½d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Redruth: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 4d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Week ending November 17.—Altrincham: 5. Appleby: 5 and 6. Berwick: 1s 6d per doz. Camelford: 1s 6d per doz. Carlisle: 5. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 10d to 2s per doz. Derby: 7. Devizes: 6 to 8. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Dorchester: 1s 9d to 2s per doz. Hereford: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Kidderminster: 10. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Lincoln: 5 and 6. Market Drayton: 6 and 7. Otley: 6 and 7. Penrith: 5 and 6. Plymouth: 8 and 9. Redruth: 1s 8d per doz. Retford: 3s 2d to 3s 4d per score. Ripon: 5 and 6. Scarborough: 6. Shrewsbury: 6. Spalding: 6 and 7. Stamford: 6 to 9. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 5. Totnes: 1s 10d to 1s 11d per doz. Truro: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 3s 4d per score. York: 6 and 7.

CHEESE.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, and all cleared. Best dairies realised up to 74s 6d per cwt; secondary dairies, 69s to 71s 6d; and other dairies, 66s 6d to 68s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 60s. Cheddars made 67s to 74s 6d; truckles, 66s to 72s; doubles, 60s to 67s 6d.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply, and an average attendance of buyers with a good demand. Quotations:—Cacrphillies, 65s to 70s per cwt; fancy dairies, 70s to 72s; Derbys, 75s to 76s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Steady demand for fairly good supply. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 4s; apples, 3s to 6s per bushel; tomatoes, 5s to 6s: cobnuts, 6s to 7s per 12 lb; chestnuts (Redon), 8s to 12s 6d: walnuts (Grenoble), 6s 6d to 7s 6d per bag; medlars, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per crate; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; celery, 5s 6d to 12s; horseradish, 9s to 14s per dozen rolls; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s; Brussels sprouts, 1s 9d to 2s 3d per bushel; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; carrots, 9d to 1s 3d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; cauliflowers, 5s to 6s; cabbages, 3s to 4s per tally; cucumbers, 3s to 5s; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per dozen: eschalots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; potatoes, 60s to 90s per ton.

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.		1900	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ..	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ..			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.		1900.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ..	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2
Feb. ...	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3
March	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3
April ...	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9
May ...	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8
June ...	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6
July ...	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9
August	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4
Sept. ...	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3
Oct. ...	31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0
Nov. ..	—		31	9	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4
Dec. ...	—		31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0
Yrly. Avrg.	—		30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6

Cereal Years Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890...31	9	per qr...	28	8	per qr...	18	7	per qr.
1891...37	1	,,	...28	2	,,	...20	0	,,
1892...30	4	,,	..26	2	,,	...19	11	,,
1893...26	4	,,	..25	6	,,	...18	9	,,
1894...22	10	,,	...24	6	,,	...17	1	,,
1895...23	1	,,	...21	11	,,	...14	6	,,
1896...26	2	,,	...22	11	,,	...14	9	,,
1897...30	2	,,	...23	6	,,	...16	11	,,
1898...34	0	,,	...27	2	,,	...18	5	,,
1899...25	8	,,	...25	7	,,	...17	0	,,
1900...26	11	,,	...25	9	,,	...17	9	,,
1901...26	9	,,	...25	3	,,	...18	5	,,
1902...28	0	,,	...25	8	,,	...20	2	,,
1903...26	9	,,	22	11	,,	...17	2	,,
1904...28	4	,,	...22	4	,,	...16	4	,,
1905...29	9	,,	...24	4	,,	...17	4	,,

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1906	£68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year.....	32	0	25	1	18	5
Lowest of Year	26	10	22	8	16	0
Gradient	5	2	2	5	2	5
Mean of Year	29	9	24	4	17	4

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

London Flour Millers' Association.

Credit and Delivery. Official Prices.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1...(per sack)	26	9	...(per sack)	23	9
October 8... ,,	27	0	... ,,	24	0
,, 26... ,,	27	6	... ,,	24	6

(No change since last date given.)

The recently-established Petworth and District Agricultural Association has already done remarkably well from a financial aspect. After discharging the accounts in connection with the first competitions held under its auspices there is a balance in hand of £47 2s. 2d. The subscriptions amounted to £83 1s.

At Stockton November Hirings held on Wednesday, there was a good supply of every help. Good foremen received £30 for the year: second youths £14, and lads £7 for the same period. The female agreements were made mostly for six months only. Capable women asked as much as £8 for the half-year, and girls £4 and £5 for the same period.

Fatal Farm Fire in Cumberland.—Most exciting and distressing scenes were witnessed during a fire which broke out on Thursday evening on a farmstead at How End, Longtown, near Carlisle, in the course of which Isaac Norman Story, four years of age, youngest son of Mrs. Story, the occupier of the farm, was burned to death. Some valuable cattle were also destroyed, and great damage was done to both stock and buildings.

A small but choice consignment of Shropshire shearling ewes, in-lamb to high-class sires, has recently been sent to Chile by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury, and accompanying these was a valuable Shropshire ram lamb, bred by Mr. R. F. H. White, first prize as a single lamb at the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society, and first in a pen of three at the Royal Dublin Society's show.

Advertisements Received Too Late for Classification.

MILITARY CLOTHING.—4,000 good, large, dark grey or blue Waterproof Cloth Overcoats for sale; put out of service for other pattern; either, carriage paid, 7s. 6d.; name size required. Oilskin, serge-lined Police Capes, 5s.; large blue Cloth Police Capes, 5s. 6d.; splendid dark blue Police Trousers, any size, 3s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. pair; either carriage paid.—H. J. Gasson, Government Contractor, Rye.

REAL NAVAL SERGE, as supplied to the Royal Navy; Indigo Blue; splendid for costumes or skirts; 39 inches wide, 1s. 6d. per yard; carriage paid.—H. J. Gasson, Government Contractor, Rye.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The Government estimate of a wheat yield of 33·66 bushels to the acre is in excess of the general expectation, for it is more than 10 per cent. above the average of twenty-five years and is 2·44 bushels above the higher average of the past decade. A yield of 39·95 bushels in Scotland helps to bring up the total to its high figure. The quality of the new wheat being above the average, the year 1906 must be placed among the most favourable of wheat seasons.

The barley crop is put at 34·58 bushels, or 1·54 bushels above the decennial average. Mark Lane is so despondent over barley just now that it is difficult to find any champion of the Government estimate. The matter of quality is, however, so mixed up with quantity in the case of barley that we cannot feel sure but that the Government figures are right, in which case we should probably find that over-manuring has too often led to large yields of coarse barley not fit for pure malting purposes.

The crop of oats is officially put at 40·55 bushels, or 1·63 bushels above the decennial average. The heavy crops throughout the well-watered west have more than counterbalanced the disappointments of farms in the home counties, and in such midland districts as were most affected by the summer droughts.

Increased yields of beans, peas (and doubtless, though they are not officially returned tares) are balanced by a falling off in the yield of potatoes as compared with last year's good crop. The actual yields per acre are: 1906, 6·06 tons; 1905, 6·18 tons; average, 5·78 tons.

The yield of turnips and swedes is put at 14·22 tons, and of mangolds at 19·79 tons to the acre; but November is too early a date for these to be more than estimates. The hay crop is put at 22·51 cwt. per acre from the permanent meadows.

The value of English wheat now shows the following gradient:—

Canterbury	28s. 4d.	per qr.
Doncaster	25s. 2d.	,,
Range	3s. 2d.	,,

The depression of prices in the north is remarkable. The value of English barley shows this range:—

Canterbury	27s. 9d.	per qr.
Peterborough	23s. 3d.	,,
Gradient	4s. 6d.	,,

Oats are unwontedly high in price in Kent, the quality and weight are there remarkably good, though the yield to the acre is short:—

Canterbury	20s. 6d.	per qr.
Peterborough	16s. 6d.	,,
Range	4s. 0d.	,,

Since September 1 Peterborough appears to have been over supplied with barley and oats, and the effect on prices has naturally been depressing. Although Government returns are not issued for beans, peas, rye, and tares, we may state that these four staples are all in slightly improved request at fully previous prices.

The sales at the statute markets since harvest have not been at all excessive of English wheat.

This season 824,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,053,000 qr. ,, 27s. 3d. ,,

The fall in the price despite reduced offerings is a wholly unfavourable symptom, upon which comment is unnecessary. Sales of barley have been as follows:—

This season 1,748,000 qr. at 24s. 9d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,716,000 qr. ,, 24s. 4d. ,,

From these figures a little more comfort may be derived than from those relating to wheat. Oat sales are thus returned:—

This season 386,000 qr. at 16s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, 339,000 ,, 16s. 6d. ,,

Sales of oats were excessively heavy in September and October, but since November came in they have been exceedingly moderate. At Mark Lane on Monday an old Norfolk farmer to whom we remarked this said that in his opinion it was due to increased growth of winter oats, which are, of course, sooner available for sale at market. The Board of Agriculture returns do not distinguish between the winter and spring sowings.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 504,000 qr.: a very large supply.
Flour, 100,000 sks.: a moderate importation.
Barley, 209,000 qr.: a large supply.
Oats, 77,000 qr.: 30 per cent. under an average.
Maize, 151,000 qr.: 25 per cent. under an average.

Sales of breadstuffs since harvest and reckoning flour as wheat have been:—

Wheat,	4,647,000 qr.
Flour	1,215,000 ,,
Breadstuffs,	5,862,000 ,,

Last season 4,810,000 qr. of wheat, and flour equal to 1,175,000 qr. were imported. This gives a total of 5,985,000 qr., or a trifle in excess of this year. There is not, however, any vital difference between the two seasons.

The supply of wheat on passage shows some decline from a week ago:—California, 345,000 qr.; America, 260,000 qr.; Russia, 335,000 qr.; India, 310,000 qr.: Argentina, 140,000 qr.; Australasia, 200,000 qr.; various, 30,000 qr.; total, 1,620,000 qr. A week ago, 1,710,000 qr. Of flour, 236,000 sacks are on passage. Expectations of barley are now:—From Russia, 260,000 qr.; from America, 180,000 qr.; from Asia, 120,000 qr.; total, 560,000 qr.

Of oats, 150,000 qr. are on passage; of maize, 890,000 qr.; of linseed, 125,000 qr.; of rapeseed, 13,000 qr.; of cottonseed, 46,000 tons; and of rice, 12,000 tons. The maize includes 610,000 qr of Argentine, and the rice 11,000 tons of Burmese.

The shipments from Argentina last week were 143,000 qr. of wheat, 307,000 qr. of maize, and 62,000 qr. of linseed. These are decidedly good shipments for the end of the season.

Russia shipped 291,000 qr. of wheat, 404,000 qr of barley, 220,000 qr of oats, and 15,000 qr. of linseed, but maize shipments of the old crop are out, and of the new crop they will not begin before January. As, however, they are shipped from ice free ports (as the product of the warmer provinces only) they are not, when once started, liable to the usual winter interruption of Russian trade.

From Roumania shipments were: 250,000 qr. of wheat, 100,000 qr. of barley, 25,000 qr. of oats, and 12,000 qr. of maize.

India shipped 72,000 qr. of wheat, and 49,000 qr. of linseed.

Shipments of cottonseed from Alexandria for the period October 1—November 24 were 21,000 tons, and for the same period from Bombay were 6,600 tons. These ports are not "all Egypt" or "all India," but they represent the bulk of the shipments.

American shipments last week were large of wheat but small of other staples, the actual quantities being: wheat, 357,000 qr.; flour, 129,000 sacks; maize, 137,000 qr.; and barley, 16,000 qr. (Californian). No oats were shipped.

The course of prices in America is of so much practical importance, that the following conversions will be found worth study from the opening of the season:—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.		Wheat, per qr. s. d.	Maize, per qr. s. d.	Flour, per sk. s. d.
September	1 ...	29 0	21 6	20 6
,,	8 ...	28 9	21 6	20 3
,,	15 ...	28 6	21 6	20 3
,,	22 ...	28 3	21 6	20 0
,,	29 ...	28 0	21 2	20 0
October	6 ...	28 3	20 6	20 0
,,	13 ...	28 3	20 3	20 0
,,	20 ...	28 0	20 3	20 0
,,	27 ...	28 0	20 6	20 0
November	3 ...	29 3	20 8	20 0
,,	10 ...	28 4	20 7	20 0
,,	17 ...	28 8	20 3	20 0
,,	24 ...	28 6	20 0	20 0

The wheat is red winter (480 lb.). the maize is flat corn (480 lb.), and the flour is "spring wheat clears" (280 lb.). Freights vary daily, but on Saturday 1s. per qr. was quoted for wheat and maize, and 1s. per sack for flour.

The slight fall in wheat and maize has yet been enough to check a tendency to improvement at Mark Lane.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are steady. Sales have included Red Walla Walla 29s. 2d. per 500 lb., Bahia Blanca at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb., Victorian at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb., White Karachi at 31s. 3d. per 492 lb., Red Karachi at 30s. 9d per 492 lb, Black Sea at 31s. per 492 lb., and No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb. The rise of 1s. in Karachi wheat is due to the adoption of a 98 per cent. purity basis from January 1. Hitherto this wheat has contained from 6 to 10 per cent. foreign matter, principally barley, which although not wholly waste, has entailed sifting and other expenses.

Maize has made 19s. 9d. per 480 lb. for Argentine barley, 29s. per 400 lb. for Black Sea oats, 15s. 9d. per 304 lb. for Roumanian and Linseed, 46s 6d. per 416 lb. for Bombay.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were nil.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were nil.

Since January 1, 1906, the total arrivals have been 241 wheat, 2 barley and wheat, 4 barley, 5 maize, 1 locust beans and 28 linseed, total 281.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 297 wheat, 2 wheat and oats, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 1 wheat and linseed, 2 flour, 10 barley, 11 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 52 linseed, total 394.

The secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards have been made up—all August shipments, viz.:—

Wheat.—Plate Wt. of the Province of Santa, 61·35 lb and 62·25 lb.; Barletta and/or Russo from B. Blanca, 62·65 lb.; Barletta and/or Russo from B. Ayres, 61·25 lb.; Russo Wheat from Bahia Blanca, 62·65 lbs.—all at the time of discharge.

Maize.—Yellow, red, and white La Plata.

The following standards have also been adopted, viz.:—

La Plata bran and La Plata pollard, September shipment.

From the Merchants' Exchange, San Francisco:—

Californian brewing barley A, Calfornian brewing barley B, and No. 1 Californian brewing barley. Crop 1906.

From the Portland (Oregon) Chamber of Commerce:—

No. 1 blue steam wheat, No. 1 white Walla Walla wheat, No. 1 red Walla Walla wheat, No. 1 red Fife wheat, and No. 1 red Russian wheat. Crop 1906.

The following standards have been received from the Western Grain Standards Board, Winnipeg, and kept for reference, viz.:—

No. 1 Manitoba hard wheat, No. 1 Manitoba Northern wheat, No. 2 Manitoba Northern wheat, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 oats, No 3 barley, No. 3 extra barley, and No. 4 Manitoba barley.

All these standard samples may be purchased, and are (without charge) available for inspection by members of the association.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Although the late excessive wet weather has prevented large supplies of English coming along, the trading has been of a very quiet character. Prices, certainly, are nominally unchanged, but the tone of the market is very weak, and values are showing a tendency to go lower. Clovers are fairly steady, and being in short supply, command last week's full rates. Hays are coming along more freely, and find a dragging sale, prices being with difficulty maintained. Mixtures are in fair supply, and find a much quieter trade at about previous rates. Straw has been in much more demand owing to the wet weather and values show considerable improvement, all qualities being dearer. In the foreign market much better supplies are coming to hand, and this fact is no doubt making the easier feeling which is becoming so evident in the trade. There are large arrivals of Canadian Mixture, and values show 2s per ton reduction. Dutch hay is also in larger supply, and prices here also have a downward tendency. Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 85s to 87s 6d per ton; good meadow hay, 80s to 85s per ton; plain hay, 70s to 80s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton. Good clovers, 82s 6d to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers, and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 27s to 28s per load; oat straw, 27s per load; barley straw, 27s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 81s per ton; good Dutch hay, 70s to 72s 6d per ton; French 1st and 2nd cut clover, 85s to 87s 6d per ton;

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, quiet at about late rates. Foreign firmly held at Monday's full prices, but the continued heavy arrivals into London checks demand. No 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 31s 3d; No. 2, at 30s 3d; hard winter at 29s 9d; South Russian at 25s 9d, 32s; landed at 28s, 33s; choice white Karachi at 30s; red Karachi at 29s 3d; Australian at 31s, 32s. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize steady, small business passing at late rates. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 3d; landed at 21s 7½d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s; landed at 20s 6d, 20s 9d. Barley firm, and 3d dearer for grinding sorts. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s, 19s 3d; landed at 19s 9d; Persian, ex ship, at 17s 9d; landed at 18s. Oats firm, but quiet. Common sorts quoted at 16s, 16s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, quiet, at late prices. Whites quoted at 29s 6d to 31s; reds at 28s 6d to 30s. Foreign firm for American, other sorts steady, unchanged prices. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted at 31s 6d; No. 2, at 30s 6d; hard winter, at 29s 9d to 30s; South Russian, landed, at 28s to 33s; choice white Karachi, at 30s; red Karachi at 29s 3d. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize in moderate request, at late prices. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 3d, landed at 21s 7½d; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s, landed 20s 6d to 20s 9d. Barley firm, but quiet. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, 18s 10½d to 19s 1½d; landed, at 19s 6d. Oats steady, quiet. Common sorts quoted at 16s to 16s 3d; Danubian, at 16s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—Not much offering. White oats (horse corn), wholesale, 19s to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—With a fair attendance, trade was slow for wheat, which made up to 29s 6d. Malting barleys were not in request, and best ranged from 28s to 30s. Oats rose in price, and samples weighing 44lb to the bushel made up to 22s per qr. Beans and peas were unaltered, with a slow inquiry, and maize made 23s to 25s per qr. There was a limited demand for seed wheat.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 24s to 28s per qr; beans (new), 28s 6d to 29s per qr; oats, 17s to 19s 6d per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a moderate attendance. Wheat and oats a small show. Barley rather more offering. Wheat, 25s to 27s 6d; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 19s to 20s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—An average attendance, but very little doing. Foreign wheats practically unchanged, except for low grades of Russian, which were 6d dearer; demand quiet. English wheats, 10s to 10s 9d per 18lb delivered. Oats a slow trade at late rates. Beans, 11s 9d to 12s per 19lb. Both Plate and Bessarabian maize remain at last week's prices. Grinding barley, 19s to 19s 3d per 400 lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade at last week's prices. Small attendance. Small supply of wheat. New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s; barley, 28s to 33s; feeding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 30s to 32s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in fair supply to-day, and making fully last week's prices. Foreign unchanged. Maize ditto. Barley, 3d dearer. Oats unchanged. Flour dull.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—A small supply of wheat, and a quiet demand at about last week's quotations. Good dry reds or whites 28s, samples out of condition 26s to 27s per qr. Barley in average supply, with a fairly steady demand for useful malting parcels, at 28s to 31s per qr.; lower descriptions were not much wanted, down to 26s, which is about feeding value. Very fine parcels scarcer. Oats, beans, and peas in moderate supply, and steady on the week. Maize unchanged, at 22s per qr for Plate. Feeding stuffs all firm at fully last week's prices.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Damp weather has affected samples of wheat, and they do not come to hand in anything like such good condition as a month ago. There was a fair attendance at this market on Saturday. Wheat was in moderate supply, and prices the turn easier, though not quotably lower, at 27s to 28s per 504 lb, in mill. Moderate supply of barley, and trade no better. Small supply of oats, and prices very firm. Beans were not in such good condition, and 6d cheaper.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Feeding barley advanced 6d per qr., making from 23s to 24s; malting barley firm, 26s to 29s per qr. Wheat was in short supply, wet weather preventing threshing; prices firm, 65 lb samples making 30s. Oats, 17s to 21s, Grey peas 29s to 31s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—Market firm and holders of English grain ask full quotations. Trading, however, is not very active. Feeding stuffs in good demand; foreign wheat steady. Prices:—Wheat, white, 4s 2d; red, 4s 3d per 75 lb; oats, 2s 2d to 2s 5d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 6d to 12s per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and a fair amount of trade, but not much on offer. New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s 6d; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 24s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat quiet, small supply. Oats steady. Barley unchanged.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD

Coventry, Friday.—Somewhat smaller attendance of farmers than usual. A fairly good supply of wheats, which made about late rates. Oats were scarcer, and prices a shade firmer. Quotations:—Old wheat, 10s to 11s per 186 lb; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; old oats, 25s to 25s 6d per 352 lb; new oats, 16s to 21s per 352 lb; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s per 196 lb; new beans, 10s 6d to 12s per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was no change to report in the value to-day, prices remaining about the same as last week. New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 18s to 20s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Rather better supply of English wheat, but trade ruled slow at last week's prices. Foreign wheat showed no animation, and last week's prices were re-peated. English wheat made up to 10s 6d per load. Common barley was neglected, but fine samples sold freely, and made from 21s to 30s per qr. Maize was a shade dearer. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The weather of the past week having completely put a check on threshing operations, this was fully reflected in the generally shortened supplies on offer, and most of what was short or was affected by the prevailing dampness. The wheat trade continued very inactive indeed both for English and foreign, and prices were with difficulty maintained. Though barley was not so fully shown for malting purposes as has been the case of late, still it proved quite equal to the demand, which was excessively quiet except for the very best lots, which made late rates, there being practically no change to note in values; grinding, on the other hand, ruled against buyers to the extent of 3d. A firm tone pervaded feeding stuffs, despite the limited inquiry prevailing.

Dublin, Friday.—Attendance poor and business routine. Irish wheat quiet and scarce. Flour unchanged. Barley practically nil. Oats firm. Oatmeal steady. Quotations:—Wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; oats, 12s to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade somewhat slow. English wheat steady and foreign unchanged. Barley 3d to 6d dearer. Maize firm. Oats unaltered. Flour steady. English wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; English barley, 3s to 3s 9d; superfine flour, 24s to 25s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance. Wheat and flour show no change. Maize has advanced 1½d per boll since last Wednesday. Corn unchanged. Barley in limited demand at late rates. Oats firm, but slow for both home and foreign. Beans in better demand at nominally unchanged prices. Pease firm, and 1½d per boll dearer. Bran and thirds unaltered. Oatmeal quietly steady.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Holders of wheat adhere to late figures, but millers will not operate at the prices sought. Flour unchanged. Round maize, 12s 3d to 12s 4½d per 280 lb; mixed American, 12s 3d. No change in feeding stuffs; sales very moderate owing to mild weather.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in small supply and without change in value. Foreign fair trade, occasionally rasher dearer. Plate and flat maize 3d dearer, Bessarabian unchanged. Barley 3d dearer. Oats unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday. — A fair supply of wheat, and last week's prices were maintained, namely, 26s to 27s per qr. Barley was a slow trade, and late rates were barely upheld. Oats, 17s to 19s; beans, 25s to 32s; blue peas, 55s to 65s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Very few samples of English grain on offer, and business was uniformly dull. Quotations remain practically the same as last week. Quotations:—Wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 5d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb: maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: Supply small, trade quiet and unchanged on the week; dry samples up to 29s, soft ones 28s to 28s 6d per qr, delivered at Ipswich. Barley in short average supply; the demand remains rather quiet, at the current low prices, but the trade was quite as good on the week; the chief inquiry was for average malting runs, at 28s to 31s per qr; very low qualities were not wanted; fine parcels scarce and firm, at 32s to 33s 6d per qr. Oats firm, at 20s to 22s 6d per qr. Beans steady, at 31s per qr. Maize unchanged, at 21s per qr. Other feeding corns firm. Linseed cakes, quiet, but steady, at £8 to £8 10s per ton. Milling stuffs scarce and very firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Although the demand for wheat has continued restricted, the tendency of prices has remained firm, and, with decreasing stocks, moderate shipments, and smaller supplies from farmers, signs are not wanting that trade is at least evolving out of its long depression. On business doing to-day prices are fully maintained. Malting barley steady for all good qualities. Maize, beans, and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There was very little doing. English wheat was practically unchanged, there being a small demand at late rates. Foreign prices showed slight advance, but trade was slack. There was no change in prices of barley, though business was rather brisker, better qualities being in fairly good demand. Feeding stuffs were firm at late rates.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with only moderate supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade slow for all except very fine samples. Red wheats, 26s to 28s; white wheats, 28s to 30s per 36 stone; malting barley, 27s to 30s per 32 stones; beans firm; oats, 20s to 27s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A moderate attendance, and a small show of English wheat, which met with a slow demand at unaltered rates. Fair inquiry for best malting barleys at unchanged prices, but common sorts quiet. Oats quiet and feeding stuffs firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a small attendance, but wheat is firmly held at full prices, with a moderate trade passing. Flour: A very quiet trade, but no change is quoted in prices of either foreign or home-made brands. Maize: Mixed is very steady with a fair demand, and prices are generally ¼d better than last Tuesday. European grades steady, unaltered. Plate firm at a full ¼d advance, with a fair trade. Barley: Malting steady, unchanged. Feeding firm, with a good demand, and quotations favour sellers. Beans a quiet sale, without change in values. Peas very slow; prices generally unchanged. Oats firmly held at late rates, but demand slow. Oatmeal in small demand at late prices. Oilcake: A poor sale, owing to mild weather, and occasionally rather easier. Indian Meal not in very active demand, but unchanged in price.—SEGAR AND TUNNCLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Very slow state of trade at the market to-day. Selling wheat, except at least price than last week difficult process, as the recent wet weather has to a considerable extent permeated the grain. Barley is not at all a satisfactory business, and the sales of it were not at the rate that is very pleasing to the grower. Oats were firm, and the cost of them in some instances a little in advance, which is, however, too trifling to register as a general upward movement. Maize is rather neglected, and as some of the flat kind which has been scarce, is now fairly plentiful, buyers could only be found by giving way to their demands. Beans and peas maintain about their former value, but the transactions are not large, and they seem to partake of the expression which is manifest for other goods. Winter tares bring a little more than recently, say, 3d per bushel up. Not any particular change in other grain or feeding material.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat firm, and occasionally 6d per qr dearer. Foreign in rather better demand at fully last week's prices. Flour showed no quotable change. In Indian corn, mixed American, about ¼d dearer, and Plate unchanged. English peas slow and unchanged. Foreign beans a quiet trade. Bran, &c., scarce at full rates.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet trade; trade slow all round. Quotations: White and red wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 24s to 28s; grinding, 22s to 24s; oats, white, 18s to 19s; black, 17s to 18s; beans, 30s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand for wheats of all descriptions at unchanged prices from this day week. American maize favouring buyers, Plate favouring sellers. Beans and peas firm at fully late rates. A good demand for good sound dry oats, both Scotch and foreign, at

fully late rates; soft qualities, however, were difficult to dispose of, consequently lower prices had to be taken. Barley steady at last week's prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Business was better. Barley, 6d higher. Maize in good demand. Oats firmly held. Flour about the same.

Northampton, Saturday.—Fair attendance, supplies moderate, and trade rather slow. The wheat and barley trade was quiet, but best samples of barley found a fairly ready market; oats unchanged. New wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 28s 6d to 29s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, growers holding for an advance on the little business passing; full rates were realised. Barley moderate supply, steady trade at late rates. Oats and beans sparingly offered and prices firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Sellers of wheat were rather reserved, and values consequently maintained their previous level, while barley met a rather less active inquiry.

Peterborough, Saturday. — Wheat trade keeps very quiet; there is no change in value to-day; supply moderate. Barley again slow at late rates. Oats firm and fully as dear.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance on our market here to-day. Wheat remains steady, but with more inquiry. Barley 6d dearer. Maize and oats remain firm.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—Less business has passed during the week. There was a fair attendance. Samples of new grain did not come forward with any great freedom, and wheat barely maintained last Satueday's prices, but oats were very firm. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; beans, new, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—Average attendance, but business was on the quiet side. Prices: Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 25s to 29s; oats, 17s to 21s; peas, 28s to 31s; beans, 31s to 35s.

Retford, Saturday.—Although locally grown wheat was in small supply, there was plenty for all needs, trade being quiet and prices low—namely, 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Best malting barley reached 26s to 28s; inferior lots, 24s to 25s, and grinding 23s 6d per qr. Grain for feeding purposes remained unchanged in value. Round maize, 24s; English beans, 30s; black oats, 17s to 18s; white ditto, 18s to 19s; rye (34 stones), 20s per q.

Ripon, Thursday.—With a good attendance trade showed a brisker tone. Oats made 6d more money, whilst English wheat was 6d per qr down. Prices:—Wheat, 26s to 27s; foreign wheat, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; malting barley, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; maize, round, 22s to 23s; flat maize, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The trade continues quiet, but prices generally were not lower, a fractional decline being quoted only for grinding barley and flat maize. Plate and small maize unchanged. Beans firm. Oats firm. Millers' feeding stuff in good demand. Bran 5s per ton dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 28s 6d to 29s; ditto, red, new, 28s 6d to 29s per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 19s to 19s 6d per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto, blue, 65s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 22s 9d to 23s; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 21s 6d to 21s 9d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225 lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—The supply of grain was on a large scale, principally of secondary quality, and prices consequently were easier. Wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; black oats, 17s to 19s; white oats, 20s to 22s 6d; barleys, best malting, 29s; beans, to 29s; peas firm and unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was practically no farmers' wheat on offer. The foreign wheat trade met only a fair demand at unaltered prices. Oats and maize steady and unchanged. There was a small show of malting barley, medium qualities being quoted at 24s to 25s per qr., and best qualities up to 26s 6d per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Small show of wheat, which sold at about last week's prices. Barley and oats unaltered in value. Arrivals:—Coastwise barley, 419 qr; oats, 599 qr. Foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a small show of wheat, which made barley last week's prices. Barley, light business, owing to the breweries filling up. Beans in condition made 10s 9d to 11s. All other grain unaltered.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat dull, and last week's prices barely maintained. Foreign firm and unaltered. Barley 3d dearer. Oats and maize unchanged. Flour steady at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small market. Wheat lacks condition, and the trade is slow at last week's prices. Reds, 27s 504 lb. Oats firm, 18s to 19s 336 lb. Other articles unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and large show of grain. Trade slow at last week's prices. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s 6d to 31s; secondary qualities, 26s to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 25s; old white oats, 24s 6d to 26s 6d; new ditto, 16s 6d to 20s; old black oats, 22s to 23s 6d; new ditto, 17s 6d to 12s per qr; maize, 23s 6d to 26s; old beans, 37s to 38s 6d; new beans, 32s to 37s per qr.

Yeovil Friday.—Home-grown grain in better offer, but values showed little change. Foreign wheat favoured sellers. Grinding barley (foreign), 3d to 6d dearer. Oats quiet. Maize firm. British wheat of good quality sold at from 28s to 30s per qr; secondary, 26s to 27s 6d; foreign wheat, 31s to 33s; malting barley, 28s to 30s; seaondary, 26s to 27s 6d; grinding, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; oats, black, 18s to 19s; white, 19s to 20s; Irish black, 17s 6d to 18s; white, 19s to 20s; rye, 21s 9d to 22s 9d; beans (spring, 31s to 35s; winter 31s 6d to 32s 6d tares, winter, 39s to 42s 6d; spring, 45s to 48s 6d; vetches, 4s to 5s 6d per bushel; maize, round, 20s 3d to 20s 6d per qr; flat, 22s to 23s. Flour quiet, fine selling at from 21s to 23s per sack; extra fine, 25s to 28s. Milling offals and meals firm.

York, Saturday.—Owing to the Martinmas hirings farmers offered little grain of any kind, and trade all round ruled quiet at last week's prices. Fine white wheat, 27s to 28s; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones; fine barley, 25s to 27s; good, 24s to 26s; feeding, 22s to 24s per qr of 32 stones; white Tartary oats, 17s to 18s; ditto black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 21s 6d per qr; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather continues mild and rainy. Market firm for all articles without much business doing. Fine Holstein and Upland wheat is held at 28s to 29s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b. American Hard Winter, No. 2, is offering at 28s to 28s 6d; 80 ko River Plate Barletta afloat at 29s; February-March, 28s to 28s 6d; 91½ South Russian Azima at 28s 3d per 480 lb., c.i.f. Hamburg. Fine foreign wheat is scarce. Rye meets more attention, 91½ Odessa on the spot was sold at 22s 3d, a parcel afloat at 22s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. 72/73 ko Danubian is offering at 22s 9d. Fine malting barley is getting scarce, and high prices are wanted, Bohemian to arrive per barge being held at 35s 6d to 37s 6d; Slovakian at 35s to 36s 6d f.o.b.; Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Eastern Prussian 35s to 39s; Danish 29s to 30s per 443 lb. English offering at 29s to 31s, is not appreciated by our brewers: 51/60 ko South Russian barley on the spot is selling at 18s 6d, spring shipment at 18s 9d to 19s per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate maize on the spot and December shipment is taken at 19s 9d to 20s; mixed maize afloat offering at 20s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 20, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	1,704	5 ...	2,345	1	10 ...	1	7	6
Barley ...	220	1 ...	263	14	0 ...	1	4	0
Oats	1,274	4 ...	1,149	17	7 ...	18	1	

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statuto markets for the week ending November 24, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	58,575	25	0	217,167	24	11	21,073	17	0
1903	55,276	26	6	201,950	23	11	28,851	15	11
1904	41,359	30	5	177,969	24	4	34,774	16	1
1905	77,168	28	5	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	9
1906	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,666	17	3

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Nov. 25	77,468	28	7	197,662	24	6	25,433	17	8
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	2
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	4
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	7
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	10
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	19	0
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	18	8
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	10
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,440	18	8
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	11
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	19	4
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 24, 1906:—

Wheat	2,159,200	cwts.
Wheat-flour	1,743,200	,,
Barley	296,100	,,
Oats	445,990	,,
Maize	443,700	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,552,800	2,111,900	1,876,200	1,490,755
Wheat-flour	350,800	207,700	466,700	379,304
Barley ...	595,300	507,600	522,200	731,627
Oats ...	238,700	287,800	583,800	260,662
Maize ...	501,600	439,800	1,178,200	862,298

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Nov. 14 to 21 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	3,801	121,663	125,464
Barley	4,300	40,000	52,300
Malt	15,946	—	15,946
Oats	3,700	57,000	60,700
Rye	—	525	525
Beans	988	2,240	3,228
Peas	951	1,146	2,097
Maize	—	6,516	6,516
Tares	58	—	58
Buckwheat	—	4,286	4,286
Linseed	—	10,000	10,000
Canaryseed	—	268	268
Poppyseed	—	500	500
Dari	—	1,067	1,067
Dholl	—	340	340
Cottonseed ..tons	—	9,400	9,400
Flour .....sacks ...	25,587	19,011	44,598
Maizellour ... ,,	—	3,000	3,000
Oatmeal ..... ,,	—	2,000	2,000
Middlings ..... ,,	—	188	188

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given.)

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

English wheat to-day was unchanged in price. There was a trifle more inquiry, the condition showing some improvement.

Foreign wheat was firm for good red sorts, rather weak for white.

Quotations as a rule were the same as on the 19th inst. Maize was held for full prices for delivery before Christmas, but the offers to sell for any date after the Christmas holidays at decidedly lower figures had the natural effect of causing spot buyers to limit the amount taken to the lowest figures.

Barley was out of favour, but not again lower.

Oats sold a little better than on the 19th, but were not at all up to a winter standard of activity.

Beans, peas, tares, and buckwheat were decidedly firm.

Rye was dull and cheap; at currencies it should prove a profitable feeding stuff, for this year's quality is high, and there is no ergot.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

November 26.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	30 — 34
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)...	(per 424 lb.)	24 — 25
	Distilling	(per 416 lb.)	23 — 24
	Winter	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 23
	Feeding(New)...	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Storm Kings (New)...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex (Old Crop)	(per 480 lb.)	25 — 26
	,, New ,, ...	,,	22 — 23
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring).....	,,	46 — 50
	(Gores).....	,,	56 — 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32	—32/6	American	21/9	—22
,, ,, 2	31	—31/6	Argentine	20/6	—21
American Red	30/6	—31	Bulgarian	21	—21/6
Argentine ...	31/9	—32	Roumanian ...	21	—21/6
Australian ...	31/6	—32	Russian	21	—21/6
New Zealand	30/6	—31	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Blue Stem ...	31/6	—32	Smyrna	34	— 36
Walla Walla	30/6	—31	Konigsberg ...	33	— 35
Saxonka	32/6	—33	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Azima	30/6	—31	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Ghirka	29/6	—30	Italian	64	— 72
Indian White	31	—31/3	Burmese	32	— 42
,, Red	30/3	30/6	Chilian	56	— 64
BARLEY:			LENTILS (cental):		
Chifor'n(448 lb)	29	— 30	Split Egyptian	10	— 11
Ouchak (448 lb)	27	— 29	Whole Indian...	7	— 8
Chilian (448 lb)	28	— 29	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Bohemian (448 lb)	34	— 38	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian White	35	— 36
Russian(400 lb)	19/9	—20	Indian Green	29	— 31
Tunis (400 lb)	23	— 24	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Gaza (400 lb)	23/9	—24	NewZeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Persian (400 lb)	18	—18/6	Victoria Dun..	33	— 34
Hama (448 lb)	26	— 27	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Spanish (448 lb)	29	— 33	White	42	— 44
Crush'd (304 lb)	20	— 21	Yellow	22	— 24
Torrified(336 lb)	21	— 22	Sorghum	20	— 22
MALT (336 lb.):			RICE (cwt.):		
Californian ...	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
Smyrna	33	— 36	Burmese	9	— 10
Ouchak	33	— 36	Siamese	8	— 9
RYE (480 lb.):			DARI (480 lb.):		
Russian	24	— 25	Smyrna	25	— 26
OATS:			Indian	23	— 24
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	18	— 19	Persian	21	— 22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 p.m.

The market to-day was exceedingly little changed from last week, and prices remained as they were then for English and London makes. Foreign flour was, speaking generally, out of favour with some special sorts like best Hungarian and Belgian, the subject of a steady though very limited sale for confectionery and other high class purposes. The American forward trade is inert, but 23s. c.f.i. commands too high a grade for the market to be encouraging. Bran, middlings, and pollard are firmer to-day from a week ago, but whole meal remains very cheap, and will probably need a fortnight's frost before it becomes a good market. But the whole flour trade needs the animating wintry touch which December is expected to bring.

London Flour.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/0 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/0 ,,
,, ,, No. 2.....	,,	21/0 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/0 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		23	— 24
Roller Whites	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	20	— 21

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20	— 21
Cascadia	,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22	— 23
Hungarian, 0	,,	28	— 29
,, 1	,,	27	— 28
,, 2	,,	26	— 27
,, 3	,,	25	— 26
Belgian	,,	26	— 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22	— 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21	— 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20	— 21
Australian	,,	22	— 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	9	— 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24	— 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33	— 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rice Flour	,,	19	— 20
Rice Cones	,,	17	— 18

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED FIRMLY FOR WHEAT, BUT NOT DEARER. BARLEY AND OATS WERE DECIDEDLY IN BETTER REQUEST THAN AT THE OFFERING.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat opens with very little inquiry either for cargoes or for parcels. Maize is held for full prices, and so is barley. For future shipment oats rather favour sellers, a not infrequent state of the market in later November.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Bahia Blanca, 29s 9d per 480 lb, January shipment; Blue Stem, 30s 6d per 500 lb, on passage; Walla Walla, 29s 6d per 500 lb, on passage; Red Walla, 29s 3d per 500 lb, on passage; South Australian, 30s 3d per 480 lb, January shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s per 480 lb, January shipment; Galytz, 21s per 480 lb, prompt shipment.

Barley.—Kherson, 19s 9d per 400 lb, prompt shipment; Kustendge, 20 3d per 400 lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—Kherson, 15s 6d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Koningsberg, 17s 9d per 320 lb, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 44s 6d per 410 lb, arrived; Calcutta, 42s per 410 lb, June shipment (new crop).

Rapeseed.—Brown Cawnpore, 45s 6d per 416 lb, April shipment (new crop); Fefozepore, 37s per 416 lb, on passage; Ferozepo-e, 45s 3d per 416 lb, May shipment (new crop).

Cottonseed. — Egyptian, £7 2s 6d per ton, arrived.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Offals.—Bran continues in good demand; prices generally tending upwards.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—No definite change to report since last week. The tone of the market is steady, and prices continue firm.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There is some demand for spring wheat flours, values on spot, however, are low compared with shipping prices. Grain.—American corn 1½d lower. Plate 1½d higher. Pease very scarce, and held for a further advance. Foreign oats are in better demand, and the lighter qualities are in sellers' favour. Beans maintain last week's full prices. Barley firm. Oilcake unchanged. Mill Stuffs are a shade quieter. — MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet but firm at last week's full prices.—T. B. MEDILL and Sons, Ltd.

Milling Offals.—Nothing further to report in milling offal, fair inquiry at last Monday's prices. —JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Arrivals of wheat are large. The trade is steady, and late prices are maintained. Flour sells slowly at late prices. Maize and barley are 3d dearer. Oats, with liberal arrivals, sell at full prices and occasionally 1½d to 3d advance.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

TERM MARKET.

The trade in futures has been weak and remain dull. Laeest prices are:—

Bed American wheat	Dec.	delivery,	6s 3d	per cental
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 5d	,,
,, ,,	April	,,	6s 6d	,,
Mixed American				
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 4d	,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	April	,,	4s 1d	,,
Yellow Argentine				
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	April	,,	4s 3d	,,

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed is 6d cheaper in some instanees, but rapeseed and cottonseed favour holders.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.	COTTONSEED. per ton.	s.	s.
Calcutta	43	43/6	Egyptian.....	142	to 144
Bombay	45	to 46	Indian	110	to 112
Russian	41	to 42	SUNFLOWERSEED.		
Argentine	43	to 44		per cwt.	
Duluth	41	to 42	English, White	15	to 16
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.			Russian, White.	14	to 15
Best English ...	69	to 70	,, Black.	13	to 14
Yellow Guzerat	52	to 54	SESAME.	per cwt.	
,, Cawnpore	45	to 46	Indian	14	to 15
Brown ,,	44	to 45	HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.	
Ferozepore	47	to 48	Russian	35	to 37
Janiba	42	to 43	CANARYSEED.	per 464 lb.	
			English	47	to 48
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.			Turkish	38	to 39
Indian	51	to 53	Argentine	38	to 39

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Winter tares unchanged. Rye corn the same. Mustard supplies falling off; prices very firm. Peas selling readily; prices steady. The new clover seeds, principally reds and whites, are offering more freely; prices shade easier. Reds, fancy quality, 58s to 60s; fine, 52s to 56s; good, 48s to 52s per cwt. Whites, fancy quality, 60s to 64s; fine, 54s to 56s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils, 20s to 24s per cwt. In grasses, French Italian rye grass and Irish Italian ryegrass very firm. Perennial ryegrass, New Zealand cocksfoot, and Meadow Fescue unchanged.—JOHN PICARD & CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay made £3 15s to £4 per ton, and straw 2s 6d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—Old clover hay, 87s 6d to 92s 6d per ton; old meadow hay, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; wheaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate trade passing in hay; nothing doing in straw. Hay, 55s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Business in the warehouses rules steady, and good supplies are available. The sharp turn in the weather favourably affects the demand for hay and straw. Quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 6d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5½d to 6d; clover, 6d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3d; ditto oat, 2¾d to 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 10s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 10s; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 15s to £5. Wheat straw, from £1 8d; barley straw, from £1 5s; oat straw from £1 8s.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Fair supply, which met with a good demand for best qualities. Quotations:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A quiet market. Choice seeds, £4 to £4 5s; prime meadow hay, £3 15s to £4; mixture, £3 5s to £3 10s; straw, £2 10s to £2 15s.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A slow demand existed for the better supplies on offer. Quotations:—Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s: specially-picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; and straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Trade is slightly easier, probably owing to the large supplies. Disease is very prevalent. Prices, 47s 6d to 56s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals were on a good scale, but a very quiet demand was evidenced. Quotations: Up-to-Dates, 65s; Blacklands, 60s; British Queens, 65s; Royal Kidneys, 65s; Mainerops, 70s per ton.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies of potatoes at both the public retail markets were large, and met a steady demand at 5d to 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Plenty of potatoes and a fair trade. No change in prices, which were from 6s 6d to 7s 6d per load of 18 stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, but the supply was small. Best Dates and King Edwards, 6s 9d to 7s; other kinds, 5s 9d to 6s per load.

Malton, Saturday.—Fine weather induces larger supplies, and more trade is doing. Good potatoes made £2 10s per ten; best, £2 15s to £2 18s; retail 3s to 3s 6d per bag, or 7d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Yorkshire Warps, 8s to 10s; Sands, 8s to 9s; Cheshire, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; Lincoln Warps and Sands, 8s to 9s per load; Irish, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Last week's quotations of 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb were repeated.

Retford, Saturday.—The potato market was well supplied, and the best home-grown made 6s to 7s per load; other sorts, 4s 6d to 5s per load.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week there has been a better supply of potatoes, for which the demand has been steady, with prices firm. To-day's prices are as follows:—Lightsoil: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 75s per ton; British Queens, 60s to 70s per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 70s per ton; Edward VIIth, 60s to 70s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 65s per ton; Royal Kidneys, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Supplies were of light extent, and evidenced fair support at steady rates. Quotations: — Blacklands, 65s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; British Queens, 65s to 75s; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s; Mainerops, 80s to 90s per ton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes, £3 5s per ton.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply, which made 6s to 7s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—The supply of potatoes was limited owing to the hirings, and there was only a moderate trade done at late rates. Best Sands Up-to-Dates made 50s to 52s 6d per ton; other sorts were cheaper.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 26, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 27, 1905.
Beasts	1,120	1,210	1,180
Sheep and Lambs	5,370	5,370	5,900
Calves	20	20	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	5 0
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 4
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 8	5 4	6 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 15; Eastern Counties, 91; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 819; Devon, 30; Ireland, 165.

We note to-day a decrease of 290 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade was of an all round slow and dragging nature, rates ruling in favour of the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. The few Polled Aberdeen cattle that were offered for sale were very little sought after, but were eventually sold at late currencies. There was a shorter supply of fat butchering cows and bulls. These met with a somewhat limited inquiry. Nevertheless late values were maintained. There is very little prospect of a clearance being made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Nov. 27, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	4 10	5 0	—	
Devons	4 4	4 6	4 4	4 6
Herefords	4 4	4 6	4 4	4 6
Norfolks	4 6	4 8	4 4	4 6
Runts	4 0	4 4	4 0	4 4
Lincolns	3 8	3 10	3 10	4 0
Irish	3 10	4 2	3 6	3 8
Canadian	—	—	—	
Fat Cows	3 4	3 6	3 4	ex 3 6

There was an increase of 840 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade throughout the day was of a slow and dragging nature, with a downward tendeney in value to the extent of 2d per 8 lb. The supply from Ireland was in excess of the demand, consequently a deeline in value was inevitable, whilst Scotch were in shorter numbers, late rates being both asked and obtained for this description. The supply included 100 Scotch, 415 Irish, and 1,542 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Nov. 27, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 0	to 6 2	5 8	to 5 10
9 st. Downs	5 10	to 6 0	5 6	to 5 8
10 st Halfbreds	5 8	to 5 10	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Yorkshires	—		...	—
12 st Lincolns	—		...	—
10 st Irish	5 2	to 5 4	5 4	to 5 6
10 st Down Ewes	4 2	to 4 4	3 10	to 4 0
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0	to 4 2	3 8	to 3 10
5 st Down Lambs	—		...	—
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		...	—

Calves met with a slow but firm trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal). No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Trade slow and prices drooping. Supplies remain in excess of requirements. Beef, English, 3s to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; American, 3s to 3s 4d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s to 3s 8d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 6d to 4s 8d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 532; sheep, 293; pigs, 393. Beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 11s 8d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d. Fat beasts, good demand; stores, fair; fat and store sheep, sharp trade. Fat and store pigs, good demand. Milch cows, short supply, good demand; prices: £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 900. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 281 head, and consisted of 600 States and 300 Canadian ranch cattle. Trade was of a very slow nature, nevertheless late values were both asked and obtained. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s; Canadian, ranchers, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday the supply consisted of 1,640 States and 360 Canadian ranchers. Trade was of an extremely disappointing nature, with a downward tendency in value. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; ranch cattle, 3s to 3s 6d per 8lb. Besides the above, 200 were withheld from sale.

Liverpool, Monday.—A fewer cattle in market to-day. Good beasts in demand at late rates, but middling and inferior sorts hard to dispose of, and prices lower. Sceep supply smaller, trade good for all classes, small finished sorts made a considerable advance in price, strong sorts also dearer; beef, 6d to 4½d; mutton 9½d to 7d per lb. At market, 1,790 cattle and 2,940 sheep.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred wethers, £13 10s to £14; Kent fleeces, £13 to £13 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 10s to £15; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 to £13 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11½d to 2s 0½d; scoured, good, 1s 11d to 2s; scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; greasy, average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy, average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece, average, 9d to 10d; greasy, average, 7d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to superior, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; medium, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; coarse, 11d to 1s 0½d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Staplers are offering 13d per lb freely, and one sale is reported at 13½d. Lamb wool 8d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—The improved tone as regards wool is maintained, prices being either firm or inclined to still further harden. Merino wools are in good demand, and slightly improving in price. Cross-breds, too, are very well held and advancing, the rise in 40's being as much as 2d from the lowest rates recently current.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: The market has had a more limited supply, and prices are firm at about 21s ale, 18s porter, 35s distillers', and pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale, 102s 6d; mixed, 92s 6d; distillers', 107s 6d per ton on rail London. Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 100s, and kibbled locust beans 110s. per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option.—HAMLYN AND Co., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—A quiet tone prevails on the market for the remnant of the English crop, there being very few growths of importance left unsold.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been considerable business doing of late at the reduced prices, and fully three-quarters of the English hop crop has now passed out of growers' hands. Quotations range from £4 15s to £7 per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—Very few hops are now on offer at market, and most of the lots are held for more money than can be obtained. Business has not been brisk, but sales are made at late prices, owing to the absence of supplies from growers pressing for sale.—CHARLES FARAM AND Co.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,724 bales, and from foreign ports 12,319 bales. There was a quiet trade for bacon throughout the week, prices ranging:—Irish, 57s to 60s up to 63s; Danish, 50s to 59s up to 61s; Canadian, 56s to 57s up to 60s. Butter.—Butter was a quiet market. French, 116s to 126s; Danish, 119s to 122s; Russian, 86s to 108s; Irish, 97s to 118s; Canadian, 104s to 112s; Colonials, 108s to 114s. Lard.—The Lard market was slow—Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 56s to 60s; American, 46s to 48s.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

With a slightly smaller number of beasts on offer at the Islington Cattle Market trade on the first market day of the week opened slowly, and continued so throughout the day. Included in the arrivals we note a small consignment of Polled Aberdeen cattle; these found buyers early in the day, and commanded our top quotation. There was again a large supply of Irish, consisting of 141 Dublins (twenty of which were choice Polled beasts) and 106 Waterfords; for this class of cattle there was a limited inquiry, late currencies being difficult to maintain. Fat butchering cows and bulls were also slow of sale owing to the small number of both town and country buyers being present. On Thursday, as usual, trade was confined to fat butchering cows and bulls, as usual trade for which ruled firm and steady at late rates, all on offer meeting with buyers.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, a slow trade was experienced during the week; nevertheless sellers both asked and obtained late values, the consignments from Canada including some Ranch cattle. Total number on offer at both markets was 5,367, as against 3,610 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,550 British (increase 40) and 3,817 foreign (increase 1,717), these comprising 2,657 from the United States and 1,160 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4s. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; ditto Ranchers, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; 90 stone fat cows, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d. In the sheep market at Islington trade was again of a somewhat slow and dragging nature; nevertheless, sellers were able to maintain late rates owing to the smaller numbers which were offered for sale. Ireland was well represented, but shared in the general depression, whilst Scotch, on the other hand, were short in number, consequently maintained late values. On Thursday the supply consisted entirely of ewes, for which there were no buyers.

The total number of sheep penned were 4,600, as against 4,670 during the previous week, showing a decrease of 70, consisting entirely of British consignments. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone Halfbreds, 3s. 10d. to 4s. Calves numbered 40, and with a slow trade were quoted at from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal). No pigs were offered for sale on either market day.

Trade in the West.

The weather on the whole, with the one exception that there has been perhaps rather too much wet for the flocks now lambing down, has not been altogether unfavourable to business in stores. The great bulk of those finding the most favour with graziers are those which sell at from about £20 to £24 or £25 a-piece, and occasionally as low as £18; but the rougher grades offering at lower values than those we have quoted do not attract very general attention, and if any fail to find buyers they are animals of this class, and generally consist of old cows or bullocks very much out of condition.

Sheep sales continue very good, and both ewes and lambs are bringing enhanced rates, ewes making up to 50s. and over, and lambs to 40s.—these quotations, it must be remembered, applying to "cull" sheep, and quite bearing out the opinion we have expressed all along that the season would close a very dear one indeed, the chief factor responsible for this being the general shortage of sheep in this country, and which has been largely brought about by the excessive slaughter of lambs earlier in the season, when it paid better to kill than to keep on for flock purposes.

Rather better supplies of good class fat beasts have come to hand than usual, but so far this has had no prejudicial effect on values, as many of the animals were of excellent finish, and were just adapted to the requirements of high-class purveyors—those with customers who look more to quality than price. Amongst these Devons still hold a premier position, the best steers bringing from £23 to £27 apiece (or 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per stone), and heifers of smaller weights from £17 to £21 (at about the same price as quoted); anything of a secondary character, such as cows, meeting a much slower sale at 4s. to 4s. 4d., and for essentially rougher grades 3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d. Calves from scarcity keep very firm at prices ranging from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 10d. for specially choice lots. Mutton is also a very short delivery everywhere, and in some cases best tegs sell up to 70s. apiece—quite Christmas rates—(or 6s. 6d. to 7s.); secondary, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; ewes also were a firm trade for any thing young and of good finish at from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d., older sheep selling as low as 4s. 2d. In pigs baconers show a slightly easier tendency at 9s. to 10s. per score; but small weights in porkers are worth a trifle more, the present range of values being from 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; heavy pigs a fair sale at 8s. to 9s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been large, and the quality improved. The best descriptions met a good demand at satisfactory prices. Secondary, however, continue to sell at moderate rates. A large supply of fat cows made rather less money. Sheep have been shown in smaller numbers, a portion of those on offer being short of quality. The best class made rather more money, but secondary were just the turn cheaper. Fat calves and pigs in moderate supply, and both continue to sell satisfactorily. For the time of year there was a fair supply of store sheep. These got sold out at fairly satisfactory prices. A moderate supply of store cattle. Few buyers were present, and a quiet trade was experienced at prices just the turn lower, with part left unsold. Milch cows were rather cheaper. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s.; current, 36s. to 37s. 6d. Mutton from 7d. to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

Choice lots of prime heifers and bullocks were better and showed a hardening tendency, but rough cattle were hard to sell except at irregular and unsatisfactory prices, and the shipping business is almost nil. The live weight price for best lots of Shorthorns would be about from 29s. 6d. up to 31s., and Polled cattle from 32s. to 33s. on an average. Cow beef very hard to quote, and difficult to sell. Dead-weight prices ranged from 52s. to 55s. and up to 56s. and 57s. 6d. per cwt. for very choice lots of bullocks and heifers, 46s. 6d. to 50s. for good medium beef, and from 44s. to 46s. per cwt. for inferior.

The sheep market proved quiet and rather disappointing, trade being confined almost altogether to home consumption. Best wethers made late rates, and the nicer qualities of Cheviots and good ewes, but coarse mutton was hard to place, and certain qualities of hoggets impossible to part with in the absence of a shipping trade. Choice wethers made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; ewes, 6½d. to 7½d., and coarse sheep from 5½d. to 6½d. per lb. One large commission agent, who usually takes between 500 and 600 sheep from Dublin market for London, left with only 120 in consequence, he said, of numbers of foreign sheep being sold as home-grown mutton in that city. Veal in short supply. Choice worth 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., coarse from 5d. to 6½d. per lb.

Dairy cows in small supply. Best averaged from £15 to £19, but some fine springers fetched from £20 to £22 each. Ordinary cows from £9 to £14 each. Mr. Gavin Low held a large sale of some 1,200 store cattle. Fewer buyers than usual put in an appearance, but owing to the state of business across-Channel buying was very slack, and only for the best class of cattle in forward condition. Lean sorts were not wanted. The nicer classes of two to three and a half year-old Herefords and Polled cattle commanded tolerably keen competition, but on an average the prices got were about 2s. per cwt. under late rates. At the country fairs, store cattle are slower.

In the Dublin pig market on Thursday there was a smaller supply, but better business, with a distinct recovery in values. Pens all sold out at an early hour. Choice light-weight pigs from 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; inferior, from 36s. to 40s. per cwt. At a meeting of the South of Ireland Cattle Trade Association, held last Saturday, it was stated that Great Britain and Ireland spent last year (1905) £1,727,600 on imported bacon.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade very bad, and prices drooping. Scarcely any demand for anything. Quotations:—English beef, 3s to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 5d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; ditto, seconds, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; ditto, tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 4s per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Trade, though slow, was fairly steady, late currencies governing all transactions. Top prices: Fat cows, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s per 8 lb. Increase of 60 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of ewes, for which trade was practically at a standstill, chiefly owing to marked absence of retail buyers, consequently quotations cannot be recorded, the majority being turned out unsold. Calf trade slow but firm at late values. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; calves, 4s 8d to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade slow at 4s 4d to 6s per stone for best animals. Mutton also quiet, best Downs making up to 6s, and Kents 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 10d to 4s 4d. Pork a brisk trade, roasters making 4s 2d to 4s 8d; large hogs up to 4s.

Bath, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance. The quotations were:—Mutton, 9d to 9d; two-tooth wethers, 50s 6d to 65s; fat ewes, 41s 6d to 51s; fat tegs, 44s 6d to 61s 6d; store lambs, 37s; steers, £17 to £20; heifers, £15 to £20 10s; cows, £12 to £16; heifers and calves, £15 to £20; barreners, £8 to £10; calves, 25s to 112s.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade slow. Calves, £4 to £7; stirks, £8 to £11; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £13; three-year-olds, £14 10s; shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Quotations: — Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 3d per score; porkets, 11s 8d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 8s 2d to 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was again plentiful, but demand limited, and trade by no means brisk. Mutton was not offered in large quantity, and a fair amount of business was done at last week's prices. Pigs were again few in number, and values were unchanged. There was a good sale of store cattle, which numbered about 800.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Good offering of horned stock. Calves made from £4 10s to £6; yearlings, 8 to 10 guineas; two-year-old heifers, £11 to £12; and steers up to £14. Trade was not fast, but a clearance was practically effected. Very few sheep were offered.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies of Irish store cattle on the Sands were smaller than usual, about 200 being forward, and a slow trade resulted. Wintering heifers, £6 10s to £13 10s; polled bullocks, to £9 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supplies, with a fair attendance of buyers. Dairy cattle met a sharp demand, prices being about the same as last week. Quotations: — Milch cows, £17 to £23; calves, £15 to £21; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; and stirks, £6 to £10.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a capital attendance of buyers, and both fat and store sheep experienced a steady demand, and a clearance was effected at fully late rates. Fat cattle of all grades were in better demand at 2d to 4d per stone more money. Good fresh-calved heifers and young cows sold briskly at highly satisfactory prices, but secondary heifers and old cows met a dragging sale. There was a good entry of store cattle, the greater part of which changed hands at about last fortnight's prices. Quotations: Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Colchester, Saturday. — There was a moderate attendance, prices showing little change from last week. Mr. C. M. Stanford reports a very short supply of fat stock at his auction, with the exception of pigs. Trade was not brisk for beef, the quality being scarcely good enough for the time of year, and 4s 6d per 8 lb was about the market value. A small entry of fat sheep found buyers at 6s 2d per stone, fat calves making £5 4s to £5 10s each. A good show of fat pigs met a firm trade up to 9s 6d per score of 20 lb. The small entry of store stock met a dull market. At sale, bullocks 48, sheep 27, swine 191. Messrs. Sexton and Grimwade report a short supply of fat cattle.

Derby, Tuesday.—A fair attendance, and a brisk demand for choice beasts and sheep, which were dear. Beasts, 5½ to 6½d; sheep, 9d to 10½d per lb.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Very large supply of cattle, especially stores. Only a moderate attendance, and trade slow, though the best beasts were slightly dearer. Milch beasts, £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers, £11 to £15; drapes, £10 to £14; stirks, £9 to £10; young

stores, £7 to £9 each. Poor supply of sheep, but sufficient for all requirements. Hoggs 40s to 48s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The cattle market to-day was very heavily stocked both at Messrs. Duke's and also Messrs. Symonds and Simpson's sale, especially with barreners, of which there were some very useful lots stalled, as well as of milch and fat bullocks. Best things met a very fair trade, but there was room for improvement in the more ordinary runs. The best barreners made £20 to £24 per pair, and others from £12 to £19; rising two-year-old heifers, £16 to £18 per pair; grazing steers, £13 10s to £15 5s apiece (this price made for animals of good promise); milch beasts sold from £16 10s to £20 for heifers; others, £11 to £15; in-calvers, £8 10s to £13 apiece. In fat beasts there was a steady demand at late rates—fat heifers, £15 to £21 each (or 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score); fat cows, £13 to £18 (or 10s); fat bulls, £15 to £25 (Lord Ilchester gave the latter figure for a rare animal at Messrs. Duke's sale). Little doing in mutton at fully late rates, supplies keeping very short.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—A slow trade for cattle, but milch cows of good quality sold well. Polled bullocks, £12 10s to £13 10s; horned cattle, £15; stirks, £9 15s; Shorthorn cows £25; Irish, £21; polled cows, £22 10s; half-bred hoggets, 27s 6d to 37s 6d; Cheviot hoggets, 21s to 28s.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of beasts, but quiet demand. Steers and maiden heifers, 11s to 11s 3d; cows, 9s to 10s; several unsold. Also large supply of sheep; trade slack; small hoggs, 8½d to 9d; larger size, 8½d; ewes in strong demand at 6½d; best sheep cleared. Lambs, for turnips, 35s to 40s; second class, 32s to 36s; some unsold. Calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Moderate supplies, and prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; best hoggs, 10d; light weights, 9d to 9½d; wedders, 8d to 9d per lb. Dead meat in moderate request at late figures; best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5d; best Canadians, 4¾d; cows, 4d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d; light pork, 55s per cwt.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows:—A very large supply of cows and calves (103), and being a fair day a large supply of store cattle, trade on the whole showing good improvement, and all cleared out at satisfactory prices.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Trade in beef was none too brisk, although a little firmer than last week, owing to a more moderate supply. Best quality heifer and bullock beef made from 6½d to 6¾d per lb, cow beef 5d. Calves in moderate supply for the time of the year; veal made 8d per lb. A short supply of fat sheep; wether mutton was dear, making 8d per lb, and a little over for the choicest; ewe mutton, 6½d to 7d per lb. Fat lambs were scarce, and made from 8d to 8½d per lb. There was a good demand for store lambs. A large supply of fat pork and bacon pigs, and a good trade; best quality porkers made 6d per lb, and bacons from 5d to 5½d. Large store pigs sold well, and for small stores there was a little better demand. Store cattle in larger supply; trade slow.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report the supply of fat cattle was not so heavy as last week, and consisted entirely of yard-fed animals, most of which were well finished, medium weights. A better tone prevailed, and prices were firm at 8s 6d per stone for the top qualities. The number of grazing cattle was not so large as last week. Trade was slow at rather lower prices. Polled two-year-olds, £11 17s 6d to £11 7s 6d; polled Scots, £11 12s 6d to £11; roan Cumberland heifers, suitable for breeding, £10 15s. A choice lot of Red-Poll heifers, fifteen to eighteen months, £10 5s; English Shorthorns, eighteen months, £10 5s to £8 15s; sixteen months, £7 15s to £7 7s 6d; yearlings, £7 to £6; Westmoreland calves, £5 7s 6d to £4 10s. A good show of dairy stock; fresh-calved animals were in sharp request at higher prices—Shorthorns at £23 15s, polled to £22 10s, Red-polls to £20 10s. Fat sheep realised rather more money, Suffolk shearlings up to 70s, hoggets to 63s. Fat swine rather dearer.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full average supplies of stock. Trade ruled irregular, and prices were lower for all secondary qualities. Choice milch cows, £20 to £23; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary sorts, £14 to £16; home-bred bullocks, £12 to £13; Irish bullocks, £11 to £16; Welsh cattle, £9 to £14; calves, 15s to 30s each. Sheep met a sharp trade. Breeding ewes made 38s to 52s, and lamb hoggs, 28s to 38s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Horned stock was in small suppll. Yearlings £8 to £10; strong beasts, to £15; milch cows, £17 to £21. The sheep pens were poorly filled, but trade was fair. Lambs made 36s to 44s; and drape ewes, 40s each.

Lynn. Tuesday.—About an average show of fat beasts met a firm trade from 7s to 8s per stone. Stores were in average supply for the time of year, with slow trade, and made £6 to £14 each. Fat sheep in small supply, and trade firm from 9s to 10s per stone. Stores, 46s to 48s each. No lambs marketed.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 8d; others, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5½d to 7½d. Veal: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 5½d to 5¾d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 6½d to 6½d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday. — Trade was much about the same as last week. Prime heifers, 7s to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; steers, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s to 9s per stone; sheep, 5d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A large supply of cattle, a moderate number of sheep and lambs, but a fair supply of calves and pigs. A large attendance of buyers, and a good trade all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d to 6½d per lb; secondary, 6d; Irish beef, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 8½d; ewes, 6¾d to 7½d; lambs, 9½d to 9½d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s per score; baconers, 9s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fatbeasts were offered in average supply, and met with a buoyant trade at prices averaging from 7s 6d to 8s per stone of 14 lb; there was a considerable falling off in the number of store cattle shown, and, as is usual on fat cattle show-day, a quiet trade was experienced. Sales were difficult to effect, but values remained unchanged, prices ranging from £6 to £15 per head. Store sheep were again offered in very small supply, and met with a firm trade, values for hoggets being from 38s to 48s per head. There was a larger show of fat sheep, and a good demand prevailed, at an average of 10s to 10s 6d per stone. The supply of pigs of all descriptions showed an increase upon last week, and trade ruled firm, fat pigs averaging 7s per stone, and stores ranging from 12s to 50s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a larger supply of stock, and trade for the best beasts was good. In-calf cows fetched £18 to £21, and in-calf heifers, £15 to £17 10s. Strong steers and heifers from two-and-a-half years old made £10 to £15, while yearling steers and heifers sold at £5 to to £17 10s. Calves met with a slow trade at 25s to 45s each. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday. — There was a large show of sheep and cattle, but trade dragged except for the highest quality. There was little demand for mutton, but best calves sold well. Heifers and bullocks made 5¾d to 6d; cows and bulls, 4¾d to 5½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; hoggs, 8½d to 9½d; ewes, 6d to 7½d; calves, 7¾d to 8½d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—The quality of the store stock was better than usual, and a fair trade was done at fully late rates. Milch cows, £14 to £18; two-year-old steers and heifers £10 to £12, yearlings, £6 to £8, and calves 40s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—About an average supply of fat beasts, trade unchanged:—Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in very short supply, trade dear at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade a little slower: Best small, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; large, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade about the same at 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone. Very slow demand for store beasts. Pig trade slower: Large hogs, 3s 8d to 4s; small neat porkers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A poor supply of milch beasts, but sufficient to meet the demand. Good milch beasts made £18 to £20; and heifers and rough cattle, slow trade, at £15 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Store cattle in good supply, but small of fat cattle, sheep and calves. Very fair trade, and prices up to last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 9d to 10d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; veal, 8d to 8½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was rather a smaller show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher sorts made 6s to 6s 6d. Sheep realised 9½d, ewes 7½d, and tups 6½d per lb. The pig trade was ruled by last week's prices, though, if anything, quotations were a little easier.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital supply of cattle for the time of year, and a very large attendance of buyers. Fat oxen made from £15 15s to £21 2s 6d; fat heifers, £11 to £20 5s; fat tegs, 45s to 55s; fat wethers, 50s to 61s; fat ewes, 40s to 49s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4; weaning cow calves, 30s to 63s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £4 to £8; porkets, 32s to 48s; store pigs, 15s to 26s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fair. Fat bullocks, 50s to 56s per cwt; barreners' and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £13 to £17 10s; rearing calves, 23s to 36s each; wethers, 8d per lb; ewes, 6d; lambs, 8d; pigs, 9s 6d to 70s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; ditto, cured 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Moderate supply and trade; sheep dearer. Beef made 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 10d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Good attendance, and buyers plentiful. More beef in the market than of late, and trade fair. Larger supply of sheep, with prices of shearlings and hoggs quite up to last week's full prices, but ewes were not as good a trade. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; secondary qualities, 6s 9d to 7s per stone; shearlings and hoggs, 9d to 10d; secondary qualities, 8d to 9d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Trade was only slow, not withstanding a good display of cattle. The stagnation was particularly apparent in the English and Irish store cattle, of which there was a heavy show, and dealers complained of the difficulties they experienced in getting rid of their beasts, a good proportion of which remained unsold. Only the very best lots could command late rates, others were treated very carefully. The best three-year old bullocks sold up to £15; two-year-olds, £11 10s; and stirks, £6 to £8. If anything slight skrinkage in the prices for sheep, and trade was mainly at the rate of the last market. A good supply for the time of the year, but buyers purchased in small quantities. Half-bred shearlings made 43s to 50s, and best twice-crossed up to 52s. Twice-crossed lambs ranged from 38s to 45s, and inferior sorts from 23s to 30s each.

Yeovil, Friday.—Heifers and cows with calf, £15 15s to £20 5s; secondary animals, £12 10s to £15 10s; in calvers, £14 10s to £18 5s; fresh barreners, £9 to £12 5s; secondary, £6 10s to £8 10s; grazing steers, £10 15s to £12 10s; store horn ewes, 32s 6d to 40s; horn wether lambs, 26s to 32s 6d; horn couples, 62s 6d to 67s 6d; Down store ewes, 30s 6d to 38s 6d; Down store lambs, 24s to 29s 6d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Oil Cakes.—Linseed, London made, £8 to £8 2s 6d; Linseed, American Westerns, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s. Cotton, London made, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d per ton.—LONDON PRODUCE BROKERS' CO., LTD.

Hull, Tuesday.—Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed.—In slightly better demand at 2s 6d per ton advance. Cottons are also 2s 6d per ton dearer with improving demand, and deliveries of best falling a little into arrears.—KEIGHLEY, MANSTED & CO

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes.—Supplies of foreign continue on an extremely limited scale, but with only a small consumptive demand there is no alteration to note in the values, which remain quiet but steady. Russians offer at the relatively low figure of £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. in mats, and £7 13s. 9d. to £7 15s. in bags. East India seed pures may be bought at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15. Americana are nominally quoted at £7 10s. London made, owing to dearer seed, and consequently restricted productions command full prices of £8 10s. to £8 2s. 6d. Cotton Cakes.—A fair business has been done during the past week, the recent decline in values attracting both consumers and speculators, and quotations are the turn dearer at £4 15s. to £4 16s. 3d. for best Egyptians in bags, while English find a free sale at £4 12s. 6d to £4 15s., and Bombays at £4 7s. 6d. Decorticated: A steamer parcel of American just arrived offers at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s., and meal at £7 5s. Maize Germ Meal.—Landed lots of white American move off quietly at £5 15s. to £5 16s. 3d.; while there are sellers of English makes at £5 10s. to £5 12s 6d. Maize gluten meal is in good request at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Only a moderate quantity of Rangoon is available in warehouse, for which holders ask £4 12s. 6d. to £4 15s., with steamer parcels afloat quoted at £4 8s. 9d. to £4 10s., ex ship terms. Locust Beans are held for rather more money, at £5 5s. for whole and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains meet a better inquiry, at £5 5s. for ale, and £4 15s. for porter.

	Per ton.					
LINSEED CAKES.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
London made ..... ex mill	8	0	0 to	8	2	6
Russian, in mats	7	10	0 to	7	12	6
,, in bags	7	13	9 to	7	15	0
American	7	10	0			
Calcutta (to arrive) ...	7	12	6 to	7	15	0
COTTONSEED CAKES.						
Egyptian	4	15	0 to	4	16	3
English	4	12	6 to	4	15	0
Bombay	4	7	6			
Decorticated	7	12	6 to	7	15	0
,, Cottonseed Meal	7	5	0			

Rape Cakes.			
Calcutta	5 10 0		
Ravison	5 5 0		
Maize.			
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	to 5 12	6
American	5 15 0	to 5 16	3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0		
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon	4 12 6	to 4 15	0
,, afloat, ex ship	4 8 9	to 4 10	0
Locust Beans.			
White	5 5 0		
Kibbled	5 15 0		
Dried Grains.			
Ale	5 5 0		
Porter	4 15 0		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda values have been easier the last few days, 95 per cent. purity being quoted £11 5s., and refined, chemical qualities, 96 to 97 per cent., £12 per ton. Kainit and all phosphatic fertilisers are in brisk request. Feeding stuffs are only a poor trade for this period of the year, and the high prices prevalent for decorticated cottoncakes are not conducive to its free use; though the offerings of choice qualities are small, the consumption is by no means brisk. Linseed cakes are again easier, and fair to prime American is £7 2s. 6d. to £7 7s. 6d., with English at £8 5s. to £8 10s., according to make. Indian corn at present rates is attracting more attention from agriculturists, whilst there continues a very fair demand for feeding treacle and cod liver oil.

	£ s d	£ s d
	Per ton.	
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (prime but hard)	7 15 0	8 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated (prime)	8 5 0	8 7 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated	4 17 6	5 5 0
Cottonseed, Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed (crushed)	7 15 0	7 17 6
Linseed Cake, American	7 5 0	7 7 6
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14 0 0	—
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Corn Oil Cake	6 17 6	—
Maize Germ Meal	5 15 0	—
	Per 240 lb.	
Indian meal	—	—
	Per ton.	
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4 13 9	4 16 3
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	—
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
	Per Cwt.	
Treacle, feeding, American cane	0 4 9	—
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 5 0	—
Kainit	2 2 6	2 5 0
Bone meal (coarse to fine)	5 5 0	5 7 6
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 10 0	—
Basic Slag, prime quality	1 11 0	1 13 0
,, ,, ,,	1 18 6	2 0 0
,, ,, finest ,,	2 2 6	2 5 0
D.N.S. Brand } Superphosphate of Lime	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,,	3 1 3	3 3 3

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

Weekly Market Report.

Butter.—Since the last issue of this report on June 1, the weather in the United Kingdom and on the Continent has been exceptionally hot and dry, and we have to go back to the summer and autumn of the year 1903 to find similar climatic conditions. This phenomenal state of things naturally affected the pastures and hay crops most disastrously, and brought about the very short production of butter and cheese which has existed for some months. Consequently, prices have been abnormally high. During the last few weeks, however, copious rains have fallen, and the temperature being comparatively high, the pastures have recovered their verdure, but it is too late to expect much improvement in supplies, as most of the cows will be shortly in winter quarters, and the butter will be produced from dry fodder, which is always inferior in quality and smaller in quantity than when made from green pastures. The season for the manufacture of cheese is virtually over until next April or May.

The quantity of Colonial butter imported from July 1 this year up to date is 139,147 cwt. less than last year. Of this decrease 111,424 cwt. belong to Canada, 25,372 cwt. to Australia, and the small quantity of 2,351 cwt. to New Zealand. The shortage from Canada is due to the excessively high prices offered for cheese in the early summer, which made it a better paying product than butter, and also to the exceptionally short supply of milk this year in Canada, due to the unfavourable weather for the pastures. The Australian deficiency is owing to the very late spring which prevailed all over the Commonwealth; the prospects now, however, in Australia are exceptionally favourable, and it is expected that the import from that country this year will exceed that of last year by about 5,000 tons. It must be remembered, however, that the Australian climate is liable to extreme and sudden changes, and the above estimate is based on the ground that the prospects remain as favourable as at present. New Zealand exports of butter to the United Kingdom will probably be about the same as last year, for the increased production of milk, due to the increase in the dairy herds, will most likely be deviated to the cheese vat instead of to the churn, as greater "record" prices have been offered for cheese than for butter for the coming season. The quality of Colonial butter during the past summer and autumn to date has been on the whole good, especially Australian; the only serious complaint with regard to quality has been with Canadian, which has been below the average of the last year. The principal fault has been want of regularity in flavour and a certain amount of sourness which destroys its keeping quality, that seems more associated with Canadian butter than with any Australian, except it be with Queensland. To-day's value of "Choicest" Canadian is 108s. to 112s. per cwt. Complaints are heard of South Australian butter being off flavour; but Queensland, New South Wales, and Victorian all show an improvement on last year. Prices for these varieties range from 105s. to 110s. per cwt. for Queensland and South Australian, 108s. to 112s. with an occasional 114s. for New South Wales, and 110s. to 112s. up to 114s. for special brands of Victorian.

Cheese.—"Choicest" white and coloured is selling at 62s. to 63s., with an occasional 64s. for very special lots. Summer quality is bringing 59s. to 61s. per cwt.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Week ending November 24.—Altrincham: 4 and 5. Appleby: 5 to 7. Barnstable: 6. Berwick: 1s 8d per doz. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Camelford: 1s 6d per doz. Carlisle: 5. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 10d to 2s per doz. Devizes: 6 to 8. Doncaster: 6. Dorchester: 1s 6d to 1s 11d per doz. Hereford: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Kidderminster: 7. Lancaster: 6. Lincoln: 6 and 7. Market Drayton: 3s 2d to 3s 4d per score. Otley: 5 and 6. Penrith: 7 and 8. Plymouth: 7. Redruth: 1s 8d per doz. Retford: 3s 2d to 3s 4d per score. Ripon: 5 and 6. Scarborough: 6. Shrewsbury: 6. Spalding: 7. Stamford: 6 to 8. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 5. Totnes: 1s 10d to 1s 11d per doz. Truro: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 6. Worksop: 3s 4d per score. York: 6 to 8.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending November 24.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d. Berwick: 1s. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s 3d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 3d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 9d per 24 oz. roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 1d. Plymouth: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Redruth: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 4d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s 3d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro: 1s to 1s 2d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. Worksop: 1s 4d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A slow demand prevailed for a good supply. Prices: Cock turkeys, 6s to 10s 6d; hen ditto, 4s to 5s 6d; goslings, 5s to 6s; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 6d; woodcock, 1s 9d to 2s; snipe, 7d to 9d; quails, 10d to 2d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; English hares, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 7d to 10d; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s per dozen; pheasants, 3s to 3s 9d; young grouse, 5s 6d to 6s; old, 3s; young partridges, 4s; old, 1s 10d to 2s per brace.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of fruit and greenstuffs on offer, trade being fairly brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 4s 6d; medlars, 5s to 6s 6d per crate; tomatoes, 5s to 6s per 12lb; grape fruit, 7s 6d to 9s per case; cranberries, 10s to 10s 6d per case; chestnuts (Redon), 8s to 14s per bag; cobnuts, 6s to 7s per 12 lb; walnuts (Grenoble), 6s 6d to 7s 6d per bag; artichokes, 2s to 2s 6d per half-sieve; Brussels sprouts, 2s 6d to 3s; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt; eschalots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; horseradish, 9s to 14s per dozen bundles; celery, 6s 6d to 12s per dozen rolls; sprue, 8s to 9s per dozen bundles; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; carrots, 9d to 1s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; endive, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; potatoes, 60s to 90s per ton.

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1906.		1905.		1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.		1900	
	s	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ..	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Cereal Years Prices.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

Red Polled Society.

The annual meeting of members of the above society was held at Norwich on Thursday, Mr. R. Harvey Mason presiding.

The report of the council and balance-sheet for the year 1905 were adopted, on the motion of the chairman. The council, in their report, referred to the recent appointment of an expert of the breed to assist and advise members. The appointment had been conferred on Mr. H. P. Blofield, of Morley, Norfolk.

It was agreed that Lord Cranworth should be asked to take the office of president for the ensuing year, and Mr. Eustace Gurney, of Sprowston, the office of president-elect. The three outgoing trustees, Messrs. R. H. Mason, A. J. Smith, and Garrett Taylor, were re-elected, as was also the society's auditor, Mr. J. T. Todd.

It was resolved to invite subscriptions from members to enable the society to offer two championships at the next Royal Show, in addition to the class prize money already offered.

Advertisements Received Too Late for Classification.

LARGE BLACK PIG SOCIETY.

President:
The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G.

THE Annual General Meeting of Members will be held (by kind permission of the Smithfield Club) in the Princes' Saloon, Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Wednesday, December 12, 1906, at 1 o'clock p.m., to receive Report from the Council and Statement of Accounts for the year ending June 30, 1906, to elect Officers and Members of the Council for the ensuing year, and to transact any other necessary business.

Ernest Prentice, Secretary.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

With the issue of the returns for Ireland we are able to give the complete figures for wheat production in the United Kingdom. They are as follows in round numbers:—1906, 60,641,000 bushels; 1905, 60,300,000 bushels; 1904, 37,920,000 bushels; 1903, 48,818,000 bushels; 1902, 58,276,000 bushels.

The three best wheat crops within recent memory have been as follows:—1906, 33·66 bushels; 1898, 34·75 bushels; 1868, 34·00 bushels.

Phrases like recent memory are bound to be a little vague; we have taken forty years in this case. If, however, half a century is accepted as "recent," the champion year will be 1868, when 37 bushels was attained. This was probably the largest wheat yield in the United Kingdom, just as that of 1879 was the smallest since the great war of 1794-1815. Before then rye was much more widely grown and the wheat area was not more than half what the war raised it to.

The Australian harvest has begun in Queensland and the following wheat estimates are cabled:—

Queensland	300,000 qr.
South Australia	2,450,000 ,,
Victoria	3,075,000 ,,
New South Wales	3,000,000 ,,
Total	8,825,000 qr.

The yields of Tasmania, New Zealand and West Australia may add 800,000 qr. to this total, in which case Australasia will be good for 9,625,000qr.

The British markets during the last six business days of November were inclined to harden a bit, and on December 1 a new month began with a decidedly more hopeful feeling at nearly all the rural exchanges. The November averages thus compare:—

	London.	Country.
Wheat	27s. 6d.	26s. 5d.
Barley	24s. 7d.	24s. 5d.
Oats	18s. 1d.	17s. 1d.

London is therefore as usual a good market (as markets go) for English wheat and oats, but it seems (now for the second season running) to have lost its claim to be considered a good barley market. An extra twopence per quarter will not go far in meeting railway charges, even from the nearest counties to the metropolis!

The wheat gradient last week was moderate:—Canterbury, 28s. 2d. per qr.; Peterborough, 25s. 3d. per qr.; range, 28s. 11d. per qr.

Barley showed a greater difference:—Chichester, 27s. 11d. per qr.; Mark Lane, 22s. 9d.; range, 5s. 2d. per qr.

Oats ranged from 16s. 7d. at Lincoln up to 19s. 2d. at Canterbury.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows:—

This season 883,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,130,000 qr. ,, 27s. 3d. ,,

The fall in the price despite smaller supplies is a very bad sign indeed.

The sales of British barley thus compare:—

This season 1,898,000 qr. at 24s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,914,000 qr. ,, 24s. 4d. ,,

These figures are better than those for wheat, but nothing under 25s. can be regarded as in itself satisfactory.

The sales of oats have been large:—

This season 415,000 qr. at 16s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, 364,000 ,, 16s. 7d. ,,

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 407,000 qr.: over an average.
Flour, 120,000 sks.: a moderate import.
Barley, 125,000 qr.: a full supply.
Oats, 164,000 qr.: more than usual.
Maize, 169,000 qr.: less than usual.

Imports of beans and peas were below the average.

The supplies of wheat on passage on December 1 were small for the time of year:—Californian, 420,000 qr.; American, 315,000 qr.; Russian, 280,000 qr.; Indian, 272,000 qr.; Argentine, 150,000 qr.; Australian, 215,000 qr.; various, 40,000 qr.; total, 1,672,000 qr.

Of flour 282,000 sacks were on passage.

Of barley, exportations on December 1 were:—Russian and Roumanian, 250,000 qr.; American and Californian, 210,000 qr.; Asiatic, &c., 170,000 qr.; total, 630,000 qr.

Of maize, 885,000 qr. are on passage, including 635,000 qr. of Argentine.

Other supplies on passage include 150,000 qr. of linseed and 44,000 tons of cottonseed. The quantity of linseed is increasing, but that of cottonseed appears to have culminated.

The course of prices in America is of so much practical importance, that the following conversions will be found worth study from the opening of the season:—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.		Wheat, per qr. s. d.	Maize, per qr. s. d.	Flour, per sk. s. d.
September	1 ...	29 0	21 6	20 6
,,	8 ...	28 9	21 6	20 3
,,	15 ...	28 6	21 6	20 3
,,	22 ...	28 3	21 6	20 0
,,	29 ...	28 0	21 2	20 0
October	6 ...	28 3	20 6	20 0
,,	13 ...	28 3	20 3	20 0
,,	20 ...	28 0	20 3	20 0
,,	27 ...	28 0	20 6	20 0
November	3 ...	29 3	20 8	20 0
,,	10 ...	28 4	20 7	20 0
,,	17 ...	28 8	20 3	20 0
,,	24 ...	28 6	20 0	20 0
December	1 ...	28 5	19 9	20 0

The wheat is red winter (480 lb.), the maize is flat corn (480 lb.), and the flour is "spring wheat clears" (280 lb.). Freights vary daily, but on Saturday 1s. per qr. was quoted for wheat and maize, and 1s. per sack for flour.

American shipments last week were 365,000 qr. of wheat, 3,000 qr. of barley, 7,000 qr. of oats, 63,000 qr. of maize, and 134,000 sacks of flour. Linseed shipments from the United States for November were 36,000 qr.

Russia last week was a free shipper and so was Roumania. Indeed, when the sizes of the two countries are compared, it is Roumania's figures which are the most surprising:—

	Russia. Qr.	Roumania. Qr.
Wheat	429,000	278,000
Barley	169,000	107,000
Oats	65,000	43,000
Maize	13,000	46,000

The shipments from Argentina last week were 346,000 qr. of maize, to which may be added 24,000 qr. of wheat and 59,000 qr. of linseed. But Argentina is supposed to close its shipping season for wheat and linseed on October 31, and reopen it on January 1.

India last week shipped 48,000 qr. of wheat and 17,000 qr. of linseed, while 29,000 qr. of wheat were exported from New Zealand and Australia.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes selling slowly, but holders are less depressed. Sales recorded include—South Australian at 29s 9d per 480 lb; No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 30s 3d per 480 lb; No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s 6 l per 480 lb; and Red Karachi at 30s 9d per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes, after a firm five days, were weak on Saturday, owing to the heavy shipments cabled. Prices obtained on Saturday did not exceed 20s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Bulgarian, 20s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Argentine, and 19s. 9d. per 480 lb. for American, the last for January, the others for prompt, shipment.

Oats are firmer on the week. A cargo of Argentine has fetched 15s. 6d. per 304 lb., and one of Roumanian 15s. 9d., same weight.

A cargo of Smyrna beans was sold on Saturday for 31s. 3d. per 489 lb, prompt shift. Of the trade in barley cargoes *Beerbohm's List* writes as follows:—"The market for grinding barley this week has been decidedly firm and improving, with very little offering: only one cargo has been reported sold, viz., a five option steamer, Jan shipment at 19/9, a price which is refused for a December cargo; nothing is now offering for shipment below 20/. The Russian and Danubian shipments further fell off last week, and, judging from the few forward charters, are likely to become quite small, whilst, on the other hand, the consumptive demand in the country is likely to increase. Stocks, however, are quite large."

Wheat cargo expectations for the next fortnight are put by *Dornbusch's List* at 825,000 qr., against 1,020,000 qr. required.

A wheat cargo from Australia arrived on Saturday on sale off coast. It was the only cargo of the week not sold before arrival.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—The market during the past week has been in a very dull and depressed condition. Much larger supplies are to hand, and with a decrease in the demand it is only with difficulty that clearances have been effected. Prices show a general weakening tendency, and the feeling in the trade is decidedly lower. Doubtless the open and unseasonable mild weather right through November has had a great deal to do with the present condition of our market. Feed is still plentiful, and farmers have been able to sell a great deal more of their hay than at earlier part of season, was considered possible, larger arrivals of foreign are also to hand, which all tends to make a slower and lower trade. Clovers are in much better supply, and find a very quiet sale. Mixtures are a duller trade, with prices weakening, while hays come along much more freely, and with a poorer demand prices are a shade lower. Straw continues a fair trade at about unchanged rates. In the foreign market larger supplies of all qualities have arrived, and with a poor demand values are again the turn easier.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 85s per ton; good meadow hay, 77s 6d to 82s 6d per ton; plain hay, 70s to 75s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good clovers, 82s 6d to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 92s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 27s to 28s per load; oat straw, 27s per load; barley straw, 27s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 84s per ton; Dutch hay, 68s to 72s per ton; French 1st and Dutch 1st and 2nd cut clover, 85s per ton; French large wheat straw, 49s per ton; French small wheat straw, 42s 6d. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—BUTTER: The market for Colonial butter has suffered a further decline and prices are fully 4s lower on the week. "Choicest" brands of Victorian are now selling at 106s to 108s per cwt. with an occasional 110s for some specially select quality. New South Wales butter is making about the same figures, but very little reaches 110s. Queensland and South Australian are making 104s to 106s. New Zealand, of which there is very little on the spot, is bringing 110s to 112s. The fall in the value of Colonial is partly due to sentiment; and partly due to the action of certain "bears" whose object is to reduce the prices in Australia and in New Zealand so as to enable them to buy cheaply on a depressed market there. The amount on the market, when, during the last week in November, 44,608 boxes arrived, against 31,370 this year, and as regards prices they were 4s above present rate. The Danes have again this week lowered their official quotation by 3 kroner, and it now stands at 100 against 98 last year, when prices in British markets were 3s per cwt. above current values, which makes the relative value 5s 6d per cwt. lower than in 1905. French butter is much dearer than it was last year, owing to the scarcity mentioned above. Last year it was 4s per cwt. below Danish, while now it is fully 4s above. The quality, however, is excellent. Siberian arrivals this week have not been large, and prices remain unchanged. Argentine boxes to the number of 2,600 have been received, and prices range from 112s to 116s per cwt. CHEESE: The market continues steady with a fair demand at practically unchanged prices. "Choicest" Septembers both white and coloured are making 63s per cwt. Earlier makes from 58s to 62s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—WET GRAINS: The market has had a more limited supply, and prices are firm at 21s ale, 18s porter, 35s distillers, and pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles without much change as follows: Dried grains: Ale, 102s 6d; mixed, 92s 6d; distillers', 107s 6d per ton on rail London. Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 100s, and kiln-dried malt beans 110s. per ton. All the above are free on rail London, sellers' option. HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady held, unchanged prices. Foreign held at Monday's rates, but business not active. South Russian, ex ship, quoted at 26s, 33s; landed at 28s, 33s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 31s 4½d; No. 2, at 30s; hard winter at 29s 9d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 32s 4½d; choice white Karachi, landed, at 30s; red Karachi at 29s 3d; Australian at 31s, 32s. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize firmly held at 3d advance. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 6d; landed at 22s; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 6d; landed at 21s, 21s 3d. Barley firm, and 1½d to 3d more money asked. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s 6d; landep at 20s; Persian at 18s 3d, 18s 6d. Oats firm, but quiet. Common sorts held at 16s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steadily held at late rates, but demand small. Foreign firmly held, at unchanged prices, but only a small business passing. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, held at 31s 4½d; No. 2, at 30s 3d; No. 1 hard Manitoba, at 32s 3d to 32s 6d; hard winter, at 29s 9d; South Russian, ex ship, at 26s to 33s; landed, at 28s to 33s; choice white Karachi, landed, at 30s; red Karachi at 29s 3d; Australian, at 31s to 32s; River Plate, at 29s to 32s. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize firmly held at fully late prices, with a fair inquiry. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 21s 6d, landed at 22s; River Plate, ex ship, at 20s 6d, landed at 21s. Barley firm, and held for 3d advance, which rather checks business. Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, held at 19s 6d to 19s 9d; landed, at 20s to 20s 3d; Persian, at 18s 3d to 18s 6d. Oats firm, but quiet. Common sorts held for 16s 3d; Danubian, at 16s 3d to 16s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—A light supply. White oats (horse corn), wholesale, 19s to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The attendance was an average one, but trade all round was dull at late rates for most articles. Wheats were quoted from 27s to 29s 6d; best barley, 25s to 27s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 29s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; round maize, 23s; flat maize, 25s; black oats, 18s to 21s; white oats, 19s to 22s; grey peas, 28s to 30s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 24s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 29s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s 6d per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance, with larger supplies of grain. Fine barleys scarce and firm, other qualities unchanged. Wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 19s to 20s 6d per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a better tone about the trade at this market, wheats being in better request. Foreign made the full prices of last week, English being a little firmer, and made from 10s 6d to 11s per 186 lb delivered. Feeding stuffs in quiet demand, with prices tending higher. Grinding barley was 3d dearer at 19s 6d per 400 lb at Sharpness. Plate maize 3d dearer; Bessarabian unchanged. English oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d per 312 lb.; beans, 11s 9d to 12s per 196 lb delivered. Millers' offals in good request.

Brighton, Thursday.—Slow trade at last week's prices. Wheat in good supply. Barley, 28s to 33s; feeding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 31s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in rather larger supply, unaltered in value. Foreign also unchanged. Round maize, 6d dearer. Barley, 6d dearer. Oats, 3d higher. Flour unchanged.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in decidedly small supply, but this seemed to have no beneficial effect upon the trade, prices being upon the same low level as last week, at 27s 6d to 28s for reds in condition, and 26s 6d to 27s per qr for others. Barley: There was a fair average supply, with a healthy demand for useful malting parcels, running from 28s to 32s per qr, but a very dull trade at not much over grinding value for the low descriptions. Oats were firm at 20s to 21s 6d per qr. Maize 3d per qr dearer at 22s 3d to 22s 6d delivered for Plate. Other feeding corns and stuffs firm at last week's prices.

Cambridge, Saturday. Wheat was in good supply, and sold at 6d per qr less than last week, viz., 27s to 27s 6d per 504 lb. in mill. There was a moderate supply of barley, and trade no better, except for common sorts. Oats and beans unaltered.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The oat trade is fairly steady, blacks scaling 38 lb to the bushel selling at 18s, and whites of 42 lb at 20s. Grey peas, 28s to 30s per qr. Trade rather quiet for barley, which was in shorter supply; feeding qualities, 23s to 24s; malting, 26s to 29s. Wheat was fully 6d per qr. cheaper, ranging from 28s 6d for 64 lb samples up to 30s 6d for 66 lb delivered.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance. English grain remained unchanged from last week. Mixed maize was dearer with a fair demand, and River Plate also favoured sellers. Offals about the same. Prices:—Wheat, white and red, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 3d per 64 lb; beans, new, 4s 9d to 5s; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb; River Plate, 11s 3d to 11s. 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and average amount of business. New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s 6d; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 24s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat unchanged, 28s 6d. Barley slow trade. Oats firmer.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A moderate attendance. Small show of wheat, the demand for which was quiet at barely late rates. Fairly good supply of oats, and prices were firm at late figures. Quotations:—Old wheat, 10s 6d to 11s per 186 lb; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; oats old, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; new oats, 16s to 21s per 352 lb; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new beans, 11s 6d to 12s per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—There was only a moderate supply of grain on offer. Wheat, which was in quiet demand, realised late rates, as also did spring corn; new white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 25s to 30s; grinding, 23s to 24s; old beans, 34s to 35s; new, 31s to 32s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Owing to the condition being affected by the damp weather, wheat was a dull trade, and except for good dry lots lower prices had to be accepted. Barley unchanged in value. Oats the turn in buyers' favour. New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 18s to 20s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, and a fair trade. Prices unchanged. Top price, 10s 6d per load. Some inquiry for foreign wheat, which was 3d per qr. dearer on the week. Plenty of malting barley; fine samples were easy to sell, at 28s to 30s per qr, 6d to 1s per qr cheaper. Oats declined 3d to 6d per qr. Old oats and beans firm, with a slow trade. Maize 6d to 9d per qr dearer.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A finer day led to a greatly improved attendance, and there was a moderate offer of grain. English wheat was again very dull of sale, and prices remain quotably unchanged; foreign was equally dull and inactive. The scarcity of good useful parcels of malting barley was again evidenced to-day, and where any where offering they were readily caught up at full values; but other descriptions, as a rule, were greatly neglected, and holders had to accept 6d to 1s per qr less money; grinding barley, on the other hand, was held firmly, and prices generally were 3d against the buyer. Some demand for feeding stuffs, despite the continued phenomenally mild weather.

Dublin, Friday.—In wheat there was little change; supply scarce. Oats showed a cheaper tendency. Barley practically nil. Demand for flour improving; prices firm. Oatmeal firm. Quotations:—Wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; barley, 13s to 14s; malt, 19s; oats, 10s 6d to 13s; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade somewhat dull. English wheat firm at last week's quotations; foreign steady. Barley and maize 6d dearer. Oats firm and flour quiet. English wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 4½d; English barley, 3s to 4s; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat steady at late rates. Flour unchanged, with a slow sale passing. Maize, owing to a fresh arrival, has come down 1½d per boll on the week, but keeps very steady. Corn unaltered since Wednesday. Barley firm, and favouring sellers. Oats very firm, with a good trade for foreign, but home quiet. Beans firm. Pease in steady demand at unchanged prices. Bran and thirds quiet, with no alteration in value. Oatmeal, slow sale, but prices keep firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat firm owing to the scarcity of offers, and little business was passing. The sale of flour continued dull, bakers having got pretty well supplied in anticipation of the Christmas and New Year trade; prices unchanged. Mixed American and round maize favoured sellers at 12s 3d per 280 lb. Feeding stuffs were generally against buyers.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Prices for English and foreign wheat showed a firmer tendency all round. Plate and Bessarabian maize and barley 3d dearer. Flat maize and oats unchanged.

Grantham, Saturday.—Small attendance. Wheat steady trade at 26s to 27s 6d per qr. Fair supply of barley, and a slow trade at rather less money, namely, 24s to 32s; blue peas, to 65s; beans, 29s to 30s; and oats, 17s lo 19s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A very small supply of grain of any kind, and the tendency was generally in favour of buyers. Maize, however, was 3d per qr against buyers. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 5d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat, with a small supply, was dull and unchanged; dry reds up to 29s, soft parcels 27s to 28s per qr, delivered at Ipswich. Barley in average supply; trade on the whole steadier, with quite as good a demand for useful malting parcels, if worth from 28s to 32s per qr; low sorts dull, at not much above feeding value. Feeding corns firm, with maize 3d per qr dearer. Feeding stuffs all firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The firmness of the American markets and relative scarcity of fine spring wheats has imparted great steadiness to the trade, and on the whole there is some improvement in the consumptive demand, liberal shipments, however, check any tendency to higher prices. English wheat in smaller supply, and slightly dearer on the week. Fine malting barley fully as dear, inferior sorts slow to sell. Maize dearer, beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-grown wheats, which came to hand in good condition; trade quiet, and prices rather easier. Red wheats, 26s to 28s; white wheats, 27s to 29s per 36 stone; malting barley, 27s to 30s per 32 stones; beans firm; oats, 20s to 21s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A limited attendance, and a moderate show of English wheat, which obtained a ready sale at the full prices of last week. Oats and beans firm, and barley met with a slow, dragging trade at rather less money than a week ago.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a small attendance of millers, but wheat is firm, with a moderate business doing; Indian and American Winters being the turn dearer. Flour in very poor request, but no change is made in values. Maize: Mixed is firm, with a moderate trade at ¾d advance from Tuesday. Plate is also firm, with a fair demand, and values are again 1d deare. European grades are steady, unchanged. Barley: Feeding firm, occasionally ½d dearer. Beans steady, about unchanged, inactive. Peas firm, rather dearer. Oats firm, with a moderate demand at full prices. Oatmeal firmly held at recent rates, but slow to move. Oilcake: A quiet sale at about late currencies. Indian Meal firm at some advance, with a good demand.—SEGAR AND TUNNCLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat unchanged; foreign continues in fair inquiry. Flour very slow. Indian corn, 1¾d higher for Plate and mixed American, European ½d to 1d higher. Foreign barley in sellers' favour. Beans and peas show little or no change. Bran and feeding stuffs dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—A good attendance; slow trade; prices unaltered. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 27s; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; beans, 30s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand for wheats of all descriptions at our to-day's market at last week's prices. Maize tending dearer. Beans and peas firm at fully late rates. Oats unchanged with a fair demand. Barley had a slow inquiry, prices in buyers' favour.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was dull, and prices were unchanged.

Northampton, Saturday.—Fair attendance. Very little wheat showing, but there was rather more barley on offer. Oats and beans met with a very slow trade. Oats were a trifle dearer. New wheat, 26s to 27s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 19s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 17s to 18s; new beans, 28s 6d to 30s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 23s to 27s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat moderate show, and a good trade at late rates. Fine barleys maintained their value, while inferior sorts were neglected. Oats and beans in small supply and held for full prices.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A moderate supply of wheat, for which the trade was steady at last week's prices. Malting barley only a quiet demand, but values are not lower. Oats fully as dear.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Preston, Saturday.—The wheat market has been featureless during the week, but quotations

remained steady. There was a fairly good attendance at to-day's market. The wheat and oats offered by farmers were not in such keen demand as recently, and prices were hardly so firm. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto, red, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, new, per bushel, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; beans, per windle, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—Average trade, and a fair amount of business was transacted at the following rates:—Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 26s to 29s; oats, 18s to 21s 6d; peas, 28s to 31s; beans, 30s to 36s; flour, 24s to 26s.

Retford, Saturday.—Not much activity. Wheat slow at 27s to 28s. The best samples of malting barley were scarce, and saleable at 28s to 30s; secondary, 24s to 26s; and grinding 22s 6d to 23s 6d per qr. Still no flat maize on offer; round, 23s 6d; English beans, 30s to 31s; black oats, 17s to 19s; white ditto, 18s to 20s; and old oats, 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A very small supply of samples, and only a dull trade. Malting barley shows a firm tone. Prices:—Wheat, 26s to 27s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; maize, round, 22s to 23s; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The continued open weather does not improve the consumptive demand, and the market is sluggish. Prices are well maintained, oats, beans, peas, and barley firm at late values. Plate maize advanced 6d per qr, owing to temporary small supply. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 28s 5d to 29s; ditto, red, new, 28s 6d to 29s per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 19s 6d to 20s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 3d to 33s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 22s 9d to 23s; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 22s to 22s 6d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Oats, new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225 lb; old, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; wheat, new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225 lb; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s 6d per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were only a few samples of English wheat showing, which made 27s 6d per qr. The foreign wheat trade was quiet, and prices were unchanged upon the week. Maize firm and 6d dearer. Oats steady at last week's prices.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Grain in rather better supply. Wheat a little lower to sell. Barley dull. Oats quiet. Arrivals:—Coastwise wheat, 520 qr; oats, 633 qr. Foreign, nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of grain on offer. Wheat rather easier, owing to small demand. Barley still falling owing to the same cause. Oats firm at last week's prices. Beans rather easier. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat quiet but firm at last week's prices. Foreign a shade dearer. Barley 6d and maize 3d advance. Oats unaltered. Flour in fair demand, late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A scanty supply of grain at market, which meets a quiet trade at late rates. Reds, 27s to 27s 6d 504 lb. Oats very firm at 18s to 19s 336 lb. Barley, 25s to 30s 448 lbs. Beans, 29s to 32s 532 lb.—James Fletcher.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance, with more samples on offer. Prices were easier. Quotations:—English wheat, 11s to 11s 6d per 216 lb; flat corn, 25s per 480 lb; oats, 10s 6d to 11s; beans, 11s 6d to 13s 6d.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Not quite so large an attendance, as last week, and scarcely as much grain on offer. Trade slow at late rates. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red ditto, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s 6d to 31s; secondary qualities, 26s to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 25s; old white oats, 24s 6d to 26s 6d; new ditto, 18s 6d to 20s; old black oats, 22s to 23s 6d; new ditto, 17s 6d to 19s; maize, 23s 6d to 26s; old beans, 37s to 38s 6d; new beans, 32s 6d to 36s 6d per qr.

Yeovil Friday.—Except for the best samples, English wheat was down from 3d to 6d per qr. Foreign favoured sellers. Foreign barley made 6d more money. Oats favoured buyers. Maize advanced from 3d to 6d. Best quality British wheat 28s 6d to 30s per qr; secondary, 26s to 27s 6d; foreign, 31s 3d to 33s 3d; malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; grinding (foreign), 19s 6d to 20s; oats, black, 18s to 19s; white, 18s 9d to 20s; Irish black, 17s 6d to 18s; white, 18s 6d to 19s 9d; rye, 21s 9d to 22s 9d; beans, spring, 31s to 35s; winter, 31s 3d to 32s 3d; tares, winter, 39s to 42s 6d; spring, 45s to 48s 3d; vetches, 4s 3d to 5s 6d per bushel; round maize, 20s 6d to 20s 9d per qr; flat, 22s 3d to 23s 3d.

York, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, which sells easily at last week's prices. Fine white wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. Barley slow, not quite so much offering; fine, 25s to 26s; good, 24s to 25s; feeding, 22s to 23s per qr of 32 stones. Oats, firm; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black ditto, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; short ditto, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 21s 6d to 22s; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather rainy and boisterous. There is a steady trade doing, without material alterations in values. Holstein Mecklenburg and Upland wheat is taken by our millers at prices equal to 28s to 29s per 504 lb f.o.b., duty deducted; there is no export demand. Fine foreign scarce and firm in value, while inferior qualities are offered freely, but meet little attention. Fine 79/80 Ko Bahia Blanca Russo is held at 29s 9d; sound Barletta at 28s 9d; Pud 9/30 Azima is selling at 27s 9d to 28s; inferior South Russian and Danubian is offering at 25s 6d to 26s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye quiet, 9 1/2 Odessa-Nikolajif afloat is offering at 22s 6d, February-March shipment is held at 23s 9d per 480 lb c.if., Hamburg. Malting barley firm in value. Stocks of fine quality are much reduced in Austria and Hungary, and there is scarcely any left in Germany. Good Holstein, Mecklenburg, and barley from Eastern Germany is selling at 35s to 39s; Danish at 29s to 30s; good English is offering at 29s to 31s per 448 lb; 59/60 ko South Russian on spot is selling at 18s 3d, spring shipment at 18s 9d per 400 lb c.i.f. Fine white Pomeranian oats, 18s 6d to 19s per 336 lb c.i.f. E.C. Maize is in fair demand. River Plate afloat selling at 20s to 20s 3d; Danubian, March-May, 19s; Odessa, January, 19s 3d; American, mixed, prompt, 21s; January. 19s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: Our markets for malting barley rule firm. Holders keep to their limits, and ready buyers have to pay same, as the demand by our brewers and maltsters is quite good and general; offers are rather fast decreasing now, and finest is almost exhausted. In Hungary stocks are greatly reduced; prices remain firm, and the demand is good and general.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 27, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.		Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ..	1,364	5	...	1,875	14	6	...	1	7	6
Barley ...	40	2	...	45	15	0	...	1	2	9
Oats	836	6	...	757	4	9	...		18	1

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 1, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	58,793	25	1	189,749	24	4	32,617	17	0
1903	51,695	26	8	187,585	23	9	28,574	15	9
1904	45,942	30	4	166,809	24	6	35,831	16	2
1905	93,509	28	8	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	11
1906	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900 s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ...	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...	22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Dec. 2	93,509	28	5	177,368	24	6	29,859	17	6
,, 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	2
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24		24,435	18	4
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	7
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	10
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	19	0
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	21,160	25	1	19,380	18	8
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	10
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	8
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	11
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	19	4
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 1, 1906:—

Wheat	1,615,800	cwts.
Wheat-flour	226,400	,,
Barley	447,890	,,
Oats	100,000	,,
Maize.....................	1,096,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,813,000	1,808,600	1,098,300	1,312,2[illegible]
Wheat-flour	334,500	360,700	453,200	421,431
Barley ...	653,800	536,000	483,800	718,308
Oats ...	204,000	317,000	277,100	360,163
Maize ...	658,300	658,300	618,000	512,729

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Nov. 21 to 28 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat................ ..	3,400	163,000	166,400
Barley..................	1,700	27,000	28,700
Malt......................	16,567	—	16,567
Oats......................	3,600	100,000	103,600
Rye	50	749	799
Beans	1,106	1,117	2,223
Peas......................	883	1,051	1,934
Maize	—	78,104	78,104
Linseed	—	12,000	12,000
Rapeseed	—	17	17
Cottonseed .	—	16,000	16,000
Tares	46	156	202
Safflower...... . .	—	200	200
Millet	—	134	134
Haricots	—	6,000	6,000
Flour.........sacks	23,008	31,890	54,897
Middlings .. ,,	—	3,000	3,000
Ricemeal......	—	6,000	6,000
Maizemeal ..	—	7,500	7,500

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX. MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, [illegible]

		s.	d.
September 1	.... per sack	29	0
October 8	....	28	0

(No change since last date given).

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

There are some holders of English wheat to-day who stood out for 3d. advance, but foreign failed to follow the lead, and consequently the situation did not end in showing much net change. Maize was in improved request, but large shipments discourage the market in futures, which in turn reacts on the spot trade. Barley was 3d. dearer for Russian and Roumanian sorts, but English was cheap and dull.

Oats were held for previous full prices, and inquiry thereat was less reserved. Beans and peas were held for 6d. advance, and rye was also an improved market. Tares are expected to show an improvement in sympathy, but for the moment remain cheap. Carraways met with a fair sale at 24s. per cwt. The small Indian grain called gram sold well at 28s. per 480 lb., and there was also a fair and steady sale for millet.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 3.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	30 — 34
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)...	(per 424 lb.)	24 — 25
	Distilling (New)	(per 416 lb.)	23 — 24
	Winter (New) ...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 23
	Feeding (New)...	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Best (Old)	,,	22 — 23
	Storm Kings (New) ...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE, Essex	.....	(per 480 lb.)	22 — 24
BEANS, Pigeon	.....	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	64 — 72
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring).....	,,	46 — 50
	(Gorcs)...	,,	56 — 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32—32/6	American	21/9—22
,, ,, 2	31—31/6	Argentine	20/6—21
American Red	30/6—31	Bulgarian	21—21/6
Argentine ...	31/9—32	Roumanian ...	21—21/6
Australian ...	31/6—32	Russian	21—21/6
New Zealand	30/6—31	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Blue Stem ...	31/6—32	Smyrna	34 — 36
Walla Walla	30/6—31	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Saxonka	32/6—33	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Azima	30/6—31	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Ghirka	29/6—30	Italian	64 — 72
Taganrog	29—29/6	Burmese	32 — 42
Indian White	31—31/3	Chilian	56 — 64
,, Red	30/3 30/6	LENTILS (cental):	
BARLEY:		Split Egyptian	10 — 11
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29 — 30	Whole Indian...	7.— 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	27 — 29	PEAS (504 lb.):	
Chilian (448 lb)	28 — 29	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Bohemian (448 lb)	34 — 38	Indian White	35 — 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian Green	29 — 31
Russian (400 lb)	19/9—20	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Tunis (400 lb)	23 — 24	New Zeal'd Maple	39— 40
Gaza (400 lb)	23/9—24	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Persian (400 lb)	18 — 18/6	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Hama (448 lb)	26 — 27	White	42 — 44
Spanish (448 lb)	29 — 33	Yellow	22 — 24
Torrified (336 lb)	21 — 22	Sorghum	20 — 22
MALT (336 lb.):		RICE (cwt.):	
Californian ...	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
Smyrna	33 — 36	Burmese	9 — 10
Ouchak	33 — 36	Siamese	8 — 9
RYE (480 lb.):		DARI (480 lb.):	
Russian	24 — 25	Smyrna	25 — 26
OATS:		Indian	23 — 24
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	18 — 19	Persian	21 — 22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 p.m.

The market for London makes showed some improvement, and 3d. advance may be regarded as nearly established for the usual types. Top price is unchanged. Country Miller whites showed no alteration in value, but the inquiry at November's closing prices was better than it was in that month. Kansas and Manitoba patents commanded rather more attention at previous terms.

Some very cheap and inferior American was placed on sale at 17s to 19s per sack.

Australian supported firmer prices with difficulty, but Argentine and Hungarian sorts were decidedly firm. Hungary has not sent us anything like that large supply of pure flour which a bumper wheat crop of pure quality was said in September to render probable. Milling offals were firm at fully previous prices.

London Flour.

Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/3 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/3 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/3 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/0 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/0 ,,

Country Flour.

		s. s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
Roller Whites	,,	21 — 22
Stone made	,,	20 — 21

Foreign Flour.

		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Oregon	,,	25 — 26
Californian	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary.....	,,	21 — 22
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
Belgian	,,	26 — 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	9 — 10
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour.....	,,	33 — 34
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET HAD INCLINED TO ADVANCE, BUT THE WONDERFULLY MILD WEATHER CAUSED A SLOWER FEELING AT THE CLOSE.

THE BALTIC, 1 p m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Maize cargoes open in buyers favour. Oats are in sellers' favour. Between these points the trade in cargoes of wheat, barley, and oilseed wavers. Wheat is firmer for near than for distant delivery, while wish barley the reverse is the case.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—Roumanian, 27s per 488 lb, January shipment; Azoff, 27s 6d per 492 lb, on passage; White Karachi, 31s per 492 lb, on passage; Bahia Blanca, 28s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment.

Barley.—Californian, 27s 3d per 440 lb, on passage; Odessa, 19s 9d, per 400 lb, on passage; Kustendge, 21s 6d per 416 lb, prompt shipment; Kherson, 20s per lb, prompt shipment.

Oats.—White Libau, 15s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; Manitoba, 17s 9d per 320 lb, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 15s 9d per 304 lb, prompt shipment; South Russian, 15s 9d per 304 lb, Dec. shipment.

Maize.—Galatz, 20s per 480 lb, December shipment; American, 19s 3d per 480 lb, February shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 43s 6d per 410 lb, December shipment; Argentine, 40s 3d per 416 lb, February shipment.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour—The market is still without feature. Grain.—American corn still plentiful, but held for 1½d per toll advance. Plate maize has also firmed up. Pease firm, but quiet. Foreign oats are the turn dearer, but Scotch are dull. Beans are unchanged. Barley 3d higher. Oatmeal firm. Oilcake steady. Mill stuffs quiet.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—No further change to report in bran; prices continue firm.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—The market extremely dull. Very little business doing. For home-made flour prices mostly easier and tending downward.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—A quiet trade at last week's full prices. —T. B. MEDILL and Sons, Ltd.

Milling Offal.—All offal have developed a considerable firmness during the past week—mills quite clear.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

TERM MARKET.

The trade in futures just now is rather a drag upon spot business. The following are the latest quotations for forward delivery:—

Bed American wheat	Dec. delivery,		6s 4d	per cental
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 5d	,,
,, ,,	April	,,	6s 6d	,,
Mixed American				
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 5d	,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	April	,,	4s 1d	,,
Yellow Argentine				
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 3d	,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ...	April	,,	4s 3d	,,

There was a cargo of canary seed sold to-day for January delivery, 36s 9d per 464 lb sound Turkish seed. This is almost an uniquely low price.

RICE.

Rice is steady in price, no change of note having taken place during November. The Levant is buying cleaned Rangoon. London on December 1 held 4,145 tons against 5,746 tons a year ago, and 8,123 tons were on passage against 32,000 tons. The best ground rice makes 10s. per cwt., while Woolwich-ground rice command a guinea per 280 lb cash.

From Burma we receive the following official intelligence:—

"The total area under rice in the fifteen chief rice-producing districts is estimated at 6,990,384 acres, or an increase of 228,630 acres over the actuals of last year. Increases are reported of some 120,000 acres in Hanthawaddy, 35,000 acres in Henzada, 20,000 acres each in Ma-ubin and Pegu, and 10,000 acres each in Pyapôn, Toungoo, and Bassein. There was a decrease of about 25,000 acres in Tharrawaddy, partly owing to floods and partly to scarcity of the rain in the north of the district. Large acres have been destroyed in Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy, and Ma-ubin. Fallow acres are extensive in Akyab, Bassein, Pegu, Myaungmya, Tharrawaddy and Henzada, chiefly due to cattle disease. The total area destroyed by floods is 184,792 acres, and of land left fallow 546,588 acres. Cultivation is well advanced, the rainfall has been generally below the average and began somewhtat late; the middle rain was scanty, but the later rains have been very beneficial. Sowings commenced towards the end of June or early in July and were slightly after time. The condition of the standing crop is generally good and prospects are favourable."—*Special to M.L.E.*

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market continues in a quiet state, but there has been sufficient trade to maintain prices at the recent reduction, consequently values must now be quoted firm.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Fair supply; trado quiet. Hay made £3 10s to £3 17s 6d per ton, and straw 2s 4d to 2s 6d per cwt.

Bristol, Friday.—Old clover hay, 90s to 90s 5d; old meadow hay, 85s to 90s; whcaten straw, 55s to 60s per ton.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s per ton; new, 80s to 90s per ton; best old hay, 90s to 100s per ton; new, 80s to 90s per ton; seconds, 65s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed, 50s to 60s per ton; chop straw, 55s to 65s per ton; peat moss, 35s to 40s per ton.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Hay was very quiet, and straw also moved slowly. Quotations: Hay, 55s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; ditto clover, 6½d to 6¾d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A steady trade is passing in the warehouses, and the prices of hay and straw are fully maintained. Quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 6d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay about £3 10s.; secondary ditto, £2 15s to £3; straw, 30s to 35s per ton on the ground.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5d to 5¾d; clover, 5½d to 6¾d; straw, wheat, 2½d to 3d; oat, 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 10s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 10s; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 10s to £5 5s. Wheat straw, from £1 6s to £1 8s per load; barley straw, from £1 4s; oat straw, from £1 6s to £1 7s.

Nottingham, Wednesday. — Fair supply, which met with a good demand for best qualities. Prices:—Inferior to good hay, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 90s to 100s; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s; prime ditto, 95s to 100s; wheat straw, 45s to 55s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small supplies, and business still ruled slow. Choice seeds, £4 10s to £4 15s; choice hay, £3 15s to £4 5s; straw, £2 10s to £2 17s 6d.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—The market was supplied to a good extent, but trade made quiet progress. Quotations:—Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; and straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Owing to the market being glutted with potatoes, trade was slow. Disease is very prevalent. Quotations:—47s 6d to 50s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were on offer, and met with tame response. Quotations: Royal Kidneys, 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 60s; Maincrops, 70s to 80s per ton. Dutch 2s 9d and Belgian 2s 9d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supply and a fair trade at 5d to 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Fair supply and a moderate inquiry. Prices from 6s to 7s 6d per load of 18 stone, and 8d to 10d per peck.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Fair Supply. Wholesale unchanged. Retail, 3s to 3s 6d per bag, 7d per stone. Carrots, £1 10s per ton.

Manchester, Saturday. Potatoes: Yorkshire warps, 8s to 10s; sands, 8s to 9s; Cheshire 5s 6d to 6s 6d; Lincoln warps and sands, 8s to 9s per load; Irish, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Market well supplied, and best qualities of home-grown potatoes 5s per load. Carrots, 2s; turnips, 1s 6d per cwt.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been heavy, for which the demand has been slow, and prices for all samples, except the best, have had a downward tendency. To-day's prices are as follows:—Light-soil: Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s per ton; British Queens, 60s to 70s per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 70s per ton; Edward VIIth, 60s to 70s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; Evergoods, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton; Royal Kidneys, 57s 6d to 62s 6d per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—There was no expansion in the demand, business again moving slowly, while arrivals were on a liberal scale. Quotations: — Blacklands, 60s to 65s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; British Queens, 65s to 75s; Royal Kidneys, 60s; Maincrops, 70s to 80s per ton. Belgian and Dutch, 3s per bag.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 3, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 4, 1905.
Beasts	1,070	1,070	990
Sheep and Lambs	4,620	4,620	5,440
Calves	10	10	10
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 10
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 4
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 8	5 4	6 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 15; Eastern Counties, 188; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 705; Dovon, 45; Ireland, 117.

We note to-day a decrease of 50 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade in the early morning was of a fairly steady nature both in regard to tono and value, but owing to the inclement weather fell off later on, slightly lower rates having to be asked to effect sales, but not sufficiently so to warrant our quoting a decline. The Irish arrivals consisted of 102 Dublins (20 of which were choice black polled beasts) and 15 Waterfords; thdsc met with little inquiry. Scotch descriptions were also slow of sale at a fall of 2d. [per 8 lb. in value. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in excess of the demand, consequently a decline of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. had to be accepted to effect sales.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Dec. 4, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
Scotch	4 8 to 4 10	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Devons	4 4 to 4 6	...	—	
Herefords	4 2 to 4 4	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Norfolks	4 4 to 4 6	...	4 4 to 4 6	
Runts	4 0 to 4 4	..	4 0 to 4 4	
Lincolns	3 8 to 3 10	...	3 10 to 4 0	
Irish	3 10 to 4 2	...	—	
Canadian	—		—	
Fat Cows	3 4 ex 3 6	...	3 4 ex 3 6	

There was a decrease of 750 in the number of sheep and lambs penned, compared with Monday last. Trade throughout the day was of a dull and dragging nature at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in most cases, partly due to the small attendance of retail buyers. Irish sheep were in shorter numbers, and shared in the general decline; on the other hand Scotch descriptions were firm, late currencies being easily maintained. There is very little prospect of a clearance being made even at a further reduction. The supply included 200 Scotch, 150 Irish, and 1,757 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Dec. 4, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
8 st Scotch	—	...	5 8 to 5 10	
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 2 to 6 4		5 8 to 5 10	
9 st. Downs	5 10 to 6 0		5 6 to 5 8	
10 st Halfbreds	5 8 to 5 10		5 4 to 5 6	
10 st Yorkshires	—	...	—	
12 st Lincolns	—	...	—	
10 st Irish	5 0 to 5 2		5 2 to 5 4	
10 st Down Ewes	4 2 to 4 4		4 3 10 to 4 0	
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 0 to 4 2		3 8 to 3 10	
5 st Down Lambs	—	...	—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—	...	—	

Calves met with a slow but steady trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 8d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

London (Central), Monday.—Demand slow for the good supplies offering; beef prices favoured buyers. Beef, English, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; American, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s to 3s 6d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 6d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 552; sheep, 619; pigs, 558. Fat and store cattle in fair demand Fat and store sheep and pigs, good demand. Milch cows, a short supply and a good trade. Prices: Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 2d. Milch cows, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 578. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 322 head, and consisted of 408 from the United States and 170 Canadian ranchers, 300 Canadian sheep were also offered for sale, but found no buyers. Top price paid per 8 lb as follows:—States, 3s 11d to 4s 1d; Canadians, 3s 2d to 3s 4d (offal given in). Trade was of a very slow nature, with a decline in value to the extent of from 2d to 3d per 8lb. On Saturday 1,949 beasts from the United States and 170 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade was of a somewhat slow nature, the best of the former being quoted at 3s 9d to 4s 2d; and the latter from 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 8 lb (offal given in).

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The new spring tares are opening high, but prices are not yet fixed. Winter tares are getting into small compass; prices very firm. Rye unchanged. Mustard firm. The new clover seeds are coming out freely; prices unchanged. Reds, fancy quality, 58s to 60s; fine, 50s to 56s; good, 48s to 52s per cwt. Whites, fancy quality, 60s to 64s; fine, 54s to 56s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils firm; English, 20s to 24s; foreign, 18s to 20s per cwt. In grasses, French Italian ryegrass and Irish Italian ryegrass, firm to rising. Perennial ryegrass, New Zealand cocksfoot, and Meadow Fescue unchanged.—JOHN PICARD & Co.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Hempseed is 2s 6d cheaper, canaryseed, 1s to 2s cheaper. Rabson comes on sale at 67s. Linseed, Rapeseed, and Cottonseed are firm and unchanged.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.	COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Calcutta	43 43 6	Egyptian	142 to 144
Bombay	45 to 46	Indian	110 to 112
Russian	41 to 42	SUNFLOWERSEED. per cwt.	
Argentine	43 to 44	English, White	15 to 16
Duluth	41 to 42	Russian, White.	14 to 15
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		,, Black.	13 to 14
Best English	69 to 70	SESAME. per cwt.	
Yellow Guzerat	52 to 54	Indian	14 to 15
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
Brown ,,	44 to 45	Russian	33 to 34
Ferozepore	47 to 48	CANARYSEED. per 464 lb.	
Jamba	42 to 43	English	47 to 48
RUBSEN. per 424 lb		Turkish	37 to 38
German	66 to 68	Argentine	36 to 37
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.		Mazagan	45 to 46
Indian	51 to 53	Spanish	50 to 70

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,055 bales, and from foreign ports 11,637 bales. There was a very slow demand for bacon throughout the week, resulting in a general reduction in prices of about 3s. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 54s to 57s up to 60s; Danish, 48s to 55s up to 58s; Canadian, 53s to 55s up to 56s. Butter.—The butter market was dull. French, 116s to 126s; Danish, 116s to 118s; Russian, 86s to 106s; Irish, 94s to 114s; Canadian, 86s to 108s; Colonials, 96s to 110s; Argentine, 106s to 112s. Lard.—Lard was a slow market. —Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 54s to 57s; American, 45s 9d to 47s 3d.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Growers now accept prices offered by staplers—13d for Kent fleeces, and 8d for lamb wool. Good trade in progress; half breds quoted 13d to 13½d, and Downs 14½d per lb.

Glasgow and Leith, Saturday.—There has been a considerable amount of activity in Scotch wools in November. Especially towards the close of the month there has been a marked improvement in the tone of the market, which has been confirmed and strengthened by the course of the London sales. These opened on the 27th at an advance of 5 per cent. to 10 per cent., with a good demand for all classes. Whitefaced varieties of home wools have been influenced materially, and some sales have been made at rates in sellers' favour. Blackfaced also has been dealt in freely both for home consumption and shipment at good prices, and altogether the month closes with a firm and hopeful tone.—J. AND W. GREIG.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Trade throughout the week at the Islington Cattle Market for both prime and second quality ruled slow and dragging, in most cases rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. Included in the supply on Monday were a few Polled Aberdeen cattle; these met with little inquiry, but were eventually sold at late values. The majority of the supply, as usual at this season of the year, arrived from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties, with a fairly good supply from Devon. The Irish arrivals consisted of 100 Dublins and 65 Waterfords, for which there was a poor inquiry, difficulty being experienced in obtaining late rates. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited demand from both town and country buyers, no quotable decline in value can, however, be noted on either market day. There was no inquiry for fat beasts on Thursday.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a fairly good supply. Trade, however, was slow, with a downward tendency in value as the week advanced. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,325, as against 5,367 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,250 British (decrease 300) and 4,075 foreign (increase 258), 300 of the latter being Ranch cattle. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 stone Scotch, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4s. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s 6d to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; Ranchers, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

In the sheep market trade on both market days ruled dull and dragging, with a marked decline in value to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. The Irish arrivals were in excess of the demand, and consequently these also ruled lower; on the other hand, Scotch descriptions were more sought after, all sales being governed by late rates. The total number of sheep penned was 5,400, as against 4,600 during the previous week, showing an increase of 800. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. Best pens made per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone halfbred ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered thirty and met with a somewhat slow trade; however late currencies were well maintained, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb.

Pigs numbered ten, trade not worth noting.

Trade in the West.

In view of the favourable weather we are having some disappointment is felt that store cattle do not show a greater improvement than they have yet done, but this may be due to the plentiful supplies that seem everywhere available, and which undoubtedly lend to keep prices in check. Young grazing cattle of good promise are but little affected by the prevailing slump. This applies more particularly to the ordinary runs of plain barreners and very old cows. Good class steers, as well as heifers, are still much sought after, and, as they are none too plentiful, they command full prices, the more forward grades making £24 to £33 or £34 per pair—animals that will soon come on for the shambles; and those of a plainer type at widely varying prices ranging from £17 to £23; whilst plenty of old cows are on the market at from £13 to £15 or £16, but then they are very rough, and will only eventually produce a class of meat which but few butchers care to handle. And, as it is, there are considerable quantities still lacking purchasers. With milch beasts things are rather different, the competition all round being very much keener, especially for good heifers and useful cows, these being eagerly bought up at from £16 to £24 apiece, the latter being a somewhat exceptional figure, but was the price paid for a heifer of rare milking quality in one case since our last report; the plainer grades also meet a good steady inquiry from £10 10s. to £15, whilst in calvers sell from £8 to £14, according to season, and yearling and stirk heifers from £5 5s. to £9 5s. each. Although the sheep sales for the present season are almost, if not quite, at an end, still prices have shown no indication of decrease; on the contrary, the sheep sold within the last few days have, as a rule, been selling at an advance of 1s. to 2s. ahead over recent fairs, and from 5s. to 6s. over last year's currencies. The rise in values is clearly traceable to the shortage of sheep in the country, coupled with the good price which mutton has been making, which has imparted unusual buoyancy to the trade, and which is likely to be maintained for some time yet to come, lambs just now being as dear as they have been known for a long time past.

The beef trade, despite the fact of supplies, which include many good quality house-fed beasts coming very liberally to hand, continues to steadily improve in price, the advance varying, according to quality from 2d. to 6d. per stone. Anything ripe in the way of Devons, crossbreds, or Shorthorns, command from 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score for all the neater weights, secondary grades being quoted at 10s. to 11s. Coarse, heavy beasts, or anything not properly fat, sells more quietly at 9s. to 9s. 6d., but even for bullocks of this stamp there is a decidedly healthy inquiry, better than has been the case for some time past. Fat calves are by no means as plentiful as required, and prices as a consequence rule very high, the best making 5s. 4d. to 5s. 10d. per stone, and seconds 5s. to 5s. 2d. Supplies of mutton continue altogether inadequate to the demand, and everything where offered is readily cleared—wethers and tegs up to 8¾d. per lb., and ewes from 7d. to 8d., according to weight and finish. Good class wethers now command from 56s. to 62s. or 63s. apiece, and choice young ewes from 46s. to 53s. Pigs met with as keen competition as they have at any previous period of the season; and the demand is not confined to any particular class of animal, all selling equally well—porkers, baconers, and even sows. The best finished porkers are now making 10s. 9d. to 11s. 6d. per score; baconers, 10s. to 10s. 6d.; and sows, which are much wanted, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. Taken all round, a healthier feeling has not pervaded the fat stock market for a long time past, and it is to be hoped that this may be taken as a hopeful augury for a good Christmas trade.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been a full average. Trade for the better descriptions nearly equal to last week, but secondary qualities rather worse. A very large show of fat cows, generally of a moderate description, but a quieter market. Sheep have been shown in moderate supply. Trade on an average quite as good, and ewes, being scarcer, made rather more money. Fat calves exceedingly dear, while pigs were also just the turn higher. For store sheep of a useful description there was a good demand, and a clearance easily effected. This being big Wednesday market there were more store cattle on offer. There were not many buyers present, but anything of a good class got cleared out at prices equal to those of recent markets; but a considerable number of the rougher cattle and small stirks were left unsold. The best class of milch cows exceedingly dear. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s. 9d.; current, 35s. to 39s. 6d.; Irish, 28s. to 35s.; mutton, 7½d. to 9¼d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd

Trade in Ireland.

Dublin market last Thursday presented a very cheerful appearance, as it was well supplied with cattle and sheep, and buyers in the former department, at all events, were in good number and brought very freely, and in a few cases at improved rates. Cross-Channel buyers were fully represented, and competed keenly for everything prime in the way of bullocks or heifers at extreme rates current during the past few weeks. There were a few stall-feds offered, and those sold well, as did also some nice Aberdeen-Angus cattle, which made up to 34s. per cwt. (live weight). Trade in England is reported to be dull enough, so it is chiefly to the scarcity of choice cattle that there was a better price in Dublin. Several English buyers returned from the Dublin market with little over half the number of beasts they required, and they said that the class of cattle for months past has been little more than good stores, and altogether unsuitable to the best English trade. Secondary qualities sold fairly well, but rough, coarse cattle still hold to same dull and unsatisfactory position, and sales can only be effected at low and irregular figures. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 50s. to 54s. 6d., and for some exceptionally nice beasts up to 57s. 6d. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 46s. to 48s. 6d.; and inferior beef from 38s. to 44s. per cwt.

In the mutton department trade was fairly brisk in choice quality of Cheviot and Mountain sheep, but aged heavy wethers and ewes were a slow trade, the number penned (5,904, or 554 less than last day) being more than equal to the requirements of buyers. A very slow demand for hoggets for the London market. The commission men from the English Midland markets acted very cautiously in their purchases, owing, they said, to the depressed state of trade on the other side of the Channel. Coarse sheep failed to clear. Prime wether mutton worth 7d. to 8d. per lb., and Cheviot and mountainy ½d. more; choice ewe mutton 7d. to 7½d. per lb., and inferior sheep from 6d. per lb.

Prime veal in demand, and cleared easily at from 7d. to 8½d. per lb., coarse calves a drug, and sold at from 4½d. to 5d. per lb.

Only a limited number of milch cows on offer, a better demand, and prices with an upper tendency, while for all classes demand was brisker. Prime springers and newly-calved cows brought from £17 to £21, and other descriptions from £9 upwards.

Dublin pig market liberally supplied; good attendance of English buyers, but few home-curing firms represented. The Englishmen took advantage of the absence of home buyers and bought largely at prices about 1s. per cwt. under those of the previous market, and towards the close getting even weaker. Nice, light-weight pigs made from 45s. to 48s. per cwt.; coarse and heavy sow pigs, from 30s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow, with lower tendency for beef, mutton, however, tending firmer. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, seconds, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s 2d to 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; English lamb, 6s 8d to 7s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 6d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted principally of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade ruled slow, but steady, late currencies governing most sales. A small consignment of fat cattle, however, met no demand. Top value fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. Decrease of 40 in number penned in sheep market. Trade was dull and dragging, difficulty being experienced in obtaining late values, chiefly owing to the marked absence of retail buyers. Best pens made, per 8 lb., as follows: 8-stone Downs, 6s to 6s 2d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s; 10-stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Short supply of calves, which met slow but firm trade at late rates. Pig trade nominal. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s to 6s 2d; calves, 4s 8d to 6s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Better trade for beef, and best beasts made up to 4s 8d. Down wether mutton fetched 5s 8d to 6s, and neat Kents 5s 4d to 5s 8d, with old sheep 3s 10d to 4s 6d. Veal up to 5s 8d. Pork dearer, roasters making up to 4s 8d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was the usual good attendance of buyers. Best fat Devon beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5½d; best fat sheep, 9d to 9½d; second class 8d to 8½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6½d to 7½d; fat calves, 7½d to 8½d per lb; fat sows, 8s; fat hogs, 9s to 10s; fat porkers, 11s to 12s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—A much smaller market than the previous week, 386 as against 625. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade slow. Calves, £4 to £5 15s; stirks, £7 15s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £15 10s; three-year-olds, £14 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb, a few 9¾d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 2d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkers, 11s 8d per score; sows, 7s 10d to 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but not in much demand, and trade was quiet at late values. Mutton was offered in rather less than average quantity, and business was slow, without change of quotations. Pigs were again scarce, and late rates prevailed.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s 6d per score.—C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a considerable offering of Irish cattle, but trade was rather slow. The best two year olds ranged up to £12; yearlings were quoted from £8 10s to £10, and calves at £4 10s to £6. The entry of sheep was very small.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 200 cattle were on the Sands. The quality was not so good, and top prices were below the average, though trade was better, and there was a good attendance of buyers. Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £13 10s; polled bullocks, £6 10s to £8 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were large, and the selection of stock excellent. Buyers were numerous, and their demands fell far short of the supplies, and business was slow. Holders were, however, firm, and last week's prices were maintained. Milch cows made £17 to £23, calvers £12 to £20, barren cattle £10 to £13, heifers £9 to £15, bullocks £11 to £15, and stirks £6 to £10.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a rather short supply of beef, but more sheep than have been marketed recently. Beef made from 4s 4d to 4s 10d per stone of 8 lb, and pork averaged 9s per score. Mutton still held its price, making 6s 4d per stone.

Derby, Tuesday.—Price of beasts and sheep of best quality was equal to last week. Calves a shade easier. Beasts, 5½ to 6½d; calves, 8d; sheep, 8d to 10d.

Donoaster. Saturday. — Large supply of cattle, particularly Irish stores, and a better demand for milch beasts, which made £16 to £23 each; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers, and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £9 each. Better supply of sheep, and a quiet trade. Shearlings, 50s to 54s; lambs, 44s to 50s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Heavy deliveries of stock came to hand at Messrs. Ensor and Son's repository sale to-day, including close on a hundred dairy beasts, besides other stock. Buyers were again well represented. Dairy stock were in considerable request, especially market grades of heifers and calves, which bought at good prices all round, ranging from £21 for really useful heifers down to £15 for plainer grades; cows, £12 to £18; in-calvers a very firm trade. Fat beef ruled fairly firm, this being especially so with choice heifers, which sold from £15 10s to £22 (or 1s to 1s 6d per score); fat bulls, £15 to £20 each (or 9s 6d to 10s 6d). Mutton continues to be conspicuous either by its complete absence from market or by its unusual shortage.

Dublin, Thursday.—There was again a good demand for finished bullocks and heifers at prices rather in favour of sellers. Secondary and inferior qualities still difficult to move at irregular quotations. Fair trade for all classes of sheep at last week's prices and a clearance effected. Cattle —Live weight (best), 28s to 30s per cwt; exceptional, up to 33s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to 8½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Fair attendance of buyers, with a moderate trade for good classes. Polled bullocks, £11 10s to £14 10s; horned cattle, £13; stirks, to £11; Oxford cross hoggets, 37s to 41s; half-bred hoggs, 36s to 39s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 36s; best milch cows to £25 10s; Ayrshires to £20; crosses, £21; Irish, £22.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of cattle. Best steers and maiden heifers sold readily, 11s to 11s 6d; cows, 9s to 10s, some unsold. Very large supply of sheep, mostly lambs for turnips; few exceptional pens sold quickly at 8½d to 9d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; wethers, 8½d; ewes in good demand at 7d. Best quality lambs, 38s to 40s; second quality, 34s to 36s; rams, 5d. Calves, 7d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—A fair trade at steady prices. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, 10d; heavy weights, 9½d to 9¾d; wedders, 8d to 9d. Ewes in shorter supply, and dearer at 7½d to 8d per lb. Dead meat very quiet; Scotch beef, 6d; States, 5d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A large supply of beef, but the business was of a dragging character. Best quality bullock and heifer beef made from 6½d to 6¾d, cow beef 4½d to 5d. Calves being a short supply sold firmer; veal at 7d. Sheep were again a small supply, and sold briskly; best wether mutton at 8d to 8½d, ewe mutton, 6½d to 7d. Fat lambs, which were few, made 8d. Store lambs were scarce, and the best were selling dear. Trade was fairly firm for a large supply of pigs; porks at 6d, bacons 5d to 5½d. Large stores were scarce and dear, and small stores were in better demand. Slight improvement in store cattle trade.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report good supplies of fat cattle, all of which were yard fed and mostly well-finished medium weights. Buyers were well represented, but a slow tone prevailed, and prices ruled somewhat lower from 8s 3d to 7s 6d per stone. This being the last special sale of grazing cattle for the season, there was a good entry, about 300 being penned. The quality was beyond what is generally found at this time of year, and with a large attendance of buyers present a good clearance was effected at an advance of from 5s to 10s per head on the prices current the last few weeks. Fat sheep met a firm trade at rather more money, Suffolk shearlings to 70s, Suffolk hoggets to 62s, half-breds to 59s. Grazing hoggets were sharply competed for at from 42s 6d to 38s. Fat swine were short and dear.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good supplies of home-bred stock, in good condition. Prices irregular. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £18 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £10 to £15; home-bred bullocks, £11 to £15; Irish cattle, £12 to £16; Welsh bullocks, £9 to £13 10s; young stock, £5 to £9; calves, 15s to 30s each. Sheep sold freely at high prices.

Lincoln, Friday.—Cattle were shown in average numbers, and trade was slow. Young beasts £8 to £10; strong ditto, £11 to £13; milch cows, £17 to £21. Business in sheep ruled dull. Drape ewes, to 42s; hogs, 36s to 42s.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts met a slow trade for the time of year, at about late rates, 7s to 8s per stone. Larger show of stores met a very slow trade from £6 to £14 each. Fat sheep were in average show, with a firm trade, and made from 9s to 10s 6d. Few stores shown, made about 40s to 48s each. No stores lambs.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Cheviots, Scotch, 8½d; others, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Trade was slow, but firm. Prime heifers, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; second class, 6s 6d to 6s 9d; steers, 6s 9d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s to 9s 6d per stone; sheep, 5d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a short supply of stock, as a result of Viscount Tredegar's show, and no alteration in prices.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat beasts were offered in good supply, and best qualities met with a fair trade, at an average of 7s 6d to 8s per stone. There was a considerable falling off in the number of store cattle showing, although the supply was up to average for the season of the year; trade was of a lifeless condition, and several lots remained unsold, values ranging from £6 to £15 per head. The show of store sheep was exceptionally small, and the amount of business done was trifling, and late values were about maintained. Fat sheep were penned in good supply, and sold at an average of from 10s to 10s 6d per stone. Both fat and store pigs were in short supply and met with a good trade, fat pigs averaging 7s per stone.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Fairly large supply of stock, but trade was only moderate. In-calf cows £18 to £21; newly-calved cows, to £22; in-calf heifers, £15 to £17 10s. Strong steers and heifers, two to two-and-a-half years old, £10 to £15; yearling steers and heifers, £5 to £17 10s. A few calves met with a slow trade at 25s to 45s each. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—With a smaller show all round, there was a rather better trade in cattle and sheep, but calves did not maintain last week's prices. Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; ewes, 7½d to 8¼d; tups, 7d to 8d; fat calves, 6d to 7½d per lb

Retford, Saturday.—The store stock on offer was of medium quality, and changed owners with difficulty at barely last Saturday's quotations. Milch cows made £14 to £18; steers and heifers, £6 to £12; and calves 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade for best kinds about the same. Best, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves scarce, trade dear, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade slow: Best small, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; larger, up to 6s; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. About sixty milch cows changed hands, trade slow. Pig trade about the same: Small porkers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; large hogs, up to 4s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — More milch beasts penned than last week, and a brisker trade done, good milch cows making £19 to £21. Barren and secondary quality animals slow at £15 to £17 10s each.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Store cattle in good supply, with a fair demand. Fat cattle met ready buyers. Usual supply of sheep and pigs, which met a good trade. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 10d per lb; lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb; veal, 8d per lb; porket pigs, 10s per score; bacons, 9s 6d to 10s per score

Stockton, Wednesday.—An average show of the best cattle, which met with a slow but firm trade at 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone, whilst rougher kinds sold at 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Hogs made 10d per lb, young sheep 9¾d, ewes 7¾d, and tups 6½d per lb. The pig trade was quiet at last week's prices.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a smaller all round supply of stock, with the exception of pigs, which were a capital entry, no doubt the cattle being held over for the Christmas sale on December 11, a capital entry already being assured. Best quality beef still continues in demand. Some particularly well-bred Shorthorn cow calves from well-known dairy herds in the neighbourhood met a fierce competition. At Messrs. Band and Burrow's sale were 69 fat beasts, 96 fat sheep, 95 fat and weaning calves, and 189 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £20 2s 6d; fat heifers, £14 to £19 15s; fat wethers, 48s to 52s; fat tegs, 42s to 46s; fat ewes, 38s to 47s; fat calves, £3 5s to £5 15s; weaning cow calves, 28s to 65s; bull calves, 10s to 50s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 15s; fat sows, £8 2s 6d; porkets, 28s to to 46s; store pigs, 16s to 31s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 52s to 56s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £13 to £16; rearing calves, 23s to 36s each; wethers, 8d per lb; owes, 6d; lambs, 8d; large and small pigs, 14s 3d to 60s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7d; ditto, cured 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round; good trade for best quality. Beef made 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A fairly good show of beef, and good trade, at slightly advanced prices. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; secondary qualities, 6s 9d to 7s per stone; in-calf heifers, £10 to £15 each; store bullocks, about £8 5s. each. There were more sheep on offer than usual, with trade not quite so good. Shearlings, hoggs, Southdown wethers, and cross-breds made 8½d to 9d per lb; ewes and wethers, 6½ to 7d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed.—The mild weather and the Martinmas hirings induce a poor demand, but prices remain firm. Foreign are not pressed, supplies being by no means abundant, especially to arrive. Cotton.—A steady market at last week's prices. Deliveries are good ex contracts, but fresh business is slow. —KEIGHLEY, MANSTED & CO.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is without change. Kainit meets a good seasonable demand at late rates, and likewise all phosphates, whilst enhanced prices have been paid for the best qualities of home slag, and through pressure of orders there is some little delay in deliveries at the works. Feeding stuffs are practically unchanged in value, and very limited are the sales transpiring in oilcakes, &c., the present values of home grown produce such as wheat, &c., inducing many to use them in preference to artificial foods at their current prices, hence doubtless the somewhat active demand for feeding treacle as an auxiliary. Cod-liver oil, too, meets a good demand.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
	Per ton.					
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7	15	0	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, good (soft)	8	5	0	8	7	6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4	17	6	5	5	0
Cottonseed, Egyptian	—			—		
Cottonseed (crushed)	7	17	6	—		
Linseed Cake, American	17	3	9	7	7	6
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14	0	0	14	10	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0	—		
Corn Oil Cake	6	17	6	—		
Maize Germ Meal	5	17	6	—		
	Per 240 lb.					
Indian meal	—			—		
	Per ton.					
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	15	0	4	16	0
	Per qr., 416 lb.					
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0	—		
	Per Gallon.					
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0	4	0	—		
	Per Cwt.					
Treacle, feeding, American cane	0	4	9	—		
	Per ton.					
Nitrate of Soda	11	5	0	—		
Kainit	2	2	6	2	5	0
Bone meal (coarse to fine)	5	5	0	5	7	6
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3	10	0	—		
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	19	0	2	0	0
,, finest	2	2	6	2	5	0
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Brand Lime	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes.—There is no change to note in the market, which remains quiet but steady, while the demand is particularly small for the time of year, and purely of a retail description, the present high values offering little inducement to operate in forward positions. Russian continue best value at £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. in mats, and £7 13s. 9d. to £7 15s. in bags. East India seed pures may be bought at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. American are still quoted at £7 10s. London made, being in limited production, command full values of £8 to £8 2s. 6d. Cotton Cakes.—A moderate quantity of Egyptian is still available in warehouse, for which, however, there is a free sale at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s., while English are also in good request at £4 12s. 6d to £4 15s, and Bombays at £4 7s 6d. Decorticated: A parcel of American now on the quay is quoted at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s., while meal is attractively offered at £7 5s. to £7 7s. 6d. Rape Cakes.—Scarce and dear. East India £5 10s. Ravison none. Maize Germ Meal.—A limited quantity of white American offers at £5 15s. to £5 16s. 3d. in warehouse, but English makes are obtainable at £5 10s. to £5 12s. 6d. Maize gluten feed meets a ready sale at £5 15s. per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon move off quietly at £4 12s. 6d. to £4 15s., while shippers have practically retired from the market for the present as regards future shipments. Locust Beans are fully as dear at £5 5s. for whole and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains meet a good inquiry, at £5 5s. for ale, and £4 15s. for porter.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d
Linseed Cakes.			
London made ..... ex mill	8 0 0	to	8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 10 0	to	7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to	7 15 0
American.....	7 10 0		
Calcutta (to arrive)	7 12 6	to	7 15 0
Cottonseed Cakes.			
Egyptian	4 13 9	to	4 15 0
English	4 12 6	to	4 15 0
Bombay	4 7 6		
Decorticated...	7 12 6	to	7 15 0
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 5 0		7 7 6
Rape Cakes.			
Calcutta	5 10 0		
Ravison			
Maize.			
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	to	5 12 6
American	5 15 0	to	5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0		
Ricemeal.			
Rangoon	4 12 6	to	4 15 0
,, afloat, ex ship	—		—
Locust Beans.			
White	5 5 0		
Kibbled	5 15 0		
Dried Grains.			
Ale	5 5 0		
Porter	4 15 0		

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending December 1.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Berwick: 10d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Camelford: 1s 1d 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Chester: 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby, 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 5d. Evesham, 1s 4d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster 1s 3d 1s 3½d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 10d to 2s per 24-oz. roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 3d. Penzance: 1s 1½d to 1s 4d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Redruth: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24-oz roll. Spalding: 1s 1d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro: 1s to 1s 2d.

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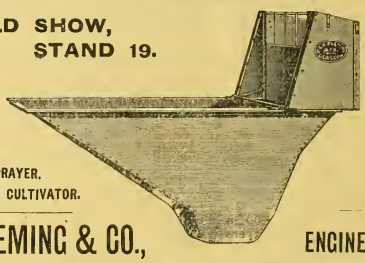

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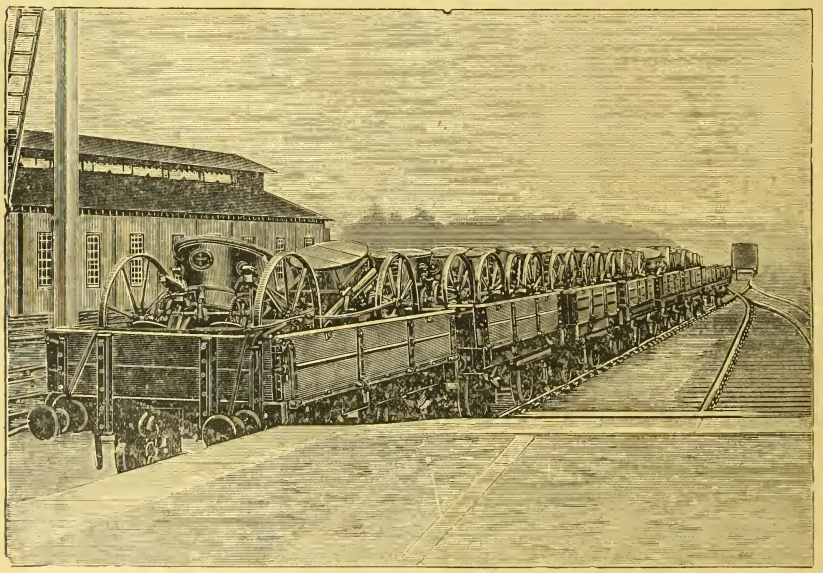

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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Dec. 3, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Northerly winds and a temperature of 45 degs. suit the farm just now much better than rain and a temperature of 60 degs. which were the conditions of later November. The growing corn is looking exceptionally vigorous. France has had flooding rains, and there is a great deal of complaint concerning the state of the land. Germany reports a mean temperature of 35 degs., or only a little above freezing point. The October-sown wheat is up and looking well, but is not too forward. Italy and Spain have completed autumn wheat sowings over a full area, and their agricultural outlook is satisfactory. In Roumania extended wheat and rye sowings are reported. Russia reports very open weather in the south. Australia is beginning wheat harvest in the chief corn regions, but the promise is now said to be not quite up to that of last year. Argentina reports 14,060,000 acres under wheat.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since September 1 have been moderate; the price averaged, disappointing:—

This season 943,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,224,000 qr. ,, 27s. 6d. ,,

The sales of British barley have been liberal, yet not quite up to the heavy scale of last year:—

This season 2,058,000 qr. at 24s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, 2,091,000 qr. ,, 24s. 5d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been large:—

This season 450,000 qr. at 16s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, 394,000 ,, 16s. 8d. ,,

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 377,000 qr.: a fairly good supply.
Flour, 90,560 sks.: a small supply.
Barley, 126,000 qr.: a full supply.
Oats, 37,000 qr.: very small arrivals.
Maize, 256,000 qr.: large imports.

The imports of the United Kingdom for the completed first quarter of the cereal year, September 1 to November 30, are officially returned as follows:—

Wheat	5,061,630 qr.
Flour	1,271,861 ,,
Breadstuffs	6,333,491 ,,
Maize	2,898,886 ,,
Barley	2,423,400 ,,
Oats	1,112,174 ,,
Beans	85,948 ,,
Peas	94,854 ,,

The totals of oats, beans, and peas are much below the average. The first quarter of last cereal year received the following supplies from abroad:—

Wheat	5,167,306 qr.
Flour	1,279,456 ,,
Breadstuffs	6,446,762 ,,
Maize	2,684,570 ,,
Barley	2,420,516 ,,
Oats	1,249,194 ,,
Beans	79,366 ,,
Peas	118,716 ,,

The Government issue the following explanation:—"These quantities represent, in addition to the equivalent of the weight of flour, 28 per cent. of offal, &c., the result of the process of converting grain into flour. The equivalents now used for converting wheat, barley, and oats from weight to measure are those set out in the Corn Returns Act, 1882—viz., 60 lb. to the bushel of wheat, 50 lb. barley, and 39 lb. oats."

Wheat and flour stocks on December 1 have been thus ascertained. The figures are mostly official, but London lags behind the rest of Great Britain in having only a quarterly statement. We are, therefore, indebted to Messrs. Beerbohm's *Shipping List* for the London figures. The collection of returns by our shipping contemporary is a public service:—

	Dec. 1, 1906. Qrs.	Dec. 1, 1905. Qrs.	Dec. 1, 1904. Qrs.
London	145,000	100,000.	250,000
Liverpool	575,317	561,347	695,000
Manchester	118,000	66,000	82,000
Fleetwood	41,000	29,000	81,600
Hull	184,135	204,943	240,000
Bristol	153,769	105,209	107,000
Gloucester	144,814	99,823	132,000
Newcastle	106,975	94,659	129,600
Leith	109,446	93,133	137,100
Glasgow	11,130	23,219	46,000
Total	1,589,586	1,377,333	1,891,300
Estimated Flour	550,000	475,000	450,000
Stocks in non-returning ports	465,000	450,000	500,000
Grand total	2,604,586	2,302,333	2,841,300

The total is larger than the trade likes, but in reality it is not at all unmanageable. London and Edinburgh hold less than usual. Fleetwood is a "sea suburb" of Liverpool, and it will be noticed that the canal has made of Manchester a very big port. The warehouses lining the canal are most easily placed for the purposes of unloading and loading. Of stocks abroad our advices may thus be summarised:—

France: about 310,000 qr., or 20 per cent. less than last December.

Germany: about 425,000 qr., or twice last year's stocks.

Russia: about 2,500,000 qr., or nearly twice last year's stocks.

America: about 9,750,000 qr., or 10 per cent. more than last December.

The quantity of wheat on passage shows a slight increase on the week, but is still decidedly below the average:—Californian, 530,000 qr.; American, 320,000 qr.; Russian, 360,000 qr.; Indian, 268,000 qr.: Argentine, 125,000 qr.; Australian, 205,000 qr.; various, 35,000 qr.; total, 1,783,000 qr. A week ago, 1,672,000 qr.

The flour supplies on passage, 288,000 sacks, are not heavy.

Other expectations may thus be summarised:—

Maize, 860,000 qr.: mostly Argentine.
Barley, 665,000 qr.: largely Russian.
Oats, 108,000 qr.: mainly Russian.
Linseed, 138,000 qr.: mostly Argentine.
Rapeseed, 10,000 qr.: all Indian.
Cottonseed, 49,000 tons: all Egyptian.
Rice, 8,000 tons: all Burmese.

The Old World as an export region has of the last fifty years been losing ground to the new; nevertheless, it is still for oats and barley the chief source of supply, and its wheat exports are not inconsiderable. Only in maize production is it outclassed altogether. Last week Russia shipped 325,000 qr. of wheat, 224,000 qr. of barley, 127,000 qr. of oats, 115,000 qr. of rye, and 18,000 qr. of maize; while Roumania exported 110,000 qr. of wheat, 70,000 qr. of barley, 15,000 qr. of rye, 67,000 qr. of oats, and 65,000 qr. of maize.

Indian shipments were 20,000 qr. of wheat and the like quantity of linseed.

The American markets are once more exciting a considerable influence upon Mark Lane and Liverpool, so that it will be useful to note their course since the opening of the season:—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.		Wheat, per qr. s. d.	Maize, per qr. s. d.	Flour, per sk. s. d.
September	1 ...	29 0	21 6	20 6
,,	8 ...	28 9	21 6	20 3
,,	15 ...	28 6	21 6	20 3
,,	22 ...	28 3	21 6	20 0
,,	29 ...	28 0	21 2	20 0
October	6 ...	28 3	20 6	20 0
,,	13 ...	28 3	20 3	20 0
,,	20 ...	28 0	20 3	20 0
,,	27 ...	28 0	20 6	20 0
November	3 ...	29 3	20 8	20 0
,,	10 ...	28 4	20 7	20 0
,,	17 ...	28 8	20 3	20 0
,,	24 ...	28 6	20 0	20 0
December	1 ...	28 5	19 9	20 0
,,	8 ...	28 9	19 3	19 10

The wheat is red winter (480 lb.), the maize is flat corn (480 lb.), and the flour is "spring wheat clears" (280 lb.). Freights vary daily, but on Saturday 1s. per qr. was quoted for wheat and maize, and 1s. per sack for flour.

Fine spring wheat average 31s. 9d. per qr., which is only 9d. below London value. Shipments of that type are therefore at present unprofitable.

American shipments last week were 400,000 qr. of wheat, 15,000 qr. of barley, 158,000 qr. of maize, and 170,000 sacks of flour. The wheat included 150,000 qr. from California and Oregon.

Argentina shipments were 19,000 qr. of wheat and 62,000 qr. of maize and 58,000 qr. of linseed.

Items "conspicuous by their absence" from the shipping lists include Argentine flour, American and Canadian oats, Chilian barley, Egyptian wheat and beans, and Indian peas. All these sources of supply appear for the present to have dried up. Australia last week shipped neither cereals nor flour.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Saturday.—Our market still continues in a very dull and depressed condition. Large supplies of all qualities are to hand, and, as the demand is but a poor one, great difficulty is found in effecting clearances, and in some cases sellers have accepted lower prices. It is somewhat surprising after the scarcity of stuffs during the past few months to see the large quantities which are now daily arriving, and one must now reasonably suppose that stocks after harvest here were much greater than was anticipated; certainly the open and mild weather is making holders more amendable, and country prices are beginning to waver in sympathy with our London market. Clovers are in fair supply, with values weakening. Hays are coming along more freely, and find a very slow trade, while mixtures are in quiet demand at about previous rates. Straw still continues in fair demand, with no change in values. In the foreign market shipments of Canadian mixtures are beginning to fall off, but as there are very plentiful supplies of Dutch hay this has little effect; in fact, this week values all round are again weaker.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—Best meadow hay, 83s per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 82s 6d per ton; plain hay, 70s per ton. Best clovers, 92s 6d to 95s per ton; good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 80s per ton. Best mixtures, 92s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixtures, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 27s to 28s per load; oat straw, 27s per load; barley straw, 27s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign: Canadian mixtures, 84s per ton; Dutch hay, 68s to 70s per ton; French and Dutch 1st and 2nd cut clover, 85s per ton: French large wheat straw, 50s per ton; French small wheat straw, 42s 6d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are firmer from December 1. The prices ruling on Saturday were: 30s. 6d. per 492 lb. for South Russian winter; 29s. 6d. per 492 lb. for Odessa Ghirka; 28s. 9d. per 492 lb. for Roumanian; 29s. 3d. per 500 lb. for Red Walla; 30s. 9d. per 492 lb. for Red Kurrachee; and 26s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Bahia Blanca.

Maize cargoes are in buyers' favour. Saturday's prices were—Argentine, 20s. 6d. per 480 lb; American, 19s. 3d. per 480 lb., and Roumanian, 20s. per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes were neglected on Saturday. On Friday a cargo of Californian was sold for 26s. 3d. per 448 lb.

Oats are steady. A cargo was sold on Saturday for 17s. per 304 lb., Black Libau, prompt shipment.

A cargo of white Calcutta peas has realised 31s. 9d. per 504 lb.

A solitary wheat cargo—from California—arrived off coast, on sale, between 1st and 8th inst.

The Secretary of the London Corn Exchange Association informs us that the following standards of September shipments have been made up, viz:—Barley: Nicolaieff, Taganrog, Odessa, Marianpole, Theodosia, Novorossisk, Cherson, Kustendj, Temruik, Chorli, Berdianski, Gheuighesk. Rye: Odessa, Nicolaieff, Novorossisk. Maize: Bessarabian. Oats: Black Libau; and Persian barley August shipment.

The cargo trade in oilseeds and oilcakes which the approach of winter invests with fresh interest is thus reported by *Dornbusch's Shipping List*:—

"Linseed quiet and easier, owing to more pressure to sell La Plate, but sellers of Bombay to Continent ask the same price.

"London.—Calcutta, A.T., spot nommally 44s—on passage 44s. Sellers Oct.-Nov. sellers 44s, Nov.-Dec. 43s 6d accepted; Dec.-Jan. buyers 43s 3d, April-June 44s 6d sellers. La Plata, Dec.-Jan. 41s sellers.

"Hull.—La Plata, spot 42s. 9d., afloat, 42s 6d.; Nov.-Dec. 42s 6d sellers; Dec.-Jan 40s. 9d. accepted; Jan.-Feb. sellers 40s 4½d. Libau, prompt, sellers 41s 6d c.i.f. Riga, prompt, sellers 41s 6d

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English quiet, unchanged prices. Foreign held at late rates, but but only a limited business passing; 31s 4½d wanted No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s 4½d No. 1 hard Manitoba, 30s 3d hard winter and No. 2 Northern Manitoba, all ex ship; 30s choice white Karachi, 29s 3d red Karachi; 31s, 32s Australian, all ex quay; 26s 6d to 33s South Russian, ex ship, 28s, 33s ex store. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steady, about unchanged: 22s asked, 21s 9d bid, mixed American ex store, 21s 3d wanted ex ship, 20s 9d landed, for La Plata, and 20s 3d ex ship to arrive. Barley firm, quiet; 19s 9d to 20s wanted for Odessa-Nicolaieff landed, and 19s 6d ex ship; 18s 3d to 18s 9d Persian. Oats firm but not active; 16s 16 3d asked for South Russian.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English held at unchanged prices, but in small demand. Foreign steadily held at late rates, but demand very limited. 31s 3d to 31s 6d wanted No. 1 Northern Manitoba; 31s No. 2; 32s 3d to 32s 6d No. 1 hard Manitoba; 30s 3d hard winter, all ex ship, to arrive; 30s choice white Karachi; 29s 3d red Karachi; 31s to 32s Australian; 29s to 32s La Plata, all ex quay. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize dull, with prices tending in buyers' favour. 21s 9d to 22s wanted mixed American, ex store; 21s 3d ex ship; 20s 9d so 21s La Plata, ex store; 20s 3d to 20s 4½d, ex ship. Barley quiet, unchanged. 19s 6d asked Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship; 20s ex store. Oats steady, quiet. Common sorts quoted at 16s to 16s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—White oats (horse corn), wholesale, 19s to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was an average attendance, and trade was very slow, with a little decrease in the prices quoted, except for malting barley. White wheat made 28s to 29s; red wheat, 26s to 28s; medium barley, 24s to 26s; best malting barley, 27s to 28s 6d; Mazagan beans, 27s to 28s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; round maize, 23s to 24s; flat maize, 25s; white oats, 19s to 22s; black oats, 18s to 21s; grey peas, 29s to 30s per qr.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr; barley, 24s to 29s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 29s per qr; oats, 17s 6d to 20s 6d per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Average supplies of grain. Wheat and oats unchanged. Barley quiet at barely last week's prices. Wheat, 26s to 27s; barley, 23s to 26s; oats, 19s to 20s 6d per qr.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in fairly good supply to-day at recent prices. Foreign little doing but prices firm. Maize the turn easier. Barley unaltered. Oats firm. Flour steady, but only a quiet trade doing.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat, with a small supply, was a dull trade at about last week's prices; dry reds or whites, 27s 6d to 28s, others, 26s 6d to 27s per qr. Barley: Supply about average, with a rather improved inquiry for useful malting qualities running from 28s to 32s 6d per qr, ; lower quality samples from 26s to 27s per qr met with only a fair demand. Oats and maize were the turn dearer, Other feeding corns firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade was exceptionally slow, there being very few buyers. Prices remained practically unchanged, wheat ranging from 28s 6d to 30s 6d. Malting barley in smaller supply, at from 26s to 29s per qr; feeding qualities from 23s to 24s. Oats steady, 38 lb blacks selling 18s, and 42 lb whites at 20s per qr. Grey peas, 29s to 30s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—The market was slow with an easier tendency for mixed corn and River Plate. There were no changes in prices of English grain. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 2d per 64 lb; beans, new, 4s 9d to 5s.; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s. 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance. Average quantities on offer, and a fair trade. New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s 6d; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 24s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat quiet. Barley and oats unchanged at last week's prices.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

understand his advocacy of such policy, but fail to do so under the circumstances in which he is now placed.

Coventry, Friday.—A somewhat poor attendance. Thin supply of wheats, and the demand was quiet at barely late figures. Inferior samples were decidedly lower. Barley neglected. Oats and beans fairly firm. Old wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per 186 lb; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; old oats, 25s to 26s 6d per 352 lb; new oats, 18s 6d to 21s 6d per 352 lb; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 196 lb; new beans, 11s 6d to 12s per 196 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat in small supply, and there was very little demand. No change in the price of either wheat or spring corn. Quotations:—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 30s; grinding, 23s to 24s; old beans, 34s to 35s; new, 31s to 32s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new, 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The trade for both wheat and barley was firmer. Ordinary 12 score 12 lb lots of wheat will only realise about 13s 6d per sack. Oats sell at late rates. New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 18s to 20s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very light supply of English wheat, and a quiet trade, and no change in prices, top value 10s 6d per load of 3 bushels. Foreign unchanged, except for Plate wheat, which was 6d per qr. dearer on the week. Fine samples of barley in request, secondary neglected, and values from 26s to 30s per qr. Oats slightly easier, and maize declined dower, but not quotably lower.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Attenance at to-day's market was somewhat affected by the Christmas fat stock sale clashing with the corn business. The weather having been unfavourable for threshing, the supply of grain offering was very limited, but quite up to trade requirements. Wheat made last week's rates for both English and foreign, the latter rather favouring buyers in price. Very little serviceable malting barley on offer; inferior sorts neglected; grinding quiet, but prices unchanged. One or two colder days led to a little more firmness in feeding stuffs as a rule.

Dublin, Friday.—A quiet tone in all departments. Irish wheat slow. No barley. Oats move slowly. Flour in quiet request. Oatmeal firm. Bran and pollard stiffly held. Wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; oats, 10s to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance. Wheat and flour quite steady. Maize and corn quiet and unchanged. Barley very scarce, and 6d per boll dearer. Oats firm for foreign, but quiet, and no change for home. Beans and pease firm. Bran and thirds quiet. Oatmeal quietly firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market quietly steady for wheat; millers still disinclined to operate freely. Flour practically unchanged, but demand continues poor. There is an excellent demand, however, for bran, medium being quoted at 95s and broad at £5 5s per ton. Mixed American maize still commands 12s 1½d. All other articles meet a quiet sale at previous currencies.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat was in small supply and without change; foreign quiet trade at last week's rates. Maize, barley, and oats without change in value.

Grantham, Saturday.—The attendance was small, owing to the bad weather. Wheat fully maintained its value, and the same remark applies to better qualities of barley, though common sorts were easier in price. Beans made 28s to 30s, blue peas 70s, and oats 17s to 20s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a small supply of English grain. Wheats slightly easier; barley dull with restricted demand; oats rather less doing; beans quiet; maize 6d per qr dearer. Considerable quantities of clover seed on offer; most samples showed fair colour, but were somewhat wanting in cleanliness. Values were about 40s to 45s per cwt. Demand was moderately brisk for the better lots. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 5d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65 lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Wheat: Although the supply was distinctly short, the trade was dull and inactive. About 28s 6d per qr was the value of reds or whites if in good condition. Barley in average supply, with a somewhat better feeling in the demand foa useful malting samples at 28s to 33s per qr, but a weak trade for the lower descriptions. Oats firm, and the turn dearer. Bran and peas steady, and unchanged. Maize: Plate 3d per qr dearer, at 21s 6d per qr. Oilcakes quiet at last week's prices. Bran firm at £5 5s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Although there has been a fair trade during the past week chiefly in fine American spring wheats and Indians, business is by no means active or remunerative to either merchants or millers; and the future remains shrouded in mystery, depending to a large extent on the outturn on the Plate crop. Prices are the turn higher on the week. Malting barley unchanged. Maize 6d dearer. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Arrivals of English wheat during the week having been a good average, prices, though firm, were about stationary; foreign supplies were also plentiful, and business was done at Tuesday's full prices. Flour, which has been hardening for the last fortnight, met with a further improved demand on Christmas account. Bakers and confectioners bought freely at a slight advance, and finest runs made over 29s 6d. Beans, peas, oats, and barley were steady.

Leicester, Saturday.—Average attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats in fair condition. Trade quiet, and prices weak. Red wheats, 27s to 28s; white wheats, 38s to 39s per 36 stone; malting barley, 27s to 30s per 32 stones; beans firm; oats, 20s to 21s per 26 stones.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a small attendance, and wheat meets only a quiet demand, but holders are very steady, American Winters and Kurrachee are the turn dearer. Flour: A rather better trade for English, but foreign slow; prices about unchanged. Maize: Mixed American is steady, with a quiet trade at ½d decline. Plate steady, with a moderate business at slightly better prices. European grades quiet, without change. Barley: Malting scarce. Feeding firm, with very little offered. Beans quiet, little passing. Peas moving moderately at late rates. Oats very steady, rather more doing in foreign, but English quiet, unchanged, slow. Oatmeal in retail demand at unaltered rates. Oilcake: A very moderate sale without quotable change in prices. Indian Meal steady, unchanged, with a moderate demand.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate show of English wheat, which handled better than last week's samples, and realised unchanged prices. Oats rather dearer, and beans unchanged.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The wheat trade today was quiet at just about former rates. The supply of home-grown samples not sufficiently abundant to cause a decline in value. Barley displays no change in the malting sorts; best grinding qualities are rather dearer than of late. The cost of oats rather in advance of recent quotations. Maize slow, and rather weak. No alteration in other grain or feed stuffs.

Manchester, Thursday.—English and foreign wheat shows little or no change. Flour rather quiet. Indian corn in sellers' favour. Oats quiet, but firm. Barley, English, shows no quotable change; foreign was firm. Beans and peas steady. Bran and offals scarce, and sellers' ask fully last week's rates.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat was held at our to-day's market for last week's prices; demand, however, was not active. A steadier feeling prevailed for maize, and a slight advance was obtained on the week. Oats remain steady at late rates, with a fair consumptive demand. Beans and peas firm, and in sellers' favour. Barley remain quiet at late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Trade was only a small attendance at the Corn Exchange. The prices of all grain were unchanged. Late rates were asked for "fines."

Newark, Wednesday. — A fair attendance, but a slow trade all round; no improvement in prices. Quotations: White and red wheat, 26s to 27s; malting barley, 24s to 28s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; white oats, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; black ditto, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; beans, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per qr.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance. Wheat trade was very slow, with no change in prices. Barley trade was very quiet, and is practically over for the year. Oats and beans quiet, in some cases easier. Prices:—New wheat, 26s to 27s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 19s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 17s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 23s to 27s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply, and a fair trade at previous values. Good barleys steady trade, inferior neglected. Oats and beans but few offering, and held firmly.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday. — Wheat just a quiet trade without change in prices, moderate supply. Barley slow at late rates, not lower. Oats firm but quiet.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Preston, Saturday.—The attendance was only small, and farmers' wheat and other grain met with an indifferent demand at price unaltered from last Saturday. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb,

12s 9d to 13s; ditto, rod, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, new, per bushel, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; beans, por windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—There was an average attendance and good samples sold fairly well. Prices: Wheat, 26s to 29s; barley, 25s to 28s; oats, 17s to 22s; peas, 28s to 31s; beans, 30s to 36s; flour, 24s to 26s.

Retford, Saturday. The market was fairly well attended, and a moderate supply of grain. Wheat showed no signs of improvement, and continued at 27s to 27s 6d. There was no malting barley of the highest class on offer. Samples of very useful quality changed hands at 27s to 28s 6d; common, down to 25s; and grinding, 24s per qr; English beans, 30s to 31s; black oats, 17s to 18s; white ditto, up to 19s; and old oats, 24s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Wheat shows a downward tendency. Small attendanco. Prices:—Wheat, 26s to 27s; wheat, foroign, 32s to 35s 6d; barloy, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; maizc, round, 22s to23s; maize, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — The market was steady and unchanged from last week. Wheats were quoted at slighaly better prices Beans, peas, and oats firm at late prices. Plate maizo at last Tuesday's price. Grinding barley scarce, and 6d per qr, dearer. Miller's feeding stuffs uncnanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 28s 6d to 29s; ditto, red, new, 28s 6d to 29s per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 19s 6d to 20s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 3d to 33s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 23s 3d to 23s 6d; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 22s to 22s 6d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A large attendance, a moderate supply of grain and a slow tradc. Wheats, 27s 6d; grinding barley, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 29s to 30s; white oats, 18s to 19s 6d; black ditto, 20s to 21s 6d per qr. Peas firm.

Stockton, Wednesday.—English wheat made the same as last week. Foreign wheat trade keeps quiet,, and prices show little improvement. Maize and oats steady and unchanged. A small show of malting barley, medium qualities making 24s to 25s per qr, and best qualities 25s to 26s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Fair supply of grain. Wheat quiet at last week's prices. Spring corn unchanged Arrivals:—Coastwise wheat, 649 qr; beans, 212 qr. Foreign, nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 29s to 30s;. new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 23s; rye, 23s to 25s; peas, 32s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36; tares, 42s to 50s; maize, 22s to 24s.

Winchester, Saturday.—Small supply of English wheat and a dull trade Foreign unaltered. Barley and maize 3d dearer on the week. Oats unchanged. Flour in fair demand at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supplv of grain after a stormy week for threshing. Wheat sells slowly at about 27s per 504 lb. Oats firm at 18s to 19s 336 lb. Other article unchanged.—James Fletcher

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and trade was quiet. Quotations:—English wheat, 11s 6d to 11s 9d per 216 lb; flat corn, 25s per 480 lb; oats, 10s 6d to 11s; beans, 11s 9d to 12s 6d.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Good attendance Small show of grain, with trade slow at last week's full prices. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red ditto, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s 6d to 31s; secondary qualities, 26s to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 23s 6d to 25s; old white oats, 24s 6d to 26s 6d; new ditto, 18s 6d to 20s; old black oats, 22s to 23s 6d; new ditto, 17s 6d to 19s; maize, 23s 6d to 26s; old beans, 37s to 38s 6d; new beans, 32s 6d to 36s 6d per qr.

York Saturday.—Very little grain offering, and not much trade. Prices for all kinds ruled as of late. Fine white wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; red and mixed, 25s to 27s per qr of 36 stones; fine barley, 25s to 26s; good, 24s to 25s; feeding, 22s to 23s per qr of 32 stones.; white Tartary oats, 17s to 18s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 21s 6d to 22s; old beans, 32s to 33s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday. — We had much rain in the early part of the week, but since yesterday it is dry with light frost. Market quiet for wheat and rye, while feeding barley is in good demand and maize remains firm. Fine red Mecklenburg, Holstein, and Upland wheat is held at 28s to 29s per 504 lb f.o.b. There are buyers for spring delivery, but the price asked being 30s, business is checked. American hard winter No. 2 is hold at 28s to 28s 6d; Western red winter No. 2 at 28s 6d; 80 Ko Bahia Blanca Russo January-February at 28s 3d per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye in better domand, 9¦? Odessa shipping offering at 22s 6d, 9¦? at 23s per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Malting barley continues firm in value. Holstein and Mecklenburg of good colour is selling at 34s to 36s, Eastern German at 35s to 38s, Danish at 28s to 30s, Bohemian to arrive per barge is held at 36s to 39s 6d per 448 lb; 60/61 ko Danubian and South Russian barley afloat is selling at 18s 6d to 18s 9d, spring shipments are held at 19s per 400 lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Fine white Mecklenbury oats are held at 20s to 20s 6d, fine Pomeranian at 19s to 20s per 336 lb c.i.f. E.C. River Plate maize afloat is offering at 20s to 20s 3d; Danubian, April-May shipment at 18s 9d to 19s; American mixed, old crop, 20s 6d; January-February shipment 19s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Pricos of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 4, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	1,449	0 ...	1,952	7	6 ...	1	6	11
Barley ...	1,034	0 ...	1,345	15	3 ...	1	6	0
Oats	2,070	3 ...	1,883	3	2 ...		18	2

Five Years' Comparative Averages. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 8, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902	52,984	25	0	162,687	24	3	26,953	16	10
1903	58,150	26	7	163,030	23	2	30,660	15	9
1904	50,718	30	4	165,257	24	4	36,635	16	2
1905	82,752	28	6	165,882	24	7	32,371	17	11
1906	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900 s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ...	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...	22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Monthly Averages.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat		Barley		Oats		1906. Wheat		Barley		Oats	
Jan.......	30	5	24	9	16	5	28	6	24	9	18	5
Feb.......	30	7	25	1	16	9	28	10	25	4	18	11
Mar. ...	30	10	25	1	16	11	28	5	24	8	18	11
April ...	30	9	24	8	17	3	29	1	24	2	19	1
May ...	30	10	24	8	18	5	30	2	24	0	20	0
June ...	31	8	24	4	19	2	30	4	23	4	20	2
July ...	32	0	22	8	18	4	30	4	23	1	20	4
Aug. ...	29	6	22	10	16	10	29	6	23	7	17	9
Sept. ...	26	10	23	9	16	0	26	1	24	5	16	2
Oct.......	27	1	24	11	16	6	26	5	25	0	16	7
Nov. ...	28	3	24	8	17	6	26	5	24	5	17	1
Dec. ...	28	5	24	6	18	0	—		—		—	

Cereal Years Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats Qrs.	s.	d.
1905. Dec. 9	82,752	28	8	165,885	24	7	32,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567	28	6	185,925	24	5	34,878	17	11
,, 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906. Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	2
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	4
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	7
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	10
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	19	0
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	21,160	25	1	19,380	18	8
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	10
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	8
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	11
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	19	4
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 8, 1906:—

Wheat	1,656,100 cwts.
Wheat-flour	321,000 ,,
Barley	318,000 ,,
Oats	209,300 ,,
Maize.....................	849,500 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,516,100	1,976,600	1,776,304	1,414,477
Wheat-flour	367,600	316,900	405,657	507,321
Barley ...	593,400	385,700	454,716	598,356
Oats ...	389,900	313,000	323,038	395,295
Maize ...	313,800	646,000	1,003,641	501,291

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Nov. 28 to Dec. 5 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat................	2,305	40,000	42,305
Barley..................	2,487	18,000	20,487
Malt.....................	17,567	—	17,567
Oats.....................	3,432	36,000	39,432
Rye	50	1,000	1,050
Beans	1,025	1,359	2,384
Peas.....................	681	2,000	2,681
Linseed	—	7,926	7,926
Rapeseed	50	1,364	1,414
Cottonseed ..		21,000	21,000
Hempseed	—	281	281
Flour.........sacks ..	24,356	13,000	37,356
Ricetlour.... ,,	—	6,679	6,679
Ricemeal...... ,,	—	3,880	4,880
Wheatmeal... ,,		4,000	4,000

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906

		s	d
September 1	... (per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given)

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

There was a slight decrease in the supply of fat cattle offered for sale at the Islington Cattle Market during the past week. On Monday, in the early morning, trade was of a fairly steady nature, late values being both asked and obtained, but later on in the day rates became lower, this being partly due to the inclement weather which prevailed. The arrivals from Ireland consisted of 102 Dublins, 20 of which were choice Black Polled beasts, and 15 Waterfords; these met with little inquiry. Scotch descriptions were also little sought after, and met with a fall of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in excess of the demand, consequently a decline of 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. had to be accepted to effect sales. On Thursday, as usual, the supply consisted almost entirely of fat shed cows and bulls, there being no inquiry for fat beasts.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade was of a slow nature with a downward tendency in value; the supplies were drawn, as usual, from the United States and Canada, the latter country including some Ranch cattle. The total number on offer was 5,118, as against 5,325 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,190 British (decrease 60) and 3,928 foreign (decrease 147), these latter comprising 3,047 from the United States and 881 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 stone Scotch, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 11d. to 4s. 1d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d; ditto Ranches, 3s. to 3s. 2d.

In the sheep market trade was of a dull and dragging nature owing to the small attendance of retail buyers, consequently a general decline in value was inevitable. Irish descriptions shared in this, whilst Scotch sheep were firm at late rates. A small consignment of Canadian sheep were offered for sale at Deptford, but were not sold. The total number of sheep penned at both markets was 4,740, as against 5,400 during the preceding week, consisting of 4,740 British and no foreign. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d to 4s. 4d.; 11 stone Halfbred ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d. (sinking the offal).

Calves numbered twenty, trade for which was of a slow but steady nature, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 8d to 6s. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

A much better feeling has pervaded business in stores during the last few days, especially as regards barreners, the sale of which is helped very materially by the mildness of the weather, which even the advent of December has, so far, in no way affected, the pasture lands still retaining all the verdant freshness of spring and with every promise of a good "bite" of grass for some little time yet at least, unless frosts suddenly set in as they sometimes do, but which stockowners hope to escape till the new year. Grazing cattle have come very freely to hand—good, bad, and indifferent—but this had no effect in lowering prices; on the contrary, better class things—young animals of good promise—have ruled decidedly firmer at prices distinctly favouring the seller, the rise being from 10s. to 20s. a head on all the more forward bullocks, which are making as a rule from £22 up to £31 or £32 per pair, plenty of ready buyers securing everything showing the least promise. Secondary grades are also much more saleable than they were, at from £18 to £21; but the very poor condition lots are still in limited demand, though even for these there is a better sale than there has been for some time past. Milch beast are just now going very strong, young heifers to be depended upon for their milking qualities exciting keen competition at prices ranging from £17 up to £22 and occasionally £23, whilst good cows make £16 to £18, there being more buyers for these classes of stock than there are animals to cover the demand; and there is an equally healthy inquiry for the plainer grades at lower values—ranging from £15 down to £11 or £12 for animals which buyers are generally only too ready to pass over. In-calvers, particularly those coming into early profit, are also selling much more readily at better prices. Very little remains to be said respecting store sheep, as sales for the present season are practically at an end. Still, occasionally a few culled lots are to be met with, and these bring exceptionally good prices, which compare very favourably with those obtained for bettermost drafts earlier in the season, fully confirming the opinion entertained by us all through that the season would wind-up much more favourably for the flockmaster than at the inaugural sales. Calves for rearage and store pigs also remain very firm, this being matter for little surprise, seeing the high prices ruling not only for veal but even more so for small porkers.

In fat stock there is considerably more activity than of late, and the prices of beef are ruling very firm and decidedly against buyers in the purchases already being made for Christmas. Heavy supplies are coming to hand, including a large quantity of ripe stall-fed steers and heifers of neat weights, for which there has been a very keen demand at from 12s. to 12s. 6d. per score (or from £17 to £23 apiece); bullocks of coarser weights sell from £24 to £37 apiece (or 11s. to 11s. 6d.); more ordinary runs, 10s. 3d. to 10s. 9d.; and the rougher grades are meeting a much slower sale at 9s. to 9s. 6d. Devons continue to meet the best demand, though cross-breds of good quality also sell very well. Mutton of choice quality keeps very firm in price, tegs and wethers, specially prepared for the season, making a very quick sale at 8½d. to 8¾d., some of the ripest Downs selling up to 4½ guineas apiece, young ewes also finding a steady sale at 7d. to 8d.; but anything distinctly plain or rough is less sought after at 6½d. to 7½d., and some grades only just a trifle over 6d. Veal, with no improvement in the supply, keeps as firm as ever, the ripest making 8½d. to 8¾d., and even plain animals 7d. to 7½d. Pork, both light and medium weights, from the difficulty of covering the demand, keeps excessivley dear, and there is every prospect of high rates ruling throughout the Christmas trade; and in proof of this we must still quote the neater-handling porkers at 11s. to 11s. 6d., and baconers 10s. to 10s. 6d., whilst coarse weights claim equal attention at their values, 8s. to 9s.

Trade in Ireland.

The weather in Ireland has been cold and very rough, and Thursday last was a bad day for Dublin Market, though cross-Channel buyers did not seem to be much deterred by the wild time, as they put in a pretty good appearance on Thursday. There was a fairly large supply of cattle (4,170, or a decrease of 144 on the week, but a large increase on the corresponding weeks of 1905 and 1904), and export buyers entered with spirit into the work early in the morning, everything of really good finish being bought up. There was a large amount of the cattle in mediocre condition, and these sold slowly and most with more difficulty than the previous market. The cattle were mostly of a rough sort, and as the English markets are said to be at present flooded with foreign beef, there was little buying for them, and that at very irregular figures. Stall-feds began to come in in better supply, and these sold well. Really good heifers and bullocks sold freely at 31s. to 34s. per cwt. (live weight). One remarkably nice lot of cattle, sold for £27, for the London market. The dead weight quotations were: Choice ox and heifer beef, 52s. 6d. to 55s., and extra quality, 56s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt.; good second class beef, from 46s. to 50s., and inferior, from 44s. to 48s. per cwt.

Sheep numbered 5,070, a decrease of 134 on the week. The demand was for light to medium-weight sheep of good quality, and for this there was a steady demand for home consumption. Not much was done by exporters, who say that the immense importation of live sheep into England, destroys the Irish trade. For the week ending December 1, 3,470 sheep were so imported, against 1,623 for the same week of 1905. Choice light weight Cheviots and Mountains sold at firm rates, though no decided rise in price can be quoted; but in some sections buying was of a more animated nature than during the previous day's market.

Coarse sheep were in too liberal supply, and met with bad demand. In shipping enquiry dull, and a clearance not effected.

Cheviot and mountain wethers, 8d. to 9d. per lb.; ordinary wethers, about ½d. per lb. cheaper; ewes (choice), from 6¾d. to 7½d., and inferior sheep from 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Nice shipping hoggets sold at from 48s. to 50s. each, but some heavy hoggets for the London market made up to 55s. and 60s. each. Calves were in fair supply, but choice vealers scarce, and selling at 8d. to 9d. per lb; coarse ditto only worth from 4½d. to 6d. per lb. Dairy cows were a small market, and quality was noticeable by its absence. A few nice springers and newly-calved cows made up to £18 and £20 each. Other sorts sold from £9 to £15. The Christmas export market will be held in Dublin next Thursday (December 13), which is also the second day of the winter show of fat cattle and sheep in the Royal Dublin Society's grounds, Ballsbridge. It will doubtless attract many interested in the meat trade to Dublin, and the market of the 13th inst. is likely to be a good one. Store cattle in the country fairs selling badly, and in some cases fully 10s. per head down in value; no young or lean cattle wanted.

The Dublin Pig market of Thursday last was well supplied. The inquiry for home pork and for shipping was good, but curers had little to say. Buyers open well, but business later on came to a standstill, and a clearance was not made. Best light-weight pigs made from 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; coarse and inferior from 34s. to 37s. per cwt.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been about an average. A steady demand has been experienced, and prices for the best qualities equal to those of the preceding week. Secondary cattle, however, continue to sell without any improvement in the quotations. Fat sheep have been in active demand, and for young sheep there would be a rise of 1s, and for ewes 2s more per head has been obtained. Fat calves in average supply, and the better classes very dear. Pigs still selling at satisfactory prices. There was a small supply of store sheep, which got cleared out at hardening prices. For the time of year there was a fair supply of store cattle, and a nearly total clearance effected at prices without change. Milch cows a good show, and they met the best prices of the season. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 39s.; current, 35s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.; mutton to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Moderate supplies, and trade slow, but prices firm for best meat. English beef, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 6s 8d to 8s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which was slow, but steady, late rates being well maintained. Fat cattle met no inquiry. Top prices fat cows, 3s 4d, extremes 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s 1d per 8 lb. Increase of 90 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and half-breds. Trade was of a very sluggish nature, with lower tendency in value, though not quotably so. Best pens made, per 8 lb., as follows: 8-stone Downs, 6s 2d; 9-stone ditto, 6s; 10-stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Calves too few to quote. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 2d to 6s 2d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was dull, buyers holding back for Christmas. Best beef made up to 4s 8d; secondary, to 4s per stone. Down and half-bred mutton fetched 5s 8d to 6s; small Kent ditto, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; barrens, 3s 10d to 4s 6d. Veal, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Roasting pork, 4s to 4s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; Hereford, 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 2d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 11s 6d to 11s 8d per score; sows, 7s 9d to 8s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade dull. Calves, £5 to £6; heifers, £7 10s to £9; stirks, £8 10s to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; three-year-olds, £13 to £14 15s.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s per score. — C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supplies of stock. The market opened with a fair demand, but lacked the tone of previous fairs, and closed quieter. Prices unchanged, except for some weakening of values for second-rate and inferior stock. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £23; calvers £12 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; bullocks, £11 to £15; and stirks, £6 to £10.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a capital

attendance of buyers. The entry of store sheep was a good average one, and a brisk trade prevailed at satisfactory prices. Fat beasts were in good supply, and for the best quality fully late prices were maintained; but rough cows and bulls experienced a quiet sale. Dairy cows and heifers, fresh calved, were in strong demand at fully 20s. to 30s. per head advance on late prices. Store cattle met a slow trade, except for a few lots of well-bred cattle, which sold better. Quotations:—Beef, 4s 6d. to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was only a very limited offering. Small number of wether tegs made from 43s to 45s per head. Some Irish cattle were offered, but the demand was very small.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 200 cattle forward on the Sands. Buyers were poorly represented, and a slow trade resulted. Irish wintering heifers made £7 10s to £12 10s each.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a fair show of beasts, and prices both for beef and mutton were fully maintained. Pork sold at about last week's rate.

Derby, Tuesday.—No alteration in prices. Sheep very dear. Beasts, 5½ to 6½d; calves, 8d; sheep, 8d to 10d.

Dublin, Thursday.—There was a good demand for finished cattle, prices for which showed no variation from last week's quotations. Rough and unfinished descriptions were too numerous for the demand, and prices were generally on the downward grade, with a clearance difficult to effect. No material alteration in price of sheep compared with last week, though a clearance was not so easily effected. Cattle—Live weight (best), 28s to 30s per cwt; exceptional, up to 33s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 6½d to 8½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, only a few milch beasts being shown. Trade only slow at late rates. Milch beasts, £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £14; stirks, £9 to £10; young stirks, £7 to £9 each. Very poor supply of sheep, but sufficient for all requirements, trade being quiet, and prices from 40s to 48s each.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There were fair supplies of store cattle, and an easy clearance was effected. Store sheep were fewer, but a good selling trade was experienced. Cows in good demand. Horned bullocks, £12 to £14 10s; polled, £11 to £13; stirks, to £10 10s; Shorthorn cows, best, to £25 10s; Irish, to £18 10s; half-bred hoggs, 33s to 36s; Cheviot ewes, 29s to 34s.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of beef, and quality not exceptional. Sheep numerous, quality only fair, trade very brisk; 9d per lb quoted for fat hogs and wethers; ewes 7½d; rams, 6d; calves, 7d. Large supplies of lambs for turnips; Best from 40s to 42s each; second 33s to 38s; plain ones generally did not find buyers. Steers and maiden heifers maintained late prices at 11s 6d per score.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies smaller and trade slow; prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; best hoggs, 10d; best wedders, 9d to 9½d; best ewes, 6½d to 8d per lb. Dead meat slow, with values little altered; best Scotch beef, 5½d to 5¾d; best States, 5d; best Canadians, 4¾d; cows, 4½d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Fewer buyers, and the trade was by no means promising for Christmas. There was a large supply of beef, and the demand was pretty firm for best quality bullocks and heifers at 6½d, in some cases 6¾d per lb. Second-class half-meated beasts went very quietly; fat cows, 4½d to 5d. Sheep were a short supply. Wethers were scarce and made fully 8d, the same as fat lambs, but fat ewes dropped to 6½d. Store lambs were a bit cheaper. Few calves were on offer. Veal was cheaper, making 6½d to 7d per lb, and there was scarcely any demand for store calves. Pigs were a fair supply, but porkers were not quite so dear at 5½d to 6d, neither did bacons go so well at 6d. Big stores were in fair demand, but small stores could be had very cheap.

Lincoln, Friday.—Horned stock for store purposes was not shown in large numbers, but trade was by no means sharp. For young beasts £8 to £12 was obtainable, while stronger animals made up to £13 per head. There was a sale for milch cows at £17 to £21 per head. The trade for store sheep was better, but the supply was moderate. Hogs made 36s to 45s, and drape ewes up to 42s per head.

Lynn, Tuesday.—An average show of fat beasts for the time of year met late rates, 7s to 8s per stone. Stores were in smaller supplies, and made about £6 to £12 each. About an average supply of fat sheep made from 9s to 10s 6d, and few stores made about 40s each. Stores lambs 35s to 42s each.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full consignment of home-bred stock. Trade ruled flat at fully 10s to 20s per head lower rates. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary sorts, £13 to £16; bullocks, £10 to £14; Irish cattle, £11 to £13 10s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12 10s; calves flat at 15s to 30s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Cheviots, Scotch, 8½d; others, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7½d; thirds, 5¾d to 6½d. Veal: Firsts, 8½d; seconds, 7½d to 7¾d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply was similar to last week, but trade was slower. Beef, 5s 6d to 7s 6d; per stone. Pigs met a firm trade at 6s to 9s 6d per stone. Sheep were also firmer at 5d to 9½d, and veal met a good trade at 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good attendance, and a large supply of cattle, but ripe animals were rather scarce. Sheep were in large supply, and there was also a fair number of calves and pigs. Trade was very brisk all round. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; Irish beef, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; best wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7½d; lambs, 9½d to 9¾d; calves, 6½d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s per score; baconers, 9s to 9s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of fat beasts was quite equal to meet the demand, and trade was a trifle easier at an average of 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14 lb. There was a big falling off in the number of store cattle showing, and a great proportion were sold; late values were about maintained, prices ranging from £6 to £15 per head. The supply of store sheep was composed of a few pens of hoggets; trade ruled about the same as of late, and values were unchanged. Full average show of fat sheep, and for these there was a good demand at prices averaging from 10s to 10s 6d per stone. Both fat and store pigs were offered in large supply, and met with a sharp trade; fat pigs averaged 7s per stone, and stores ranged from 12s to 50s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a short supply of stock, and trade was moderate. In-calf cows made £17 to £19 10s, and in-calf heifers, £13 to £16. Calves realised 25s to 45s each. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—Small supply and a slow trade: Heifers and bullocks, 5¾d to 6½d; cows and bulls, 4¾d to 5½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; hoggs, 8¾d to 9½d; ewes, 6d to 7½d.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade about the same. Best, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, trade dear at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Short supply of sheep, trade dear: Best small, 6s 4d to 6s 6d; larger, 5s 10d to 6s per stone; ewes in short supply, trade about the same, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. About seventy milch cows changed hands, trade slow. Good supply of pigs, trade about the same: Large hogs, 4s to 4s 2d; small porkers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d per stone.

Retford, Saturday.—Not much doing at this store stock market. The supply was limited, and very few dealers and farmers were present. Quotations for milch cows and young cattle showed no variation from those of last week, and the business transacted was of small extent.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—An average number of milch beasts, which met a fairly good demand, the best making £20 to £21, secondary sorts, £16 to £17 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Smaller supply of store cattle, and usual supplies of fat cattle, sheep and pigs. Very fair trade, but prices a little less than last week. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 9½d to 10d per lb; veal, 8d to 8½d per lb; porket pigs, 10s 6d per score; bacons, 9s to 9s 6d per score

Stockton, Wednesday.—About the usual supply of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s to 7s 6d per stone, whilst rougher sorts sold at 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Young sheep made 9½d per lb; hoggs, 10d; ewes, 7½d; and tupsi 6½d. The pig trade was very quiet and prices were about the same as last week.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a small supply of stock, and buyers were not in large attendance, no doubt waiting for the Christmas Saturday next week. Messrs. Band and Burrow's having already close on 260 beasts entered. Choice quality beef sells at late rates, but there was practically no demand for middling cattle. Sheep continue to sell well. Veal in request, both bacon, pork, and store pigs, all find ready purchasers. Slower trade for weaning calves. Messrs. Band and Burrows' sale comprised 61 fat beasts, 136 fat sheep, 104 fat weaning calves, and 213 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £19; fat heifers, £13 to £22; fat tegs, 45s to 55s; fat wethers, 48s to 57s; fat ewes, 40s to 55s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £5 5s; weaning cow calves, 20s to 50s; bull calves, 8s to 45s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £5 10s; fat sows, up to £10; porkets, 35s to 48s; store pigs, 12s to 28s; sows with pigs, £4 10s to £6 10s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk, attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 15s to 42s; wethers, 8d to 8½d per lb; ewes, 6d; lambs, 8d to 8½d; pigs, 7s 6d to 27s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 8d; pork carcasses, 5d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A moderate supply; slow trade all round. Quotations: Beef 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d½ to 9½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair supply of stock. Both beef and mutton easier in price. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Best Southdown wethers and cross-bred shearlings to 8½d per lb, and in a few instances prime hoggs made up to 9d; ewes, 6d per lb.

York, Thursday.—There was a much lighter show of English and Irish store cattle, but trade continued in the depressed condition which has marked all the autumn markets. Business dragged slowly, and the sales effected showed no advance on late rates. Three-year-olds made up to £15, and a few English stirks changed hands at £6 10s to £8. A light show of calving and milch cows, for which there was a fairly good demand, anything newly calved and fit meeting with a ready sale. The general run of prices was from £16 to £18 18s. but in many cases £20 10s to £21 10s was made for exceptionally good animals. A very moderate show of sheep and lambs, with a slow trade owing to the high prices asked. About 2,800 were penned. Twice-crossed grazing sheep made 42s to 50s. One exceptionally good lot of lambs found a purchaser at 52s, but the prices which generally obtained were 26s to 32s for half-breds, and 30s to 42s for twice-crossed.

Yeovil, Friday.—Milking animals continue in good demand, and good class store stock found ready buyers. Heifers with calves made from £18 10s to £20 5s; cows and calves, £17 10s to £21 10s: secondary animals, £13 10s to £16 10s; barreners from £10 to £11 15s; secondary animals from £7 to £9 5s; grazing steers, £10 10s to £12 15s; Down store ewes, 31s to 39s; Down store lambs, 25s to 30s; horn ewes, 34s to 40s; horn wether lambs, 27s to 31s; horn couples, 63s to 68s.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Fairly large supplies of Canadian and American cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held, 840 head being penned. The consignments consisted of the balance held over from the mid-week sales, and comprised only bullocks and ranchers, 741 of which were from Montreal and the remainder from Baltimore. Business was very slow, and prices generally easier than at recent sales, secondary, middling, and inferior descriptions being cashed at values considerably lower than those ruling last week. Bullocks of useful sizes and weights, and of good quality, sold at about 54s per cwt deadweight, a few of extra choice class making one or two shillings per cwt more; middling qualities went at from 50s to 52s per cwt, whilst ranchers averaged about 42s per cwt, and roughish animals 40s per cwt.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Very little trade, and prices remain nominally the same as last week.

Halifax, Saturday.—Advices from other wool centres have had a strengthening influence on this market, and quotations are, in consequence, very firm, if not quotably higher.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 5s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £13 5s to £14 5s; Kent fleeces, £13 5s to £13 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 15s to £15 5s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 5s to £13 15s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 2s to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1; scoured, average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy average, 10d to 10½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8d to 9d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; medium, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 0½d.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

There was a good attendance, but not much business done. English wheat was quiet at full prices. Foreign was against holders in some cases. Maize was not quotably cheaper, but the buyers seems to be gaining ground, and the supplies of old crop appear adequate to meet needs until the new American arrives. Grinding barley was firm, but malting sorts were out of favour. Oats were decidedly steady. Some fine Prussian made 29s. without difficulty. There was a quieter feeling in beans and peas, while rye tares, and buckwheat were unchanged.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 10.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	30 — 34
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)...	(per 424 lb.)	24 — 25
	Distilling (New)	(per 416 lb.)	23 — 24
	Winter (New) ...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 23
	Feeding (New) ..	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Best (Old)	,,	22 — 23
	Storm Kings (New) ...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	20 — 21
	Winter (New).....	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE,	Essex	(per 480 lb.)	22 — 24
BEANS,	Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	66 — 74
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	46 — 50
	(Gores)...	,,	56 — 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s. s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s. s.
Manitoba No. 1	32—32/6	American	21/9—22
,, ,, 2	31—31/6	Argentine	20/6—21
American Red	30/6—31	Bulgarian	21—21/6
Argentine ...	31/9—32	Roumanian ...	21—21/6
Australian ...	31/6—32	Russian	21—21/6
New Zealand	30/6—31	BEANS (480 lb.):	
Blue Stem ...	31/6—32	Smyrna	34 — 36
Walla Walla	30/6—31	Konigsberg ...	33 — 35
Saxonka	32/6—33	New Zealand...	35 — 36
Azima	30/6—31	HARICOTS (504 lb.):	
Ghirka	29/6—30	Italian	64 — 72
Taganrog	29—29/6	Hungarian	59 — 63
Indian White	31—31/3	Burmese	32 — 42
,, Red	30/3 30/6	Chilian	56 — 64
BARLEY:		LENTILS (cental):	
C'lifor'n(448lb)	29 — 30	Split Egyptian	10 — 11
Ouchak (448 lb)	27 — 29	Whole Indian...	7 — 8
Chilian (448lb)	28 — 29	PEAS (504 lb.):	
Bohemian (448lb)	34 — 38	Konigsberg ...	44 — 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27 — 30	Indian White	35 — 36
Russian(400lb)	19/9—20	Indian Green	29 — 31
Tunis (400lb)	23 — 24	Tasman'n M'ple	42 — 46
Gaza (400lb)	23/9—24	NewZeal'd Maple	39— 40
Persian (400lb)	18—18/6	Victoria Dun..	33 — 34
Hama (448lb)	26 — 27	MILLET (416 lb.):	
Spanish (448lb)	29 — 33	White	42 — 44
Torrified(336lb)	21 — 22	Yellow	22 — 24
MALT (336 lb.):		Sorghum	20 — 22
Californian ...	33 — 36	RICE (cwt.):	
Smyrna	33 — 36	Indian	14 — 16
Ouchak	33 — 36	Burmese	9 — 10
RYE (480 lb.):		Siamese	8 — 9
Russian	24 — 25	DARI (480 lb.):	
OATS:		Smyrna	25 — 26
Konigsb'g(320lb)	18—19	Indian	23 — 24
		Persian	21 — 22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, 3 p.m.

London mealies to-day sold steadily at 3d. net improvement from the lowest prices of November. Country flour was not a good sale, and we heard of secondary stuff being parted with below a sovereign per sack.

American sorts were not a good sale either, but the London agents have no instructions to make any concessions. The price of Australian flour favoured buyers, and French sorts also tended to give way. The price of pollard was a little better from the 3rd inst. Bran, middlings, and wholemeal were unchanged. The commoner sorts of oatmeal were a little cheaper on the week.

London Flour.

Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/3 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/3 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/3 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/3 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/3 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/3 ,,

Country Flour.

		s. s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
Roller Whites	,,	21 — 22
Stone made	,,	20 — 21

Foreign Flour.

		s. s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Oregon	,,	25 — 26
Californian	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary.....	,,	21 — 22
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
Belgian	,,	26 — 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	22 — 23

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	12 — 13
Pollard	,,	10 — 11
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30 — 32
Groats	,,	32 — 33
Oat Flour.....	,,	32 — 33
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE COLDER WEATHER CAUSED THE MARKET TO CLOSE WITH A FIRMER TONE, AND HOLDERS WERE GENERALLY MORE CONFIDENT.

MARK LANE HOLIDAYS.

The decision of the Old and New Corn Exchange directors to close Mark Lane on Christmas Eve (Monday, December 24) has come upon the trade as a surprise. Holidays have sometimes been protracted beyond the legal time, but it is a new thing to anticipate them. Doubts were freely expressed at the market to-day as to the lawfulness of the closure, but it may be assumed that the directors took counsel's opinion before suppressing a Monday market, which of course is the chief market in London of the week.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The wheat cargo trade is steady, but demand is not brisk. Maize is not quite so depressed as on Saturday, nevertheless futures be written as somewhat in buyer's favour. Linseed cargoes are 6d. cheaper per qr. those of cottonseed 2s. 6d. cheaper per ton. Barley, oats, and peas are unchanged.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Barletta, 28s 6d per 480 lb, February shipment; White Walla, 29s 6d per 500 lb, on passage; Victorian, 30s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; Victorian, 29s 9d per 480 lb, January shipment; No. 1 Hard Manitoba, 30s 3d per 480 lb, January shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 27s 6d per 480 lb, January shipment; Red Karachi, 31s per 492 lb, January shipment; Roumanian, 27s 6d per 492 lb, on passage.

Maize.—American, 19s 3d per 480 lb, January shipment; Odessa, 19s 9d per 480 lb, December shipment; Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, December shipment; Galatz, 20s 9d per 480 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Odessa, 20s per 400 lb, on passage; Kustendge, 21s 6d per 416 lb, December shipment.

Oats.—South Russian, 15s 9d per 304 lb., December shipment; No. 2 Manitoba, 17s 9d per 320 lb, December shipment.

Linseed.—Bombay, 46s per 416 lb, December shipment; Argentine, 42s per 416 lb, December shipment; Libau, 41s 3d per 416 lb, December shipment; Riga, 41s 3d per 416 lb, on passage.

Note.—The Baltic will be closed from 1 p.m. on the 22nd to 10.30 a.m. on the 27th inst. will also be closed on New Year's Day.

TERM MARKET.

The speculation in wheat and maize since 3rd inst. has been insignificant. Prices now are as follows:—

Bed American wheat	Dec.	delivery,	6s 4d	per cental
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 5d	,,
,, ,,	April	,,	6s 6d	,,
Flat American				
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 5d	,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 1d	,,
,, ...	April	,,	4s 0d	,,
Yellow Argentine				
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 3d	,,
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 3d	,,

Argentine maize is not offered for delivery after the close of February.

The Term Market and the Produce Exchange in Eastcheap will be closed from 1 p.m. on the 22nd to noon on the 27th inst.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The trade is still very slow. Grain.—Old American corn is still in good supply at unchanged prices. Plate maize is quiet, and also unchanged. Pease on spot rather easier. Beans steady. Oats of all kinds are firm. Barley steady. The demand all round is inactive. Mill stuffs—dull.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade continues quiet; rather more inquiry, but no change to report in prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues in fair demand at full prices.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

We have liberal rrivals of wheat and flour. Trade is steady, and prices are unchanged. Maize barley and oats have a slow demand at full prices.—Coventry and Sheppard.

Milling Offal.—Owing to colder weather al offal firm, especially bran.—J. Bawcomb and Co.

Flour to-day has been steody with a rather better demand, and prices show a slight improvement on the week.—T. B. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed is 1s. dearer for some sorts, but there is a decided fall in cottonseed.

Linseed.	per 416 lb. s. s.	Cottonseed.	per ton. s. s.
Calcutta	44 to 45	Egyptian.....	136 to 138
Bombay	45 to 46	Indian	106 to 108
Russian	43 to 44	Sunflowerseed.	per cwt.
Argentine	43 to 44	English, White	15 to 16
Duluth	42 to 43	Russian, White.	14 to 15
Rapeseed.	per 416 lb.	,, Black.	13 to 14
Best English ...	69 to 70	Sesame.	per cwt.
Yellow Guzerat	52 to 54	Indian	14 to 15
,, Cawnpore	45 to 46	Hempseed.	per 336 lb.
Brown ,,	44 to 45	Russian	33 to 34
Ferozepore	47 to 48	Canaryseed.	per 464 lb.
Jamba	42 to 43	English	47 to 48
Rubsen.	per 424 lb.	Turkish	37 to 38
German	66 to 68	Argentine	36 to 37
Poppyseed.	per 377 lb.	Mazagan	45 to 46
Indian	51 to 53	Spanish	50 to 70

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay made £3 10s to £4 per ton; straw, no quotations.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; seconds, 65s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop straw, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s per ton.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Under the influence of mild weather there was very little doing in the hay and straw trade. Prices are nominally unchanged. Quotations: Hay, 55s to 60s per ton in stack; straw, 30s per ton in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The warehouses are moderately supplied with hay and straw, and a good demand prevails at the following quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 6d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supplies and moderate demand. Best hay, 70s to 75s; best clover, 70s; second quality hay and clover, 55s to 60s per ton on the ground. Straw, 30s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 4¾d to 5½d; clover, 5½d to 6¾d; straw, wheat, 3d to 3½d; oat, 3d to 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 10s to £5 per ton; this year's growth, from £4 to £4 10s; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 10s to £5 5s. Wheat straw, from £1 6s to £1 7s per load; barley straw, from £1 3s to £1 5s; oat straw, from £1 6s to £1 8s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small supply, and business still keeps slow. Choice seeds, £4 5s to £4 15s; ditto hay, £3 15s to £4; straw, £3 10s to £3 15s.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair supplies to hand experienced fair demand at late rates. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—Trade slow at 47s 6d to 50s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies to hand met with tame response, prices being about steady. Quotations: Blacklands, 60s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 75s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 65s to 70s; Maincrops, 70s to 80s per ton. Dutch 2s 9d; Belgian 2s 9d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply at both the public retail markets, and a steady demand from 5d to 6d per stone.

Goole, Wednesday.—Fair attendance of farmers and dealers. Large supply, for which there was a good demand. Best warp Up-to-Dates and King Edwards 6s 9d to 7s, other kinds 5s 7½d to 5s 9d per load of 252 lb. Prices were lower than farmers liked to accept, but on account of the heavy Lincolnshire crop there is small probability of any stiffening in price until stocks are worked off.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; ditto clover, 6½d to 6¾d; wheat straw, 4¼d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—About an average offer, prices ruling from 3s to 3s 6d per bag; retail, 6d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday. Potatoes: Yorkshire warps, 8s to 10s; sands, 8s to 9s; Cheshire 5s 6d to 6s 6d; Lincoln warps and sands, 8s to 9s per load; Irish, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Potatoes, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday. — Best home-grown potatoes, 6s to 6s 6d; other descriptions, 5s to 5s 6d per load.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week the market has been fully supplied, the demand has been limited, and prices have been in buyers' favour. To-day's prices are as follows:—Light-soil: Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s per ton; British Queens, 60s to 70s per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 70s per ton; Edward VIIth, 60s to 70s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 55s to 62s 6d per ton; Evergoods, 55s to 62s 6d per ton; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Heavy supplies were available, but again elicited quiet support. Quotations:—Maincrops, 80s to 85s; Blacklands, 60s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 60s per ton. Belgian, 2s 9d; Dutch, 2s 9d per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday. — Potatoes, £3 per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good supply of potatoes. Best samples 6s to 7s per load of 18 stones.

York, Saturday.—An average supply of potatoes, with a steady demand at about late rates. Best Sand Up-to-Dates 50s per ton; inferior sorts sold at less money.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 10, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 11, 1905.
Beasts	1,340	1,340	2,510
Sheep and Lambs	4,740	4,740	—
Calves	20	20	
Pigs	—	—	
Milch Cows	40	40	

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 10	3 6	5 0
Sheep	5 0	5 10	6 6
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 8	5 4	6 0
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 65; Eastern Counties, 282; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 733; Devon, 89; Ireland, 180.

We note to-day an increase of 270 head compared with Monday last. For all descriptions of fat cattle trade ruled of a fairly firm and steady nature, rates in most cases favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. The majority of the supply was drawn from the Midland, Home Western Counties, with an also larger supply from Scotland and Devon, these also ruled firm at an advance in value. The Irish arrivals consisted of 115 Dublins and 65 Waterfords, trade for which was a slow nature, late rates being barely maintained. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with more inquiry, consequently a rise in value was experienced. A clearance will be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	Monday, Dec. 11, 1905. s d	s d
Scotch	4 6	to 4 8	4 8	to 4 10
Devons	4 6	to 4 8	4 6	to 4 8
Herefords	4 2	to 4 4	4 4	ex 4 6
Norfolks	4 6	to 4 8	4 4	to 4 6
Runts	4 0	to 4 4	4 0	to 4 4
Lincolns	3 8	to 3 10	3 10	to 4 0
Irish	3 10	to 4 2	3 10	to 4 2
Canadian	—		—	—
Fat Cows	3 4	to 3 6	3 6	to 3 8

There was an increase of 120 in the number of sheep penned, compared with Monday last. Trade ruled throughout the day of a firm and steady nature, higher rates being both asked and obtained to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. on later currencies. There was an average supply of Scotch sheep, these shared in the generally brisker trade which was experienced, whilst Irish on the other hand were in excess of the demand, consequently late values were difficult to maintain. On Monday next the annual great Christmas market will be held.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Dec. 11, 1905. s. d.	s. d.
8 st Scotch	—	—	—	—
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 4	to 6 6	5 10	to 6 0
9 st. Downs	6 0	to 6 2	5 8	to 5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 10	to 6 0	5 6	to 5 8
10 st Yorkshires	—		—	
12 st Lincolns	—		—	
10 st Irish	5 2	to 5 4	5 2	to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 4	to 4 6	4 0	to 4 2
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 2	to 4 4	3 10	to 4 0
5 st Down Lambs	—		—	
6 st Halfbred ditto	—		—	

Calves met with a firm and steady trade, the best on offer being quoted at from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

London (Central), Monday.—Fair arrivals met slow but steady trade. Beef, English, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; American, 3s to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 5s to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English lamb, 6s 8d to 8s. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 10d to 4s 8d per stone.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 760. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 182 head, and consisted of 710 from the United States and 50 from Canada. Trade was of a firmer and steadier nature, both in regard to tone and value for States beasts, sellers both asking and obtaining an advance of 1d. per 8 lb. for the former. Canadian, however, were 1d per 8 lb lower. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s. Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday the supply consisted of 2,016 from the United States and 111 from Canada. Trade was of a firmer nature at an advance in value of 2d per 8lb for the former and 1d for the latter. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d, Canadian, 3s 9d to 3s 11d per 8lb (offal given in). Besides the above 1,150 States were withheld from sale.

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle practically unaltered, demand good for best quality at slightly better prices, middling and rough classes about same as last week. Sheep supply firmer; finished sorts met with a fair inquiry at about late rates; strong classes rather easier. Beef, 6¼d to 4½d; mutton 9½d to 7d per lb. At market, 1,589 cattle and 3,213 sheep. Christmas market Monday next.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Buyers have held off so long, principally owing to the recent mild weather, that should the present cold continue there is every probability of a brisk demand. Notwithstanding the dull trade, prices have been well maintained. Russians still find most favour at recent values. Cotton Cake.—Business is disappointing; prices unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake and meal move off slowly at last week's figures. Linseed.—Market remains steady, and the feeding sorts meet with good enquiry:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0	0 to 8 2 6
Calcutta-made Linseed Cake (ex quay)	8 0	—
American Western Linseed Cake ...ex quay	7 11 6	—
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ...ex quay		—
Russian Oil Cake ...ex quay	7 12 6	to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	7 15 0	—
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 10 0	—
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	4 15 0	—
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 0 0	
Cyprian Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 10 0	
Bold Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 6 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 5 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The new spring tares are now cheaper, but prices still unsettled. Winter tares unchanged in price, although few now offering. Rye and mustard continue firm. The new clover seeds are coming out freely; prices a shade easier. Reds, fancy quality, 58s to 60s; fine, 50s to 56s; good, 48s to 52s per cwt. Whites, fancy quality, 60s to 64s; fine, 54s to 56s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils firm; English, 20s to 28s; foreign, 18s to 20s per cwt. In grasses, French Italian and Irish Italian ryegrass very firm. Perennial ryegrass, New Zealand cocksfoot, and Meadow Fescue unchanged.—JOHN PICARD & Co.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—There has been some business done during the past week, and several growths of East Kents have passed into consumers hands, and the market must be quoted firm at current rates. The imports from September 1 to November 30, 1906, were 82,971 cwt., for the corresponding period last year 41,364 cwt. The exports from September 1 to November 30, 1906, were 4,010 cwt., for the corresponding period last year 10,735 cwt.—W. H. AND H. LE MAY.

Canterbury, Saturday—There is decidedly more inquiry. Some of the principal sales have been almost equal to those obtained in October.

Worcester, Saturday.—There are very few growers now offering hops, and with a rather better inquiry for all sorts, prices keep firm, but trade is limited owing to the absence of suitable lots. The want of cheap samples of new hops has caused some trade in yearlings.—CHARLES PARAM AND Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda continues unchanged. There is a seasonable demand for kainit, whilst phosphatic manures are in active request, with higher prices paid for the better qualities, and an increased demand is experienced for fine bone ash. Feeding stuffs continue inactive, with only a small consumptive trade. The values of imported linseed cakes slightly favour buyers, but English are without change, and decorticated cotton cakes remain steady. The recent arrivals of rice meal, owing to an inactive market, are being stored. For feeding treacle, however, there is a good demand.

	£ s d	£ s d
	Per ton.	
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7 15 0	8 0 0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, poor colour	8 2 6	8 7 6
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4 17 6	5 5 0
Cottonseed, Egyptian	—	—
Cottonseed (crushed) prime	7 17 6	—
Linseed Cake, American, prime	7 3 9	7 7 6
,, ,, English, prime	8 5 0	8 10 0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14 0 0	14 10 0
Palm Nut Cake	6 5 0	—
Corn Oil Cake	6 15 0	6 17 6
Maize Germ Meal	Nominal.	
	Per 240 lb.	
Indian meal	—	—
	Per ton.	
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4 15 0	—
	Per qr., 416 lb.	
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2 10 0	—
	Per Gallon.	
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0 4 0	—
	Per Cwt.	
Treacle, feeding, American cane	0 4 9	—
	Per ton.	
Nitrate of Soda	11 5 0	—
Kainit	2 2 6	2 5 0
Bone meal (coarse to fine)	5 5 0	5 7 6
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3 10 0	—
Basic Slag, prime quality	1 11 0	1 13 0
,, ,,	1 19 0	2 0 0
,, finest ,,	2 3 0	2 5 0
D.N.S. Brand } Superphosphate of Lime	2 5 0	2 7 0
,, ,, guaranteed	2 10 0	2 12 0
,, ,, ,,	3 1 3	3 3 3

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Oil Cakes. — Linseed cakes quiet. London made £8. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 13s 9d. — PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes.—The trade continues to rule dull and inanimate, with only a small retail business passing; in spite of which, however, quotations are firmly held up, and there is little disposition on the part of sellers to entertain lower prices either in spot or forward positions. Russian remain best value at £7 10s. to £7 12s. 6d. in mats, and £7 13s. 9d. to £7 15s. in bags. American are quoted at £7 10s. East India seed pures make £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. London made command full prices of £8 to £8 2s. 6d. Cotton Cakes.—A slight check has occurred in the downward tendency, and holders of Egyptian demand rather more money at £4 12s. 6d to £4 13s 9d, while English are practically without change at £4 12s 6d to £4 15s, and Bombays at £4 7s 6d. Decorticated: A limited quantity of American is available at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s., while meal is attractively offered at £7 5s. Rape Cakes.—Scarce. East India £5 10s. Ravison none. Maize Germ Meal.—Some white American in warehouse offers at £5 15s. to £5 16s. 3d., but English is only sparingly put on the market at £5 10s. to £5 12s. 6d. Maize gluten meal meets a ready sale at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon find a better inquiry, while for arrival sellers ask £4 7s. 6d. to £4 8s 9d. ex ship terms. Locust Beans are the turn dearer at £5 10s. for whole and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains sell freely at £5 5s. for ale, and £4 15s. for porter.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d
	Per ton.	
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
Russian, in mats	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
,, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
American	7 10 0	
Calcutta (to arrive)	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
English	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 5 0	
RAPE CAKES.		
Calcutta	5 10 0	
Ravison	—	
MAIZE.		
English Germ Meal	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
Garton's Gluted Feed	5 15 0	
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
,, afloat, ex ship	4 7 6	to 4 8 9
LOCUST BEANS.		
White	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
DRIED GRAINS.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Wet Grains: The market has had a more limited supply, and prices are firm at 21s ale, 18s porter, 35s distillers', and pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles are without much change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale, 102s 6d; mixed, 92s 6d; distillers', 107s 6d per ton on rail London, and higher prices are in evidence. Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 100s, kibbled locust beans 110s, damaged cotton cake for manure, 65s per ton. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Week ending December 8.—Altrincham: 4 and 5. Appleby: 6 and 7. Barnstable: 2s. per doz. Berwick: 1s 8d per doz. Birmingham: 6. Camelford: 1s 9d per doz. Carlisle: 5. Chester: 5 and 6. Dartmouth: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 to 10. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Dorchester: 1s 8d to 2s per doz. Evesham: 1s to 1s 5d per doz. Hereford: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Kidderminster: 7. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Lincoln: 6 and 7. Market Drayton: 6 and 7. Otley: 5. Penrith: 5 and 6. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Plymouth: 2s per doz. Redruth: 1s 6d per doz Retford: 2s 10d to 3s per score. Ripon: 6 and 7. Scarborough: 5. Spalding: 7. Shrewsbury: 6 to 8. Stamford: 6 to 8. Stockport: 5 and 6. Stockton: 4 and 5. Totnes: 1s 10d to 1s 11d per doz. Truro: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 3s 4d per score. York: 5 and 6.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending December 8.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d. Berwick: 10d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 5d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Derby, 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 5d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 3d and 13½d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 1s 10d to 2s per 24-oz. roll. Penrith: 1s to 1s 4d. Penzance: 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Redruth: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24-oz roll. Spalding: 1s. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Truro: 1s to 1s 2d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 5d. Worksop: 1s 4d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample supplies on offer, and trade generally brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 6d to 4s 6d; apples, 3s to 6s per bushel; cranberries, 10s 6d to 12s per case; cobnuts, 6s to 7s per 12 lb; Redon chestnuts, 8s to 12s per bag; walnuts (Grenoble), 5s to 7s per bag; celery, 6s to 12s; horseradish, 9s to 14s per dozen rolls; cauliflowers, 4s 6d to 7s; cabbage, 4s to 5s 6d per tally; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s; Brussels sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per bushel; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; carrots, 9d to 1s 3d; turnips, 1s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 6s to 12s; eschalots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; tomatoes, 4s 6d to 6s per 12 lb; potatoes, 80s to 90s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supply and demand. Prices: Cock turkeys, 8s to 14s; hen ditto, 4s 6d to 6s 6d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; snipe, 9d to 1s; quails, 1s to 1s 2d; wild ducks, 1s 9d; woodcock, 1s 9d to 2s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 8d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen; young grouse, 5s.

OBITUARY.

Mr. J. Soulby.

The death is announced, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, of Mr. John Soulby, Malton, who was well known in Agricultural circles. In early life, Mr. Soulby continued the business of an agricultural merchant, which had been carried on at Malton by his father and grandfather before him, and did a large business as a wool stapler and manure merchant. He was himself actively engaged in farming operations for many years, and in 1867 he took a prominent part in the promotion and formation of the North Riding of Yorkshire Chamber of Agriculture, of which he became honorary secretary. These were the days of the cattle plague (through which Mr. Soulby himself sustained severe losses), and the efforts of the Chamber were largely devoted to its repression by legislation. Branches of the Chamber were formed at York, Pickering, Ryedale, Thirsk Bedale, and throughout the Riding.

Mr. Soulby gave evidence before the Royal Commission on behalf of the Chamber, and it is in great measure due to the agitation of the Chamber that the policy of the present Diseases of Animals Acts has been accepted and developed by successive Governments. The main object of the chamber having been accomplished, it was shortly afterwards dissolved, and thereupon Mr. Soulby was presented with a silver tea and coffee service in appreciation of his services.

Deceased also took great interest in the question of the Derwent navigation, and gave evidence before the first Royal Commission on Canal Traffic. On his retirement from farming, over twenty years ago, he removed from the country to the town, where he had for many years previously carried on the business of a wine and spirit merchant, and which he continued up to the time of his death. His wife preceded him by a few months, but he leaves a son and two daughters. His only son is Mr. A. E. Bromehead Soulby, solicitor, Malton, who is also closely identified with the organisation of agriculture in Yorkshire, having been the secretary of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs for the past sixteen years.

Mr. J. F. Hall.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. J. F. Hall, of Sharcombe, Somerset, a well-known figure in the agricultural world. He was a member of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the British Dairy Farmers' Association, the English Jersey Cattle Society; a life member and councillor of the Bath and West; a member of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society for many years; a member of the Somerset County Agricultural Society; a past president and member of the council of the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society, and in many other ways supported these interests.

He was a very successful exhibitor of Jerseys, and a frequent judge of that breed, but it was not so much in that respect that his name was prominent. He cared more for what the herds would do practically, than for mere fancy points, and was in the breed club and the Dairy Farmers' Society, one of the pioneers of the practical milking and butter test trials, and the establishment of the butter ratio.

In the Mid-Somerset Society, the deceased gentleman introduced in the year of his presidency, 1893, the first of the series of dairy test competitions which have become a feature of the society. In doing this, and subsequently the exertion of his influence towards the teaching the testing of milk at the local grammar school, he paved the way for what he had really at heart, the setting up of cheap milk tests for farmers, a system since adopted by the Board of Agriculture as part of their machinery, and with which the local scheme has now been incorporated.

His death will be mourned by all with whom he came in contact, and especially Jersey cattle breeders. At the last meeting of the English Jersey Cattle Society the announcement of his death was received with profound regret by the large number of breeders present, and the president, Viscount Enfield, as well as several other members of the council, testified to the invaluable work carried out by Mr. Hall in connection with the society, especially his practical interest in the Jersey breed, and the dairy interest generally. The council directed the secretary to express their deep sympathy with Mr. Hall's family in their bereavement. The secretary (Mr. John Thornton) added his own personal regret at the loss of Mr. Hall, with whom he had been personally acquainted for many years.

FREEDOM IN FARMING.

THE FARMERS' CLUB PAPER.

"Freedom in Farming, with special reference to selling off of produce," was the title of the paper fixed to be read at the annual meeting of the Farmers' Club to-day (Monday). The author was the secretary, Mr. H. Trustram Eve, and from an advanced proof we make the following extracts:—

The main object of this paper is to point out the absurdity of many of the restrictive covenants in old-fashioned farm agreements. These are duly copied from religiously guarded office copies generation after generation until an enlightened agent drafts a modern and reasonable agreement or bad times enable would-be tenants to positively say they will not take a farm under those old-world conditions and they win or not according to the supply and demand for farms.

There is no doubt that the bad times since 1879 have been the cause of many new estate agreements, and everyone must admit that, as a whole, they are much more enlightened documents than they were. Still there is room for much improvement, and if landlords would realise that it is possible to maintain the fertility of a farm without these restrictive covenants, I feel sure they would gladly omit them in future agreements.

I know one case where the estate agreement was hopelessly out of date, and, when a new agent was appointed he called all the tenants together and they considered his new draft agreement clause by clause, and, in the end, settled a new one which is now in force. This struck me as a bold but sensible proceeding. It showed the agent was not afraid to discuss things with the tenants, and the proposed meeting made it plain to the tenants that the agent could not want anything very unreasonable.

What is the minimum of restrictive covenants which is necessary? Anything in excess of the minimum is only a cause of irritation to tenants and does harm to the good relation between landlord and tenant.

The covenants must be divided into two classes: (1) to operate during the tenancy, and (2) those affecting the leaving of the farm.

With regard to the first, I think it will be agreed that—take England all through—there is not much the matter with the custom of each particular district, and no tenant should object to sign a clause "And will manage and cultivate the farm in accordance with the best custom of the district."

In old-fashioned agreements, however, we find an exact rotation laid down which shows no trust in the tenant, and very little wisdom, I venture to say, on the part of the owner. For instance, our best farmers now grow barley after barley with no resulting harm to the land, and yet the fact of doing so breaks covenants in hundreds of agreements. I think that every tenant should have at least one-fifth or one-fourth (according to district) of the arable land in fallow or green crop in each year. He should have one-fifth (or fourth) in leguminous crop of some sort, and the other three-fifths (or two-fourths) he may have in white straw crops or anything else he prefers.

There are few districts where custom differs from the above scheme of farming, and no landlord can truly state that such a course of cropping can be detrimental.

Our friends, the agricultural chemists, will tell us it is most important that the breadth of a leguminous crop should not be reduced, as it is the only known way of procuring nitrogen for nothing.

There are some who go much farther in "freedom of cropping" than is sketched out, but those who advocate this are apt to lean on theory too much and neglect the practical lessons of the past.

I think it will be admitted that in those cases where tenants can farm as they please without restrictions, they rarely depart very far from the established and modernised custom of the district.

How can the amount of available manurial constituents remain constant on a farm is a question requiring much thought, and in an unexact science such as agriculture is capable of many answers.

In olden days there was only one way of ensuring there was no loss under this head—by making the tenant consume on the farm all the hay, straw, or green crops he produced, and letting him sell only the ripe part of the crops and the fat animals which had consumed the hay, straw, and roots.

This circulation of manurial constituents must have been very "tiring" to the land, and it is a question if the manurial constituents did not really get gradually less and less. However that was, landlords could do no more than bind their tenants to consume everything on the farm, and tenants willingly signed covenants to that effect as the then only possible solution.

With the invention of feeding cakes and artificial manures, with the construction of railways and the demands of towns for hay and straw, there was an entirely new light thrown upon the old methods of farming.

It was impossible to buy nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash either separately or in combination, and although they could not supplant the old friend called "dung"—tried and never found wanting in all time—yet the dung could be made richer by the feeding cakes, and a more economical result obtained by the judicious use of artificial manures combined with a less quantity of dung per acre.

This change became so apparent that first in Lincolnshire and afterwards in other districts it was admitted by everyone, that instead of the manurial constituents simply circulating on a farm, they were increasing through the use of cakes, so that an outgoing tenant felt he should receive payment for those unused constituents he had left for the incoming tenant.

After much agitation (how difficult it is to get an Act of Parliament to redress a grievance!) the 1875 Agricultural Holdings Act was passed, but was of a permissive character only. Landlords promptly responded by contracting out of it, but at the same time, it was then quite common to find in agreements, a covenant by the landlord to pay a proportion of the cake fed in the last year or two. I know of one estate where this has been done since 1845, but there may have been earlier cases.

In 1883, the Agricultural Holdings Act of that year made the compensation compulsory for manurial value left behind by the tenant, and in 1900 this was extended to the manurial value of corn produced on the holding.

I have wearied you with these well-known facts to remind you of the very gradual alteration in connection with the availability of manurial constituents, and yet we find to-day the same old restrictive covenants as to selling off as were in force sixty years ago. I know scores of agreements in force to-day where the tenant is not allowed to sell a handful of hay and straw, and I cannot for the life of me see what good it does to the farm in the end.

Surely it would be better for a wheat rick worth £25 to be turned into money, and on heavy land the money to be spent in soot. The manurial value of, say, forty loads* of wheat straw is £4 15s., whilst the manurial value of £25 worth of soot is naturally £25 if it be of good quality, and would be sufficient to dress some 25 acres, whilst the mechanical value of the straw might be taken as roughly approaching that of the straw.

Assuming this to be so, it will be seen that the exchange of soot for wheat straw £ for £ has gained the farm 500 per cent. in manurial constituents taking the wheat straw as the unit.

If the £25 were spent in the purchase of London dung some eighty tons could be bought assuming the price to be 6s. per ton on the farm. For a dressing of ten tons per acre this would manure eight acres; if the £25 worth of wheat straw had been made into dung it would have manured say three or four acres, and of course the London dung would be much richer than the plain straw dung.

The case of hay is not so marked, but sufficiently so to warrant the landlord giving permission to sell a portion provided the tenant agrees to spend the proceeds in the purchase of manurial constituents.

On thinking the matter over, and after having regard to the invention of feeding cakes and artificial manures, would it not be equally safe for landlords to seek to maintain the fertility of their farms by making *positive* covenants as to the bringing on of manurial constituents in the form of dung, cake, and feeding stuffs, rather than still rely on the *negative* covenants as to the sale of hay and straw.

After all, the object of the landlord is to see that the fertility of a farm is maintained by a proper proportion of a farm being annually dunged or fed by sheep, and my point is why not say so instead of trying to attain the same object by the roundabout way of preventing the sale of a load of the hay or straw.

It will be admitted that under the present law, a tenant cannot claim compensation for manures and goods brought on in lieu of hay and straw sold, contrary to agreement or custom, so that this possible loophole need not be considered.

* This load of straw is a little over 11½ cwt. in my district.

Notes at Home.

If my readers scan my report this week expecting to find any good tidings, I fear they will be disappointed. The dull monotony of our recent experience continues, the clouds of uncertainty surround us, and there is no appearance of light in the commercial atmosphere of the Borough. "But for hope," said a trader to me to-day, "we should all be in the lowest depths of despair." And what is our present hope in the hop trade: Its foundation is the possibility of the renewal of business when we have fairly entered into the new year.

The arguments advanced in favour of this view are the reduction of brewers' stocks by necessary consumption, and the limited supplies that will then be available. Concerning the last-named point, there is no doubt that, as regards the English crop of this year, the bulk has changed hands, and a very small proportion of it is left unsold. But foreign arrivals must be considered.

Belgian sellers are pressing their hops upon us at low prices. I have seen some very good samples of Alosts offered here at 60s. and 65s. It will also be seen in my notes from America that large shipments are being made from the Pacific Coast, and although the average of quality is rather on the low side, the hops are sent here for sale, and will be sold at some price. It does not appear that we are likely to be troubled with heavy imports from Germany, but, taking a broad survey of the future, I fear we can hardly count upon deficiency for the improvement of our trade. The necessities of brewers constitute an element in the estimation of the future, which is at present very unreliable.

Judging from some known facts, their independence will not be open to attack until the new year is well advanced. When, as at present, travellers cannot induce their customers to listen to their offers, or even to look at samples, it is certainly an indication that the pressure of necessity to replenish stocks has not yet arrived, or is in sight.

There is, therefore, not much clearness in the outlook. "The sickening pang of hope deferred" has still to be endured, and we can only trust to some events which are not within the range of our present vision, to bring us the return of activity and prosperity we all so earnestly desire.

An American Planter's Views.

Mr. W. H. Durst, who is one of the most important hop growers in California, has written to the *South Eastern Gazette*, and says that American growers are suffering from the same conditions that confront growers in Kent.

"As growers," he declares, "we are all Protectionists. We are sorry for the plight of the Free Trade English hop grower and agriculturist. It looks as if the producers of food stuffs in your country are being sacrificed to the much more numerous manufacturers. Personally I think Protection, or a levying of a heavy import duty on hops would work some benefit to the English grower, but I do not think it would do very much to counteract the effects of the bearing and short-selling tactics of many dealers both on this side and your side of the Atlantic. I do not think your growers should blame the legitimate dealers who import foreign hops to fill their customers' demands. Such importations do not hurt the trade.

There seems to be much inconsistency in these remarks. If I understand what is aimed at by an import duty, it is for the purpose of checking imports, or at least to impose on them such conditions, that values of home produce may be raised, to benefit the home producers. Under such conditions it is possible that legitimate trade would not be injured, but I cannot accept Mr. Durst's professed sympathy with our growers, so long as he is enjoying the advantages of our free markets without any cost to himself. He appreciates Protection on his own side, because it keeps him safe from competition from without, but it sounds rather hypocritical for him to advocate the same protection for us, when he knows that our benefit therefrom would certainly be his loss. If he lived in England and was growing hops here I could

Turning to another section of his letter, I find that he attributes the misfortunes of the hop industry to two great evils—viz., gambling in futures, and contracting at fixed prices over a series of seasons. In America, it appears, according to Mr. Durst's statements, that dealers discount the market and sell for future delivery at ridiculous prices, trusting to being able to cover themselves by future large crops, which necessarily mean low prices; or, if luck should not attend their speculations, they back out of making good their deliveries.

Such practices are, of course, most reprehensible, and I agree with Mr. Durst that they should be punishable by law if it can be proved that they are detrimental to public interests. But I am glad to believe that legislation in this direction is not required in the English hop trade. Our merchants are not given to such tricks, and, indeed, as regards English-grown hops, it is not possible to conduct such nefarious transactions. The law which requires our growers to brand their hops with their names and parishes, sufficiently protects them from any illegitimate dealing with their growths.

But I am sorry to have to recognise that American acuteness has introduced the contracting system into England, and there is little doubt that if it is further developed it must indirectly damage our business. Already many of our brewers have taken the tempting and illusive bait, and the fact that this system is getting a footing amongst us furnishes another argument in favour of legislation for the protection of the British farmer from the attacks of his foreign foes. Mr. Durst advocates "shipping our surplus out of the country."

Of course he does, so long as he can find a free market like ours to ship to, and he is candid enough to confess that it will benefit him by keeping prices up on his side, but where is his sympathy for the English grower when he knows that these shipments will depress the English market. His further argument that such shipments of American surpluses will prevent dealers from that side offering our brewers and dealers hops at knock-out prices, is absolutely fallacious.

If our market is thus overloaded, the certain effects will be seen in the pressure to sell, and the consequent lowering of values not only of the imported hops, but also of our own stocks with which the Americans come to compete. Mr. Durst is a large grower. His production this year amounted to 8,000 bales, over 600 tons. We can see with half an eye where are his real interests, and therefore can estimate at its true value any advice that he may think fit to tender to us.

Notes from Abroad.

America.

A cable-message received this week says:—"Our market is demoralised; dealers are not operating, and no improvement is anticipated in the near future. It is reported that 65,000 bales are *en route* for England." This information comes from Washington, and is confirmed by other news from the West Coast, throughout which districts the trade seems to be in a very depressed and almost hopeless condition.

From New York State I hear that there is rather a better feeling, and prices ranging from 17 to 23 cents have been realised. But the trade stands on a somewhat uncertain foundation, as it appears to be in the hands of speculators, there being but little consumptive demand. It is therefore inferred that there is some probability of better prices in the new year, but, as one of my correspondents remarks, "it is by no means sure, as even the speculators get fooled at times."

Germany.

Business in the Nuremberg market has rather slackened off lately, the sales being now less than the arrivals. Exports business have been small for the last few weeks, but the general local demand is fairly well maintained. Consequent upon these conditions the values of low and medium hops are a little easier, but there is still much firmness in the better sorts. Quotations may be approximately given as under:—Market hops, 68s. to 98s.; Hallertaus, 85s. to 115s.; Spalts, 80s. to 115s.; Wurtembergs, 75s. to 115s.; Alsatians, 90s. to 110s., adding about 20 per cent. for the cost of baling, &c.

Belgium.

There is very little business doing, and holders are anxious to sell. The tendency of the markets both in town and country is therefore downward. Recent quotations for Alost and Poperlinghe town hops are alike at about 60 francs, say 58s. per cwt. It seems to be thought that the Belgian crop of this year was under ostimated, as there are evidently more hops now on offer than might have been expected at this period of the season, if the actual yield had been as small as was originally reported.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

Meeting at Stamford.

The annual meeting of the Stamford branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at the Crown Hotel, Stamford, on Friday, December 7. Mr. John Thurlby, of Baston, presided over a large gathering of farmers and others interested in agriculture, the Mayor of Stamford (Mr. J. Woolston, J.P., C.C.), Professor Sigmund Stein (Liverpool), Mr. H. W. Palmer (secretary of the Lincs. Farmers' Union), Mr. J. Turner (local hon. secretary) being among those present.

The officers were elected as follows:—Mr. J. Thurlby, president; Mr. J. Woolhouse (Barnack), vice-president; Mr. J. Turner (Little Bytham), hon. secretary; Messrs. Geo. Hudson (Empingham) and Wm. Pick (Collyweston), assistant hon. secretaries; also a representative committee comprising the following well-known farmers living in South Lincolnshire, Rutland, and North Northants:—Messrs. J. Thurlby, L. J. Brigg, C.C. Lawrence, J. Woolston, Hill, E. Clark, J. Turner, J. E. Tyler, G. Hudson, Wm. Pick, R. Pick, A. Templeman, E. W. Peasgood, G. Harris, W. Thurlby, G. H. Mason, J. Woolhouse, F. Mountain, and G. Mawby.

The president returned thanks for his re-election, and briefly touched upon various matters which had been dealt with during the year, and Mr. Palmer (of Lincoln) gave a more lengthy *résumé* of what the Union had taken in hand and their programme in the near future. The question of the railway rates in Lincolnshire was one which they meant to press forward, more especially in order that they might enjoy the same privileges and facilities in regard to railway traffic as were in vogue in adjoining counties. He called attention to some important questions which had been deal with in the Mark Lane Express, and said members would study their own interests if they all became subscribers to that paper, the proprietors of which were extending special facilities to farmers belonging to the union. The Mark Lane Express gave good reports of the meetings of the Union, and their articles bearing upon agricultural matters from time to time would be found instructive and interesting reading. He hoped the time was not far distant when the Stamford Branch would have a membership of at least 200. The president, in a few remarks, congratulated Mr. Woolston upon his election to the mayoralty of that ancient borough, and extolled his efforts as a practical agriculturist. The mayor acknowledged the compliment, and spoke in favour of growing sugar beet as a more profitable source of income than the cultivation of barley at its present low price. Professor Sigmund Stein gave a lengthy and able lecture upon sugar beet growing, dealing with the question exhaustively from all standpoints. He advised farmers to do the same as was done in Germany, where the cultivation of sugar beet and the manufacture of sugar was a very successful industry. He clearly showed that if it could be done in Germany it could be adopted with success in England, and gave some important details in support of his arguments. Two samples of the beet grown close to Stamford by Mr. J. Woolston and Mr. F. Mountain were brought to the notice of the meeting and declared to be excellent specimens. The lecturer's remarks were listened to with keen attention, and at the close of his address he gave satisfactory replies to a number of questions. The president said they would all carefully consider what they had heard, and watch with interest the development of the proposed factory at Sleaford, and he was sure if it would do the agricultural industry any good there were many intelligent farmers in the nighbourhood of Stamford who would have enterprise enough to help to secure a factory for that district.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer concluded a most successful meeting.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The Duke of Rutland, who was unable to attend a meeting of the Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture, at Leicester, on the 1st inst., to discuss the Land Tenure Bill, wrote to Mr. Harrison, the hon. secretary, a letter on the subject, in the course of which he said:—"What I personally look on as the greatest danger to agriculturists arising from the Bill is the direct attempt to foment ill-feeling, and consequent litigation, between landlord and tenant, insidiously suggested in every clause of it. The Bill reeks of legal proceedings from beginning to end. In short, it is a Bill for the benefit of lawyers and bad and incompetent tenants. Good tenants and labourers will not benefit a scrap. But, as I have said before, emasculated as the Bill now is, I do not think this miserable attempt to breed ill-feeling between owners and occupiers is likely to be of serious moment." The Chamber passed a resolution that no Act would be satisfactory to tenant farmers which did not consolidate the Land Tenure Bill and the various Holdings Acts already in existence.

At a special meeting of the members of the Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club held to consider the matter of the closing of the market to the pig trade by the order of the Board of Agriculture, owing to recent notifications of swine fever in the district, it was unanimously resolved:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is unnecessary that Farcham Market should be entirely closed for the sale of swine, and that it would be sufficient to close the market for store pigs only, and allow fat pigs to be sold, provided they were slaughtered within four days." They asked that the order be so modified to enable this to be done, and the Hon. Eric Rollo (inspector of the Board of Agriculture) who addressed the meeting, promised that it should be done.

It was reported at the meeting of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture held on the 1st inst. that an application having been made to the London and North-Western Railway Company for a reduction of fares to delegates attending the Central Chamber, the reply was received that the

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directors could not see their way to comply with the request. A resolution was passed to the effect that the reply was most unsatisfactory, inasmuch as while any football club could get cheap fares members of the agricultural interest engaged in matters of far greater importance were debarred from the same privilege. A discussion took place on the Motor Car Bill, and on a vote the Chamber passed a resolution in favour of the retention of the 20-mile limit. It was recommended that the identification plates on motor cars should be larger. The allegation was made that in some cases the plates were oiled that the numbers might be the more readily obscured by dust.

The question of the prosecution of hop pickers for neglecting to send their children to school came up for consideration at a meeting of the Worcestershire Farmers' Association, held on the 1st inst., Mr. Lawson Walker stating that several dozen of his pickers were fined upon their return to the Black Country. This, he urged, was a great hardship upon people who were taking a much-needed summer holiday, and there must be something wrong with any system which allowed it. Several hop growers spoke to the same effect, and eventually it was decided to make representation upon the matter to the Board of Agriculture and the Board of Education.

The report of the Royal Commission on Motor Cars was among the subjects on the agenda at the last meeting of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture, and it gave rise to a lengthy discussion, the result of which was that the following resolutions were carried:—(1) "That this chamber is entirely opposed to the abolition of the speed limit for motor-cars. It would suggest, looking to the number of accidents which are continually arising, that the speed should be reduced from twenty miles to fifteen miles an hour"; (2) "That as the roads have to be much more expensively made and kept in order on account of the motor traffic, all extra expense incurred in making up the roads should be paid for by increased licenses on motors."

The Doncaster and District Shire Horse Society have had a most satisfactory year, said the secretary, Mr. F. H. Chafer, at the annual meeting, and he added there had been a good percentage of foals. The balance-sheet showed that the receipts on the horse account had been £375 2s. 6d., and that there was a balance in hand of £63 4s. 6d., compared with £10 last year. The president congratulated the members upon the present financial position of the society, and the balance-sheet was adopted *nem. con.* Mr. G. B. C. Yarborough was unanimously re-elected president of the society for the ensuing year, and Mr. F. H. Chafer re-elected secretary.

At the meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club a letter was read from the Maidstone Farmers' Club and Mid-Kent Chamber of Agriculture, in which was emphasised the necessity of legislation to prevent the importation of gooseberry bushes from countries affected with "American gooseberry mildew," and the members adopted a resolution in favour of supporting any steps that may be taken to urge the Government to give early consideration to the subject.

The subject of railway rates for agricultural produce was the chief topic of discussion at the last meeting of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture, and examples of untairness by the railway companies were given by Mr. Parlour. He said that potatoes were carried from St. Malo to London at a cheaper rate, including the shipping charges, than they were from Lincolnshire to London. The consequence was that the Lincolnshire grower was placed at a considerable disadvantage in competition with the French grower. Mr. Parlour also mentioned a case where, lately, cattle were charged £2 17s. 8d. when the maximum charge laid down was only 11s. 2½d. Other members spoke on the matter, and it was decided to support the Railway Contracts Bill to amend the present system of rate charging. It was also decided to again bring the matter of local taxation before the proper authorities, urging that there should be uniform assessment both imperial and local.

The provisions of the Small Landholders (Scotland) Bill were considered at a largely attended meeting of landowners, farmers, and others held at Ayr on Tuesday, and the following resolutions were carried:—(1) "That the Landholders (Scotland) Bill now before Parliament, which threatens to seriously affect the interests of owners and occupiers of land, freedom of contract, and the rights of property, calls for united action on the part of landowners, tenants and others interested in landed property or the welfare of agriculture."

GREAT AND
CONTINUED SUCCESS, 1906.

In the Open Competitions of the Kingdom the produce of

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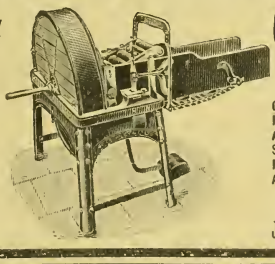

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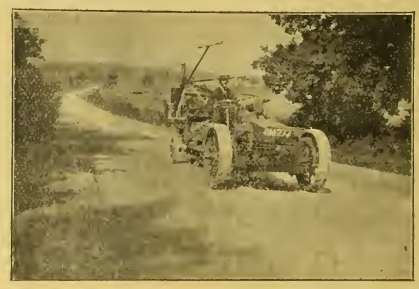

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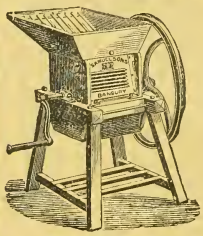

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Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The effect of an over average temperature from October 1 to November 30 is not eradicated by a few sharp frosts and the aspect of tho fields at mid-December is decidedly forward. The colour of the autumn wheat is exceedingly good, and there is undoubtedly much difference between a wot warm soil, such as that in which the grain now rests and a wet, cold, sour soil, such as a wot autumn after a cold summer induces. If we have a dry and frosty six weeks from now to Candlemas the agricultural outlook will be exceedingly satisfactory. But the fields want no more rain.

The Russian crop news is favourable so far as it goes, but the item of most interest there is strike news. The political discontent has shifted for the time being to industry, and it is extremely difficult to work either the docks or the railways. The stocks of wheat which are waiting exportation are heavy. We hear of 800,000 qr. at Odessa, 900,000 at Nicolaieff, 200,000 qr. at Novorossisk, 120,000 qr. at Rostoff, 100,000 qr. at Tagaurog, and 75,000 qr. at Theodosia.

The American Government informs us that the winter wheat areas on December 1 were as follows:—

1906	31,665,000 acres.
1905	31,341,000 ,,
1904	31,155,000 ,,

The promise was 941 points out of a 1,000 (which represents 15 bushels to the acre). The real promise, therefore, is of 14·11 bushels to the acre, 13 bushels being the twenty-five years' mean. The American Board of Agriculture's 1,000 points do not represent any impossibly high speed, but simply what should under existing conditions be aimed at.

Stocks of foreign wheat in the United Kingdom at the end of month are thus estimated.

December 15, 1906	2,590,000 qr.
,, ,, 1905	2,375,000 ,,
,, ,, 1904	2,925,000 ,,

Present holdings are very close to the average of 2½ million quarters.

Stocks of wheat in American merchants' hands are as follows:—

December 15, 1906	9,422,000 qr.
,, ,, 1905	7,800,000 ,,
,, ,, 1904	7,377,000 ,,

This cable will hardly help the British markets between now and Christmas, but the merchants who hold this extra 1,622,000 qr do not show any eagerness to sell at present prices.

Wheat gradients last week were as follows:...

Canterbury	28s. 4d. per qr.
Ripon	24s. 11d. ,, ,,
Range	3s. 5d. ,, ,,

Barloy showed the following differences:—

Canterbury	25s. 9d. per qr.
Bridlington	21s. 5d. ,, ,,
Range	4s. 4d. ,, ,,

Oats were not so depressed as wheat and barley:—

Canterbury	19s. 2d. per qr.
Peterborough	16s. 7d. ,, ,,
Range	2s. 7d. ,, ,,

Prices in Scotland are about 1s. higher for wheat and barley than in England, and oats aro about a florin higher.

The sales of British wheat at tho 190 statute markets last week were not large for December, and the total sales since harvest have been nearly 20 per cent. below the average, 30 per cent. below the high figures of last year:—

This season 1,006,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,306,000 qr. ,, 27s. 6d. ,,

Barley sales have been up to a full average:—

This season 2,226,000 qr. at 24s. 7d. per qr.
Last ,, 2,256,000 qr. ,, 24s. 5d. ,,

Sales of oats have been decidedly larger than usual:—

This season 486,000 qr. at 16s. 8d. per qr.
Last ,, 427,000 ,, 16s. 9d. ,,

The Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 387,000 qr.: a full supply.
Flour, 128,500 sks.: a fair supply.
Barley, 90,000 qr.: less than usual.
Oats, 78,000 qr.: a very small supply.
Maize, 109,000 qr.: nearly an average.

Of breadstuffs, receipts to date are as follows:—

Wheat	5,817,000 qr.
Flour	1,496,000 ,,
Total	7,313,000 ,,

Last season's receipts were a little larger than this total.

The American markets are once more exciting a considerable influence upon Mark Lane and Liverpool, so that it will be useful to note their course since the opening of the season:—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.		Wheat, per qr. s.	d.	Maize, per qr. s.	d.	Flour, per sk. s.	d.
September	1 ...	29	0	21	6	20	6
,,	8 ...	28	9	21	6	20	3
,,	15 ...	28	6	21	6	20	3
,,	22 ...	28	3	21	6	20	0
,,	29 ...	28	0	21	2	20	0
October	6 ...	28	3	20	6	20	0
,,	13 ...	28	3	20	3	20	0
,,	20 ...	28	0	20	3	20	0
,,	27 ...	28	0	20	6	20	0
November	3 ...	29	3	20	8	20	0
,,	10 ...	28	4	20	7	20	0
,,	17 ...	28	8	20	3	20	0
,,	24 ...	28	6	20	0	20	0
December	1 ...	28	5	19	9	20	0
,,	8 ...	28	9	19	3	19	10
,,	15 ...	28	4	19	2	19	10

The wheat is red winter (480 lb.), the maize is flat corn (480 lb.), and the flour is "spring wheat clears" (280 lb.). Freights vary daily, but on Saturday 1s. 4d. per qr. was quoted for wheat and maize, and 1s. 4d. per sack for flour.

Fine spring wheat averages 31s. 8d. per qr., which is only 10d. below London value. Shipments of that type are therefore at present unprofitable.

Tho freights have risen 4d. on tho week, but wheat has fallen 5d., so that the position is substantially unchanged. American shipments were 370,000 qr. of wheat, 116,000 qr. of maize, and 120,000 sacks of flour. The shipments of barley 111,000 qr. aro thoso of a fortnight, including 71,000 qr. from California and 40,000 qr. from Atlantic ports.

Argentina last week shipped 29,000 qr. of wheat, 264,000 qr. of maize, and 41,000 qr. of linseed. Ths maize shipments were good, but stocks are said to be getting exhausted.

Russia shipped 311,000 qr. of wheat, 222,000 qr. of barley, 100,000 qr. of oats, and 27,000 qr. of maize. The shipments of wheat and barley were very heavy for a December week. The Baltic ports are mostly ice-bound, but Riga and Lebau were open on the 13th. Cronstadt and Petersburg, and, of course, the home northern Helsingfor being closed.

Roumania shipped the extraordinary total of 315,000 qr. of wheat, and so energetic are the efforts being made to clear before the Danube freezes that even larger shipments are anticipated. The other exports were barley 132,000 qr., oats 75,000 qr., and maize 126,000 qr.

India shipped 69,000 qr. of wheat and 14,000 qr. of linseed, while Australasia sent off 8,000 qr. of wheat, probably tho last cargo of the old crop. The new is in active course of reaping in the warmer parts, and is expected to show a clear 5,000,000 qr. available for shipment. The New Zealand fields, however, will not be ripe for six weeks yet.

The supplies on passage, so far as wheat, flour, oats, and rapeseed go, are under an average. In the cases of barley and cottonseed a considerable excess is disclosed, while the figures for maize and linseed may be called normal.

Wheat supplies on 15th inst. were:—Californian, 510,000 qr.; American, 270,000 qr.; Russian, 460,000 qr.; Indian, 234,000 qr.: Argentine, 115,000 qr.; Australian, 205,000 qr.; various, 40,000 qr.; total, 1,774,000 qr. A week ago, 1,783,000 qr.

Of flour 270,000 sacks are on passage.

Of barley the following are the expectations:—Russian and Roumanian, 350,000 qr.; American and Californian, 310,000 qr.; Asiatic, 70,000 qr.; total, 730,000 qr.

Of maize 865,000 qr., of oats 125,000 qr., of linseed 140,000 qr., of rapeseed 10,000 qr., and of cottonseed 51,000 tons, were on 15th inst. on passage to the United Kingdom.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

With a continuance of large supplies, and demand of a very quiet character, the trade remains in a dull condition, and prices again show a downward tendency. At end of week, however, with more seasonable weather, the tone is somewhat firmer, but market on the whole is a very disappointing one, and any change for the better can now hardly be looked for until well in the New Year. Clovers are a very quiet trade, and with large supplies values are slightly lower. Hays are coming along very freely, and find a poor demand at lower prices. Mixtures seem to be the qualities for which there is any inquiry at all, and values remain at last week's quotations, prime sorts being now on the same level as best clovers, while plainer sorts find a fair trade. Straw continues in fair supply, and is finding a steady trade at about previous rates. In the foreign market arrivals are not over large, but with the demand of a moderate character prices show a wavering tendency. Canadian mixtures, owing to small supplies, manages to hold its prices, but Dutch hays are again easier. Prices ruling are about as follows:—Best meadow hay, 82s 6d to 85s per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 80s; plain hay, 70s per ton; bhst clovers, 92s 6d per ton; good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 80s per ton; best mixtures, 92s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixture, 70s to 60s per ton; seconds hay, clovers and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 27s to 28s per load; oat straw, 27s per load; barley straw, 27s per load, all ex rail, London. Hay: Canadian mixture, 84s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 74s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 69s per ton; French and Dutch 1st and 2nd cut clover, 85s per ton. French large wheat straw, 50s per ton; French small wheat straw, 42s 6d per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

THE BALTIC.

Only one cargo arrived on sale off coast from the 8th to 15th inst. It was a cargo of Californian wheat. The London Corn Trade Association quotes white Kurachee wheat at 30s 3d, and red at 29s 6d per 492 lb. These are the prices where the value is left to the Association under contract (Rule No. 4). The Association is closing from the 22nd to 27th inclusive.

Wheat cargoes are firmer than the 10th, as they well might be, seeing how weak the trade then was. Prices made on 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th have included 29s. 9d. per 480 lb. for Borneo, 29s. 9d. per 480 lb. for North Australian, 31s. 6d. per 500 lb. for Calfornian, 30s. 3d. per 480 lb. for Manitoba, 31s. per 492 lb. for South Russian Winter, and 25s. 9d per 492 lb. for Bulgarian.

Barley cargoes are inactive, yet two Kustendje have been placed at 19s. 10½d. per 400 lb., and two Californian at 26s. per 448 lb. A cargo of Smyrna beans fetched 31s. 3d. per 480 lb. on Friday.

Concerning maize cargo futuros *Berthohm's List* says:

The new American crop is now beginning to move more freely, but it is noticeable that since November 1 (the beginning of the new season) the primary receipts have been less than in either of the three previous years, notwithstanding that the present crop is supposed to be a record one. The total receipts for the past five weeks are, in fact, only 1,791,000 qr., against 2,566,000 qr. last year, and 2,611,000 qr. in 1904; the result is that the visible supply is only 5,888,000 bush. against 12,253,000 bush. last year, when the higher prices obtainable, 21s. to 21s. 6d. c.i.f. London, evidently were an attraction. During the present week 21s. 1½d. c.i.f. London has been obtained for parcels afloat, while December shipments made 19s. 6d., and January 19s. 3d. These prices seem to us to be too low to attract America's surplus freely, in view of the more profitable prices obtainable at home for hog feeding, and the many other uses to which Maize is put in America.

With reference to cargoes of oats, *Berthohm's List* gives the following as the latest cargo values:—

"Oats steady; fair demand for La Plata.
Danubian, on passage, 15s 9½d Dec., 15s 10½d.
White Libau, 5 per cent., Dec. 15s 4½; Jan., 15s 7½d.
Black Libau, 5 and 15 per cent., Dec., 15s
Konigsberg, on sample Dec. 15s 6d to 15s 6d.
South Russian, on passage, on sample, 15s 7½d to 15s 10½d.
La Plata, Jan Feb., 15s 6d. Feb March, 15s 4½d; March-April, 15s.
No. 1 Manitoba, Dec., 18s.
No. 2 Manitoba, Dec., 17s 9d; Dec., 17s 10½d."

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, but quiet, at late rates. Whites quoted at 29s, 31s, reds at 28s, 30s 6d. Foreign firmly held, and 1½d to 3d advance asked for American; 31s 7½d to 31s 9d wanted No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s, 31s 3d No. 2, 30s 3d hard winter, 32s 6d to 32s 9d No. 1 hard Manitoba, all ex ship to arrive; 28s 6d to 30s wanted for New Zealand, 29s, 32s La Plata, 30s choice white Karachi, 29s 3d red Karachi, all ex store. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize firm, and sellers asked 3d advance, 21s wanted American ex ship, 22s to 22s 3d ex quay; 20s 6d, 20s 9d La Plata ex ship, 21s 3d landed. Barley firm, unchanged, Odessa-Nicolaieff ex ship quoted at 19s 7½d to 19s 9d, landed 20s to 20s 3d. Oats firm, but inactive; common sorts quoted at 16s to 16 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat.—English quiet, at unchanged prices. Foreign firmly held at late rates, but inactive; 31s 6d to 31s 9d wanted No. 1 Northern Manitoba; 31s No. 2; 30s 3d hard winter, 32s 6d No. 1 hard Manitoba, all ex ship, to arrive; 30s 3d choice white Karachi; 29s 3d red Karachi; 31s to 32s Australian; 29s to 32s Plata, all ex store; 26s 6d to 33s South Russian ex ship, 28s 6d to 33s ex store. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize firmly held, at fully late rates; 21s wanted mixed American, ex ship; 22s ex store; 20s 6d to 20s 9d Plata, ex ship; 21s to 21s 3d landed. Barley firm, quiet; Odessa-Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s 6d to 19s 9d, landed at 20s to 20s 3d. Oats firm, unchanged; Danubian and common sorts quoted at 16s to 16s 3d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—White oats 19s to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—With a fair attendance, trade was confined to small dimensions, but the tone generally was firm. Wheat made 27s to 29s per qr; barleys of malting quality, 27s to 28s; inferior barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 19s to 22s; black oats, 18s to 21s; flat maize, 25s; round maize, 23s to 24s; mazagan beans, 27s to 28s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; foreign grinding barley, 21s to 22s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 25s to 26s 6d per qr; barley, 24s to 28s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 28s 6d per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr; peas, 28s to 31s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance, with smaller supplies of grain. Wheat and oats unchanged. Barley quiet at late rates. Wheat, 26s to 27s; barley, 23s 6d to 27s; oats, 19s to 21s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Moderate attendance, trading more of a retail character. Not much demand for foreign wheats, for which sellers ask the following prices:—River Plate 31s to 31s 6d per qr (496 lb), Russian 28s to 29s 6d, Kurrachee 30s per qr, all at Sharpness. A fair trade for feeding stuffs; Plate maize 20s 9d per 480 lb, Bessarabian 21s, both at Sharpness. Grinding barley 3d dearer at 19s 9d to 20s per 400 lb, Sharpness. English wheat made from 10s 6d to 10s 9d per 186 lb delivered; beans 11s 6d to 11s 9d per 196 lb; oats easy at from 18s 6d to 19s per 312 lb delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Very slow trade, and small attendance. Smaller supply of wheat. Prices unaltered. Barley, 28s to 32s; feeding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 20s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Bristol Thursday.—English wheat in good supply, making last week's prices. Foreign firm and occasionally 3d dearer. Maize firm at 3d rise. Barley unaltered. Oats unchanged. Flour slow to sell, consumption still low, prices maintain last week's level.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: A fair average supply, a steady demand, but trade unchanged on the week. Good samples of red or white 27s 6d to 28s 6d, others 26s 6d to 27s, revets 26s to 27s per qr. Barley: Demand steady at 28s 6d to 33s per qr for best quality. Lower grades quiet at 26s 6d to 28s per qr. Feeding corns generally steady in tone.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is considerable scarcity of barley, and prices show a tendency to harden, malting qualities are worth from 26s to 30s and feeding barley from 23s to 24s per qr. Wheat is firm, 65 lb lots making from 29s 6d to 30s. Oats are steady at from 18s for 38 lb samples up to 20s for 42 lb lots. Grey peas, 28s 6d per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Smaller supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at full prices, 18s to 19s 6d per 336 lb.—THOS. ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a fair demand for feeding stuffs, with prices steady. River Plate corn was a little dearer, while mixed American was on the easier side. Wheat and oats were the same prices as last week, a poor demand being experienced. Offals firm and attendance small. Quotations:—White wheat, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 3d per 64 lb; old beans, 6s to 6s 6d; and new, 4s 9d to 5s per 80 lb; old oats, 3s to 3s 4d; and new, 2s 2d to 2s 6d per 46 lb; old Indian corn, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb; new River Plate, 11s 3d to 11s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat steady. Oats and barley quiet.—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO. LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—About an average attendance of farmers and dealers. A fairly good show of wheat, but the demand was quiet at a shade under last week's prices. Oats a pretty strong trade at fully late rates. Beans and peas unchanged. Quotations:—Old wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; new wheat, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; old oats, 25s to 26s 6d; new oats, 18s 6d to 21s 6d; peas, 12s to 14s; old beans, 12s 9d to 13s 3d; new beans, 11s 6d to 12s per 196 lb.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very limited supply of English wheat, and trade only nominal, no alteration in prices—10s 6d per load of 3 bushels. Foreign was quiet at last week's rates. Poor supply of barley, fine samples being very scarce at at 26s to 30s per qr. Inferior neglected. Oats and maize unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Moderately good attendance at to-day's corn market and a fair offer of corn, although the week had been very adverse to threshing. Business was very inactive, the fat stock sales continuing to largely absorb attention to the detriment of corn dealing generally. Wheat was in very limited demand, and prices must be quoted as nominally unchanged. Little alteration to note in barley, but few sales of either taking place; other articles nominally unchanged, prices all round being practically a reflex of the previous week.

Devizes, Thursday.—The trade for both wheat and barley was slow. Ordinary 12 score 12 lb lots of wheat will only realise about 13s 6d per sack. Oats sell at late rates. New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 26s; old oats, 22s to 24s; new ditto, 18s to 20s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Dublin, Friday.—Irish wheat in limited request. Oats held at late rates, and fair supplies available. Flour in quiet demand at full prices. Oatmealfirm. Bran tending dearer. Quotations: Wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; oats, 10s 6d to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The week has been quiet, but firm. Thre was a better attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat fairly steady. Flour keeps steady, but demand slow. Maize and corn firmer, and owing to limited supply has advanced 1½d per boll on the week. Barley firm, at late rates. Oats, a little better for home, but unchanged for foreign. Beans quiet. Pease firm. Bran in good demand, and prices keep firm. Thirds unchanged. Oatmeal unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—A rather better demand for flour of all kinds, but prices are unchanged. The sale has improved for wheat, and full prices have been paid. Mixed American maize firmly held for 12s 3d per 280 lb. Foreign barley 3d higher; other feeding stuffs steady. Bran continues in good demand at 95s for medium and £5 5s per ton for broad.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in moderate supply and unchanged in value. Foreign quiet trade at laterates. Plate maize 3d dearer, flat and Bessarabian unchanged. Barley 3d dearer. Oats showed firmer tendency.

Grantham, Saturday.—Small attendance. Wheat met with a steady inquiry, and maintained late rates, namely, 26s 6d to 27s 6d per qr. Barley in small supply, 24s to 33s; oats, 17s to 19s; blue peas, to 70s; beans, 28s to 30s, per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Good attendance, but business, on the whole, was satisfactory. Wheats were nominally unchanged, with little doing. Barleys very dull, with few transactions. Oats remained firm. Maize 3d per qr dearer, with an upward tendency. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in average supply, and met with a quiet demand, quite unchanged on the week. Reds or whites 27s to 29s per qr, according to condition of samples. Revets 2s 6d to 27s 6d per qr. Barley: Good malting samples were in steady demand, and firm at 28s 6d to 33s per qr.; lower quality parcels were dull and unchanged, at 26s to 27s 6d per qr; grinding sorts steady. Oats firm, 19s 6d to 22s per qr. Beans unchanged, at 31s, old up to 34s per qr. Maize firm, and unchanged, at 21s 3d per qr. Linseed cakes £8 to £8 7s 6d per ton. Cottons £5 10s per ton. Bran firm at £5 5s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wheat trade has maintained its firm tone during the past week with a fair amount of business in American Springs, Plates, and fine Russians. while cargoes of white wheats have some speculative inquiry. Shipments though large, are chiefly for the Continent, the United Kingdom receiving below its proper proportions, and the granary stocks continue to shrink. Wheat is firm to-day at fully last week's prices. Barley steady for all approved qualities. Maize beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With the fair arrivals of English wheat, both by rail and water, prices remained without change, with a moderate demand. Owing to a falling off in foreign supplies of wheat, prices closed the turn dearer. Flour continued in good demand, the chief run being upon seconds, which averaged from 25s to 26s 10d. Maize was dearer, Plate making 20s to 21s. Other articles unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Average attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a slow sale. Red wheats, 2 7s to 28s; white wheats, 28s to 29s per 36 stone; malting barley, 27s to 31s per 32 stones; beans in fair request; oats, 19s to 21s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A moderate attendance, and trade was of a languid description. English wheats firm, but prices unaltered. Foreign also unchanged, Feeding stuffs firm at last week's prices, and malting barley at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market has a smaller attendance, and wheat, whilst very steady at full prices, meets only a moderate demand. Flour: A quiet trade at about unchanged rates for both foreign and home-made brands. Maize: Mixed is firmly held, with a fair trade doing at unchanged prices. Plate is firm, with more doing at full prices. European steady, except Russian, which is lower to sell. Barley firm, at 1d advance for malting, and feeding firm, without alteration. Beans move slowly, but no change of moment is quoted in values. Peas a quiet trade at late rates. Oats: A slow trade but without material change in prices. Oatmeal unchanged in prices, but only in small demand. Oilcake: A quiet sale without quotable change in values. Indian Meal in quiet demand at about recent rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat scarce and demand slow. Foreign was occasionally ¼d to ¾d per cental higher. Indian corn: Mixed American, ½d to ¾d lower on the week. Flour unchanged. Barley: Feeding scarce at 1d to 1½d dearer. English oats slow and unchanged. Beans and peas (foreign) unchanged; English in sellers' favour. Bran and offals occasionally 3d. per load dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Quiet market; small attendance) prices inclined to harden. Quotations: White and red wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 27s; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; white oats, 17s 6d to 19s; black oats, 16s 6d to 18s; beans, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market was held for higher prices; demand, however, was only quiet. Maize firm and dearer. A steady trade was done in oats, and the full prices of last Saturday. Peas and beans firm at late rates. Barley quiet; unchanged in values.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat was unchanged. Barley very firm and unaltered in price. Maize and oats steady and unchanged. Flour, fines, 22s. 6d. per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—The attendance was small. Very little grain was showing, and trade was decidedly slow all round. New wheat, 26s to 27s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 19s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 17s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 29s; peas, 28s to32s; flour, 23s to 27s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply; holders asked an advance. The business done was at full rates. Barley: finest samples maintain their prices, other sorts neglected. Oats and beans but few offering, and prices supported.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A slow market of wheat at unchanged prices, the supply keeps moderate. For barley the smaller quantity offering kept prices steady. Oats made about late rates.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was only a fair attendance on our market here to-day, due no doubt to the West of England Show, which is being held here. Barley and oats were 3d dearer, whereas oats and wheat were slightly firmer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—The wheat market has been quiet during the week, but prices are fully maintained. There was a moderate attendance, and farmers' wheat and other grain commanded last Saturday's prices. Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220 lb, 12s 9d to 13s, ditto red, 12s 3d

to 12s 6d; oats, new, per bushel, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; oatmeal, per load of 240 lb, 25s to 25s 6d; beans, per windle of 220 lb, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—An average attendance and fair trade. Prices:—Wheat, 28s to 32s; barley, good samples, 30s to 34s, and second quality, 24s to 26s; oats, 17s to 26s; tares, 5s to 7s; flour, 22s to 26s; bran, 95s to 110s per ton; porter grains, 80s; ale grains, 90s; malt dust, best, 95s to 100s, and seconds, 65s to 75s; hay, scarce and dear, anything good making 100s to 110s per ton.

Retford, Saturday.—Fairly good attendance and a moderate supply of grain. Wheat remained at 27s to 27s 6d., and best samples of barley made 28s to 30s; commoner sorts, 24s to 26s; grinding, 23s to 24s; black oats, 17s to 18s; white ditto, 18s to 19s; and English beans, 30s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Little business passing. Average attendance. Prices:—Wheat, 26s to 27s; foreign ditto, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; ditto, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; maize, round, 22s to 23s; ditto, flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — The corn trade is not improved by the approach of Christmas, and to-day was quiet. Wheats were firmly held at prices inclining to favour sellers. Oats, beans, and peas unchanged from last week. Plate maize and grinding barley unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, 28s 6d to 29s; ditto, red, new, 28s 6d to 29s per 504 lb; oats, black, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; ditto, white, 19s 6d to 20s per 336 lb; peas, grinding, 33s 3d to 33s 6d; ditto, blue, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; beans, English, new, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; barley, grinding, 23s 3d to 23s 6d; ditto, malting, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; Indian corn, small, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, Plate, new, 22s to 22s 6d; ditto, flat, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Oats, new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225 lb; old, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new wheat, 11s to 12s per 225 lb; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Small attendance, and trade very quiet. There was an absence of fine samples of barley. Wheats, 26s to 27s; oats, white, 16s to 19s; ditto, black, 19s 6d to 21s; beans, 29s 6d to 30s; peas firm; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; malting ditto, to 26s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—English wheat 27s 6d to 28s per qr delivered. Foreign wheat, no change on the week. Oats slow; maize quiet. Malt and barley very little showing, and prices depressed.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Moderate show of grain. Wheat sold at late rates. Barley dull. Oats steady. Arrivals:—Coastwise nil. Foreign: Barley, 3,544 qr.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 23s to 25s; peas, 32s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 42s to 50s; maize, 22s to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a small supply of all grain on offer. Wheat made about last week's rates. Oats and barley a shade easier. Feeding stuffs about the same.

Winchester, Saturday.—A moderate attendance, but business very limited. English wheat maintained at last week's prices. Foreign firm, unaltered.. Barley and oats unchanged. Maize 3d advance. Flour dull at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small attendance at market, and a limited amount of business transacted. Prices about the same as last week. Wheat, 27s to 27s 6d per 504 lb; oats, 17s 6d to 19s per 336 lb; barley, 25s to 30s per 448 lb.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, and a moderate business was transacted. Quotations:—English wheat, 11s 6d to 11s 9d per 216 lb; flat corn, 25s per 480 lb; oats, 10s 6d to 11s; beans, 11s 9d to 12s 6d.

Worksop, Wednesday. —Good attendance. Trade slow at about late rates. White wheat, 27s to 27s 6d; red ditto, 26s 6d to 27s; best malting barley, 26s to 99s; secondary qualities, 25s to 27s; grinding barley, 23s 24s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black ditto, 17s 6d to 18s; flat maize, 26s; round ditto, 24s per qr.

York Saturday.—There is a fair supply of wheat, which sold quietly at last week's prices. Fine white, 27s to 27s 6d; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. There was not quite so much barley on offer; the market remains dull. Fine barley, 25s to 26s; good, 24s to 25s; feeding, 23s to 24s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm: White Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stones; rye, 21s to 22s; beans, 29s to 30s per qr of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather changeable; frost, snow, and rain alternating. There is a firm tone in our market, and a fair amount of business doing. Foreign wheat in demand, but fine is scarce. Australian is held at 30s 9d; hard winter No. 2, 28s 3d; No. 1 Macaroni, 28s 9d; 80 Ko Bahia Blanca Russo January-February, 28s 3d to 28s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Fine German wheat firm at 28s to 29s per 504 lb f.o.b. Rye in better demand and dearer; 9 10/15 South Russian afloat is held at 23s to 23s 3d; January-February at 23s 9d; 72/73 Ko Galaty prompt at 23s 6d to 23s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f., Hamburg. German is now too dear for exportation. Good Holstein and Mecklenburg malting barley is taken by our brewers at 31 to 36s, East Prussian at 34s to 38s, Danish at 28s to 30s per 448 lb; feeding barley continue in demand, 59/60 South Russian afloat is selling at 18s 9d, January-March at 19s to 19s 3d per 400 lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Fine white Pomeranian oats for spring shipments are held at 20s to 20s 6d per 336 lb c.i.f. E.C. Maize in fair demand. River Plate afloat is selling at 20s; Odessa December-January is offering 19s 3d, Danubian, May-June 19s, mixed American spot, 20s 3d to 20s 6d; January-February, 19s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 11, 1906:—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.		Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	2,838	0 ...	3,856	4	1	...	1	7	2
Barley ...	1,261	7 ...	1,551	2	6	...	1	4	7
Oats	3,106	7 ...	2,810	1	0	...		18	1

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 15, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	58,932...	24	10	151,908...	24	2	37,744 ..	16	10
1903...	58,397...	26	9	151,873...	23	0	30,707...	15	7
1904...	44,745..	30	4	130,563...	24	4	35,960...	16	2
1905...	80,567...	28	5	135,925...	24	5	34,070...	17	11
1906...	70,332...	26	1	135,513...	23	11	36,175 ..	17	3

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 15, 1906:—

Wheat	1,252,200	cwts.
Wheat-flour	276,800	,,
Barley	667,990	,,
Oats	168,400	,,
Maize.....	783,800	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	2,078,300	1,551,400	1,730,990	1,507,931
Wheat-flour	218,600	262,300	397,500	536,595
Barley ...	415,700	508,800	736,800	694,692
Oats ...	145,000	104,000	293,700	158,665
Maize ...	1,198,800	469,600	540,700	559,756

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Dec. 5 to 12 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	4,282	76,406	80,691
Barley.....	1,200	11,000	12,200
Malt.....	19,281	300	19,581
Oats...	4,800	57,000	62,800
Rye	80	1,000	1,080
Beans	857	1,000	1,857
Peas.....	958	1,512	2,470
Maize	—	41,600	41,600
Tares	—	297	297
Linseed	—	14,000	14,000
Rapeseed	—	20	20
Sunflowerseed	—	400	400
Cottonseed.....	—	21,690	21,690
Canaryseed.....	—	1,705	1,705
Lentils.....	—	4,079	4,079
Flour.....sacks ...	21,734	43,114	80,691
Ryeflour ..... ,, ...	—	2,000	2,000
Maizemeal ... ,, ...	—	3,000	3,000
Ricemeal..... ,, ...	—	12,000	12,000

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given).

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Week ending December 15.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Appleby: 1s 1½d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Berwick: 6d 10d. Birmingham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Carlisle: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Derby, 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Dorchester: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Evesham: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d. Otley: 2s per 24 oz. roll. Penrith: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Plymouth: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Redruth: 1s 5d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24-oz roll. Scarborough: 1s. 6d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Spalding: 1s 1d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Truro: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Wellington: (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 5d. Worksop: 1s 4d. York: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Week ending December 15.—Altrincham: 5 and 6. Appleby: 6 to 8. Barnstable: 6 to 8. Berwick: 1s 6d per doz. Birmingham: 6 to 7. Carlisle: 5. Chester: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 10d to 2s per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 8 to 10. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Dorchester: 1s 8d to 1s 11d per doz. Hereford: 7 to 8. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Kidderminster: 7. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Market Drayton: 7 and 8. Otley: 6. Penrith: 6 and 7. Penzance: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Plymouth: 12. Redruth: 1s 5d per doz. Retford: 2s 10d to 3s per score. Ripon: 7 and 8. Scarborough: 6. Shrewsbury: 7 to 9. Spalding: 7. Stockport: 6 and 7. Stockton: 6 and 7. Totnes: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per doz. Truro: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 6 and 7. Worcester: 7. Worksop: 3s 4d per score. York: 6.

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has had a more limited supply, and prices are firm at 22s ale, 19s porter, 35s distillers', and pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles are without much change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale, 102s 6d; mixed, 92s 6d; distillers', 110s per ton on rail London, and higher prices are in evidence. Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 100s, kibbled locust beans 110s, damaged cotton cake for manure, 65s per ton. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply, and an average attendance of buyers with a good demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 66s to 70s per cwt; fancy dairies, 71s to 72s; Derbys, 76s to 77s; truckles, 79s to 80s.

Highbridge, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers, and all cleared. Best dairies realised up to 72s 6d per cwt; secondary dairies, 67s 6d to 70s 6d; and other dairies, 62s to 69s. A few inferior lots failed to reach 50s. Cheddars made 66s to 70s; truckles, 67s 6d to 69s.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals of cheese small and demand slow. Cheddars are quoted 63s to 67s per cwt. and Dunlops 56s to 63s. Canadians meet with a poor demand; quotation. from 62s to 63s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample and varied supplies at market, trade being very brisk. Quotations for English produce:—Grapes, 8d to 4s 6d; cranberries, 10s 6d to 12s per case; apples, 3s 6d to 7s per bushel; cobnuts, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per 12 lb; chestnuts (Redon), 7s to 12s 6d; walnuts (Grenoble), 4s to 6s 6d per bag; spruce, 8s to 9s per dozen bundles; Brussels sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; onions, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per cwt; eschalots, 2s to 2s 6d per 12 lb; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; sage, 6d to 10d; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; carrots, 9d to 1s; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 9s to 14s; celery, 6s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; lettuce, 3s to 5s; endive, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen; cauliflowers, 6s to 9s; cabbage, 4s 6d to 6s per tally; mushrooms, 9s to 12s per 12 lb; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; seakale, 1s to 1s 6d per punnet; potatoes, 60s to 85s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

The market was the turn dearer for Manitoba wheat, but the turn cheaper for English red for all sorts of Russian and Roumanian, and for most sorts of Californian Oregon and also Australasian. No prine change could be discovered in English white, in Indian or in the United States wheat from the Atlanta ports.

Maize was firm at the decline recently admitted.

Barley was steady, serviceable malting stuff from East Anglia 39s., and fine 34s. per qr. Russian barley was held for 29s., but buyers mostly thought 19s. 5d. to 19s. 9d. sufficient.

Oats were a disappointing market, 16s. 3d. was accepted for new Roumanian, 15s. 9d. for Imbush.

Beans and peas were scarce and firm. Carraways were dearer, 26s. per cwt. being asked. Cyprian locust beans made five guineas per ton.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 17.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, .. (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	30 — 34
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)...	(per 424 lb.)	24 — 25
	Distilling (New)	(per 416 lb.)	23 — 24
	Winter (New) ...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 23
	Feeding(New)...	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Best (Old)	,,	22 — 23
	Storm Kings (New) ...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE, Essex	.....	(per 480 lb.)	22 — 24
BEANS, Pigeon	.....	(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...	(per 504 lb.)	66 — 74
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old)	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old)	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES	(Winter).....	(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	46 — 50
	(Gores).....	,,	56 — 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33	American	21	— 22
,, ,, 2	31	— 32	Argentine	20	— 21
American Red	30	— 31	Bulgarian	21	— 22
Argentine ...	31	— 32	Roumanian ...	21	— 22
Australian ...	31	— 32	Russian	21	— 22
New Zealand	30	— 31	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Blue Stem ...	31	— 32	Smyrna	34	— 36
Walla Walla	30	— 31	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Saxonka	32	— 33	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	30/6	—31	Italian	64	— 72
Ghirka	31	— 32	Hungarian	59	— 63
Taganrog	29	— 30	Burmese	32	— 42
Indian White	31	— 32	Chilian	56	— 64
,, Red	30	— 31	LENTILS (cental):		
BARLEY:			Split Egyptian	10	— 11
C'lifor'n(448lb)	29	— 30	Whole Indian...	7	— 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	27	— 29	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Chilian (448lb)	28	— 29	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Bohemian (448lb)	34	— 38	Indian White	35	— 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian Green	29	— 31
Russian(400lb)	19	— 20	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Tunis (400lb)	23	— 24	NewZeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Gaza (400lb)	23	— 24	Victoria Dun..	33	— 34
Persian (400lb)	18	— 19	Gram	27	— 29
Hama (448lb)	26	— 27	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Spanish (448lb)	29	— 33	White	42	— 44
Torrified(336lb)	21	— 22	Yellow	22	— 24
MALT (336 lb.):			Sorghum	20	— 22
Californian ...	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Smyrna	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
Ouchak	33	— 36	Burmese	9	— 10
RYE (480 lb.):			Siamese	8	— 9
Russian	24	— 25	DARI (480 lb.):		
OATS:			Smyrna	25	— 26
Konigsb'g(320lb)	18	— 19	Indian	23	— 24
Russian (304lb)	16	— 17	Persian	21	— 22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, 3 P.M.

Hungarian flour to-day was the one type in good request at best prices of the previous market day. American was better held as the came firmer, but the buyer took a different view or so, scarcely any business passed.

London makes are in better request than the country consignments, but there was not a very good sale even of the London millers' sorts. The weather has slightly improved the sale of bran, pollard, middlings, and maize meal, while oatmeal, and barley meal are the subject of a somewhat more decided brightening of business. There will be no flour market on Monday next.

London Flour.		
Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		28/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	25/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	22/0 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	20/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/0 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/0 ,,
Country Flour.	s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		23 — 24
Roller Whites	,,	21 — 22
Stone made	,,	20 — 21
Foreign Flour.	s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23 — 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20 — 21
Oregon	,,	25 — 26
Californian	,,	24 — 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22 — 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Ordinary.....	,,	21 — 22
Hungarian, 0	,,	28 — 29
,, 1	,,	27 — 28
,, 2	,,	26 — 27
,, 3	,,	25 — 26
Belgian	,,	26 — 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22 — 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21 — 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20 — 21
Australian	,,	21 — 22
Meal, &c.		
Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	12 — 13
Pollard	,,	10 — 11
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18 — 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	24 — 25
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	30 — 32
Groats	,,	32 — 33
Oat Flour.....	,,	32 — 33
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17 — 19
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 16
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	22 — 23
Bean Meal	,,	22 — 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18 — 19

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED VERY QUIETLY, WITH THE LITTLE DISPOSITION TO DO BUSINESS MANIFESTED AT THE OPENING DAMPED BY THE MUGGY WEATHER.

THE HOLIDAYS.

The market will be shut from Friday, 21st, to Friday, 28th. The Baltic and the Term Market will be closed from the 21st to the 27th.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are unchanged. Barley cargoes are neglected. Rice cargoes are dearer Cottonseed cargoes are again cheaper. No other alterations.

BUSINESS DONE.

Wheat.—No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 29s 9d per 480 lb, on passage; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 29s 3d per 480 lb, on passage; No 1 Hard Manitoba, 31s per 480 lb, on passage; No 1 Hard Manitoba, 30s per 480 lb, January shipment; Red Kurrachee, 29s 6d per 492 lb, January shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 19s 9d per 480 lb, on passage.

Barley.—Russian, 19s 6d per 400 lb, on passage.

Oats—Danubian, 15s 9d per 304 lb, on passage; White Libau, 15s 3d per 304 lb, on passage; Argentine, 15s per 304 lb, April shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 42s per 416 lb, arrived; Calcutta, 43s 3d per 401 lb, arrived; Calcutta, 38s 9d per 401 lb, on passage.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore. 44s 9d per 416 lb, May shipment; brown Cawnpore, 44s per 416 lb, May shipment.

Poppyseed.—Bombay, 55s 9d per 377 lb, on shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 17s 9d per 2,440 lb, January shipment; Bombay, £5 10s per 2'240 lb, January shipment.

Canaryseed. — Turkish, 37s 6d per 464 lb, arrived.

Rape oil.—Stettia, 35s 3d per 112 lb, arrived.

Rice.—Singapore, 10s per 112 lb, arrived; Rangoons 10s 4½ per 112 lb arrived.

TERM MARKET.

The tone in wheat futures is healthier than the large accumulations waiting shipment would lead one to anticipate. But maize operators are distinctly daunted by the American new crop. Latest prices are as follows:—

Bed American wheat	Dec. delivery,	no sales.	
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	6s 6d per cental
,, ,,	April	,,	6s 5d ,,
Mixed American			
Maize	Dec.	,,	4s 5d no sales.
,, ...	Feb.	,,	4s 2d per centel
,, ...	April	,,	4s 1d ,,
Yellow Argentine	Dec.	,,	4s 3d ,,
,, ,,	Feb.	,,	4s 3d ,,
,, ,,	April	,,	4s 2d ,,

A cargo of Turkish Canary seed for January delivery sold to-day for 37s per 464 lb.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—The demand is a little better, especially for spring wheat flours. Grain.—Round and flat corn are held for 1½d to 3d per boll advance. Pease and beans unchanged. Barley 3d per 320 lb higher. Oats steady. Oatmeal firm. Mill Stuffs.—Quiet.—McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—A quiet trade at last week's full prices. —T. B. MEDILL and Sons, Ltd.

Flour.—Prices remain nominally unchanged: there is no improvement to report, and only a sluggish demand.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran is scarce and in good demand; prices still tending upward.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Milling Offal.—The only fresh feature to report in the trade is the improved demand during the past week for middlings. Bran and pollard unchanged.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The new spring tares are getting lower, but prices still unsettled. Winter tares remain unchanged in price, although supplies are much reduced. Mustard and rye are both firm. The new clover seeds are coming out freely; prices easier. Reds, fancy quality, 56s to 58s; fine, 50s to 54s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Whites, fancy quality, 58s to 62s; fine, 52s to 54s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils firm; English, 20s to 28s per cwt; foreign, 18s to 20s per cwt. In grasses. French Italian and Irish Italian rye-grass very firm. Perennial rye-grass, New Zealand cocksfoot, and Meadow Fescue unchanged.—JOHN PICARD & CO.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Rapeseed is dearer, cottonseed cheaper on the week. Trade is not brisk.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s.	s.
Calcutta	44 to 45	
Bombay	45 to 46	
Russian	44 to 45	
Argentine	43 to 44	
Duluth	43 to 44	
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		
Best English ...	70 to 71	
Yellow Guzerat	53 to 55	
,, Cawnpore	46 to 47	
Brown ,,	45 to 46	
Ferozepore	48 to 49	
Jamba	43 to 44	
RUBSEN. per 424 lb		
German	66 to 68	

POPPYSEED. per 377 lb	
Indian	51 to 53
COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Egyptian.....	134 to 136
Indian	104 to 106
SUNFLOWERSEED.	per cwt.
English, White	15 to 16
Russian, White.	14 to 15
,, Black .	13 to 14
SESAME.	per cwt.
Indian	14 to 15
HEMPSEED.	per 336 lb.
Russian	33 to 34

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

GREAT CHRISTMAS CATTLE MARKET.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 17, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 18, 1905.
Beasts	2,190	2,190	2,510
Sheep and Lambs	10,700	10,700	10,630
Calves	20	20	20
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	50	50	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 9	3 4	5 2
Sheep	5 0	5 8	6 6
Lambs	6 8	7 4	8 0
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows :—Scotland, 560; Eastern Counties, 531; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 729; Devon, 150; Ireland, 220.

After the Smithfield Club Show the most important event of the year is the holding of the annual market for the sale of fat stock for Christmas consumption, which took place at Islington to-day. In point of numbers improvement might have been looked for, but this, however, was counterbalanced by the excellence of the quality which was so strikingly apparent, all the various breeds being of useful and desirable weights and sizes. The predominance of small over unwieldy animals was even more clearly demonstrated than in recent years, thus showing our breeders and graziers are doing their utmost to suit the requirements of the butcher.

SCOTCH.—From Scotland the supplies still, as heretofore, took front rank, and maintained to the fullest their established prestige as being second to none in point of excellence, the best of which were to be seen on the stands of Mr. W. Reid, Messrs. Eve and Sons, Messrs. Bound and Sons, G. Wood, W. Haywood, and Mr. G. Hill. These were consigned as usual by the following well-known breeders and graziers :—Messrs. A. Beddie, G. Wilson (Cupar), A. Ingram (Elrich), G. Walker (Tillygreig), Cunningham (of Peterhead), D. Nicolls (of Forfar), and McCombie.

DEVON.—These numbered 130, and were quite up to last year in point of quality, being short on the leg, full of lean, and well coated with fat. The principal holders of these were Messrs. W. Law, Parnell, Flannagan, and McTurk.

IRISH.—These comprised 160 Dublins and 54 Waterfords; the former were very choice, and included 80 head of the Polled Angus breed, which had stood the Dublin Show. These were to be seen on the stands of Mr. T. Oliver, and will make nearly as much per pound as our best Scotch; the latter numbering 54 were offered for sale by Mr. Fitzgerald.

HEREFORDS.—As usual at this season of the year these showed a considerable falling off both in regard to number and quality, the best of which were seen on Messrs. B. Ashton and Sons' stand.

RUNTS.—These were in larger numbers, and were remarkable for the absence of big, heavy beasts, being quite up to butchers' requirements, the choicest being shown by Mr. B. Ashton and C. Berry.

NORFOLKS.—Norfolks also were in much shorter supply, but manifested no falling off in regard to quality, the best being shown by the following salesmen :—Messrs. E. and P. Chapman, F. Syder, A. Allday, and T. Law; the majority being consigned by E. Chapman, of Fakenham, Norfolk.

SHORTHORNS comprised consignments from Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, and were never in shorter supply than this year: last year's quality was well upheld, these numbered forty head, and were to be seen on Mr. Goodale's stands.

We note to-day, compared with the previous Great Market Day, a decrease of 320 head. In consequence of the colder weather which was experienced just recently, sellers looked forward to a brisk sale, but in this they were disappointed, owing to the change which ensued; as usual, an attempt was made to start business at daybreak, but, as of late years has been the case, very few transactions were recorded. Trade for both prime and second quality was of a slow nature; this, however, became brisker as the day advanced, the chief inquiry, as usual, being for Scotch, buyers turning their attention to the other breeds later on. Prices, notwithstanding the slow start, can be quoted 2d higher than on the last great day. There was a good demand for fat butchering cows and bulls by both town and country buyers, prices showing an upward tendency in value to the extent of 2d per 8 lb. When our report left most of the choice beasts were disposed of. Middling quality being very little in demand, it is feared a decline is inevitable for this class of cattle.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day. s d s d	Monday, Dec. 18, 1905. s d s d
Scotch	5 0 to 5 2	4 10 to 5 0
Devons	4 8 to 4 10	4 8 to 4 10
Herefords	4 4 to 4 6	4 4 to 4 6
Black Polled Norfolks	4 8 to 4 10	4 8 to 4 10
Runts	4 4 to 4 6	4 4 to 4 6
Lincolns	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 4
Irish Dublin Show Cattle	5 0 to 5 2	4 10 to 5 0
Shorthorn Dublin	4 2 to 4 4	4 2 to 4 4
Waterfords	4 2 to 4 4	4 0 to 4 2
Fat Cows	3 6 ex 3 8	3 6 to 3 8

Number and price of beasts offered for sale since 1842.

Year.	Beasts.	s. d. s. d.	Year.	Beasts.	s. d. s. d.
1842	4,511	3 4 to 4 8	1875	7,680	4 6 to 6 3
1843	4,510	3 4 to 4 4	1876	7,020	4 6 to 6 4
1844	5,713	4 0 to 4 6	1877	7,510	4 6 to 6 2
1845	5,326	3 6 to 4 8	1878	6,830	4 6 to 6 0
1846	4,570	4 0 to 5 8	1879	5,620	4 0 to 6 4
1847	4,288	3 4 to 4 8	1880	7,060	4 0 to 6 0
1848	5,942	3 4 to 4 1	1881	8,000	4 0 to 6 2
1849	5,765	3 4 to 4 0	1882	7,370	4 8 to 6 4
1850	6,341	3 0 to 3 10	1883	5,940	4 0 to 6 4
1851	6,103	2 8 to 4 2	1884	4,990	4 0 to 6 2
1852	6,271	2 8 to 4 0	1885	7,470	3 6 to 5 8
1853	7,037	3 2 to 4 10	1886	6,920	3 2 to 5 0
1854	6,151	3 6 to 5 4	1887	6,420	3 4 to 5 4
1855	7,000	3 8 to 4 2	1888	7,400	3 0 to 5 4
1856	6,748	3 4 to 5 0	1889	5,000	3 4 to 5 2
1857	6,858	3 4 to 4 8	1890	5,330	2 4 to 5 4
1858	6,424	3 4 to 5 0	1891	4,510	2 8 to 5 2
1859	7,560	3 8 to 5 6	1892	4,520	2 4 to 5 6
1860	7,860	3 4 to 5 6	1893	4,640	2 8 to 5 4
1861	8,840	3 4 to 5 0	1894	4,840	2 6 to 4 2
1862	8,430	3 4 to 5 2	1895	3,170	2 6 to 5 4
1863	10,372	3 6 to 5 8	1896	4,060	2 6 to 5 2
1864	7,130	3 8 to 5 4	1897	4,578	2 4 to 4 8
1865	7,830	3 4 to 5 6	1898	3,940	2 6 to 4 10
1866	7,340	3 8 to 5 8	1899	3,960	3 0 to 5 2
1867	8,110	3 4 to 5 2	1900	3,020	3 0 to 4 10
1868	5,320	3 4 to 5 2	1901	2,510	2 8 to 5 4
1869	6,728	3 6 to 6 0	1902	3,660	2 10 to 5 6
1870	6,425	3 6 to 6 2	1903	2,960	2 4 to 4 8
1871	6,320	3 10 to 6 2	1904	2,250	2 10 to 5 2
1872	7,560	4 6 to 6 0	1905	2,510	3 0 to 5 0
1873	6,170	4 8 to 6 8	1906	2,190	2 9 to 5 2
1874	6,570	4 6 to 6 10			

The advent of the Great Day by no means affects the sheep market as much as it does the beast department, though a good many feeders specially consign for this day. The most notable stands for choice Downs and half-breds were those of Messrs. Tarman and Sons, Philys D. Chapman, Bound and Son, and the old-established firm of Woodward and Son. On the stands of Mr. R. Worboys were to be seen a grand lot of Hampshire Downs, numbering 700, and 100 cross-breds. Taking the supply as a whole, the quality was fully up to last year's average, though in point of number there was a marked falling-off. Trade as uusual on a great market day began slowly, buyers being fully occupied in the beast market, this, coupled with the inclement weather, which was inexperienced, obliged sellers to force sales at a deline in value; nevertheless, towards noon there was a considerably brisker demand, salesmen both asking and obtaining last Monday's advanced rates, which there is every probability will be maintained to the close. Scotch descriptions were conspicuous by their absence. Irish sheep were in shorter numbers and met with a ready sale at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb in value, an early clearance of these being effected. We draw attention to-day to the shortest supply of lambs ever known to be offered for sa'e on a Christmas market day, these sold slowly, but were steady in regard to value, the best of which were to be seen on the stands of Messrs. Walby, Jarman and Son, and R. Warboys'. When our report left there was very little prospect of a complete clearance being effected. The supply included 200 Irish and 3,467 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day. s. d. s. d.	Monday, Dec. 18, 1905. s. d. s. d
8 st Scotch	—	5 10 to 6 0
7½ to 8 st Downs	6 4 to 6 6	5 10 to 6 0
9 st. Downs	6 2 to 6 4	5 8 to 5 10
10 st Halfbreds	5 10 to 6 0	5 4 to 5 6
8 st Hampshire Tegs	—	5 10 to 6 0
12 st Lincolns	—	5 4 to 5 6
10 st Irish	5 6 to 5 8	5 2 to 5 4
10 st Down Ewes	4 4 to 4 6	4 0 to 4 4
11 st Halfbred ditto	4 2 to 4 4	3 10 to 4 0
5 st Down Lambs	7 10 to 8 0	7 0 to 7 2
6 st Halfbred ditto Dorsets	7 0 to 7 4	6 4 to 6 8

Number and price of sheep since 1842.

Year.	Number.	s. d.	Year.	Number.	s. d.
[illegible]	7,460	7 10	[illegible]	[illegible]	6 0
[illegible]	[illegible]	7 [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] 6
1884	9,040	[illegible] 0	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] 0
[illegible]	13,650	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] 10
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] 0	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] 10
1887	13,830	5 4	[illegible]	[illegible]	6 0
[illegible]	12,890	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	11,250	6 10	[illegible]	[illegible]	6 0
[illegible]	13,250	6 4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] 0
1891	[illegible]	6 0	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] 0
1892	15,290	5 6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1893	[illegible]	5 10	[illegible]	[illegible]	6 [illegible]
[illegible]	13,280	6 4			

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on offer.

London (Central), Monday. Slow demand for the full arrivals offering. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; American, 3s to 3s 8d: refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 2d to 4s. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d: English lamb, 6s 6d to 8s. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 8d per stone.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 440; sheep, 267; pigs, 349. Beef, 7s to 6d 8s 3d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d. Fat cattle sharp trade; stores fair, and store sheep good demand. Fat and store pigs sharp trade. Milch cows, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 430. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 330 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. These were of somewhat inferior quality, and met with a slow sale at a considerably lower rate. The best on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8 lb; seconds, 3s 8d to 4s (sinking the offal). Besides the above 200 more were withheld from sale. On Saturday 1,633 beasts from the United States and 257 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade was of a firm and steady nature in regard to tone and value. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 8d to 4s 10d, seconds 4s 6d to 4s 8d. Canadian Ranches, 3s 8d to 3s 10d: seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb (offal given in).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake Trade is slow, but with fewer arrivals of foreign, stocks are thereby getting small and prices are well maintained. Any demand that exists runs on the Russian cakes in bags, these being generally considered best value at the present time. Cotton Cake.—Dull at last week's quotations. Decorticated cotton cake and meal, both move off very slowly, and in some instances lower prices have had to be accepted in order to force sales. Linseed. Market firm, and the feeding sorts in fair demand.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0 0 to	8 2 6
American Calcutta-made Linseed Cake (ex quay)	—	—
American Western Linseed Cake ex quay	—	
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ex quay	7 7 6	—
Russian Oil Cake ex quay	7 12 6 to	7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	7 12 6	—
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 7 6 to	7 10 0
London-made ,, Cake (best ex mill	4 15 0	—
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4 12 6 to	4 13 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 0 0	
Bombay Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 16 0	
Bold Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 4 0	
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	2 12 0
Russian Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 60	
Duluth Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb, ex warehouse	2 6 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1.. (per sack)	26 9	(per sack) 23 9
October 8.. ,,	27 0	,, 24 0
,, 26. ..	27 6	,, 24 6
Nov. 23... ,,	27 0	,, 24 0
Dec. 5... ,,	27 3	,, 24 3

(No change since last date given.)

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in Ireland.

The supply of cattle and sheep at last Dublin market on Thursday was as good as it was to expect at the Christmas market. Cattle showed an increase of 30 on the week, and sheep were 548 more than the previous market. There was a goodly company of cross-Channel buyers present, many of whom, doubtless, were attracted by the winter show of the Royal Dublin Society at Ball's Bridge. Beef sold at good rates, stall-fed beasts being in most demand, and out-fed rather neglected. The demand for well-fed bullocks and heifers was brisk, and ruled at from 32s. to 35s. per cwt. (live weight), while some fancy Aberdeen crosses made up to 38s. Rough beef was unsaleable. The appropriate dead weight prices would be:—Choice ox and heifer beef from 56s. to 62s., and for some of fancy quality up to 66s. 6d. per cwt.; good second class beef, 46s. to 50s., and inferior from 42s. to 45s. per cwt. Trade in the mutton department was quiet in the absence of any great export demand. A fair trade was done in heavy wethers of good finish at from 7½d. to 8d. per lb., while extra Cheviots and some South Downs made up to 9d. per lb.; ewe mutton, 6¾d. to 7½d.; and inferior sheep from 5½ to 6½d. per lb. Heavy hoggets sold at from 50s. to 69s. each, and light to middling ditto at 34s. to 48s. each. Very little was done in the way of shipment, and the sheep trade was generally slack. Veal of prime quality was scarce and wanted. Some choice calves sold as high as 9d. per lb., but other sorts might be got at from 4½d. per lb. upwards.

Trade in the West.

Attention just at present is largely, if not wholly, absorbed by the fat stock sales in progress all over the country, and, speaking generally, from what has come under our immediate observation, we seldom ever remember seeing a better class of beef than that now being brought out. Graziers seem to have bestowed more than the ordinary amount of care in the preparation of their beasts, and the result is a uniform excellence of quality which it would be difficult to equal, much less surpass. And graziers are reaping the reward in keen competition at prices which compare very favourably with what has been realised for some years past—an opinion which we feel sure will be endorsed by every practical man, it being a long time since beef touched 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per score, which is now quite a common occurrence, whilst in a few exceptional cases for dainty weights as much as 14s. is being paid. Devons, both steers and heifers, continue to hold their own at most markets, and, as a rule, nothing is more popular with a purveyor than a choice Devon bullock, though there are still others who prefer the Shorthorn. A general range for either Devon or Shorthorn steers at present is from £26 to £37 a-piece for the heavier animals, and from £20 to £25 for more medium weights; whilst heifers sell from £16 to £27 apiece. Very little, if any, really good beef—such as will soon be in request—can be bought under 12s. to 13s. per score, and many purveyors are giving 14s. for fancy weights; the rougher grades, too, have also hardened considerably in value, and nothing except of the very poorest type can be bought under 10s. to 11s. The competition is so keen everywhere that everything is quickly absorbed, butchers not hesitating for a moment to bid a price that at any other period of the year they would think seriously about first. Consequently graziers are having a good time all round so far, and this will in a measure make amends for other seasons when they have been "badly hit." And there is every likelihood of the trade, which has opened so well, continuing equally buoyant till the Christmas season finishes. Fat calves are making high rates, particularly those which have been specially prepared, plenty of which sell at 9d. per lb. and over; the more ordinary grades ruling from 7¾d. to 8½d. per lb. Mutton, especially good class tegs and wethers, is anything but too plentiful, and, dear as it has been all along, the extra Christmas demand gives a further fillip, anything like fancy weights bringing up to 9d. to 10d. per lb. for those specially suited to Christmas requirements, particularly for "show" purposes. Secondary qualities have also taken a higher turn, and nothing worthy of the name of mutton can be bought under 7½d. to 8d. All the choicer grades of lambs—that got up specially for the coming season—also sell at fancy prices ranging from 11d. to 1s. per lb., only those of poor quality coming to less money. Pigs are equally dear, porkers making 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score, and baconers 10s. to 10s. 6d. There has never been such an inquiry for small hams as at present, and as a consequence many bring an exhorbitant price; but the demand is altogether outside the supply. The season all round may be pronounced a decidedly dear one, and many still incline to the belief that, high as present rates of meat are already, they will be even dearer before the season is over.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been a full average, and the general quality improved. A steady demand has been experienced throughout, and prices as nearly as possible similar to those of the preceding week. Sheep have been shown in slightly increased numbers, and quality also good throughout. Young sheep, and those of good quality and moderate weights, have sold well, but heavy sheep met a dragging trade. Ewes, owing to the short supply, made decidedly more money. The supply of calves was under an average, and prices exceedingly high. Pigs rather more numerous, and prices just favoured buyers. For the time of year a fair show of store sheep, and a clearance was effected at full prices There was a fair supply of store cattle, but a limited number of buyers. Anything of a good class got sold out at fully late prices, but part of the secondary descriptions were left over. An average supply of milch cows met a good trade. Quotations:—Top price cattle per live cwt., 39s. 6d.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton fully 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in London.

Both at the Islington and Deptford Market throughout the week trade was of a firmer and steadier nature both in regard to tone and value. The arrivals at the former were slightly larger, the numbers from Devon and Scotland contributing to this. The Irish arrivals consisted of 115 Dublins and 65 Waterfords, trade for which was of a slow nature, late currencies being difficult to maintain. On Thursday 18 Polled Aberdeen were offered for sale, and ruled slow at late rates. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with more inquiry on Monday, consequently sellers were able to ask for a slight advance on late values. On Thursday trade was slower, however; late rates were upheld.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, as stated above, trade was firmer, and on Wednesday amongst the supply was noted a consignment of good Christmas cattle, these being quoted 2d. higher than the ordinary States beast. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,242 as against 5118 during the previous week, consisting of 1,540 British (increase 350) and 3,702 foreign—decrease 226—these latter comprising 3,295 from the United States and 407 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), 80 to 90 st. Scotch, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 st. Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 st. Herefords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 st. Polled Aberdeens, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 90 st. Norfolks, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 st. Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 st. Lincolns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 st. Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 st. States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; Christmas cattle, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; 95 st. Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; Ranchers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; 90 st. fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

In the sheep market trade on the first market day of the week was of a firm and steady nature for both wethers and ewes at an advance of 2d. per 8lb. in value for the former. Scotch descriptions shared in the better trade experienced. Irish, on the other hand, were in excess of the demand, consequently late rates were difficult to maintain. No sheep were offered for sale on either day at Deptford.

On Thursday at Islington trade was of a dull and dragging nature owing to the scarcity of buyers present; no decline in value can, however, be noted.

The total number of sheep penned was 5120 as against 4,740 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8 lbs as follows, 7½ to 8 stone Downs 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d.: 9 stone chilts 6s. to 6s. 2d.: 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 10d. to 6s.: 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.: 10 stone Down Ewes, 4s. 4d. to to 4s 6d.: 11 stone Halfbreds ditto 4s. 2d. to 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.

Calves numbered 30 and met with a firm and steady trade, the best on offer making from 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lbs.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade very slow, with a lower tendency in prices. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 7d to 2s 9d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d; ditto, tegs, 4s 10d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb 6s 6d to 8s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of compared with Thursday last showed increase of 80 head, and, as usual before big market day, there was a fairly large consignment of both prime and second quality beasts, for which trate ruled quiet at last Monday's values. Fat butchering cows and bulls met slow but steady trtde at fully late rates. Top prices per 8 lb: 80 stone to 90 stone polled Aberdeens, 5s to 5s 2d; 90 stone to 95 stone Herefords, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; 95 stone runts, 4s to 4s 6d; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d; 90 stone fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Arrivals: 18 Scotch, 177 Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 5 Devon. Increase of 260 in number penned in sheep market. Trade ruled dull and dragging, with downward tendency in value, though not quotably so. Best pens made, per 8 lb., as follows: 8-stone Downs, 6s 4d to 6s 6d; 9-stone ditto, 6s to 6s 2d; 10-stone ditto, 5s 10d to 6s; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 10d to 6s; ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 5d. Calves too few to quote. Quotations per 8 lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; sheep, 4s 4d to 6s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—A good trade prevailed, much of the beef being of Christmas quality. Best steers and heifers made up to 4s 10d, and medium up to 4s 6d. Mutton met good demand at 5s 8d to 6s 4d for Downs, and 5s 4d to 6s for Kent wethers; large sheep and barrens unchanged. Pork dearer, small roasters making up to 4s 10d, and large hogs up to 4s 2d.

Berwick, Saturday.—Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade slow. Calves, £4 to £6 10s; stirks, £8 10s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; three-year-olds, £13; Shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; fair trade. Small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; a few Hereford 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 2d to 9s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; porkets, 11s 6d per score; sows, 7s 10d to 8s per score; heavy bacon pigs, 8s 9d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—To-day it was Chrismas cattle market, and was well attended, though the number of beasts was not so large as was expected. Fat cattle were fairly numerous, but with a limited demand trade was quiet, best being quoted 65s to 70s per cwt., secondary qualities 54s to 56s. There was less than the average supply of sheep, a steady business being done; down wethers, 9d; prime, 8½d; heavy, 8d; ewes, 7d. Pigs were again scarce, and prices unaltered.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s per score. — C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Carlisle, Saturday.—A fair number of cattle, chiefly useful heifers. There was a fair attendance of buyers, and a steady trade. Small heifers, £6 10s to £8; medium ditto to £10 10s, better descriptions to £12 10s; polled bullocks up to £7 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Fair supplies of store stock, which met a steady demand. Prices remained practically unchanged, except that there appeared some weakening in the value of second-class lots both in store and dairy cattle. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £23; calvers, £12 to £20; barren cattle, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; bullocks, £11 to £15; and stirks, £6 to £10 each.

Derby, Tuesday.—A dear market; best beasts and sheep scarce and dear. Beasts, 5½d to 6½d; sheep, 8d to 10d; calves, 8d.

Doncaster, Saturday.— Large supplies of cattle, chiefly Irish stores, and a brisk trade. Prices firm. Milch beasts made £17 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16; heifers, £11 to £14; drapes, £9 to £11; stirks, £7 to £9; and young stores, £6 to £7 each. Very poor supply of sheep indeed, and not sufficient to meet demands. Prices firm, at 42s to 46s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The second of the great Christmas fat stock sales—that of Messrs. T. Ensor and Son—was held to-day at their agricultural repository, when a grand lot of fat bullocks, steers, heifers, and cows, all of the primest quality, were stalled, with some very choice fat wethers and hogs, specially grazed for the sale. There was a large offer of milch beasts and some useful barreners. Purveyors attended in strong force, and there was keen competition for the beasts particularly at prices fully up to recent

markets, the best weights in steers and heifers realising from 12s 6d to 13s 6d per score and occasionally more; secondary grades made 11s to 11s 6d; steers ranged from £18 10s to £23 15s; heifers, £18 to £24; fat cows, £22 to £24 10s each. In mutton, of which there was a greatly improved supply compared with late markets, ewes sold from 42s to 49s and lambs from 35s 6d to 44s 6d (or from 8d to 9d per lb). In stores dairy beasts found a quick sale at from £16 10s to £21 10s for the best heifers and cows with calves; seconds, £12 to £15. Barreners met a steady sale, those in pairs making £22 10s to £25 per pair, whilst single bullocks sold from £15 15s to £17 each. With a quick demand all through a ready clearance was effected.

Dublin, Thursday.—Choice bullocks and heifers in good demand at improved prices. Rough and inferior sorts easier sold and an early clearance made. Some choice Shorthorn heifers fed by Mr. W. S. Cornwall made £21 10s. each or nearly 34s. per cwt. alive. Choice suitable sheep for home use in fair request at last week's prices. Lambs and light weight shipping classes a turn easier. Cattle—Live weight (best), 29s to 34s per cwt.; exceptional, 33s per cwt; secondary and inferior26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 7d to 8¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Fair show of cattle and a ready sale. Polled bullocks brought £11 to £13 10s; horned, £11 to £12; stirks, 7 to 9 guineas. Half-bred sheep sold at 37s to 41s; grey-faced, 30s to 35s; half-bred hoggs, to 43s. Best class Shorthorn cows, sold at £23 to £27; Ayrshires, £15 to £19; cross-breds, £20 to £23.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies less this week. Values dearer for mutton. Cattle quiet. Quotations:—Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, 10d; heavy-weights, 9½d; wedders, 8¾d to 9½d; ewes, 6¾d to 8d per lb. Dead meat quiet; prices however, maintained. Best Scotch beef, 5¾d to 5¾d; States, 5d; Canadians, 4¾d to 5d; cows, 4½d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday. — A really good December fair both as regards quality and demand. Quite a large show of prime beef, the very best quality bullocks and heifers reached 7d per lb, second quality 6¾d per lb, half-meated 6d per lb, 5¼d per lb. Sheep were a short supply, and fat wethers ranged from 8d to 9d per lb, and for nice small weights as much as 9½d per lb; fat lambs the same. Best fat calves sold satisfactorily at about 8d per lb. Porkers were in large supply, and sold at fully late rates up to 6d and even 7 lb for choicest.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of home-bred stock. Trade ruled sluggish, and prices were 10s per head lower all round. Milch cows, £14 to £18; bullocks, £11 to £14; Welsh cattle, £8 to £12; Irish stock, £10 10s to £13; young stock, £5 to £7; calves, 15s to 25s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Beasts were in limited supply and qusiness ruled dull. Young beasts, £10 to £12; milch cows, £17 to £21; hogg sheep, 36s to 40s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—This being Christmas stock market, there was a numerous display of fat beasts. The tendency now is to produce beasts rather lighter in weight than formerly, and the quality of those offered was excellent. They met a fairly brisk demand at 7s to 9s 6d per stone. Fat sheep average show, fair trade, 9s to 10s 6d per stone. Few store cattle, trade slow, £6 to £12.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5¼d; seconds, 4¾d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½d to 3¾d. Mutton: Firsts, 8¼d; seconds, 7¾d to 7¾d; thirds, 6¾d to 6¾d. Veal: Firsts, 8d; seconds, 7d to 7½d; thirds, 6d to 6¾d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¼d; seconds, 4¾d to 5d; thirds, 3¾d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¾d to7d; thirds, 6¼d to 6½d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was similar to last week, and trade was a shade firmer. Beef, 5s 6d to 7s 9d. Pork in large supply and firmer at 6s to 9s 6d per stone. Sheep were in large supply and much firmer 5d to 9¾d, and veal made 6½d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—This being Christmas market there was a large supply of cattle, and some choice Christmas fat stock was on offer. Best cattle realised high prices. Quotations:—Best English beef, 6½d to 7d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6¾d; cows, 4¾d to 5¼d; best wether mutton, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6½ to 7d; calves, 6½d to 7d; porker pigs, 10s 9d to 11s per score; baconers, 9s 3d to 9s 6d.

Nottingham. Saturday.—A rather shorter supply of stock, but trade, especially for the best milch cows, was brisker. These made £17 to £19 10s, and in-calf heifers, £13 to £16. Calves realised 25s to 45s each. No sheep were shown.

Preston, Wednesday.—Moderate show of stock and a fair trade, anything choice being in especially good demand. Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 7d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; ewes 6d to 7d; lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Small supply of store stock and a thin attendance. One or two heifers changed hands at fair prices. Values ranged from £14 to £16 10s, and cows up to £19 each. No calves on offer.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade firmer for best qualities at 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in average supply, trade about the same, at 5s 6d to 5s 9d per stone. Short supply of sheep, trade fair: Best small, 6s 4d to 6s 6d; large, 6s to 6s 2d per stone. Ewes in short supply, trade better 4s 6d to 4s 8d per stone. No store stock to offer. Good supply of milch cows, trade fair. Pig trade about the same: Large hogs, up to 4s; small porkers, 4s 8d to 4s 10d per stone. Large consignment of Christmas beasts sold at good prices.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small show of milch beasts, with a slightly improved business at £19 to £21 for the best lots, secondary lots £15 to £17.

Stockton, Wednesday.—A good supply of Christmas cattle, which made from 7s 6d to 8s per stone, whilst further kinds sold at 6s 6d to 7s per stone, and were neglected at that. Young sheep made 9d per lb; hoggs, 10d; ewes, 7½d; and tups 6½d. Pigs were very dear, and trade was slow. Small porkers made 8s 6d per stone; mediums, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; strong porkers, 7s; sows, 5s 6d to 6s 3d.

Truro, Wednesday.—Attendance very good, business fairly brisk. Fat bullocks, 56s to 58s per cwt; barreners, 40s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 35s; wethers, 8d per lb; ewes, 6d; lambs, 8d; pigs, 10s to 70s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Moderate supply; fair trade for best. Quotations:—Beef, 5¼d to 6¾d per lb, a few 7d per lb; mutton, 7d to 9¾d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Exeter, Friday.—Very little business done, although nearly 50 bullocks were offered; quality generally not more than ordinary. Steers and maiden heifers made 12 per score; fat cows, 11s; plain ones, 10s. Large market of sheep, principally store hogs for turnips, making 9d per lb; ewes, 7½d; rams, 6d. Calves, 7½d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda without change. Kainit and basic slag are in good seasonable demand, and likewise bone ash; market firm. Oilcakes are a quiet trade all round, American linseed cakes tending slightly in buyers' favour. For feeding-treacle there is a good inquiry.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
	Per ton.					
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7	16	3	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime. poor colour	8	2	6	8	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4	17	6	5	5	0
Cottonseed, Egyptian		—			—	
Cottonseed (crushed) prime	7	15	0	7	17	6
Linseed Cake, American, prime	7	0	0	7	2	6
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14	0	0	14	10	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Corn Oil Cake		—	0		—	
Maize Germ Meal	5	15	0	5	17	6
	Per 240 lb.					
Indian meal		—			—	
	Per ton.					
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	13	9	4	15	0
	Per qr., 416 lb.					
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
	Per Gallon.					
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0	4	0		—	
	Per Cwt.					
Treacle, feeding, American cane	0	4	9		—	
	Per ton.					
Nitrate of Soda	11	5	0		—	
Kainit	2	3	9	2	5	0
Bone meal (coarse to fine)	5	5	0	5	7	6
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3	10	0		—	
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	19	0	2	0	0
,, finest ,,	2	3	0	2	5	0
D.N.S. Superphosphate of Lime	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3

—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes.—The colder weather is causing an increased consumptive demand, but there is little or no speculative inquiry, and values in the meantime remain stationery. Russians attract most attention at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. in bags. and £7 10s. to £7 11s. 3d. in mats. East India seed prices may be bought at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. Americans are quoted at £7 10s. London made move off quietly at £8 to £8 2s. 6d. Cotton Cakes.—The tone of the market has distinctly improved, and with only a moderate quantity of Egyptians available in warehouse, holders ask rather more money at £4 12s. 6d. to £4 15s., while English are practically without change, but firm at £4 12s 6d to £4 15s, and Bombays at £4 7s 6d. Decorticated offer sparingly at £7 12s 6d to £7 15s., and meal at £7 5s. Rape Cakes.—Scarce and dear. East India £5 10s. Ravison none. Maize Germ Meal.—White American is still obtainable in limity at £5 15s. to £5 16s. 3d., while English is more reasonably quoted at £5 10s. to £5 12s. 6d. Maize gluten meal is in good request at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon command good prices of £4 12s. 6d. to £4 15s., but there are sellers of steamer parcels to come along at £4 6s. 3d. to £4 7s. 6d. ex ship terms. Locust Beans are again dearer at £5 10s. for whole and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains meet a better inquiry at £4 15s. for porter and £5 5s. for ale.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
	Per ton.						
LINSEED CAKES.							
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7	10	0	to	7	11	3
,, in bags	7	12	6	to	7	15	0
Calcutta	7	12	6	to	7	15	0
American	7	10	0				
English (ex mill)	8	0	0	to	8	2	6
COTTONSEED CAKES.							
Egyptian (ex warehouse)	4	12	6	to	4	15	0
English (ex mill)	4	12	6	to	4	13	9
Bombay	4	7	6				
Decorticated	7	12	6	to	7	15	0
,, Cottonseed Meal	7	5	0				
RAPE CAKES.							
East India seed	5	10	0				
Ravison		—					
MAIZE.							
White American	5	15	0	to	5	16	3
English	5	10	0	to	5	12	6
Maize Gluten Meal	5	15	0				
RICEMEAL.							
Rangoon	4	12	6	to	4	15	0
,, to arrive, ex ship	4	6	3	to	4	7	6
LOCUST BEANS.							
Whole	5	10	0				
Kibbled	5	15	0				
DRIED GRAINS.							
Ale	5	5	0				
Porter	4	15	0				

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Hull, Tuesday.—Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed.—The mild weather of last week has turned cold and wintry, with frost. Oilseed Cakes.—Linseed: very firm, but in small demand and supply. Cottons are 2s 6d per ton lower with rather more inquiry. The market closes with a firmer tone.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED & Co.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 5s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £13 5s to £14 5s; Kent fleeces, £13 5s to £13 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 15s to £15 5s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 5s to £13 15s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy average, 10d to 10½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8d to 9d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; medium, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 0½d.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business is good, with a fairly large turnover. There is, however, a degree of caution in regard to merino wools, as there is a prospect of a plentiful supply, which may have some effect in depressing prices.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supply and demand. Cock turkeys, 10s to 18s 6d; hen ditto, 5s to 8s; goslings 6s to 7s; country ducks, 3s 6d to 4; Surrey and Sussex fowls, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 3s 3d; Essex fowls, 2s to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 2s; woodcock, 2s to 2s 3d; snipe, 8d to 1s; quails, 11d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 3s to 3s 6d; leverets, 9d to 2s; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; wild rabbits, 8d to 11d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 1s 6d to 6s 6d; young partridges, 1s to 1s 4d; old, 1s 9d to 2s per brace.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—This market was full of potatoes, and prices show a decrease. Up-to-Dates, 40s; Langworthies, 55s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—A slow demand was experienced for the good quantity offered. Quotations: Blacklands, 60s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s; Maincrops, 70s to 80s per ton. Dutch, 2s 9d; Belgian, 2s 9d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply and a brisk demand at 5d to 6d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—A fair supply and a moderate trade, but no change in prices, 6s to 6s 6d per load of 18 stones.

Goole, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and a good supply of potatoes, but trade was slow. Prices, 6s 9d to 7s 3d per load, according to samples and condition.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes 6d to 7d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Limited supplies. Prices firm for good sorts, dealers quoting to £3 per ton wholesale and £2 5s secondary.

Manchester, Saturday. Potatoes: Yorkshire warps, 8s to 10s; sands, 8s to 9s; Cheshire 5s 6d to 6s 6d; Lincoln warps and sands, 8s to 9s per load; Irish, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—Last week's prices for potatoes were again obtained, and a good clearance was effected at 5s 6d to 6s 6d per load of 240 lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Potato market well supplied. Good demand for best home-grown at 6s to 6s; other varieties, 5s per load.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been equal to the demand, and prices for samples have been steady. To-day's prices are as follows:—Light-soil: Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s per ton; British Queens, 60s to 70s per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 70s per ton; Edward VIIth, 60s to 70s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 55s to 62s 6d per ton; Evergoods, 55s to 62s 6d per ton; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s per ton.—R. G. Brown.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Large supplies were on the market, but elicited quiet attention. Quotations:—Maincrops, 80s; Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s; British Queens, 55s to 60s; Royal Kidneys, 60s; Scotch, 65s to 70s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s per ton. Dutch, 2s 9d; Belgian, 2s 9d per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Potatoes, £3 per ton.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Large supply of potatoes, which made 6s to 7s per load of 18 stones.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d per stone.

York, Saturday.—Fair supply, with a steady trade at low rates. Best Up-to-Dates make 50s per ton; other types somewhat cheaper.

HAY AND STRAW

Birmingham, Friday.—No quotations obtainable.

Derby, Friday.—Clover, best old, 90s to 100s per ton, new, 80s to 90s; hay, best old, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s, second 65s to 70s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 56s to 65s; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s

Hereford, Wednesday.—The trade for hay received a distinct check, in consequence of the continued open weather, the wholesale values in some cases dropping from 2s 6d to 5s per ton. Straw was in small demand, without quotable change in value. Wholesales prices: Hay, 55s to 65s in stack; straw, 30s to 33s in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Hay and straw in the warehouses move steadily into consumption at the following quotations:—New clover hay, 7d; ditto, old, 7½d; new meadow hay, 6d to 7d; ditto, old, 7d; wheat straw, 5d; oat straw, 5d; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6d; clover, 6½d to 7d; wheat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supplies; demand moderate. Best hay and clover, 70s per ton on the ground; secondary ditto, 50s to 55s; straw, 35s to 40s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 5¾d to 6d; clover, 6d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 to £4 10s per ton; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6; this year's growth, from £4 15s to £5 5s. Wheat straw, from £1 4s to £1 6s per load; barley straw, from £1 3s to £1 4s; oat straw, from £1 6s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Short supplies, with only a moderate attendance of dealers. Choice seeds, £4 to £4 5s; choice meadow hay, £3 15s to £4; straw, £2 15s to £3 per ton.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Small supplies were on offer, and met a good inquiry at steady prices. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—A little more business has been done from merchants' stocks at late rates. Growers ask high prices or do not offer their hops, expecting to do better in the New Year. The stocks left in first hands are very limited.—Charles Faram and Co.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

A joint agricultural committee has been formed for the county of Dorsetshire, representing the Milborne, Blandford, Winfrith, Shaftesbury, and Gillingham Farmers' Clubs, which, up to the present, have all worked on independent lines, and have rarely been brought into effective co-operation. By means of this organisation the clubs will, for political and Parliamentary purposes, be allied, and will be able to confer on all Bills, measures, or orders affecting agriculture, without actually tying the hands of individual clubs, and will take such steps as may be considered likely to advance the common interests of the farmers represented. It is considered that the united voice of the various clubs would have far more weight than if expressed independently as hitherto.

The Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, at their last meeting, dealt chiefly with the Land Tenure Bill, and a lengthy discussion took place, during which some resolutions were passed. In regard to section, freedom of cropping, it was agreed that the provision that the tenant should return to the holding the full manurial value of all crops sold off or removed from the holding should be deleted, whilst it was agreed that the adequate provision to protect the holding from injury or deterioration should be "so far only as necessary. Then, as regards section 6, it was, on the secretary's suggestion, agreed to urge that that part of the schedule which would operate to bar claims for compensation for permanent pastures should be deleted, it having been evidently inserted inadvertently. The chairman finally moved that the following two additions, which were recommended by the summer conference, be made to the Bill:—"That all restrictions regarding the number of persons to be employed in snaring and trapping ground game should be done away with"; and "that it shall not be legal for a landlord to charge any compensation which he may have to pay under the Agricultural Holdings Act to the incoming tenant."

In the course of a speech at a meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture at Lincoln, Mr. Henry Chaplin said that agricultural depression had been the subject of constant inquiries at the instance of many Governments, but not one of them had taken so wide and comprehensive a view of the whole agricultural situation as that of the Tariff Reform Commission. No less than 2,251 witnesses had been examined representative of the whole of the United Kingdom, and selected by representative agricultural bodies. The report contained an impartial and, he believed, a unique survey of the history of the Corn Laws and corn legislation over a vast number of years. It had been compiled from a careful and most painstaking examination of not less than 250 Acts of Parliament, and gave them—what to most people would be a revelation—the truth as to the effect of the repeal of the Corn Laws on the price of bread. That repeal had been commonly credited with giving the blessings of cheap food to the people, whereas it was now shown conclusively it had done nothing of the kind. A resolution "That this chamber welcomes the issue of the report of the Agricultural Committee of the Tariff Commission, and heartily approves of it," was carried unanimously.

Seven Years Grain Averages.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d.	per 480 lb.
Barley	25s. 4d.	per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d.	per 312 lb

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EDMONTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TENDERS FOR OATS.

THE Edmonton Urban District Council invite TENDERS for the Supply and Delivery of 150 quarters of Oats, 40 lbs. to the bushel, at Deephams Farm, Lower Edmonton, or at the Angel Road Station, at the option of the Council.

Forms of Tender and full particulars may be obtained of Mr G Eedes Eachus, Engineer to the Council, Town Hall, Edmonton.

It will be a condition of the contract that the Contractor whose Tender is accepted shall pay wages at rates not less, and observe hours of labour not greater, than the recognised Trade Union Rate of Wages and Hours of Labour stated in the list of Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour annexed to the Form of Tender.

Sealed Tenders marked "Tender for Oats" (with samples) to be delivered at my office not later than 12 o'clock noon on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1906.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender, and any person whose Tender is accepted will be required to enter into a proper contract and give such security as the Council may require.

By Order,
Wm. Francis Payne,
Clerk of the Council.

Town Hall, Edmonton,
December 13, 1906.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Dec. 17, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street Sydney; 862, Little Collins Street Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

That British wheat fields are of satisfactory appearance is generally admitted, the warm autumn has led to a generally good growth. That we now need a spell of dry weather is concoded and that the first month of 1907 may be of under average rainfall is a general hope. The young rye is very strong and good this Christmas and winter beans likewise are noticeably good. In France the growth of weeds is much complained of. Of the old crop it is said that threshings do not altogether answer to expectations. The German farmer is glad of frost which at present prevails in the dominions of the Kaiser pretty generally. The autumn sowings of wheat and rye were almost too forward, and it is therefore saluatry that nature should call a halt. In Italy and Spain the situation is very favourable, but in Italy the last crop was probably over-estimated, large imports especially from Russia and Roumania being apparently required and coming promptly into use. Roumania, with open weather, is making prodigious exports, and there is not such a certainty of higher prices in 1907 as would justify an attitude of reserve. Russian Baltic ports are mostly closed so to are Taganrog, Nicolaieff and Azoff in the South. On the other hand Odessa, Kherson and Mananople are still open while Theodosia Novorossisk and Poti are never closed. The inland navigation of course is closed.

The very important work on Russia just published for Professor Rudolph Martin, gives a mass of information of interest to farmers, as, for example, that in European Russia there are 12,000,000 separate farms. The professor takes a most dismal view of the future of Russian agriculture, and predicts a national bankruptcy in 1911. It is not within our power to discuss this prodiction, but the leading authority on agriculture in Eastern Europe is not likely to write without reflection. Now it has undoubtedly been Russian grain exports which for the last six years have made English wheat, barley, and oats cheap. Had Russia not been a very free shipper, America and Argentina could not have given us the low prices which have prevailed. The Russian situation needs very careful study, and it is a pity that our Consular Service tells us so little about it.

The wheat markets just before Christmas failed to show that improvement which many had looked for. The weakness of the flour trade is very largely to blame for this, but flour will not move off freely except here bread sells well, and bakers say it has been the worst December for bread sales on record thus far. We hope there will be a general improvement on Christmas after the holidays.

The cheapness of maize makes other feeding stuffs difficult to dispose of save at moderate prices. None the less, oats are a better trade for 320 lb. and 336 lb. sorts, the term being applied to natural and not made-up weight. This is a great perplexity in contemporary business. We have some American oats weighing only 36 lb. to the bushol, sold per 320 lb. or 40 lb. bushol, and we have fairly heavy Roumanian oats sold per 304 lb., or reduced to a 38 lb. bushol standard. Buyers of oats should in all cases ascertain the natural weight.

The fall in cottonseed and cottonseed oil promises cheapor cake in 1907, but is no guarantee of lower prices for cake actually in hand. The high price of linseed and rapeseed has naturally helped the cottonseed market. An article rising in price just before Christmas was rice, while sugar was cheaper. The fall of 3d. per cwt. in the latter is general, and extends from the refined and select sorts to beet sugar, which latter has receded from 9s. 4d. to 9s. 1d. per cwt.

The range in wheat prices last week was as follows:...

Canterbury.....	27s.	11d.	per qr.
York	24s.	9d.	,, ,,
Gradient	3s.	2d.	,, ,,

The range in barley was much wider, as malting samples predominated at a few of the exchanges.

Canterbury.....	28s.	11d.	per qr.
Lincoln	23s.	2d.	,, ,,
Gradient	5s.	9d.	,, ,,

As to oats prices are tied pretty closely to 17s.

Reading	18s.	9d.	per qr.
Peterborough ...	16s.	6d.	,, ,,
Gradient ...	2s.	3d.	,, ,,

It is the least of the gradients, and represents the worst level value. Beans probably average about 32s. in the country, peas perhaps a little more. But for these staples there are no Government returns.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been small, and the price low, an evil combination indeed :—

This season 1,076,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,387,000 qr. ,, 27s. 7d. ,,

The sales of British barley were fairly good last week, and since harvest they have practically equalled the good deliveries of last season. Prices show very little change:—

This season 2,361,000 qr. at 24s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, 2,393,000 qr. ,, 24s. 5d. ,,

The sales of British oats were large for the time of year last week. The total sales since September 1 have considerably exceeded the average :—

This season 523,000 qr. at 16s. 9d. per qr.
Last ,, 461,000 ,, 16s. 10d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows :—

Wheat, 293,000 qr. : less than usual.
Flour, 111,700 sks.: a moderate quantity.
Barley, 188,000 qr. : excessive supplies.
Oats, 62,000 qr. : less than usual.
Maize, 183,000 qr. : a very moderate import.

The sales of breadstuffs since harvest have been as follows :—

Wheat	6,109,000 qr.
Flour	1,589,000 ,,
Breadstuffs	7,698,000 ,,

The sales of breadstuffs last season were estimated at 8,070,310 qr. in the same period.

The quantities of grain on passage at Christmas are necessarily estimated a trifle in advance, but the following figures will probably be found not very markedly different from ascertained quantities a week hence. The interest mainly consists of course in comparison with recent years.

	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat, qr.	1,715,000	1,720,000	2,670,000	1,540,000
Flour, sks.	252,000	300,000	240,000	410 000
Barley, qr.	765,000	500,000	520,000	970,000
Oats, qr. ...	125,000	260,000	200,000	175,000
Maize, qr...	965,000	830,000	380,000	835,000
Beans, qr...	2,000	3,000	12,000	17,000

It will be seen that supplies of wheat are moderate, as are also supplies of flour and oats. Expectations of barley and maize exceed an average. The quantities of foreign beans in sight has sunk to a minimum, and the failure of foreign production at currencies is a feature of the day.

The large exports of barley since the beginning of the shipping year, August 1, have attracted attention. Up to date the figures are as follows :—

	1906. Qrs.	1905. Qrs.	1904. Qrs.
Russia	6,310,000	6,372,000	6,061,000
Roumania	1,514,000	1,013,000	190,000
Turkey	650,000	300,000	10,000
U.S.A.	194,000	701,000	520,000
Various.....	200,000	100,000	50,000
Total	8,868,000	8,486,000	6,831,000

It will be seen, therefore, that while the total increase from 1904 is really considerable; the difference from 1905 is not so great as has commonly been supposed; indeed, the Russian item is actually a trifle less than before. The market could do with more fine barley from abroad, but it is over supplied in the cheap feeding descriptions.

Shipments from America for the six trading days ended 20th inst. were as follows :—Wheat, 372,000 qr.; barley, 100,000 qr. (80,000 Californian); oats, 23,000 qr.; maize, 106,000 qr.; and flour, 147,000 sacks. The demand for Atlantic ports wheat and for Pacific ports barley exceeds expectation, while in the case of other staples inquiry is less than had been anticipated.

Roumanian shipments for the six trading days ended 20th inst. were 590,000 qr. of wheat, 130,000 qr. of barley, 70,000 qr. of oats, and 60,000 qr. of maize. The enormous exports of wheat require no comment beyond that which has already been made.

Owing to the early closing of the week's markets, the weekly telegrams from Russia, Argentina, and India are not available.

THE BALTIC.

With Argentina a ready seller of her new wheat for January-February shipment, and with America an equally ready seller of her maize for shipment in the same months, forward trade is weak, and trade in cargoes on passage is under such circumstances seldom strong. Prices making for cargoes just before Christmas thus compare with last year :—

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.
Russian Winter Wheat	31	6	34	6
,, Spring ,, ...	29	6	33	6
Roumanian Fine ,, ...	28	9	32	3
,, Ordinary Wheat	27	9	31	3
Australian Wheat.....	29	9	32	3
Blue Stem Oregon Wheat ...	31	6	32	9
Walla Walla ,, ,, ...	30	9	32	3
White Kurracheo ,, ...	31	6	34	6
Red ,, ,, ...	31	0	33	6
Manitoba ,, ...	29	9	31	9
Russian Maize.....	20	6	23	0
American ,, ...	19	6	21	6
Argentine ,, ...	20	3	23	0
Russian Barley.....	19	9	20	9
,, Oats	16	6	17	3

Just before the Christmas adjournment a cargo of Syrian beans sold for 29s. per 480 lb., prompt shipment.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—There continues a brisk demand for all phosphatic fertilisers, and also kainit, and values of the latter have advanced 2s 6 per ton. The trade in feeding stuff shows no improvement; in fact business is likely to be even further curtailed owing to the near approach of the Christmas holidays.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
	Per ton.					
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7	16	3	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, poor colour	8	2	6	8	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime.....	4	17	6	5	5	0
Cottonseed, Egyptian		—			—	
Cottonseed (crushed) prime ...	7	17	6		—	
Linseed Cake, American, prime	7	0	0	7	3	9
,, ,, English, prime...	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed).....	14	0	0	14	10	0
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Corn Oil Cake		—			—	
Maize Germ Meal.....	5	15	0	5	17	6
	Per 240 lb.					
Indian meal		—			—	
	Per ton.					
Rice Meal, Rangoon.....	4	12	6		—	

	Per qr., 416 lb.					
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
	Per Gallon.					
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding ...	0	4	0		—	
	Per Cwt.					
Treacle, feeding, American cane	0	4	9		—	
	Per ton.					
Nitrate of Soda.....	11	5	0		—	
Kainit.....	2	5	0	2	7	6
Bone meal (coarse to fine)	5	5	0	5	7	6
Bone Ash, fine and powdery ...	3	10	0		—	
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	19	0	2	0	0
,, finest ,,	2	3	0	2	5	0

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese were limited. What buyers required was a soft toasting Dunlop cheese to retail at 8d per lb. That class of cheese is very scarce; most of the cheese offered would retail at 9d per lb. Dunlops were quoted 56s to 63s, and Cheddars 63s to 67s per cwt. Canadians quiet, and quoted as formerly.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good supply, and a fair attendance of buyers with a moderate demand. Quotations :—Caerphillies, 60s to 66s per cwt; fancy dairies, 67s to 70s; Derbys, 76s to 78s; truckles, 78s to 80s.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat.—English steady, inactive; whites quoted at 29s, 30s 6d, reds at 28s, 29s. Foreign steadily held at unchanged prices, but in poor demand: 30s 4½d wanted hard winter, 31s 9d No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s, 31s 3d No. 2, 32s 6d to 32s 9d No. 1 hard Manitoba, all ex ship to arrive; 30s choice white Karachi, 29s 3d soft red Karachi; 28s 6d to 30s New Zealand; 31s, 32s Australians; 29s, 32s La Plata, all ex store; 26s 9d to 33s 8d South Russians ex ship, 28s 9d to 33s 3d landed. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize.—Sellers ask Monday's prices, but there is only a small inquiry; 20s 7½d asked mixed American ex ship, and 21s 6d ex store; 20s 4½d to 20s 6d La Plata ex ship, and 21s ex store. Barley steady, quiet; Odessa-Nicolaieff ex ship quoted at 19s 6d, landed at 20s; Persian ex ship at 18s 4½d, landed at 18s 9d; Danubian ex ship at 19s 6d, 23s. Oats firmly held, but inactive; South Russian and Danubian quoted at 16s to 16 3d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—In view of the approaching holidays trade was very quiet, but in most articles the trade remained firm. Wheats were quoted at 27s to 29s; barley, medium, 24s to 26s; best barley, 27s to 29s; white oats, 19s to 22s; black oats, 18s to 21s; Mazagan beans, 27s to 28s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; flat maize, 25s; round maize, 23s to 24s; grey peas, 29s to 30s.

Brighton, Thursday.—Holiday market and small attendance. Short supply of wheat. Prices unaltered. Barley, 28s to 33s; feeding ditto, 24s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 20s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 31s to 33s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 26s 6d per qr; barley, 24s to 28s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 29s 0d per qr; oats, 17s to 20s per qr; peas, 28s to 32s per qr.

Bristol Thursday.—There was a fairly good attendance at to-day's market, and a steady tone prevailed generally, English wheat in small supply at late rates. Foreign unchanged. Maize 3d dearer. Barley 3d dearer. Oats unaltered. Flour firm.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance, but trading was very quiet. Foreign wheats show no change from last market day. English wheats made up to 28s per 496 lb delivered. Both Plate and round maize were 3d dearer. Grinding barley was unchanged in value. English oats and beans a slow sale at late quotations.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in rather small supply, and unchanged in price. Dry reds and whites 27s 6d to 28s; others, 26s 6d to 27s, revets, 26s to 27s per qr on the line. Barley in average supply, with a firm trade at 28s to 32s per qr for useful malting parcels, but a dull trade for others.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The malting demand was quiet, owing to the approach of the holidays, but there was a fair amount of business doing in other corn. 64 lb wheats ranged up to 29s, and oats were firm, samples weighing 40 lb averaging 20s per qr. Grey peas, 28s 6d to 30s; tick beans, 32s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat, white and red, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; beans, new, 4s 9d to 5s; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 3d per 64 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, old, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb; River Plate, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 240 lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A small attendance, and not much trade. New white wheat 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s 6d; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 22s to 24s; peas, 29s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 5s to 5s 6d; maize, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; flour, 24s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, oats, and beans quiet. Prices about unchanged—COLIN TAYLOR, KING AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Trade was very quiet, and final rates were:—Wheat, old 10s 6d to 11s 6d, new 9s 9d to 10s 6d per 186 lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448 lb; oats, old 25s to 26s, new 18s 6d to 21s 6d per 352 lb; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb; beans, old 12s 9d to 13s 3d, new 11s 6d to 12s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—The attendance was small, the supply limited, and both wheat and spring corn were unchanged in price. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 25s to 30s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; old beans, 34s to 35s; new beans, 31s to 32s; old oats, 24s to 25s; new oats, 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 25s; old oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 17s to 20s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Everything now being disturbed by the holidays, this being fully reflected by the limited amount of business passing at the Corn Exchange, with a limited attendance and short offer of grain. Factors had but very few sales to record, farmers showing no disposition n any way to press sales, about which, for the time, hey seemed supremely indifferent, their attention being taken up by operations outside in preparing for the coming festival, consequently we may quote the sales effected at last week's rates; but with the advent of much colder weather to-day than we have yet had, we expect to see a dearer trade with the opening of the new year if the weakness now continues.

Dublin, Friday.—Irish wheat very dull. No barley. No business in oats. Flour slow and unaltered. Oatmeal firm. Bran firm and in fair inquiry. Pollard in fair demand at full prices. Quotations: Wheat, 16s 3d to 16s 6d; oats, 10s 6d to 13s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 11s 6d; pollard, 6s 3d to 6s 9d; bran, 6s 3d to 7s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance at the Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat quiet and unchanged. Flour, if anything, a little better in demand, but price unaltered. Maize and corn very firm, and prices for both have advanced 3d per boll on the week. Barley firm, but no change in price. Oats—firm for foreign, but quiet and unchanged for home qualities. Beans dull, with a limited demand. Pease scarce, and held for 1½d per boll advance. Bran the turn dearer, but thirds unchanged. Oatmeal quiet but firm.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market dull. Holders of wheat and flour stand for late rates, but business slow. Mixed American maize steady at 12s 6d; round quiet at 12s 3d to 12s 4½d per 280 lb. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Market of a holiday character. English wheat rather easier: Reds, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; white, 3s 6d to 3s 7d. Foreign wheat unchanged. Plates, 31s to 31s 6d; Russians, 28s 3d to 33s. Maize unchanged: Plate 21s; flat, 21s 9d; Bessarabian, 21s 3d to 21s 6d. Barley unchanged, at 19s 9d to 20s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small market. Figures were nominally unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, new, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 62 lb; barley, 3s to 3s 10d per 56 lb; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40 lb; beans, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 65½ lb; maize, 2s 10d to 3s 4d per 60 lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat, trade steady at last week's rates:—Reds, 28s to 28s 6d; whites, to 29s 6d per 404 lb. Moderate supply of barley, trade dull, prices unaltered. Oats firm and fully as dear. Maize, 3d to 6d dearer. Beans and peas steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—With the break-up of the frost, the market has rather lost some of its firmness, but the position is not materially changed. Merchants and millers have still to complain of the absence of any margin of profit; forward business in wheat is very limited, and spot values are practically unchanged on the week. Malting barley steady, maize, beans, and oats unaltered.—DUNNS AND CO

Leeds, Friday.—As business will be suspended during Christmas week, local buyers placed orders more freely, and prices for both English and foreign wheats showed no change from Tuesday last. The extra demand for flour by bakers is over, and as heavy cargoes are on their way from abroad, there was no further hardening tendency in prices. There was a good demand for English malting barley, best qualities making 28s.

Lincoln, Friday.—The market was of a holiday character. English wheat was in small supply, and met with a good inquiry at fully last week's rates. Barley, oats, and beans a slow trade at extreme prices of a week ago.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a small attendance, and wheat, whilst steady, is quiet with business of holiday character; Manitobas are occasionally ¼d lower. Flour: A very quiet trade at practically unchanged prices for both foreign and home-made brands. Maize: Mixed is very steady, with a fair demand at unchanged values. Plate meets a very fair trade, and holders are firm at ¼d below last Tuesday. European sorts quiet and the turn lower. Barley: Malting practically exhausted. Feeding is very scarce and firmly held. Beans difficult to move, but unchanged in prices. Peas steady at recent currencies, but slow. Oats steady but slow, with little material change in prices. Oatmeal: A difficult sale at late prices. Oilcake in rather better demand, but cottonseed meal quiet, rather easier. Indian meal rather quieter owing to forthcoming holidays.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat firm, and unchanged. Foreign rather easier, but a slow demand for both. Indian corn rather on the easy side. Oats about ½d dearer for English. Barley quiet and unchanged, In beans and peas there was little or nothing done. Bran and thirds very firm, but not quotably dearer.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was but a small attendance at the Corn Exchange, and late prices were well held.

Newark, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, and prices firm at last week's figures. Quotations: White and red wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 19s; black ditto, 17s to 18s; beans, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per qr.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was very little on offer. Wheat remained about the same, making 26s. to 26s. 6d. in the mill; barley was unchanged, and oats and beans unaltered. New wheat, 26s to 26s 6d; flour, 23s to 27s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 19s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 17s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 29s; peas, 28s to 32s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, holders asking advance which millers resisted, the little passing was at full rates. Barley steady trade at about late prices. Oats and beans but few offering, and values maintained.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A holiday feeling prevails to-day, and not much business passing. Wheat made last week's prices. Barley firm and fully as dear. Oats steady and unchanged.—THOS. HILL & SON.

Reading, Saturday.—There was a good attendance, but business was not brisk. Prices:—Wheat, 26s to 31s; barley, 25s to 29s; oats, new, 18s to 21s; old, 20s to 24s; beans, 31s to 37s; peas, 29s to 31s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Ripon, Thursday.—Not many samples of grain, and a dull business was transacted at unaltered rates. Prices:—Wheat, 26s to 27s; foreign ditto, 32s to 35s 6d; barley, grinding, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; maize, round, 22s to 23s; ditto flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Slow trade in English wheat at last week's prices. Foreign wheat firm, and in some cases dearer. Beans, oats, maize, and barley unchanged. Quotations:—New white wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 28s 6d to 29s per 504 lb; black oats, 19s 3d to 19s 4d; white ditto, 19s 6d to 20s per 336 lb; grinding peas, 31s 6d to 32s; blue ditto, 55s to 70s per 504 lb; new English beans, 33s to 33s 6d per 532 lb; grinding barley, 23s 3d to 23s 6d; malting ditto, 25s to 28s per 448 lb; small Indian corn, 24s to 24s 6d; new Plate ditto, 22s to 22s 6d; flat ditto, 24s 6d to 25s per 480 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Holiday market. Wheat, 26s; white oats, 18s; black ditto, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 29s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; beans, 29s 6d to 30s per qr; peas firm.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was no farmers' wheat showing. Foreign wheat keeps firm, and a slight advance was asked, but the demand was only slow. Oats and maize quiet and unchanged. No malting barley showing.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Rather more grain offering. Wheat quiet at last week's prices. Spring corn unchanged. Arrivals:—Coastwise, wheat 410 qr.; foreign: nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Winchester, Saturday.—The market of a holiday character, and all prices unchanged.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Poor show of grain, and a slow trade. White wheat, 27s to 28s; red ditto, 26s 6d to 27s; best malting barley, 26s to 29s; ditto secondary, 25s to 27s; grinding ditty, 23s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 20s; black oats, 17s to 18s; flat maize, 26s; round maize, 24s per qr.

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,
1900	26 11	,,	25 9	,,	17 9	,,
1901	26 9	,,	25 3	,,	18 5	,,
1902	28 0	,,	25 8	,,	20 2	,,
1903	26 9	,,	22 11	,,	17 2	,,
1904	28 4	,,	22 4	,,	16 4	,,
1905	29 9	,,	24 4	,,	17 4	,,

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 22, 1906 :—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Av. Price per q. £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	7,226	3 ...	9,908	16	9 ...	1	7	5
Barley ...	372	0 ...	439	15	0 ...	1	3	8
Oats	1,193	6 ...	1,079	4	3 ...		18	1

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 22, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1902...	51,796...	24	10	127,484...	24	1	28,164 ..	16	8
1903...	56,243...	26	5	134,031...	22	5	27,404...	15	6
1904...	33,336..	30	3	99,997...	24	7	28,916...	16	1
1905...	76,265...	28	4	107,351...	24	6	30,779...	17	11
1906...	68,977...	26	3	127,131...	24	3	31,528...	17	3

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week endod Saturday, December 22, 1906 :—

Wheat	1,933,800	cwts.
Wheat-flour	232,200	,,
Barley	450,300	,,
Oats	212,900	,,
Maize	1,049,900	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz. :—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,774,700	1,282,900	1,240,600	1,070,548
Wheat-flour	419,800	183,900	760,800	307,053
Barley ...	462,100	301,200	440,400	409,565
Oats ...	355,200	204,100	252,100	260,460
Maize ...	946,100	718,700	1,320,800	320,213

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Dec. 12 to 19 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	4,800	71,000	75,800
Barley.....	1,800	21,000	22,800
Malt.....	19,500	38	19,538
Oats...	5,200	49,000	54,200
Beans	1,148	4,832	5,980
Peas.....	631	547	1,178
Maize	—	18,931	18,981
Dari	—	2,150	2,150
Millet	—	190	190
Canaryseed.....	—	600	600
Linseed	—	2,000	2,000
Cottonseed ...tons...	—	400	400
Flour.....sacks ...	23,000	37,000	60,000
Maizemeal ... ,, ...	—	25,000	25,000
Oatmeal ..... ,, ...	—	7,000	7,000
Middlings ... ,, ...	—	7,500	7,500

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given).

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.
Jan. ..	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2
Feb. ...	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3
March	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3
April ...	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9
May ...	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8
June ...	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6
July ...	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9
August	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4
Sept. ..	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3
Oct. ...	31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0
Nov. ...	31	6	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4
Dec. ...	—		31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0
Yrly. } Avrg. }	—		30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6

Imperial Weekly Averages.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS Qrs.	s.	d.
1905.									
Dec. 23	76,265	28	5	107,351	24	6	30,779	17	11
,, 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	2
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	4
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	7
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	10
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	19	0
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	18	8
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	10
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	8
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	11
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	19	4
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	35,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,956	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900 s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3
June ...	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...	22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. } Avrg. }			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d.	per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d.	per 400 lb.
Oats.....	18s. 11d.	per 312 lb.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham : 5 and 6. Birmingham : 6 and 7. Chester : 6. Derby : 6 and 7. Devizes : 8 to 10. Dorchester : 1s to 1s 7d. Evesham, 1s 1d to 1s 4½d per doz. Hereford : 7 to 9. Kidderminster : 7. Market Drayton : 8 and 9. Otley : 7. Penrith : 8 and 9. Penzance : 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Plymouth : 7 and 8. Ripon : 7 and 8. Scarborough : 7. Spalding : 8 and 9. Stamford : 5 to 7. Stockport : 6. Stockton : 6. Truro : 1s 4d per doz. Wellington (Salop) : 8. Worksop : 2s 10d to 3s per score.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A steady demand prevailed for the good assortment on offer. Quotations : Up-to-Dates, 70s to 80s ; Blacklands, 60s to 65s ; British Queens, 65s ; Royal Kidneys, 65s to 70 ; Maincrops, 70s to 80s ; Scotch, 70s to 75s per ton. Dutch, 2s 9d ; Belgian, 2s 9d per bag.

Goole, Wednesday.—Holiday market. The average prices of potatoes were for best rates, and King Edwards 7s to 7s 3d per load, and for other kinds, 5s 7½d to 6s 3d.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been moderate, for which the demand has been steady, and prices for best qualities quite firm. To-day's prices are as follows :—Light soil : Up-to-Dates, 65s to 75s per ton ; British Queens, 60s to 70s per ton ; Evergoods, 60s to 70s per ton ; Edward VIIth, 60s to 70s per ton. Blackland : Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton ; British Queens, 55s to 62s 6d per ton ; Evergoods, 55s to 62s 6d per ton ; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Thursday. — Arrivals continue heavy and demand is light. Disease still showing in most samples. English Up-to-Dates, 65s to 75s ; Maincrop Kidneys, 80s to 90s ; British Queens, 65s to 75s ; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s ; Evergoods, 60s to 65s ; Blacklands, 55s to 65s per bag.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Lighter supplies, for which a better inquiry ensued. Quotations : Maincrops, 80s to 85s ; Placklands, 60s to 62s 6d ; British Queens, 55s to 65s ; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s per ton. Dutch, 2s 9d ; Belgian, 3s per bag.

Stockton, Wednesday. — Potatoes, £3 per ton.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Fair supply ; trade quiet. Hay made £3 15s to £4 per ton, and straw 2s 4d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s per ton, new clover, 80s to 90s ; best old hay, 90s to 100s ; new hay, 80s to 90s ; second hay, 65s to 70s ; wheat straw, 60s to 70s ; pressed straw, 50s to 60s ; chop, 56s to 65s ; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s

Hereford, Wednesday.—Practically nothing moving. Present quotations : Hay, 55s to 65s per ton in stack ; straw, 30s to 33s in bulk.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The hay and straw trade in the warehouses has improved with the late wintry weather, and the forthcoming holidays. Quotations :—New clover hay, 7d ; ditto, old, 7½d ; new meadow hay, 7d ; ditto, old, 7d ; wheat straw, 5d ; oat straw, 5d ; and rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay and clover, 70s per ton on the ground ; secondary ditto, 50s to 55s ; straw, 35s to 40s per ton at the stack.

Manchester, Friday. — Hay, 5½d to 6d ; clover, 6d½ to 6⅞d ; straw, wheat, 3½d ; oat, 3½d to 3¾d per stone.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Old land hay, from £4 to £4 10s per ton ; new land hay, from £5 10s to £6 ; this year's growth, from £4 12s 6d to £5 5s. Wheat straw, from £1 5s to £1 8s per load ; barley straw, from £1 3s to £1 5s ; oat straw, from £1 5s to £1 7s.

Nottingham, Wednesday. — Full market, which met with a fair demand at lower rates. Quotations :—Inferior to good hay, 70s to 80s ; prime ditto, 85s to 95s ; inferior to good clover, 75s to 85s ; prime ditto, 85s to 95s ; wheat straw, 40s to 50s.

Whitechapel, Saturday. — Better supplies were on offer, and met a good demand. Best clover, 184s to 97s 6d ; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s ; specially-picked hay, 90s ; good ditto, 82s 6d to 87s 6d ; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s ; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s ; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham : 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Birmingham : 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Chester : 1s 3d. Derby, 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Devizes : 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Dorchester : 1s 2d to 1s 7d. Evesham : 1s 4½d. Hereford : 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kidderminster : 1s 2d. Market Drayton : 1s 3d. Otley : 2s per 24 oz. roll. Penrith : 1s 1½d to 1s 4d. Penzance : 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Plymouth : 1s 6d to 1s 8d. Ripon : 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz roll. Scarborough : 1s 4d. Spalding : 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stamford : 1s 5d to 1s 7d. Stockport : 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockton : 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Truro : 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop) : 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worksop 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1906	£68	12	1
,, 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10

LATEST MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY.

The bad light was against trade, but as there will be no markets on the 24th or 26th, retail buyers had to bestir themselves. Most orders took some such simple form as "the same as before" and so many quarters at "the price of the day," which often follows the list in these columns. Barley was firmer. Oats in better request from Monday, but in wheat and maize it required a microscope to discover any change either of price or demand.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 21.		s.	s.
WHEAT,	White (Old).....(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
	,, (New) ... ,,	28	— 30
	Red ... (Old) ... ,,	29	— 31
	,, ... (New) ... ,,	27	— 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...(per 448 lb.)	34	— 36
	,, (New)... ,,	30	— 34
	Brewing (Old)... ,,	29	— 31
	,, (New)... ,,	26	— 28
	Poultry (New)...(per 424 lb.)	24	— 25
	Distilling (New) (per 416 lb.)	23	— 24
	Winter (New) ...(per 400 lb.)	22	— 23
	Feeding(New)...(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT,	Pale .....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
	Brown ..... ,,	27	— 29
	Black ..... ,,	29	— 30
OATS,	Best (Old)..... ,,	22	— 23
	Storm Kings (New)... ,,	19	— 20
	Black Tartary (New) ,,	18	— 19
	White Gartons (New) ,,	19	— 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...(per 320 lb.)	18	— 19
	Light Spring (New)...(per 312 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, Essex	.....(per 480 lb.)	22	— 24
BEANS, Pigeon	.....(per 532 lb.)	43	— 45
	Tick .....(per 504 lb.)	34	— 35
	Winter (Old) ..... ,,	37	— 38
	,, (New) ..... ,,	32	— 33
	Spring (New) ..... ,,	33	— 35
	Split Mazagan .....(per 320 lb.)	22	— 23
PEAS,	Picked Marrowfat ...(per 504 lb.)	66	— 74
	Unpicked ditto ..... ,,	48	— 52
	Maple (Old) ..... ,,	34	— 35
	,, (New)..... ,,	32	— 33
	Dun (Old) ..... ,,	33	— 34
	,, (New)..... ,,	30	— 31
TARES	(Winter).....(per 532 lb.)	40	— 44
	(Spring) ..... ,,	46	— 50
	(Gores)..... ,,	56	— 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33	American	21	— 22
,, ,, 2	31	— 32	Argentine	20	— 21
American Red	30	— 31	Bulgarian	21	— 22
Argentine ...	31	— 32	Roumanian ...	21	— 22
Australian ...	31	— 32	Russian	21	— 22
New Zealand	30	— 31	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Blue Stem ...	31	— 32	Smyrna	34	— 36
Walla Walla	30	— 31	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Saxonka	32	— 33	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Azima	31	— 32	Italian	64	— 72
Ghirka	30	— 31	Hungarian	59	— 63
Taganrog	29	— 30	Burmese	32	— 42
Indian White	31	— 32	Chilian	56	— 64
,, Red	30	— 31	LENTILS (cental):		
BARLEY:			Split Egyptian	10	— 11
C'lifor'n(448 lb)	29	— 30	Whole Indian...	7	— 8
Ouchak (448 lb)	27	— 29	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Chilian (448 lb)	28	— 29	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian White	35	— 36
Russian(400 lb)	19	— 20	Indian Green	29	— 31
Gaza (400 lb)	23	— 24	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Persian (400 lb)	18	— 19	NewZeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Hama (448 lb)	26	— 27	Victoria Dun..	33	— 34
Spanish (448 lb)	29	— 33	Gram	27	— 29
Torrified(336 lb)	21	— 22	MILLET (416 lb.):		
MALT (336 lb.):			White	42	— 44
Californian ...	33	— 36	Yellow	22	— 24
Smyrna	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Ouchak	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
RYE (480 lb.):			Indian	14	— 16
Russian	24	— 25	Burmese	9	— 10
OATS:			Siamese	8	— 9
Konigsb'g(320 lb)	18	— 19	DARI (480 lb.):		
Russian (304 lb)	16	— 17	Smyrna	25	— 26
Canadian(320 lb)	18	— 19	Indian	23	— 24
N Zealand(384 lb)	23	— 24	Persian	21	— 22

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE LIVERPOOL TELEGRAM COMING WEAKER BOTH FOR WHEAT AND MAIZE DID NOT HELP LONDON HOLDERS, BUT THE LATTER HAVING MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HOLDING OVER CHRISTMAS, DID NOT MAKE ANY CONCESSIONS. STOCKS BEING SMALL, HOLDERS' POSITION IS REASONABLY FIRM.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY.

The price of best London flour was unchanged, and Hungarian, the other top sort, was rather firmer on the week.

Town whites and town households declined 3d. per sack, but secured a good retail sale as a consequence of this concession.

Country flour being in large supply and rather uneven condition declined 3d. per sack without securing any particular increase of appreciation.

American sorts were against holders. As compared with Christmas last year we note material changes in favour of the baker.

Australian flour fell to a guinea for ordinary, with 22s. commanding fancy types.

We find that Corbeil (French) flour is thus quoted:—

Superieure, 23s. on spot, 22s. 6d. January shipment.

Etoile, 22s. on spot, 21s. 6d. January shipment.

Em, 18s. 6d. on spot, 18s. January shipment.

Other flour sales to-day were Cascadia, at 24s. 3d. per sack; Belgian extra fancy, at 27s. per sack; and finest rye flour, 20s. 6d. per sack. For wholemeal, 17ss. to 180s. per ton was quoted.

London Flour.

Top Price.....(per sack of 280 lb.)		28/0 net.
Town Whites.....	,,	24/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	21/9 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	19/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/0 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/0 ,,

Country Flour.

		s.	s.
Fine Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)		23	— 24
Roller Whites	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	20	— 21

Foreign Flour.

		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents (per s'ck of 280 lb.)		23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20	— 21
Oregon	,,	25	— 26
Californian	,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22	— 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Ordinary.....	,,	21	— 22
Hungarian, 0	,,	28	— 29
,, 1	,,	27	— 28
,, 2	,,	26	— 27
,, 3	,,	25	— 26
Belgian	,,	26	— 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22	— 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21	— 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20	— 21
Australian	,,	21	— 2½

Meal, &c.

Bran, London Broad (per sack of 280 lb.)		12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	12	— 13
Pollard	,,	10	— 11
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	23	— 24
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	28	— 31
Groats	,,	31	— 32
Oat Flour.....	,,	32	— 33
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 18
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18	— 19

TERM MARKET.

Trade in futures closed well.

Red American wheat Mar. delivery, 6s 5d per cental.
,, ,, May ,, 6s 5d ,,
Mixed American
Maize ..... Jan. ,, 4s 2d ,,
,, ,, ... March ,, 4s 1d ,,
,, ,, ... May ,, 4s 1d ,,
Argentine Maize ... Jan. ,, 4s 3d ,,
There were no other sales.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Cottonseed is again cheaper. Other staples are unchanged.

LINSEED.	s.	s.
Calcutta	44 to 45	
Bombay	45 to 46	
Russian	44 to 45	
Argentine	43 to 44	
Duluth	43 to 44	
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.		
Best English ...	70 to 71	
Yellow Guzerat	53 to 55	
,, Cawnpore	46 to 47	
Brown ,,	45 to 46	
Ferozepore	48 to 49	
Jamba	43 to 44	
RUBSEN. per 424 lb		
German	66 to 68	

POPPYSEED. per 377 lb	
Indian	51 to 53
COTTONSEED. per ton.	s. s.
Egyptian.....	130 to 132
Indian	102 to 104
SUNFLOWERSEED. per cwt.	
English, White	15 to 16
Russian, White.	14 to 15
,, Black.	13 to 14
SESAME. per cwt.	
Indian	14 to 15
HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
Russian	33 to 34

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

BUTTER.—The over-supply of unsalted Australian still continues, and prices of this article are particularly irregular, ranging from 102s. to 108s., according to quality. Salted Australian finds a better market, but there is a weaker tone owing to a large supply and holders forcing sales, and consequently there is a reduction of about 2s. on the week. New Zealand butter is in good inquiry, as supplies are not in excess of demand. The quality gives it a predominant position, and this season will still further raise its reputation above that of Australian, owing to its superior quality.

CHEESE.—There has been a slow market this week for both Canadian and New Zealand cheese, and prices remain unaltered.

PROVISIONS.

London, Friday.—Bacon: In view of the approaching holidays the provision market was generally unsettled. The bacon market was steady, but quiet. Prices ranging:—Irish, 52s to 55s up to 60s; Danish, 50s to 54s up to 58s; Canadian, 50s to 51s up to 52s. Butter.—The butter market was steady. French, 116s to 126s; Danish, 121s to 123s; Russian, 96s to 104s; Colonials, 88s to 110s; New Zealand, 104s to 112s; Argentine, 106s to 112s. Lard.—Lard was a quiet market. Irish, 52s to 60s; Danish, 50s to 56s; American, 46s to 47s 6d.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 5s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £13 5s to £14 5s; Kent fleeces, £13 5s to £13 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 15s to £15 5s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 5s to £13 15s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 10½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8d to 9d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; medium, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 0½d.

Farm Seeds.—Friday, 3 p.m.: English red cloverseed selling well at 60s. per cwt.; English white cloverseed up to 65s. for best; good Alsyhe inquired for at 75s., with medium at 60s.; Lucerne 2s. dearer, 66s. paid for finest Provence; English giant sainfoin in request at 25s.—(Special to M.L.E.)

Foreign Hay.—Friday, 3 p.m.: Canadian makes, 87s. 6d. per ton; French finest cut clover, 87s. 6d. per ton; French Lucerne, 75s. per ton; French sainfoin, 70s. per ton; best Dutch hay, 80s. per ton; Russian prime hay, 75s. per ton; and Algerian hay, 74s. per ton. Trade very fair.—(Special to M.L.E.).

Rice.—Assuming exports for the last fortnight of December at one twenty-sixth of the whole for the year, Burmese exports of rice for 1906 will be:—

	1906	1905
To the U.K.....	1,022,000 tons	998,000 tons
Elsewhere	1,302,000 ,,	1,205,000 ,,
Total	2,324,000 ,,	2,203,000 ,,

Thus one Burmese dependency is doing well and the rice trade also, for despite these large exports rice is very firm, and in some brauches dearer. There is a very steady sale.—(Special to M.L.E.).

LATEST MARKETS.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes.—The markets have been poorly attended the past week, with only a small business passing, but with a firm attitude on the part of shippers and home manufacturers, values are well maintained. Russians attract most attention, being relatively cheap but unaltered. East India seed pures may be bought at last week's prices. American are only nominally quoted. London-made go quietly into consumption at about late rates. Cotton Cakes.—With decreasing stocks of Egyptians, and only a limited quantity available afloat, prices show a tendency to harden, while to-day's quotations are slightly advanced. English command rather more money. Decorticated offer sparingly at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s., and meal at £7 5s. Rape Cakes scarce and dear. East India unchanged. Ravison none. Maize Germ Meal.—White American is in more request at £5 15s. to £5 16s. 3d., with English makes selling at £5 10s. to £5 12s. 6d. per ton. Maize Gluten Meal moves off freely at £5 15s. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon continue to find buyers at £4 12s. 6d. to £4 15s., while a steamer parcel afloat is procurable at £4 5s., ex ship terms. Locust Beans are fully as dear at £5 10s. for whole and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains are excellent value at £4 15s. for porter and £5 5s. for ale.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d
LINSEED CAKES.		
Russian, in mats (ex dock)...	7 10 0	to 7 11 3
,, in bags	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
Calcutta	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American.....	7 7 6	
English (ex mill)	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian (ex warehouse)...	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
English (ex mill)	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated...	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
,, Cottonseed Meal	7 5 0	
RAPE CAKES.		
East India seed.....	5 10 0	
Ravison	—	
MAIZE.		
White American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
English	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
Maize Gluten Meal	5 15 0	
RICEMEAL.		
Rangoon	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
,, to arrive, ex ship ...	4 5 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
DRIED GRAINS.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

Friday.—Supplies coming forward during the past week have hardly been large; there is little or no change in values to report, the demand still being of a very quiet description. With the Christmas holidays near at hand country dealers and senders have been knocking off their tiers as much as possible and thus considerably lessening the volume of stuff to hand. Clovers continue a quiet trade, but with small arrival are, if anything, slightly firmer. Mixtures, especially prime sorts, are still in good demand, and making top prices.

The inquiry for hay seem to be falling off from day to day, and although quotations are nominally altered it is only prime qualities for which there is any real good trade; middling and plain hays have to meet in keen competition with the large quantities of Dutch hays with which our market is now being flooded, and in consequence are very difficult of sale. The straw trade continues steady, with a fair demand for all qualities at unaltered rates.

In the foreign market arrivals of Canadian mixture are very short, and full prices are obtainable for all parcels on offer. Large quantities of Dutch hays are to hand, and meet with a fair trade at about unaltered values.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 82s 6d to 85s per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 80s; plain hay, 70s per ton; best clovers, 92s 6d per ton; good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton; inferior clovers, 70s to 80s per ton; best mixtures, 92s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixture, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 27s to 28s per load; oat straw, 27s per load; barley straw, 27s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign Canadian mixture, 85s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 74s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 67s 6d to 70s; French and Dutch 1st and 2nd cut clover, 85s per ton. French large wheat straw, 55s per ton; French small wheat straw, 45s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—There has been rather more inquiry, but trade quiet, and prices remain unchanged.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offa)s.—Bran continues in good demand; prices very firm at late quotations.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There is no change. Bakers being busy with their Christmas trade are not interested in flour. Grain.—Flat corn is now in small compass on spot, and held for 12s 6d per 280 lb. Round is quiet. Odessa peas are 3d dearer on spot, but there is another arrival due. Beans quiet, especially English, which are 3d lower. Foreign oats firm, but home oats are offered more freely. Oilcake unchanged. Oatmeal quiet. Mill Stuffs.—Bran is scarcer and thirds are rather firmer.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—Wet Grains: The market has had a more limited supply, and prices are firm at 23s ale, and 20s porter, 35s distillers', and pressed white distillery moal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles are without much change as follows:—Dried grains: Ale, 102s 6d; mixed, 92s 6d; distillers', 110s per ton on rail London. Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 100s, kibbled locust beans 110s, damaged cotton cake for manure, 65s per ton. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been more business doing, and a large bulk of useful brewing hops has changed hands.

Worcester, Saturday.—This week there has been some inquiry for hops, which has been filled from merchants stocks, with the exception of one lot of 346 pockets weighed from growers; prices are unaltered, but holders look for improved trade in the new year. The total new hops weighed this season is 11,457 to date.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Large supplies of fruit and vegetables on offer, and business brisk in all departments. Quotations for English produce:—Apples, 3s to 7s 6d per bushel; cranberries, 13s to 16s per case; grapes, 8d to 5s; cobnuts, 6s to 7s 6d per 12lb; chestnuts (Redon), 7s to 12s 6d; brazil nuts 60s to 65s per cwt; spruce, 8s to 9s per dozen bundles; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt; eschallots, 2s to 2s 6d; mushrooms, 9s to 12s per 12 lb; savoys, 4s to 5s 6d; cabbage, 4s to 6s; cauliflowers, 6s to 9s per tally; spinich 1s 6d to 1s 9d; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d; Brussel sprouts, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; cos lettuce, 3s to 5s 6d: endive, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; cucumbers, 8s to 12s per dozen; sage, 9d to 1s; carrots, 9d to 1s 3d; turnips, 1s 6d to 3s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; potatoes, 60s to 85s per ton.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Plentiful supplies met with a good demand. Prices: Cock turkeys, 12s to 25s; hen ditto, 8s to 10s 6d; goslings, 6s 6d to 8s 6d; country ducks, 3s 6d to 5s; Surrey fowls, 3s 6d to 5s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Irish fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; woodcock, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; snipe, 8d to 1s; quails, 10d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 3s to 4s; leverets, 2s to 2s 6d; Scottish hares, 1s 9d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 9d; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 5s to 5s 6d. ; young partridges, 4s 6d; old, 2s per brace; wild rabbits, 7d to 10d each.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market continues firm; 13d is freely offered for Kent fleeces, and 8d for lamb wool.

Halifax, Saturday.—Though the holidays are so near at hand there is a buoyant tone about business, a fair number of transactions, and some increase of strength in quotations.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Our annual "Great Market Day" at Islington has again been held, often known as the Great Scotch Day, consignments from this part of the United Kingdom being held back (at any rate the choicest and best) for sale for Christmas consumption. This year the arrivals were in shorter numbers, but the quality showed no decline in point of excellence; Devons, Norfolks and Runts were all fully up to the butcher's requirements. Amongst the consignments from Ireland were eighty head of the Polled Angus breed, these having been on view in the Dublin Show, and commanded on Monday the same rate per pound as our best Scotch. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a good demand from both town and country buyers. Trade for all grades of cattle ruled slow in the early morning, but became brisker as the day advanced, prices exceeding those of the corresponding day last year to the extent of 2d. per lb. On Thursday trade ruled fairly steady.

At Deptford markets were held on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, trade on all four days was of a slow nature at a decline in value. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,915 as against 5,242 during the preceding week; consisting of 2,270 British (increase 730) and 3,645 foreign (decrease 57), these latter comprised 3,271 from the United States and 374 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb (sinking the offal):—90 to 100 st. Scotch, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 90 to 100 st. Devons, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 to 95 st. Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 st. Runts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 st. Black Polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 95 to 100 st. Dublin Show cattle, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; Shorthorn Dublin, 4s. 2d to 4s. 4d; 90 st. States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 st. fat cows, 3s. 6d., ex. 3s. 8d.

As usual on a great market, the sheep department was somewhat neglected until later in the day, all attention being attracted to the beasts. When a start was made trade was slow, but became brisker as the day advanced, the previous week's advanced rates being well maintained. No Scotch descriptions were offered for sale. Irish were short in number, and met with a ready sale at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. This year we notice the smallest supply of lambs ever seen on a Christmas market day. These were steady in regard to value. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number on offer at Islington was 10,820, as against 5,120 during the previous week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s. 4d. to 6s 6d.; 9 stone Downs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 11 stone half-bred ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone Down lambs, 7s. 10d. to 8s.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 7s. to 7s. 4d.

Calves numbered twenty-five; trade, however, was not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

Trade in the West.

As we write on Thursday evening the fat stock sales, which have been in active progress for the past fortnight or more, to the exclusion of almost all other business in the stock line, are rapidly drawing to a close, and stockowners, as well as dealers, will be able once again to give attention to other classes of stock. Glancing at the business that has come under our immediate notice, we may characterise the present as one of the best seasons for grazing men that they have had for some years past, and they are to be heartily congratulated on the fact, seeing how badly they have fared in some previous years. As a whole, there has never been a better output of stock, and, as far as we can judge, all has come to hand in splendid condition, it being the exception, not the rule, to find a badly finished bullock. This is all the more creditable to graziers, seeing the difficulties with which they had to contend far into the autumn in finding anything like a sufficiency of food, except where supplemented by the tub, for their grazing cattle. Although there have been no falling off in supplies, yet prices have kept unusually strong, and, as a rule, have been from 1s. to 2s. per score higher for beef than for several years past, good class steers and heifers, which have been making for the heaviest weights from 12s. 6d. to 13s. per score (or from £25 to £30 each), and for the best-finished lighter weights 13s. 6d. to 14s. per score (or from £18 to £24 each). Fat cows, too, especially those of nice quality and finish, have found an equally good sale at from 11s. to 12s. per score; in fact, anything at all suitable

for Christmas purposes has been readily absorbed, purveyors in their eagerness to lay in ample stocks evidently anticipating a demand considerably in excess of what is usually the case, and, should the weather only prove favourable, there is little doubt of their being disappointed. Although beef, as usual, is still the great staple commodity, the veal trade is being keenly looked after judging by the extensive purchases made, and high prices continue to rule—8d. to 9d. being the range just previous to Christmas. Mutton supplies have, as a rule, been altogether inadequate to the demand, and a very dear trade is the result, many of the ripest tegs and wethers selling up to 10d. per lb. and over (or from 64s. to 80s. apiece for the best), and choice fat ewes from 8d. to 8½d. per lb., it being the best which has found the most favour and for which purveyors do not hesitate paying a good price. A few good specially prepared lambs have been offering, and where these have presented any special features they have been readily secured for show purposes at 1s. per lb. and over. And, dear as pork has been all through the season, buyers have had to pay considerably more for what they needed to cover their Christmas requirements, it being by no means an uncommon thing for porkers to touch 12s. per score for anything specially choice, ordinary runs selling from 11s. to 11s. 6d. and baconers 10s. to 10s. 9d. Speaking generally, this may veritably be recorded as the dearest season of recent years, not the least satisfactory feature of which is the fact that high prices have, as far as can be gathered, proved by no means a serious deterrent to business, judging from the way in which everything offering has been absorbed.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been large, and the general quality decidedly improved. Owing to the unfavourable weather for slaughtering, trade throughout has been quieter, and an average fall of 1s. per cwt. had to be accepted. A full supply of fat sheep, and the quality also very good. For nice shop sheep the prices of the previous week were nearly maintained, but heavy weighted sheep and those adapted for the London market were 1s. a head cheaper. Ewes, owing to their scarcity, maintained the prices of the previous week. There was a small supply of calves, and they sold exceedingly dear, while a good demand was experienced for fat pigs at hardening rates. There was a very small show of store cattle of an indifferent class. Few buyers were present, but those sold would realise fully previous prices. For the time of year there was a fair supply of store sheep. These met a decidedly worse trade at prices favouring buyers, and a considerable number were left unsold. Milch cows met a quieter demand at a fall of fully 10s. per head. Quotations:—Top price for cattle per live cwt., 38s. 9d.; current, 35s. to 36s. 6d.; mutton, to 9½d per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

Compared with the last market, Thurday's market in Dublin was quiet, and there was a big decrease both in cattle and sheep, the former being over 1,600 and the latter over 1,300 less. Supplies were, however, larger than for the corresponding pro Christmas markets for some years past. The supply was in excess of the demand, and though the buying for cattle was fairly good in the early morning, it got very slack later on. There was a good attendance of shippers, and home victuallers were also well represented. The high rates of last market were not obtainable, but still anything really choice in the way of beef sold well, but the all-round tone was decidedly in favour of buyers. The live-weight prices for best beef ranged from 29s. to 31s. per cwt., but as high as 32s. 6d. was given for a few choice lots. The dead-weight rates were as follows:—Best beef, 50s. to 52s. 6d., and extra choice stall fed up to 55s. and 56s. per cwt.; good second class beef, 46s. to 49s., and inferior 42s. to 44s. per cwt. For second-rate and inferior animals there was a very slack demand at the finish.

The mutton department was also tame, and the demand disappointing, at very up and down prices, except for choice sheep for the Christmas trade, which were quickly picked up by local butchers. Any business done was transacted in the morning at full prices, but many sheep were left over unsold. Prime wether mutton made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; prime ewes, 6½d. to 7½d.; and inferior sheep from 5½d. to 6½d. per lb. Large, heavy hoggets sold at from 50s. to 60s. each; and medium to light ditto, at 40s. and 34s. each. Veal was in poor request owing to the large number of poultry selling in Dublin at very reasonable rates. Choice veal was worth 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and inferior ditto 4d. to 6d. per lb. Dairy cattle were in moderate supply, but chiefly of inferior quality. Really good springers were worth from £19 to £21, and freshly calved cows a pound or two less; other sorts rated from £10 to £15 each. Store cattle, as usual at this period, neglected. Very active trade in the pig market, especially for nice light weight hogs, which commanded a sharp advance of from 4s. to 5s. per cwt., making from 53s. to 55s per cwt.; inferior sorts from 35s. to 40s. per cwt. Market sold out early.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade finishing very slowly for beef, with a drooping tendency in prices. Mutton and pork firmer. Quotations:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto, tegs, 5s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English lamb, 6s 8d to 8s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; English pork, 4s to 5s; Dutch ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 8d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—The market was very poorly supplied, and prices were mostly nominal. Christmas cattle were evidently finally cleared last Monday, for beast entries totalled only 80, or 120 less than last week, and consisted chiefly in fat butchering cows and bulls, the range of quotations for which showed no change. Fat cows were quoted at 2s 8d to 3s 8d, the latter being exceptional, and fat bulls at 2s 4d to 3s 2d. Bullocks were quoted from 4s to 4s 6d. The number of sheep penned was 120, or 260 less than last Thursday. Prices were unchanged from Monday, and were nominal Best small Down tegs, 6s to 6s 4d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10s; 10-stone crossbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; large wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; small Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; large crossbreds, 4s. There were too few milch cows and calves to quote, the arrivals of each being five. Pigs were nominal, ten offered, and the best were quoted at 4s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The Christmas show was held to-day, but trade was not brisk, as too near Christmas. Best beef made up to 5s per stone, both in market and show. Down sheep ranged from 5s 8d to 6s 4d, and Kent wethers, 5s 4d to 6s. Veal dearer, at 5s 4d to 5s 10d. Pork up to 4s 4d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; fair trade. Small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 7d to 9½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; porkets, 11s 3d to 11s 8d per score; sows, 7s 10d to 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market was of a holiday character, usual before Christmas, the quantity of stock on offer being very small, and demand restricted so much, and very little business was recorded. The few cattle entered were of medium quality, and were quoted at from 52s to 56s per cwt. Sheep were scarce, trade being very quiet at 8d to 8½d per lb, ewes 7d. There were very few pigs, and values were unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in., 9s per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 8s 6d per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s per score. — C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday. — The demand for store cattle is about over for the season. A few cows and calves sold fairly well to-day, and good wether tegs averaged 46s 6d per head.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Owing to the approach of the Christmas holidays there was not a very large entry of stock or attendance of buyers. Trade for all classes of stock ruled firm, with a rising tendency for prime fat cattle. Quotations: Beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 6d; West Country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s 2d; lamb, 7s to 7s 6d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 10d.

Chester, Thursday.—The supplies of stock were small, and the attendance limited. Trade generally was quiet, but prices were maintained for all descriptions. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £23; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; veal, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 10d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The extensive sales of fat stock which have been in progress for nearly the last month culminated to-day in very attenuated supplies, which were confined almost entirely both at Messrs. Duke and Son's and also at Messrs. Symonds and Simpson's sales, to a few dairy beasts and graziers. Good milch beasts lost none of their firmness, this class of beast being much in request after the more serviceable kinds from £15 10s to £18 5s, and seconds from £10 to £14 10s, all being readily captured on these terms. A few barreners sold from £16 to £22 per pair, but the sharp snap of cold which set in towards the close of the week led graziers not to overburden themselves with anything for which they could not find good use. A few bulls made £8 to £10 each.

Dublin, Thursday.—A rather moderate demand for cattle owing to the reduced requirements of exporters. Choice finished animals realised last week's quotations, but middling sorts difficult to clear at lower prices Sheep in fair request for home use at last week's prices. Shipping qualities and middling things, in the absence of the usual shipping demand, not so easily placed, at prices favouring buyers. Cattle—Live weight (best), 30s to 34s per cwt.; middling and inferior, 26s to 29s 6d per cwt. Mutton—Dead weight, 7d to 8½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—A small show of cattle and sheep, with a middling trade. Stirks, £8 to £10; half-bred hoggs, 36s to 40s; smaller, 32s to 34s 6d; cross hoggs, 32s to 36s. For good cows there was a fair trade; Shorthorns to £25, Irish to £19; calves, £20 10s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies were larger, but demand slow. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, 10d; heavy-weights, 9¼d; wedders, 9d to 9½d; top ewes, 7d to 8d per lb. Demand moderate for dead meat, and values steady. Best Scotch beef, 5¾d; States, 5d; Canadians, 4¾d; cows, 4½d; hoggs, 8d; wedders, 7½d; ewes, 6d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co., report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves and in-calvers short supply owing to the holidays, with trade about the same. Very few store cattle and little demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There were not many buyers, and trade was very irregular. The prices fell to 6d to 6½d for the best young stuff, and 5d to 6d for half-meated things. Calves were few on offer, and only choice fat ones were in demand at about 7d to 7½d. No demand for store calves. Fat sheep being a small supply, were quite as dear as last week, wethers and lambs at 8d to 9d. Pigs formed an ordinary market supply. Porkers and bacons sold well, the former at 5½d to 6d, and the latter 5½d.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of beasts, and a slow trade. Young beasts, £8 to £10; milch cows, £17 to £21; hogg sheep, 43s 6d each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—As usual at the market following Christmas stock sales very little business was done, no fat beasts being offered, but a few fat sheep changed hands at 9s to 10s 6d per stone. A small number of store beasts made £6 to £12 each, store hoggets 40s to 45s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: First, 5½d; second class, 4½d to 5d; third class, 3½d to 4d. per lb. Mutton: First class, 8½d; second class, 7½d to 8¾d; third class, 6½d to 6¾d. Veal: First class, 7¾d; second class, 6½d to 7½d; third class, 5¾d to 6½d per lb. Bacon pigs: First, 5½d; second class, 4½d to 5d; third class, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: First class, 7½d; second class, 7d to 7½d; third class, 6½d to 6¾d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Business slow. Prime heifers, 7s 9d to 8s; Shorthorn heifers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second class, 6s 9d to 7s; prime steers, 7s to 7s 3d; coarse and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s; pigs, 6s to 9s 6d per stone, sheep, 5d to 9½d; veal, 6d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—This being the market after the Christmas fat stock show, things were quiet, and there were no quotations.

Norwich, Saturday.—Market of a holiday character. The supplies of fat beasts and fat sheep were too small to need remark. There was a large show of store cattle, an increase of more than 200 in the corresponding day of last year. Trade was of a quiet description; values ranged from £6 to £15 per head. Store sheep were represented by a few pens of hoggets, and for these late values were about maintained. Both fat and store sheep were offered in small numbers, and a clearance was effected. Fat pigs averaged 6s 9d per stone.

Preston, Wednesday.—Trade for both beef and mutton was slow. Calves made more money. Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6½d; cows and bulls, 4½d to 5½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; hoggs, 9d to 9d¼; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; calves to 9d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade slow: Best 4s 8d to 4s 10d;

middlings, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves in very short supply, trade slow at 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. A few good sheep on offer, trade very slow; Best small, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; large, 5s 4d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes in average supply, trade slow at 4s 5d to 4s 6d por stone. No store beasts offered. Fair supply of milch cows, trade slow. Pig trade about the same: Small porkers, 4s 8d 4s 10d; large hogs, up to 4s per stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Milch beasts, £18 to £21 for the best; rougher lots, £15 to £16 10s. No sheep penned.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good show of Christmas beef, which met an oxcellent trade. Attondance of buyers good. Supplies of store cattle, sheep, and pigs good, the latter meeting a steady sale. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7d per lb; mutton (wether), 9d to 9½d per lb; ewes, 7d to 8d per lb; veal, 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; bacons, 8s 6d to 9s per score.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business and attendance fair. Fat bullocks, 56s to 58s per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £15; rearing calvos, 20s to 35s; wethers, 8d per lb; ewes, 6d; lambs, 8d; pigs, 10s to 34s; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 5d to 5½d.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A very small supply of stock, and trade slow at about late rates. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone. Southdown wether and cross-bred shearlings, 7½d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A moderate supply; slow trade Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9¾d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

York, Thursday.—An average show of English and Irish store cattle, for what was practically a holiday market, with a few pens of Highland breed. There were only few buyers present, and most of the stock looked like being unsold at the close of the market. An average show of calving and milch cows, but in the absence of trade there was a reduction of fully 30s to 40s per head. One or two exceptionally good cows made up to 20 guineas, but the majority sold from £14 to £17 10s. A good show of hogg sheep for the time of the year, and a few shearlings, the latter meeting with a better demand up to 48s. Best hoggs, 46s; secondary sorts, 38s to 44s; Masham hoggs, 32s to 36s each.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of American and Canadian cattle were on offer to day, 755 head being penned, compared with 298 on last sale day. There was a large attendance of buyers, and business was active throughout the proceedings, a total clearance being effected at prices about equal to the high rates obtained at the week-end sales. States bullocks of nice useful quality and handy sizes and weights sold from 56s to 58s per cwt. dead weight, a few extra choice animals making up to 60s, with secondary grades down to 54s per cwt. Canadian bullocks sold from 52s to 56s per cwt., according to quality and condition, and States and Canadian bulls made from 42s to 45s.

Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association.

At the last meeting of the council of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association, the regulations for next year's sale of rams were considered, and it was decided that members be allowed to sell gimmers also, the sale to be held on Thursday, September 5 next, and, if thought necessary, arrangements to be made for it to be continued on to September 6.

Particulars of flocks and entries of rams received from 242 members for the sixteenth Flock Book were also considered and passed, and nstructions given for the publication of the book.

LINCOLNSHIRE FARMERS' UNION.

MEETING AT STURTON-BY-STOW.

A mocting of tho Lincolnshire Farmers' Union was held at Sturton-by-Stow on Monday night.

The chairman strongly advocatod tho Parliamentary programmo of the union. The objects of the union wero of a non-party nature, and if properly placed before the House of Commons would receive attention, and, whatever Governmont was in power, the grievances complained of would be remedied. Touching on the inequailites of railway ratos, ho gavo an instance of his experience as a manufacturer in Bradford. It paid, he said, better to buy certain stuff from Belgium which could have beon bought in Hull at tho same price, becauso the cost of transit from Belgium to Bradford was cheaper than from Hull.

Mr. E. W. Howard and the secretary also spoko.

Mr. Bowen thought that much could be dono if farmers had a direct representative in the House of Commons.

Nearly all the farmers present joined the union.

BRIGG BRANCH.

The annual general meeting was held at the Angel Hotel on Thursday, December 20 Amongst those present were Messrs. W. C. Wood, J.P., A. A. Spilman, Bletcher, Lowish, Riggall, Geo. Harris, W. F. Glazier. Mr. W. C. Wood was elected chairman of the branch, and Mr. Duncan J. Dodds hon. sec, and a very representative committee

Steps were taken to place the union's Parliamentary programme before the candidates in the event of an election in the Brigg Division.

A considerable increase was made in the membership of the branch, which is only of recent formation.

HORNCASTLE BRANCH.

The annual general meeting was held at the Bull Hotel, December 15.

Mr. W. Taylor-Sharpe, J.P., Baumber Park, was unanimously electod chairman of the branch, Colonel Ellwood, vice-chairman; and Mr. W. Searby, hon. sec.

The old committee was re-elected.

The secretary of the union attended, and gave some particulars of the progress made by the union during the year.

Several new members were elected, and there was promise of a large increase in the branch during next year.

Polo and Riding Pony Society.

The Marquis of Tullibardine (president-elect) occupied the chair at a meeting of tho council of the above society, held on the 7th inst., when Mr. C. Howard Taylor (chairman of the editing committee) reported that the committee had carefully revised the "Stud Book" proofs for volume 9, and it was hoped to be able to put this volume in the hands of members by the middle of January; also that the committee had, at their meeting on the previous day, the advantage of the presence of Major F. Egerton Green and Mr. Charles Sheather, and they were informed that it was practicable for Mr. Sheather to attend to measure ponies tendered for the "Stud Book," provided timely application was made to the secretary.

From the list of places at which Mr. Sheather had measured, the committee therefore recommended as centres the following places arranged under the divisions of the County Polo Association:—Northern: Catterick, Chester, Edinburgh, York. Midland: Rugby. South-Western: Aldershot, Cirencester, Fremington, Gillingham. South-Eastern: Bedford, Bishops Stortford. Brighton, Canterbury, Colchester, Ingatestone, Norwich.

The committee recommended that the conditions of registration for Volume 10 both as regards the Stud Book propor and the annual supplements for 1907 and 1908 should be the same as in force for the last six years.

This report having been submitted, Mr. Dunbar Kolly, in response to inquiries from Mr. John Hills, said that under tho abovo proposals the Editing Committoe were proparod, in respect of stallions and mares tendered for registration, to accept either the certificate of a qualified veterinary surgeon or that of the Hurlingham official measurer; they would mako no distinction between the two certificates. He considered that it was an excellent idea to obtain from Mr. Sheather an authoritative statement on the methods of measurement, as it was likely to correct many falso impressions which seemed prevalent.

Rev. D. B. Montefiore reminded the members of council present that at their last meeting, which was well attended, they accepted absolutely the Hurlingham system of measurement, and drew up a scheme which they thought would be for the benefit of members and of societies generally throughout the country. The editing committeo camo to the conclusion that it was not desirablo o make any alterations in the conditions for thet Stud Book, as they did not think that the time had yet arrived to make it compulsory that all ponies tendered for the Stud Book should be measured by the Hurlingham official measuror. They had endeavoured to arrange that owners desiring the Hurlingham certificates for their ponies should have them measured by Mr. Sheather at tho centres suggested in their report.

The report of the committee was then adopted.

It was announced that Mr. Midwood, in accordance with the wishes of the council, had made arrangements with the Hotel Metropole and had engaged the Whitehall Rooms for the members' annual dinner on Friday, March 15, 1907.

The dates of the council meetings in 1907 were determined as follows:—Friday, February 8; Saturday, March 16 (annual general meeting at the show); Friday, April 12; Thursday, June 6; Thursday, November 7; Friday, December 13.

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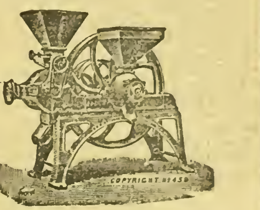

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(THE FARMERS' RED BOOK.)

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Offices:—3, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Dec. 24, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

White fields beneath a blue sky are a pretty sight, and farmers with their wheat well covered from the frost speak cheerfully of a seasonable winter. In town there is little cheerfulness, the state of the streets being indescribable. The markets, of course, should gain a little tone from the change since the 26th. They stand in sad need of a tonic.

The wintry weather prevails all over Europe from the British Channel to the Urals. The fall all along the Lower Danube has been particularly deep, "10 ft. in some parts of Roumania and S.W. Russia." Of course this must mean drifts, but, even so, it represents a heavy fall. As, however, the fall began on the 15th, or thereabouts, and had not ceased by the 28th (date of wire); there is no reason to doubt the main fact. This fall will do good to the autumn sown wheat which is thereby protected from the very sharp frosts constituting its chief peril in the districts in question.

From India a telegram received on Saturday, states that up to December 27 the rainfall had already exceeded monthly average. This is regarded as most propitious for the growing wheat.

The stocks of breadstuffs in merchants' hands at Christmas are the subject of the following preliminary estimate:—

1906	2,530,000 qr.
1905	2,570,000 ,,
1904	2,660,000 ,,

No fears exist of overstocked granaries. In the United States the visible supply of wheat on 29th inst. was as follows:—

December 29, 1906	9,953,000 qr.
December 30, 1905	8,294,000 ,,
December 31, 1904	7,575,000 ,,

This large total depresses markets somewhat.

An interesting Buff Book on cereal areas was issued by the Board of Agriculture on 27th inst. Wheat areas have ceased to decline since 1896.

Wheat, 1876	3,321,036 acres.
,, 1886	2,357,894 ,,
,, 1896	1,734,118 ,,
,, 1906	1,801,271 ,,

In the case of barley it is far different. Here the decline has been progressive for over thirty years, and still continues. At this rate the brewery trade by 1916 will be in a most difficult position, and home-grown malting barley have become a market rarity.

Barley	1876	2,652,530 acres.
,,	1886	2,432,749 ,,
,,	1896	2,285,933 ,,
,,	1906	1,931,651 ,,

With respect to oats, no very good reason seems to exist for the decline of the last twenty years, or for the large advance from 1876 to 1886:—

Oats	1876	4,238,697 acres.
,,	1886	4,418,950 ,,
,,	1896	4,303,967 ,,
,,	1906	4,138,407 ,,

The range of wheat prices last week was as follows:—

Canterbury	27s. 10d.	per qr.
Peterborough	25s. 3d.	,, ,,
Gradient	2s. 7d.	,, ,,

The range in barley prices has recently been more considerable:—

Canterbury	30s. 8d.	per qr.
Bridlington	22s. 2d.	,, ,,
Gradient	8s. 1d.	,, ,,

Evidently Canterbury sales were confined to fair malting quality, while at Bridlington only feeding samples were in evidence.

The range in oats has been as follows:—

Canterbury	18s. 8d.	per qr.
Lincoln	16s. 3d.	,,
Gradient	2s. 5d.	,,

Oats have exceeded 17s. per qr. at Cambridge, Chelmsford, Chichester, Ipswich, Reading, and other markets. They hardened in tendency at the few markets held last week.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were fair, but since harvest the total is quite moderate, and prices ought unquestionably to be better:—

This season 1,145,000 qr. at 26s. 2d. per qr.
Last ,, 1,463,000 qr. ,, 27s. 8d. ,,

The sales of British barley have been liberal for two successive autumns, the price unfortunately has been rather below the mean. The two campaigns both in sales and prices present a remarkable similarity:—

This season 2,488,000 qr. at 24s. 6d. per qr.
Last ,, 2,501,000 qr. ,, 24s. 5d. ,,

The sales of British oats have been a good deal larger than usual, the price made decidedly less than it should have been. Farmers will do well to hold their oats more firmly and a price rise will almost certainly follow:—

This season 555,000 qr. at 16s. 9d. per qr.
Last ,, 492,000 ,, 16s. 11d. ,,

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 452,000 qr.: in excess of wants.
Flour, 92,500 sks.: less than usual.
Barley, 127,000 qr.: a full supply.
Oats, 79,000 qr.: less than usual.
Maize, 245,000 qr.: in excess of wants.

The total imports since harvest have been:—

Wheat, 6,560,000 qr.: moderate.
Flour, 2,001,000 sks.: fair.
Barley, 5,609,000 qr.: very heavy.
Oats, 1,497,000 qr.: very light.
Maize, 3,779,000 qr.: full receipts.

The quantities of wheat on passage are as follows:—Californian, 510,000 qr.; American, 245,000 qr.; Russian, 315,000 qr.; Indian, 266,000 qr.; Argentine, 105,000 qr.; Australasian, 220,000 qr.; various, 60,000 qr.; total, 1,721,000 qr.; a week ago, 1,814,000 qr.

The quantity of flour on passage is 235,000 sacks, a decline of 16,000 sacks on the week. Of maize the quantity afloat is rather large: American, 215,000 qr.; Argentine, 500,000 qr.; Russian, 60,000 qr.; Roumanian, 69,000 qr.; total, 835,000 qr.

Other quantities on passages are 740,000 qr. of barley, 100,000 qr. of oats, 88,000 qr. of linseed, 60,000 qr. of rapeseed, 46,000 tons of cottonseed, and 27,000 tons of rice.

The American markets are once more exciting a considerable influence upon Mark Lane and Liverpool, so that it will be useful to note their course since the opening of the season:—

NEW YORK PRICES.

Cereal Year.		Wheat, per qr. s. d.	Maize, per qr. s. d.	Flour, per sk. s. d.
September	1 ...	29 0	21 6	20 6
,,	8 ...	28 9	21 6	20 3
,,	15 ...	28 6	21 6	20 3
,,	22 ...	28 3	21 6	20 0
,,	29 ...	28 0	21 2	20 0
October	6 ...	28 3	20 6	20 0
,,	13 ...	28 3	20 3	20 0
,,	20 ...	28 0	20 3	20 0
,,	27 ...	28 0	20 6	20 0
November	3 ...	29 3	20 8	20 0
,,	10 ...	28 4	20 7	20 0
,,	17 ...	28 8	20 3	20 0
,,	24 ...	28 6	20 0	20 0
December	1 ...	28 5	19 9	20 0
,,	8 ...	28 9	19 3	19 10
,,	15 ...	28 4	19 2	19 10
,,	22 ...	28 2	19 0	20 0
,,	29 ...	28 0	18 10	20 0

It will be seen that while wheat has fallen slightly and maize somewhat more markedly, flour is hard to procure. On the whole, increased shipments of the raw material and less of the manufactured appear to be indicated. Last week American shipments were 156,000 qr. of wheat, 70,000 qr. of barley, 17,000 qr. of oats, 20,000 qr. of linseed, 181,000 qr. of maize, and 148,000 sacks of flour.

Argentina last week shipped 141,000 qr. of wheat, 200,000 qr. of maize, and 30,000 qr. of linseed These were ordinary quantities for the close of December.

Russia shipped freely for a winter week, but of course the figures of autumn were not approached. Quantities signalised are: Wheat, 142,000 qr.; barley, 158,000 qr.; oats, 40,000 qr.; and maize, 14,000 qr.

Roumanian shipments were 295,000 qr. of wheat, 123,000 qr. of barley, 46,000 qr. of oats, and 92,000 qr. of maize, a formidable quantity for any "minor power" to send off in a week.

Indian shipments were 41,000 qr. of wheat and 2,000 qr. of linseed, while 6,000 qr. of wheat were shipped by Australia and 20,000 tons of cottonseed by Egypt.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association quotes Indian wheat cargoes at 30s. 3d. per 492 lb. for choice white Karrachee, and soft red Karrachee at 29s. 9d. These are prices under old terms. The new prices for 1907, with guarantee of practically pure shipments, would be higher; 31s. white and 30s. 6d. red are suggested, but we do not hear of contracts for futures. The L.C.T.A. prices are for cargoes on passage.

Total cargo sales off coast for the year are as follows. It is, of course, possible that these cargoes now off coast may sell on Monday, in which case two wheat and one maize will have to be added. But they cannot affect main conclusions, which point to a much quieter and less speculative business in 1906 than in 1905:—

	1906.	1905.
Wheat	248	303
Maize	7	22
Barley	6	12
Oats	1	3
Flour	—	2
Total	262	342

The speculative shipment of flour has ceased to the no small relief of English millers.

Cargo sales on 27th, 28th, and 29th included Taganrog wheat at 27s. per 492 lb.; No. 2 Northern Manitoba wheat at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb.; Kustendje Barley at 21s. per 416 lb.; Odessa maize at 20s. per 480 lb.; Argentine maize at 20s. 6d. per 480 lb.; Russian oats at 15s. 3d. per 304 lb.; Roumanian oats at 15s. 9d. per 304 lb.; Argentine linseed at 41s. per 416 lb.; and Egyptian cottons at £6 8s. 9d. per ton. But business will not move in earnest till the new year.

LONDON HAY TRADE.

With the week's business temporarily disorganised owing to the Christmas holidays, trading during the past few days has not been of a very active character. Heavy supplies are to hand at all the different rails, consisting principally of trucks which have been held back during the extra holiday traffic of other goods, and which have accumulated to such an extent that at some stations the arrivals are larger than for months past. The demand owing to the heavy falls of snow and general severity of the weather during the past few days is showing improvement; prices are no higher, but there is a much firmer tone in evidence. When the present large arrivals are exhausted, salesmen are looking for a much stronger demand, as with the heavy snow all over the country it must be quite impossible for farmers and senders to get any quantity of fresh stuff along. Clovers are quiet but firm at last week's values. Mixtures find a good sale, and full prices are obtainable. Hays are more inquired after, and although not quotably dearer, all lots are easily disposed of. Straw continues in a steady condition at last week's full rates.

In the foreign market large arrivals of Dutch hay are to hand, which find a fair demand at unchanged values. The supplies of Canadian are short, but enough to supply the limited demand for this quality.

Prices ruling are about as follows:—English best meadow hay, 85s per ton; good meadow hay, 72s 6d to 80s per ton; plain hay, 70s per ton; best clovers, 92s 6d per ton; good clovers, 80s to 90s per ton: inferior, 70s to 80s per ton: best mixtures, 92s 6d per ton; good mixtures, 80s to 90s per ton; plain mixture, 70s to 80s per ton; seconds hay, clovers and mixtures, 60s to 70s per ton; wheat straw, 27s per load; oat straw, 27s per load; barley straw 27s per load, all ex rail, London. Foreign Canadian mixture, 85s per ton; first quality Dutch hay, 74s per ton; second quality Dutch hay, 67s 6d to 70s; French and Dutch clover, 85s per ton. French large wheat straw, 32s 6d per ton; French small wheat straw, 43s per ton. These prices are by barge delivered alongside a London Thames wharf.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday. Sellers are still offering 13½ for Kent fleeces, and 8½ for lambs wool, but holders are, for the most part, firm in awaiting an advance. Down fleeces, 13½ to 14½, half-breds, 13½ to 13½ per lb.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat. — English steady, quiet, unchanged prices Foreign firmly held at full rates to 3d advance, but not active. No. 1 Northern Manitoba held at 31s 9d to 32s; No. 2 at 31s 3d to 31s 6d; hard winter at 30s 6d; No. 1 hard Manitoba at 32s 9d to 32s, all ex ship terms; Australian landed at 31s to 32s; choice white Karachi at 30s; red Karachi at 29s 3d. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize firmly held, with prices in sellers' favour; 21s 9d wanted mixed American landed, 20s 9d ex ship; 21s River Plate landed, 20s 6d ex ship. Barley firm, and 3d dearer; Odessa - Nicolaieff, ex ship, quoted at 19s 9d, landed at 20s 3d. Oats steady, quiet, unchanged prices; common sorts and Danubian quoted at 16s to 16s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—White oats (horse corn), wholesale, 19s to 20s 6d per 26 stones.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 26s to 27s per qr; barley, 25s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 29s per qr; oats, 17s to 20s 6d per qr; peas, 28s to 31s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Owing to the stormy weather there was a meagre attendance, with little grain on offer. Prices nominally unchanged. Wheat, 26s to 27s; barley, 23s 6d to 26s 6d; oats, 18s to 21s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Very poor attendance, and scarcely a single sale took place. Sellers asked the same prices as last market day, excepting for grinding barley, which was 3d dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat in scanty supply and ranging up to 30s 6d for samples scaling 65 lb to the bushel. Average lots of malting barley were worth about 28s 6d, and most of the business in oats was done between 18s 6d and 19s 6d. Grey peas, 28s 6d to 30s; tick beans, 32s per qr.

Chester, Saturday.—There are no changes to note in prices for English grain. Oats and wheat were held firmly for late prices. Bran scarce and dearer. River Plate favours sellers; American mixed about the same as last week. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 3s 9d to 4s 2d per 75 lb; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 3d per 64 lb; beans, new, 4s 9d to 5s; old, 6s to 6s 6d per 80 lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; old, 3s to 3s 4d per 46 lb; Indian corn, 11s 9d to 12s per 240 lb; River Plate, new, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 240 lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat firmer, 28s 6d. Oats and and barley steady, unchanged prices.—Colin Taylor, King and Co., Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—A holiday attendance, and very little corn of any kind on offer. Prices almost unchanged from last week. Wheat, 9s 6d to 11s per 186 lb; barley, 26s to 32s per 448 lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s 6d; new, 19s to 21s 6d per 352 lb; beans, old, 12s 9d to 13s 3d; new, 11s 6d to 12s; peas, 12s to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—A holiday market, with a small supply of grain and limited business done without any change in prices. Wheat, new white, 29s to 30s; new red, 27s to 28s; barley, malting, 25s to 30s; grinding, 23s to 24s; beans, old, 34s to 35s; new, 31s to 32s; oats, old, 24s to 25s; new, 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The market was quite of a holiday character. A small attendance, and there was no quotable change in prices. New wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 30s; winter barley, 22s to 26s; feeding, 20s to 24s; old oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 17s to 20s; winter oats, 17s to 20s; rye, 22s to 26s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 21s to 23s; extra fine, 25s to 27s; vetches, 4s 6d to 5s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, but only a holiday market. Wheat trade slow; English unchanged; top values 10s 6d per load of 3 bushels. Foreign wheat firm at last week's rates. Fine barley scarce, and prices from 26s to 30s per qr. Small supply of other kinds of grain, and prices practically unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The holidays still continue to stagnate all business in the corn trade, and factors, despite the bitterly cold weather which has set in, found it exceedingly difficult to bring about sales, even of the most trifling nature. Consequently many did not trouble to undo their samples, though the general impression seemed to be that, should the severe weather continue, much greater activity will be witnessed during the coming week Wheat remained at practically unchanged rates, both for English and foreign. Malting barley attracted but little attention except for special parcels, on which there is still a market at a good price. Feeding stuffs generally remain firm in anticipation of the extended business expected once the public settle down to business again. This district escaped the snow until Sunday morning, when a considerable fall occurred early in the day.

Exeter, Friday.—Small attendance, and very little business. Prices nominally the same as last week, with the exception that grinding barley was 3d to 6d dearer. Quotations:—English wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 4½d; English barley, 3s to 4s; superfine flour, 24s to 26s; fine, 22s to 24s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet, with no change in values. Maize unchanged. Corn very scarce on spot, and 1½d per boll dearer on the week. Barley scarce, and held for 3d per boll advance. Oats quiet, but firm, for both home and foreign. Beans dull, with a slow sale. Pease firm. Bran and thirds keep firm. Oatmeal quietly steady. — Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—The market was quite of a holiday character, and business slow. Prices wholly unchanged. Round maize, 12s 3d, and mixed American 12s 6d to 12s 7½d per 280 lb; medium bran, 97s 6d, and broad, £5 5s per ton.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat was in small supply and prices were unchanged. There was rather better demand for foreign at last week's prices. Maize and oats unchanged. Barley 3d dearer.

Grantham, Saturday.—There was a moderate attendance of farmers and corn factors, and supplies were very limited. A fair number of inquiries prevailed in each department, and late rates were generally maintained.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats. Red wheats, 27s to 28s; white wheats, 28s to 29s per 36 stone. Malting barley of good colour was in fair request, secondary sorts met a dragging business. Oats in steady demand at 20s to 21s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Only a moderate attendance, and a holiday feeling pervading the trade. Only a few samples of English wheat came to hand, these being dealt with at last week's rates. Oats, beans, and barley quiet and unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—At the market there has been a fair attendance, and wheat is firm, with a good demand at full prices to a slight advance for American Winters. Flour: A very limited trade at about recent quotations. Maize: Mixed is steady, with a fair trade at slightly better prices. Plate firm, with a good inquiry, and values are 1d better than last Friday. European grades steady, unchanged. Barley very scarce for malting and feeding. Beans very slow, no change in prices. Peas dull, no change; no trade. Oats: A holiday market; nominally unchanged in values. Oatmeal steady, inactive. Oilcake in slow request; occasionally rather lower. Indian meal more firmly held at the turn higher prices but moving slowly.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—In consequence of the holidays the market was not so largely attended. Quotations:—Wheat, white, old, 13s 6d to 14s; white, new, 12s to 12s 6d; red, old, 13s 6d to 14s; red, new, 12s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; oats, white, old, 14s to 15s; white, new, 10s 6d to 11s; black, old, 14s to 15s; black, new, 10s 6d to 11s per 200 lb; barley, malting, 13s 6d to 14s; grinding, 11s to 11s 6d per 210 lb; Indian corn, 11s 9d to 12s; beans, old, 20s to 22s; new, 14s to 15s per 240 lb; peas, white, 18s to 19s per 240 lb.

Manchester, Thursday.—There was little or no business at this market.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Our today's market was of quite a holiday character. Wheat was quoted at the full prices of this day week. Maize, beans, peas, and oats unchanged. No barley on offer.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance, the holiday feeling still affecting the market. New wheat, 26s to 26s. 6d.; flour, 23s to 27s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 17s to 19s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 17s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 29s; peas, 28s to 32s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, full rates maintained. Barley but little offering, best samples held firmly. Oats and beans sparingly offered and values supported.—Robert Hubble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had an exceedingly small market, the holidays and rough weather preventing threshing. Wheat made late rates. Barley and oats a quiet trade at last week's prices. Beans a dull trade.—Thos. Hill & Son.

Reading, Saturday.—Very little business was done, and there was but little alteration in prices. Wheat made 28s to 32s; oats, 17s to 22s; malting barley, 27s to 33s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Retford, Saturday.—Not a large attendance, but a fair supply of grain, and fully an average amount of business transacted. Wheat showed no improvement in value, remaining at 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Malting barley changed hands slowly. Best lots made 28s; commoner, up to 26s; grinding, 23s to 24s per qr; flat maize, 24s 6d; round ditto, 24s; English beans, 30s; black oats, 17s to 19s; white ditto, 20s; and old oats, 24s to 26s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Holiday market. Wheat, 26s to 27s; foreign wheat, 32s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 22s 6d to 23s; ditto, malting, 24s to 26s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; round maize, 22s to 23s; ditto flat, 25s to 26s per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—New wheat, 11s 6d to 12s 6 per 225 lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s per 225 lb; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225 lb; peas, 11s to 12s 6d per 225 lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240 lb; barley, 14s to 18s per 280 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—To-day's market was in every respect a holiday one. The few transactions were governed by late rates. Wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 29s; grinding ditto, 23s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 18s 6d; black oats, 20s to 21s 6d; beans, 30s to 30s 6d per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Market of a holiday character, and there is no change to note in the value of wheat, barley, or oats. Arrivals:—Coastwise: wheat 1,200 qr.; foreign nil.—E. and F. Richardson.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—White wheat, 29s to 30s; red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 23s to 25s; oats, English, 18s to 22s; rye, 23s 6d to 24s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 40s to 48s; maize, 22s 6d to 24s.

Warwick, Saturday.—This market was of a holiday character. There was hardly any wheat showing, the little business that was done being at last week's prices. Very little business was done in oats, beans, and all other articles on the market.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small attendance at market, and very few samples of grain offering. Late rates maintained, but little business done. Red wheat, 27s per 504 lb; oats, 17s 6d to 19s per 336 lb.—James Fletcher.

Winchester, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat a shade dearer. Barley and maize 3d advance. Oats remain unaltered. Flour a steady demand and prices firm.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

York Saturday.—Only a small attendance, largely on account of the weather. Not much wheat on offer, and prices ruled firm. Fine white, 27s to 28s; red and mixed, 26s to 27s per qr of 36 stones. Small supply of malting barley, and prices showed no improvement; fine, 25s to 26s; good, 24s to 25s; inferior and feeding, 23s to 24s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm: White Tartary, 17s to 18s; black ditto, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr of 26 stones; rye, 22s to 23s; beans, 30s to 31s per qr of 36 stones.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Liverpool, Friday.—As is usual at this holiday time trade is practically nil, and in the absence of business quotations are nominal. Should, however, the severe weather of the past three days continue, it may have the effect of hardening the prices of oil cakes &c.:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
	Per ton.					
Cottonseed Cake, N.A., decorticated (fair to good)	7	16	3	8	0	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, decorticated, prime, poor colour	8	2	6	8	5	0
Cottonseed Cake, English, undecorticated, prime	4	17	6	5	5	0
Cottonseed, Egyptian		—			—	
Cottonseed (crushed) prime	7	15	0		—	
Linseed Cake, American, prime	7	2	6	7	3	9
,, ,, English, prime	8	5	0	8	10	0
Linseed Meal (pure crushed seed)	14	0	0		—	
Palm Nut Cake	6	5	0		—	
Corn Oil Cake		—			—	
Maize Germ Meal	5	15	0	5	17	6
	Per 240 lb.					
Indian meal		—			—	
	Per ton.					
Rice Meal, Rangoon	4	11	3	4	13	9
	Per qr., 416 lb.					
Linseed, fine bold feeding	2	10	0		—	
	Per Gallon.					
Cod-liver Oil, cattle feeding	0	4	0		—	
	Per Cwt.					
Treacle, feeding, American cane	0	4	9		—	
	Per ton.					
Nitrate of Soda	11	5	0		—	
Kainit	2	5	0	2	7	6
Bone meal (coarse to fine)	5	5	0	5	10	6
Bone Ash, fine and powdery	3	10	0		—	
Basic Slag, prime quality	1	11	0	1	13	0
,, ,,	1	19	0	2	0	0
,, finest ,,	2	3	0	2	5	0
D.N.S. Brand } Superphosphate of Lime	2	5	0	2	7	0
,, ,, guaranteed	2	10	0	2	12	0
,, ,, ,,	3	1	3	3	3	3

—H. Jones Langar and Co.

CORN STATISTICS

Weekly London Averages.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 22, 1906 :—

	Imp. Quar.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Av. Price per q. £ s. d.
Wheat ...	7,223	3 ...	9,908 16 9 ...	1 7 5
Barley ...	372	0 ...	439 15 0 ...	1 3 8
Oats	1,193	6 ...	1,079 4 3 ...	18 1

Five Years' Comparative Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement of grain sales and prices at the Statute markets for the week ending December 29, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1902 to 1905.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1902	19,025	25 0	46,225	23 11	12,950	16 10
1903	28,431	26 3	51,504	22 1	16,671	15 5
1904	21,163	30 4	60,817	24 8	18,106	16 2
1905	57,984	23 3	77,385	24 7	19,683	18 1
1906	49,637	26 0	97,796	24 1	29,124	17 3

Imports of Foreign and Colonial Corn

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 29, 1906 :—

Wheat	1,120,000	cwts.
Wheat-flour	273,100	,,
Barley	166,700	,,
Oats	136,100	,,
Maize	903,800	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz. :—

	1905. Cwts.	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.
Wheat ..	1,176,400	2,429,900	1,776,700	874,946
Wheat-flour	145,800	250,120	635,600	384,310
Barley ...	382,500	596,000	840,400	380,267
Oats ...	138,900	199,800	512,900	132,740
Maize ...	524,500	843,900	912,300	542,486

Weekly Arrivals into London.

Dec. 19 to 26 inclusive.

Qr.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat.....	6,000	54,430	60,430
Barley.....	520	10,000	10,520
Malt.....	1,730	—	1,730
Oats.....	160	40,000	40,160
Rye	50	1,000	1,050
Beans	10	1,300	1,310
Peas.....	15	930	945
Lentils.....	—	2,000	2,000
Maize	—	27,220	27,220
Linseed	—	10,571	10,571
Rapeseed	100	92	192
Cottonseed.....	—	40,000	40,000
Flour.....sacks ...	15,000	12,000	27,000
Riceflour..... ,, ...	—	1,500	1,500
Maizeflour ... ,, ...	—	1,000	1,000
Oatmeal ..... ,, ...	—	2,000	2,000
Middlings ... ,, ...	—	3,500	3,500

London Top Price Flour.

NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1906.

		s.	d
September 1	(per sack)	29	0
October 8	,,	28	0

(No change since last date given).

Average Monthly Prices of Fine Household Flour in Paris.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.
Jan. ..	31	0	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2
Feb. ...	31	6	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3
March	31	3	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3
April ...	31	6	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9
May ...	30	9	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8
June ...	31	0	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6
July ...	31	6	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9
August	29	9	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4
Sept. ...	30	6	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3
Oct. ...	31	0	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0
Nov. ...	31	6	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4
Dec. ...	—		31	0	31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0
Yrly. Avrg.	—		30	9	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6

Imperial Weekly Averages.

1905.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d
Dec. 30	57,984	28	4	77,385	24	4	19,683	17	11
1906.									
Jan. 6	30,066	28	4	43,408	24	6	14,001	18	2
,, 13	55,970	28	6	71,867	24	8	24,435	18	4
,, 20	66,820	28	5	78,487	24	11	26,765	18	4
,, 27	70,162	28	7	70,096	25	1	29,497	18	7
Feb. 3	75,743	28	10	67,312	25	1	29,491	18	10
,, 10	83,495	28	10	61,908	25	3	35,037	18	10
,, 17	91,606	28	11	56,355	25	6	28,200	19	0
,, 24	79,142	28	10	41,599	25	4	25,625	19	0
Mar. 3	68,392	28	8	31,092	25	0	24,629	19	0
,, 10	68,737	28	5	24,160	25	1	19,380	18	8
,, 17	62,420	28	5	17,195	24	8	17,462	18	10
,, 24	54,537	28	4	17,186	24	4	14,410	18	8
,, 31	51,842	28	3	10,961	24	5	15,769	18	11
April 7	51,532	28	7	7,545	24	2	13,507	18	11
,, 14	48,860	28	11	5,371	24	4	10,529	19	4
,, 21	37,194	29	4	3,860	24	0	7,682	19	1
,, 28	42,438	29	6	3,192	24	0	7,965	19	6
May 5	48,176	29	10	2,706	23	10	8,812	19	9
,, 12	47,299	30	1	1,607	24	1	9,033	20	0
,, 19	47,890	30	3	1,567	23	10	6,661	20	0
,, 26	40,949	30	4	1,087	24	2	4,970	20	2
June 2	36,104	30	4	1,345	22	10	5,658	20	5
,, 9	24,999	30	3	276	23	4	3,436	19	11
,, 16	18,447	30	4	282	23	6	2,979	20	2
,, 23	19,235	30	5	203	22	10	2,087	20	2
,, 30	14,858	30	3	78	24	3	2,200	20	2
July 7	9,625	30	2	146	23	0	1,754	20	1
,, 14	8,242	30	5	101	23	8	1,360	20	4
,, 21	8,010	30	2	150	23	2	911	20	5
,, 28	8,015	30	5	95	22	4	1,146	20	2
Aug. 4	9,480	30	9	154	22	1	2,139	19	3
,, 11	6,924	30	5	300	23	0	4,512	17	11
,, 18	8,583	29	0	1,253	24	2	11,887	17	0
,, 25	26,545	27	9	2,508	25	0	14,673	16	10
Sept. 1	55,716	26	9	4,758	24	3	22,580	16	6
,, 8	78,579	26	4	19,448	24	9	32,679	16	3
,, 15	89,745	25	11	41,670	24	3	34,330	16	1
,, 22	90,292	25	9	76,130	24	3	37,120	16	0
,, 29	83,907	25	9	129,209	24	8	41,942	16	2
Oct. 6	87,200	26	1	183,145	25	0	35,724	16	3
,, 13	80,630	26	3	226,940	25	3	38,088	16	7
,, 20	71,352	26	6	230,636	24	10	33,636	16	8
,, 27	69,920	26	7	233,998	24	10	28,936	16	10
Nov. 3	64,404	26	7	229,015	24	8	32,527	16	11
,, 10	63,764	26	6	205,560	24	8	27,982	17	1
,, 17	58,059	26	4	167,441	24	4	20,389	17	2
,, 24	58,467	26	3	149,427	24	1	28,669	17	3
Dec. 1	60,299	26	1	160,173	24	1	34,743	17	2
,, 8	63,264	26	1	167,532	24	1	37,119	17	4
,, 15	70,332	26	1	135,513	23	11	36,175	17	3
,, 22	68,977	26	3	127,131	24	3	31,528	17	3
,, 29	49,637	26	0	97,796	24	1	29,124	17	3

English Wheat, Barley & Oats in 1905.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year.....	32	0	25	1	18	5
Lowest of Year	26	10	22	8	16	0
Gradient	5	2	2	5	2	5
Mean of Year	29	9	24	4	17	4

London Flour Millers' Association.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1906.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1...(per sack)	26	9	...(per sack)	23	9
October 8... ,,	27	0	... ,,	24	0
,, 26... ,,	27	6	... ,,	24	6
Nov. 23... ,,	27	0	... ,,	24	0
Dec. 5... ,,	27	3	... ,,	24	3
,, 19... ,,	27	0	... ,,	24	0

(No change since last date given.)

Monthly Averages.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1906. Wheat	Barley	Oats
Jan.....	30 5	24 9	16 5	28 6	24 9	18 5
Feb	30 7	25 1	16 9	28 10	25 4	18 11
Mar. ...	30 10	25 1	16 11	28 5	24 8	18 11
April ...	30 9	24 8	17 3	29 1	24 2	19 1
May ...	30 10	24 8	18 5	30 2	24 0	20 0
June ...	31 8	24 4	19 2	30 4	23 4	20 2
July ...	32 0	22 8	18 4	30 4	23 1	20 4
Aug. ..	29 6	22 10	16 10	29 6	23 7	17 9
Sept. ...	26 10	23 9	16 0	26 1	24 5	16 2
Oct.....	27 1	24 11	16 6	26 5	25 0	16 7
Nov. ...	28 3	24 8	17 6	26 5	24 5	17 1
Dec. ...	28 5	24 6	18 0	—	—	—

Average Monthly Cash Prices of Town Households Flour.

	1906. s.	d.	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900 s.	d.
Jan. ...	25	0	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9
Feb. ...	24	9	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0
March	24	3	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6
April ...	24	6	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6
May ...	24	0	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	3	6	23	6	21	3
June ...	23	9	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6
July ...	23	6	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6
August	23	0	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0
Sept. ...	22	9	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3
Oct. ...	22	6	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9
Nov. ...	22	0	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3
Dec. ...			25	0	26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	6	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2

Cereal Years Prices.

	Wheat. s.	d	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1905-6	28	9	24	2	18	5
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

Seven Years Grain Averages.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 10d. per 480 lb.
Barley.....	25s. 4d. per 400 lb.
Oats	18s. 11d. per 312 lb.

Seven Years' Tithe Rent Charges.

For 1906	£68 12 1
,, 1905	69 12 0
,, 1904	69 19 6
,, 1903	69 7 5
,, 1902	67 3 9
,, 1901	66 10 9
,, 1900	66 15 10

Yearly Averages (Official).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,
1905	29	9	,,	24	4	,,	17	4	,,

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Trade moderate and supplies rather short for English produce. Grapes, 8d to 5s; apples, 3s to 7s 6d per bushel; cranberries, 14s to 17s per case; brazil nuts, 55s to 60s per cwt; cobnuts, 5s 6s to 6s 6d per 12lb; Redon chestnuts, 7s to 12s; spruce, 8s to 9s per doz. bndles; horse radish, 9s to 14s; celery, 6s 6d to 12s 6d dozen rolls; onions, 6s to 6s 6d per cwt; eschallots, 2s to 2s 6d; mushrooms, 10s to 12s 6d per 12lb; endive, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; cos lettuce, 3s to 5s 6d per dozen; seakale, 1s 6d per basket; beetroots, 2s per bushel; sage, 9d to 1s; carrots, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; parsley, 2s 6d to 3s per dozen bunches; potatoes, 65s to 85s per ton.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—Business has been practically at a standstill this week with rather a higher tendency in the ideas of holders as they anticipate an improved demand in the new year. 11,458 packets new have been weighed this year compared to 7,513 in 1904 and 28,514 in 1905.
CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

THE CORN TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday.

The price of wheat was not altered to-day, but an increased sale of English, Manitoba, Indian, Australian, and Russian was reported. On the other hand, the trade in American wheat was flat. Maize was in improved request owing to the wintry weather, prices were a bit irregular, but a guinea was the buyers' ordinary idea of value.

Barley made 19s. for Persian, and the market for Russian and Roumanian kinds seemed to be on the up grade. On the other hand, Californian and English sorts were neglected. Oats contrasted with this in the good demand for English and the comparative neglect for Russian. Beans, peas, and rye had a slight upward tendency, tares, millet, and buckwheat were also firmly held.

BRITISH GRAIN (*Off Stands*).

December 31.

WHEAT,	White (Old).....	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
	,, (New) ...	,,	28 — 30
	Red ... (Old) ...	,,	29 — 31
	,, ... (New) ...	,,	27 — 29
BARLEY,	Malting (Old) ...	(per 448 lb.)	34 — 36
	,, (New)...	,,	30 — 34
	Brewing (Old)...	,,	29 — 31
	,, (New)...	,,	26 — 28
	Poultry (New)...	(per 424 lb.)	24 — 25
	Distilling (New)	(per 416 lb.)	23 — 24
	Winter (New) ...	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 23
	Feeding (New)...	(per 400 lb.)	21 — 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 36
	Brown	,,	27 — 29
	Black	,,	29 — 30
OATS,	Best (Old)	,,	22 — 23
	Storm Kings (New) ...	,,	19 — 20
	Black Tartary (New)	,,	18 — 19
	White Gartons (New)	,,	19 — 20
	Sound Secondary ,,...	(per 320 lb.)	18 — 19
	Light Spring (New)...	(per 312 lb.)	17 — 18
RYE, Essex		(per 480 lb.)	23 — 24
BEANS, Pigeon		(per 532 lb.)	43 — 45
	Tick	(per 504 lb.)	34 — 35
	Winter (Old)	,,	37 — 38
	,, (New)	,,	32 — 33
	Spring (New)	,,	33 — 35
	Split Mazagan	(per 320 lb.)	22 — 23
PEAS, Picked Marrowfat ...		(per 504 lb.)	66 — 74
	Unpicked ditto	,,	48 — 52
	Maple (Old).....	,,	34 — 35
	,, (New).....	,,	32 — 33
	Dun (Old).....	,,	33 — 34
	,, (New).....	,,	30 — 31
TARES (Winter).....		(per 532 lb.)	40 — 44
	(Spring)	,,	46 — 50
	(Gores).....	,,	56 — 64

FOREIGN GRAIN (*Ex-Granary*).

WHEAT (496 lb.):	s.	s.	MAIZE (480 lb.):	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	32	— 33	N Zealand (384 lb)	23	— 24
,, ,, 2	31	— 32	American	21	— 22
American Red	30	— 31	Argentine	20	— 21
Argentine ...	31	— 32	Bulgarian	21	— 22
Australian ...	31	— 32	Roumanian ...	21	— 22
New Zealand	30	— 31	Russian	21	— 22
Blue Stem ...	31	— 32	BEANS (480 lb.):		
Walla Walla	30	— 31	Smyrna	34	— 36
Saxonka	32	— 33	New Zealand...	35	— 36
Azima	31	— 32	HARICOTS (504 lb.):		
Ghirka	30	— 31	Italian	64	— 72
Taganrog	29	— 30	Hungarian	59	— 63
Roumanian ...	29	— 30	Burmese	32	— 42
Turkish	28	— 29	Chilian	56	— 64
Indian White	31	— 32	LENTILS (cental):		
,, Kea	30	— 31	Spl Egyptian	10	— 11
BARLEY:			Whole Indian...	7	— 8
C'lifor'n (448 lb)	29	— 30	PEAS (504 lb.):		
Ouchak (448 lb)	27	— 29	Konigsberg ...	44	— 46
Chilian (448 lb)	28	— 29	Indian White	35	— 36
Smyrna (448 lb)	27	— 30	Indian Green	29	— 31
Russian (400 lb)	19	— 20	Tasman'n M'ple	42	— 46
Gaza (400 lb)	23	— 24	New Zeal'd Maple	39	— 40
Persian (400 lb)	18	— 19	Victoria Dun..	33	— 34
Hama (448 lb)	26	— 27	Gram	27	— 29
Spanish (448 lb)	29	— 33	MILLET (416 lb.):		
Torrified (336 lb)	21	— 22	White	42	— 44
MALT (336 lb.):			Yellow	22	— 24
Californian ...	33	— 36	Sorghum	20	— 22
Smyrna	33	— 36	RICE (cwt.):		
Ouchak	33	— 36	Indian	14	— 16
RYE (480 lb.):			Burmese	9	— 10
Russian	24	— 25	Siamese	8	— 9
OATS:			DARI (480 lb.):		
Konigsb'g (320 lb)	18	— 19	Smyrna	25	— 26
Russian (304 lb)	16	— 17	Indian	23	— 24
Canadian (320 lb)	18	— 19	Persian	21	— 22

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday.

There were no changes to-day in prices for the leading sorts of flour. Town Whites and Town Households sold more freely than before Christmas, but London millers did not show any inclination to risk loss of custom by putting up prices, which, accordingly, will begin a new year on a remarkably low level, such as should lead to good business before January is very old. Kansas patents at 22s. 6d. were in fair request, and Hungarian sold well, but for the most part the flour market was not so good as the wintry weather led many to think that it would be. A decidedly increased sale of bran, middlings, pollard, and meal in general was reported, but as a rule old prices were accepted.

London Flour.

December 31.

Top Price.....	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28/0 net.
Town Whites.....	,,	24/9 ,,
,, Households.....	,,	21/9 ,,
No. 2.....	,,	19/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1.....	,,	23/0 ,,
,, No. 2.....	,,	21/0 ,,
Paste Flour.....	,,	19/0 ,,

Country Flour.		s.	s.
Fine Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	23	— 24
Roller Whites	,,	21	— 22
Stone made	,,	20	— 21

Foreign Flour.		s.	s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per s'ck of 280 lb.)	23	— 24
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'.....	,,	20	— 21
Oregon	,,	25	— 26
Californian	,,	24	— 25
Manitoba Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Ordinary	,,	22	— 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Ordinary.....	,,	21	— 22
Hungarian, 0	,,	28	— 29
,, 1	,,	27	— 28
,, 2	,,	26	— 27
,, 3	,,	25	— 26
Belgian	,,	26	— 27
French, Corbeil	,,	22	— 23
,, Renaux.....	,,	21	— 22
,, P.S.D.	,,	20	— 21
Australian	,,	21	— 22

Meal, &c.			
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice ...	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	12	— 13
Pollard	,,	10	— 11
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal.....	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal.....	,,	18	— 19
Canadian Oatmeal.....	,,	23	— 24
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	28	— 31
Groats	,,	31	— 32
Oat Flour.....	,,	32	— 33
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	17	— 18
American Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 19
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rye Flour (Libau).....	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal.....	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	22	— 23
Bean Meal	,,	22	— 23
Locust Bean Meal.....	,,	18	— 19

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE THAW WAS AGAINST BUSINESS, BUT STOCKS OF WHEAT AND MAIZE ARE SMALL, AND THE MARKET HAS ELEMENTS OF FIRMNESS WHICH JANUARY MAY BE EXPECTED TO DEVELOP.

HOPS.

Borough, Monday.—The market has opened after the holidays with a demand for good, useful English copper hops. Prices are well maintained for this class, which are now becoming scarce.—W. H. and H. Le May.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Flour.—Trade has been languid as usual during the holidays; no new feature to report.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Offals.—Owing to the extreme severity of the weather there is an active demand for bran, and prices are decidedly firmer.—Greenhill Bros. (Belfast).

Flour.—Prices are unaltered. There is very little business passing. Grain.—American corn continues scarce, and is held for an advance of 1½d per boll. Plate maize is plentiful, but is firmly held. Owing to an arrival of pease and beans, values of these are 6d down for the former and 3d for the latter. Oats are quiet. Other articles unchanged. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds are in good demand.—McKinnon and McDonald (Glasgow).

Milling Offals.—London mills have been shut down a week, and the wintry weather tends to make offals dearer, especially bran.—John Bawcombe and Co.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet, with a steady tone, at last week's prices.—T. B. Medill and Sons, Ltd.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

There is next to nothing doing in the leading cereals, but the tone is more hopeful than at the close of last week.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Rosario, 29s 3d per 480 lb, February shipment; Blue Stem, 31s 6d per 580 lb, due January; Odessa Ghirka, 29s per 492 lb, on passage; Australian, 29s per 480 lb, January shipment.

Maize.—Argentine, 20s 9d per 480 lb, arrived; Bulgarian, 20s 3d per 480 lb, arrived; Roumanian, 19s 9d per 480 lb, May shipment; American, 19s 3d per 480 lb, February shipment.

Barley.—Odessa, 20s 9d per 400 lb, February shipment (if practicable).

Oats.—No. 1 Manitoba, 18s per 320 lb, January shipment.

TERM MARKET.

Prices are as follows, per cental:—

Red American wheat	Jan. delivery,	6s 6d	per cental.	
,, ,,	Mar.	,,	6s 6d	,,
,, ,,	May	,,	6s 3d	,,
,, ,,	July	,,	6s 1d	,,
Mixed American Maize	Jan.	,,	4s 2d	,,
,, ,, ...	March	,,	4s 1d	,,
Argentine Maize ...	Jan.	,,	4s 4d	,,

The prices of American wheat for delivery from March to July are significent, and show that the bears are very powerful in this branch of business.

SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The new spring tares are gradually getting lower to buyers' ideas, but so far no actual business. Winter tares unchanged in price, and firmly held. Rye firm. Mustard firm to rising. The new clover seeds, with the present seasonable weather, are coming out very freely; prices favouring buyers. Reds, fancy quality, 55s to 58s; fine, 50s to 54s; good, 44s to 49s per cwt. Whites, fancy quality, 57s to 60s; fine, 52s to 55s; good, 45s to 50s per cwt. Trefoils firm; English, 20s to 28s; foreign, 17s to 20s per cwt. In grasses, French Italian and Irish-Italian rye-grass keep firm. Perennial rye-grass, New Zealand cocksfoot, and meadow fescue unchanged.—John Picard & Co.

OIL SEEDS.

Mark Lane, Monday, December 31.—No changes except a 10s per ton rise in Indian Cottonseed.

Linseed.	per 416 lb. s.	s
Calcutta	44 to 45	
Bombay	45 to 46	
Russian	44 to 45	
Argentine	43 to 44	
Duluth	43 to 44	
Rapeseed.	per 416 lb.	
Best English ...	70 to 71	
Yellow Guzerat	53 to 55	
,, Cawnpore	46 to 47	
Brown ,,	45 to 46	
Ferozepore	48 to 49	
Jamba	43 to 44	
Rubsen.	per 424 lb	
German	66 to 68	

Poppyseed.	per 377 lb s.	s.
Indian	51 to 53	
Cottonseed.	per ton.	
Egyptian.....	130 to 132	
Indian	110 to 114	
Sunflowerseed.	per cwt.	
English, White	15 to 16	
Russian, White.	14 to 15	
,, Black.	13 to 14	
Sesame.	per cwt.	
Indian	14 to 15	
Hempseed.	per 336 lb.	
Russian	33 to 34	

BREWERS' AND DISTILLERS' GRAINS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Wet Grains: The market has had a more limited supply owing to frost, and prices are firm at from 22s to 23s ale, and 19s to 20s portor, 35s distillers', and pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton on rail London. Other articles are without much change as follows:—Dried grains: Alo, 102s 6d; mixed, 92s 6d; stout, 92s 6d; and distillers', 110s per ton on rail London. Calcutta rice meal, 91s 3d; Rangoon rice meal, 97s 6d; fine ground rice husks, 60s; rice germ, 100s, kibbled locust beans 110s, damaged cotton cake for manure, 65s per ton. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND Co., 37-38, Mark Lane, E.C.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

BUTTER.—The Danish official quotation remains unchanged, and prices of all Continental butters are also virtually the same as last week, except French, which has risen 8s. per cwt.

CHEESE.—There has been a good demand for a holiday week, but values remain about the same.

HAY AND STRAW.

Derby, Friday.—Best old clover, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; best old hay, 90s to 100s; new, 80s to 90s; second, 65s to 70s; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 60s; chop, 55s to 65s; peat moss, 35s to 40s.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 6½d; clover, 7d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Lincoln, Friday.—Best hay and seeds, £3 10s to £3 15s; inferior, £2 15s to £3 per ton on the ground; straw, 30s per ton at the stack. Improved demand.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were on a light scale, and met a good demand at steady rates. Best clover, 84s to 97s 6d; inferior ditto, 75s to 80s; specially-picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 82s 6d to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 65s to 70s; mixture and sainfoin, 82s 6d to 90s; straw, 28s to 34s per load.

POTATOES.

Berwick, Saturday.—The market is now fully stocked, for which there is a fairly satisfactory trade. Up-to-Dates, 50s; Langworthies, 55s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—Lighter consignments were on offer, but the demand proved quiet. Quotations: Up-to-Dates, 70s to 80s; Blacklands, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 65s; Royal Kidneys, 65s to 70; Maincrops, 70s to 80s; Scotch, 70s to 75s per ton. Dutch, 2s 9d; and Belgian, 2s 9d per bag.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply at both the public retail markets, and a brisk demand at 6d to 8d per stone.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Short supply owing to the storm, and a moderate demand. Prices higher, and from 7s to 8s per load of 8 stones, and 1s per peck.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Potatoes 6d to 7d per stone.

Malton, Saturday.—Potatoes (retail), 6d to 7d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire warps and sands, 9s to 10s; Cheshire, 6s to 7s 6d; Lincoln warps and sands, 9s to 10s per load; Irish, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per cwt.

Preston, Saturday.—There was a big rise today, the state of the roads causing a great scarcity. Loads of 240 lb. sold at 8s to 10s, compared with 5s 6d to 6s 6d a week ago.

Retford, Saturday.—Small supply. The top price was 4s to 7s per load, and second-rate qualities made 5s to 5s 6d per load.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been light, and prices for all samples have improved. To-day's prices are as follows:—Light-soil: Up-to-Dates, 65s to 75s per ton; British Queens, 65s to 70s per ton; Evergoods, 65s to 70s per ton; Edward VIIth, 65s to 70s per ton. Blackland: Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s per ton; British Queens, 60s to 65s per ton; Evergoods, 60s to 65s per ton; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Business proved of a fair character, while lighter samples were offered. Quotations: British Queens, 70s to 75s; Royal Kidneys, 65s to 70s; Up-to-Dates, 70s to 80s; Scotch, 70s to 75s; Maincrops, 90s; Blacklands, 65s to 70s per ton. Dutch, 3s; and Belgian, 3s per bag.

Whitby, Saturday.—Potatoes, 6d per stone.

York, Saturday.—Only a few potatoes on offer owing to the discovery of disease among the local crops. Prices have considerably advanced, the best sand Up-to-Dates making up to 55s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 31, 1906. British.	Total.	Monday, Jan. 1, 1906.
Beasts	1,010	1,010	1,000
Sheep and Lambs	6,580	6,580	5,750
Calves	20	20	5
Pigs	—	—	—
Milch Cows	30	30	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	2 8	3 6	4 6
Sheep	4 10	5 8	6 4
Lambs	—	—	—
Calves	4 8	5 4	5 10
Pigs	—	—	—

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £20.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 348; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 588; Devon, 25; Ireland, 49. In the beast market to-day there was an increase of 880 head, compared with the previous Monday. Trade was of a very sluggish nature for all descriptions of both prime and secondary quality fat beasts, prices favouring the buyers to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. in most cases. The arrivals to-day consisted of 5 Dublins and 44 Waterfords, some being very choice beasts; for this class of cattle trade through slow, ruled firm, late rates governing all sales. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply, and met a poor inquiry from both town and country buyers at a slight reduction in value. A clearance is considered very doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day. s d	s d	s d	Monday, Jan. 1, 1906. s d	s d	s d
Scotch	—	to —	...	—	to —	
Devons	4	4 to 4	6 ...	4	4 to 4	6
Herefords	4	4 to 4	6 ...	4	2 to 4	4
Norfolks	4	4 to 4	6 ...	4	4 to 4	6
Runts	4	0 to 4	4 ...	4	0 to 4	4
Lincolns	3	8 to 3	10 ...	3	10 to 4	0
Irish	4	0 to 4	4 ...	3	10 to 4	0
Canadian	—	to —	...	—	to —	
Fat Cows	3	4 to 3	6 ...	3	4 to 3	6

In the sheep market to-day there was an increase in the number penned of 6,340, compared with the corresponding day last week. For all grades of both wethers and ewes trade ruled dull and dragging, salesmen having to accept a reduction of fully 2d. per 8 lb. in order to effect sales. Irish trade finished. No Scotch sheep were offered for sale to-day. Lambs were in extremely short numbers, consequently neither trade or quotations are worth recording. A clearance will not be made in this part of the market.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day. s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Monday, Jan. 1, 1906. s. d.	s. d.	s. d
7½ to 8 st Downs	6	2 to 6	4	6	0 to 6	2
9 st. Downs	5	10 to 6	0	5	10 to 6	0
10 st Halfbreds	5	8 to 5	10	5	8 to 5	10
10 st Yorkshires		—			—	
12 st Lincolns		—			—	
10 st Irish		—			—	
10 st Down Ewes	4	2 to 4	4	4	2 to 4	4
11 st Halfbred ditto	4	0 to 4	2	4	0 to 4	2
5 st Down Lambs		—			—	
6 st Halfbred ditto		—			—	

Calf trade slow, best on offer to dress from 166 to 177 lb, and were quoted at from 5s 8d to 5s 10d per 8lb (sinking the offal).

London (Central), Monday.—Slow inquiry prevailed for the moderate supplies offering. Beef, English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Mutton, English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 10d. Pork, 4s to 4s 8d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 544. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase, and consisted of 544 from the United States and no Canadians. Trade was of a firm and steady nature, late rates governing most sales, best States being quoted at from 4s to 4s 3d per 8 lb (offal given in). On Saturday last 1,547 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and met a fairly good inquiry at an advance of from 1d to 2d per 8 lb on late values. A clearance was made. Besides the above 540 more States beasts were withheld. Best States beasts were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 4d per 8lb (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—There was a small supply of cattle in market to-day. Demand fair, and prices better for all descriptions. Sheep supply larger, trade good, and an early clearance was readily effected. Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb. Mutton: Scotch, 10d to 8d; Irish, 9½d to 6½d. At market:—1,045 cattle and 2,849 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Trade has been quite of a holiday character during the past week, but the severe weather makes the market very firm. Decorticated cotton cake and meal prices continue high. Ordinary cotton cake is comparatively a low price. Linseed unaltered.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
English Linseed Cake...ex mill	8 0 0	to 8 2 6
American Calcutta-made Linseed Cake (ex quay)	—	
American Western Linseed Cake ...ex quay	7 7 0	to 7 10 0
American Western Linseed Cake (to arrive) ...ex quay	7 7 6	—
Russian Oil Cake ...ex quay	7 10 0	to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake ... ex quay	7 15 0	—
Decorticated Cotton Cake Meal ex quay	7 6 3	
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill...	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5 8 0	
Dutch Linseed (in bags), per 416 lb [ex warehouse	2 6 0	to 2 8 0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0	to 2 6 0
La Plata Linseed per 416 lb. ex warehouse	2 4 0	to 5 0 0
American Linseed (in bulk) per 416 lb ex warehouse	2 5 0	

—ROBT. & JOHN HEWETSON.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon for the past fortnight were: from Ireland, 4,142 bales; and from foreign ports, 21,232 bales. There was a firm market for bacon throughout last week, resulting in Irish lean saleable being advanced 1s; Danish, 1s to 2s. Quotations range:—Irish, 54s to 56s up to 61s; Danish, 50s to 56s up to 60s; Canadian, 50s to 51s up to 54s. Butter.—Butter was in steady demand. French, 116s to 123s; Danish, 121s to 123s; Russian, 86s to 102s-104s; Victorian, 86s to 108s; New South Wales, 86s to 108s; Queensland, 86s to 106s; New Zealand, 110s to 112s; Argentine, 106s to 110s. Lard.—The lard market was steady. Irish, 52s to 60s; American, 47s 9d to 49s 9d; Danish, 52s to 56s.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

The following account issued yesterday shows the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week which ended last Saturday. The quantities in the corresponding week of last year are given in parentheses:—

Animals, living:—Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves (11,917), 9,372; sheep and lambs (1,148), 1,139; horses (186), 188.

Fresh meat:—Beef (100,753 cwt.), 96,461; mutton (75,189), 73,774; pork (19,029), 19,432.

Salted or preserved meat:—Bacon (111,857 cwt.), 89,693; beef (2,584), 1,247; hams (32,286), 17,087; pork (3,423), 3,770; meat, salted or fresh (18,627), 13,168; meat, preserved (17,524), 2,944.

Dairy produce and substitutes:—Butter (93,843 cwt.), 115,612; margarine (26,292), 21,536; cheese (37,920), 18,745; milk, fresh (4), nil; cream (159), 133; condensed (18,687), 13,105; preserved (21), 366.

Eggs (great hundreds):—(415,338), 449,775; poultry (value £228,489), £201,820; game (value £2,231), £7,600; rabbits, dead, not trussed (14,742 cwt.), 24,497; lard (38,313 cwt.), 34,434.

Corn, grain, meal, and flour: Wheat (1,774,700 cwt.), 1,933,800; wheat meal and flour (410,900 cwt.), 232,300; barley (462,100), 450,300; oats (355,200), 212,900; peas (36,250), 41,470; beans (27,340), 8,260; maize or Indian corn (946,100), 1,049,900.

Fruit, Raw.—Apples (85,250 cwt.), 80,636.

Hay (1,882 tons), 1,584; straw (1,884), 935; moss litter (2,680), 1540; hops (9,049 cwt.), 8,234; locust beans (29,790).

Vegetables, Raw.—Onions (98,226 bushels), 158,396; potatoes (13,831 cwt.), 28,651; tomatoes (13,252), 12,536.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

In reviewing the past week's cattle trade there is very little to say, owing to the principal market day of the week falling on Christmas Eve. Butchers were well stocked previous to this, and had no time to attend the market for the purpose of making fresh purchases, consequently no prices can be recorded for fat cattle. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a dull and dragging trade, sellers being obliged to accept a decline of 2d. per 8lb. to effect sales. On Thursday, the second market day of the week, no buyers were again present, the weather being much against the trade.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, no transactions were recorded on Monday or Wednesday, but on Saturday a consignment from the United States were offered for sale, sellers experiencing a fair trade with a slight upward tendency in value. The total number on offer at both markets was 1,692, as against 5,915 during the previous week, consisting of 145 British (decrease 2,125) and 1,547 foreign (decrease 2,098). The following were the top rates per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—Fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; fat bulls, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 1d; 90-stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s 4d.

There was a small supply of sheep on Monday at Islington; trade, however, was dull and dragging, late currencies being difficult to maintain; on Thursday no trade or prices were recorded. At Deptford no sheep were offered for sale throughout the week. The total number penned was 650 as against 10,820 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8 lb as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s 4d. ex. 6s. 6d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 10d. ex. 6s; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 10d. ex. 6s.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. ex. 4s. 6d.

Calves numbered (10) trade for which was neither worth noting or quoting.

No pigs were offered for sale.

Trade in the West.

Another Christmas has come and gone, and stock-owners and the farming community generally are to be congratulated very heartily on the tone which characterised the trade in fat stock right up to the very eve of Christmas, the buoyancy not being confined to one particular branch as in some seasons, but all branches sharing alike in the general boom. Glancing back at previous seasons, this year's will stand out as a record for beef, not only in respect to the uniformly good price ruling, but equally so as to the enormous quantity consumed, which, as far as this part of the country is concerned, has never been equalled, much more eclipsed. Most of the prize bullocks have realised 14s. to 15s. per score for all the neater weights, whilst very little beef indeed at all suitable for the festive season has been sold under 12s. per score, against 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d., current price at many previous Christmases. But in explanation of the uniformly good prices ruling all round must be placed the exceptional quality of this year's beef, which has never been riper or better, both heifers and steers here being as sleek as it was possible for the most careful grazing to make them; and, whilst doing their owners great credit, there can be little doubt that, on the whole, they have proved far more remunerative than many even of the most sanguine amongst them could have ever anticipated, and we hope the result of the past year's grazing will embolden them to try and do equally well with their beasts another season. Mutton, too, has found an equally satisfactory market; but this must be ascribed, no doubt, very largely to the phenomenal scarcity of mutton experienced all over the country. All the bettermost grades of tegs and wethers have been fetching, for the Christmas trade, from 8½d. to 9½d. per lb. (some of the most fancied and best finished amongst the tegs selling at over 80s. a-piece). But it was the very best, and the best only, that was wanted, purveyors showing marked disinclination to look at anything that did not come fully up to their best anticipations. Plain mutton seems to have died quite out of demand. Veal likewise ruled uncommonly strong up to the last, plenty realising 9d. to 9½d.; whilst for pork, particularly all the dainty weights, the season has all through been the dearest by far of modern times; and this will be fully understood when we mention 12s. as the price plenty of small porkers has made week after week.

The closing operations of the week were confined entirely to stores, which met a fairly steady demand, milch beasts of a good class being in special demand up to £20 a-piece, but more ordinary runs failed to attract little if any attention, and the same may be said of barreners, the only class of animals wanted being those fairly forward in condition, and which can with little trouble be converted into decent fat beef.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been much under an average. An active trade was experienced and prices advanced quite 20s. per head. Sheep have also been shown in small numbers. All classes met a good demand, ewes especially, and an advance of quite 1s. per head was obtained. Fat calves a very small show and exceedingly dear. Pigs shown in larger numbers, and they also met a good demand throughout. For the time of year there was a fair supply of store sheep. These met a dragging trade, and to effect sales lower prices had to be submitted to. An exceedingly small show of store cattle shown, mostly of an indifferent class. A fair demand was experienced, and a nearly total clearance effected at fully late rates. A small supply of milch cows met a dull trade. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 40s.; current, 35s. 6d. to 38s.; mutton to 9¾d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

The market after the Christmas one in Dublin is always a poor one, and last Thursday's was no exception, business being of small volume and confined almost altogether to home traders, very few exporters being present. The supplies in both departments were much smaller, there being nearly 400 less cattle, and close on 2,000 fewer sheep than at the preceding market. For such cattle as were sold there was a fairly good demand from local victuallers, with prices at perhaps a slightly better level than last day. Best bullocks and heifers (live weight) sold at from 32s. to 35s. per cwt., and other sorts from 28s. to 30s. A fair clearance was effected of all suitable beasts at an early hour. Dead weight prices were:—Best ox and heifer beef from 52s to 54s., and in a few cases up to 59s. 6d. for extra prime lots. No demand at all for shipping cattle.

The supply of sheep, though only 2,276, was much in excess of the demand, there being no call whatever for shipping requirements, and not many home butchers on the look-out, as their needs appeared limited. Trade was merely nominal, at unaltered figures. Prime wether mutton, 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; ewe ditto, 6¾d. to 7½d.; and inferior sheep from 5½d. to 6½d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets were worth from 50s. to 60s. each; and small to medium ditto 34s. to 48s. Veal in slow demand and unaltered at 8d. to 8½d. for choice and from 4½d. to 6½d. per lb. for inferior calves.

Fairs all over the country were pretty much on the same holiday lines as the markets, and little business was done. The heavy snowstorms and generally wintry weather is quite a novelty in Ireland, and doubtless will materially affect the price of store cattle. Probably figures will take a downward turn, as feed is not too plentiful this season. Dublin Market wore a very wintry aspect on Thursday last owing to the snowstorm and severe frost.

In the Dublin Pig Market both English and Irish buyers were fairly represented, contrary to expectation, when the weather was so unfavourable. Trade was very keen for everything on offer that was of good quality, and nice little pigs sold at comparatively high figures, viz., up to 54s. and 55s. per cwt., but these prices were obtained in exceptionable circumstances, and are not a guide to normal values.

LONDON.

Central Market, Friday.—Fair supplies, and trade very slow at the following quotations:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d (extreme 4s 6d); Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto, seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; ditto, forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d (extreme 5s); English pork, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch ditto, 4s to 4s 4d per 8 lb.

Islington, Thursday.—The few beasts offered consisted of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was practically at a standstill, quotations consequently are not worth recording. Sheep supply consisted entirely of wethers, owing to the marked scarcity of buyers, the weather being very much against the trade. Too few transactions took place to be worth recording, the majority being turned out unsold.

COUNTRY.

Berwick, Saturday.—Owing to the severe storm, there was a very small supply—39 beasts against 108 last week. The attendance of farmers and buyers was very poor, no cattle being sold.

Birmingham, Wednesday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade fair for the latter. Bacon pigs 9s 3d to 9s 4d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 8s 3d per score. No quotations for beef and mutton.

Bristol, Wednesday.—The market was again of a holiday character, and with limited demand trade was dull all round. Fat cattle were fairly numerous, and small business was done at 55s to 58s per cwt for best qualities, and 54s for secondary. Sheep were not numerous; best were quoted at 8¾d per lb, heavy at 8d, and ewes 7d. Few pigs; porkers, 11s per score; baconers, 9s 6d.

Calne, Friday.—Prices of pigs:—In lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles, 3d per score extra for delivery by road. Prime stores, 6 sc. to 8 sc. 10 lbs, no deduction for fat, 9s 6d per score; 8 sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¼ in., 9s 6d per score; under 10 sc., not over 2½ in., 9s per score; under 11 sc. 10 lb., not over 2¾ in., 8s 6d per score. Pigs outside these limits at their value. Fat sows, 7s per score. — C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The snow and the holidays stop supplies. Where purchases are desired, however, values are firm at recent currencies.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Owing to the frosty weather, the Sands market was practically closed. Only one lot of Irish heifers of a medium class were forward, and met a poor demand at £8 10s to £10 10s each.

Doncaster, Saturday.—One of the smallest markets of the year. Poor supply, and few buyers. There was a light supply of cattle. Milch beasts made £17 to £22; bullocks, £11 to £17; heifers, £10 to £14; drapes, £9 to £12; and young stores, £6 to £9 each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—We are just now experiencing the rigours of winter in real earnest, intensely cold weather throughout the week being followed by a snowstorm on Sunday morning, though happily of much less severity than has been experienced in some parts of the country. Despite the cold, there was a good average delivery of stock at Messrs. Ensor and Son's repository sale, which was also very well attended, seeing the holidays are not yet at an end. Amongst the stock were some exceedingly useful milch beasts—heifers in particular—and for these there was a very keen competition at prices showing a distinct rise of from 20s to 30s apiece on recent values, the best heifers making £17 to £21; seconds ranging from £14 to £15 15s. Barreners sold better than the weather might have justified, the best making £23 to £25 per pair, and others £17 to £22; stirks, £7 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d; store bulls, £8 10s to £11. The beef trade is once again resuming its normal conditions, and with some little demand heifers sold from £18 10s to £22 apiece (or 11s to 12s per score); fat cows, £16 10s to £19s (or 10s 6d to 11s). Mutton trade still very firm, horn ewes making 44s to 50s each; horn tegs, 42s to 47s; and down ewes, 48s. to 53s 6d (or 8d to 8½d per lb).

Dublin, Thursday.—Finished beef was scarce, and met an improved demand at slightly better rates. Secondary and inferior sorts neglected, and a good number left unsold at the close of the market. Small number of sheep on offer in excess of requirements, and a clearance could not be effected. Cattle—Live weight (best), 30s to 33s and 34s per cwt.; secondary and inferior, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton — Dead weight, 7d to 8½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Exeter, Friday.—Over a hundred fat beasts. Best quality steers and maiden heifers sold well at prices reaching 11s 6d per score; cows made from 10s to 10s 6d, selling out. Good supply of sheep, selling at top price of 9½d for small size and 8½d for larger ones. Ewes sold out quickly at 7½d. Small demand for hogs for turnips; rams, 5d to 6d; calves, 7½d.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report:—Owing to the weather a very small supply of cattle in the market. Cows and calves selling readily.

Leicester, Saturday.—The consignments of home-bred stock were greatly reduced by the severe weather. Trade ruled sluggish, and prices irregular. Good milch cows, £17 to £20; secondary £14 to £16. Calves and young stock were neglected at lower prices.

Lincoln, Friday. — Holiday market, the supplies of horned stock and sheep being very poor, and the attendance small. Milch cows, £17 to £21; hogg sheep, 44s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: First, 5½d; second class, 4½d to 4¾d; third class, 3½d to 3¾d. per lb. Mutton: First class, 8½d; second class, 7½d to 7¾d; third class, 6½d to 6¾d. Veal: First class, 7¾d; second class, 6¾d to 7½d; third class, 5¾d to 6½d per lb. Bacon pigs: First, 5¼d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d.

Porket pigs: First class, 7¾d; second class, 7¼d to 7¾d; third class, 6¾d to 7d per lb.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—Quotations: Beef, primo small, 6d to 7d per lb; large ditto, fat cows, bulls, and heavy-weights, from 5½d to 6d per lb; new milch cows up to £23 12s 6d each. Mutton, small wether, 8½d to 9d per lb; ewe ditto, 8d to 8½d per lb; store sheep, 28s to 44s each. Lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb. Veal, 7d to 7½d per lb. Porket pigs, 10s 6d to 11s per score; bacon pigs, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—Snowbound roads and a holiday date were responsible for meagre supplies of stock of all descriptions. The show of fat beasts was not sufficient to meet the demand, and a ready clearance was effected at values averaging from 7s to 7s 6d per stone of 14lb. There was very little inquiry for the few lots of store cattle offered, and a slow, dragging trade was experienced, values ranging from £6 to £15 per head. No store sheep shown. Limited number of fat sheep met with a brisk trade, and sold readily at 10s to 10s 6d per stone. There was also a quick sale for the few fat pigs submitted, cutters averaging 7s 6d per stone and larger quantities 7s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Owing to the severity of the weather there was only a poor supply of stock. Trade was very slow. Best milking cows, £17 to £18; heifers, £15 to £17. No store beasts, pigs, and sheep.

Retford, Saturday.—Very small show, and little business. Heifers quoted £13 to £16; cows up to £19; and calves, 20s to 30s per head.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Limited supplies of Canadian and American cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, only 603 head being penned. Of these 231 were from Portland (Maine) and 372 from St. John, N.B., and all were landed in good shape and condition. There was an exceptionally good attendance of buyers, and business was more than usually brisk, a total clearance being early effected at all the stances. Bulls of late have not been in much request, but prime choice beasts to-day found buyers at prices slightly higher than those ruling at last week's sales, when about 42s per cwt dead weight was the best obtainable. States bullocks of handy sizes and weights and of good quality sold at about 58s per cwt dead weight, a number of exceptional animals making from 59s to 60s per cwt. Canadian bullocks of nice useful quality were cashed at about 56s per cwt dead weight, but those of extra choice finish were cashed from 57s to 58s per cwt, while secondary, middling, and inferior sorts, which all through met a poor trade, were disposed of down to 52s per cwt. A nice lot of prime choice bulls, States and Canadians, changed hands at prices ranging from 44s to 46s per cwt dead weight, while rough and coarse descriptions found buyers down to 42s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—With dearer seed and an increased consumptive demand values are inclined to harden, while in some instances an advance has already been paid. Russian command most attention at last week's prices. East India seed pures have changed hands at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s. American are nominally quoted. London-made find a moderate inquiry at about late rates. Cotton Cakes.—Only a limited quantity of Egyptian is available in warehouse, while there are free buyers and prices are unchanged. English meet a ready sale at a slight advance in price. Decorticated move off quietly at £7 12s. 6d. to £7 15s., and meal at £7 5s. Rape Cakes scarce. East India unaltered. Ravison none. Maize Germ Meal.—Some recent arrivals of White American are firmly held, but English are obtainable on more reasonable terms. Maize Gluten Meal is in good request at £5 15s. per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon attract rather more attention at the decline, and a fair business is passing at £4 12s. 6d. to £4 13s. 9d., while for the moment shippers do not offer in forward positions. Locust Beans are again the turn dearer at £5 10s. for whole and £5 15s. for kibbled. Dried Brewers' Grains continue to offer at the relatively low figure of £5 5s. for ale and £4 15s. for porter.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
Russian, in mats (ex dock)	7 10 0	to 7 11 3
„ in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
Calcutta	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
American	7 10 0	
English (ex mill)	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian (ex warehouse)	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
English (ex mill)	4 13 9	to 4 16 3
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
„ Cottonseed Meal	7 5 0	
Rape Cakes.		
East India seed	5 10 0	
Ravison	—	
Maize.		
White American	5 15 0	to 5 16 3
English	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
Maize Gluten Meal	5 15 0	
Ricemeal.		
Rangoon	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
„ to arrive, ex ship		
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	
Dried Grains.		
Ale	5 5 0	
Porter	4 15 0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fairly good demand for a moderate supply. Goslings, 6s to 7s 6d; country ducks, 3s to 4s; cock turkeys, 9s to 14s; hen ditto, 6s to 8s; Surrey fowls, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 9d to 2s; woodcock, 2s; snipe, 8d to 10d; quails, 10d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 1s to 1s 3d; English hares, 3s 6d; leverets, 2s; tame rabbits, 1s 6d to 2s; wild rabbits, 8d to 11d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 5s to 6s; young partridges, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 2s per brace.

WOOL.

Halifax, Saturday.—Raw material, considering the holiday season, is in good demand. Prices keep quite firm, or move against the buyer.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £15 5s to £15 10s; half-bred hoggs, £14 5s to £14 15s; half-bred wethers, £13 5s to £14 5s; Kent fleeces, £13 5s to £13 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £14 15s to £15 5s; Leicester ewes and wethers, £13 5s to £13 15s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., scoured super., 2s 2d to 2s 3d; scoured, good, 1s 11½d to 2s 1d; scoured, average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured, average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy, average, 1s to 1s 0½d; S. Aus., greasy, average, 10d to 10½d; N.Z., scoured, average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy, average, 11d to 11½d; Cape, scoured, super., 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; fleece, average, 9½d to 10½d; greasy, average, 8d to 9d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy, average, 8½d to 9d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; medium, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; coarse, 11½d to 1s 0½d.

Small Holdings Legislation.

At a conference of the Co-operative Small Holdings Society and Birmingham Allotments and Small Holdings Association at Westminster, presided over by Mr. George White, M.P., resolutions were carried arranging for a deputation to the President of the Board of Agriculture, and expressing the opinion that local authorities should have compulsory powers for purchase or hire of land for small holdings.

Mr. Winfrey, M.P., moved:—"That a permanent body of Small Holdings Commissioners, under the control of the Board of Agriculture, should be appointed to facilitate the working of the Allotments, Small Holdings, and Housing Acts in rural districts; to administer Crown lands suitable for small holdings, to purchase or hire lands from grants made from the Consolidated Fund, and to develop it themselves or lease it to local authorities for local management, and to act as a court of appeal in the event of a county council failing to take action." This was supported by Mr. P. Morrell, M.P., Mr. G. Nicholls, M.P., Mr. A. Cecil Beck, M.P., Sir William Wedderburn, and others, and was agreed to.

The deputation was subsequently received by Lord Carrington, and in the course of his reply the President of the Board of Agriculture said the Government were deeply impressed with the importance of the subject of small holdings, and were resolved, in due time, to do what they could to forward the desire for increased facilities for the creation of small holdings. The question, to his mind, now was—had not the time arrived when a central authority was bound to undertake the work? Was it not essential that to make real progress the central authority should support and materially supplement local efforts? He was sure he had the support of all those on both sides of the House who had the question at heart. Not only in his own name but in the name of the Cabinet and the Prime Minister, he assured them that they had this great matter wholly and entirely at heart and no stone would be left unturned to bring it to a successful issue.

BUTTER.

(Price per lb.)

Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Barnstable: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Berwick: 10d. Camelford: 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 6d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dartmouth: 1s 6d to 1s 8d. Derby: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Doncaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Otley: 2s to 2s 2d per 24-oz. roll. Penzance: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Redruth: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Retford: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24-oz roll. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 5d to 1s 7d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 7d to 1s 8d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 5d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s.)

Altrincham: 5 and 6. Appleby: 7 and 8. Barnstable: 8 to 10. Berwick: 18 6d per doz. Camelford: 12. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Chester: 6 and 7. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per doz. Derby: 6 and 7. Devizes: 9 to 11. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Kidderminster: 7. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Lincoln: 8 and 9. Market Drayton: 7 and 8. Otley: 7 and 8. Penzance: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per doz. Redruth: 1s 4d per doz. Retford: 2s 6d to 2s 7d per score. Ripon: 7 and 8. Shrewsbury: 8. Stamford: 5 to 7. Stockport: 6. Totnes: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per doz. Wellington (Salop): 8 and 9. Worcester: 7 and 8. York: 6.

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Fine Sieve for the Removal of Dodder.
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Printed and Published by the Proprietors, at the Offices, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Dec. 31, 1906. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson & Co. 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Cape Town.

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